MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
December 5, 1997

The Trustee Finance Committee and Trustee Policy Committee of the Whole meetings were held in the Board Room of the Administration Building beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, December 5, 1997. Minutes of the meetings are on file in the Office of the Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

President McPherson called the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 10:30 a.m. in the Board Room.

Trustees present: Dolores M. Cook, Joel Ferguson, Dorothy Gonzales, Colleen McNamara, Donald W. Nugent, John D. Singleton, Bob Traxler, and Robert E. Weiss.

University officers present: President McPherson, Provost Simon, Secretary Pogel, Vice President and General Counsel Noto, Vice Presidents Denbow, Huggett, June, Webb, Webster, and Wilkinson, and Executive Director Williams. Faculty Liaison representative present: Daniel Kruger. Student Liaison representatives present: Ebony Green, Nick Krieger, Chad Smith, and Tim Tesmer.

All actions taken were by unanimous vote of the Trustees present, unless otherwise noted.

1. On a motion by Ms. Cook, supported by Ms. Gonzales, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the proposed amended agenda. The Trustee Policy Committee agenda was amended to include naming representatives to the Michigan Association of Governing Boards (MAGB).

2. On a motion by Ms. Cook, supported by Ms. Gonzales, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the minutes of the October 24, 1997 Board meeting.

3. Trustee GPA Recipients for Fall Semester 1997, listed below, were congratulated for their exceptional academic performance. Chairperson Cook and President McPherson presented awards to Christian Holt, Matthew Becker, Laura Coon, Michael Gonzales, Eric Thomas, and Duncan Paterson. Kim Leverton was unable to attend.

   Christian M. Holt 3.9093 GPA, Highest
   Matthew K. Becker 3.9676 GPA, Second Highest
   Laura L. Coon 3.9516 GPA, Third Highest
   Michael Gonzales 3.9277 GPA, Fourth Highest
   Eric J. Thomas 3.9173 GPA, Fifth Highest
   Duncan M. Paterson 3.9106 GPA, Sixth Highest
   Kim Leverton 3.9083 GPA, Seventh Highest

4. President’s Report
   A. President McPherson noted that the next hockey game Coach Ron Mason and his team win will be his 500th career victory at Michigan State. Games will be played on Saturday and Sunday of this weekend. The President congratulated Coach Mason, team members, and teams of previous years.
   B. President McPherson reflected on events of the past semester. He complimented faculty for their extraordinary accomplishments and said he is pleased with University administrators. The President thanked Board members for their interest and support. President McPherson noted the exciting football win over Penn State and the importance of it to the sense of community.

5. Guiding Principles Report
   At the President’s request, Provost Simon introduced Vice Provost and Dean Fred Poston and Dr. Frank Fear, Director and Teaching Chair of the Bailey Scholars program in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

   The Bailey Scholars program is a unique new program this semester that is representative of a number of curricular changes that are being made in the spirit of the Guiding Principles. The program is located in Wills House on campus. Dean Poston noted that the program is another example of a 21st century education with a focus on teaching, learning, and curriculum. Dr. Fear called attention to several items on a "10-Point Briefing Sheet which was distributed. He especially noted point four, "Learning is grounded in active, experiential, increasingly complex, increasingly self-directed, and reflective learning."
6. There were no requests to address the Board of Trustees on issues germane to the agenda.

7. Personnel Actions

Provost Simon presented the following personnel actions.

A. Other Personnel Action

1) Klopman, Karen L., AN-Associate Dean and Professor and Coordinator, Graduate School; Pesticide Research Center; Departments of Botany and Plant Pathology; Entomology, to change title to Acting Dean, Graduate School and Assistant Provost for Graduate Education, Office of the Provost, and for a change in salary rate to $96,000, effective January 1, 1998.

B. Faculty Promotions and Tenure Recommendations

Most of the recommendations for faculty members whose current probationary appointments in the tenure system end on August 15, 1998 were made at the Board meeting on June 13, 1997. A tenure action was delayed last spring on recommendation of the college for the faculty members named below.

The following actions are recommended by the Departmental Chairpersons, the Deans, and the Provost in accordance with the tenure rules.

The following promotions which include the award of tenure are recommended to be effective January 1, 1998.

1) Creane, Anthony J., promotion to Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Eli Broad College of Business.

2) Lee, Andre Y., promotion to Associate Professor, Department of Materials Science and Mechanics, College of Engineering.

On a motion by Mr. Traxler, supported by Mr. Nugent, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the recommended personnel actions.

C. Appointment

Provost Simon presented the following appointment recommendation:

Wilkins, Wendy K., AN-Dean and Professor, College of Arts and Letters; Department of Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages, $125,000, with Tenure, effective July 1, 1998.

On a motion by Ms. McNamara, supported by Ms. Cook, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the appointment. The vote was 7 to 1. Trustee Traxler voted no.

Trustee Traxler said he voted no for two reasons: Board members had not had an opportunity to interview the nominee, and the Board had not adequately addressed the policy issue of spousal employment.

D. Information Reports

Information Reports of Academic Personnel Actions of October 31, 1997 and November 21, 1997 were distributed with the Board Agenda and have been included with the agenda materials in the Office of the Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

8. Gift, Grant and Contract Report

Vice President Huggett presented the Gift, Grant and Contract Report for the period of October 15, 1997 through November 21, 1997. The report is a compilation of 193 Gifts, Grants and Contracts, 27 Consignment/Non-Cash Gifts, and no Consignment/Non-Cash Loans with a total value of $17,866,545.59. The report is included with the Board Agenda in the Office of the Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

On a motion by Mr. Nugent, supported by Mr. Singleton, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the Gift, Grant and Contract Report.

The additional one-page statistical report with comparative data of Gift and Grant Awards accepted by the Board of Trustees was distributed. The report has been included with the Board Agenda materials.
December 5, 1997

9. The Trustee Finance Committee report and recommendations were presented by Committee Chairperson Nugent.

A. Bids and Contract Awards

1) It was recommended to award a contract in the amount of $6,260,300 to Kares Construction Company, Inc., of Lansing, Michigan, and that a budget in the amount of $7,885,000 be established for the project entitled Agriculture Hall Annex Renovation, Agriculture Hall Window Replacement, and Cook Hall Renovation.

2) It was recommended to award a contract in the amount of $219,995 to Nielsen Commercial Construction Co., of Holt, Michigan, and that a budget in the amount of $264,000 be established for the project entitled: Communication Arts and Sciences Building – Air Condition Suite 249 and Room 253.

3) It was recommended to award a contract in the amount of $587,000 to Christian Constructors, Inc., of Lansing, Michigan, and that a budget in the amount of $706,000 be established for the project entitled: Food Safety/Toxicology Containment Facility – Water Quality/Quantity Upgrade.

4) It was recommended to award a contract in the amount of $1,601,000 to Moore Trosper Construction Company, of Holt, Michigan, and that a budget in the amount of $2,000,000 be established for the project entitled: Union Building Alterations.

On a motion by Mr. Nugent, supported by Mr. Traxler, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the Bids and Contract Awards.

B. Establishment of a Fund Functioning as Endowment

1) It was recommended to establish a fund functioning as an endowment, the Ruth McIlvain Fund for Oncology Research.

On a motion by Mr. Nugent, supported by Mr. Shingleton, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the recommendation.

C. It was recommended that the administration be authorized to negotiate and enter into an agreement with the Detroit College of Law Foundation to manage the DCL Foundation assets as part of the University's Common Investment Fund.

D. It was recommended that the administration be authorized to invest up to $4 million with Lazard Asset Management International Small-Cap fund, effective early 1998.

On a motion by Mr. Nugent, supported by Mr. Traxler, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the recommendations.

E. It was recommended that the $1.8 million State supplemental appropriation be used to upgrade and replace the Wells Hall cooling system.

On a motion by Mr. Nugent, supported by Ms. Gonzales, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the recommendation.

F. A report of University Real Property Holdings was distributed with the agenda and has been included with Board agenda materials.

10. President McPherson presented the report of the Trustee Policy Committee of the Whole.

A. It was recommended that the Wharton Center Festival Theatre be named the Shirley K. and Athanase J. Pasant Theatre.

On a motion by Ms. Cook, supported by Mr. Nugent, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the recommendation.

B. It was recommended that Dorothy Gonzales and Jack Shingleton be named MSU Board of Trustees representatives to the Michigan Association of Governing Boards (MAGB). Trustee Gonzales will be the primary representative. Trustee Shingleton will be the alternate. Each is to serve for a term of one year.

On a motion by Ms. Cook, supported by Mr. Nugent, THE BOARD VOTED to approve the recommendation.
C. Vice President Denbow presented the annual report of the Division of University Relations at the earlier Committee meeting. University Relations staff members participating in the presentations were: Dave Brown of Broadcast/Photo; Sue Nichols, Ron Collins, and Russ White of Media Communications; and John Lewandowski of Sports Information.

11. Chairperson's Report and Trustee Comments

A. Chairperson's Report

1) Chairperson Cook expressed appreciation for being given the opportunity to serve as Chairperson and remarked that it had been a great year. She thanked Vice Chairperson Shingleton and other Board members for their cooperation. She said President McPherson had been helpful to her by presenting a broad viewpoint on issues and anticipating things that are important to Michigan State. She described the President as "an extraordinary leader with great vision for the institution." Ms. Cook said it had been a pleasure to work with the President, members of the Board, Secretary Pogel, and all of the staff. She thanked faculty members for the reception she had received.

President McPherson thanked Chairperson Cook for her leadership.

B. Trustees Comments

1) Trustee Ferguson commented that it had been an excellent year. He commended Chairperson Cook for her leadership. Mr. Ferguson said it was fitting for Trustee Shingleton, following a long career at Michigan State, to serve as Chairperson during his final year of trusteeship. He noted that Trustee Shingleton will be chair as the University moves toward the next century.

2) Trustee Weiss commented that it had been a great year. He said it had been exciting to be a part of all that had been accomplished at the University during the past year.

3) Trustee Traxler expressed appreciation to Chairperson Cook and welcomed Trustee Shingleton as chair. He wished his colleagues, the President, members of the staff, faculty, and students a pleasant holiday and best wishes for the new year.

4) Trustee Nugent thanked Trustee Cook and said it had been a great year. He noted that commencement is his favorite time of the semester. He finds it exciting and rewarding when people have accomplished their goals. Mr. Nugent extended happy holidays to everyone in the MSU family.

5) Trustee McNamara thanked Trustee Cook for a good year.

6) Trustee Gonzales thanked Chairperson Cook. She said it had been a pleasure to work with her as Chair and looked forward to Trustee Cook's continued support.

Trustee Gonzales' comment on the Chicano/Latino Association "Report Card." She asked that the text of her remarks be included in the minutes.

"First of all, since I believe in diversity and our Guiding Principles that include diversity, I support the watchdog role that the Ch/LA group has taken on. It is important that all of us should be held accountable for helping to create a diverse faculty, student body, and staff. It is especially important for the Chicano/Latino community that there are groups like Ch/LA who continue to encourage the University to be responsive to the needs of all the people. As a land-grant institution, we are committed to access and inclusiveness.

I support the general concept of the report card, but I think we also need to be fair about reporting positive efforts along with weaknesses. The Report Card does not mention that last year we added a great deal to the MSU leadership team when we hired Elba Santiago as Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Services. The Report Card does not talk about the support that we
in the Chicano/Latino community get from the Julian Samora Research Institute. JSRI has received major grants for migrant worker research. It is the only major research institute on Chicano/Latino issues in the Midwest. It was only a few years ago that we brought Dr. William Rockin to MSU to lead the Institute. The Report Card does not talk about the support for the memory of Cesar Chavez and the film that was made in his honor. Much of that support and the support for the Julian Samora Institute comes from the Provost.

I do believe that we must do better with recruitment and retention of Chicano/Latino students, faculty and staff. But in order to have people in higher education who are ready to do the jobs, we must support K-12 educational reform, especially in areas that are heavily populated by Chicano/Latino families. Without early childhood and K-12 support, we will continue to have great difficulties moving people of color into our hiring pools and selecting the most qualified candidates from those pools. The University is actively engaged in many programs that bridge K-12 and the University, but I believe that our support for Chicano/Latino students in the K-12 system should be increased. We should be more proactive in training teachers who are interested in teaching Chicano/Latino students. Here at the University we can do more, and that means also being more proactive in our searches for Chicano/Latino faculty, graduate students and staff.

I'm proud of MSU's principles and I believe that we mean to do well. I also know how difficult some of our objectives are to reach. However, I urge everyone at MSU to help us improve the climate for the Chicano/Latino community by raising expectations for everyone in regard to recruitment and retention and by providing sufficient resources to support those expectations.

7) Trustee Singleton complimented Chairperson Cook for her devotion to the responsibilities of the position. He expressed thanks to her, Trustee Weiss as her predecessor, and other Trustees for bringing cohesion to the Board. Mr. Singleton said there had been a gradual evolution and Board members have emerged as dedicated, responsible Trustees in the spirit of true statesmanship.

12. The following individuals addressed the Board of Trustees on issues not germane to the agenda.

A. Guemecindo Salas, Co-Chairperson of ChILA (Chicano/Latino Association), thanked President McPherson for being supportive of issues brought to his attention. He thanked Trustee Gonzales for her statement. Dr. Salas presented opening comments and introduced Diane Wojda, Executive Board member of ChILA; Serapio Hernandez, Director of Hispanic and Migrant Ministry in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lansing; Juan Castillo, Chairperson of a metropolitan Lansing area Chicano/Latino association; and Leticia Arellano, doctoral student at Michigan State.

Diane Wojda commented on the perspective of Chicano/Latinos on campus. She suggested that minority presence on campus could be increased by providing additional opportunities for Latino students and more role models, as well as hiring more academic advisers for both undergraduate and graduate students. Ms. Wojda recommended that the University increase its connection to K-12 educational institutions by sponsoring summer academic and athletic programs for Chicano/Latino students in grades 6 through 12.

Serapio Hernandez spoke of issues from a statewide perspective. He stated that Hispanic students meet the University's criteria, have high standards, and expect to be challenged. He said Chicano/Latino students are a gifted, multicultural and bilingual people and that English and Spanish are both first languages.

Juan Castillo commented about meeting with former presidents of Michigan State during 30 years of employment with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. He said he repeatedly asked how they could work together to ensure equality of opportunity for the population of the State of Michigan. Mr. Castillo said University doors must be opened to prepare young persons for leadership roles.
Leticia Arellano requested additional support and equity to insure the success of Latino students. She stated that Latino students will make a difference in the community as they possess potential to bring about social changes to enhance society. Ms. Santiago asked for more recruiters, more faculty and staff support, and more aggressive recruitment strategies.

A person from the audience spoke out that if the University wished to alleviate this problem, it could show an act of good faith by implementing Chicano studies, endorsing the United Farm Workers grape boycott, and providing a multicultural center rather than a multicultural room at the University.

B. Diana Rivera, a Library faculty person at the main MSU Library, reported that she had spent five years as a student at Michigan State and fifteen years as an employee, but came before the Board as a parent of two MSU students. She has been a member of many of the committees that have submitted reports to the University and expressed concern that the University has not responded to the report findings. Ms. Rivera offered to meet with Trustee Cook and other Board members.

13. An Executive Session was not requested.

14. President McPherson announced that Liaisons, University officers, and others would join Board members for lunch in 443 A & B immediately following the meeting.

15. On a motion by Ms. McNamara, supported by Mr. Ferguson, the Board voted to adjourn at 12:05 p.m.

Peter McPherson, President

Nancy H. Pogel, Secretary