

REGULAR MEETING
UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
5 MARCH 2004

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Utah State University Board of Trustees held in the Alma Sonne Board Room of the University Inn at 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Gayle McKeachnie	Chairman
L.J. Godfrey	Vice Chairman
David P. Cook	(By way of telephone)
K. Duke Di Stefano	
Linda J. Eyre	
R. Brent Nyman	
Dinesh C. Patel	
Richard L. Shipley	
Randy Watts	

MEMBER EXCUSED

Lynnette T. Hansen

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Kermit L. Hall	President
Stan L. Albrecht	Executive Vice President and Provost
Juan N. Franco	Vice President for Student Services
Ronald S. Godfrey	Vice President for Administrative Services
Brent C. Miller	Vice President for Research
Randy W. Talbot	Vice President for University Advancement
Barbara A. White	Vice President and CIO for Information Technology
Joyce Kinkead	Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies and Research
Kevin C. Womack	Associate Vice President for Administrative Services
Sue Guenter-Schlesinger	Assistant Executive Vice President for Affirmative Action and Diversity
Sydney M. Peterson	Assistant Provost
Lee Roderick	Special Assistant to the President
John DeVilbiss	Executive Director of Public Relations and Marketing
Jodi Bailey	Director of Internal Audits
Tiffany M. Evans	Director of Student Involvement and Leadership Center

Fred R. Hunsaker	Interim Director of Athletics
Richard W. Jacobs	Director of Budgets
Nellene Howard	Assistant Director for Service and Leadership
Maria-De Jesus Cordero	Assistant Professor of Spanish
Ken Beazer	Development Director for Athletics
Mary Ellen Cloninger	Senior Associate Athletics Director
Kenneth A. Peterson	Senior Associate Athletics Director/Business Manager
Amy Crosbie	Academic and Life Skills Coordinator for Student-Athlete Services
Janis Boettinger	President of Faculty Senate
Jay R. Greene	President of Professional Employees Association
Milton Johnson	President of Classified Employees Association
Lee H. Burke	Assistant to the President and Secretary of the Board of Trustees
Mira G. Thatcher	Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT

Daryl C. Barrett	Utah State Board of Regents
James Bauer	Architect
Karl Benson	Commissioner of the Western Athletic Conference
Arron Brown	Student
Scott Corey Savage	Student
Cameron Woolf	Student

MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA PRESENT

Arrin Brunson	<i>The Herald Journal</i>
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Chairman McKeachnie conducted the meeting and welcomed Regent Daryl Barrett and those present. He excused Trustee Hansen, who was ill.

I. Invocation: Linda J. Eyre.

II Chairman's Remarks

A. Date of the Next Board of Trustees Meetings

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on 9 April 2004.

III. President's Remarks

A. Student Resolution of Commendation to Scott Corey Savage

Trustees were given a copy of the Student Resolution of Commendation to Scott Corey Savage (Appendix A) for their information.

Trustee Di Stefano read the resolution, and President Hall congratulated Mr. Savage who has a double major in Art and Print Making/Graphic Design.

B. Performance Dashboard for March 2004

The performance dashboard for March 2004 (Appendix B) was given to the Trustees for their information.

President Hall mentioned that USU continues to have success with increasing student retention. Joyce Kinkead reported that this year the retention rate is at 89 percent. Retention has increased two points each year for the last three years.

C. Banner Report

Trustees were given information concerning the Banner software project (Appendix C) for their information.

Vice President White stated that the first part of the year SunGard acquired SCT Banner, USU's product vendor, and on 1 March 2004 it acquired Collegis, USU's Banner implementation partner as well. She said that this change will not negatively impact USU's contract with Collegis.

More than 100 faculty, staff, and students attended an "All-Hands" training meeting on 18 February. Participants from all levels of the project presented various topics of discussion, and it was successful.

The Business Process Analysis (BPA) for students is underway. Those processes that work best for USU will be chosen. In response to a question, Vice President White stated that there are various levels of training for different areas. She said that the trainers have been excellent.

Vice President White distributed copies of information on the Banner Project Home Page (Appendix D) and the KRONE Application Report (Appendix E).

Vice President White reported that the Banner project is on time and on budget. Banner Finance will go live on 1 July 2004, students will be on-line by December 2006, and Human Resources in 2007.

D. *The President's Report, 03/5/04*

The President's Report for 03/5/04 (Appendix F) was distributed to the Trustees.

President Hall pointed out that Carnegie Communications announced in January that USU's new commercial, titled *Space*, won a national competition which included competitors such as Ohio State and North Carolina State. The commercial was produced by USU's Public Relations and Marketing Department. President Hall congratulated John DeVilbiss and his colleagues for the award-winning commercial.

E. Donor Cultivation

President Hall said that he has been working with Vice President Talbot to cultivate donors in the Salt Lake City area. He expressed appreciation to Trustees Patel and Shipley for their support, as well as Jonathan Bullen, who is Chairman of the Foundation Board.

F. Report of the 2004 Legislative Session

President Hall reported on the 2004 legislative session. He stated that all five of USU's revenue bond projects were supported including: the Living-Learning Center, the parking terrace, Stadium/Spectrum/Nelson Field House, the chiller project at the energy facility, and the Child Development Center.

President Hall stated that Representative Loraine Pace showed great leadership and worked very hard for USU. He expressed appreciation and said the entire University community should thank her for her advocacy for USU.

USU received \$300,000 for the Climate Center. As a result of the funds provided by the Legislature, we will now seek additional funding from federal agencies.

We will receive money for access for new students coming to USU rather than those who are already attending. Funding will provide for 770 new students in the entire higher education system. USU will be funded for 110 to 125 new students. The funds come after the students are already here.

The Engineering Initiative received \$500,000 one-time, and \$500,000 ongoing. USU will compete with other institutions in the state for those funds. President Hall said that the Engineering Initiative has made a tremendous impact on USU. Provost Albrecht said the Engineering Initiative monies have allowed an increase in faculty in Engineering over the last three years (along with Tier II tuition dollars as a one-to-one match). The number of graduates has increased, and some programs increased by 124 percent. It has also allowed for purchases of needed equipment which has resulted in increasing the quality of the laboratories. President Hall added that USU will need to match the state dollars.

President Hall stated that, with the help of the University of Utah, an amendment to the constitution was passed that will permit universities to hold equity in the companies they start up. He said this is significant to USU, the U of U, and to the State of Utah. It will be a better place for commercialization and technology. He

expressed appreciation to Trustee Patel for his help concerning this issue, and said Senator Hillyard also supported this effort. The amendment will go to the voters this fall for ratification.

President Hall said that compensation was USU's highest priority. The Legislature funded 1 percent for compensation for salary increases and a one-time bonus which will be between \$325 and \$500 to be given to employees in December. President Hall said he had hoped for more, but understands the situation of the state.

The health and dental appropriation will be approximately 5.5 percent for health and 2.7 percent for dental. This will not cover the costs. President Hall said ways to economize are being considered. These numbers allow us to establish the rate base for the year ahead. We are also negotiating the administrative fee with Blue Cross Blue Shield.

The Legislature approved a 6 percent ceiling on second-tier tuition charged by USU. Senator Peter Knudson made an adjustment in the final legislation that gave us flexibility on how to use the tuition. First tier tuition was originally set by the Regents at 4.5 percent. The Legislature, as recommended by the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee, reduced that to 3 percent. First year tuition has been used as an offset of the total cost of salary increases. With the tuition increase at 3 percent and compensation at 1 percent, the student portion will help cover the salary increase of 1 percent. President Hall said that .5 percent was funded one-time for financial aid, which is \$1.5 million, and the other 1 percent of the 4.5 percent was eliminated.

President Hall said the level of involvement of the Legislature in the affairs of the universities was at an all-time high this year. President Hall commended the students and some of the Trustees for their efforts to meet with legislators and remind them of the importance of sufficient funding to provide for a quality education. He said it was very helpful that the Legislature gave back flexibility to the institutions.

The intent language passed by the Legislature identified \$35 million that the Legislature has not funded the universities for O & M (\$2.2 million for USU), for fuel and power (\$4.5 million for USU), and \$7 million (\$2.8 for USU) for new students. The intent language indicated that the Legislature will not pay those items, and that they should be covered by institutional internal reallocation. He said this will create an ongoing structural debt for USU that has to be addressed. The students who have not been funded will be written off. President Hall said that if USU had continued to admit the number of students it had in the past, there would have been a huge number of unfunded students. According to President Hall, the single most important variable in the future of USU is the willingness of the students to continue to pay tuition sufficient to retain a quality education. USU will have to determine what to do with the O & M and fuel and power. It will take some time, and a

structural deficit will be carried on the books for now, but the deficit must be funded. Vice President Godfrey and his staff will develop a plan.

The gun legislation that was passed is considerably more sweeping and constitutionally more specific about the obligation of universities to comply with the demands of the Legislature. USU does not have a policy of restricting concealed weapons. President Hall has asked University Counsel to make some determinations. The U of U will persist in legal action against the State of Utah concerning gun legislation.

President Hall summarized the legislative session as a mix. He was pleased for the pay raise, even though it was small; pleased to get some support for health insurance; pleased for flexibility to move forward with our revenue bond projects; pleased with access funding for the Climate Center; and pleased with the Engineering Initiative, but concerned with the control that the Legislature wants to use on higher education.

Chairman McKeachnie, who is serving as the State Lt. Governor, said he was impressed with the team that USU had at the Legislature. He said he did not see Trustees from other institutions at the session. Those who went to the Legislature to support USU knew who to talk to and how to go about it, and it made a difference. Chairman McKeachnie said that the relationship between the Legislature and higher education will be a problem for some time. There will be new leadership in both Houses of the Legislature, and a lot will depend on the new leadership. Chairman McKeachnie congratulated USU for a great job at the Legislature.

President Hall expressed appreciation to Dr. Burke, who he said was tireless in representing USU's interests at the Legislature. He expressed special appreciation for Dr. Burke's knowledge and ability to discern problems that could develop, understand the outcomes, and find solutions. Dr. Burke's experience and insights are invaluable.

G. Child Development Center

President Hall stated that USU will soon complete an agreement to build a Child Development Center (day care center) at the Innovation Campus. David and Sue Luman and Vicky and Stew Morrill are working to obtain the necessary additional funding.

H. Collaboration with the University of Utah

USU Trustees have been collaborating with the U of U Trustees concerning research and economic development in the state. Another meeting is scheduled for 15 April. President Hall has invited Michael Crow, President of Arizona State University, to the meeting to share his insights. President Crow has done remarkable things at Arizona State in economic development through research. President Hall said that a research agenda will be developed with a plan to market USU and the U of U together. The Bureau of Economic Research at the U of U will conduct a four-month study of the economic impact of research universities on the state of Utah. President Hall said that the goal is to present a plan to Governor Walker by 1 September.

Regent Barrett complimented President Hall for his leadership in uniting the two research universities in this effort. She said it was President Hall's vision to make this happen, and he brought the U of U along. She said this is a great opportunity, and the Regents will consider the results to assist them with long-range planning.

I. Death of Helen Fletcher McKeachnie, Chairman Gayle McKeachnie's Mother

President Hall extended condolences to Chairman McKeachnie and his family in the passing of his mother, Helen Fletcher McKeachnie, on 27 February 2004.

IV. Consent Agenda

Chairman McKeachnie expressed appreciation to individuals who contributed material for the agenda. Trustees were given the following consent agenda material for their consideration:

Minutes of the Executive Session Held 30 January 2004;

Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held 30 January 2004;

Resolution 04-3-1 Faculty and Staff Adjustments (Appendix G);

Resolution 04-3-2 Proposal from the Department of Economics, College of Agriculture, to Discontinue the Food Production Emphasis within the BS Degree in Agricultural Economics (Appendix H);

Resolution 04-3-3 Proposal from the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, College of Science, to Establish an Environmental Chemistry Emphasis within the BS Degree in Chemistry (Appendix I);

Resolution 04-3-4 Proposal from the Department of English, College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, to Establish a Specialization in Literature and Writing within the MA and MS Degrees in English (Appendix J);

Resolution 04-3-5 Proposal from the Biotechnology Center to Change the Name of the Biotechnology Center to the Center for Integrated Biosystems (Appendix K);

Resolution 04-3-6 Certificate of the Treasurer for the Period 1 July 2003 to 31 December

2003 (Appendix L);
Resolution 04-3-7 Report of Investments for December 2003 (Appendix M);
Resolution 04-3-8 Contract/Grant Proposals and Awards for December 2003
(Appendix N);
Acceptance of the following written reports:
Academic Services (Appendix O);
 Faculty and Staff Activities and Achievements (Appendix P);
Business and Finance (Appendix Q);
 Business and Finance Performance Dashboard, March 2004 (Appendix R);
Extension/Continuing Education (Appendix S);
 Cooperative Extension Performance Dashboard (Appendix T);
 Continuing Education Performance Dashboard, Updated September 2003
 (Appendix U);
 Conference Services Performance Dashboard, Updated September 2003
 (Appendix V);
Information Technology (Appendix W);
 Information Technology Services Performance Dashboard for February 2004
 (Appendix X);
Research (Appendix Y);
 Research Performance Dashboard for February 2004 (Appendix Z);
 Research Expenditures for December 2003 (Appendix AA);
 Technology Management Indicators (Appendix BB);
Student Services (Appendix CC);
 Student Services Performance Dashboard for February 2004 (Appendix DD);
University Advancement (Appendix EE);
 Office of University Advancement Dashboard for January 2004 (Appendix FF);
 Development Fund Report for Fiscal Year 2003-2004 (Appendix GG);
Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity (Appendix HH);
 Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Performance Dashboard for February 2004
 (Appendix II);
 USU's Workforce at a Glance (Appendix JJ);
Alumni (Appendix KK);
ASUSU (Appendix LL);
Athletics (Appendix MM);

Graduate Studies (Appendix NN);

School of Graduate Studies Performance Dashboard for February 2004
(Appendix OO);

Public Relations and Marketing (Appendix PP);

Faculty Senate (Appendix QQ);

Classified Staff (Appendix RR);

Executive Session, to be held on 9 April 2004 to discuss those items which are permitted by law to be discussed in Executive Session.

Action: Trustee Eyre moved approval of the Consent Agenda items, and Trustee Watts seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

V. Action Agenda

A. Review and Approval of Internal and External Audit Reports

Trustees were given information concerning the Review and Approval of Internal and External Audit Reports for their consideration (Appendix SS). Trustee Cook, Chairman of the Audit Committee, reported that the Audit Committee met on 30 January 2004, and received reports from the External and Internal auditors. External auditors performed audits of USU's financial statements and compliance report and gave an unqualified opinion. Internal audits were also discussed at that time.

Action: Trustee Cook moved approval of Resolution 04-3-9 the Review and Approval of Internal and External Audit Reports (Appendix SS), and Trustee Nyman seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Chairman Cook mentioned that the Audit Committee approved the USU Internal Audit Charter at its meeting on 13 February 2004. The charter does not need approval of the full Board.

Chairman McKeachnie expressed appreciation to Trustee Cook for his leadership on audit issues at this time when the Regents have made changes to their policy and requirements.

B. Proposal from the Office of the Provost, Utah State University to Offer a Certificate in Service-Learning

Trustees were given information concerning the review and approval of a proposal from the Office of the Provost to offer a Certificate in Service-Learning (Appendix TT) for their consideration.

Provost Albrecht said that the service-learning concept is growing rapidly across the

country. It is exciting for students to participate in service learning. He indicated that Vice President Franco and Vice Provost Kinkead have worked together for some time to develop a Certificate in Service-Learning.

Vice President Franco said he was delighted to bring the proposal for a Certificate in Service-Learning to the Trustees for their approval. He said the development of the certificate has been a joint effort between the Provost's Office and Student Services. In order for students to receive the Service-Learning Certificate they will be required to complete nine credit hours, 400 service hours, and write a reflective portfolio.

Ms. Howard, Assistant Director for Service and Leadership, said that she works with some of the best and brightest students on campus. She said that she helps students provide services to the community. She introduced students Arron Brown and Cameron Woolf, both of whom will graduate from USU this fall and will attend medical school.

Mr. Woolf said he researched the possibility of offering a service-learning certificate to students and used it in his campaign when he ran for student body office. Mr. Woolf said the certificate has the support of Vice President Franco, students, faculty, and the community. He feels that the certificate will not only make a well-rounded and better-developed student, but a more marketable graduate.

Mr. Brown said that students at USU are naturally inclined to serve in the community. Education can enhance service to the community. Mr. Brown said that the world, with its many challenges, needs graduates of universities who are willing to take on the challenges and who are educated enough to solve the problems. He said that this certificate will be valuable to creating great leaders and will have an impact on graduates. Mr. Brown said that his service outside the classroom has been meaningful. Adding academics to service will make it a powerful experience.

Vice President Franco congratulated Mr. Brown and Mr. Woolf. He said they have each donated more than 1,000 hours of service while attending USU. They have been the driving force behind the Service-Learning Certificate with the help of the faculty steering committee which guided the development of the program. He stressed that the certificate involves an academic program.

Assistant Professor of Spanish, Maria Cordero, stated that she teaches all levels of Spanish. She said that coupling learning in the classroom with experience makes learning more effective and powerful. She said some of her students are involved in the language emersion program and travel to an impoverished community in Mexico to provide service. They learn to love the culture, the people, and they learn much more than the language. The country, people, and problems become more real to them. It reaches their hearts and they are better able to help others understand the plight of immigrants. She said that in the three years that she has been with the

program, she has seen its power to open minds and teach. She said that the Service-Learning certificate will be great because many students at USU give service. The written portfolio affords reflection of their experiences and adds to their learning.

Provost Albrecht said that all of the other institutions of higher education in the state offer the Service-Learning Certificate.

It was noted by Trustee Nyman that 400 service hours are required for the certificate. He asked how students find the time to donate the service. Mr. Woolf said it involves time management. Mr. Brown said it is impressive that students at USU are more than willing to take time to volunteer. He said service is highly rewarding and that is why students are so willing. Chairman McKeachnie referred to a study conducted about volunteerism in Utah. He said that the study reported that 81 percent of Utahns volunteer in some way each year. The average for most states is approximately 30 to 40 percent.

Provost Albrecht pointed out the certificate involves academics as well as service—it is service-learning. The kind of service donated is linked to the curriculum. The areas of service vary with the focus of study and couples with the curriculum. It is as broad as the University's colleges.

Action: Trustee Di Stefano moved approval of Resolution 04-3-10 the proposal from the Office of the Provost, Utah State University, to offer a certificate in Service-Learning (Appendix TT). Trustee Nyman seconded the motion, and the voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

C. Proposal from Utah State University for a Tier II Tuition Increase

Trustees were given information concerning the review and approval of a Tier II tuition increase (Appendix UU) for their consideration.

President Hall stated that in addition to the 4 percent Tier I tuition approved by the Utah State Board of Regents, USU proposes a Tier II tuition increase at 4 percent for continuing students, and 6 percent for incoming undergraduate and graduate students. He said that Tier II tuition will be used to meet critical needs. Approximately \$1 million will be used to enhance libraries, approximately \$200,000 will be used for student initiatives (service-learning, supplemental instruction, and increases in the number of depth and bottleneck courses), and the remaining \$600,000 to \$800,000 will be used to address compensation issues.

President Hall said this is the third and final year for the three-year 15 percent tuition increase. It increased 6 percent the first year, 5 percent the second year, and 4 percent the third year. The proposed 6 percent increase this year is for new students. We will honor our agreement with the students already attending.

President Hall said that the task force considering tuition and financial aid has done a wonderful job. They are developing creative ideas for financial aid for students. There are many models around the country.

Trustee Di Stefano thanked President Hall and the administration on behalf of the students for keeping their agreement of no more than 15 percent tuition increase over the past three years. He said that the students appreciate it.

Action: Trustee Di Stefano moved approval of Resolution 04-3-11 the proposal from Utah State University for a Tier II tuition increase (Appendix UU). Trustee Patel seconded the motion and the voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

D. Proposal for a Decrease in Student Fees as Recommended by the Utah State University Student Fee Board

Trustees were given a proposal for a decrease in student fees as recommended by the Utah State University Student Fee Board (Appendix VV) for their consideration.

President Hall stated that the proposal for a decrease in student fees results from the elimination of the \$2.00 per semester technology enhancement fee. The proposed net total decrease per semester is \$1.25. The Student Fee Board also recommended that a Spouse Card be increased by \$5.00 per semester (from \$31.50 to \$36.50) in order to allow spouses the use of the Nelson Fieldhouse Fitness Center.

Action: Trustee Di Stefano moved approval of Resolution 04-3-12 for a decrease in student fees by \$1.25 per semester as recommended by the Utah State University Student Fee Board and to increase the Spouse Card by \$5.00 per semester for use of the Nelson Fieldhouse Fitness Center (Appendix VV). Trustee Nyman seconded the motion and the voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

E. Resolution of Commendation to Athletics

A copy of the Resolution of Commendation to Athletics from the Board of Trustees was distributed (Appendix WW).

Chairman McKeachnie read the Resolution of Commendation to Athletics in recognition of student-athletes achievements academics.

Action: Trustee Patel moved approval of Resolution 04-3-13 the Resolution of Commendation to Athletics from the Board of Trustees (Appendix WW), and Trustee Watts seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

The Regular Meeting recessed at 10:20 a.m. David Cook left the meeting at this time.

The Regular Meeting convened at 10:35 a.m.

VI. Strategic Agenda—"Athletics"

A. Introduction of Karl Benson, Commissioner of the Western Athletics Conference (WAC)

President Hall said it was a privilege to introduce Karl Benson, Commissioner of the WAC. Commissioner Benson has been a long-time supporter of USU and was influential in USU being accepted into the WAC. President Hall presented a USU baseball cap to Commissioner Benson, who said he would wear it with pleasure as he meets with reporters later today in Salt Lake City.

Interim Director Hunsaker also welcomed Commissioner Benson. He said that Commissioner Benson has had a long association with USU and been a good friend. He has served as commissioner for two different conferences for a total of fourteen years. He has also had experience with the NCAA and has had an outstanding career.

Commissioner Benson said it was a privilege to be affiliated with a University and community that are energized and excited about their future in the WAC. He said it will be a tremendous partnership for USU and for the WAC. Referring to the scholarship capabilities of USU student-athletes, he said the numbers would place academics of USU athletes at the very top of the new WAC membership, and in fact, would rank with the top ten in the country. He stated that USU and its student-athlete academic accomplishments are outstanding.

Commissioner Benson said that USU will be aligned with the WAC in 2005. The WAC dates back to the 1960s and has become a successful and credible conference and maintained high values and principles. It is governed by a Board of Directors, and President Hall will become a member of that Board. Commissioner Benson said that a new era for the WAC is beginning, and that the changes made to the WAC are sound and will allow the WAC to be a credible conference. Being aligned with the WAC will allow USU to be in a comparable league with BYU and the U of U. Commissioner Benson stated that there are times when state appropriations are provided based on the sports hierarchy in the state. The plans that USU Athletics has for renovation and development of its stadium facilities will elevate the program, which will also elevate the WAC and help to compete with the Mountain West conference. He said it is a privilege to have USU aligned with the WAC, and he

looks forward to many successes for the Aggies.

B. Importance of Athletics to USU

Interim Director of Athletics, Fred Hunsaker, said that athletics plays an important role for the University. Sports events offer opportunities for the entire community to be united in a common cause. It is a collective recognition of loyalty, pride, and association. It helps people become familiar with the institution, brings students to USU, and brings donations.

Interim Director Hunsaker introduced the following individuals from the Athletics Department: Mary Ellen Cloninger, Senior Associate Athletics Director; Kenneth Peterson, Senior Associate Athletics Director and Business Manager; Kevin Dustin, Associate Director of Athletics for External Operations; Ken Beazer, Development Director; and Amy Crosbie, Academic and Life Skills Coordinator. He also introduced the architect, Jim Bauer. He expressed appreciation to Ronda Christoffersen, Administrative Assistant, for her work to prepare the presentation.

Interim Director Hunsaker said they are proud of the progress made in Athletics in the last few years, both athletically and academically. Accomplishments include becoming members of the WAC, the hugely successful basketball program, a successful start-up year for women's basketball, and the fantastic academic achievements of student-athletes in the last three years.

C. Student-Athletes and Academics

Chairman McKeachnie indicated that the Board of Trustees adopted a Resolution of Commendation to congratulate the Athletics Department on the academic success of student-athletes. Trustee Watts read the Resolution of Commendation (see Appendix WWW) and presented it to Interim Director Hunsaker. Mr. Hunsaker credited Ms. Cloninger, Ms. Crosbie, Brian Evans, and outstanding student-athletes.

Ms. Crosbie stated that student-athletes will be better prepared to achieve their potential because they have participated in intercollegiate athletics. They regard their experiences in athletics as a valued part of their undergraduate experience. Ms. Crosbie expressed appreciation to the Trustees for their acknowledgment of the accomplishments of student-athletes in their Resolution of Commendation.

Ms. Crosbie stated that she was a student-athlete at USU and was honored now to work in Athletics at USU and report on the academic accomplishments of student-athletes to the Trustees. She reported that USU has an 81 percent student-athlete graduation rate which ties USU for tenth in the nation. The football team has a 75 percent graduation rate, and last year, 86 percent of the seniors on the football team graduated.

Ms. Crosbie reported that 55 percent of all student-athletes finished Fall semester with over a 3.0 GPA, and 54 percent of all student-athletes had a cumulative GPA over 3.0. She reported that 46 percent of all student-athletes have a 3.2 or greater cumulative GPA. The women's soccer team had the thirteenth highest accumulative GPA in the NCAA Division 1A last year Fall and Spring semesters, and it will be high this year as well. Ms. Crosbie stated that the Joe E. Whitesides Scholar-Athlete Award requires a 3.2 cumulative GPA. This year 147 student-athletes have qualified for the award. Twenty-five USU student-athletes were selected for the Academic All-Conference. She said that these accomplishments are a result of the excellent staff as well as the quality of student-athletes here. USU has programs in place which will continue to strengthen academics of student-athletes.

Ms. Crosbie highlighted some of the programs in Athletics. She said the Champs/Life Skills program is strong throughout the country. USU has had fifty-one Aggie Ambassador events which involved more than 647 student-athletes; student-athletes fulfill approximately six community service requests per month; there are twenty student-athlete mentors; and there is a seventeen-member student-athlete Advisory Committee. The Champs/Life Skills program commits student-athletes to academics, athletics, career development, personal development, and community outreach. Ms. Crosbie stated that through strong student-athlete services programs the original NCAA certification was recently approved, and the NCAA Interim Certification was approved which focuses on academic integrity, fiscal integrity, commitment to governance and rules compliance, and commitment to equity, welfare, and sportsmanship (Title IX compliant).

D. Plans for Romney Stadium Renovation and Upgrade

Development Director Ken Beazer said they have accepted the obligation presented by the NCAA to successfully weave intercollegiate athletics into the overall fabric of the college education experience. The NCAA is going through reforms. Legislation may be passed which will put pressure on member institutions to increase the academic performance of student-athletes. He said USU willingly accepts the new reforms.

Mr. Beazer stated a formal application for USU to join the WAC was dated 1977. USU has been anxious to be part of this conference for a long time and are excited to be accepted. USU feels an obligation to improve and renovate facilities to allow its

student-athletes to meet the challenges of being aligned at a higher level through membership in the WAC, and also to meet the new NCAA reforms.

Mr. Beazer reported that Athletics has been working with Jim Bauer, Architect, since October. Information has been gathered to define the scope of the Romney Stadium renovation needed. Issues of health, safety, sanitation, and American with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandates have been considered.

Romney Stadium was constructed and opened in 1969. It seated 20,000 people. The existing building at the north end zone was constructed at that time with plans to be used five or six times a year for home football games. It is now used daily as the training room. Except for renovating the locker room, that facility has not changed.

1. Phase I–Turf

Mr. Beazer stated that Phase I of the renovation will be to change the playing surface from natural grass to Sprint Turf. Most student-athletes prefer turf because there are fewer injuries. Romney Stadium is the largest seating capacity facility north of Salt Lake City and is currently used only five to six times a year.

Mr. Beazer said this surface will allow for more activities at the stadium and will bring more people to campus. The suggested time line for installation is 22 April 2004 to 30 June 2004.

Kenneth Peterson said the Sprint Turf surface has been approved and the work has been awarded. The signed agreement cost is \$750,000, but it is hoped to complete the entire field for \$687,000 to \$700,000. There is a ten-year warranty on the turf. It is being used by other universities and has proven successful with no problems even when the fields are used hundreds of times a year. The turf will be paid from funds received from the revenue bond.

Kevin Dustin added that maintaining the existing natural grass field is maintenance intensive, labor intensive, and water intensive. The turf will require no water and the only equipment necessary is a large mechanical broom which will be handled through USU's Facilities Department. The turf will decrease labor costs significantly. It will be economically and environmentally good for the University. The decrease in water usage will have campus-wide impact because the water saved at the Stadium can be used in other areas of the campus.

Commissioner Benson stated that of the eight members that will be in the WAC in 2005, six will have Sprint or field turf (that includes USU).

2. Phase II–Student Needs

Mr. Beazer indicated that the renovation plans call for additional entrances to the stadium on the east side for students. The southeast entrance will be widened, and restrooms and concessions areas will be added. An entrance at the top east side of the stadium will be added with additional restrooms and concessions areas. A third student entry gate will be constructed later at the northeast end of the field with restrooms and concessions areas.

Improvements on the west side will include a three-level structure. The first level will be club seating with outside seats that are covered overhead and will have radiant heat. It will include a lobby area with concessions and restrooms. The second level will be the sky box level for corporate purchase and will range from seating for twelve to seating for thirty-four. The President and Development Directors will use part of this area to host and cultivate donors to the University. The top level will be the press box level. It will have two television booths, two radio booths, an area for the visiting Athletic Director and coaching staff, the home coaching staff, and sixty working media. Mr. Beazer said that is double the current capacity for media. There will be two elevators, which is important for media people and their equipment. Mr. Beazer said if financing falls into place, construction could begin this fall. It is hoped that it will be completed for the 2005 season when we open play with the WAC.

3. Phase III–South End Zone and North End Zone Complex

Mr. Beazer stated that the north end zone complex will have 55,000 square feet. The bottom portion will feature a 9,000 square foot weight room, the locker room, the equipment room, and the visiting team's locker room. The second floor will house a 9,000 square-foot training room. Mr. Beazer stated that the current training room and one office are 900 square feet. It accommodates 300 student-athletes in that facility. This floor will include seven offices, a library, two exam rooms, a hydro room, football coaching offices, football team meeting rooms, and physician meeting rooms.

Half of the Western Surgical Center is currently used for the weight room. The weight room will be moved to the new north end zone facility, and the area in the Western Surgical Center will be renovated to include a study hall, tutorial rooms, and offices. It will bolster the academic side of student-athletes.

The south end zone will be a two-story facility with 17,000 square feet. The bottom floor will house the ticket office and a bookstore. Mr. Beazer emphasized easy access to the bookstore for alumni and friends with plenty of parking space available. The second floor will house a Hall of Fame for USU athletes past and present, and the Big Blue Club Office.

Mr. Beazer stated that the time line for Phase III, which will be privately funded,

is subject to funding availability.

4. Estimated Costs

Mr. Beazer stated that the estimated overall cost of the renovation and upgrade is \$21,650,000. The bond funds will bring in \$7,750,000. A decision will need to be made whether the University or Athletics will pay for the infrastructure, which will impact the cost. It is estimated that in addition to the funds from the bond, \$2 million to \$3.5 million will be needed for Phase II. The revenue stream will come through the pre-sale of sky boxes.

In response to a question from Chairman McKeachnie, Mr. Beazer stated that there is sufficient space in the club seating, sky box area, and press box area for receptions and socials. Mr. Beazer said there will be attractive space available with open areas and a beautiful view looking west, and it is hoped that it will be utilized. He said that they are not planning on the rental of the facility as a revenue source. Funds received for that will be used for maintenance and upkeep.

Vice President Godfrey stated that the bonded portion is being paid through a \$28.50 student fee, and the rest of the money would be from donations.

E. Trustee Discussion

Trustee Watts stated that since students finance the bond, improvements most beneficial to students should be important. He was impressed with the proposed improvements on the east side for student entrances, restrooms, and concessions areas. Mr. Beazer said that he has been directed to address the needs of the students. Money from bonding will not be used for the sky boxes or the club level. We want this to be a student-friendly facility.

Trustee Eyre stated that there are many benefits to having a lot of community involvement and socials on campus including bringing prospective students on campus. Mr. Beazer said it is hoped that the facility will be nice enough for community events and that the college community will also use it as a resource for events.

Trustee Watts pointed out the importance of parking areas and easy access. He said a bookstore at the stadium is a good idea. Mr. Dustin said that the Football Department offices and the offices for the Big Blue Club would move to the facilities at the stadium. The current offices for the Big Blue Office are not a good place to host potential donors.

In response to a question from Trustee Nyman, Commissioner Benson said that

without the renovation of the stadium, USU would be in the lower quartile of facilities in the WAC. If the renovation is completed, USU's facility would be one of the top two or three stadiums in the WAC.

Trustee Nyman asked if the price of tickets will increase. Mr. Beazer said ticket sales will not fund any of the facility. It is not possible to depend on ticket sales as a revenue stream. Mr. Dustin said this year there are only four home football games, and ticket sales will be directed toward the operating budget. It would be unwise to tie the construction of the facilities to ticket sales. The three- to five-year contracts for the sky boxes will be a revenue stream. Mr. Dustin said that being in the WAC will increase ticket sales because the schedule will be better. USU will play either BYU or the U of U, either Fresno or Boise State, Nevada or UTEP or New Mexico State at home every year.

Dr. Burke asked what will happen to the Harris Athletics Center when the football staff moves to the new facility. Mr. Dustin said that has not yet been determined, but some offices are cramped and it will ease the overall crowding. Trustee Eyre asked what events could be played on the football field. Mr. Beazer said it would include high school soccer, lacrosse, rugby, and even concerts. He said that one local high school team has committed to play all of its home games here, and it is hoped that other valley teams will bring their games to USU. It is anticipated that the use of the stadium will double and maybe triple.

Trustee Patel asked what price would be charged for the sky boxes and if there is corporate interest. Mr. Beazer said the price is being considered and is contingent on donor interest as well as the number of home games. Jim Bauer said the price is contingent on what the market area can bear. The U of U has twenty-five sky boxes and charges approximately \$25,000 a year, while Bozeman, Montana, has thirty-two sky boxes and charges \$8,000. The sky boxes cost about \$15,000 to \$25,000 to build within the shell. Pricing should be set to be paid off in two-and-a-half to three years. He said that with the current low interest rates, you need approximately \$4,500 to \$5,000 a year to service the debt on the facility, but you could triple that to offset other costs. Mr. Bauer pointed out that 85 percent of the cost of a sky box is tax deductible for donors, so it is an advantage to corporate sponsors. Mr. Bauer added that because of the receipts for sky box contracts, you may be able to provide different ticket prices for different groups, allowing recent alumni and families to attend at a lesser price which would be covered by sky box prices. Mr. Beazer said that the Purdue University charges \$40,000 to \$45,000 annually for sky boxes. Nine of their boxes are purchased by colleges in the university for use in cultivating alumni. Chairman McKeachnie asked what the challenges would be. Mr. Beazer said the major challenge is escalating costs. The decision of whether the University or Athletics will pay for the infrastructure will have direct bearing on how much of

the project can be completed. He said another challenge is funding. He feels confident that he can raise enough from donors to start the press box. He does not feel there will be enough funding available to complete the north and south end zone facilities within a year. Mr. Bauer mentioned the importance of completing the north end zone facility as soon as possible because it will be beneficial in recruiting.

Mr. Beazer said the planning stage has run smoothly. He has met with the Executive Council of ASUSU and others, and the input has been positive. The cooperation has been outstanding.

Trustee Watts said there are dollars in the community, but he is concerned because it would be easier to get donors if the football team was winning. He said that being aligned with the WAC will help, but the team needs to rise to a level that meets the expectations of a great league. Trustee Watts said he is impressed with the plan and said that the proposal needs to be marketed to the community using the idea that it can be used for more than just USU football. He said that moving some campus activities, such as the bookstore, to the stadium will be a plus because of the availability of parking. Trustee Watts felt that the north end locker room facility should have priority over other areas. He said that the proposed plan could be presented to the Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club, Rotary Club, and others. If those people like the plan, they will spread the word. Trustee Watts added that a quality brochure with good information and drawings of the proposed facilities would be beneficial in receiving contributions. The right marketing is important.

Trustee Nyman said he thinks the timing for the renovation is right. He said that bringing the community together in support of the team is important to the marketing campaign. He said that people down town should be made to feel that USU has something that they should participate in and enjoy.

Trustee Godfrey asked if this fund-raising effort fits into the overall capital fund-raising campaign of the University. Vice President Talbot said that this fund-raising is part of the overall campaign. Athletics and the colleges have goals, and renovation and construction at the stadium is the goal Athletics will move forward. He stated the importance of recruiting in order for the sports programs to be successful, and said that facilities definitely play a roll in recruiting better athletes. It is important to the image of USU because athletics is oftentimes the window by which people first look into the University. Then they look to academics and support the University with private dollars which help faculty and scholarships. Mr. Beazer pointed out that he is the Development Director for Athletics and reports to Vice President Talbot.

Trustee Eyre complimented the Athletics Department for the impressive plans for the renovation. She said that the current facility does not match what is being accomplished by student-athletes academically, and improvements should be made.

Trustee Patel suggested that naming opportunities for donors might be useful in getting donors. Mr. Beazer said that opportunities to have facilities named for the donor have been approved by President Hall, and all of the facilities will have naming opportunities.

Regent Barrett said that attending the Trustees meeting was educational for her. She said it is helpful to learn some of the inner workings of the institutions. It was interesting to learn what is happening with Athletics at USU and the important roll athletics plays in the overall picture for higher education.

Commissioner Benson said that if the entire proposed renovation project at the stadium is completed, it would be a showcase facility. He is impressed by the sense of enthusiasm which is a demonstration of USU's forward thinking and preparation for the future. He felt that much of the project can be accomplished by USU's first year in the WAC-2005.

Trustee Watts stated that the original planning staff that determined the location of the stadium chose a remarkably beautiful location. That is a plus for all of the activities that will be held at the facility.

Chairman McKeachnie thanked the members of the Athletics Department for their informative presentation. He said ways should be considered to get the funding needed for the north end zone project. He extended congratulations for the excellent presentation and planning for the stadium.

Action: Trustee Godfrey moved that the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustee be adjourned, and Trustee Nyman seconded the motion. The decision was unanimous.

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Gayle McKeachnie, Chairman

Lee H. Burke, Secretary
(Minutes Taken by Mira G. Thatcher)

Date Approved