MINUTES OF MEETING
UTAH STATE BOARD OF REGENTS
SNOW COLLEGE, EPHRAIM, UTAH
JUNE 9, 2006

Regents Present/Participating
Nolan E. Karras, Chair
Jed H. Pitcher, Vice Chair (by telephone)
Jerry C. Atkin
Daryl C. Barrett
Bonnie Jean Beesley
Rosanita Cespedes
Katharine B. Garff
David J. Grant
Meghan Holbrook
James S. Jardine
Michael R. Jensen (by telephone)
David J. Jordan
Gaby Kingery
Josh M. Reid
Sara V. Sinclair
Marlon O. Snow

Regents Excused
Janet A. Cannon
Greg W. Haws

Office of the Commissioner
Richard E. Kendell, Commissioner
David L. Buhler, Associate Commissioner for Public Affairs
Jeffrey Christensen, Intern
Joyce Cottrell, Executive Secretary
Amanda Covington, Director of Communications
Richard Davis, Associate Executive Director for Finance and Administration, UHEAA
David S. Doty, Assistant Commissioner and Director of Policy Studies
Carrie Flamm, Executive Director, Utah Student Association
Brian Foisy, Assistant Commissioner for Financial Services
Kimberly Henrie, Budget Officer
Phyllis C. Safman, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs
Mark H. Spencer, Associate Commissioner for Finance and Facilities/ Executive Director, UHEAA
Lucille T. Stoddard, Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs
Kevin Walthers, Assistant Commissioner for Finance and Facilities
Lynne N. Ward, Director, Utah Educational Savings Plan
Gary S. Wixom, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs

INSTITUTIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

University of Utah
A. Lorris Betz, Senior Vice President for Health Sciences
John G. Francis, Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Studies
Chuck Wight, Associate Vice President for Instructional Technology and Outreach
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Utah State University
Stan A. Albrecht, President
Noah Riley, Student Body President

Weber State University
F. Ann Millner, President

Southern Utah University
Steven D. Bennion, President
Gregory S. Stauffer, Interim President
Steven Kiisel, Student Body President
Lee Montgomery, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Studies
Dorian Page, Interim Vice President for Administrative Services

Snow College
Michael T. Benson, President
Gary E. Arnoldson, Controller
Anne Carlile, Student Body President

Dixie State College
Lee G. Caldwell, President
Donna Dillingham-Evans, Academic Vice President
Stanley J. Plewe, Vice President of College Services

College of Eastern Utah
Ryan L. Thomas, President

Utah Valley State College
William A. Sederburg, President
Brad Cook, Vice President for Academic Affairs

Salt Lake Community College
Cynthia A. Bioteau, President
David Richardson, Vice President for Academic Services
Julie Curtis, Assistant Vice President for Academic Services
Dennis R. Klaus, Vice President for Business Services

Utah College of Applied Technology
Darrell K. White, President

Representatives of the Media
Shinika Sykes, Salt Lake Tribune
Amy Stewart, Ogden Standard Examiner
Erin Stewart, Deseret Morning News
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Chair Nolan Karras called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone to Snow College.

Recent Appointments. Chair Karras announced that Rob Brems had been appointed President of the Utah College of Applied Technology and that Ali Hasnain had been appointed as the new Student Regent, both appointments effective July 1.

Recognition of Steve Bennion. Chair Karras recalled that President Bennion's career had begun at Snow College 24 years previously. Dr. Bennion has been a wonderful colleague who believes higher education is a great opportunity in which to be engaged. He has always been devoted to his students, whether at Snow College, Ricks College, or Southern Utah University. Chair Karras thanked him for his many years of service and for his special love for students. He then read a resolution in recognition of President Bennion's devoted service and presented him with several volumes by or about Thomas Jefferson. President Bennion was joined by his wife, Marjorie, and paid special tribute to her. He noted that when the Bennions were in Ephraim, she had been largely responsible for the renovation of the ZCMI building. President Bennion thanked the Regents and other Presidents for their support. Chair Karras wished the Bennions well as they prepare to leave for New York, where they will lead an LDS mission. Regent Snow moved adoption of the resolution for President Bennion. Regent Atkin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. (A copy is attached to the minutes permanently on file in the Commissioner's Office.) President Benson presented Dr. and Mrs. Bennion with a painting from their friends at Snow College.

Recognition of Darrell White. Chair Karras thanked Dr. White for coming out of retirement to serve as Interim President of the Utah College of Applied Technology. He read a resolution in recognition of President White's achievements and thanked him for his outstanding work. He then presented President White with a two-piece set of luggage. President White was joined by his wife, Cindy, and thanked her for her support. He noted this was his fifth retirement. He said he had found serving as UCAT President to be a very enlightening and gratifying experience, with higher education as well as public education. He thanked the Regents and Presidents for their support. Regent Snow moved adoption of the resolution to honor President White. Regent Atkin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. (A copy is attached to the minutes permanently on file in the Commissioner's Office.)

Recognition of Gaby Kingery. Chair Karras told Regent Kingery she had done an incredible job of representing the USHE students on the State Board of Regents. He read a resolution in recognition of Regent Kingery's service on the Board of Regents and presented her with a combination clock-picture frame, into which had been inserted the resolution. Gaby commended the Regents for their commitment to education and to the students and thanked the Regents and Presidents for their hard work on behalf of all students. Regent Sinclair moved adoption of the resolution in recognition of Regent Kingery's term as Student Regent. Regent
Snow seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. (A copy of the resolution is attached to the minutes permanently on file in the Commissioner’s Office.)

Commissioner Kendell wished Presidents Bennion and White well and said it had been a delight to work with them. They are giants in the field of education who have influenced the lives of many. He told Regent Kingery that the Regents’ hope is in her generation. These young people represent the success of what the Regents are doing. He advised Gaby that it is important to have a good career, but to have a balance in your life is even more important.

Recognition of Chair Nolan Karras. Commissioner Kendell recognized Regent Karras for his wonderful service as Board Chair during the past four years. He recalled hearing Regent Karras say “If I could just be king for a day...” several times during that time and gave him a crown so that during this meeting he could indeed be king for a day. Chair Karras thanked Commissioner Kendell and credited Wellington with saying, toward the end of his life, that he “would have praised more.” Chair Karras commented that sometimes we are so busy moving past that we do not adequately thank people who serve. He thanked the Regents and Presidents for their selfless service on behalf of Utah’s students.

Remembrance of R.J. Snow. Chair Karras remarked on the recent death of Dr. R. J. Snow in an automobile accident and called him one of the great human beings of our state. Dr. Snow served as Vice President for Public Affairs at the University of Utah, where he made many friends for higher education. He then served as an LDS mission president in South Africa. Upon his return to Utah, he served as Vice President at BYU. Dr. Snow was an ambassador for good, wherever he went. Regent Jardine moved that the Regents prepare a resolution to send to his wife and family to convey the Regents’ great esteem, support and sympathy. Regent Holbrook seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. (A copy of the resolution is attached to the permanent minutes on file in the Commissioner’s Office.) Regent Snow said a memorial service would be held in Provo the following Monday afternoon. Burial will be Saturday in Pine Valley. It was noted that Dr. Snow was the father of Laura Snow, Special Assistant to President Young and Secretary to the University of Utah.

Resolution in Memory of Former Regent Roy Simmons. Chair Karras noted that Mr. Simmons had been a founding member of the State Board of Regents and was the first Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee. He also was instrumental in the establishment of the Utah Higher Education Assistance Authority (UHEAA). Chair Karras read a resolution in honor of former Regent Simmons. Regent Grant moved adoption of the resolution to memorialize Roy Simmons. The motion was seconded by Regent Holbrook and carried unanimously. (A copy of the resolution is on file with the permanent minutes in the Commissioner’s Office.)

Regent Jordan moved that the Regents move into executive session to discuss the “characteristics, professional competence, and the physical and/or mental health of individuals” (reports of the Resource and Review Teams). Regent Grant seconded the motion, which carried.

Following the Executive Session and meetings of the Board Committees, the Regents reconvened in the Committee of the Whole at 2:35 p.m.
Election of Board Chair

Regent Jardine nominated Regent Jed Pitcher as Chair of the State Board of Regents. The motion was seconded by Regent Sinclair. No other nominations were received, and Regent Pitcher was elected unanimously. Chair Karras congratulated Regent Pitcher and thanked the Regents for the positive election process. Regent Jordan moved to suspend the rules requiring that the Vice Chair be elected in June. The motion was seconded by Regent Reid and carried unanimously. The new Vice Chair will be elected at the July Board meeting. Regent Pitcher thanked the Regents for their support and said Chair Karras would leave extremely large shoes for him to fill. He commended Regent Karras for doing an excellent job as Chair and thanked the other Regents for their commitment to higher education.

Reports of Board Committees

Programs Committee – Regent James S. Jardine, Chair

Utah State University – Master of Science Degree in Applied Environmental Geoscience (Tab A) and Bachelor of Science Degree in Applied Environmental Geoscience (Tab D) were discussed together by the committee. Chair Jardine reported that Applied Environmental Geoscience is a rapidly growing field. Enrollments in Geology programs have tripled at USU over the past decade. The committee agreed that the proposal for the Bachelor’s Degree had many strengths. He noted a correction to page 14 of the attachment to Tab D, pointing out the funding is in place. Upon approval by the committee, Chair Jardine moved approval of USU’s request for MS and BS Degrees in Applied Environmental Geoscience. Regent Sinclair seconded the motion, which was adopted.

Chair Jardine noted that the Master’s Degree is a terminal degree.

Utah State University – Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts Degree in International Business (Tab B). Chair Jardine said the Program Review Committee (PRC) had held up this request for three years. A program already exists at USU in International Studies similar to the proposed program. This is a strong proposal because of the collaboration with business. Chair Jardine moved approval of USU’s request to offer a BS/BA Degree in International Business. Regent Beesley seconded the motion, which was adopted.

Utah State University – Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Communication and Journalism (Tab C). Chair Jardine explained that the proposal was a joint effort between USU’s School of Agriculture and Department of Journalism and Communication. Because of Utah State University’s role as a land grant agricultural college, the proposal is an appropriate request. Chair Jardine moved approval of USU’s BS Degree in Agricultural Communication and Journalism. Regent Barrett seconded the motion, which carried.

Weber State University – Master of Health Administration Degree (Tab E). Chair Jardine noted that a Master’s Degree is now the industry standard for this field. WSU’s program has involved the community health care professionals. Classes will be offered in a classroom setting and online. No concerns were received from the other institutions. Chair Jardine moved approval of Weber’s MHA Degree. Regent Sinclair seconded the motion, which was adopted.
New Century Scholarship, Math and Science Curriculum (Tab F). Chair Jardine reported a very robust discussion in committee on this topic. He asked Commissioner Kendell to lead the discussion. The Commissioner said the Utah Legislature had enacted legislation a few years ago allowing students who complete an associate degree by the September following their high school graduation to receive a 75 percent tuition discount in the form of a New Century Scholarship. This has been a very good program, although seriously underfunded. In the 2006 Legislative Session, the scholarship requirements were amended to include a 3.0 GPA, as well as an alternative option for students with more interest in the math and science areas. Legislative approval was given with the understanding that the Regents would establish the formal curriculum requirements.

The Commissioner recommended approval of the proposed curriculum, with the provision that the math requirement be rewritten in terms of an alternative math requirement, and that the Commissioner’s Office provide a report in the fall about how this requirement can be implemented to meet the needs of the students throughout the state. Chair Jardine said a suggestion had been made in committee, that counseling include costs and financial aid opportunities for courses offered on college campuses. Commissioner Kendell agreed to include this suggestion in his recommendation. Chair Jardine said another issue raised was ensuring quality. **Chair Jardine moved that the Regents authorize this program to move forward, with provision for a follow-up report on how the aforementioned concerns could be resolved.** Vice Chair Jordan seconded the motion, which was adopted.

Career and Technical Education Regional Planning (Tab G). Commissioner Kendell said when UCAT was established by legislation in 2001, several significant issues remained to be addressed. Regional planning is one of those issues. UCAT’s goal is to be responsive to workforce needs in the various regions, but there should not be competition between institutions within the regions. The Commissioner referred to pages 1 and 2 of the attachment to Tab G, listing the institutions responsible to serve the various counties of the state. Programming approvals would go through the institutions, as directed on page 2. Commissioner Kendell reviewed the planning guidelines, shown on page 3, and noted that program planning would be jointly proposed and supported by the higher education institutions and school districts in the region.

Chair Jardine remarked that this had been a lengthy process which has generated much discussion. This planning process has helped to assimilate UCAT into the larger Utah System of Higher Education. A large concern of the process was mission creep. At one point, there was consensus that AAT Degrees would be offered. However, as the process has evolved, it has become clear that those will be exceptions, to be considered on an individual basis after going through the recommended planning process and meeting the specified criteria.

Regent Karras asked if the community colleges would pick up programs rather than diverting them to UCAT campuses. Chair Jardine acknowledged this could be the result. Degree programs would be issued by the credit-granting institutions. Regent Karras urged the Regents to remember that most of the USHE institutions retain their community college role and should not abandon their ATE offerings. Chair Jardine clarified that the regional planning process cannot approve a degree; degree programs must come through the PRC and Regents through the R401 process.
Chair Jardine moved approval of the CTE Regional Planning Document. Regent Beesley seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Consent Calendar, Programs Committee (Tab H). On motion by Chair Jardine and second by Regent Snow, the following items were approved on the Programs Committee’s Consent Calendar:

A. University of Utah – Master of Public Administration/Master of Social Work Joint Degree
B. Utah State University
   i. Eliminate Bachelor of Arts Degree from Animal Science Major
   ii. Eliminate Bachelor of Arts Degree from Bioveterinary Science Major
   iii. Eliminate Bachelor of Arts Degree from the Dairy Science Major
C. Utah College of Applied Technology
   i. DATC and MATC – Certificate of Completion in Cosmetology
   ii. Changes to HVAC Certificate of Completion
   iii. Certificates of Completion for Fast-track Approval
      a. OWATC – Biomedical Equipment Technician
      b. BATC/DATC/MATC – Medical Billing and Coding

Information Calendar, Programs Committee (Tab I). Chair Jardine referred to the Information Calendar and offered to respond to questions. No questions were raised.

Finance Committee – Regent Jerry C. Atkin, Chair

Revisions to Policy R513, Tuition Waivers and Reductions (Tab J). Chair Atkin reported the policy identifies the number of students who can qualify for residency status for the WICHE Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program. Proposed changes were housekeeping and not substantive. Regent Grant noted all of the USHE institutions use most of their allotted waivers. Chair Atkin moved approval of the proposed revisions to Policy R513. The motion was seconded and adopted.

Revisions to Policy R851, Guidelines for Retirement Programs (Tab K). Chair Atkin stated TIAA-Cref had heretofore been the only alternative to the Utah Retirement Fund. Some of the institutions requested additional alternatives, so Fidelity Investments and the Vanguard Group will be added as authorized administrators. Chair Atkin moved approval of the proposed revisions to Policy R851. Regent Snow seconded the motion, which carried. Regent Jardine declared a conflict of interest and abstained from the voting.

Presidential Salaries for 2006-2007 (Tab L). Commissioner Kendell said the Regents’ intention is to recruit and retain qualified Presidents. A list of peer institutions was created for each of our schools for comparison purposes. The findings revealed that Utah salaries are not at the average of those peers. The goal for this year is to try to get all USHE Presidents to 85 percent of the average of their peers, which would become the benchmarks. The Commissioner distributed a salary comparison chart, showing each President’s current salary, peer average, and recommended increase. To get our Presidents to market adjustment, the recommended salary increases range from 3.5 percent to 9.8 percent. He noted that no President had requested a salary increase, nor had anyone expressed any dissatisfaction. The recommendations are aimed at setting a reasonable policy for establishing presidential salaries. This process will help the Regents to be more competitive when recruiting new Presidents. Chair Atkin moved approval of the recommended salary
adjustments. Regent Holbrook seconded the motion, which carried. Regent Grant moved approval of the housing allowance for President Caldwell. Chair Atkin seconded the motion, which was subsequently adopted.

UHEAA – Approving Resolution, SBR Student Loan Revenue Bonds, Series 2006DD (Tab M). Chair Atkin noted the parameters on page 2 of the Commissioner’s cover letter to Tab M. The approval includes three documents: a Fifteenth Supplemental Indenture to the 1993 General Indenture, a Bond Purchase Agreement, and a General Statement. Timely sale of the Student Loan Revenue Bonds will ensure uninterrupted access of Utah’s students and families to acquire affordable student loans through January 2007. Chair Atkin moved the adoption of the Approving Resolution, seconded by Regent Snow. The motion was adopted by the following vote:

AYE: Jerry C. Atkin
Daryl C. Barrett
Bonnie Jean Beesley
Rosanita Cespedes
Katharine B. Garff
David J. Grant
Meghan Holbrook
James S. Jardine
David J. Jordan
Nolan E. Karras
Gaby Kingery
Josh M. Reid
Sara V. Sinclair
Marlon O. Snow

NAY: (None)
(Vice Chair Pitcher and Regent Jensen were no longer on the phone when the vote was taken.)

Weber State University – Property Purchase (Tab N). Chair Atkin reported the property in question was a single residence on the edge of the campus. University officials have been trying to purchase this particular property for several years. The purchase price exceeds the appraisal done two years ago by $10,000, which is reasonable, given the increase in property values and its location. Chair Atkin moved approval of the property purchase. Regent Grant seconded the motion, which was adopted.

Snow College – Campus Master Plan (Tab O). President Benson displayed a drawing of the campus which was drawn to scale by a freshman as a class project. President Benson noted a recent appearance of Professor Elie Wiesel had filled the concert hall, theatre and every classroom. The Noyes Building is one of the most beautiful higher education buildings in existence. The President commended former President Jerry Day and Vice President Rick Wheeler for directing the restoration efforts. President Benson reported the College had just received a $1 million gift for the Richfield Campus, most of which will be used to pay down the building obligation. Chair Atkin moved approval of Snow College’s Campus Master Plan. The motion was seconded by Regent Holbrook and carried.
Consent Calendar, Finance Committee (Tab P). On motion by Chair Atkin and second by Regent Snow, the following items were approved on the Finance Committee's Consent Calendar:

A. UofU and USU – Capital Facilities Delegation Reports
B. University of Utah – Pre-purchase Option for Property Near Moab
C. Snow College – Sale of Property

Update on Post-Retirement Obligations (Tab Q). Chair Atkin noted the report had been prepared for information only and required no action. The State Legislative Auditor General had attempted to estimate the potential liability for the System when its employees retire. Chair Atkin noted the Utah System of Higher Education does not make post-retirement agreements. Every school’s records will be reviewed to ensure the final numbers are accurate.

Update on Employee Health Plans, 2006-2007 (Tab R). Chair Atkin referred to Tab R and noted the guidelines had been established a few years ago. The attachments summarized the health and dental benefits for each institution, changes for 2006-2007, and cost data per institution.

Preliminary Review of Proposed Changes to the Qualification and Prioritization (Q&P) Process (Tab S). Chair Atkin reported the proposed recommendations by staff would better harmonize with the State Building Board’s prioritization process for capital facilities. The Commissioner’s staff is working closely with DFCM staff. Additional information will be presented in the July Board meeting. Chair Karras asked the Regents to submit their comments and suggestions to Associate Commissioner Spencer. He said System officials are working with the DFCM staff to convince them the Regents’ system works and is well thought out.

Update on Possible Consolidation of Administrative Data Processing (Tab T). Chair Atkin reported some of the institutions are developing partnerships to implement the Banner system. Details were outlined in the Commissioner’s cover letter to Tab T.

University of Utah – Follow-up Report on Proposed Hospital Construction Bond Financing (Tab U). Chair Atkin said the committee had reviewed the hospital census and financial reports detailed in the attachments to Tab U, and saw no reason to be concerned about the plan adopted earlier.

Dixie State College – Multi-Department Building Concept (Tab W). Chair Atkin said Dixie officials had developed a unique strategy to accommodate its anticipated growth and changing campus. The request was for $50,000 for programming costs. Commissioner Kendell clarified: College officials want early-stage conceptual approval. The State Building Board has $100,000 for early-stage conceptual ideas. Weber similarly has received planning and design money for their Humanities Building. The project would still go through the regular Q&P process if the request is approved. The Commissioner recommended that Dixie be allowed to seek programming funds, with the following caveats: First, program planning funds would provide no priority standing with respect to the Q&P process. Second, the Board of Regents will determine the ranking of projects to be forwarded to the Building Board, regardless of programming status.

General Consent Calendar

On motion by Regent Jordan and second by Regent Snow, the following items were approved
on the Regents' General Consent Calendar (Tab W):

A. Minutes –
   1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the State Board of Regents held April 21, 2006, at the College of Eastern Utah in Price, Utah
   2. Minutes of the Special Meeting of the State Board of Regents held May 15, 2006, at the Regents’ Offices in Salt Lake City, Utah

B. Grant Proposals (on file in the Commissioner’s Office)

C. Grant Awards
   8. Utah State University – USDA Cooperative State Research Service; “Implementation of Western Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Proposal;” $2,682,698. V. Rasmussen, Principal Investigator.

Report of the Commissioner

Hospitality. Commissioner Kendell thanked President Benson and his staff for their gracious hospitality in hosting the Regents. He said it had been a pleasure to be on the Snow College campus.
Institutional Highlights. Commissioner Kendell briefly reviewed the accomplishments of each institution as outlined in his report, which was distributed at the meeting.

Communications (Tab X). Commissioner Kendell distributed a handout of his PowerPoint presentation. He explained that education officials were trying to encourage increased preparation for college through greater rigor in high school curriculum. Educators are also trying to encourage greater participation in postsecondary education and to increase the number of Utah citizens with college degrees. Another concern is retention and completion rates for Utah students. He noted a recent television interview wherein Roger Boyer explained that he had not been able to recruit two large stores to locate in the Gateway because Utah did not have 35 percent of its citizens with bachelor’s degrees. A high school diploma is no longer adequate for a person to become a self-sustaining adult. Education representatives must convince legislators that public and higher education are an investment with opportunity for dividends to the state. This effort cannot succeed until there is also support by business, religious, civic and cultural leaders.

Forecasting Study: Enrollments, Budgets, Tuition, Facilities (Tab Y). Commissioner Kendell said the forecasting study had been made in response to the Regents’ request for a ten-year plan for higher education. System officials will begin by looking at anticipated enrollment and participation rates in ten years. That will help them determine what kind of facilities and budgets would be required to support those numbers. The Commissioner requested suggestions for ideas to be included in the long-term plan. Regent Grant asked the Commissioner to e-mail the discussion template to the Regents. Commissioner Kendell noted that the next Board meeting, July 27 and 28 at SUU, would include a one-half day planning session.

Report of the Chair

Chair Karras distributed his analysis of the Utah System of Higher Education’s SWOTs (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats). He thanked the Regents for the opportunity to serve as their chair for the past two years and expressed his appreciation to the Regents and Presidents for what they are doing.

President Benson showed a brief promotional film about Snow College.

Adjournment

Regent Snow moved the meeting be adjourned. Regent Grant seconded the motion, which was adopted. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m., after which the Regents met with the Snow College Trustees.

Joyce Cottrell CPS, Executive Secretary