

STATE BOARD OF REGENTS  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

June 19, 2007

Minutes

Regents Participating

Jed H. Pitcher, Chair  
Katharine B. Garff  
James S. Jardine  
Nolan E. Karras

Regents Excused

Jerry C. Atkin  
Bonnie Jean Beesley, Vice Chair

Commissioner's Office

Richard E. Kendell, Commissioner of Higher Education  
Joyce Cottrell, Executive Secretary  
Amanda Covington, Communications Director  
Mark H. Spencer, Associate Commissioner for Finance and Facilities

Southern Utah University

Michael T. Benson, President

Representatives of the Media

Benjamin Bombard, KUER  
Wendy Leonard, *Deseret Morning News*  
Roxanna Orellana, *Salt Lake Tribune*

Chair Pitcher called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm and identified all of the participants.

**Regent Garff moved that the Executive Committee go into executive session to discuss personnel issues (presidential salaries). Regent Karras seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.**

The Regents reconvened in open session at 1:20 p.m.

Presidential Salaries. Commissioner Kendell explained that the Regents had asked him in the June 8 Board of Regents meeting to do some salary comparisons with peer institutions. He explained that institutional presidents are not compared with other USHE presidents, but with presidents of their respective peer institutions. Dr. Spencer pointed out the peer institutions are shown in the USHE Data Book, which is available on the Regents' web site. The Commissioner said the Regents' goal is to have our presidents' salaries at approximately 90% of their peer averages. The recommended salary increases on Revised Schedule A were aimed at getting the Presidents closer to that goal and ranged from 3.5% (COLA recommendation of the Legislature) through 7%. Those presidents whose recommended increase was less than 5% have been in office a year or less, and their salaries were adjusted at the time they were hired. Chair Pitcher said the recommended salary increase for the Commissioner was 8%. **Regent Karras moved approval of the recommended salary increases, as follows:**

Michael K. Young, University of Utah

\$331,812

5.0% increase

Stan L. Albrecht, Utah State University	270,100	5.0% increase
F. Ann Millner, Weber State University	182,592	5.0% increase
Michael T. Benson, Southern Utah University	181,125	3.5% increase
(Open), Snow College	137,713	5.0% increase
Lee G. Caldwell, Dixie State College	155,328	3.5% increase
Ryan L. Thomas, College of Eastern Utah	137,713	5.0% increase
William A. Sederburg, Utah Valley State College	181,216	7.0% increase
Cynthia A. Bioteau, Salt Lake Community College	184,748	5.0% increase
Robert O. Brems, Utah College of Applied Technology	139,125	5.0% increase
Richard A. Kendell, Commissioner of Higher Education	200,610	8.0% increase

**Regent Jardine seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.**

Southern Utah University – Carter Carillon Bell Tower. Commissioner Kendell explained that SUU had received funding from the Legislature for a new college of education building on its campus in Cedar City. The request for a bell tower would enhance that project. It includes a bell tower, a set of bells, and a carillon. This reflects enough of a change to the original authorization and the campus master plan that it requires an amendment to the Legislative authorization. President Benson has secured some private funding for the project, but much of it will come from cash reserves. The intent is to recover much of the cash reserves through private donations.

Associate Commissioner Spencer said it would be helpful to have the Regents' Executive Committee approve this item as it was scheduled to be presented to the State Building Board the following day.

President Benson said the university had raised \$2.2 million for Old Main and \$1.5 million for the Teacher Education building. The state is refunding \$852,000 from FF&E (furnishings, fixtures and equipment) funds because it was not needed for construction expenses. University officials were awaiting written confirmation that this money could be used to help offset some of the costs of the bell tower. The contractor has agreed to donate labor and materials. Commissioner Kendell asked for an approximate cost of the project, after private donations. President Benson said the initial estimate is still \$250,000. The local subcontractor bid \$115,000, which was an immediate \$110,000 savings. The exact cost will depend on the bid and what the local subcontractors are willing to donate to the university. He noted the project has great community support.

Commissioner Kendell said his recommendation was for a not-to-exceed allocation of \$750,000 from cash reserves and a minimum of \$60,000 from private funding. He pointed out these figures may have to be adjusted, but they provide the expected funding parameters.

Regent Karras said a bell tower is an attractive addition to a college campus, although it is not a necessity. There is apparently some controversy on campus. This is an important structure because it will bring the campus back together. President Benson said he had met with some of the disgruntled individuals. After he showed them the plans, they were very happy about the project.

Regent Karras moved approval of the proposed bell tower project at Southern Utah University. Regent Jardine seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Regent Karras moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Regents Garff and Jardine. The motion carried. Chair Pitcher thanked everyone for their participation.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

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Joyce Cottrell CPS  
Executive Secretary

