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University of Maine Board of Visitors

Annual Report

September 2012-August 2013

Overview

Chair Peter Haynes and members of the Executive Committee provided excellent leadership for the UMaine Board of Visitors during 2012-2013. During the past year, the full Board met three times; selected committees and focus groups met more frequently, in person, and by phone.

The major focus this year was the implementation phase of the Blue Sky Plan through the five major Pathways. Other major discussion topics for the Board of Visitors included review and assessment of major legislative and University of Maine System initiatives, specifically the Board of Trustees Goals and Actions, University budget development and challenges, philanthropy and advocacy, review and assessment of selected academic and research programs, major student life issues, and review and assessment of BOV member engagement activities.

Membership

There are 20 voting members of the University of Maine Board of Visitors. The Board Chairs of the University of Maine Foundation and the University of Maine Alumni Association also attend on an *ex-officio* basis. Of the 22 total members, 12 have homes in Maine; the other members reside in New Mexico, Massachusetts, Texas, Virginia, and Georgia but retain close ties to their *alma mater* and the state of Maine as a whole. Eight of the 22 members are women. Sixteen of the members are University of Maine alumni. The professional backgrounds of BOV members are diverse and include, but are not limited to, law, healthcare, engineering, finance, banking, market development, policy, education, and nonprofit management. In addition to a balance of gender, geographic location, and career fields, the BOV includes alumni and friends of the University of Maine who represent different age groups (active professionals, retirees, etc.).

Two new members were added to the University of Maine Board of Visitors this year: Haywood Talcove and Ray Jean. There are no vacancies on the University of Maine Board of Visitors at this time.

Officers

Anne Lucey, Senior Vice President for Regulatory Policy at CBS Corporation in Washington, DC, was elected as Chair and Chris Emmons, President and Chief Executive Officer of Gorham Savings Bank in Gorham, ME, was elected as Vice Chair in Spring 2013.

Schedule

The UMaine BOV met on November 2, 2012; January 25, 2013; and May 3, 2013. The first two meetings were held in Orono and the last meeting was held in Portland in association with the Annual Stillwater Dinner. The Executive Committee of the UMaine BOV met in Retreat Format in Portland on August 9, 2013.

Meetings and Agenda Items

November 2, 2012

New members of the Board included Patrice Krant, Samantha Lott-Hale, William Johnson, and David Austin. The Executive Committee met in July and focused on how to optimize BOV functions and responsibilities of the Board. Recommendations from the July meeting included holding three (instead of four) full meetings of the Board, with an additional summer retreat meeting of the Executive Committee.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the By-Laws with the revisions recommended by the Governance Committee. The document *Guidelines for Member Participation and Service* was introduced and the four major areas of responsibility for BOV members reviewed.

The Blue Sky implementation process that is currently underway at the University of Maine was reviewed and discussed by the BOV with each of the Pathway Chairs. Significant discussion ensued surrounding the role of Philanthropy related to the Blue Sky Plan and the University in the future. The concept of 100% participation by the BOV in support of the President's Club was promoted. Additionally, President Ferguson promoted the role of the BOV in advocacy/outreach for the University both in regards to legislative and bond issues but with potential students and alumni in every geographic region.

President Ferguson provided his regular Presidential Update, specifically referring to his Community Conversation 2.0 delivered to the campus community in October.

Faculty and students associated with the Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology (LASST) were introduced to the Board during lunch. Dr. Jimmy Jung, Vice-President of Enrollment Management, was introduced and provided an overview of the new and dynamic enrollment management plan that is underway at UMaine that will promote an increase in recruitment and retention of students.

Members of the BOV enjoyed the UMaine Hockey match with Boston College Friday evening in Alford Arena.

January 25, 2013

The meeting began with the BOV reviewing and discussing the recommendations of the Executive and Governance Committees. The BOV voted to approve the nomination of Mr. Woody Talcove, CEO of Government and LexisNexis Special Services, to the Board.

The theme of this meeting focused on critical partnerships for UMaine, emphasizing that UMaine's success rests with the development of successful partnerships with the University of Maine System, the legislature, and other partners.

President Ferguson welcomed the Board and presented the Presidential Update focusing on the emerging success and impact of the offshore wind program in the Advanced Structures and Composites Center. He reflected on the positive growth in partnerships and relationships within the University of Maine System and legislature. The President and Steve Abbott briefed the BOV on progress related to the Cross Insurance Center as the future home of Black Bear Basketball and its relationship to the renovation of Memorial Gym and Fieldhouse.

The BOV then participated in a discussion of UMS Board of Trustees Goals and Actions focused on the following key areas: information technology, human resources, procurement, administrative staffing,

credit transfer and distance learning. The overall goal is to achieve administrative efficiencies that would result in a cost savings of \$24 million over three years. UMS Chancellor James Page and trustees Gregory Johnson and Karl Turner joined the BOV meeting for a UMS update. The Chancellor plans to develop a high-performing team over time, noting that the System *is* the campuses; not the system office in Bangor. He confirmed that the University of Maine has a unique mission and plays a critical role in the future of the System. He described three projects that are of particular importance: credit transfer (encompassing first UMS and eventually the community college system), outcomes-based funding, and administrative review. The decision to suspend the Strategic Investment Fund for at least a year is based upon UMaine's uniqueness. The goal of the administrative review is to identify better ways of delivering services, while freeing up resources for deployment elsewhere. Chancellor Page also described Project Login. Major Maine employers have identified the need for employees in certain fields (computer science, engineering, and information technology) over the next five years, and UMS will be working to double the number of students getting degrees in these fields. Trustees Johnson and Turner reflected on the Chancellor's comments and all participated in a question/answer period with the BOV.

Four students joined the Board at lunch to present on the Capstone experience for undergraduates in the areas of civil engineering, food science and human nutrition, and music performance. The capstone course is a general education requirement. The BOV enjoyed a fruitful conversation with each student about their experience and how UMaine has prepared them for the future.

Five legislators (Senator Cushing, Rep. Dill, Rep. Fredette, Senator Langley, Rep. Tipping-Spitz) joined the meeting and were introduced by Vice President for Innovation and Economic Development Jake Ward, who also served as a moderator. VP Ward asked the legislators to identify urgent, education-related challenges facing the state. The legislators cited numerous challenges including: Cost of education, Student loan debt, Silos within the educational system (improving), Funding, Lack of effective messaging regarding the relevance of UMaine to the people of Maine, Competing needs, including poverty and the cost of healthcare, Need for better partnerships with the community college system. The legislators were also asked to identify opportunities. They generally responded including topics such as: Delivery of university-level courses to high school students, Outreach into the lower grades, Outreach to non-traditional students (adults wishing or needing to change careers), Virtual (distance) education, Focus on small business impacts in messaging; not just impact on large organizations, Focus on partnerships, especially if future bond referendums are to pass, Public/private partnerships to eliminate the perception that UMaine is looking for handouts. The BOV engaged in a rigorous discussion about how best to address these issues.

May 3, 2013

The Governance Committee nominated Anne Lucey to succeed Peter Haynes as Chair, and Chris Emmons to succeed Dorcas Wilkinson as Vice Chair. Second Term Nominations included Jay Cromarty, Daniel Daigneault, Mandy Olver, and Miles Theeman. All agreed to continue serving. Mr. Ray Jean, Class of 1968, and retired Chairman, President and CEO of Quanex Corporation will become a member of the BOV for a first term.

President Ferguson provided the Presidential Update highlighting Blue Sky Plan progress and setting the context for the University Budget discussion.

Senior Vice President Janet Waldron presented the budget for BOV discussion and recommendations. The Fiscal Year 2014 Budget is \$ 252.2 million for the unrestricted budget. Ms. Waldron indicated that, on a cash basis, we are in the black with a small surplus. The BOV approved the proposed budget.

This particular BOV meeting was focused on the extensive engagement of a number of the BOV members. Each presented a short overview and led discussion on the impacts for UMaine:

- Improving the UMaine Student Experience: Congressional Internships, Greek Leadership Development (Peter Madigan).
- Becoming "Work Ready"- Internships and Career Development (Dennis Carey).
- Enhancing UMaine Academic and Research Programs (Anne Lucey, Hank Schmelzer).
- Advisory Boards - Maine Business School (Jay Cromarty, Dennis Carey, Dan Daigneault, Patrice Krant).
- Liberal Arts and Sciences (Stephanie Cotsirilos).
- Engineering (Rich Higgins).
- Blue Sky Steering/ Pathway Committees - Steering (Peter Haynes), Pathway 1 (Miles Theeman), Pathway 2 (Dorcas Wilkinson), Pathway 3 (Sandy Lawrence), Pathway 5 (Samantha Lott-Hale, David Austin).
- Regional Alumni and Leadership Development; Executive Development (Chris Emmons, Portland, Sandra Lawrence, Boston; Anne Lucey, Washington, D.C.).
- Advancement Partner Updates, UMaine Development Office-(Dorcas Wilkinson), UMaine Alumni Association-(Samantha Lott-Hale), UMaine Foundation-(David Austin).

President Ferguson acknowledged outgoing Chair, Mr. Peter Haynes, with a plaque and scholarship in the name of Peter and Judy Haynes.

August 9, 2013 (Executive Committee Retreat)

President Ferguson reviewed major leadership changes at UMaine; the significant issues related to the end of the recent legislative session, primarily related to the UMaine Offshore Wind initiative; the current progress in the Board of Trustees Goals and Actions affirming good progress with the Chancellor and Board of Trustees, progress on the Blue Sky Project emphasizing the transition from Creation in Year 1 to Integration in Year 3 with the Cabinet taking fuller responsibility for implementation of Blue Sky Initiatives and Strategies.

Vice President Rolfson reviewed the successful year in Development as well as introduced the early strategies around the Blue Sky Capital Campaign.

The Executive Committee discussed at length strategies to optimize BOV meetings and role of the Executive Committee in providing service to the President and Cabinet.