Board of Visitors Meeting Minutes
June 7, 2019


Guests: Chris LaVoie, Adam Lee, Sam Warren

Chair Clif Greim called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Opening Remarks
Clif opened the meeting and introductions followed. Clif welcomed as guests two new board members, Adam Lee and Chris LaVoie, who will officially be starting their roles in August. Clif also thanked the BoV for its ongoing support and efforts on behalf of USM

Legislative Update

Sam Warren, Director of Governmental Relations for the University of Maine System, gave a broad overview of legislative efforts this year. A hand out on the budget was distributed and is attached to these minutes.

BoV members discussed the One University initiative and noted that they would like to learn more about its challenges and benefits. A suggestion was made that the BoV initiate a committee to study and report on it. Accreditation is one of the identified challenges but it is not an insurmountable barrier.

Sam noted that UMS was involved in other legislative efforts this session including:
- A bill to Increase UMS’s borrowing capacity, allowing UMS to better invest in infrastructure
- A variety of Labor bills such as proposals that would have
  - Allowed public workers the right to strike
  - Required mandatory binding arbitration.
- A host of bills related to student debt forgiveness
  - UMS encouraged legislators to focus on up-front investment in higher ed.

Legislative priorities going forward will depend on the incoming chancellor’s priorities. One of the identified priorities is an effort to encourage increased investment in R&D.

Clif thanked Sam for her outstanding work on behalf of UMS and USM.

Page Scholarship

Corey Hascall, VP of Foundation and Alumni Relations, thanked the BoV for their leadership in giving. She encouraged the BoV to consider donating to the Page Scholarship, an endowed scholarship that the BoT
established to honor Chancellor Jim Page’s many years of service to the University of Maine System. All USM funds given to the Page Scholarship will come back to USM as scholarships. Corey also that noted that there were three weeks left in the fiscal year that only about 50% of the BoV has given this year. She encouraged 100% BoV participation at any level of giving. Gifts to the Page Scholarship will count toward the 100% participation goal. The Page Scholarship request is attached to these minutes.

President’s Report
President Cummings shared an update on the 9 Goals. USM has made tremendous and impressive strides. The PowerPoint is attached to these minutes. President Cummings thanked the faculty and staff for all of their efforts in USM’s successes.

Capitol Project Update
Nancy Griffin, COO and VP of Enrollment, gave an update on the many capital projects at UMS. The project list and power point are attached to these minutes.

Nominations for BoV
Clif noted that the BoT approved our 5 proposed nominees. The nominees’ bios were distributed and are attached to these minutes. Upon a motion made by Mary LaFountain and seconded by Neil Kiely, the BoV unanimously approved the slate of new BoV members.

Election of 2019-20 Chair and Vice Chair
Clif Greim proposed a slate of officers that included Luc Nya, as chair, and Jane Eberle, as Vice-Chair. Upon a motion made by Chris Joyce and seconded by Mary La Fountain, the BoV unanimously approved the slate of officers.

Approval of 2019-20 Meeting Schedule
Upon a motion by Neil Kiely and second by Mary La Fountain, the BoV unanimously approved the proposed meeting schedule.

Acknowledgement of Termed Board Members
Glenn noted that Mark Bessire, Denise Taaffe, Dennis Eagleson, and Tony Payne were termed out and, while none of those members were able to attend the meeting, he thanked them for their services. We will be giving each of those departing members a thank you gift.

Glenn also thanked outgoing chair Clif Greim for his dedicated service on behalf of USM and our BoV. Clif will continue for a term of two years as Immediate Past Chair. Clif was presented with a framed map print.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

The next meeting of the Board of Visitors is
Friday, August 30, 2019, Portland Campus, UER – 7th Floor Glickman Library