

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM
Board of Trustees Meeting

hosted by the University of Maine at Fort Kent
May 19-20, 2024

Board of Trustees Meeting

Present: **Trustees:** Trish Riley, Chair; Lisa Eames, Vice Chair (Zoom); Roger Katz, Barbara Alexander, Patrick Flood, Donna Loring (Zoom), Emily Cain, David MacMahon, Kelly Martin, Owen McCarthy, John Moore, and Michael Michaud. **Chancellor:** Dannel Malloy. **University Presidents:** Joan Ferrini-Mundy, Ray Rice, Jenifer Cushman, Joseph McDonnell, Leigh Saufley, Deborah Hedeem and Jacqueline Edmondson. **Faculty Representatives:** Ivan Manev, Patrick Cheek, William Otto, Libin Thaikkatti Louis, and Joe Staples. **Student Representatives:** Camille Alipalo, Grace Hills, Alec Brooks, and Griffin Goins. **System Staff:** Ryan Low, Jeff St. John, Amon Purinton, Carolyn Dorsey, Samantha Warren, Gretchen Catlin, John Volin, Miriam White, Tracy Elliott, and Kayla Flewelling.

Sunday, May 19, 2024

Trustee Riley, Chair, welcomed everyone and called the Executive Session to order.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Trustee Michaud, which was seconded by Trustee Cain, and approved by all Trustees present and by roll call vote, the Board of Trustees meeting 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.
- 1 MRSA Section 405 6-C to discuss the condition, acquisition or disposition of real property or economic development if premature disclosure of the information would prejudice the competitive or bargaining position of the UMS.
- 1 MRSA Section 405 6-D to discuss planning for negotiations and communications with AFUM, UMPA, ACSUM, Police, PATFA, and Service and Maintenance Units.
- 1 MRSA Section 405 6-E to consult with its attorney concerning legal rights and duties of the university.

On a motion by Trustee Cain, which was seconded by Trustee Michaud, and approved by all Trustees present and by roll call vote, the Board of Trustees concluded the Executive Session.

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT FORT KENT DISCUSSION

University of Maine Fort Kent Presentation and Tour of Nursing Interactive Simulation Center

Monday, May 20, 2024

Trustee Riley, Chair, called the public meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Citizen Comment is a time regularly set aside for comments from the public. There were no comments.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Riley thanked President Hedeem and UMFK staff for the dedicated efforts put into the planning and hosting of the Board of Trustees Meeting. There will be a survey on Board meeting efficiency and structure.

- **Tab 1 – Chancellor’s Contract**

Dannel Malloy was appointed Chancellor of the University of Maine System effective July 1, 2019. The Board of Trustees will discuss the Chancellor’s contract in executive session under provision 1 MRSA Section 405 6-A, at the May 19-20, 2024 Board meeting.

On a motion by Trustee Cain, which was seconded by Trustee Michaud, and approved by all Trustees present and by roll call vote, *the Board of Trustees authorized the Chair and Vice Chair to finalize, no later than June 30, 2024 an employment contract extension through June 30, 2027 with the Chancellor.*

1. **Student Representation:**

- Interim student representatives will attend meetings until official trustees are appointed.
- Alec Brooke from UMPI attended this meeting.

2. **Fundraising:**

- A fundraising report was discussed, emphasizing the importance of developing robust strategies to enhance donor engagement and diversify funding sources.
- The Strategic Planning Committee will take on fundraising, with a proactive approach in creating targeted campaigns and leveraging alumni networks to increase contributions.

3. **Recognitions:**

- Recognition of contributions by interim clerk Kayla Flewelling.
- Commendation for the smooth execution of board activities.

4. **President’s Roundtable:**

- Presidents from various campuses provided updates on commencements, budget challenges, student achievements, and other campus activities.
- Significant highlights included record enrollments, grants received, and innovative programs.

Tab 2 – Redlined Policy First Read [Trustee Alexander]

At the direction of Chair Riley and agreement of the Board at the January 2023 meeting, the Bylaws Working Group has completed its review of the current Bylaws and recommended the changes noted in the redline format included in meeting materials. It has been the intent of the Working Group throughout this process to clarify the current wording of the Bylaws, add necessary details to reflect ongoing Board practice, and to include content in the Bylaws derived from our Charter and other operating principles where it was determined that language was important to include.

These initial provisions and redlined changes are being presented as an information item at the May 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting for consideration and further recommendations. The proposed Bylaw changes will be presented at the July 2024 Board of Trustees for final approval.

Tab 3 – Conflict of Interest form update [Amon Purinton, Deputy General Counsel]

At the direction of Chair Riley and agreement of the Board of Trustees at the January 2023 meeting, the Bylaws Working Group has completed its review of the Conflict-of-Interest Form and the Board will be briefed by Deputy General Counsel Amon Purinton on its current status.

Chancellor’s Report

- Chancellor’s Update
- **Tab 4 – Vote to Approve University of Maine System 2025 Honorary Degrees**

Honorary Degree nominations from the University of Maine System campuses are presented annually for approval. In accordance with Board practice, the nominations are presented a year in advance and will be reviewed in Executive Session. Action will be taken in the public meeting without identification of the individual honorees. Publicity is the responsibility of the campus after arrangements for conferral of the degree are complete.

TEXT OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

That the Board of Trustees approves the 2025 nominations for Honorary Degrees as presented.

Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration & Treasurer’s Report (50 Minutes)

Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration & Treasurer Ryan Low will present the FY2025 Updated Proposed University of Maine System Operating & Capital Budget and Student Charges.

This is the updated, second reading of the budget, and a vote of the Committee will be taken for this item to be forwarded to the May 19-20, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting.

- The budget reflects balanced figures for the first time since 2014. This marks a significant milestone, showing the result of extensive financial planning and rigorous oversight.

- Detailed discussions included the comprehensive measures taken to ensure financial stability, such as the realignment of resources, strategic cost-cutting, and enhanced revenue generation initiatives.
- Key financial strategies were highlighted, such as reducing reliance on one-time funds and increasing operational efficiencies across campuses.
- Future fiscal plans were also touched upon, including the introduction of new financial models and investment in sustainable growth opportunities to ensure long-term financial health.

The Finance, Facilities and Technology committee approved this item to be forwarded to the May 19th/20th, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting, for approval of the following resolution:

That the Board of Trustees accepts the recommendation of the Finance, Facilities and Technology Committee, and approves the FY2025 Updated Proposed University of Maine System Operating & Capital Budget, Recommended Student Charges, and proposed transfers from Institutional Reserves.

Tab 6 – Finance and Administration Update

The Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration and Treasurer Ryan Low will provide 2 brief updates at the May 19-20, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting.

- 1) Investment Update – Flash reports
- 2) Current Fiscal Year-to-Date Forecast to Budget

Tab 7 - Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) Financing, Project and Reimbursement Resolution Authorization, UM

At its January 29, 2024 meeting, the Board of Trustees authorized the University of Maine System (UMS), acting through the University of Maine, to spend up to \$2,300,000 to pursue an energy savings performance contract (“ESPC”) to save energy, reduce costs, reduce carbon emissions, and improve the indoor environmental quality of campus space. Honeywell’s study of “demand side” lighting opportunities define this project which includes replacing approximately 6,088 lights with energy-saving LED lights in approximately 61 buildings on the Orono campus. While the number of lights to be replaced may vary based on the energy efficiency rebates available at the time the Energy Services Company (ESCO) contract is signed, UM will move forward with projects that both reduce energy consumption and have a return on investment.

When the Board approved this project in January, it was with the understanding that final terms and conditions of the financing would be approved by the Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration and Treasurer. This resolution is to approve the use of tax-exempt financing, which UM will repay primarily through the reduction in use of and charges for electricity, which Honeywell has estimated to be more

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than \$350,000 annually. Actual savings will depend on avoided energy consumption, and market/contract rates for energy.

The Finance, Facilities and Technology Committee approved this item to be forwarded to the May 19th/20th, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting, for approval of the following resolution:

TEXT OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

That the Board of Trustees accepts the recommendation of the Finance, Facilities, and Technology Committee, and approves the Financing, ESPC, Project and Reimbursement of Project Expenditures resolution to authorize the University of Maine System, acting through the University of Maine, to fund an ESPC project implementing Energy Conservation Measures related to approximately 61 campus buildings with a project total of up to \$2,300,000, using financing with a maximum principal amount of debt of \$2,300,000.

Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs – (30 Minutes)

Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Jeff St. John will share an update with the Board and answer questions.

Adult degree completion

Tab 9 - Tenure at Time of Hire

The University of Maine has requested that Dr. Gregory Cox be awarded tenure at the rank of Associate Professor in the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences within the College of Earth, Life, and Health Sciences at the University of Maine, effective January 2, 2024, in accordance with Board of Trustee Policy 310. Dr. Cox’s credentials have been reviewed by the faculty of the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences at the University of Maine and received their full support.

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee forwards this item to the May 19-20, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting for approval of the following resolution:

That the Board of Trustees accepts the recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee and approves tenure at time of hire, Associate Professor in the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences with tenure to be effective January 2, 2024.

Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives’ Report (30 Minutes)

Strategic plan update, introduction of metrics, few minutes on strategic partnerships.

At the May 2024 Board of Trustees meeting, the Acting Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives (VCSI) Carolyn Dorsey will offer an update on timely system-wide initiatives including the following items:

Strategic Plan Update:

Acting Vice Chancellor Carolyn Dorsey will update the Board of Trustees on the progress of developing and reviewing Key Performance Indicators with the Strategic Planning Committee and will briefly discuss next steps as they are continuing in development. VC Dorsey will also offer brief updates regarding Human Resources and Labor Relations.

Tab 11 - Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreement, Police/FOP

The Board of Trustees delegates responsibility for negotiating collective bargaining agreements to the Chancellor. The Chancellor reports tentative agreements to the Board for approval prior to executing the agreements.

The University has reached a tentative agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #100. The Board will be briefed on the terms of the Agreement at the meeting.

That the Board of Trustees authorizes the Chancellor to execute the collective bargaining agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #100, upon notice that the agreement has been ratified by the union.

Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation (10 Minutes)

Action Items –

Tab 12 - Election of Board Officers (Trustee McMahon)

Chair and Vice Chair nominations from the Trustees are presented annually by the Nominating Committee for approval. In accordance with Board practice, the nominations are reviewed in Executive Session. Action will be taken in the public meeting. The committee received self nominations from the chair and vice chair to continue in their current positions. Two trustees independently nominated the current slate. The nominating committee noted that the by laws allow the chair to serve for no more than 4 consecutive terms. Therefore, Trustee Riley is eligible to serve as chair for FY 25.

That the Board of Trustees approves the FY2025 nominations for Chair (Trustee Riley) and Vice Chair (Trustee Eames) as presented by the Nominating Committee.

Tab 13 – Confirmation of Student Representatives

To create the environment for interaction among and between Faculty and Student Representatives, the Trustees and System administration, the Trustees have provided opportunities for participation in the meetings of the committees of the Board.

One faculty member and one undergraduate student from each of the seven universities and one graduate student from the University of Southern Maine, one graduate student from the University of Maine, and one graduate student from the Maine Law School will be appointed by the Board as non-voting representatives to the Board of Trustees and invited to participate as non-voting members on the standing committees.

Normally, the representative is expected to complete a two-year term; therefore, it is an expectation that the minimum term of service by Faculty and Student Representatives to the Board be two years. The nominations will be forwarded through the Presidents or Dean of the Law School to the Chancellor for submission to the Board for Trustee approval.

The following nomination is being recommended by the campus:

Undergraduate Student Representative

Camille Alipalo, USM – Appointed for a 2-year term – May 2024 to May 2026

Tyler Davis, Law – Appointed for a 2-year term – May 2024 to May 2026

Grace Hills, UMA - Appointed for a 2-year term – May 2024 to May 2026

TEXT OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

That the Board of Trustees approves the appointment of the Student Representative to the Board of Trustees as presented.

Consent Agenda

I move for the Board of Trustees to approve the Consent Agenda items - Acceptance of the Minutes and the items as forwarded from the May 6, 2024 Academic and Student Affairs Committee.

Tab 14 - Acceptance of Minutes

The following minutes will be presented to the Board of Trustees for approval at the May 20, 2024, Board meeting:

February 28, 2024 – Investment Committee Meeting

March 20, 2024 – Finance, Facilities and Technology Committee Meeting

May 1, 2024 - Executive Committee Meeting

Tab 15 – New Academic Program Proposal – Doctor of Engineering in Engineering Technology, UM JV

The UM Doctor of Engineering in Engineering Technology is designed for working professionals seeking advanced training in their field. This 100% online, part-time dissertation program combines research and applied learning, granting students the skills to serve in advanced leadership roles in survey engineering and related fields and qualifying them for postsecondary teaching roles. More than 25 letters of support from industry professionals were submitted in preparing this proposal. This program will fill a unique niche in doctoral education - although several institutions offer on-campus programs in Engineering Technology, no doctoral-level online programs are available in the United States. In addition, this new doctoral program will contribute to MCEC’s Harold Alford Foundation supported UMS TRANSFORMS’ goal of doubling engineering and computing student enrollments by 2032.

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee forwards this item to the Consent Agenda at the May 19-20, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting for approval of the following resolution:

Tab 16 – New Academic Program Proposal – Master of Arts in Teaching – Whole Child Education, UMA

Whole Child education refers to a wraparound approach to education that incorporates both the content and the climate of learning to create the physiological and psychological conditions for productive learning, taking the whole child’s experience into account. UMA's Master of Arts in Teaching - Whole Child Education centers on providing learning opportunities that will support educators in creating relationship-centered learning spaces; creating curricula, instruction, and assessments for deeper learning; offering integrated student support; preparing teachers for Whole Child practice; and encouraging

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policymaking that supports every child.

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee forwards this item to the Consent Agenda at the May 19-20, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting for approval of the following resolution:

Tab 17 – New Academic Program Proposal – Associate of Arts in Social Science, UMA

The UMA Associate of Arts in Social Science is designed to support the needs of adult degree completion and transfer students by 1) delivering foundational knowledge in Social Science theory and research, 2) providing a credentialing pathway for those students who depart higher education prior to completion of the four-year degree, and 3) serving as a significant marker of accomplishment for students on their way to the B.A. degree. This program also taps into existing UMA faculty expertise in Social Science and strengthens UMA’s portfolio of academic offerings.

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee forwards this item to the Consent Agenda at the May 19-20, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting for approval of the following resolution:

Date of the Next Meeting:

July 14-15, 2024, meeting will be held at the University of Maine.

Additional information about the meeting can be found on the Board of Trustees website:
<https://www.maine.edu/board-of-trustees/meeting-agendas-materials/board-of-trustees/>

Adjournment
Elizabeth Stickler, Clerk