Board of Visitors Meeting Minutes
October 26, 2018

Attendees: Beatrice Fevry, Clif Greim, Kent Peterson, Nicholas Mancuso, Brian Toy, Nancy Griffin, Joan Cohen, Tak Suppasettawat, Jeanne Paquette, Jeannine Uzzi, Terry Sutton, Bob Stein, Glenn Cummings, Dennis Eagleson, Jane Eberle, Julia Sleeper, Danielle Letourneau and Beckie Conrad.

Chair Clif Greim called the meeting to order at 8:12 a.m.

Opening Remarks
BOV Chair Greim opened the meeting and introductions followed. Clif spoke about the bond issue and how he has advocated for USM at recent events and encouraged others to do the same.

President’s Report
President Cummings thanked members for their donations and advocating for Question 4. He said there was some exciting news regarding census, which happens on the Oct. 15th and turned things over to Nancy Griffin to give more detail.

Enrollment
Nancy spoke about the new data/numbers regarding enrollment. Enrollment has grown by 5.81% and the percentage of students going full-time has increased by 7.07%. More detailed information can be found in the attached document.

Master Plan
Jeannine Uzzi said they are currently cleaning up the final report. Once the bond is approved, they can start moving forward. Nancy added that even if the bond does not pass, USM is planning to build a new residence hall on the Portland campus, where the Woodbury Student Center currently is.

Name Change
Glenn said that polling is happening in areas throughout New England. Bob Stein said that 5 surveys were conducted, 3 external and 2 internal. We also had 5 focus groups of high school students, 3 within state and 2 out of state. We will be getting a draft result of all this in the next week.

Introduction of Jeanne Paquette, new VP of Corporate Engagement
Glenn said that Jeanne has graciously agreed to add this new role to her already busy job overseeing Auxiliary Services. She will be working on be working with businesses on increasing the number of students who get internships and will be in charge of the Career Hub. The Career Hub is made up of career counselors and employer outreach specialists. Jeanne recently went to a meeting of the System Wide Advisors group, which consists of academic, and career advisors. Her team from USM did a presentation on a model they got from the University of Georgia about working with Academic Advising, mostly with the undeclared students. This is a structured model on how to get students ready to enter the workforce.
Bond Update
Glenn said that 60% of Mainers question the value of higher education. That trend is concerning. It has been too expensive to penetrate the Portland market, but we do have T.V. ads in the Bangor and Presque Isle areas. The Chamber and most of the major newspapers endorsed us.

Pop Up Course
Glenn spoke about a former professor who tried to do a pop up course for credit and did not pass it through the established procedures. We immediately pulled it, no taxpayer money was used and an investigation is ongoing about possible accomplices, specifically in the Registrar’s office.

MCV Update and Discussion
Terry Sutton first explained what Maine Center Ventures is. It is the organization that is being stood up, courtesy of Alfond funding, to launch the Professional Center for Graduate Studies. It will integrate Law, Muskie and MBA under one roof, at some point. Bobby Monks has been integral in getting the fundraising building blocks in place, using his connections and we are very thankful for his help. Terry is focused on the deliverables set out by the Alfond Foundation to continue to get funding. Building and the interdisciplinary curriculum, incubator accelerator support and executive education are also a current focus. She is thrilled to have to opportunity to have a job more aligned with what is important to her.

Nominating Committee Update & Vote
Jon Jennings has had to step down from the BOV. He suggested a candidate to replace him, Michael Sauschuk. We had a unanimous recommendation from the nominating committee to accept that. Clif made a motion to accept Michael’s name and Jane Eberle moved, Kent Peterson seconded and 7 voted in favor.

Next Meeting/Legislative Breakfast
Glenn said that we are combining the next BOV meeting with a legislative breakfast. It is important to speak to the new legislators about our vision for USM. Please see the attached updated BOV meeting schedule.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

The next meeting of the Board of Visitors is Friday, December 14, UER, 7th Floor Glickman, Portland campus