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Minutes, May 21, 2010

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**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

MINUTES

University of Connecticut
Merlin D. Bishop Center
Storrs, Connecticut

May 21, 2010

OPEN SESSION

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Board of Trustees Chairman Lawrence McHugh. Trustees present were: Louise Bailey, Andrea Dennis-LaVigne, Michael Martinez, Joan McDonald, F. Philip Prelli, Thomas Ritter, and Robert Ward.

Trustees who participated by telephone were: Francis Archambault, Jr., Michael Bozzuto, Gerard Burrow, Richard Colon, Jr., Peter Drotch, Lenworth Jacobs, Jr., Rebecca Lobo, Denis Nayden, Corey Schmitt, Wayne Shepperd, and Richard Treibick.

Trustee Mark McQuillan and Kevin J. Kelleher, who represents the Governor's Office, were absent from the meeting.

University staff present were: President Hogan, Vice President and Chief Operations Officer Feldman, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Gray, Vice President for Health Affairs Laurencin, Vice President for Human Resources and Payroll Services Munroe, Vice Provost for Academic Administration Bull, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and Regional Campuses Cooper, Interim Vice Provost for Graduate Education Aggison, Senior Associate to the President and Chief of Staff Troyer, Associate Vice President of Architectural and Engineering Services Bradley, Associate Vice President for Communications Walter, Executive Secretary to the Board Rubin, Athletic Director Hathaway, Acting Health Center Chief of Staff Callahan, Health Center Interim Chief Administrative Officer Andrews, Senate Representatives Gary English, Karla Fox, William Stwalley, C. Ernesto Zirakzadeh, and Ms. Locke.

Assistant Attorneys General Ralph Urban and Michael Sullivan were also present.

1. Public Comment (limited to agenda items)

The following member of the public addressed the Board in support of Dr. Philip E. Austin as Interim President:

Kathleen Sanner, President, University of Connecticut Professional Employees Association

Patrick Sheehan, Chair, UConn Advocates

Thomas J. Peters, President-elect, UConn Chapter of the American Association of University Professors

President Hogan thanked the Board, faculty, and staff for their support over the past three years. He acknowledged the numerous friends and professional colleagues at UConn. He was hopeful that the transition would be successful so as to avoid any uncertainty or confusion about the presidency.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Ms. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Martinez, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 2:12 p.m. to discuss the matters indicated below:

2. Executive Session anticipated to discuss the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, health or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

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Chairman McHugh noted that on the advice of counsel only staff members whose presence was necessary to provide their opinion would be permitted to attend Executive Session.

Trustees present were: Louise Bailey, Andrea Dennis-LaVigne, Michael Martinez, Lawrence McHugh, Joan McDonald, F. Philip Prelli, Thomas Ritter, and Robert Ward.

Trustees who participated by telephone were: Francis Archambault, Jr., Michael Bozzuto, Gerard Burrow, Richard Colon, Jr., Peter Drotch, Lenworth Jacobs, Jr., Rebecca Lobo, Denis Nayden, Corey Schmitt, Wayne Shepperd, and Richard Treibick.

The following University staff were present for the meeting: President Hogan (part of the meeting), Vice President for Human Resources and Payroll Services Munroe, and Executive Secretary to the Board Rubin.

Assistant Attorney General Ralph Urban was also present.

OPEN SESSION

Executive Session ended at 3:12 p.m. The Board returned to Open Session at 3:13 p.m.

3. Appointment of an Interim President

Chairman McHugh thanked the Trustees for their attendance both in person and on the telephone as this was an important meeting that was put together on very short notice. The Board felt that it was critical to appoint an Interim President, and ultimately, a permanent replacement as quickly as possible. Chairman McHugh noted that the search will follow the process outlined in the By-Laws, including reaching out to various constituent groups.

Chairman McHugh asked for motion to recommend the appointment of an Interim President. Mr. Ritter recommended the appointment of Dr. Philip E. Austin as Interim President, effective June 11, 2010. The motion was seconded by Mr. Martinez. The Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Dr. Philip E. Austin.

Chairman McHugh welcomed Dr. Austin to the meeting. Chairman McHugh acknowledged the many notes and votes of encouragement that he received from different groups, Board members, and faculty and staff in support of Dr. Austin. Since the beginning of his tenure in higher education, he said that he has never seen such a swell of support for one person. Although the Board entertained many other qualified individuals, the recommendations always pointed to Dr. Austin.

On behalf of the Board, Chairman McHugh expressed his gratitude to Dr. Austin for agreeing to return on an interim basis to ensure a smooth transition. We are all looking forward to working with him to continue UConn's upward trajectory to excellence.

Dr. Austin thanked Chairman McHugh and the Board for their confidence in him.

4. Adjournment

There being no further business appearing, the Board meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise M. Bailey
Secretary