Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Utah State University Board of Trustees, 10:42 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ronald J. Jibson  Chair
Jody K. Burnett
Mark K Holland
J. Scott Nixon
Frank Peczuh, Jr.
Suzanne Pierce-Moore
Christian S. Thrapp

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Robert L. Foley
Douglas S. Foxley
Susan D. Johnson
Scott R. Watterson  Vice-Chair

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT

Stan L. Albrecht  President
Raymond T. Coward  Executive Vice President and Provost
Scott Barnes  Vice President and Director of Athletics
Robert T. Behunin  Vice President for Commercialization and Regional Development
Noelle E. Cockett  Vice President for Extension and Dean of the College of Agriculture
David T. Cowley  Vice President for Business and Finance
Mark R. McLellan  Vice President for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies
James D. Morales  Vice President for Student Services
Neil Abercrumbie  Director of Federal and State Relations
Mark Brunson  Department Head, Environment and Society
Jodi Bailey  Chief Audit Executive
Dennis Dolny  Department Head of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation
Renee Galliher  President of Faculty Senate
Michael Kuhns  Interim Department Head of Wildland Resources
Kim Corbin-Lewis  Department Head, Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education
Chris Luecke  Dean of the Quinney College of Natural Resources
Sydney M. Peterson  Chief of Staff and Board of Trustees Secretary
Joe Peterson  Chancellor of USU-CEU
Sylvia Read  Associate Department Head, Teacher Education and Leadership
Chair Jibson conducted the meeting and welcomed those present including Regents Pitcher and Theurer, faculty and staff representatives, and members of the press.

I. Chairman’s Report

A. Report by ASUSU President, Christian S. Thrapp

Trustee Thrapp reported on the following (see Appendix FF):

- There is a fee board meeting coming up soon. This board will determine student fees for the next year.
- The ASUSU Officers have been cautioned to be careful with their budgets because the amount of funding for Spring Semester is still unknown.

B. Report by Alumni Association President, Jody K. Burnett

Trustee Burnett reported on the following (see Appendix EE):

- On November 3, honorees, Larry and Linda Crandall, Brett Bills, Scott Bills and MerLyn Pitcher were inducted into the Alumni Hall of Honor.
- The Alumni Association is seeing some significant increases from alumni in their social media engagement.
- There were more than 3,000 Aggies that attended the pre-game party at the Potato Bowl. It was a very successful event.
C. Report on Athletics Committee Meeting held November 2, 2012

Chair of the Athletics Committee, Trustee Nixon, reported that the committee met and discussed the year-to-date athletic activities including the academic and competitive results of the athletes.

The committee also reviewed the annual budget, the five-year financial plan, strategic priorities, and the athletic facilities, including those that are currently in process. Since the meeting, Athletics has had the most successful football season in school history and the basketball team has a great 12-1 start to the season. Trustee Nixon credited this success to the support and quality at the highest level at the university, especially from President Albrecht and Athletic Director Scott Barnes.

D. Report on Audit Committee Conference Call held December 20, 2012

Trustee Nixon, a member of the Audit Committee, reported that the committee reviewed the external audits, including the annual reports for fiscal year 2011-12 for the University, USU Research Foundation, Utah Public Radio, and Edith Bowen Laboratory School. There were no issues or weaknesses identified in the audits.

Action: Trustee Nixon moved approval of Resolution 13-1-15, the approval of the external audit reports. Trustee Holland seconded the motion and the voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

E. Report on Honorary Degrees and Awards Committee Meeting held January 4, 2013

Chair of the Honorary Degrees and Awards Committee, Trustee Pierce-Moore reported that the committee expressed appreciation to those who submitted names for honorary degrees at commencement. The committee is excited about the names they will be submitting to the President.

F. Date of the next Board of Trustees Meeting

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Friday, March 8, 2013, on the USU campus.

II. President’s Report

A. Student Resolution of Commendation for Holden Brown
Trustee Thrapp read the Student Resolution of Commendation for Holden Brown, a senior graduating in Human Movement Science in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services (Appendix A).

B. Letter of Appreciation from Diane Berger

President Albrecht read a letter of appreciation sent by Danny Berger’s mother, Diane Berger (Appendix LL). The President will put a copy of the letter in the student newspaper.

C. Legislative Preview

The Director of Federal and State Relations, Neil Abercrombie, stated that the legislature will schedule a date for Danny Berger and trainer, Mike Williams, to attend a legislative session where they will be honored. This request was made by Senator Lyle Hillyard.

Neil Abercrombie gave an update on the current makeup of the legislature. There are 75 members of the Utah House of Representatives, 20 of them are new members this year. Of the 20 new members, 13 have graduate degrees, so many of them have experience in higher education.

The budget for the University will be based on the Governor’s budget recommendations announced in December. The Governor recommended a 1% compensation increase for higher education employees and other state employees, $20M in higher education support towards his 66% goal, $11M towards mission-based funding, and $8M towards USTAR.

A few of the key issues for this session will be flexibility on admissions and removing some of the caps for tuition waivers. USTAR will be an important topic, as well as the possibility of a state-wide STEM center.

D. Recent Events

2. Football – Texas State at USU, November 3, 2012
3. Council of Presidents – Salt Lake City, November 5, 2012
4. Inaugural Professor Lecture, Eadric Bressel – November 6, 2012
5. TEDx Conference at USU – November 7, 2012
7. USU Research Foundation Board Dinner – November 15, 2012
8. Basketball – St. Mary’s at USU, November 15, 2012
9. Board of Regents – Utah Valley University, November 16, 2012
10. Football – USU at La Tech, November 17, 2012
12. Football – Idaho at USU, November 24, 2012
14. Salt Lake Chamber Board of Governors – Salt Lake City, November 27, 2012
15. Governor’s Education Excellence Commission – Salt Lake City, November 27, 2012
16. Inaugural Professor Lecture, Carol D. Von Dohlen – November 27, 2012
17. Presentation at Logan Rotary – November 29, 2012
18. Legislative Preview Lunch – December 4, 2012
21. Regence Blue Cross Blue Shield Community Board Meeting – Salt Lake City, December 6, 2012
22. AFC Holiday Concert and Reception – December 8, 2012
25. Basketball – USU at Utah Valley University, December 15, 2012
27. Basketball – Seattle at USU, January 3, 2013
28. USU Board of Trustees – January 4, 2013

E. Upcoming Events

1. Basketball – Idaho at USU, January 5, 2013
2. Council of Presidents – Salt Lake City, January 8, 2013
4. Regents Legislative Kick Off – Salt Lake City, January 11, 2013
5. Basketball – San Jose at USU, January 11, 2013
6. Governor’s Education Excellence Commission – Salt Lake City, January 14, 2013
7. Legislative Preview Session – Kaysville, January 14, 2013
10. Salt Lake Chamber Board of Governors – Salt Lake City, January 22, 2013
13. RCDE Statewide Advisory Board Retreat – Price, January 24, 2013
15. Board of Regents – Dixie State University, St. George, January 25, 2013
22. Aggie Auction – February 8, 2013
23. Inaugural Lecture for Brock Dethier – February 12, 2013
III. Consent Agenda

Trustees were given the following consent agenda materials for their consideration:

Minutes of the Executive Session Held November 2, 2012
Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held November 2, 2012
Resolution 13-1-1 Faculty and Staff Adjustments (Appendix B)
Resolution 13-1-2 Certificate of Treasurer for August 2012 (Appendix C)
Resolution 13-1-3 Certificate of Treasurer for September 2012 (Appendix D)
Resolution 13-1-4 Certificate of Treasurer for October 2012 (Appendix E)
Resolution 13-1-5 Report of Investments for August 2012 (Appendix F)
Resolution 13-1-6 Report of Investments for September 2012 (Appendix G)
Resolution 13-1-7 Report of Investments for October 2012 (Appendix H)
Resolution 13-1-8 Delegation/Administrative Reports October 5, 2012 to November 16, 2012 (Appendix I)
Resolution 13-1-9 Contract/Grant Proposals and Awards for September 2012 (Appendix J)
Resolution 13-1-10 Contract/Grant Proposals and Awards for October 2012 (Appendix K)
Acceptance of Written Reports:
  Academic/Provost (Appendix W)
  Business and Finance (Appendix X)
    Finance
    Facilities
    Information Technology
  Extension/Continuing Education (Appendix Y)
  Research (Appendix Z)
  Commercialization and Regional Development (Appendix AA)
  Student Services (Appendix BB)
  University Advancement (Appendix CC)
    Monthly Progress Report
    Monthly Gift Comparison
  USU Eastern (Appendix DD)
  Alumni Association (Appendix EE)
  ASUSU (Appendix FF)
  Athletics (Appendix GG)
  Public Relations and Marketing (Appendix HH)
Action: Trustee Holland moved approval of the Consent Agenda items, and Trustee Pierce-Moore seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

IV. Action Agenda

Vice President Mark McLellan gave a brief background on the changes in the graduate degree programs. Starting in October of 2011, all of the graduate degree programs have gone through an evaluation process and the proposed changes are just the leading edge in a series of changes that will be coming. So far, more than 40 programs have made changes, which is more than 50% of the doctoral programs.

A. Discontinuance and Restructuring of Graduate Degree Programs

1. Proposal from the Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education, Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services, to discontinue the EdS in Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education

Dr. Kim Corbin-Lewis, Department Head, Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education stated that there is a degree called the Educational Specialist EdS that was used for Audiologists with a MS degree as an interim degree between their masters and doctoral degree. The Doctor of Audiology is now the entry level degree, so the EdS degree is no longer necessary (Appendix L).

2. Proposal from the Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education, Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services, to discontinue the Audiology Specialization under MA, MS, MEd, and AuD Degrees

Dr. Corbin-Lewis, indicated that the college would like to discontinue the specialization of Audiology under the Audiology Degree because it is redundant. The Audiology specialization was important when it was an MS degree because there were other professions using the degree, but there are no longer other professions using it (Appendix M).

3. Proposal from the School of Teacher Education and Leadership (TEAL), Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services, to discontinue the EdD and PhD in Management Information Systems, Instructional Technology, Occupational and Adult Education, and Special Education

Sylvia Read, Associate Department Head, School of Teacher Education and Leadership stated that there have previously been interdepartmental doctoral degrees with Management Information Systems, Instructional Technology, Occupational and
Adult Education, and Special Education. That interdepartmental program has been discontinued and each department now owns their own program. The change will not affect any students (Appendix N).

4. Proposal from the Department of Environment and Society, Quinney College of Natural Resources, to eliminate the Master of Arts degree in Geography and six specializations within the Master of Science degree in Geography

Dr. Mark Brunson, Department Head, Environment and Society Department, indicated that over the years the students have become less and less interested in specializations in the MS degree in Geography to the point that continuing doesn’t really serve a market.

Dr. Brunson also indicated that the MA in Geography was created when the program was housed in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Sometime in the 1980’s the program was moved to the College of Natural Resources and the MA went with it. The only difference between the MA and the MS was a foreign language requirement. With the program now in the College of Natural Resources, there is no longer a demand for an MA in Geography (Appendix O).

5. Proposal from the Department of Wildland Resources, Quinney College of Natural Resources, to restructure its MS and PhD in Wildlife Biology by dropping the existing specializations in Conservation Biology and Problem Wildlife Management

Dr. Michael Kuhns, Interim Department Head, Wildland Resources, stated that when the college was reorganized, Wildland Resources had faculty come from four different departments. Some of the specializations the department offered were based on the faculty they had at the time and now many of those faculty members are no longer with the University. (Appendix P).

6. Proposal from the Department of Wildland Resources, Quinney College of Natural Resources, to restructure its MS and PhD in Forestry by dropping the existing specializations in Forest Biology and Forest Economics and Policy

Dr. Kuhns stated that students are choosing more simple designations for their degrees and are not choosing specializations. Dropping the specializations will not change the rigor of the programs but will help to simply the marketing of the programs (Appendix Q).

7. Proposal from the Department Wildland Resources, Quinney College of Natural Resources, to restructure its MS and PhD in Range Science by dropping the existing specializations in Game-Range Management, International Range Management, Range Rehabilitation, and Range Resource Economics

(Appendix R)
Action: Trustee Burnett moved the approval of Resolution 13-1-11 the proposal to discontinue and restructure graduate degree programs. Trustee Thrapp seconded the motion and the voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

B. Proposal from the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services, for a new professional Master of Health Promotion degree

Vice President McLellan indicated that the creation of the Health Promotion degree is essentially modifying an old Master of Science Plan C option, a very unstructured concept degree, into a very structured professional degree. Dr. Dennis Dolny, Department Head, Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, stated that a student with a Health Promotion degree would be able to work at any medically oriented health promotion entity where the individual is working with clients (Appendix S).

C. Proposal from the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services, for a new professional Master of Fitness Promotion degree

Dr. Dolny indicated that the Master of Fitness Promotion degree will replace the Corporate Wellness specialization currently in the MS Health & Human Movement degree. This new degree will be a better brand for what these students are being trained to do as it is more than just corporate wellness; it’s promoting a healthy and active lifestyle (Appendix T).

Action: Trustee Nixon moved the approval Resolution 13-1-12 and 13-1-13 the proposal for a new Master of Health Promotion degree and a new Master of Fitness Promotion degree. Trustee Peczuh seconded the motion and the voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Chair Jibson asked how the new degrees are being rolled out to students. Dr. Dolny said that all of the students in the program had been notified and are all excited.

Provost Coward stated that this is just the beginning of proposals coming forward as all of the graduate programs have been doing their reviews. He pointed out that we are absolutely a research institution, are committed to research, and research will always be at the core of what we do. At the same time, developing professional masters programs is very much a part of what we want to be and who we want to be, and we are excited to have a separate set of graduate degrees for professionals.

D. Proposal for the Refunding of Student Building Fee Revenue and Refunding Bonds, Series 2004A
Vice President David Cowley stated that analysis now shows that we have the opportunity to refund a portion of our bonds that will generate savings to the university. Approximately $8 million of the Student Building Fee revenues are eligible for refunding which will save more than $1 million of net present value over the next 14 years. The present value savings is about 16%, which is way beyond the normal percentage we look for of 3% for refunding (Appendix U).

Action: Trustee Nixon moved the approval of Resolution 13-1-14, the refunding of Student Building Fee Revenue and Refunding Bonds, Series 2004A. Trustee Holland seconded the motion and the voting was unanimous.

E. Review and Approval of External Audit Reports

The motion for Resolution 13-1-15 was made during the Audit Committee report.

F. Proposal to approve a new Space Dynamics Laboratory Facility, a non-state funded project

Vice President Cowley indicated that the Space Dynamics Lab (SDL) has a division called C4ISR which is rapidly growing. Despite the challenges at the Federal budget level, the Space Dynamics Lab is in a position to receive even more work. They have expanded to nearly every available space on the Innovation Campus. They project they need approximately 60,000 square feet immediately (Appendix V).

Vice President Cowley said there are two options: 1) bond and construct a building or 2) bond and purchase a new building. Whichever option we choose will need to go through the Legislative process to obtain bonding authorization. If we construct a building, the construction could begin as soon as the legislative session ends and the building would be complete sometime in the middle of 2014.

Vice President Cowley said there is a developer who is looking to build a spec building on the Innovation Campus that could be built and fitted for the Space Dynamics Lab. This choice would be offered as a lease with a purchase option. The C4ISR program has such strong growth potential they felt they wanted to do a building in two phases, 60,000 square feet in each phase. If the developer builds the building, they would build the entire 120,000 square feet. The Space Dynamics Lab could exercise the option to purchase phase I immediately and use phase II on a lease basis for as much space as they need until they need the entire building, at which point they could exercise the purchase option for phase II. They are in negotiations now with the developer about the pricing structure of the purchase and lease option. Today there is not a firm decision on whether to build or purchase the building, but a decision should be made by the time it is presented to the Board of Regents.
Action: Trustee Burnett moved the approval of Resolution 13-1-16, the approval of a new Space Dynamics Lab facility, a non-state funded project. Trustee Pierce-Moore seconded the motion and the voting was unanimous.

G. Approval for the Honorary Degrees and Commencement Speaker for 2013

Trustee Pierce-Moore moved the approval of Resolution 13-1-17, the approval of the nominees for the Honorary Degrees and Commencement speaker for 2013. Trustee Burnett seconded the motion and the voting was unanimous.

V. Strategic Agenda

A. Enrollment Management Update

Vice President James Morales gave an update on the enrollment management plan in response to the missionary age change announcement from the LDS Church. He provided a handout (Appendix MM) that explains the best estimate of the projected enrollment loss with the accompanying revenue loss and the projected enrollment replacements and revenue replacements. The enrollment taskforce projects that through Fall 2014, the university will have an enrollment loss of approximately 1900 students and revenue loss of $9.5 million. The primary strategies to address the loss are: 1) aggressively enhance and expand the transfer student recruitment from junior colleges in out-of-state markets, particularly in California and other western states, 2) recruit more out-of-state freshman, and 3) expand the international student recruitment.

The projected enrollment replacements using the primary strategies will add approximately 800 students through Fall 2014 and replace $8 million in revenue. Vice President Morales indicated that the revenue from the replacement students is calculated at a higher rate of $10,000 per student instead of the typical $5,000 per student because of the increased tuition rate for international and out-of-state students. This reduces the revenue loss to $1.5 million. Vice President Morales said the revenue loss could potentially be decreased even further because many of the 1900 students that we could lose through Fall 2014 will be scholarship students and we would not have to provide scholarship money for them. They project the cost savings over the two year time to be approximately $1.3 million. Vice President Morales stated that this is a very solid plan to address the issue.

With respect to Regional Campus Distance Education (RCDE) enrollment, their numbers will come in a little later because of the quick admits they do into the third week of the semester. Vice President Morales indicated he doesn’t think there will a major impact on RCDE because of the population they attract. RCDE will play a role in putting another strategy in place to attract students, such as a mid-semester enrollment option where students can take classes online or by satellite. Chancellor
Peterson stated that there are some different challenges at USU Eastern that will need to be addressed.

B. **Mountain West Conference – What’s Next?**

Vice President Barnes highlighted what Utah State takes to the Mountain West Conference; a top 20 ranked football team, a brand of recognition, competitive excellence, the right people, and academic excellence – ranked #9 in the BCS. Utah State has finished in the top of the WAC in many areas and expects to do the same in the Mountain West Conference.

Vice President Barnes indicated this is a positive place to be. The Mountain West Conference is made up of schools that are very similar in geography and mission, not only is there stability, but absolute value. There are tremendous opportunities with the Mountain West, but there are also some potential roadblocks. Vice President Barnes said that much of the competitive excellence and academic success is resource driven. He presented a gap analysis that shows where Utah State is as it relates to the other Mountain West schools (Appendix NN). There are some challenges that need to be addressed. Over time, the institution needs to provide the resources that allow the athletes to compete at this level.

Vice President Barnes said that on the facilities side the Strength and Conditioning Center will open in May, and will be one of the best in the country, and the basketball practice facility will likely be done a year from May. These two buildings, combined with the Laub Complex, put Utah State on the upper end of the Mountain West for the services and facilities that student athletes need. Now that we have the facilities for the student athletes, it’s time to shift the focus to the football stadium. Romney Stadium needs a facelift. The stadium needs help in concourse restrooms, concessions, a new press box, and premium seating: luge box seating, suites, and club seating – would occur in phase 1. Phase 2 would include expansion. This next year Athletics will assess the marketplace through a survey that will determine price points and inventory that can be sold through premium seating.

Vice President Barnes talked about how to close the gap. He said that the ticket office has been very good at customer service, but has been a box office. They have not had a professional sales staff to reach the Wasatch Front and grow the season ticket base the way it needs to. Athletics will do that with a third party that will be part of their team, much like Aggie Sports Properties, to help sell, with a focus on football and basketball. Other ways to close the gap include increasing the Big Blue Scholarship donations through season tickets, rights contracts, and the branding and licensing of merchandise.
C. **Presidential Priorities Going Forward**

Due to a lack of sufficient time, the President agreed to present his priorities going forward at the next Board of Trustees meeting.

Chair Jibson recognized and thanked Chancellor Peterson for coming and gave him the opportunity to make any comments. Chancellor Peterson said things at USU Eastern are going well. He said one of the highlights is they have an increase in enrollments for Spring semester when they expected a dip. This was due to some aggressive work on the part of the recruiters.

President Albrecht said that since the last week of the campaign he has received many calls from across the country suggesting that maybe the bucket list has been completed and asking if there was anything left to do. President Albrecht stated that there is a great deal left to do on the part of those sitting around the table. He said he has never worked with a more confident and qualified leadership team. He recognized each member of the senior team and expressed his appreciation.

Chair Jibson expressed appreciation for all that President Albrecht does as he continues to drive this great institution forward. He said that it’s a pleasure as a board to associate with him and that they learn from him every time they meet with him.

**Action:** Trustee Pierce-Moore made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Trustee Nixon seconded the motion and the voting was unanimous.

The regular meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

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Ronald W. Jibson, Chair
Sydney M. Peterson, Secretary

(Minutes taken by Teri Rasmussen)