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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

University of Connecticut
School of Social Work
Zachs Community Room
West Hartford, Connecticut

October 1, 2002

OPEN SESSION

The meeting was called to order at 11:25 a.m. by Chairman Roger Gelfenbien. Trustees present were: James Abromaitis, Louise Bailey, Philip Barry, Linda Gatling, Christopher Hattayer, Lenworth Jacobs, Claire Leonardi, Michael Martinez, Frank Napolitano, Denis Nayden, Richard Twilley, and Anne George, who represents the Governor's Office.

Trustee William Berkley participated by telephone.

Trustees Michael Cicchetti, Shirley Ferris, David O'Leary, Theodore Sergi, and Richard Treibick were absent from the meeting.

University staff and Senate representatives present were: President Austin, Chancellor and Provost for University Affairs Petersen, Executive Vice President for Health Affairs Deckers, Vice President for Financial Planning and Management Aronson, Vice Chancellor for Business and Administration Dreyfuss, Vice Chancellor for Academic Administration Maryanski, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Triponey, Assistant Attorney General Shapiro, Dr. Schurin, University Architect Schilling, Faculty Senate Representatives Gregory Anderson and Kent Holsinger, and Ms. Locke.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Discussion of personnel matters, collective bargaining, and pending litigation.

On a motion by Ms. Leonardi, seconded by Ms. Bailey, **THE BOARD VOTED** to go into Executive Session at 11:25 a.m. to discuss matters that would result in the disclosure of public records described in Section 1-19 (b) of the Connecticut General Statutes. The Chairman noted that on the advice of counsel only staff members whose presence was necessary to provide their opinion would be permitted to attend Executive Session.

Trustees present were: Abromaitis, Bailey, Barry, Gatling, Gelfenbien, Hattayer, Jacobs, Leonardi, Martinez, Napolitano, Nayden, Twilley, and Anne George, who represents the Governor's Office.

Trustee Berkley participated by telephone.

President Austin, Chancellor and Provost for University Affairs Petersen, Vice President for Financial Planning and Management Aronson, Vice Chancellor for Business and Administration Dreyfuss, Assistant Attorney General Shapiro, Assistant Attorney General McCarthy, Dr. Schurin, University Architect Schilling, and Mr. Derek Dahlen from Dahlen, Berg & Co. were also present.

2. Close Executive Session and recess for lunch.

Executive Session ended at 12:30 p.m. and the Board returned to Open Session at 1:08 p.m. Trustees Cicchetti and O'Leary joined the meeting at this time. Trustee Ferris participated by telephone. Trustee Bailey was not present at this time.

All actions taken were by unanimous vote of the Trustees present.

OPEN SESSION

Reconvene in Open Session at 1:00 p.m.

1. Public Participation

There were no members of the public who wished to address the Board.

2. Chairman's Report

(a) Greetings from the School of Social Work

Chairman Gelfenbien thanked Dr. Kay Davidson, Dean of the School of Social Work, Dr. David Williams, Director of the West Hartford Campus, staff, and students for hosting the Board meeting. Dean Davidson welcomed the Board to the School of Social Work and to the Zachs Community Room. She noted that the Zachs Community Room was made possible by the generous gift of Judy and Henry Zachs. Their generous support enabled the School to renovate the area into meeting or special event space. She noted that the Zachs Community Room was intended, as part of the School's mission, to be accessible to the Campus, the University, and the local community.

Dean Davidson introduced Dr. David Williams, Director of the West Hartford Campus. Dr. Williams welcomed the Board to the West Hartford Campus.

Chairman Gelfenbien asked Dr. Williams how many students are enrolled during the day and at night.

Dr. Williams indicated that there are approximately 2,300 undergraduate and graduate students on campus. The graduate population is comprised of students from the School of Social Work and the MBA Program. There are also a large number of students enrolled in programs at night through the College of Continuing Studies.

Chairman Gelfenbien acknowledged the generous support of Henry and Judith Zachs.

(b) Minutes of the meeting of August 13, 2002

On a motion by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mr. Twilley, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the minutes of the meeting of August 13, 2002.

(c) Consent Agenda Items:

On a motion by Mrs. Gatling, seconded by Mr. Hattayer, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the following items listed on the Consent Agenda.

(1)	Contracts and Agreements for the Storrs-based programs	(Attachment 1)
(2)	Designation of Authorized Officer for Sale Purposes for UCONN 2000 General Obligation and Special Obligation Bonds	(Attachment 2)
(3)	Master of Arts Degree in Art History	(Attachment 3)
(4)	Awards and Donations	(Attachment 4)

(d) Personnel matters (Storrs-based programs) (Attachment 5)

On a motion by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Ms. Leonardi, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the personnel action recommendations on Attachment 5.

(1) Promotion, Tenure, and Reappointment list

(2) Emeritus Faculty Retirements

(3) Sabbatics

(4) Informational matters

(e) Discussion

(1) Board committee list (Attachment 6)

On a motion by Ms. Leonardi, seconded by Mrs. Gatling, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the 2002-2003 Board Committee assignments.

Chairman Gelfenbien announced that Trustee Nayden will chair the Executive Compensation Committee.

3. President's Report

President Austin expressed his gratitude to Henry and Judith Zachs for their continued support and generosity, which they have extended not only to the School of Social Work, but also to the School of Business and the School of Fine Arts.

President Austin noted that he recently visited many members of the Connecticut congressional delegation in Washington and thanked them for their support. He noted that he also attended a fundraiser held by a Washington-area alumnus and affirmed that there continues to be strong support, enthusiasm and excitement for the University.

(a) Introduction of Richard Miller, Director of Environmental Policy

President Austin introduced Mr. Richard Miller, the University's new Director of Environmental Policy. He noted that Mr. Miller will be instrumental in monitoring the environmental issues surrounding the University's continued expansion of its infrastructure resulting from the completion of the UCONN 2000 projects and, now, 21st Century UConn. He noted that Mr. Miller will report directly to Chancellor Petersen. Mr. Miller was formerly the manager of environmental regulatory affairs for Northeast Utility and was head of the environmental practice group at Cohen and Birnbaum, a legal firm in Hartford. He was also deputy council for the house majority office of the Connecticut General Assembly from 1984 to 1986. President Austin indicated that he has broad and extensive environmental expertise that will serve the University well.

Mr. Miller expressed his enthusiasm for the opportunity to work at the University. He noted that he became aware of some of the University's issues while employed as the director of the environmental policy council at CBIA. He noted that he also served as the Governor's appointee on the Council for Environmental Quality, so he is familiar with the issues the University has been facing for the last several years.

(b) Other items

President Austin noted that Chancellor Petersen and Vice Chancellor Triponey will give the Board an overview of enrollment.

Dr. Triponey directed Trustee attention to a one-page summary labeled Fall 2002 – On Campus Student Housing Update. She reported that the University has not only filled every bed available, but did not have enough housing for all the students who were accepted. The administration faced an abundance of students who wanted to live on campus.

Over the past several years, the University has worked hard to create a spectrum of housing options. Four years ago the University could only offer traditional residence halls. Now the University can offer students the opportunity to live not only traditional dormitories, but suites and apartments. She anticipates that by next fall there will be an increase in the number of available beds from 7,000 to 11,000. In Fall 2000, the University had to place three students in rooms designed for two. In Fall 2001, the Hilltop suites and apartments opened, which supplied another 1,000 beds and tripling did not occur. This year, because North Campus apartments and suites were not yet completed and the enrollment projections were off, housing shortages occurred. The University had a better yield than projected and had more students who wanted to live on campus, which translated to a 400-450 bed shortage when the fall semester began.

Vice Chancellor Triponey reported that approximately 8,300 students are living in traditional residence halls, which includes over 1,100 students in suites. There are also 390-450 students living in "stretch capacity." Currently, there are 10,317 students living on campus and the University's capacity is 9,944, which equates to 104% occupancy.

Vice Chancellor Triponey also explained that the University had fewer "no shows" than in previous years and that affected the vacancy rate, which has left the administration with very little room to shift students when problems arise. She discussed in detail the overflow resulting in living in "stretch capacity." She noted that students were placed temporarily in rooms with resident assistants, which is not deemed appropriate under normal conditions. Some freshmen who paid after the deadline were put as a third person into rooms intended for only two students. The last option was to put a fifth person in a lounge situation. Once beds become available the priority order for taking students out of "stretch capacity" begins with removal of students from RA rooms, then the fifth person from a lounge, eliminating the triples, eliminating the lounge accommodations completely, and then moving freshmen out of Mansfield apartments, which are not deemed an appropriate living area for freshmen.

Vice-Chancellor Triponey noted that mostly freshmen, transfer students, regional campus transfers, readmits, and continuing students were placed in "stretch capacity."

She reported that students who did not receive housing were those who violated the Student Code or the Housing Contract more than once. These individuals were put on a waiting list, because they had violated the community standards and were considered last priority to get on-campus housing. Students were also declined housing if they missed deadlines. There exists a wait list for those who want to live on campus, but there are no beds at this time. By next fall, all students should be accommodated.

Chairman Gelfenbien asked about students staying at the Nathan Hale Inn. Vice Chancellor Triponey noted that there are about 42 students living there. Twenty-six students were referred to the Nathan Hale Inn by Residential Life, because the University had promised them housing. The University has agreed to subsidize the difference of what it would have cost them to live in premium rooms on campus and the cost of at the Hotel. The remainder of students chose to live at the Hotel for the fall semester. By spring, they will have some accommodations from those who either transfer or drop out.

Dr. Jacobs noted this problem will be resolved with the additional beds coming on line next year at North Campus.

Vice Chancellor Triponey agreed, but cautioned that our pipeline is growing with more returning students that have been in the system for the last three years who will need to be accommodated next year. She noted that the University expects to accommodate the overflow this year and what is already in the pipeline.

Trustee Napolitano raised concerns about utilizing the Nathan Hale Inn in the future.

Vice Chancellor Triponey responded that the Nathal Hale Inn and Mansfield Apartments are not the best places to house new students on campus. They need to be in a residence hall community where they are getting connected, build support systems and networks, which these areas do not provide.

Trustee Twilley asked where the 26 students were pulled from.

Vice Chancellor Triponey responded that they were transfer students, who have adjusted to college life elsewhere.

Trustee Twilley asked for more clarification regarding the priority system used to pull students out of "stretch capacity" and asked if it would make sense to pull students out of the Nathan Hale Inn before resident assistant rooms.

Vice Chancellor Triponey responded that students who opted to stay at the Inn had to make a commitment for the entire semester, so that the University could utilize available beds in the other "stretch" capacity areas.

Mrs. Gatling asked for more clarification about the number of beds available for Fall 2003 and if the administration expected those in the pipeline to want a bed. She also asked if the administration expected to limit the number of freshmen in 2003.

Vice Chancellor Triponey responded that freshman enrollment will be limited, and Chancellor Petersen indicated that a more comprehensive discussion will take place later in the day.

Vice Chancellor Maryanski then provided the Board a presentation that offered an overview of undergraduate education. He noted that Storrs is at capacity with respect to undergraduates, but the good news is that the University as a whole is not over capacity. Last year at this time, Dr. Suman Singha worked hard to help students complete their schedules. Over the past year, many worked to change the process to avoid problems. He noted that the orientation program was successful in assisting incoming freshmen with their schedules. He attributed the success of the program to Ms. Maria Sedotti, who led the effort. Vice Chancellor Maryanski commended the efforts of ACES Director, Mr. Steve Jarvi and the administration in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, including Associate Dean for Social Sciences and Humanities Veronica Makowsky, Associate Dean for Sciences Ronald Growney, and Director of the CLAS Academic Services Center, Monica Kettle for their extensive efforts in collaborating with the Registrar's Office in identifying hot spots. Funding was allocated to institute new courses, which at this time are right at the limit.

Vice Chancellor Maryanski noted that other areas that are being worked on with great progress are the FYI or First Year Experience courses, which enroll about 80% of the first year students in at leased one course. There are some specialized courses in Engineering, Honors, CAP, Counseling Program for Intercollegiate Athletes (CPIA) and also a wide group of courses coordinated by Mr. David Ouimette. He noted that volunteers include Chancellor Petersen, Associate Vice Chancellor Karla Fox, and Associate Vice Provost Dolan Evanovich, as well as himself. He thanked the staff and the administration for getting involved in this important effort. Vice Chancellor Maryanski noted that he enjoys the opportunity to work with the new students and help students overcome the transition problems from high school to college.

Vice Chancellor Maryanski reported that enrollment at the regional campuses has grown substantially. Freshman enrollment at the Avery Point Campus, in particular, has increased 40%. The increase in enrollment at all of the campus is due to the aggressive marketing and recruitment campaigns developed by Associate Vice Provost Dolan Evanovich, Mr. John Barry, Mr. James Morales, and Mr. Brian Usher. They have visited all of the campuses and are working on a new model for each, which they have found has been successful in bringing in five small classes to the regional campuses. He noted that there is a great potential for future growth.

Chairman Gelfenbien asked for more details about the increase in enrollment for the Waterbury Campus when the new facility comes on line.

Vice Chancellor Maryanski responded that this year the numbers grew slightly - 9% in terms of first year students. He expects to see additional growth at Waterbury over the next three years, especially after the new facility is complete.

He noted that the marketing campaign for the Tri-Campus included the appointment of three professional recruiters that are working with the high schools and also working to understand what makes those campuses attractive to students. He also noted that each of the campuses attract a different type of student than those who want to go away to college and live at Storrs, but there are many strong students for whom the regional campuses are the right place now that the University has enhanced programs.

Chairman Gelfenbien asked how many students are enrolled at Waterbury this year. Vice Chancellor Maryanski responded that there are less than 600 undergraduates.

Chairman Gelfenbien asked what the capacity would be next year. Vice Chancellor Maryanski responded that the administration expects approximately 900 undergraduate students.

Chancellor Petersen noted that after the regular Board meeting, he would provide the Board with an overall enrollment presentation.

Chairman Gelfenbien expressed his concern about the lack of beds, but also was pleased that the University is in such demand. He thanked Associate Vice Provost Evanovich and Ms. Carole Henry for their efforts.

4. Financial Affairs Committee Report

(a) Committee Chairman's report on Committee activities

Vice-Chair Nayden reported that the Financial Affairs Committee met this morning and discussed various contracts in conjunction with payments associated with UCONN 2000. There was also a separate discussion surrounding the sale of five residential properties on the outlying reaches of the campus, all of which are uninhabited at this time. These residences would require approximately

$600,000 worth of extensive repairs. The discussion supported the sale of those properties.

(1) Proposed Sale of University-owned Residential Rental Properties (Attachment 7)

On a motion by Mr. Nayden, seconded by Ms. Leonardi, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the sale of University-owned residential rental properties.

5. Health Center Board of Directors Report

(a) Chairwoman's report on activities

Chairwoman Leonardi reported that the new Board of Directors is now in full operation. She noted that subcommittees include: Academic Affairs, Clinical Affairs, Peer Review, and Finance and Audit. She noted that they have also received very strong faculty participation on both the Academic Affairs and Clinical Affairs subcommittees.

A general orientation was given in June, a series of finance orientations were conducted throughout the summer, and a clinical orientation was held in September.

The Board of Directors held its first full meeting on September 9 and the Board discussed the strategic plan, the status of the schools, and the year-to-date performance. There were no issues voted on at that meeting, because it was a continuation of the orientation process.

She reported that the Health Center was off to a good start this year with a high quality of incoming students and the continued improvement of research funding. The administration anticipates a very busy year in terms of setting up a master agenda that would outline the major issues that the Board anticipates addressing, some of which include the operating plans for the Signature Programs, the School of Medicine reorganization, facilities and capital plans, and an information technology plan. Once the master agenda is complete, Ms. Leonardi will report back to the Board.

Chairman Gelfenbien noted that as part of the bylaw change, two members from the Health Center Board of Directors need to be appointed to the Board of Trustees Financial Affairs Committee.

6. Institutional Advancement Committee Report

(a) Committee Chairman's report on Committee activities

Trustee Napolitano gave the report of the Institutional Advancement Committee on behalf of Vice-Chair Treibick. Trustee Napolitano reported that the Institutional Advancement Committee met on Monday, September 23, 2002. He directed attention to the Development Progress Executive Summary in Attachment 8. He referenced the five goals in item 1 that were established by the Development Committee of the UConn Foundation Board of Directors. The goals include: 1) $50 million in new gifts and commitments, 2) gift receipts goal of $43 million, 3) unrestricted operating fund goal of $1.25 million, 4) a goal of 40,000 donors, and 5) full subscription on the State Matching Program to endowment.

Mr. Kessler provided the Committee with an update on fund raising for the first two months of the new fiscal year. The University is off to a very strong start in fiscal year 2003. He noted that the University is the recipient of the corporate archives of SNET, which has been independently appraised at $3.8 million.

Mr. Scott Brohinsky, Director of Communications provided a legislative update that included information on the enactment of the 21st Century UConn initiative and the bill signing ceremony that occurred on August 26, 2002 on campus.

He also updated the Committee on information concerning the State Matching Grant Program. The University will receive approximately $7.3 million to match endowment gifts for the year. The shortfall that remains is approximately $100,000, which is expected to be met at the next session of the General Assembly.

(1) Development Progress Executive Summary (Attachment 8)

(b) Items requiring Board discussion and approval:

(1) Endowed Professorship Naming Recommendation: (Attachment 9)

(a) Creation of the Ray Neag Professorship in Adult Learning

On a motion by Mr. Napolitano, seconded by Mr. Martinez, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the creation of the Ray Neag Professorship in Adult Learning.

(2) Naming Recommendations: (Attachment 10)

On a motion by Mr. Napolitano, seconded by Mr. Abromaitis, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the following naming recommendations:

(a) Chi Phi Information Technology Resource Room (SBA)

(b) Paul D'Ostilio '76 and Janet Barillari & Art Stengel '76 Student Breakout Room (SBA)

(c) Dr. Sung Yen Feng Conference Room (Marine Sciences)

(d) Lu's Café (Professor Lucille Nahemow/Family Studies)

(e) Ronald and Nancy Rohner Center (Family Studies) (redesignation of name)

Chairman Gelfenbien stressed the importance of the long-range Capital Campaign, which has continued growing despite the financial climate. He acknowledged the work of Vice-Chair Nayden, the Capital Campaign Committee, and Mr. Kessler and the Foundation staff.

7. Academic Affairs Committee Report

(a) Committee Chairman's report on Committee activities

Vice-Chair Jacobs reported that the Academic Affairs Committee met this morning and endorsed the Master of Arts Degree in Art History under the Consent Agenda in Attachment 3. The other item is the appointment to the Ray Neag Professorship in Adult Learning in Attachment 11.

(b) Item requiring Board discussion and approval:

(1) Appointment to the Ray Neag Professorship in Adult Learning (Attachment 11)

On a motion by Dr. Jacobs, seconded by Mr. O'Leary, **THE BOARD VOTED** to approve the appointment (Dr. Barry Sheckley) to the Ray Neag Professorship in Adult Learning.

Dr. Jacobs noted that he expects to discuss in future meetings an action plan, which was drafted by Chancellor Petersen and Associate Vice Chancellor Fox, which will serve the students and faculty by determining the positive and negative aspects of the institution, both of which will be addressed in this committee.

8. Student Life Committee Report

(a) Committee Chairwoman's report on Committee activities

Trustee Hattayer presented the Student Life Committee report on behalf of Vice-Chair Bailey. He reported that the Student Life Committee last met on September 16, 2002. The Committee heard a housing update from Ms. Carole Henry, Executive Director of Housing and Food Services and conducted a lengthy discussion. Trustee Napolitano expressed his concerns about continued enrollment growth and adequate housing for students.

Dean of Students John Saddlemire provided an update about a program developed for Husky WOW. The Committee witnessed a two-minute video about healthy choices and expectations that they showed to the incoming freshman class. The Committee was informed that all freshmen were required to take an on-line course entitled "alcohol.edu," which informed them about healthy decisions related to the consumption of alcohol.

Vice Chancellor Triponey reported on the student fee advisory committee activities, budget cuts within student affairs, and how the Division plans to address the challenges brought about by the State reductions.

In other business, the Committee discussed the Downtown Partnership Committee of Mansfield. Trustee Napolitano noted that the Student Life Committee raises the question of why there are few students involved on the Downtown Partnership Committee. A further agenda item for the fall will be related to the downtown development committee and how it relates to the undergraduate students.

The committee also approved the upcoming meeting schedule for the year.

9. Presentations on University Objectives

(a) Enrollment targets, access, regional campuses, and housing issues

Chairman Gelfenbien noted that during the budget discussions this summer, the Board raised detailed questions regarding many topics that could not be covered during those meetings due to lack of time. In the upcoming months, the administration will present information on a number of significant topics to the Board, which will give the Board an opportunity to comment upon and offer suggestions about the various issues the University faces. This is first presentation designed to begin addressing the University's objectives.

Chancellor Petersen noted that the first presentation will focus on undergraduate enrollment at Storrs and at the regional campuses. He stressed that the University's first priority will be to maintain a size that permits access for Connecticut students, recruitment of excellent students from other states and abroad consistent with our identity as a leading American university. In January 2003, the administration will provide the Board with information on graduate programs, research and enrollment.

He noted that an important goal in enrollment strategy will be to manage growth through 2007 while maintaining a high-quality living and learning environment for students. In 1998, the Board set a goal of achieving 25,000 students by 2005. The University achieved that goal this year. The Board also set goals to improve diversity of the student body and to improve the academic quality of the students. He noted that this presentation will illustrate that those goals have been met as well. This presentation will also illustrate future enrollments from now through 2007.

The planning assumptions used are the following: the University must continue to supply high-quality living and learning experiences for our students. He noted that Vice-Chair Maryanski pointed out that last year, the University was very close to a situation in which students were not able to enroll in the classes that they needed. This problem did not occur this year, because adjustments were made in the academic programs to ensure that freshmen would have full schedules and thus progress normally toward degree completion. While the intention will be to educate as many of the best and brightest and talented students of Connecticut, a high-quality living and learning experience must be paramount as well.

The second assumption is that the University will receive flat state funding in the future.

The third assumption is that in terms of housing, the Storrs campus is very near capacity for undergraduate students with respect to instruction and on-campus housing.

The final assumption is that the regional campuses will have the capacity to grow with marginal additional resources. A major piece of the presentation will touch upon the fact that there is capacity there that the University will try to meet with additional advisors and facilities.

Vice Chancellor Petersen reported that since 1995, enrollment at Storrs is up 58%. During that same period of time, the SAT scores have risen nearly 40 points. The total number of valedictorians and salutatorians is 394. Of those 394, 33 valedictorians and salutatorians have chosen the regional campuses, which is very encouraging.

Since fall 1995, freshmen minority enrollment has increased 61%. Twenty-six percent of the freshmen were in the top 10% of their high school graduating class and 52% of the freshmen were in the top 25% of their high school graduating class.

Trustee Bailey joined the meeting at this time.

Since 1995 there has been tremendous growth both at Storrs and the regional campuses. In total there has been a 58% growth in Storrs and 27% at the regional campuses.

The quality indices of the students - the national average for SATs – increased from 1013 in 1996 to 1020 in 2002. The University SAT average is 1019. Nationally, the SAT scores have increased by 7 points and the University's SAT scores have increased by 30 points. In sum, the University has experienced a growth in the quality and the quantity of students.

Another charge besides increasing the quality and quantity of students was diversification. Since 1995, the University has increased the number of minority students by 61%. Freshmen enrollment has increased from 308 to 497 and undergraduate minority enrollment has increased 43% from 1,591 to 2,283.

Chancellor Petersen noted that at the next Board meeting, Vice Provost Taylor will present an update on diversity. He will illustrate the University's mission to ensure that growth in the student population and in faculty and staff will continue to rise.

Since 1995 the freshman retention rate has increased from 87% to 89%. The University's six year graduation rate has increased from 68% to 70%. Thus, the University ranks in the Top 20 of national public universities in both categories.

Another important statistic is time to degree, which has been a national issue. The average time to degree for an undergraduate student is 4.7 years nationally and is 4.5 years at UConn. We are substantially below the national rate.

Chairman Gelfenbien asked for the number of students who graduate in 4 years. Associate Vice Provost Dolan Evanovich responded that the four-year graduation rate is above 50%. He noted that most universities report on the NCAA graduation rate report, which is a six-year rate. He noted that he could provide that number at a later date.

Chairman Gelfenbien asked what would cause the rate to be less than 60% and what can the University do to improve the rate to get most of the students out in four years. Vice Chancellor Petersen responded that the reason why institutions report on the six year rate is that the curricula at American universities, especially in rigorous areas such as engineering, requires about 132 credits in order to receive a degree. This makes it very difficult for students to graduate in four years unless they attend summer school full-time for four years. Also, many students opt for a dual major or have a major and a minor, possibly in another area, which adds a burden. Some students work or may take less than 15 - 17 credits per semester, which would be necessary for a science or an engineering curriculum. Part of the problem lies with the institutions, because many of the curricular frameworks are dictated by accrediting boards from those disciplines that all universities are subject to. Student choice makes up the other part. In addition to the reasons mentioned above, some students drop out for a semester and that affects their time to graduation rate.

Chairman Gelfenbien asked what the rate would be in the College of Liberal Arts or in the School of Business. Vice Chancellor Petersen responded that statistics show that between 60 – 70% of the students change their majors at least once, so it is hard to say where they ultimately graduate from. He believes that the School of Business does well because the curriculum is well outlined and the students complete their degrees in a reasonable amount of time.

Chairman Gelfenbien noted that it is critical when a student has to stay for an extra semester or two for reasons that are out of their control, such as lack of course offerings. He asked for more clarification about what the University can do to help the students get through on time and save money.

Chancellor Petersen emphasized the importance of the national benchmark, because there are some issues within and outside the University's control.

Chairman Gelfenbien encouraged the administration to look harder at ways to reduce the time to degree years and to present the Board with a clear outline of the exceptions.

Chancellor Petersen noted that some issues may surface out of the academic plan.

Trustee Napolitano reiterated Chairman Gelfenbien's concerns about the student graduation rate.

Chancellor Petersen suggested that student exit interviews and post-graduate five-year interviews may reveal more information about this issue.

Dr. Jacobs asked if the University establishes its own goals or does the University accept the national average.

Chancellor Petersen responded that with respect to specific numbers, the University has established goals to improve its percentages, which has placed us in the Top 20. As we move forward, the administration will set a goal of placement in the Top 10.

Chairman Gelfenbien noted that he looked forward to hearing more about this.

President Austin noted that he is committed to the Board's concerns, but also stressed that the University faces a more complicated institutional mission that involves a much wider and broader set of responsibilities to all the students the University serves.

Chairman Gelfenbien stressed that the University needs to achieve a balance within the next few years.

Trustee Hattayer noted that this discussion reminded him of a question he had regarding some of the other charts. He asked that, if freshmen enrollment increased 58% and minority enrollment has increased 61%, what is the percentage of the campus that represents minority students has increased over the seven-year period. He also noted that the numbers previously noted are 308 minority freshmen enrolled in 1995 and 497 in 2002, but those classes increased from 2,021 in 1995 to 3,186 in 2002, so as a percentage it looks as if the increase represents only one-half of one percent.

Chancellor Petersen agreed and noted that the percentage increase of minority students has been larger than the University's general increase, but not substantially.

Associate Vice Provost Evanovich agreed to provide a historical perspective on minority student enrollment at Storrs for the undergraduate population. In 1986 approximately 7% of the student body was comprised of students of color. This year almost 17% of our student body is comprised of minority students. Prior to 1986, the University has been tracking the trend. From 1995, minority enrollment has increased about 2-3% of the total student body. He noted that when freshman class size increases and retention increases, then it allows for a greater opportunity to have a larger critical mass.

Chancellor Petersen noted that there are plans to increase enrollment at the regional campuses by instituting programmatic changes. He noted that over the past two years 30% of the programs that were approved through the Department of Higher Education were earmarked for the regional campuses. The University has also increased its articulation agreements with community colleges, so transfer students not only come from the regional campuses but from community colleges as well. The regional campuses will also benefit from improved infrastructure as 21st Century UConn becomes a reality.

Regional Campus freshman enrollment has grown 14% from 2001 to 2002 and has grown 27% from 1995 to 2002. In one year, the University achieved a greater increase in enrollment than over the past seven years. With marginal additional resources, the goal is to increase the freshman class by 33% (to 1,125) by 2007.

Another charge to the administration was accessibility and financial aid. Chancellor Petersen noted that all tuition and fee increases have been matched by increased financial aid to ensure that no student's education would be denied based on financial need.

More importantly, the average indebtedness of graduates has reduced from an average of $16,800 to $14,400 in the past two years. One of reasons that this has happened is that the unmet gap (which was $2,000) for the most needy in-State students has been eliminated. Chancellor Petersen reiterated that DHE policy requires a need-based financial aid set aside of 15%. The University sets aside 17.6%. Total tuition funded aid for FY 03 is $51.9 million, FY 04 is $59.1 million, and FY 05 is $65.4 million.

Dr. Jacobs asked how a student's indebtedness is calculated.

Chancellor Petersen responded that the figure can be calculated through the student's financial aid forms. Every student who receives financial aid must submit financial forms to a clearinghouse and then the clearinghouse forwards that information to the University. The University then reviews the information on the basis of the family's ability to pay, merit scholarships and puts together a package that includes loans, outright gifts, and then the unmet financial need of the student is determined. The University then offers assistance.

Associate Vice Provost Evanovich added that students fill out the Federal Financial Aid Form and upon graduation the University is required to tell the banks when the students graduate that the should begin repaying six months post-graduation. The University is able to capture that information every year to calculate the average indebtedness of a borrower at UConn.

Dr. Jacobs asked about the disparity of indebtedness between undergraduate students and medical students.

Associate Provost Evanovich responded that for undergraduate students, it is a reflection of the Board's commitment to adding additional need-based aid and resources. He deferred to Executive Vice President Deckers regarding the medical school.

Executive Vice President Deckers responded that the loans that medical students take out are considerably higher than for undergraduates. The tuition and fees are approximately $15,000 per year, but many of the students may borrow for living purposes.

Chairman Gelfenbien clarified by asking if the University is doing as much for the medical and dental students as it is for the undergraduates in Storrs. He asked Trustee Leonardi to address this issue with the Health Center Board of Directors.

Dr. Jacobs noted that he raised this issue because it is a national issue and is preventing students from going to medical school.

Trustee Leonardi asked for more clarification about access to financial aid. She asked if the University was considering those students who do not meet the criteria for financial aid, but whose families are faced with extreme hardship.

Chancellor Petersen responded that he has never received a complaint from anyone in the past two years. He confirmed that the University is not turning away students, but we are creating opportunities for them to be successful.

Chancellor Petersen concluded his presentation by acknowledging that as a top public university in the nation, we will continue to enhance the quality and value of the education, maximize the opportunity and access, and grow enrollment conservatively in the current fiscal climate. He noted that the administration has met the goals set by the Board. The University can boast a much stronger and better student profile, both in the quality and diversity of students, because the administration has developed strategies for managing enrollment growth consistent with the high quality and diversity expectations previously set. Thus, it is expected that by 2007 there will be 20,000 undergraduates and 7,000 graduates enrolled at the University.

Chairman Gelfenbien acknowledged the hard work of many for the enrollment presentation.

Trustee Abromaitis asked if there would be a similar presentation regarding career placement and other post-graduation issues.

Executive Vice President Deckers noted that the data presented regarding SAT scores and given the increasing number of valedictorians and salutatorians, he expected the mean SAT to be higher. He asked if there was a wide standard deviation around the mean.

Chancellor Petersen responded that it is a balancing act of bringing in high-quality students and looking at diversity and access as well.

Executive Vice President Deckers noted that they review approximately 2,400 applications for the medical school, which includes interviewing 325 for 80 positions. There are good people between 325 and 2,400 that do not receive an interview. The medical school uses the M-Cat (Medical College Admission Test) to accept or deny students. The highest score a student can receive is 45. The mean of the students coming in is 31 – 31.5. If someone has a 26 or 27, they do not get an interview. He asked if there was an SAT below which students would not be considered seriously.

Associate Vice Provost Evanovich responded that the SAT is not the beginning or end of anyone's success or failure, but it is one measurement or criteria that is utilized and it gives them a national yardstick to evaluate students. They use that in combination with the high school grade point average and the high school class rank, so when they make a decision on a student's acceptance or denial for undergraduate education it is a holistic approach. The University received 14,500 applications and the admissions counselors read every one and some multiple times to make the best decision on who will be accepted at Storrs or at the regional campuses and then who is denied acceptance.

Executive Vice President Deckers raised concerns that college GPAs are artificially inflated. He queried the administration on whether they used more objective tools to evaluate undergraduate students.

Chancellor Petersen reaffirmed the holistic approach utilized for undergraduate students.

Trustee Leonardi asked at what regional campuses were the 33 valedictorians and salutatorians placed.

Associate Vice Provost Evanovich responded he did not have that information, but would get that information to her.

Chairman Gelfenbien expressed his gratitude to the administration for the great strides that the University has made in the attraction and retention of diverse students. He asked Vice Provost Taylor to elaborate on the University's efforts to retain diverse students at the next Board meeting.

Trustee Napolitano acknowledged the efforts of Mr. Scott Brohinsky, Mr. John Feudo, and Mr. Nevin Kessler, and Ms. Maribeth Amyot for their leadership since Vice President Allenby's departure.

10. Other

11. Adjournment

Chairman Gelfenbien announced that a 21st Century UConn celebration will be held shortly in the West Hartford Campus Undergraduate Building in the Art Gallery.

He also announced that the next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Wednesday, November 13, 2002, possibly at the Health Center.

There being no further business, the Board meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise M. Bailey
Secretary