

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM
Board of Trustees Meeting

at the University of Maine System
February 24, 2015

Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting

Present: Committee Members: Gregory Johnson, Chair; Samuel Collins (by phone), James Erwin (at USM), Michelle Hood (by phone), Marjorie Medd (at USM), Paul Nelson (at USM), Bonnie Newsom (at UM) and Karl Turner (at USM). **Presidents:** Kate Foster, Linda Schott (at UMPI), Glenn Cummings (at UMA) and Joyce Hedlund. **Faculty Representatives:** Ray Albert (at UMFK), Kim-Anne Perkins (at UMPI) and Robert Rice (at UM). **Student Representatives:** Connor Scott (at UM), Jaclyn Jacobson (at USM), Brad O'Brien, and Irene Levesque-Rowe (at UMFK). **System Staff:** Tracy Bigney, Lynda Dec, Nathan Grant, Cynthia Huggins, Theo Kalikow (at USM), Rosa Redonnett, Mark Schmelz, Donna Seppy, Richard Thompson and Rebecca Wyke (at UMA). **Others Present:** Ellen Chaffee (by phone), Stuart Swain, Jeff Hecker, Joe Szakas, Joe McDonnell (at USM), Ray Rice (at UMPI), Joe McGinn, Robert Dixon (at UMFK)

Committee Members Absent: none

Trustee Johnson, Chair of the Academic & Student Affairs Committee, called the meeting to order.

Update: Spring Enrollment Report. Ms. Rosa Redonnett, Chief Student Affairs Officer, provided an update on the status of enrollment at our campuses for Spring 2015 based on the findings within the report. The Spring 2015 Enrollment Report is historically run after our census date of February 15.

APRIP Update. Dr. Ellen Chaffee, the Executive Director of the Academic Program Review and Integration Process and Chair of the Oversight Committee, provided an update on the overall Academic Portfolio Review and Integration Process (APRIP).

Successful Leadership Transition

UMF President Kate Foster, former Oversight Committee chair, and UMS leadership and staff conducted a comprehensive on-boarding of Ellen Chaffee as the new Executive Director of APRIP.

Nine SubTeams Launched

Nine academic SubTeams involving over 150 faculty and staff from all the campuses have been oriented and are beginning their work.

- a. Chancellor Jim Page, President Kate Foster, Provosts Jeff Hecker and Ray Rice, and a support team including nine facilitators conducted a highly successful orientation day for some 100 faculty members, on a bad-weather Saturday. More convened the following Saturday by WebEx in a make-up orientation session.
- b. Leaders were nominated by SubTeam members and selected by a team made up of President Foster, Ray Rice, and Jeff Hecker. Seven of the nine new SubTeam leaders convened in Bangor on very short notice for an orientation to their work. They have begun organizing their teams and holding weekly phone meetings with each other. They will have a mid-term meeting at the end of March to report progress and identify issues to be addressed.
- c. Partnerships and support systems are developing with student affairs, information technology, human resources, and community engagement, joining a long-standing partnership with organizational effectiveness.

Current Priorities

- Full support and forward momentum for successful SubTeams
- Communication, internal and external
- Thoughtful academic program portfolio decisions
 - Demand/supply/opportunity data
 - Strategic Initiative 1: differentiation, direction of each campus
 - Engaging presidents and chief academic officers

Update on Credit Transfer and ABCDE Initiatives. Ms. Rosa Redonnett, Chief Student Affairs Officer, explained that these initiatives were implemented within the last year and are well underway.

Credit Transfer Steering Committee

Ms. Redonnett explained that the Credit Transfer Project is aimed at improving the college credit transfer process to make it easier for students to move among Maine's public universities and to transfer from the Maine Community College System (MCCS) to the University of Maine System (UMS) and vice versa. Rosa Redonnett, Chief Student Affairs Officer and member of the Credit Transfer Steering Committee (CTSC), provided an update on progress being made toward implementation of both the intra-system (within the UMS) component of this important work and the inter-system work with the MCCS.

Adult Baccalaureate Completion Distance Education (ABCDE)

UMPI President Linda Schott explained that within the Board of Trustees Goals and Actions and also within the UMS Strategic Enrollment Plan, the development of a comprehensive approach across our institutions to serving the non-traditional, adult students in Maine is a critical next step in our ongoing efforts to meet the needs of Maine's workforce, enhance economic development within the state, and, most importantly, provide the best opportunity for all of Maine's citizens to attain baccalaureate degrees.

The Adult Baccalaureate Completion/Distance Education (ABCDE) Committee developed a comprehensive, system-wide plan to enhance baccalaureate degree attainment and completion by Maine's adult and non-campus based citizens; implementation of the recommendations is well underway with the awarding of our first adult degree completion scholarships and our first professional development workshops for the concierges.

President Schott stated that April 1st is Education Day at the Legislature and several of the scholarship students will be sharing their experiences.

UMM Strategic Plan. University of Maine at Machias President Joyce Hedlund explained the strategic planning process on her campus and shared the resultant strategic plan in advance of the formal presentation to the Board of Trustees at their March 15-16 meeting.

Enhanced Identity and Vision Statement

UMM is Maine's Coastal University. Its location on the Bold Coast—including the land and sea, communities and natural ecosystems—provides the context for a unique learning and living experience. UMM's distinctive, high quality education centers on engaging students in the scientific, cultural, economic and social inquiry prompted by Maine's Bold Coast region. UMM provides students with active learning opportunities and leadership development, featuring close mentoring and tight community connections. Students are engaged in intellectually rigorous and innovative

campus and community experiences, including academically integrated campus service, community engagement, social diversity, mentored research, and professional internships.

The University has identified four strategic directions on which to focus:

- Nurture student success and engagement through well-designed academic, leadership development, and retention strategies.
- Enhance the university's coastal identity by expanding education and public service connections with the communities and natural environments of Maine's Bold Coast.
- Achieve and maintain financial stability and sustainability.
- Build and sustain strong community involvement and connections.

These directions include thirteen goals, each with action steps to be implemented in the next two years.

On a motion by Trustee Turner, which was seconded by Trustee Medd, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee agreed to forward the strategic plan submitted by the University of Maine at Machias to the full board for review and final approval at the meeting on March 15-16, 2015.

UMA Mission Statement (Revision). UMA President Glenn Cummings and UMA Provost Joe Szakas, stated that the University of Maine at Augusta has recently submitted its Self-Study to the New England Association of Schools and Colleges in preparation for their ten year review. As a part of this process, it was necessary to update the UMA mission statement to be reflective of their current mission.

The current Mission Statement, approved by the Board of Trustees on July 10, 2006, reads as follows:

The University of Maine at Augusta, a regional state university, provides baccalaureate and select associate degrees to meet the educational, economic and cultural needs of Central Maine. Based on a common liberal arts core for all degree programs, UMA delivers professional programs to non-traditional, traditional and place-bound students.

Recent and rapid growth in demand for online courses and new program delivery models by UMA students and potential students, as well as persistent economic pressure to reduce costs are all currently driving change in our mission. UMA's response to these pressures is focused on enhancing access and support for "non-traditional" students, expanding options for course delivery, adding and strengthening professional career-related programs, and collaborating with other UMS campuses on degree offerings.

Based on the results of the UMA Mission Survey and discussion with Interim President Cummings and UMA's senior management team, the following proposed Mission Statement was created and is now being presented to the Board Academic and Student Affairs Committee for review and approval:

The University of Maine at Augusta transforms the lives of students of every age and background across the State of Maine through quality on-site and on-line education combined with excellence in student support.

Trustee Newsom suggested adding a comment on public service and community engagement to the mission statement. Chancellor Page commented that the State looks to UMA for access. He also

suggested using the distance education term instead of on-line education. Trustee Erwin commented that he agrees that adding a comment on access is an important point and the focus on differentiation is not as clear as it could be. Dr. Cynthia Huggins agreed with the term of distance education and changing the term quality to high quality.

The Committee withdrew the UMA mission statement as an action item. The UMA mission statement will be presented again at a future meeting to allow the campus to further refine the draft.

Faculty Representatives Discussion. Dr. Raymond Albert and Dr. Robert Rice continued the discussion related to academic quality metrics that was started at the November Committee meeting.

Dr. Albert commented that the Dashboard Indicators that are distributed for each Board meeting are useful information but do not indicate academic quality. The Faculty Representatives recommend establishing and distributing on a regular basis academic quality indexes (AQI). Trustee Johnson commented that there has been time set aside on the agenda for the next Academic and Student Affairs Committee to discuss academic quality. Chancellor Page thanked Professors Albert and Rice for their work on this effort. He suggested looking at what would be the best benchmarks that identify the proper outputs. He also suggested that the AQI be reviewed and discussed with the President's Counsel before the indexes are added to the Dashboard Indicators. Trustee Newsom commented that academic quality can set the UMS aside from the other high education institutions. Trustee Erwin reminded the committee that it is the Board's fiduciary responsibility to have academic quality

Trustee Johnson suggested putting a team lead by Cynthia Huggins together to develop the metrics for the Chancellor to take to the Presidents Counsel. He suggested all of the Faculty Representative, students, Trustees and staff be included in the review team.

Student Representatives Discussion.

Connor Scott, UM, spoke for the Student Representatives

- Mr. Scott stated that Charles Rodda was not able to attend the meeting today and his term ends in April. At the next Board meeting the Student Representatives will appoint a new Chair for their group.
- Mr. Scott explained the planning has started for the System-wide Student Government conference. The conference will be hosted at UM on April 18-19. Governor LePage and several Legislators will be guest speakers. This will be an opportunity for all of the student government organizations to work collaboratively.

President Foster suggested cross-campus education experiences and concerns as an agenda item for the Student Representatives at a future Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting.

Executive Session

On a motion by Trustee Turner, which was seconded by Trustee Nelson, the Academic & Student Affairs Committee went into Executive Session under the following provisions:

- 1 MRSA Section 405 6-A to discuss the evaluation of personnel and the consideration and discussion of appointments, evaluations, employment and duties.

On a motion by Trustees Turner, which was seconded by Trustee Collins, the Academic & Student Affairs concluded the Executive Session.

Tenure Nominations for 2015

Due to a lack of quorum for this agenda item, the Committee recommended the Tenure Nominations for 2015 be reviewed and approved by the full Board at the March 15-16, 2015 Board meeting.

Adjournment

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