

**Saint Mary's University of Minnesota**  
**Winona, Minnesota**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Meeting of**  
**February 16-17, 2012**

- 1. General Summary**
- 2. Official Resolutions  
(General Session)**

Minutes of the February meeting of the Saint Mary's University of Minnesota Board of Trustees, February 17, 2012.

## 1. General Summary

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

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

Present: Brother William Clarey, FSC, Mr. James Coogan, Mr. Michael Dougherty, Mr. Thomas Dyer, Dr. Marilyn Frost, Ms. Karen George, Mr. Michael Gostomski, Mr. William Herzog, Mr. Mark Jacobs, Ms. Linda Kuczma, Brother William Mann, FSC, Brother Michael McKenery, FSC, Brother Frederick Mueller, FSC, Ms. Kaye O'Leary, Brother David Poos, FSC, Mr. Hamid Quraishi, Bro. Gustavo Ramirez Barba, FSC, Ms. Mary Ann Remick, Mr. Joseph Ross, Brother Larry Schatz, FSC, Ms. Sandra Simon, Mr. Michael Slaggie, Dr. John Smarrelli, Mr. Walter Smithe, Ms. Celeste Suchocki

Trustee Emeriti: Mr. Lyle Delwiche, Mr. Loras Sieve

Absent and Excused: Ms. Mary Burrichter, Mr. Paul Meyer, Mr. Sal Polizzotto, Mr. Rich Reedy, Mr. Terry Russell (absent from General Session only), Mr. Patrick Salvi, Brother Robert Schieler, FSC

Resource Persons and Guests: Dr. Donna Aronson, Ms. Mary Becker, Mr. James Bedtke, Ms. Gena Bilden, Ms. Brandi DeFries, Dr. Marcel Dumestre, Ms. Genelle Groh Beck, Brother Lawrence Humphrey, FSC, Mr. Chris Kendall, Ms. Cynthia Marek, Ms. Ann Merchlewitz, Mr. Ben Murray, Sr. Judith Schaefer, Mr. Nate Semsch, Brother Ed Siderewicz, FSC, Dr. Steven Titus

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

Brother Jerome Rademacher, who was a science/physics teacher for 35 years at Saint Mary's, was remembered after his passing on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Brother William Mann

reported that the committee discussed some major national agenda items including the continuing reality with the National Labor Relations Board with some colleges being challenged on their Catholic identity, the healthcare mandate of the government and the connection to the Catholic identity of hospitals, universities and Catholic agencies, the rising college costs and student debt, questions about the economy, and changes in taxation with consequences to philanthropy. Internal items discussed included the Strategic Planning process, Centennial planning, construction and renovations, efforts to perpetuate the Lasallian Catholic core and the administration's continuing evolution, the evolution of the 21<sup>st</sup> century document with the Cabinet and President's Council, and the start of the planning process for the institution's reaccreditation with the Higher Learning Commission.

5.2 **UNIVERSITY MISSION AND TRUSTEES COMMITTEE** – reported by Brother Frederick Mueller, FSC

The committee received a report from the Office of Mission. Thirty-seven faculty and staff have applied for one of the summer Lasallian formation programs. Activities are being planned for De LaSalle week. Most of the trustees have filled out and returned the Trustee Assessment and the results were very positive. The committee would like to re-examine some of the key parts of the assessment and come back to the board with a report. A proposed slate of officers will be given to the Executive Committee and will be reported on at the May meeting. The committee is looking at six current trustees that have terms that will be ending in May 2012, some of which will be eligible for reappointment. There was significant discussion as to how to keep in contact with former trustees. Three separate dinners were held in the past year with some success. Because of all the Centennial events next year, we will not host the dinners but are open to suggestions as to how we can remain in contact with former trustees. A document outlining the responsibilities and qualifications of a board chairperson was examined and revised and will be presented for approval and adoption at the May 2012 board meeting. A resolution to propose a change in the bylaws deleting article X concerning conflict of interest will be brought before the board at the May meeting.

5.3 **UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE** – reported by Mr. Walter Smithe

Mr. Nick Lemmer was welcomed as the new Vice President for Marketing and Communication. A proposal regarding holding the Spring 2013 Board of Trustees meeting in France was discussed with an approximate cost of between \$2,000 and \$4,000 per person. The cost of attending a board meeting in France would be the responsibility of each individual trustee. The gift acceptance policy was reviewed and approved and will be brought forward for Board consideration at the May 2012 meeting. The committee reviewed the feasibility study regarding the Twin Cities campus and there was discussion about forming a commission on the future of philanthropy at Saint Mary's. As the Centennial celebration is launched this June, the committee recommends the commission on philanthropy deal with these three questions: 1) How do we fund the strategic plan? 2) What is the desired role of philanthropy funding the new strategic plan?

and 3) What would we like the philanthropic trajectory to be in advancing the university? The committee is recommending there be 12 members on this commission appointed by the Board chair to include several trustees, the President, the Senior Vice President for University Advancement, the Vice President for Financial Affairs, and additional influential prospects. The purpose of the commission is to ready the university for a comprehensive campaign.

5.4 **UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND ADMISSION COMMITTEE** – reported by Brother Michael McKenery, FSC

Time was spent during committee remembering Brother Michael Collins, FSC, a trustee who served so faithfully for so many years on the board and on the University Students and Admission Committee. A resolution was brought before the board honoring Brother Michael. (Official Resolutions 2.3) There was discussion about the Strategic Planning process, and it was felt that all the stakeholders were engaged and energized with the process. A report was given on the Pathways program at SGPP and how it is progressing as well as our “one stop” delivery system designed to provide students with all the services needed to be successful in one place with a strong commitment to customer service. SGPP credit hours appear to be lower than last year at this time, but enrollment is still ongoing. Fall admission statistics for the undergraduate campus were positive, and applications have increased by 9%. A thorough report on the residence halls for the Winona campus was given. Plans are underway on how to best utilize the new residential spaces with areas designated to enhance and support academic study, community building, prayer and reflection, exercise, and other curricular and co-curricular activities.

5.5 **UNIVERSITY FINANCE AND FACILITIES AND UNIVERSITY INVESTMENT SUB-COMMITTEE** – reported by Mr. Joe Ross

The committee reviewed the progress of the current budget, and it was reported that the university was on budget and doing well. Preliminary work is being done on the budget projections for next fiscal year with an expected increase in financial aid needed. A resolution was brought forth mandating the requirement of a balanced budget for the next fiscal year. (Official Resolutions 2.4) It was reported that the committee is looking at a number of cash pockets within the university to try to determine how to do some alternative things to generate some income from that amount of cash, and ideas concerning this will be presented at the May board meeting. The financial piece for the SGPP appears very positive, and one of the key drivers for the future will be the online programs. The committee will continue to watch and review the profitability of certain programs in the SGPP. The Event Center is currently on target from a dollar expenditure viewpoint compared to the case that supported the acquisition. With regard to Winona campus facility improvements, the administration is now designating funds within the budget for these capital improvements. The performance of our endowment was reviewed and it was reported that we had a decent recovery in 2011. A resolution was brought before the board approving tuition rate increases next year for the SGPP programs. (Official Resolutions 2.5)

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

The committee met with the representatives from Baker Tilly Virchow Krause. A motion was brought forth to accept the engagement letter for the continued engagement of this firm. (Official Resolutions 2.6) A second motion was brought forth approving the Form 990 to be filed with the I.R.S. (Official Resolutions 2.7)

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

The main focus of the committee was student achievement and student learning with discussion taking place about the Living and Learning Communities that will be introduced next fall that first-year students can opt to partake in. The four groups will be: Stewards of the Earth, Stewards of Spirituality, Stewards of Healthy Living and Stewards of Holistic Leadership. Review of the First Year Experience is ongoing with a goal of improving the residential experience for students and assurance of their academic success. New programs are continuing to be developed in the Schools of Graduate and Professional Programs, one of which is the Doctor of Business Administration. The doctorate of Nursing Practice was also discussed and a resolution was brought forth requesting authorization to develop this program pending internal approval. (Official Resolutions 2.2) The Center for International Programs and Collaborations has been formed whose goal is to develop international networks, programs and recruit international students. Dushan Knezevich will be the Executive Director of this center. Online programming that has been developed in conjunction with Deltak is scheduled to begin in May 2012 and three courses will be offered. The Strategic Planning Process was discussed by the committee along with the preparation that the university is involved in for our institution's reaccreditation with the Higher Learning Commission. The university was recommended to participate in an Open Pathway to reaccreditation which reflects our solid history with the HLC.

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 October 6-7, 2011 Board of Trustees meeting be approved as previously submitted
2. **Be it resolved** that the Board of Trustees authorizes the development of a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program pending internal approval from the SGPP Curriculum Committee, the Dean of the School of Health and Human Services, and the Vice President and Chief Academic Officer of the Schools of Graduate and Professional Programs.
3. **Be it resolved** that:
  - Whereas**, Brother Michael Collins, FSC, alumnus and Trustees, was an exemplary educator and administrator, a person of deep faith, and a devoted Christian Brother; and
  - Whereas**, Brother Michael was a model for us in his complete and effortless commitment to the students entrusted to his care; and
  - Whereas**, Brother Michael was a fierce and passionate voice for those with no voice; and
  - Whereas**, Brother Michael always led by deed before word; and
  - Whereas**, Brother Michael inspired us with his dedication to Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, his commitment to service, and his giving heart; and
  - Whereas**, Brother Michael was an active and thoughtful member of this Board of Trustees for over thirty years; often entertaining fellow trustees with the gift of his beautiful voice; and
  - Whereas**, Brother Michael through his words and actions continually evidenced his love for this university and his devotion to its Catholic and Lasallian mission;
  - Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved** that the Board of Trustees of Saint Mary's University of Minnesota acknowledges with a profound sense of loss the passing of its friend, colleagues, and fellow trustee, Brother Michael Collins, FSC, a man of exceptional generosity and deep wisdom; and
  - Be It Further Resolved** that the Board of Trustees extends its sincere, heartfelt sympathy to the De La Salle High School community and the Midwest District of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, who both today and henceforth will remain in our thoughts and prayers.

4. **Be it Resolved** that the Board of Trustees continues to mandate the administration to complete the university's financial planning for the next fiscal year within the requirements of a balanced budget.
5. **Be it Resolved** that the Board of Trustees approves the tuition rates for 2012-2013 for SGPP programs with an increase in rates between 0% and 8% with an average increase of 4.3%.
6. **Be it resolved** that the Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee, accepts the engagement letter from Baker Tilly LLP, as independent accountants for the audit of Saint Mary's University's financial statements for the year ending May 30, 2012.
7. **Be it resolved** that the Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee, approves the Form 990 to be filed with the I.R.S. and prepared by Baker Tilly LLP for Saint Mary's University fiscal year 2011.