Minutes, March 16, 1979

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Held at the Hartford Branch March 16, 1979

The meeting was called to order at 11:25 a.m. by Chairman Gordon W. Tasker. Trustees present were: Mesdames Briscoe, Jorgensen, and Kronholm, Messrs. Brown, Canzonetti, Catanese, Cunningham, D'Oliveira, Donen, Jacobs, Krogh, Lowney, Rich, Shedd, Stroh, and Tasker.

Trustees absent were: Governor Grasso and Mr. Kleban.

University staff present were: Acting President Gant, Vice Presidents Adams, DiBiaggio, and Wilson and Acting Vice President Hanna.

All actions were by unanimous vote, except as otherwise noted.

1. On a motion by Mr. Jacobs, seconded by Mrs. Kronholm, THE BOARD VOTED to go into executive session for the purpose of considering matters of personnel and collective bargaining. The Chairman stated that since the matters to be considered will require staff information, the minutes should reflect that Acting President Gant, Vice Presidents Adams, DiBiaggio, and Wilson, Acting Vice President Hanna, Messrs. Bailey, Kimball, and McGowan were in attendance. Attorney McKenna joined the meeting at a later time. Members of the Board present at this time were: Mesdames Briscoe, Jorgensen, and Kronholm, Messrs. Brown, Canzonetti, Catanese, Cunningham, D'Oliveira, Donen, Jacobs, Krogh, Lowney, Rich, Shedd, Stroh, and Tasker. While in executive session, the Board took the following actions:

(A) President Gant informed the Trustees that the Board of Higher Education plans to arrange a joint meeting of the Boards for the various segments of higher education for a discussion of the restructuring of higher education. The meeting is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on April 10th at the Holiday Inn in downtown Hartford.
(B) In the absence of Attorney McKenna, President Gant commented briefly on litigation matters of concern to the Board. He also remarked on Mr. McKenna's need for legal assistance in order to preserve certain actions that the Board of Trustees takes from time to time. Chairman Tasker asked the administration to report at the next Board meeting with whatever recommendation seems advisable to be sure that Mr. McKenna has the appropriate additional assistance.

(C) The President reported briefly on some personnel matters pertaining to the operation of the Afro-American Cultural Center on the campus at Storrs.

(D) Vice President Wilson reported in some detail on the latest developments in the area of collective bargaining.

(E) The Board reviewed the latest recommendations on personnel matters pertaining to appointments, leaves of absence, promotions, award of tenure, reassignments, resignations, and retirements with the understanding that the vote on these personnel matters would be taken in the open session part of the Board meeting.

(F) Referring to the list of terminal appointments, Chairman Tasker stressed the importance of complete satisfaction and understanding that in deciding upon each case, that there has been no age discrimination, sex discrimination, race discrimination, or any other area of decision making that in any way could be subject to attack as being other than objective based upon the standards that are clearly expected in performance of the job.

The Board reviewed on an individual basis, the reasons for each of the terminal appointments. The Board was assured by Vice President Wilson and Vice President DiBiaggio that no one of the terminal appointments reflected any overtones of the items mentioned above by Chairman Tasker; and further, that the reason for each of the terminal appointments was based upon a failure to meet the expected performance in the job. On a motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Dr. Canzonetti, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the following terminal appointments:
While in limited executive session, the Trustees discussed the candidacy of persons under consideration for the presently unfilled executive positions.

2. The meeting was convened in open session at 3:30 p.m. Mrs. Kronholm, Mr. Cunningham, and Mr. Stroh left the meeting at this time.

Acting on a motion by Dr. Canzonetti, seconded by Mrs. Jorgensen, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the minutes of the meetings of February 9 and February 28, 1979.

3. In his report on the Capitol Area Health Consortium, Dr. Canzonetti said that the Consortium has under study the continued proliferation of cat skanners in the county. At the last meeting, the Consortium discussed the possibility of developing and supporting cat skanners in Mt. Sinai, New Britain General, and Dempsey Hospitals. The Consortium is also engaged in the preparation of a mission statement, i.e. defining the role of the Consortium.

John Davidson, Executive Director of the Consortium, will be resigning to take on an expanded role in the Detroit area. A search committee will be named soon to bring on a replacement. Dr. Canzonetti suggested that Dr. DiBiaggio, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, send a letter of appreciation to John Davidson for his interest in the University Hospital and the Health Center.

4. Dr. Wilber Griswold, Director of the Hartford Branch, after welcoming the Trustees to the Branch, reported that the enrollment for last September reflected a gain of 119 new admissions for a total of 942 students at the Hartford Branch. The Branch has two new programs underway, the Bachelor of General Studies and the plans for the summer program for minorities and other disadvantaged students.

5. President Gant, upon calling the Trustees' attention to the list of legislative matters of interest that were distributed with the agenda material, informed the group that he had recently received a copy of a proposed bill
that would in essence, transfer responsibility for collective bargaining at the University to the Board of Higher Education. With reference to this proposed Committee Bill 7832, President Gant presented the following resolution for Board consideration:

Resolved: That The University of Connecticut Board of Trustees strongly opposes proposed Committee Bill 7832, An Act Transferring the Responsibility for Collective Bargaining for Constituent Units from the Boards of Trustees to the Board of Higher Education.

This Board believes that to make such a fundamental change in the governance of the University and the rest of public higher education prior to BHE's mandated report on proposed restructuring of higher education due in September, 1979, is to violate the spirit of the restructuring study now in progress.

Further, this Board is convinced that the excellence which is the constitutionally-stipulated hallmark of the University could only suffer if this Board is stripped of its full authority and responsibility for the policies which govern it under present statutes. It is our sincere belief that if this bill were to become law, that the University would not be able to retain its splendid faculty, and that the quality of the only public land-grant university in the State would suffer severe and permanent harm.

During the discussion, Chairman Tasker remarked that the proposed bill was far broader than just the matter of collective bargaining. It would seem to undermine the effort that BHE and the various constituent units are putting forth in order to objectively look at the reorganization of higher education. On a motion by Dr. Canzonetti, seconded by Mrs. Briscoe, THE BOARD VOTED to adopt the above resolution. The Chairman indicated that the Board's action would be transmitted to the appropriate parties. He also asked Mrs. Jorgensen to bring Committee Bill 7832 to the attention of BHE so that the University Trustees, subsequently, may become aware of the BHE's position on the bill.

7. Upon referring to the upcoming visitation from HEW, the President indicated that the visiting group would be spending about two weeks at the University. The Trustees may expect a further report on this visitation.

Mr. Tasker requested a cost estimate on the time and effort spent on the part of the administration in responding to the visitation requirements.
The President reported that the administration had met with the Finance and Facilities Committee of the Board of Higher Education regarding this Committee's suggestion that the increase in the General University Fee be cut in half. This item and the other suggestions of the BHE Committee were discussed with the Trustees' Budget and Finance Committee earlier this morning. President Gant reported that as a result of that discussion, it was the intent of the administration to discuss this matter again with the representatives of BHE, indicating that we did entertain these considerations in our planning; and further, that we have already embarked upon a program of reviewing the University's existing policies and the measures suggested by the representatives of BHE.

9. The President informed the Trustees that a special committee has been named to plan for the Centennial Birthday of the University. Provost Emeritus Albert E. Waugh has agreed to serve as Honorary Chairman of the Centennial Committee. Mr. Raymond Buck will serve as Chairman.

10. Mrs. Jorgensen, in her report on the latest meeting of the Board of Higher Education, mentioned the following:

   (1) The action taken by the Board of Higher Education in referring the lease of property for the Co-op Bookstore back to the Board for revision of the contract and further site review.

   (2) The action taken by the Finance and Facilities Committee of the BHE to recommend to the Board that the University action approving General University Fee changes be reviewed by the Board with the firm suggestion that the increases be cut in half.

11. Mr. Jacobs, reporting as Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee, moved the approval of the proposed contracts and agreements. The motion was seconded by Mr. Donen and THE BOARD VOTED to approve the list of contracts and agreements and authorized the President, Vice Presidents, Associate Executive Director and Assistant Vice Presidents to sign the necessary documents on behalf of the University. A copy of the approved list is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.
12. Upon referring to the Food Services Report, Mr. Jacobs stated that the Budget and Finance Committee would be devoting a full session to further discussion of this issue and that no action was to be taken at this time.

13. Acting on Mr. Jacobs' motion, seconded by Mrs. Jorgensen, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the agreement between the University and the Associated Student Commissaries and authorized the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and the President of the University to sign the agreement; and in further action, approved the revised Associated Student Commissaries Constitution and By-Laws. A copy of the approved agreement and the revised Constitution and By-Laws is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

14. Mr. Jacobs reported that the Budget and Finance Committee had recommended Board approval of the attached copy of the Health Center's capital project request for the fiscal year 1980-81. Mr. Rich also reported that the Health Affairs Committee had recommended favorable consideration of the list.

During the discussion, Chairman Tasker called for legal clarification with regard to the responsibility or liability of the Trustees and administration in situations, when without the appropriated monies to make changes, the University may be in non-compliance with code changes or other mandated requirements.

In action on Mr. Jacobs' motion, seconded by Dr. Canzonetti, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the attached copy of the Health Center's capital project request for 1980-81.

15. Mr. Jacobs reported that the Budget and Finance Committee had discussed the following items:

(1) The 6.4 fund -- a separate Committee meeting will be devoted to this issue

(2) Energy conservation measures at the University and the Health Center.

(3) A report on energy savings based on reduced services during a two-month intersessional period (mid-December to mid-February).

16. In conjunction with the recommendation of the Health Affairs Committee, Mr. Jacobs, as Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee, presented the following motions:
To authorize the administration to submit for cancellation $249,000 in unallotted bonds for planning Schools of Nursing and Physical Therapy, together with other dormant projects, to meet the needs of proposed capital projects for 1979-80.

Acting on Mr. Jacobs' motion, seconded by Mr. Rich, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the above motion.

17. Mrs. Jorgensen reported that the University's Ad Hoc Committee on the Reorganization of Higher Education had met last February 26th. At that time, the Committee was divided into small groups to address the same question, i.e. the reorganization of higher education. Each of the groups will bring back their reports at the next meeting in early April. At the February meeting, Ms. Lois Torrence distributed a copy of her comments pertaining to two reports issued by BHE concerning high school graduate projection figures and student migration patterns in Connecticut.

18. In her report as Chairman of the Institutional Policy Committee, Mrs. Briscoe said that the Committee had voted to recommend the adoption of the proposed revision of the Student Trustee Election Committee By-laws. On Mrs. Briscoe's motion, seconded by Mr. Jacobs, THE BOARD VOTED to adopt the revision of the Student Election Committee. A copy of the approved By-Laws is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

Mr. Jacobs left the meeting at this time.

19. Mrs. Briscoe reported that the Institutional Policy Committee had discussed the proposed amendment to the LAWS and BY-LAWS suggested by Mr. Rich at the January meeting of the Board; it would establish a Planning and Architectural Design Review Committee. The Committee has requested the following reports from the administration:

(1) Planning and design procedures now followed by the University for any new projects.

(2) The specific scope of duties such a committee might be expected to perform.

(3) The costs of staff support such a committee would require.

(4) The costs of released time for the faculty members serving on the committee.
The Institutional Policy Committee also instructed Mr. Wilson to prepare a full presentation for the Committee and the Board of the 1965 Sasaki, Dawson and DeMay Associates plan for the Storrs campus, with the purpose of informing the Board of the details of the plan now being followed, and the possible purpose of proposing that this plan be updated. Mr. Wilson was encouraged to provide these reports at the April meeting, if possible. In the meantime, the Committee will defer action on the proposed new By-Law.

20. Mrs. Briscoe reported that no Board action is required to meet the problem posed by the Waterbury students, who were concerned that faculty members were not covered against liability when they serve as advisors of student clubs. The present statutes cover such faculty members so long as the procedures for their appointments are followed.

21. Mrs. Briscoe reported that the Institutional Policy Committee had discussed the report of the Marine Sciences Advisory Committee on Departmental status for the Institute. The administration recommended that no action be taken at this time: the recommendation of the Advisory Committee is that departmental status be granted, but its recommendation is contingent on new resources which the administration is unable to commit at this time. Consequently, the administration cannot recommend action and the Institutional Policy Committee concurs.

22. Mrs. Briscoe informed the Board that the School of Business Administration has been recommended for continued accreditation of both its undergraduate and Master's programs by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business.

23. Mrs. Briscoe noted that the Board had been asked by the Board of Higher Education to review once more the site chosen for the new Co-op Bookstore. Mrs. Briscoe then asked Mr. Wilson to review the several past considerations relating to this issue. At the conclusion of Mr. Wilson's review of items germane to site selection, it was reported:

(1) That the Institutional Policy Committee has reviewed the site for the Bookstore once again.

(2) That the Committee is satisfied that the site previously chosen meets the needs of the campus plan, the Bookstore, and the University's students and community.
(3) That student views have been heard by the Institutional Policy Committee, by the Senate Committee on Student Welfare, by the University Senate and by the Board of Trustees.

(4) That in reporting to the Board of Trustees, the Institutional Policy Committee asserts its belief that no further action or change of action is required and that BHE is so informed.

It was the consensus of the Board that no action was required.

24. Mrs. Briscoe said that the Institutional Policy Committee had expected to meet with the Health Affairs Committee to reconsider the question of a separate Commencement for the Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine. Since the Health Affairs Committee was unable to join the Institutional Policy Committee, recommendation of a change in the By-Law was held in abeyance by the Institutional Policy Committee.

Mr. Rich, expressing regret that the press of business had prevented the Health Affairs Committee from meeting with the Institutional Policy Committee for a joint discussion of this item, reported that after a careful review of the attachment material it was the considered opinion of the Health Affairs Committee that the interests of the University as a whole would be best served by having a separate exercise. The Health Affairs Committee had voted to recommend that the By-laws be revised to allow for a separate graduation ceremony. Accordingly, Mr. Rich moved that the By-Law pertaining to Article X, Section M 15, (Commencement) be revised to allow for a separate Commencement at an appropriate time in Farmington for the Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine. The motion was seconded by Dr. Canzonetti. After a lengthy discussion of the effect of the proposed change, Mr. Rich moved the previous question. The motion to cut off further debate was seconded by Dr. Canzonetti and approved by the Trustees present. Mrs. Jorgensen opposed the action.

In action on Mr. Rich's initial motion, THE BOARD VOTED to place on the table for action at the April meeting, the proposal to revise Article X, Section M 15, of the By-Laws to allow for a separate Commencement ceremony at an appropriate time in Farmington for the graduating students in the Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine. Trustees Briscoe, Canzonetti, Catanese, Donen, Lowney, and Rich voted in favor of the action; Trustees Brown, Jorgensen, Shedd, and Tasker opposed the action.

Mrs. Briscoe left the meeting at this time.
25. Mr. Rich, reporting as Chairman of the Health Affairs Committee, said that the Committee had reviewed the capital project requests and forwarded the Committee's endorsement of the request as reported on earlier in the Board meeting by Mr. Jacobs.

The Committee also reviewed the Program Cost Studies for 1977-78 which was previously required by the Legislature. Allowing for inflationary cost increases, it was noted that annual per student costs increased only slightly and that the costs of education as defined by the study approximates General Fund support.

The legislative items pertaining to the Health Center were reviewed. Of particular interest was the vote of the Public Health Committee to put aside a proposed modification of the statutes which would have placed Dempsey Hospital under the Commission on Hospitals and Health Care.

Attorney McKenna appeared today before the Public Health Committee to present a bill to create a Hospital and Health Care Trust which would assist in lowering malpractice rates. This is a result of the Health Affairs Committee efforts to control the cost of malpractice insurance at the Hospital.

The status of the budget for the Health Center was reviewed. The subcommittee of Appropriations for the Health Center has forwarded its recommendations to the full committee for consideration. Hopefully, some of the funds requested will be restored.

26. Acting on Mr. Rich's motion, seconded by Dr. Canzonetti, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the proposed revisions to the School of Medicine By-laws. A copy of the approved By-laws is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

27. Mr. Rich, reporting as Chairman of the Health Affairs-Hospital Committee, said that the Committee had reviewed the financial operations of the Hospital for the month of January. Due to a decrease in census, there was a loss on operations amounting to $220,000. Steps have been taken to reduce the work force from 800 FTE to 750 FTE, and to reduce the bed complement. The Dental Clinic operated at a $77,500 loss for January as opposed to a $57,000 budgeted loss. The Medical Group broke even.

The work of the credit and collection program is starting to be effective as evidenced by the self-pay accounts collected during January.
The required follow-up progress report has been forwarded to the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals. The Hospital has complied with all of the areas that were mentioned in the inspection report.

The Committee discussed the impact of the State budget on clinical programs and the efforts underway to restore $320,000 for Burgdorf and other funds relating to the entire budget.

28. On a motion by Mr. Rich, seconded by Dr. Canzonetti, THE BOARD VOTED to accept the eleven Medical Care Evaluation Studies and to authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign the necessary documents. A copy of the approved eleven Studies is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

29. Mr. Rich reported that the Health Affairs-Hospital Committee had reviewed the proposed contract with the Windham Community Hospital and Hatch Hospital Corporation and it was recommended for Board approval. On Mr. Rich's motion, seconded by Dr. Canzonetti, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the contract and authorized the President, Vice Presidents, Associate Executive Director and Assistant Vice Presidents to sign the necessary document on behalf of the University. A copy of the approved contract is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

30. On Mr. Rich's motion, seconded by Dr. Canzonetti, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the latest list of recommendations pertaining to the Medical/Dental Staff appointments. A copy of the approved list is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

31. Acting on Dr. Canzonetti's motion, seconded by Mr. Shedd, THE BOARD VOTED to approve a formal list of the actions recommended by the President and the actions already taken by the administration on personnel matters pertaining to appointments, leaves of absence, promotions, reassignments, resignations, and retirements, and authorized the Secretary of the Board to sign the necessary documents on behalf of the Board of Trustees. A copy of the approved lists is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

32. On a motion by Mrs. Jorgensen, seconded by Dr. Canzonetti, THE BOARD VOTED to accept and/or approve the list of awards and donations. A copy of the approved list is attached to the file copy of the Board minutes.

33. On a motion by Mr. Donen, seconded by Mr. Shedd, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the following resolution:
WHEREAS, Mark C. Collins of Woodstock has served as a member of The University of Connecticut Board of Trustees from November, 1976 through October, 1978, and has aided the Board in its deliberations as an informed and responsible spokesman for student concerns, this Board expresses its appreciation to Mark Collins for his dedicated service and commitment to the University and wishes him well in the future.

It was understood that a copy of this resolution would be forwarded to Mr. Collins.

34. Mrs. Jorgensen requested that the Secretary write a letter of congratulations to Coach Perno and the University's basketball team for their excellent performance.

35. No further business appearing, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Otha N. Brown, Jr.
Secretary