

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM
Board of Trustees Meeting

at the University College at East Millinocket
October 23, 2016

Special Board of Trustees Meeting

Present: Samuel Collins, Chair; Gregory Johnson, Vice Chair; Jason Coombs, James Erwin, Norman Fournier, Michelle Hood, Shawn Moody, Bonnie Newsom and Karl Turner. **Chancellor:** James Page. **Faculty Representatives:** Elizabeth Turesky and Cathleen McAnney. **University Presidents:** Glenn Cummings, James Conneely, Kathryn Foster, Susan Hunter, John Short, Ray Rice and Sue Huseman. **System Staff:** Tracy Bigney, Dan Demeritt, Chip Gavin (by phone), Ryan Low, Tamara Mitchell, Robert Neely, Rosa Redonnett, James Thelen, and Rebecca Wyke.

Absent: James Donnelly, Mark Gardner, Kevin McCarthy and Theresa Sutton

Sunday, October 23, 2016

Trustee Collins, Chair, called the meeting to order

CITIZEN COMMENT

Citizen Comment is a time regularly set aside for comments from the public. The following individuals spoke during the Citizen Comment period:

Melodie Greene – Maine Center for Graduate Professional Studies in Portland

CHAIR'S REMARKS

Trustee Collins welcomed everyone to the University College at East Millinocket. He was pleased that the meeting was in an area of the State where UMS traditionally does not hold meetings, but he felt it is important for the Trustees to see other areas of the State and the economic impact affecting the geographic area. He stressed the important role that higher education and the University Centers have in their communities.

UMaine President Susan Hunter stated that there has been a tragic accident and with a heavy heart announced that Professor Gordon Hamilton was killed while doing field work in Antarctica. Professor Hamilton was with the Climate Change Institute in the School of Earth and Climate Sciences at the University of Maine.

On a motion by Trustee Erwin, which was seconded by Trustee Hood, the Board of Trustees agreed to send a letter to the Hamilton family to express their condolences and recognize the critical role and impact Professor Hamilton had as a teacher, mentor, researcher, and explorer for the University of Maine community and the State of Maine.

ACTION ITEMS

Maine Center for Graduate Professional Studies. Chancellor Page provided background information and outlined the two-stage process developed for the Maine Center for Graduate Professional Studies. In the fall of 2013 Chancellor Page with a number of academic and business leaders developed the concept of creating a professional and graduate center that would be a model and home for entrepreneurial, multi-disciplinary business and legal programs to drive economic development statewide. With private funding a feasibility study was conducted by the Parthenon Group. The Parthenon Study concluded that the creation of a Professional and Graduate Center was a

transformational concept for the University of Maine System and could catalyze the growth of small to medium businesses across Maine.

In April 2015 Eliot Cutler was selected to serve as CEO of the Professional and Graduate Center Planning Initiative and was charged with developing a business plan for the proposed center. The business plan that is currently before the Board reflects the contributions of hundreds of individuals both within and outside the University System, including a Maine Center Advisory Board of more than one hundred people from across Maine.

The proposed Maine Center for Graduate Professional Studies (Maine Center) represents a groundbreaking opportunity for the University of Maine System to advance its One University plan in a way that brings our resources to bear in responsive, coordinated support of all Maine families, businesses and communities, an outcome best exemplified to date by the planned merging of the two MBA programs. The Chancellor and Presidents are committed to the launch of a single University of Maine MBA in the fall of 2017. The Maine Center Business Plan presents the project in a potentially fully realized state. Because of the project's magnitude – its scope and scale – a phased approach to implementation is the best way to ensure success, both by demonstrating the feasibility of the project and by allowing for Plan modifications as facts and circumstances may dictate. Based on preliminary feedback, Chancellor Page recommends that the Board commit now to the project using a two-staged process that is based on the following program, public engagement, and fundraising milestones, as well as others to be developed.

Stage 1

- Stage 1 will begin on January 1, 2017, with a timeline of 2-3 years as necessary to meet public engagement, program, and fundraising milestones and to achieve other success metrics.
- Core Stage 1 Activities:
 - Full implementation plan for Stage 1 developed, approved and underway, and that for Stage 2 completed and approved, each with measurable Key Performance Indicators (Spring 2017).
 - KPIs for Stage 1: strong program leadership in place; faculty resources identified; business community engagement; curricular flexibility, experiential components and calendar and scheduling coordination; and executive education underway.
 - A re-envisioned University of Maine MBA developed with primary location in Portland, as well as offered in Orono and remotely. Faculty for this program will include faculty from both the University of Southern Maine and the University of Maine business programs (Fall 2017)
 - Maine Center Ventures (MCV) is established and operational, including the hiring of a MCV lead. Interactive engagement with business and professional communities to meet workforce and consultative needs underway. (Spring 2017)
 - New programming in place. (Ongoing)
 - Participating programs identify and adopt flexibility to accommodate new opportunities (e.g., advanced experiential learning). (Fall 2017)
 - Additional cross-disciplinary programs and opportunities, developed and launched. (Spring and Fall 2017)
 - Executive education programs launched and operational (Spring 2017)
 - Enrollment targets and trends for each participating program established and met. (Spring 2017, ongoing)
 - Capital campaign designed and underway. (Ongoing)

Stage 2. After the Stage 1 milestones and associated performance indicators have been met, the System Board of Trustees will determine the next steps for developing the Maine Center facility that will house the educational and applied research programs on a scope and scale appropriate to the needs, conditions, opportunities and funds.

The Trustees and Presidents had a lengthy discussion on the Maine Center for Graduate Professional Studies initiative, the funding and the two-stage development process.

On a motion by Trustee Johnson, which was seconded by Trustee Fournier, the Board of Trustees endorsed the Maine Center for Graduate Professional Studies Business Plan dated October 2016 and directed that it be implemented in a multi-year phased approach as described in the agenda item summary. The Center's Plan is subject to Board of Trustees review and revision as milestones are reached. Further, that the Board of Trustees supports the Chancellor's efforts to seek assistance for the project from private foundations and other funding sources.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on November 13 & 14, 2016 at the University of Maine at Machias.

Adjournment

Ellen Doughty for
Tracy B. Bigney, Clerk