

Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
Winona, Minnesota

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting of
May 8, 2009

- 1. General Summary**
- 2. Official Resolutions**

Minutes of the May meeting of the Saint Mary's University of Minnesota Board of Trustees, May 8, 2009.

1. General Summary

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Michael Meagher, Chair of the Board of Trustees.

1. The meeting began with reflection and opening prayer.
2. The roll call was taken by Ms. Mary Becker, Administrative Assistant to the President. A quorum was declared.

Present: Ms. Mary Burrichter, Brother Francis Carr, FSC, Brother F. Michael Collins, FSC, Brother Patrick Conway, FSC, Mr. James Coogan, Mr. Lyle Delwiche, Brother Konrad Diebold, FSC, Mr. Michael Dooley, Mr. Michael Dougherty, Mr. Thomas Dyer, Mr. John Ehlert, Mr. Michael Gostomski, Brother William Mann, FSC, Mr. Michael Meagher, Brother Frederick Mueller, FSC, Mr. Sal Polizzotto, Mr. Rich Reedy, Ms. Mary Ann Remick, Mr. Joseph Ross, Mr. Loras Sieve, Mr. Walter Smithe, Brother Stan Sobczyk, FSC, Ms. Celeste Suchocki, Mr. Bernie Wagnild, Mr. Robert Wheeler

Absent and Excused: Brother Gustavo Ramirez Barba, FSC, Ms. Cynthia Calderon, Ms. Karen George, Mr. Tim Horan, Mr. Mark Jacobs, Brother Michael McKenery, FSC, Mr. Paul Meyer, Ms. Rhoda Olsen, Mr. Patrick Salvi, Ms. Mary Ann Smith, Mr. Oscar Straub

Resource Persons and Guests: Ms. Mary Becker, Mr. James Bedtke, Ms. Gena Bilden, Mr. Robert Conover, Dr. Jeffrey Highland, Ms. Linka Holey, Brother Lawrence Humphrey, FSC, Mr. Chris Kendall, Dr. John Kerr, Dr. Thomas Mans, Ms. Cynthia Marek, Ms. Ann Merchlewitz, Mr. Anthony Piscitiello, Ms. Ann Smith, Mr. Joe Sweeney, Mr. Clay Tenquist

3. Mr. Michael Meagher called for comments from the public. There were none.
4. The minutes of the February 13, 2009, meeting of the Saint Mary's University of Minnesota Board of Trustees were approved as submitted. (Official Resolutions 2.1)
5. Mr. Michael Meagher called for the committee reports:
 - 5.1 **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** – reported by Mr. Michael Meagher

It was reported by Mike Meagher that despite the economic challenges that Saint Mary's University, as well as many other universities nation-wide, is facing, we still are experiencing relatively solid enrollment. Brother William has made several

administrative changes including the appointment of Ann Merchlewitz as Executive Vice President as well as General Counsel. Jim Bedtke will now be Vice President of the College and continue as Vice President for the Schools of Graduate and Professional Programs. Further administrative changes will be announced at some point in the future. Work continues to be done on our Conflict of Interest Policy and Code of Ethics. There are no major legal issues to report at this time. Brother William, Jim Coogan and Patrick Salvi attended a “What We Hold in Trust” seminar at Notre Dame University where the future of Catholic education was discussed with other university presidents and trustees. Three resolutions were brought before the board concerning the 2009-2010 Slate of Officers for the Board of Trustees. (Official Resolutions 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4)

5.2 UNIVERSITY MISSION AND TRUSTEES COMMITTEE – reported by Mr. Robert Wheeler

Brother Lawrence Humphrey reported, as Director of Mission, that Saint Mary’s continues to be faithful to its Mission. The university hosted De LaSalle Week from February 22nd through March 1st. Brother Fred Mueller did a presentation on Lasallian formation at the Twin Cities campus and another presentation was held on April 7th for clerical and maintenance staffs on the Winona campus. Fourteen university personnel will participate this year in regional or international formation programs. Plans are underway to do another Lasallian Coaches Clinic, which was deemed very successful this past year. There was discussion as to whether there would be merit in organizing some type of Lasallian formation for trustees from various Lasallian institutions. The committee continues to work on documents reflecting the characteristics desired in trustees and another document outlining the process by which we identify, initially meet with, and ultimately interview and move people along so that a nomination for membership can be presented to the board. The committee is also working on a document outlining the involvement of the President and the Board Chair in selecting prospective trustees. A resolution was brought before the board requesting the appointment of another 5-year term for Trustee Mary Ann Remick. (Official Resolutions 2.5) A second resolution was brought before the board requesting appointment of two new trustees. (Official Resolutions 2.6) A final resolution was brought before the board requesting Trustee Emeritus status for Lyle Delwiche and Oscar Straub. (Official Resolutions 2.7)

5.3 UNIVERSITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE – reported by Mr. Michael Gostomski

There was a spirited discussion concerning fundraising strategies and efforts in moving forward in this regard. Bob Conover reported on the launch of the new website and on the marketing efforts being employed by the university. There was no report from the Alumni board due to the absence of John Domanico from the meeting. Clay Tenquist reported on the two earmarks totaling \$418,000 from the federal stimulus package. One was for the purpose of continuing teacher education and the other for technology upgrades. Lindsay McCabe gave a report on the Hendrickson Forum that was held on April 21, 2009. Positive feedback was given on the speaker, John Howard, former Prime

Minister of Australia, with conversation regarding plans for next year. Joe Sweeney reported that the annual fund is currently down 12.5% and overall income is down.

5.4 **UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND ADMISSION COMMITTEE** – reported by Brother Patrick Conway, FSC

Chris Kendall reported on several items including the university's thorough monitoring of the swine flu outbreak; the incorporation of Volunteer Services into the Office of Campus Ministry; the hire of Andrea Esser as the new Director of Campus Safety; the installation of the emergency response system and the training of staff as it relates to the ERS, and the housing numbers for returning students. The university hosted collegiate and high school track meets at the new track and field soccer complex. All participants and guests were very complimentary. Gena Bilden updated the committee on several different items on the Twin Cities campus which included two occasions where Lasallian formation opportunities were provided for faculty and staff; one with Dr. Roxanne Eubank and one with Brother Fred Mueller. Tony Piscitiello reported that current undergraduate retention is strong with a return rate of 88%. New student confirmations are currently 24% behind last year. Financial aid for undergraduate students increased 11% from the 2007-08 academic year.

5.5 **UNIVERSITY FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE** – reported by Ms. Mary Burrichter

The majority of the committee's time was spent in discussing investments. Three representatives from CBIS were present to give an overall picture of the university's investments. A University Investment subcommittee has been created and has met twice via teleconference in attempt to monitor the university's investments. The budget versus actual expenditures is positive for the past 11 months. The budget for next year is a work in progress and will be brought to the Board at the September meeting.

5.6 **UNIVERSITY AUDIT COMMITTEE** – reported by Mr. James Coogan

The committee met via teleconference and discussed the audit plan for the year. Our auditing firm, Virchow Kraus, continues to be an excellent match for the university providing our financial leadership with excellent feedback and ideas. The results from the audit will be received later this summer.

5.7 **UNIVERSITY FACULTIES AND ACADEMIC COMMITTEE** – reported by Ms. Mary Ann Remick

It was reported that on May 2, 2009, Brother William attended the commencement ceremony at the Nairobi campus where 30 students received their Bachelor of Education degrees and five received their master's degrees in African Studies. On June 7, 2009, the Twin Cities campus will host two commencement ceremonies with approximately 270 students participating. Tomorrow, May 9th, the Winona campus will host two commencement ceremonies and the following resolution was brought before the Board

concerning the awarding of degrees. (Official Resolutions 2.8) The Calendar Task Force completed its work in late March, and the proposed changes in the school calendar were approved by the President. Implementation will begin with the 2010-2011 academic year. A second resolution was brought before the board concerning the authorization of Ann Merchlewitz and James Bedtke as signatories for the U.S. Department of Ed application for approval to participate in federal student aid programs. (Official Resolutions 2.9) It was reported that academic administration has asked that a hold be put on development of the Doctor of Business Administration degree program while we focus on working toward implementation of the Psy.D. in Counseling Psychology. The retirement of six individuals was reported along three new appointments in Psychology, Theology and Mathematics. A resolution was brought forth requesting the approval of tenure for two university professors: Rev. Paul Nienaber and Dr. Scott Sorvaag. (Official Resolutions 2.10) A decision to cancel the study abroad program in Florence was made in February. The university signed an affiliation agreement this spring with Study Abroad Italy, a third-party provider which offers a program in Florence in conjunction with the Florence University of the Arts.

6. **OLD BUSINESS** – none
7. **NEW BUSINESS** – none
8. Meeting adjourned

2. Official Resolutions Approved (General Session)

1. **Be it resolved** that the minutes from the February 13, 2009 Board of Trustees meeting be approved as previously submitted.
2. **Be it resolved** that the Board of Trustees elects the following slate of officers for the Board of Trustees for the 2009-2010 fiscal year: Chairperson – Michael Gostomski for a 2-year term; Vice Chairperson – Jim Coogan; Secretary – Celeste Suchocki; Treasurer – Joe Ross.
3. **Be it resolved** that the Board of Trustees appoints Mary Becker to the position of Assistant Secretary for the Board of Trustees.
4. **Be it resolved** that the Board of Trustees appoints Cynthia Marek to the position of Assistant Treasurer for the Board of Trustees.
5. **Be it resolved** that the Board of Trustees appoints to an additional five-year term the following individual: Mary Ann Remick.
6. **Be it resolved** that the Board of Trustees appoints to five-year terms the following individuals: Linda Kuczma and William Herzog.
7. **Be it resolved** that the Board of Trustees approves the designation of Trustee Emeritus status to Lyle Delwiche and Oscar Straub.
8. **Be it resolved** that the Board of Trustees, based on the recommendation of the Faculties, the Academic Administration, and the Provost, and with the approval of the President, authorizes the awarding of degrees from May 2009 to April 2010 as certified by the Registrars.
9. **Be it resolved** that in the absence of the President, James Bedtke, Vice President of the College and Vice President of the Schools of Graduate and Professional Programs, and Ann Merchlewitz, Executive Vice President and General Counsel, are given the authority by the Board of Trustees to serve as signatories for submission of the U. S. Department of Education Application for Approval to Participate in Federal Student Aid Programs.
10. **Be it resolved** that the Board of Trustees grants tenure, beginning with the 2009-10 academic year to Fr. Paul Nienaber, S.J., Ph.D. and Scott Sorvaag, Ed.D., based on the recommendation of the President, in consultation with the Academic Administration and the Faculty.