A meeting of the Executive Board of the Trustees was held on Thursday, December 15 at 2:00 p.m. in the Faculty Club of the University.


I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the chairman.

Action: The minutes of the meeting of 16 November 1977 were approved as distributed.

II. President's Report

A. President

1. Commonwealth Relations

Mr. Meyerson reviewed the status of Commonwealth appropriations noting that the legislature adjourned without completing new revenue measures sufficient to fund the level of authorized appropriations. He then called upon Mr. Sweeten to discuss the alternatives likely to be considered by the Governor. Mr. Sweeten noted his assessment that the University of Pennsylvania would sustain a cut.

Looking ahead, Mr. Reitz summarized the process underway for development of a third Master Plan for higher education in Pennsylvania. He reported that the five task forces are nearing completion of their respective reports and a completed plan is to be filed with the Department of Education by September, 1978. Of particular relevance to the University's state relations will be the recommendations of the task force on finance and those of the task force on delivery systems, both of which have been asked to review the category of state aided institutions. The University of Pennsylvania is the only major university in this category.

Mr. Reitz reviewed the efforts made by the University in the early 1970's to seek consideration of a contract system as a means of defining and measuring the amount of public financial support to be directed to state aided institutions. He stressed that the matter remains important to be resolved, but it is difficult timing for such review when the public funds are scarce and there is questioning within the education world of priorities.

2. Labor Relations

Secretary
Mr. Gaddis reported that negotiations will resume the week of December 19 with the Teamsters Union which the University has recognized as the bargaining agent for the housekeeping employees. The employees are to return to work on January 9 while negotiations continue in the effort to develop a mutually acceptable contract.

Mr. Regan then called upon representatives of two campus groups which had requested the opportunity to make a brief statement to the Trustees regarding the labor dispute. The first spokesman, Mr. John Partensky, spoke on behalf of the University Wide Strike Support Committee. A statement by the group was also sent to the Executive Board. (Copy on file with the minutes in the Office of the Secretary.) The second speaker was Dr. Isidore Gerash speaking on behalf of the Black Faculty and Administrators Caucus and the group, Concerned Faculty and Staff. (A copy of the statement is on file with the minutes in the Office of the Secretary.)

3. Contingency Financial Planning

Dr. Stellar announced that the President and Provost appointed in the fall an ad hoc committee of selected deans, faculty leaders and senior administrators to consider a plan of action should the commonwealth appropriations be reduced or eliminated. Mr. Regan reiterated the point that even should the University receive the same level of appropriation as in FY '77 inflation has already deflated significantly the resulting state support. He urged the committee and administration to "think the unthinkable" in anticipation of the need to maintain balanced operating budgets.

B. Provost

1. Appointments and Promotions

Dr. Stellar presented the recommendations for appointment and highlighted the tenure appointments being recommended - Anthony Zee and Giuseppe Pietra.

Action: The Executive Board approved the recommendations for appointments and promotions as printed. (Copy on file with the minutes.)

2. Emeritus Provost Designations

Action: The Executive Board approved the resolution as follows:

RESOLVED, That Dr. Jonathan E. Rhoads, Professor of Surgery, having rendered distinguished leadership as Provost during the period 1956-1959, be designated Provost Emeritus, effective immediately.

C. Vice President for Administration

Dr. Johnstone reported on the steps being taken by the University to meet federal requirements with regard to the modification of facilities to assist the handicapped. Legislation requires that by 1981 all new facilities must be free of barriers to the handicapped and existing facilities must be sufficiently free of barriers to make University programs accessible. A plan of the University for compliance has been filed recently. He estimated $800,000 total cost for implementation of the plan over a three-year period. Some of the projects, such as street curb modification will receive external funding assistance from the city and Drexel. The remaining funding is being built into the physical plant budget. Dr. Johnstone stated that the plan should bring the University into substantial compliance. In terms of the numbers of persons being served, he indicated that there are approximately 30 handicapped students at the University, of which about 20 use wheel chairs. There are very few handicapped staff. In response to questions, Mr. Burbank offered his judgment that the question of compliance is not settled, and that HUP particularly may be more complicated.
III. Reports of Trustee Committees

A. Investment Board

Chairman Regan and members of the Executive Board commended Mr. Stanger and the Investment Board on the excellent 1977 fiscal year report of the Franklin Investment Company. (Copy on file with minutes.)

B. Development Operating Committee

Mr. Eckman referred the Board to the summary statistical report for the campaign for the 80's and noted that $129 million (51%) of the goal has been reached.

He noted, in particular, the success to date of the faculty-staff campus campaign and offered congratulations to chairman Dr. Charles Price and his committee. During the 1960's capital campaign, $3.3 million was contributed by staff. The goal for this campaign is $5 million and already $4.3 million has been pledged. Of particular note is the pledge by the members of the Department of Radiology of $1 million to endow a chair in honor of Dr. Eugene Pendergrass. Also among tenured faculty, the School of Nursing leads in participation with 82%.

C. University Museum Board of Managers

Mr. Chance reported that the Museum Board is applying for a $1.5 million challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. Mr. Meyerson noted that the match required is a proportion of 3:1. He indicated this project will be included within the campaign for the 80's and will not lead to an increase in the total program goal.

D. Health Affairs Committee

Mr. Ballam noted that Mr. Paul Miller has agreed to chair an ad hoc sub-committee to consider hospital governance. A report from that study group is scheduled for January.

Mr. Ballam then presented a resolution to enable progress on the radiology project in the face of deferral of defeasance of the original bond issue caused by the delay in Commonwealth appropriations action.

Action: The following resolution was approved:

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees, on October 29, 1976, approved the construction of additional basic shelled space for the Department of Radiology and Radiotherapy; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Board of the Trustees, on September 15, 1977, approved the issuance of additional bonds of the Hospitals Authority of Philadelphia to provide funds (1) to effect the advance refunding of the 1975 Silverstein bonds, (2) to provide additional funds not to exceed, $950,000 to be applied to renovations for the Department of Radiology and Radiotherapy and Obstetrics and Gynecology, and (3) to provide savings from the advance refunding to apply against the cost of the Radiology, Radiotherapy, and Obstetrics and Gynecology renovations: and

WHEREAS, the issuance of the additional bonds has been postponed for an indefinite period; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to proceed immediately with the renovations for additional space for Radiology and Radiotherapy: Therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the renovations to provide additional space for the Department of Radiology and Radiotherapy be approved at an estimated cost of $3,735,000, with funding to be provided as follows:

Secretary
Silverstein Pavilion Contingency Fund $1,313,000
Advance from University funds (to be repaid over 20 years by HUP) 1,300,000
HUP operations 485,000
HUP advance (to be repaid from additional bonds if and when issued) 637,000
$3,735,000

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted

Janis I. Somerville
Secretary of the Corporation