

Executive Committee
October 20, 1994
Ottawa, Kansas

Present: Marvin Wilson (Chair), Ransom Bennett, Wayne Duderstadt, Kevin Eichner, Robert Froning, Hal Germer, Mercile Lee, Charlene Lister, Nita Myers, C.O. Nauman, Jim O'Dell, Justus O'Reilly, Ramon Schmidt.

Administration: Jim Billick, Steve Markwood, Anne Mills, Ilene Risley, Jim Smith, Jan Stone, Fred Zook.

Guest: Ben Riordan (The Common Fund).

Following a 5:45 p.m. dinner, Chair Marvin Wilson called the meeting to order. The agenda for the upcoming meeting of the full Board of Trustees was distributed. Marvin Wilson and Hal Germer reviewed the schedule and agenda in detail, with time for questions and answers.

Campus Master Plan Marvin Wilson noted the first major agenda item for the meeting of the full Board will be the Campus Master Plan. Steve Markwood told how the presentation will be made. Becky Zahner and Kevin King from the architects will provide the background, review the goals, make the recommendations on the plan, display the drawings, and hand out a copy to each person present. Discussion of the plan will be referred to the Campus Committee first, and then the full Board will have opportunity to adopt the plan. Several trustees expressed positive reactions to the process and the plan as developed.

The Common Fund Ottawa University endowment is invested with The Common Fund. Vice President Ben Riordan was present at this meeting. He had met earlier in the day with the Investment Subcommittee. He commented on the mission of The Common Fund and expressed appreciation for a good working relationship with Ottawa University.

International Program Bob Froning, Chair of the Centers Committee, reported that a proposal for expansion of the international program is now in hand. He reminded the Executive Committee of the background for this, including a trustee visit in March and the appointment of a task force as directed by the Executive Committee in July. The proposal will first go to the Centers Committee. While there are many issues involved, the key elements of the proposal are recommendations to create the international program as a separate academic unit with a provost and faculty of its own in order to expand the program.

There was discussion of the relation of the program to the University's mission, sources of revenues for expansion, reasons for expansion, and the process by which the proposal was developed.

Campus concerns Ransom Bennett asked for an opportunity to speak.

He expressed strong concern for developing a clear and stable niche for the Campus in order to achieve enrollment and fiscal stability. He observed that the Board has required Campus to work toward achieving a \$500,000 support level, and we are not there yet. He suggested other colleges and universities cannot be losing this amount each year, and that the Board and administration must attend to ways for the Campus to not be dependent on such operating support. He suggested that some consultant help may be required. He said all dimensions of the problem should receive attention -- our product, the role of facilities, our organization, and our sales capability. Kevin Eichner, Chair of the Campus Committee, responded that the Campus Committee would indeed attend to these concerns for higher expectations for the Campus at this meeting.

Business Affairs Anne Mills distributed a draft of a Capital Budget to address deferred maintenance and capital expenditures over the next five years. The Business Affairs Committee and the Resources Committee will meet jointly to consider this proposed budget.

Atkinson Hall Hal Germer referred back to discussion and action taken by the Executive Committee at its July 15th meeting in Milwaukee. At that time the Executive Committee authorized the administration to have drawings made, secure an estimate of cost, and propose means to finance renovation of Atkinson. The purpose of this renovation is to move the drama and music functions out of Taub Jones Hall soon. The drawings and estimated cost are now available.

Steve Markwood reported how faculty in music and drama and the architect, Fred Truog, have worked together with Steve to spell out specific needs. Drawings have now been made. The cost goal expressed in July was in the range of \$650,000. With the help of Sonny Burch of Loyd Builders he is now working on bringing the estimated cost in line with that figure. Factors not recognized in July now push the cost toward \$700,000. Steve presented in detail what will be included in the renovation.

Anne Mills commented that the audit for 1993/94 is now complete, so we may be more certain of our actual cash position at this time. The intent of the administration is to pay for this renovation from currently available cash, without reaching into reserves.

Kevin Eichner moved, with Justus O'Reilly seconding, that the administration be authorized to proceed with the project at a cost of up to \$690,000. The motion passed.

Hal Germer distributed a list of future meeting dates through 1995 and the first meeting of 1996.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Charlene Lister
Secretary to the Board