

STATE BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING
REGENTS' OFFICES, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
SEPTEMBER 2007
Minutes

Thursday, September 13, 2007

Regents Present

Jed H. Pitcher, Chair
Bonnie Jean Beesley, Vice Chair
Jerry C. Atkin
Janet A. Cannon
Rosanita Cespedes
Amy Engh
Katharine B. Garff
Patti Harrington
Meghan Holbrook
James S. Jardine
David J. Jordan
Anthony Morgan
Josh M. Reid
Marlon O. Snow
John H. Zenger

Regents Excused

Nolan E. Karras
Greg W. Haws
Sara V. Sinclair

Office of the Commissioner

Richard E. Kendell, Commissioner
Joyce Cottrell, Executive Secretary
Amanda Covington, Communications Director
Troy Caserta, Accounting Officer
David S. Doty, Assistant Commissioner and Director of Policy Studies
Brian S. Foisy, Assistant Commissioner for Financial Services
Kimberly Henrie, Budget Director
Nate Millward, Director of Internal Budget and Finance
Phyllis C. Safman, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs
Mark H. Spencer, Associate Commissioner for Finance and Facilities
Lucille T. Stoddard, Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs
Lynne S. Ward, Director, Utah Educational Savings Plan
Darrell White, Special Assistant to the Commissioner for Public Affairs
Gary S. Wixom, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs

INSTITUTIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

University of Utah

A. Lorris Betz, Senior Vice President for Health Sciences
David W. Pershing, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
James R. Bardsley, Associate Vice President for Finance and Planning, Health Sciences
Paul T. Brinkman, Associate Vice President for Budget and Finance
Arnold B. Combe, Vice President for Administrative Services

John G. Francis, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
Ray Lynch, Executive Director, Huntsman Cancer Hospital
Mike Perez, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management

Utah State University

Fred R. Hunsaker, Interim Vice President for Business and Finance

Weber State University

F. Ann Millner, President
Shelley Conroy, Dean, College of Health Professions
Catherine Earl, Chair, Nursing Department
Pamela Rice, Associate Professor of Nursing

Southern Utah University

Michael T. Benson, President

Snow College

Scott L. Wyatt, President
Bradley A. Winn, Academic Vice President

Dixie State College

Lee G. Caldwell, President
Donna Dillingham-Evans, Academic Vice President
Steve Johnson, Director of Public Relations
Frank Lojko, Director of Government Relations, Institutional Research, and Hurricane Education Center

College of Eastern Utah

Ryan L. Thomas, President

Utah Valley State College

J. Karl Worthington, Associate Academic Vice President
Linda Makin, Director of Budgets

Salt Lake Community College

Cynthia A. Bioteau, President

Utah College of Applied Technology

Jared A. Haines, Acting President
Kirt Michaelis, Vice President, Administrative Services

Representatives of the Media

Wendy Leonard, *Deseret Morning News*

Other Guests

Steven Allred, Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst
Kelly Murdock, Wells Fargo Public Finance
Spencer Pratt, Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst

The meeting of the State Board of Regents was called to order in Committee of the Whole at 1:00 p.m. Chair Jed Pitcher conducted the meeting. He welcomed State Superintendent Patti Harrington, who is our newest Regent. He also excused Regent Karras, who was attending a funeral for his mother-in-law, and Regent Sara Sinclair, who had a previous commitment in Washington, DC. Chair Pitcher reviewed the agenda for the remainder of the day and the following day. He announced that the Regents' Executive Committee would meet at 7:30 the following morning in the Executive Conference Room on the 4th floor of the building.

Administration of Oath of Office to Regent Harrington

Chair Pitcher administered the oath of office to Superintendent Harrington, then congratulated her and welcomed her to the State Board of Regents. Regent Harrington said it was an honor for her to be a member of the Board of Regents. She expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to more closely align the public education system with the higher education system in Utah. She explained her background, including a doctorate in administration from the University of Utah. She grew up in the Denver area and lived in southern California during her high school years, where she learned a great deal about diversity. Regent Harrington said she was grateful for that experience, which taught her to value diversity in her current position as State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The Regents adjourned to their respective committees at 1:10 p.m. and recessed for the day from the committee meetings.

Friday, September 14, 2007

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Arnold B. Combe, Vice President for Administrative Services
Gordon Crabtree, Administrative Executive Director, University Hospitals and Clinics
David Entwistle, CEO, University Hospitals and Clinics
John Mauger, Dean, College of Pharmacy
Mike Perez, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management
Kim Wirthlin, Vice President for Government Relations, Health Sciences

Utah State University

Fred R. Hunsaker, Interim Vice President for Business and Finance
Noelle Cockett, Vice President for Extension and Agriculture
Darrell Hart, Associate Vice President for Facilities
Stanley Kane, Director of Facilities Planning
Sydney Peterson, Chief of Staff

Weber State University

F. Ann Millner, President
Norm Tarbox, Vice President for Administrative Services

Southern Utah University

Michael T. Benson, President
Rod Decker, Acting Provost
Greg Stauffer, Chief of Staff

Snow College

Scott L. Wyatt, President
Rick Wheeler, Vice President of College Relations
Rick White, Executive Vice President, Richfield Campus
Bradley A. Winn, Academic Vice President

Dixie State College

Lee G. Caldwell, President
Donna Dillingham-Evans, Academic Vice President
Shandon Gubler, Chair, DSC Board of Trustees
Don Hinton, Dean of Education, Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences
Steve Johnson, Director of Public Relations
Philip Lee, Associate Dean of Business
Brenda Sabey, Associate Dean of Education, Family Studies, and PEHR

College of Eastern Utah

Kevin Walthers, Vice President of Financial and Administrative Services

Utah Valley State College

J. Karl Worthington, Associate Academic Vice President

Linda Makin, Director of Budgets
Cameron Martin, Assistant to the President
Jim Michaelis, Associate Vice President for Facilities

Salt Lake Community College

Cynthia A. Bioteau, President
John Morgan, Manager of Media Presentations
Joe Peterson, Academic Vice President
Gordon Storrs, Master Planning Coordinator

Utah College of Applied Technology

Jared A. Haines, Acting President
Kirt Michaelis, Vice President, Administrative Services

Representatives of the Media

Wendy Leonard, *Deseret Morning News*

Other Guests

Steve Allred, Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst
Tom Anderson, Assistant Attorney General
Michael A. Petersen, Executive Director, Utah Education Network
Spencer Pratt, Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst

Following a closed meeting of the Board, the Regents reconvened in Committee of the Whole at 9:15 a.m. Chair Pitcher welcomed everyone and excused Regent Sinclair, who was out of town, and Regent Harrington, who was ill.

Capital Development Projects

The institutional presidents gave individual presentations on their top-priority capital development projects. Those projects were:

University of Utah – David Eccles School of Business
University of Utah – Pharmacy Building
Utah State University – College of Agriculture Replacement/Classroom Building
Weber State University – Professional Programs Classroom Building and Central Plant, Davis Campus
Southern Utah University – Science Building Addition
Dixie State College – Centennial Commons
College of Eastern Utah – Fine Arts Complex
Utah Valley State College – Science Building Addition
Salt Lake Community College – Digital Design and Communications Center/South City Campus

Student Life Center

Snow College chose not to submit a capital development project for funding this year; rather, they requested funds to pay off bonds and to buy out the local school district's interest in the Sevier Valley Center.

Regent Karras urged the Regents to give more attention to the private educators coming into Utah. Students are willing to pay a much higher tuition because of the demand for programs.

Associate Commissioner Spencer referred to Tab O, Institutional Capital Development Projects for 2008-2009, and explained briefly UCAT's capital development priorities, and the USHE institutions' land bank acquisition proposals.

Dr. Spencer referred to Tab P, USHE Non-State Funds Capital Development Projects for 2008-2009. He briefly explained some projects that were not constructed or acquired with state funds but may be eligible for state-funded O&M or capital improvement funding. Those projects were:

- University of Utah – Neuropsychiatric Institute (UNI) Expansion
- University of Utah – State Arboretum Visitors Center Renovation and Addition
- University of Utah – Northwest Campus Parking Structure
- University of Utah – Huntsman Cancer Hospital, Phase II-B
- Utah State University – Vernal Entrepreneurship and Energy Research Center
- Utah State University – Business Building Addition
- Utah State University – Early Childhood Education and Research Center
- Utah State University – Hydraulics Laboratory Addition to the Water Lab
- Utah State University – Structures Lab Enclosure

He noted the following updated figures for some of USU's projects:

- Vernal Entrepreneurship Center – 48,000 GSP, \$522,400 estimated O&M
- Business Building Addition – 50,000 GSP, \$522,500 estimated O&M
- Early Childhood Education Center – \$498,475 estimated O&M
- Hydraulics Lab Addition – 7800 GSF
- Structures Lab Enclosure – 5000 GSF

Regent Atkin moved approval of the non-state funded capital development projects. Regent Cespedes seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Approval of the Q&P Priority List (Tab R). Associate Commissioner Spencer explained that there was a tie for the first priority, based on the Q&P (qualification and prioritization) formula. In response to a question, he said the Q&P would not be recalculated to accommodate for increased costs. The priority order for capital development projects, based on the Q&P formula, was:

1. University of Utah – School of Business
1. Utah State University – College of Agriculture Replacement/Classroom Building
3. Salt Lake Community College – Digital Design and Communications Center/South City Campus

Student Life Center

4. Southern Utah University – Science Building Addition
5. Utah Valley State College – Science Building Addition
6. College of Eastern Utah – Fine Arts Complex
7. Weber State University – Professional Programs Classroom Building and Central Plant
8. University of Utah – Pharmacy Building
9. Dixie State College – Centennial Commons

Regent Atkin moved approval of the Q&P Priority List. Regent Jardine seconded the motion. Vice Chair Beesley moved to add to the motion that the Regents instruct the Commissioner to work with CEU officials to establish partnerships and other support to facilitate its project. The amendment was accepted by Regents Atkin and Jardine. Vote was taken on the amended motion, which carried unanimously.

Utah Education Network (UEN) Status Report (Tab Q). Dr. Michael Petersen, Executive Director of the Utah Education Network, gave an oral presentation to the Regents. He pointed out that UEN plays a very important function within the Utah System of Higher Education at no cost to the System. The network infrastructure is vital to the entire state. Dr. Petersen called attention to the graph on page 2 of the attachment to Tab Q. Public schools are also involved in the UEN network, which allows UEN to qualify for a federal grant to subsidize this program. All distance learning is possible because of UEN. He pointed out the three key “next steps” for UEN: First, increase selectively the capacity of the network backbone from one to ten gigabits per second to support the growing traffic demands of our education partners. Second, build a state-based, world-class research network for the research universities, independent of the production network managed for public and higher education. Finally, develop and implement with public education a strategy to increase network capacity to all elementary and charter schools in Utah.

Chair Pitcher thanked Dr. Petersen for his presentation.

General Consent Calendar

On motion by Regent Jordan and second by Regent Zenger, the following items were approved on the Regents’ General Consent Calendar (Tab S):

- A. Minutes –
 1. Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held July 19, 2007, at Snow College in Ephraim, Utah
 2. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held July 20, 2007 at Snow College in Ephraim, Utah
- B. Grant Proposals (on file in the Commissioner’s Office)
- C. Grant Awards
 1. University of Utah – National Science Foundation; “STEP: Utah’s Engineers”; \$1,205,351. Cynthia M. Furse, Principal Investigator.

2. University of Utah – Sports Medicine Research and Testing; “Sports Medicine Research and Testing Laboratory at the UN”; \$1,760,455. Matthew H. Slawson, Principal Investigator.
3. Utah State University – NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory; “Wide-Field Infra-red Survey Explorer (WISE);” \$1,992,863. John Elwell, Principal Investigator; Scott Schick, Co-Principal Investigator.
4. Utah State University – US Department of Defense/US Navy; “SHARC and SDS-CIB Sustainment, Modification, and Acquisition;” \$1,849,000. Niel Holt, Principal Investigator.
5. Utah State University – National Science Foundation; “National Center for Engineering and Technology Education;” \$2,199,927. Christine Hailey, Principal Investigator. Kurt Becker, Daniel Householder, Maurice Thomas, Co-Principal Investigators.
6. Utah State University – NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory; “Wide-Field Infra-red Survey Explorer (WISE);” \$1,534,573. John Elwell, Principal Investigator; Scott Schick, Co-Principal Investigator.
7. Utah State University – US Department of Agriculture; “Implementation of Western Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Proposal;” \$2,635,858. V. Rasmussen, Principal Investigator.

Reports of Board Committees

Programs Committee. Regent Garff was excused to keep a previous commitment; Vice Chair Beesley reported for the committee.

Weber State University – Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Degree (Tab A). Vice Chair Beesley said the intent of this proposal was to address an increasing nursing shortage and the corresponding shortage of nursing faculty. The program is designed for nurse administrators, college-level nursing faculty, and nurse educators in health care institutions. The requirement of some Utah hospitals for more nurses with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree has increased the demand for nursing faculty with graduate nursing degrees. University officials assured the committee that the new MSN program would not detract from the undergraduate nursing program. **Vice Chair Beesley moved approval of Weber’s request for a MSN Program. Regent Zenger seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.**

Weber State University – Mission Statement (Tab B). Vice Chair Beesley said concern had been expressed at the previous meeting regarding the term “traditional research” in WSU’s Vision Statement. The Vision Statement was revised to say “scholarly, applied and community-based research.” The committee was satisfied with that change. **Vice Chair Beesley moved approval of Weber State University’s Mission Statement and its inclusion in Policy R312, *Configuration of the Utah System of Higher Education and***

Institutional Missions and Roles. Regent Zenger seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Dixie State College – Bachelor of Science Degree in Aviation Management (Tab C). Vice Chair Beesley explained that this program had been developed in partnership with SkyWest Airlines. The program will initially be offered to SkyWest employees, with subsequent offerings available to students who qualify for the adult completion program and who are interested in a career in aviation management. Regent Beesley explained this was a “degree completion” program, which is a new type of offering at Dixie. A revised experiential learning policy is being proposed at the college as an option for some of the credit requirements. Since the program is offered through the Business Division, College officials will seek accreditation through the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). **Regent Beesley moved the Commissioner’s recommendation: approval of Dixie’s proposal for a BS Degree in Aviation Management, with the expectation that College officials will provide a copy of the experiential learning policy to the Commissioner’s Office as soon it has received institutional approval, and that a formal progress report be submitted to the Commissioner’s Office at the conclusion of the first year.** Regent Cespedes seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Dixie State College – Associate of Applied Science, Associate of Science, and Associate of Arts Degrees in Early Childhood Education (Tab D). Regent Beesley said the committee expressed appreciation for Dixie’s efforts to ensure that the College fulfill its community college mission. This program will articulate well with other institutions in the state. Dixie State College already offers a baccalaureate program in elementary education. However, changes in professional child care requiring associate degrees in early childhood studies have prompted the demand for the lower-division programs. University of Utah officials have invited program completers to transfer to the University’s Early Childhood Certificate program. **Regent Beesley moved the approval of the associate degree programs.** Regent Cespedes seconded, and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Consent Calendar, Programs Committee (Tab E). **On motion by Regent Beesley and a second by Regent Jordan, the following items were approved on the Programs Committee’s Consent Calendar:**

- A. University of Utah – Confucius Institute
- B. Weber State University – Graduate-level Certificate in Quality and Lean Manufacturing
- C. University of Utah – Third-year Progress Reports
 - i. International Studies Major/Minor
 - ii. Doctor of Physical Therapy
 - iii. Entrepreneurship
 - iv. Doctor of Audiology

Information Calendar, Programs Committee (Tab F). Regent Beesley said the committee had received reports of program reviews from Salt Lake Community College and had discussed programs under consideration/development at USHE institutions, including those being proposed for the next 12-36 months. No action was required; however, Regent Beesley urged all of the Regents to read this report.

Vice Chair Beesley mentioned the Chief Academic Officers (CAOs) had met with the Program Review Committee (PRC) the previous day. Changes will likely be made to Policy R401. If institutions present well-written proposals and follow the R401 process, those proposals should move smoothly through the System.

Finance and Facilities Committee

USHE – Long-term Enrollment Scenarios (Tab G). Chair Atkin said it was noted in committee that the material provided in Tab G was one single scenario, based on 20-year projections. Caveats to the projections were noted on pages 3 and 4 of the Commissioner's cover memo. **Chair Atkin moved adoption of the report, with a request for the addition of a second, baseline scenario. The motion was seconded by Regent Reid and adopted unanimously.**

University of Utah – 2007-2008 Budget for the University Hospital and Clinics (Tab H). Chair Atkin said the UUHC System was a viable operation whose budget is reviewed by several other bodies before it is presented to the Regents for approval. **Regent Atkin moved approval of the UUHC Budget for 2007-2008. Regent Karras seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.** Chair Pitcher congratulated Dr. Betz for UUHC's very small operating margin (4.2%). President Young introduced David Entwistle, the new Chief Executive Officer for the University Hospital System. Dr. Entwistle briefly explained his background.

University of Utah – Huntsman Cancer Hospital II-B Bond (Tab I). Chair Atkin explained this was the second phase of the Huntsman Cancer Hospital. The hospital already has 50 beds in use, and this will allow for another 50 beds. The total project cost is estimated to be \$110 million, with the state bonding \$90 million of that figure. Debt service has been paid down, and that will continue. **Chair Atkin moved approval of the bond for expansion of the Huntsman Cancer Hospital, Phase II-B. Regent Morgan seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.**

Consent Calendar, Finance Committee (Tab J). Chair Atkin called attention to Replacement Tab J. **On motion by Chair Atkin and second by Regent Jordan, the following items were approved on the Finance Committee's Consent Calendar:**

- A. USHE – Spring Semester and End-of-Year Enrollment Reports
- B. UofU and USU – Capital Facilities Delegation Reports

USHE – Preliminary Draft, Estimated Operating Budget Request Summary (Tax Funds Only), FY 2008-2009, and Supplemental FY 2007-2008 (Tab K). Chair Atkin said the attachment to Tab K was a template only; the final budget request will be considered at the October Regents' meeting. This item was for information only and required no action at this time.

Strategic Planning and Communications Committee

Legislative Update (Tab L). Chair Jardine said Commissioner Kendell had reported to the committee on a number of items. It has been a very busy summer, with the Higher Education Task Force meetings, audits, and interim meetings.

Audit. The original legislative audit reported a potential early retirement liability of \$930 million, projected over a period of 30 years. An independent actuarial analysis reduced that amount to \$132 million for the plans in place in FY07. Both the University of Utah and Utah State University instituted policy changes for FY08 which reduce the early retirement liability (GASB 45) to \$1.7 million for employees currently approved for the program. The system liability for standard deferred compensation (GASB 47) is estimated to be \$17.7 million. This adjustment has been reported to the Higher Education Task Force and the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee. Chair Jardine commended the Commissioner's Office and the Presidents for working through that situation. It was also noted that the Commissioner is in the process of providing a comprehensive explanation regarding unfilled positions and so-called "Non-lapsing Funds."

UCAT. Chair Jardine referred to the attachment to Tab L, Recommendations to the Higher Education Task Force Regarding the Utah College of Applied Technology. He urged the Regents to read this document. There is consensus between the Regents and the UCAT Board of Trustees on these recommendations. Commissioner Kendell agreed to proceed with a space utilization study with UCAT, as well as a master plan for facilities, and the UCAT Board has agreed. There was also agreement that partnering efforts need to be made with public education, USHE institutions, and UCAT campuses. All new capital facilities requests should be regarded with that vision of a shared partnership. UCAT Trustees have agreed to bring their budget request and capital facilities request to the Regents for discussion and review, not for approval. The USHE institutions are also partnering with UCAT campuses on programs and degrees. Chair Jardine commended the Commissioner's Office for the amount of progress this represents.

Budget Priorities. The Regents will develop an outline of legislative priorities for the 2008 General Session and how they fit into our theme of Preparation, Participation and Completion. Chair Jardine reported that Dr. Darrell White is filling in for Dave Buhler so there is continuity in preparations for the next legislative session.

Utah Scholars Update (Tab M). Assistant Commissioner Dave Doty presented to the committee on how well this program has been received in Utah. We have had successes in persuading 8th graders to participate in this program. Chair Jardine commended Dr. Doty for his excellent work.

Chief Academic Officers (CAOs) Report: The Community College (Tab N). Chair Jardine said the paper attached to Tab N had been written by President Cynthia Bioteau and Associate Commissioner Lucille Stoddard. There was positive coverage of the report in the *Deseret Morning News*. Regent Jardine asked President Bioteau to summarize key points and then requested comments from Dr. Stoddard.

President Bioteau said the paper had been written in conjunction with the CAOs, highlighting the benefits to a robust economy of a comprehensive community college. The paper was written as a catalyst for thinking and talking. In addition to the comprehensive community colleges, the state colleges have a tiered approach to retain their comprehensive community college role while providing degrees at the upper level.

Some states are underwriting the first two years of an undergraduate degree, which is an interesting concept. This is not being recommended as a priority to the Legislature. However, the paper does recommend that the Regents and Presidents consider the various ways to open up a pipeline into higher education.

Associate Commissioner Stoddard said she and President Bioteau had looked at ways to underwrite tuition for students. As a result of the GI Bill following World War II, the country got a jump start back into higher education. It may be time for another jump start, both in our state and nationally. Dr. Stoddard commended CEU for providing scholarship opportunities for families of the miners lost in the recent Crandall Mine disaster. Those families are very fearful of what will happen to them if the mines close. She noted 64 percent of SLCC students are first-generation students, and less than 20 percent are minorities. More access is needed for minorities at the community college level. The total price for underwriting tuition at the state's community colleges would be less than \$40 million. This is tuition only for Utah residents.

Chair Jardine thanked President Bioteau and Associate Commissioner Stoddard for their insightful comments. This paper is a good starting point for the Regents to think more about participation.

Resolutions

Rick Wheeler. Commissioner Kendell commended Rick for doing an outstanding job as Interim President of Snow College. This was the second time he accepted that assignment. Combined with his church duties and his work as a State Legislator, this was a remarkable achievement. Commissioner Kendell read from the Resolution of Appreciation and expressed his appreciation to Rick. **Regent Holbrook moved adoption of the Resolution of Appreciation to Rick Wheeler. Regent Garff seconded the motion, and the resolution was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board.**

Jim Ginos. Commissioner Kendell said Jim had been Chief Operating Officer of UHEAA and had worked in the UHEAA organization for nearly 20 years. Regent Karras paid tribute to Jim as an outstanding leader. He was nationally recognized for his expertise in student loan operations and computer systems, and for implementing innovative and efficient technologies. **Regent Jordan moved adoption of the Resolution in Memory of Jim Ginos. Regent Snow seconded the motion, and the resolution was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board.**

Report of the Chair

Chair Pitcher referred to his written report which chronicled outstanding stories of student success. He thanked Amanda Covington for her excellent work in preparing this report each month.

2008 Meeting Schedule. Chair Pitcher reported no conflicts had been reported with the proposed meeting schedule presented last month. He announced it would be the official meeting schedule for next year. The schedule is attached to these minutes and is also on file in the Commissioner's Office.

Training. Two letters sent recently announced training sessions for new Regents, Trustees and Presidents. All Regents and Presidents are invited to attend. The meetings will be held on September 26 from 8am to 1pm in the Regents' offices in Salt Lake City, and on October 29 at Southern Utah University in the Hunter Conference Center.

Report of the Commissioner

Commissioner Kendell referred to his written report, which provided a remarkable commentary on the quality of higher education in our state.

University of Utah/Dixie State College Affiliation. Commissioner Kendell responded to articles in the newspapers during the past week. This alliance was initiated by the Dixie Trustees and by southern Utah legislators. In preliminary discussions, the Regents' office was represented by Commissioner Kendell, Chair Pitcher and Vice Chair Beesley. Dixie was represented by Trustee Chair Shandon Gubler and Tim Anderson, who serves on the University of Utah Board of Trustees. University of Utah representatives were Senior Vice President Dave Pershing and Associate Vice President Paul Brinkman. The small group reviewed several methods of providing greater program offerings for southern Utah residents. This was never intended to be a formal proposal, but merely a springboard for discussion. Chair Gubler, in response to rumors in St George, put this item on the agenda for discussion at the Dixie Board of Trustees meeting the previous week.

Several points need to be worked out, starting with the name of the academic unit. Governance also needs to be determined, including the status of the Dixie Board of Trustees. Several interesting ideas have been presented, but agreement has not been reached. One of the greatest challenges is the cost for such an affiliation and the funding source. Much work needs to be done before this is presented to the Regents as a formal proposal. Commissioner Kendell remarked residents of St George have a great interest in this partnership. At the same time, there is also interest from the University of Utah community (alumni, donors, faculty and staff), who have not had an opportunity to review the papers and learn the facts. There is also a question on the impact of such an alliance on the Utah System of Higher Education.

The Commissioner said this needs to be a thoughtful, deliberative process which allows for broad input. The Commissioner suggested this cannot be moved forward without a formal written plan, with agreement among all of the parties (University of Utah, Dixie State College, and their larger communities, and the Board of Regents). Commissioner Kendell recommended that the plan move forward on a collaborative basis, resulting in a single proposal that answers all of the critical questions. The consequences of this issue are very broad in scope.

Regent Reid moved that the Regents go into closed meeting to review personnel issues and potential litigation. Regent Snow seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

The meeting ended at 12:48 pm. The Regents went into closed session and adjourned from there.

Joyce Cottrell CPS, Executive Secretary

Date Approved

