

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM  
Board of Trustees Meeting

at the University of Maine  
November 9, 2015

**Joint Session between Academic and Student Affairs Committee and  
Finance/Facilities/Technology Committee**

**Present: Committee Members:** Gregory Johnson, Chair (at USM); Samuel Collins (by phone), James Erwin (at USM), Norman Fournier (at UMFK), Karl Turner (by phone) and Michelle Hood. **Presidents:** Glenn Cummings (at USM), John Murphy (at UMFK), Kate Foster (At UMF), Linda Schott (at UMPI), Rebecca Wyke (at UMA) and Stuart Swain (at UMM). **Faculty Representatives:** Ray Albert (at UMFK), Terry Colby (at UMA), Uriah Anderson (at UMM), Patti Miles and Cathleen McAnneny (at UMF). **Student Representatives:** Connor Scott (at UM), Rebecca Tanous (at USM), Jay Knowlton (at USM), Kimberley Miner, Brad O'Brien, and Elizabeth Day (at UMPI). **System Staff:** Dan Demeritt, Tracy Bigney, Cynthia Huggins (at UMM), Chip Gavin (at USM), Rosa Redonnett (at UMA), Donna Seppy (at UMA), Dick Thompson (at UMA), Ryan Low (at UM), and James Thelen (at UMS). **Others Present:** Ellen Chaffee (by phone), Jeff St. John (at UM), Joe Szakas (at UMA), Jeff Hecker, Ray Rice (at UMPI), Buster Neel (at USM), Sally Meredith (at USM), Jeannie Uzzi (at USM), Nancy Griffin (at USM), Emma Gelsinger (at USM), Domna Giatus (at USM), and Robert Dixon (at UMFK).

**Committee Members Absent:** James Donnelly, Marge Medd, Bonnie Newsom, and Paul Nelson.

Trustee Johnson, Chair of the Academic & Student Affairs Committee, and Trustee Fournier, Chair of the Finance/Facilities/Technology Committee, called the joint session between the Academic & Student Affairs Committee and the Finance/Facilities/Technology Committee to order.

There was not a quorum of the Academic & Student Affairs Committee; therefore, no action was taken on the agenda item.

**IT Plan: Review and Recommendations.** Mr. Richard Thompson, Chief Information Officer, presented the current State of Information Technology 2015 for the University of Maine System which included recommendations to improve service capacity and quality for students, faculty and staff, upgrade wireless connectivity and modernize classroom technology.

The recommendations include major investment over a three year period to accomplish these improvements. The CIO and Chief Administrative Officer request Board of Trustees' acceptance of the CIO Report and to authorize the Chief Financial Officer, CIO and Chief Administrative Officer to develop a work plan and funding strategies to prioritize and implement the recommendations. The development of the work plan will include input from faculty, students, administrators, IT campus service providers and other customers. The recommendations are as follows:

**Recommendation 1:**

Establish an advisory body to regularly review the strategic and operational plans of US:IT and to support the prioritization of initiatives to limit duplication and random investments outside of the planning process. The cost will be from existing resources and limited to travel costs where necessary.

**Recommendation 2:**

Complete a detailed analysis of positions, salaries and benefits for Information Technology positions within US:IT. The evaluation's findings will assist in establishing compensation and benefits competitive in the Maine market and adjust inequities in existing staffing. The estimated cost is \$200,000.

Recommendation 3:

Develop positions for nineteen (19) new technology professionals and direct support staff to address the existing challenges to complete projects, manage enterprise systems, support campus training and assistance needs in the classroom, and address the network communications infrastructure. New projects and requests for service are delayed due to lack of staff resources. Nineteen new positions are required to address this deficiency and support direct services and systems used by those we serve. Input for faculty, students and administrators will guide the assignment of staff who will be located at the campuses to enhance response, improve readiness, resolve technical issues and train users. The estimated cost is \$1.5 million.

Recommendation 4:

Wireless Technology Connectivity Initiative to upgrade wireless service and associated cabling and equipment at all campuses to bring wireless capacity to gigabit speeds to support learning and living spaces. The estimated cost is \$24.8 million.

Recommendation 5:

Upgrade Classrooms for the Future – This initiative upgrades 350+ classrooms across all campuses with modern, high definition and smart technologies to create high efficiency teaching and learning environments. Uniform devices and systems will be installed with training and documentation to provide reliable operation by faculty with the intent to support multiple modalities, including support of integrated programs and unified online program delivery. The estimated cost is \$17.2 million.

Recommendation 6:

Upgrade and modernize MaineStreet to support One University concept, including program integration goals, unified online learning, student services, Human Resources initiatives and the unified budget plan. This necessary modernization requires consulting assistance and engagement of administrative leaders to evaluate business processes and to develop a new design for data collection and management. The estimated cost is \$1.5 to \$2 million.

Recommendation 7:

Invest in online training solutions such as Lynda.com and other resources to augment staffing proposed in Recommendation 2.

Recommendation 8:

Fully fund the Advanced Computing Group which now operates on grants and fee for service. This is critical to support the Universities' research agenda. In addition, add a position to seek grant funding to support cyber infrastructure investments for research as well as to assist researchers as they address cyber infrastructure and data management requirements in proposal for grants.

Recommendation 9:

Replace existing 25 year old telephone systems at the remaining 4 campuses (USM, UMF, UMPI, UMM) with IP-based telephones creating a single University-wide phone system.

Trustee Fournier stated that the Finance/Facilities/Technology Committee met on November 5, 2015. The State of IT 2015 Plan was discussed and the Committee agreed to forward the recommendation to the November 15-16, 2015 Board of Trustees meeting.

Adjournment

Ellen Doughty for  
Tracy B. Bigney, Clerk of the Board