

EXECUTIVE SESSION
UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MAY 15, 2009

Minutes of the Executive Session of the Utah State University Board of Trustees held in the Alma Sonne Board Room of the University Inn at 9:02 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard L. Shipley	Chairman
Suzanne Pierce-Moore	Vice Chairman
Robert L. Foley	(By telephone)
Ronald W. Jibson	
David Johnson III	
Paul D. Parkinson	
Tyler L. Tolson	
Scott R. Watterson	

MEMBERS EXCUSED

David P. Cook
Douglas S. Foxley

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Stan L. Albrecht	President
Raymond T. Coward	Executive Vice President and Provost
Sydney M. Peterson	Chief of Staff and Board of Trustees Secretary
Craig J. Simper	General Counsel

Chair Shipley conducted the meeting.

Personnel and legal issues were discussed.

The Executive Session recessed at 10:00 a.m.

The Executive Session reconvened at 11:52 a.m.

Personnel and legal issues were discussed.

The Executive Session adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

Richard L. Shipley, Chairman

Sydney M. Peterson, Secretary

Date Approved

REGULAR MEETING
UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MAY 15, 2009

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Utah State University Board of Trustees held in the Alma Sonne Board Room of the University Inn at 10:05 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard L. Shipley	Chairman
Suzanne Pierce-Moore	Vice Chairman
David P. Cook	(By telephone for part of the meeting)
Robert L. Foley	(By telephone)
Ronald W. Jibson	
David Johnson III	
Paul D. Parkinson	
Tyler L. Tolson	
Scott R. Watterson	

MEMBER EXCUSED

Douglas S. Foxley

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Stan L. Albrecht	President
Raymond T. Coward	Executive Vice President and Provost
Gary A. Chambers	Vice President for Student Services
Noelle E. Cockett	Vice President and Dean for Extension and Agriculture
Fred R. Hunsaker	Interim Vice President for Business and Finance
M. Kay Jeppesen	Vice President and CIO for Information Technology
Brent C. Miller	Vice President for Research
F. Ross Peterson	Vice President for University Advancement
Ned M. Weinshenker	Vice President for Strategic Ventures and Economic Development
Jodi Bailey	Chief Audit Executive
David T. Cowley	Associate Vice President for Business and Finance
John DeVilbiss	Executive Director of Public Relations and Marketing
Doug Garrett	President of the Professional Employees Association
David Geller	Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Glenn McEvoy	Chair of the Task Force to Review Student Organizations
Ronda R. Menlove	Vice Provost for Regional Campuses and Distance Education
Craig Miller	President-elect of the Classified Employees Association
Michael Parent	President of Faculty Senate
Sydney M. Peterson	Chief of Staff and Board of Trustees Secretary
Mira G. Thatcher	Secretary
Byard Wood	Department Head, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

OTHERS PRESENT

Ronald Hornsby	Friend of Resolution Recipient, Quinton E. Williams
Michael A. Petersen	Executive Director, Utah Education Network (UEN) and Former President of the College of Eastern Utah (CEU)
William A. Sederburg	Commissioner of Higher Education
Tennile Spencer	Friend of Resolution Recipient, Quinton E. Williams
Amanda Williams	Wife of Resolution Recipient, Quinton E. Williams
Quinton E. Williams	Recipient of Student Resolution

MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA PRESENT

Kim Burgess	<i>The Herald Journal</i>
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Chair Shipley conducted the meeting and welcomed those present including Trustees Cook and Foley by telephone, Commissioner of Higher Education William A. Sederburg, and former president of CEU Michael Petersen. Craig Miller, President-elect of the Classified Employees Association, attended for Karen Hoffman. Chair Shipley excused Trustee Foxley.

I. Chairman's Report

A. Oath of Office for Tyler L. Tolson

Chair Shipley administered the Oath of Office to Tyler L. Tolson.

B. Appreciation to Michael Parent and Karen Hoffman

Chair Shipley expressed appreciation to Michael Parent, President of the Faculty Senate, and Karen Hoffman, President of the Classified Employees Association, whose terms will expire in July.

C. Appreciation to Trustees for Attending Graduations and Commencement

Chair Shipley expressed appreciation to the Trustees for attending Regional Campus graduations and Commencement on campus.

II. President's Report

Student Resolution – Quinton E. Williams

Trustees received a copy of the Student Resolution to Quinton E. Williams (Appendix A). Trustee Tolson read the resolution. Mr. Williams is a student majoring in Family Finance.

President Albrecht and those present extended congratulations to Mr. Williams for his achievements.

III. Strategic Agenda

College of Eastern Utah (CEU) Report

President Albrecht introduced William A. Sederburg, Commissioner of Higher Education, and Michael A. Petersen, former President of CEU. A copy of a document titled "Ensuring the Future Success of the College of Eastern Utah – Key Findings and Recommendations," compiled by Dr. Petersen, was given to the Trustees for their information (Appendix B).

Commissioner Sederburg stated that the Legislature assigned a group to study the USU/CEU issue some time ago. The group was disbanded last summer because there was not a broad consensus about affiliating CEU with USU. Following that time, Michael Petersen, who was President of CEU for eleven years, was asked to conduct interviews at CEU concerning the affiliation.

Dr. Petersen expressed his love and loyalty to CEU, and said he recognized that the challenges for CEU will be different over the next 70 years compared to the previous years. He said the fundamental question is whether CEU will be in a position to provide the range of higher education programs that will be needed if CEU continues as a community college. His conclusion was that more is needed.

In his draft report, Dr. Petersen proposed that the status of CEU in the System of Higher Education change to a quasi-autonomous institution affiliated with USU. This would allow CEU to maintain the community college mission that has been its

essential feature for 70 years. As an affiliate of USU, CEU would also be able to support the regional university mission which would benefit the residents of southeastern Utah. In that framework, there would be an appropriate level of USU control, a level of local control, and autonomy at CEU that would be appropriate.

Dr. Petersen said that his report was made public the previous day at the CEU Board of Trustees meeting. Dr. Petersen reviewed with the Trustees some of the major features of changing CEU to a quasi-autonomous affiliate of USU. His suggestions include the following:

- Change the name of CEU – suggested names include College of Eastern Utah of Utah State University, Utah State University-Eastern Utah, or College of Eastern Utah Campus of USU.
- A memorandum of understanding would be developed and changes would be made in Board of Regents policies as well as statutory amendments made to the Utah Code.
- The chief executive officer of CEU would be a Chancellor and would report to the President of USU and serve on the Utah System of Higher Education Council of Presidents.
- The USU Board of Trustees would provide governance of CEU/USU, the CEU Board of Trustees would retain authority in relation to the USU Board and hold specific roles and responsibilities as outlined in the memorandum of understanding. The CEU Trustees would have primary responsibility for the community college mission and be subject to accountability by the USU Board of Trustees. Two members of the CEU Board would serve on the USU Board. The name of the CEU Board would change, possibly to the CEU/USU Institutional Council.
- The community college mission of CEU would be retained and CEU would have the primary responsibility to carry out that mission.
- CEU's mission would include a regional university component through affiliation with USU and operated through and administered by USU Trustees, executives, and academic administrators.
- CEU faculty and staff would become USU employees. USU administrators, department chairs, and deans would oversee CEU faculty and staff.
- Financial aid applications for federal grant programs and community fund-raising at CEU would be protected.

- The Northwest Commission would be required to evaluate accreditation, and there would be a substantive change process.

Dr. Petersen stated that there are exciting opportunities for USU in southeastern Utah which are already present through USU's Continuing Education/Extension. There is opportunity with the affiliation status to strengthen the relationship between administrators and faculty at CEU. It could also strengthen the research mission of USU, as is being done in the Uintah Basin.

Commissioner Sederburg said that Dr. Petersen spent more time at CEU than at USU. His report is a working document, and is a starting point. Dr. Petersen indicated that he had spent only a day with President Albrecht, Provost Coward, Vice President Hunsaker, and Vice Provost Menlove. He tried to address their concerns in the document. He said it is a work in progress, and he suggested additional meetings with USU in order to reflect more input from USU.

Commissioner Sederburg reviewed the schedule for the process as follows:

- The State Board of Regents will meet with the CEU Board of Trustees on May 29. Meetings could also be scheduled with the USU Board of Trustees if desired.
- At the Board of Regents meeting on May 29, a decision will be made whether or not to accept the concept of a USU/CEU affiliation.
- If the concept is accepted, public hearings will be held in Price, Blanding, and Logan. President Albrecht and others associated with USU should be engaged in conversations in southeastern Utah to help to ensure a mutual understanding of how this would work.
- A final recommendation would go to the Board of Regents at its July 16-17 meeting.
- If the recommendation is accepted, a memorandum of understanding would be drafted as well as required legislation to be considered at the next Legislative session.

Commissioner Sederburg said individuals need to be informed of the suggested change and have time to digest the information. He reassured the Trustees of the following:

- Fiscal issues at CEU have been resolved and CEU has a balanced budget, thus USU would not inherit a large budget deficit.
- CEU has a very qualified faculty with a reputation for quality.

- There is already a positive working relationship between USU and CEU because of the work USU is doing in southeastern Utah.
- The leadership of the Board of Regents supports CEU's affiliation with USU. USU has the role as the land-grant university in the state.

Trustee Parkinson asked about financial implications. Dr. Petersen stated that the change would not be a merger, but an affiliation. He feels that the initial steps could be taken, if necessary, without a cost to CEU or to USU. To enhance programs over several years, programs could be identified and funding sought from on-going state appropriations or grants.

President Albrecht said that USU would want to take House Bill 185 to the next step by expanding the Regional Campus model which is already in place in many areas of the state. He asked if that could be brought to the next Legislative session. Commissioner Sederburg said that Regents are receptive to that.

Trustee Parkinson asked the general feeling of individuals in Price and the surrounding area. Dr. Petersen said he spent five days in Price and two days in Blanding interviewing people. He also spent two days in discussions with CEU staff, and had a two-hour discussion with CEU Trustees. He summarized feelings as follows:

- The community will be receptive. There is a desire for CEU to operate in new positive ways.
- CEU staff members are beginning to accept the plan. They are not embracing the change, but realize that there would be positive advantages.
- The Board of Trustees received a draft copy of Dr. Petersen's report a few days before meeting with him. The report they received did not include some of the modifications made after discussions with staff. The Board of Trustees needs time to consider the change for CEU.

Dr. Petersen stated that with strong leadership, it can be viewed as a positive change by individuals in the community as well as at the college.

Chair Shipley expressed appreciation to Dr. Petersen for his unique role in compiling information. Without Dr. Petersen's leadership, the suggested changes would not be to this point. He felt that more time should be spent with USU administration to consider options. Of most importance is what is best for students at CEU. Chair Shipley indicated that the Regional Campus concept is working well in many areas of the state.

Commissioner Sederburg reiterated that the report is a work in progress. He said that USU is the preferred institution for affiliation with CEU. The community wants to maintain CEU's identity, traditions, and history. Commissioner Sederburg asked that USU study the document and discuss their views and concerns with him and Dr. Petersen.

President Albrecht complimented Dr. Petersen for his work. He said this is a monumental step, and USU will review the plan. Dr. Petersen stated that he would welcome an opportunity to meet with USU representatives.

In response to Trustee Watterson's question about the advantages of making this change, Commissioner Sederburg listed the following:

- Institutions of higher education should be strong, vital, and responsive to needs, which is a fundamental concern for smaller institutions. CEU is not a problem, but preparation should be made for the future in order to have a strong institution that can respond to opportunities.
- Southeastern Utah needs to have access to baccalaureate degrees and research initiatives.
- USU is the land-grant university and has established Regional Campuses throughout the state. There is a history of USU in southeastern Utah.
- For USU, this is a continuation of a state-wide mission and brings additional opportunities.
- For CEU, this is an opportunity for four-year degrees, while preserving the community college function, which is their strength.

Trustee Parkinson also expressed appreciation for Dr. Petersen's work and pointed out the importance of compromise and responsiveness to the needs of students. Commissioner Sederburg pointed out that balancing issues for both USU and CEU are evident in the report. He emphasized that the proposed changes are not to compromise either institution, but to add to both – to provide stronger educational services for students.

Commissioner Sederburg and Dr. Petersen left at this time.

Chair Shipley suggested that USU have the same kind of hearings and time as was spent at CEU, and to keep in mind what is best for students and the institutions. There are many issues that will need to be considered, including financial and Regional Campus issues. He said the Board will need to approve the proposal, but the executive team at USU will need to study it and make recommendations.

IV. Chairman's Report Continued

A. Election of New Chair and Vice Chair

Chair Shipley discussed the makeup of the Board as follows:

- Trustees Shipley and Cook are senior members of the Board, both having served for six years.
- Trustee Foxley has had experience as former Chair of the Board of Regents.
- Trustee Cook provides strong leadership on the Audit Committee.
- The Board has been strengthened with the addition of new Trustees Jibson and Watterson.
- Trustee Pierce-Moore has attended the Association of Governing Boards' national conference for the last three years.
- This is the first time that a past Chair will continue as a member of the Board.

Chair Shipley expressed appreciation to each member of the Board for their work and efforts. He called for nominations for new Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees to become effective July 1, 2009.

Action: Trustee Johnson nominated Suzanne Pierce-Moore as Chair of the Board of Trustees, and Trustees Cook and Jibson seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Action: Trustee Pierce-Moore nominated Ronald W. Jibson as Vice Chair, and Trustee Watterson seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

President Albrecht expressed appreciation to Chair Shipley for the wonderful job he has done. He presented him with the gavel Chair Shipley used while serving as Chair. He said it had been a pleasure to work with him.

B. Election of the Executive Committee

Chair Pierce-Moore and Vice Chair Jibson will serve on the Executive Committee by virtue of their office. At the April Trustees meeting, Trustees approved a proposal for an amendment to the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees to change

membership on the Executive Committee from two elected members to three elected members. Chair Shipley called for nominations for three additional members of the Executive Committee.

Action: Trustee Parkinson nominated Richard L. Shipley (past-Chair), David P. Cook, and Douglas S. Foxley as members of the Executive Committee. Trustees Jibson and Johnson seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

C. Resolution of Appreciation and Commendation to Paul D. Parkinson

Chair Shipley expressed appreciation to Trustee Parkinson for his excellent service as Alumni Association President, which is a two-year term, and for his membership of the Board of Trustees. He read the Resolution of Appreciation and Commendation to Trustee Parkinson (Appendix C).

D. Report on Association of Governing Boards (AGB) National Conference

Trustee Pierce-Moore and Secretary of the Board, Sydney Peterson, attended the AGB National Conference in San Diego on April 18-21. Chair Pierce-Moore encouraged other Trustees to attend the conferences which provide valuable information. She said USU was complimented concerning enrollment management and budgeting functions.

E. ASUSU Report

Trustee Tolson reported the following (see Appendix BB):

- The Val R. Christensen Service Center and Aggies for Africa raised nearly \$4,000 for Mali Rising during the annual service week.
- Aggie Blue Fall Leadership meetings are being planned.

F. Alumni Association Report

Trustee Parkinson reported the following (see Appendix AA):

- Director of Alumni Relations, Wallace S. Odd, resigned his position at the University as of May 1 to do humanitarian work in Ethiopia.
- Children of alumni who live out-of-state are showing interest in the Legacy scholarships which will allow them to pay in-state tuition. The scholarship is being well advertised.

- Merit citations were awarded to Darnel Haney, Charles (Chick) Hislop, and Lowell Peterson.
- The Professional Achievement Award was given to Harrison and Iva Lou Groutage in April.
- Four of the five honorary degree recipients at Commencement were USU alum.
- Homecoming activities scheduled for September have expanded to include an alumni weekend.
- Upcoming alumni travel plans include the Southern States American Heritage Tour, Hawaii, and Great Britain.

G. Trustee Committee Structure

Secretary Peterson indicated that a new Trustees committee, Departmental Review Committee, is needed. The current committees will be reviewed by Secretary Peterson and Chair-elect Pierce-Moore. Trustees will be contacted about committee assignments.

H. Trustee Honorarium and Travel Expense Payments

Secretary Peterson stated that the Trustees had previously requested that their payments for honorarium and travel expenses be donated to the University. The procedure will be for them to receive the payment and return that to the University. Their donations will be made to the Aggie Promise Scholarship fund.

I. Trustees Workshop

The Trustees Workshop is scheduled for August 20-21. Secretary Peterson said there may be a dinner on August 20 for outgoing and incoming Trustees. Trustees will be contacted concerning the schedule.

J. Date of the Next Board of Trustees Meeting

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Friday, July 10, 2007, as a telephone conference call.

II. President's Report Continued

A. Appreciation to Vice President of Student Services, Gary Chambers

President Albrecht stated that Vice President Chambers is retiring on June 30. He and his wife will serve an LDS mission in Tampa, Florida. He said that Vice President Chambers has played a key role at USU for a long time. He has done an incredible job as Student Services Vice President and has served with amazing integrity. He expressed his appreciation to Vice President Chambers for his service to USU.

B. Comprehensive Campaign Update

Vice President Peterson reported that it has been a very successful year for the comprehensive campaign considering the economic situation (see Appendix W). The campaign has reached 60% of its goal, and is at more than \$240 million.

Vice President Peterson stated that the USU Foundation Board is meeting on campus May 15-16. President Albrecht expressed appreciation to Vice President Peterson and his team for their great effort.

C. Enrollment Update

Vice President Chambers stated that he has an outstanding recruitment team. He reported that total applications to date have increased by more than 15%, but applications have increased at many of the Utah institutions. Registration for Student Orientation and Registration (SOAR) increased by 5% this year over last year. Vice President Chambers said if indicators hold true, enrollment will remain strong and Freshman enrollment will meet or surpass last year's enrollment (see Appendix V).

D. Update on Real Property Ground Lease to US Government and Reconveyance of Land to USU

At the Board of Trustees meeting held on April 10, 2009, Trustees approved the concept of a real property ground lease for the Agricultural Research Services (ARS) building and the new location at 1400 North. Vice President Hunsaker reported that they are moving forward with negotiations with the Federal government on the lease. The proposal will go to the Board of Regents for consideration on May 29, 2009.

E. Research Revenue Bonds for Early Childhood Building and Vernal Construction Project

Vice President Hunsaker reported that a revenue bond was issued for \$22 million last week. The bonds sold for 4.29% with a premium of approximately 1% at that rate. He explained the new process of selling bonds on-line, which is almost instantaneous.

President Albrecht complimented Vice President Hunsaker and his staff. He said this allows us to continue moving forward with the buildings.

F. Vice Presidents and Deans Retreat

The Vice Presidents and Deans Retreat will be held May 20, 2009. The focus will be looking forward as we deal with the recession, budgets, and budget cuts.

G. Utah State GREATS (in brief)

Trustees were given a copy of *Utah State GREATS (in brief)* (Appendix D) for their information.

H. Recent Events

1. Rural Business Conference, Brigham City, April 17, 2009
2. Robins Awards, April 18, 2009
3. Sunrise Sessions, Salt Lake City, April 24, 2009
4. USU Commencement, May 1-2, 2009
5. Regional Campuses and Centers Commencements
 - Brigham City, April 17, 2009
 - Price, April 22, 2009
 - Moab, April 23, 2009
 - San Juan, April 24, 2009
 - Uintah Basin, April 25, 2009
 - Tooele, April 29, 2009
 - Ephraim/Southwest, April 30, 2009

I. Upcoming Events

1. USU Foundation Board Meeting, May 15-16, 2009
2. Big Blue Scholarship Fund Drive, May 21, 2009
3. Donny Osmond Memorial Day Tribute Benefit Concert, May 26, 2009
4. WAC Board of Directors Conference, June 1-3, 2009
5. Sunrise Sessions, June 5, 2009

6. Maureen McGovern Benefit Concerts
 - Logan, July 1, 2009
 - Idaho Falls, July 2, 2009
 - Sun Valley, July 3, 2009
7. Homecoming, September 25-26, 2009
8. Old Main Society, October 23, 2009
9. Foundation Board Meeting, October 23-24, 2009
10. SDL 50th Anniversary Celebration, November 6-7, 2009
 - Anniversary Gala, November 6, 2009, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

III. Consent Agenda

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

Minutes of the Executive Session Held on April 10, 2009

Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held on April 10, 2009

Resolution 09-5-1 Faculty and Staff Adjustments (including Emeritus status)
(Appendix E)

Resolution 09-5-2 Certificate of the Treasurer for February 2009 (Appendix F)

Resolution 09-5-3 Report of Investments for February (Appendix G)

Resolution 09-5-4 Real Property Disposal, Conveyance of Property Rights at 200 East
and 1800 North (Appendix H)

Resolution 09-5-5 Delegation/Administration Reports for March 18, 2009 to April 29,
2009 (Appendix I)

Resolution 09-5-6 Contract/Grant Proposals and Awards for March 2009 (Appendix J)

Acceptance of the following written reports:

Academic/Provost (Appendix K)

Faculty and Staff Activities and Achievements (Appendix L)

Business and Finance (Appendix M)

Department of Public Safety Report (Appendix N)

2008 Police Department Annual Report (Appendix O)

Extension/Continuing Education (Appendix P)

Information Technology (Appendix Q)

Research (Appendix R)

Research Performance Dashboard, FY 2008 (Appendix S)

Undergraduate Research Report (Appendix T)

Strategic Ventures and Economic Development (Appendix U)

Student Services (Appendix V)

University Advancement (Appendix W)

Campaign Progress by Purpose, July 1, 2003 to April 30, 2009 (Appendix X)

Monthly Gift Comparison (Appendix Y)

Significant Gifts Received, February 2009 to April 2009 (Appendix Z)

Alumni Association (Appendix AA)

ASUSU (Appendix BB)

Athletics (Appendix CC)

Public Relations and Marketing (Appendix DD)

Public Relations and Marketing Performance Dashboard, April 2009

(Appendix EE)

Faculty Senate (Appendix FF)

Professional Employees Association (Appendix GG)

Classified Employee Association (Appendix HH)

Executive Session to be held on July 10, 2009, to discuss those items which are permitted by law to be discussed in Executive Session.

Action: Trustee Johnson moved approval of the Consent Agenda items, and Trustee Pierce-Moore seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

IV. Action Agenda

A. Proposal from the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering in the College of Engineering at Utah State University (USU) to Offer the Master of Science Degree in Aerospace Engineering, Effective Fall Semester 2009

Trustees were given the proposal from the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering in the College of Engineering at Utah State University (USU) to offer the Master of Science Degree in Aerospace Engineering, effective fall semester 2009 (Appendix II) for their consideration.

Provost Coward explained that this proposal is for a new Master of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering. This proposal will build on a program already in place. The faculty and classes are also in place.

Dr. Wood, Head of the Department of Aerospace Engineering, said the timing is right for the addition of the Master's degree. It will create opportunities in the growing aerospace industry. More aerospace activity is expected at Hill Air Force Base, which will offer more opportunities for graduates. USU will be the only institution in the state that has a graduate degree in Aerospace Engineering.

Action: Trustee Pierce-Moore moved approval of Resolution 09-5-7 the proposal from the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering in the College of Engineering at Utah State University (USU) to offer the Master of Science Degree in Aerospace Engineering, effective fall semester 2009 (Appendix II). Trustee Parkinson seconded the motion, and the voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

B. Proposal from Regional Campuses and Distance Education (RCDE) at Utah State University to Strengthen the Associate of Science (AS) Degree to Require Students to Complete 20 Credits in the Major Requirements of an Approved Bachelor's Degree OR 20 Credits at the 2000 Level or Above, Effective Fall Semester 2009

Trustees were given the proposal from Regional Campuses and Distance Education (RCDE) at Utah State University to strengthen the Associate of Science (AS) Degree to require students to complete 20 credits in the major requirements of an approved Bachelor's degree OR 20 credits at the 2000 level or above, effective fall semester 2009 (Appendix JJ) for their consideration.

Provost Coward explained that the Associate of Science degree is an opening degree for many students, particularly at Regional Campuses. The proposed changes will better enable students whose goals include a Bachelor's degree to plan for that major. It will spur students to take the required prerequisite courses in order to declare a major after 60 credits. The requirements will now include a specific set of requirements beyond general education which gives the advising needed to make it easier for students to move into the baccalaureate program. It is important for students and will ensure that the proper connection is made between the Associate degree and the Baccalaureate degree.

Vice Provost Menlove said it will better serve students as they progress. It will also help to retain students as they move into the Bachelor's degree program.

Action: Trustee Jibson moved approval of Resolution 09-5-8 the proposal from Regional Campuses and Distance Education (RCDE) at Utah State University to strengthen the Associate of Science (AS) Degree to require students to complete 20 credits in the major requirements of an approved Bachelor's degree OR 20 credits at the 2000 level or above, effective fall semester 2009 (Appendix JJ). Trustee Watterson seconded the motion, and the voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

C. Utah State University 2009-2010 Budget

Trustees were given the Utah State University 2009-2010 budget (Appendix KK) for their consideration.

Vice President Hunsaker said that the state appropriated budget reflects adjustments after the budget reductions that will occur in fiscal year 2009-2010. He pointed out the following:

- State tax funds, where cuts were taken, were down \$27 million or 17%.

- Dedicated credits (tuition) were up \$6 million or 8% increase.
- Federal funds increased significantly. Last year federal funds were under \$4 million, and this year it is \$17.2 million. The difference is the federal stimulus one-time money which was used to backfill and defer some of the \$13 million in cuts until the next budget year.
- The largest component of the state appropriated budget is the Education and General line item at 74% of the total.

Action: Trustee Tolson made a motion to approve Resolution 09-5-9 the Utah State University 2009-2010 budget (Appendix KK), and Trustee Parkinson seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

V. Strategic Agenda

Task Force to Review Student Organizations Report

President Albrecht introduced Glenn McEvoy, Professor in the Department of Management and Human Resources, who served as Chair of the Task Force to Review Student Organizations. Other members of the Task Force included Michael Kennedy, Eric Olsen, Terry Peak, and Suzanne Pierce-Moore. President Albrecht said the Task Force was formed following the death of student Michael Starks. The Task Force was asked to review USU's relationship with various campus organizations including Greek organizations. President Albrecht stated that the Task Force did exceptional work and has submitted a draft report.

Dr. McEvoy said that the Task Force has not yet completed its work. He reported that 1,400 university students die each year from alcohol-related incidents and accidents. Most of those are automobile accidents and about ten a year are alcohol-related deaths as part of a fraternity or sorority hazing. USU lost a student on November 21 as one of those victims. He summarized the following from the findings of the Task Force:

- Suzanne Pierce-Moore and Terry Peak, Director of Social Work, reviewed alcohol education. USU has an excellent education program for students. The SOAR program (orientation for Freshmen) includes training concerning alcohol and anti-hazing. The Task Force may make some recommendations for additional approaches to alcohol education and anti-hazing education.
- Suzanne Pierce-Moore and Michael Kennedy called other universities that had similar incidents to ask what steps they had taken. Most of those institutions had also formed a task force.

- The Task Force gathered information about what other schools have done and are doing and that will be included in the report.
- Eric Olsen, Executive Director for Student Life, was an expert on what USU is doing and how USU relates to student organizations. There are more than 100 student organizations at USU. Many kinds of clubs register with Student Services and operate independently. USU suggests that they get a volunteer advisor, possibly a faculty member, to work with them. Clubs can apply for resources through ASUSU. Most clubs operate autonomously.
- Also studied was the relationship between USU and fraternities and sororities, which are different from other student organizations. Fraternities and sororities own residence houses and operate under charters from national organizations that have rules, regulations, and policies that they are sworn follow. USU has a half-time Student Services adviser who works with the Greek organizations and helps them gain access to information on new students to help in their recruiting.
- The Task Force is developing final recommendations of possible minor modifications to the already strong Student Code which would capture the relationship between USU and its Greek organizations. There is already a large number of existing policies and procedures that relate to alcohol and hazing. The Student Code says "no hazing and no underage alcohol consumption." The Greek Council constitution and by-laws include "no hazing and no underage alcohol consumption." There is a USU Greek system fraternity and sorority alcohol policy which includes "no hazing and no underage alcohol consumption." There is a five star fraternity and sorority evaluation program which includes "no hazing and no underage alcohol consumption." USU has a model program to deal with fraternities and sororities. In investigations into what other universities are doing, we found that many of the things that USU already has in place are the kinds of things other university have begun to do.
- Local law enforcement officers indicate that the first week of the school year there are more incidents of underage drinking than any other time of the year. It involves not just members of the Greek organizations, but a wide variety of students and student organizations. One recommendation from the Task Force will be to involve Logan City police in alcohol education on campus.
- The Task Force discovered that there are advantages to having a strong Greek system. Most of the universities that have had incidents have reinvested in their Greek systems to try to rebuild after a tragedy. After a long decline in membership in fraternities or sororities nationally, membership has increased in the last ten years. In 1941, 26% of USU students belonged to fraternities or sororities. Spring

semester 2009, 1% of USU students belonged to fraternities or sororities. USU's peer institutions have membership of approximately 5% to 10%. Studies indicate that students who join a fraternity or sorority are more likely to continue their education, so the attrition rate is lower. Also, extra curricular activities and services increase and many loyal alums were members of fraternities and sororities. The Task Force has helpful suggestions if USU wants to reinvigorate its Greek system.

Chair Shipley expressed appreciation to Dr. McEvoy for his report.

Action: Trustee Johnson moved that the meeting adjourn.

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Richard L. Shipley, Chairman

Sydney M. Peterson, Secretary
(Minutes Taken by Mira G. Thatcher)

Date Approved