Board of Visitors Meeting  
September 11, 2013  
8:00 – 10:00 AM  
211 Wishcamper  
Portland Campus

Present: Amy Amico, Bill Bennett, Bob Blackwood ’78, ’82, Todd Chamberlain, Maria Chambers, Roxane Cole, Lisa Dixon, Kelsea Dunham, Dennis Eagleson, Laura Foye ‘87, Cliff Greim, Betsy Hart, Jerry LaSala, Lisa Martin, Chip Morrison, Bob Petitt, Laurenz Schmidt, Denise Taaffe ’78 and Rick Vail ‘76

Absent: Mark Bessire, Joe Grey, Chris Joyce, Valerie Landry, Nancy Magee ’82 and Tony Payne

Staff: Cecile Aitchison, Bob Caswell ‘74, Dick Campbell ’73, ‘89, Susan Campbell ‘80, Theo Kalikow and Sharoo Wengland ‘10

I. Chair’s Welcome – Denise Taaffe ‘78  
   • Denise welcomed the group and introduced our newest members, Roxane Cole and Lisa Martin

II. President’s Update – Theo Kalikow  
   • Theo talked briefly about the USM welcome, which was a great success  
   • Direction Package  
      o The President's leadership team, with the assistance of the Provost Council, has been working over the summer to create a Direction Package outline that will provide the basis to move USM into the future.  
         ▪ The team was split into three groups: Charter, Internal and External  
            • Charter: look to see what USM is bound to do by legislation  
            • Internal: look at what USM currently does and identify what we do well  
            • External: look all the external factors that affect USM  
         ▪ The team reviewed all the planning documents previously written at USM, as well as many documents about the economy, the state
and the region. They then created a synthesis of the material and a basic outline to move USM forward.

- This outline, also known as the Direction Package, will be presented to the University in two weeks on Sept. 24th.
- The community as a whole will have multiple opportunities to participate and engage in conversations to guide the final Direction Package outline.

- **Bond**
  - The Legislature has approved a bond issue to be placed on the Nov. 5th ballot.
  - If approved the bond will provide funds for the purpose of renovating science labs on campuses throughout the System
  - The election will take place on Nov 5th
  - The University of Maine System is hiring a campaign manager and once we have details, we will reach out to the Board to assist with the campaign
  - Board members are encouraged to write letters to the editor, OpEd pieces to the media and to talk with their friends and colleagues about the importance of this vote

III. **Enrollment & Admission Update** – Susan Campbell ‘80, Chief Student Affairs Officer *(see attachment)*

- Susan Campbell explained that the Student and University Life and Student Success divisions at USM had been consolidated over the summer
- USM had over 3,000 guests throughout its opening week events
- The enrollment numbers presented in this morning’s Portland Press Herald stated that USM will be 8% down when in fact; USM is projected to be down 4.5-5% for FY14. The final numbers will be presented at census in Oct. 2013
- Overall graduation rates for USM is hovering around 30% when ideally it should be at 45%, so USM continues to make efforts to increase this number
- Student Affairs is now focusing on academic advising and building relationships with students at all levels and they continuously access and make changes to their routines to enhance the student experience
- USM Admissions makes visits to all Maine high schools in the state
- One of the major initiatives Susan and the Provost are working on is creating consistency across the university with academic faculty advising

IV. **Facilities Update** – Dick Campbell ‘73, ’89, Chief Financial Officer *(see attachment)*

- USM works with a company called Sightlines, which looks at and compares peer universities’ facility operations. The information gathered assists USM in creating more cost-effective and efficient approaches to facilities management.
- USM’s deferred maintenance total is currently $220M.

**NEXT MEETING:**
*Dec. 12th, 8am-10am, 102 Wishcamper, Portland*