

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THOMAS A. EDISON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

June 6, 1978

The Board of Trustees of Thomas A. Edison College of New Jersey held its fourth regular meeting of the 1977-78 Academic Year on June 6, 1978 at the College's offices in the Forrestal Center, Princeton, New Jersey.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard Pearson, Chairman; Eleanor Spiegel, Vice-Chairman; Alan Ferguson; George Hanford; Anita Heard; Jonathan Thiesmeyer; James Douglas Brown, Jr. President

MEMBERS ABSENT: Allison Jackson; Blanche Ried

ALSO PRESENT: Arnold Fletcher, Vice-President for Academic Affairs; Paul Jacobs, Director of Test Development & Assessment; Thomas McCarthy, Registrar; Jean Titterington, Director of Academic Counseling; Matthew Quinn, Director of State College Office, Department of Higher Education

Mr. Pearson formally opened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. Mr. Pearson reviewed the agenda noting that Chancellor Hollander would not be attending the meeting and that a new item was added to the agenda, a report on the Education Information Center.

The minutes of the meetings of April 21 and May 26, 1978 were presented for approval. Mrs. Spiegel moved that the minutes be accepted as written. Seconded by Mr. Thiesmeyer, the motion was approved unanimously. (5-0-0) [Mrs. Heard had not arrived in time for the voting.]

GRADUATES APPROVED: Mr. Pearson then recognized President Brown and Mr. McCarthy who presented for approval the names of 29 candidates for the Bachelor of Arts degree, 4 candidates for the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree, 59 candidates for the Associate in Arts degree and 1 candidate for the Associate in Science degree. After a period of discussion about the graduates, Mr. Hanford moved that the Board of Trustees approve the candidates for the degrees as indicated on the lists presented by the Registrar. Seconded by Mrs. Spiegel, the motion was approved unanimously. (5-0-0) [Mrs. Heard had not arrived in time for the voting.]

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Pearson then recognized President Brown who gave his report on the status of the College.

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New Trustees: The appointment of the two individuals whose resumes were distributed at the April meeting have not been approved by the Governor. Mrs. Heard has indicated that she does not wish to be reappointed to the Board at the end of her term of office. To keep a balance on the Board, there should be representation from the southern part of the State. In answer to a question about whether these appointments are the only ones being held up by the Governor, Dr. Quinn indicated that both William Paterson and Jersey City State Colleges have been experiencing delays in having trustees appointed.

Kelsey Building: The bids have been advertised. The Chancellor has assured the College that any additional costs over the \$800,000 already allocated would be covered. Construction could start in July or August. The move into the building will probably be in the Spring. The cost of the move will be met by the Department of Higher Education as well as the cost for any furniture the College might need. The Kelsey Room will remain but will not be under the control of the College. The Historical Society will see to the cataloging of the exhibit and will store it during the renovation. Dr. Quinn indicated that the bids will be opened on June 20th and that the State has 60 days to act on them. President Brown stated that the College will be able to remain in Princeton until the building is ready. He also indicated that while the second floor is not yet assigned to a unit of the College, by next spring it too might be needed for the College's staff. He will be meeting with Mayor Holland to announce the Kelsey Building renovation on June 7th.

Budgets: President Brown indicated that he and representatives of the Department of Higher Education and the Bureau of the Budget have agreed on how to handle the anticipated deficit of \$27,000. The Bureau of the Budget has approved the transfer of this amount to the College by the Department of Higher Education. Mr. Pearson reminded the Trustees that this amount is equal to that which would have been generated if the Enrollment Fee had been raised in January. President Brown indicated that fee income for FY 78 is approaching the revised figure of \$297,000 given to the Trustees in April.

President Brown noted that the number of newly enrolled students for FY 78 stood at 2238 as of June 2nd. This amounts to a 24 percent increase over FY 77, higher than the 20 percent indicated in the Trustees plans for FY 77. It is estimated that another 200 or more students will enroll before the end of the year. As of May 26th, more than 1250 TECEP examinations were applied for, more than 250 over the 1000 budgeted for FY 78. Fee income for TECEP stood at \$41,000 more than one-third higher than projected. There are 454 candidates for graduation, representing 4 more than budgeted; the total number of graduates is one-third more than FY 77.

FY 79: The budget figures distributed on November 22nd should still hold. Fee income should be about \$500,000. An operating budget for FY 79 will be presented at the July meeting of the Board. There is a strong indication that the \$71,000 eliminated from the Governor's budget will be restored in the fall. This amount should be segregated from the operating budget until the funds are actually approved.

FY 80: President Brown has been developing new budget formulations for the FY 80 budget in conjunction with the Department of Higher Education. Dr. Quinn indicated that the proposal drafted by President Brown places the College's budget in the same type of system used by the other state colleges. There was considerable discussion on the proposal.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: After the discussion on the budgets ended, Mr. Hanford moved that the Board of Trustees enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel questions. Seconded by Mrs. Spiegel, the motion was approved unanimously. (6-0-0)

The executive session lasted from 11:50 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

At the end of the executive session, the Board of Trustees resumed the open meeting at 3:00 p.m. All members still in attendance.

REPORT ON THE EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mr. Pearson recognized Mr. Hanford who presented the following resolution approved in the Executive Session.

President Brown's Resignation: Resolved, that the Trustees, recognizing the desire of James Douglas Brown, Jr. to leave the Presidency of Thomas A. Edison College in order to do scholarly research and writing in the area of non-traditional study, do hereby accept his resignation as of June 30, 1978, with deep appreciation for his fine leadership in bringing the College into being, fostering its growth and developing it to the status of a fully accredited state institution; and be it

Resolved, that the Chairman of the Board of Trustees is hereby authorized to offer to Dr. Brown a contract for a one-year leave of absence from the College with full compensation at the rate of pay and fringe benefits that he would have received had he continued as President from July 1, 1978 to June 30, 1979; and be it further

Resolved, that Dr. Brown serve as President—On Leave from July 1, 1978 until the appointment of his successor.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Thiesmeyer. There being no discussion, the resolution passed unanimously. (6-0-0)

Arnold Fletcher Appointed Acting President: Mr. Pearson then recognized Mr. Ferguson who presented the following resolution also approved in the Executive Session. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees appoint Arnold Fletcher, the Vice-President for Academic Affairs, as Acting President, to serve in this capacity at the pleasure of the Board or until such time as a new President is appointed by the Trustees and approved by the Board of Higher Education. To compensate Dr. Fletcher for this added responsibility, the Board of Trustees authorizes that he be paid at the second step of the Presidential salary level (A41).

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Hanford. There being no discussion, the resolution passed unanimously. (6-0-0)

Authority to Seek Approval of a Senior Officer for Finance & Administration: Mr. Pearson then recognized Mrs. Spiegel who presented the following resolution also approved in the Executive Session. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees authorize the Acting President to seek approval for establishing a new position for a senior officer for finance and administration, such approval to be granted by the Departments of Higher Education and Civil Service and the Bureau of the Budget. Seconded by Mr. Thiesmeyer. There being no discussion, the resolution passed unanimously. (6-0-0)

PRESIDENT'S  
REPORT  
CONTINUED:

Status of Paul Jacobs' Contract: Dr. Jacobs had requested that the Board of Trustees ask the President to withdraw his request to downgrade the position of Director of Test Development & Assessment. Mr. Pearson asked Dr. Jacobs to give his reasons for his request. Dr. Jacobs indicated that while other staff members had provided assistance in the package submitted to the Departments of Higher Education and Civil Service, the Director of Test Development & Assessment had not had any input. President Brown indicated that with all the positions, there would be a desk audit of each position. After a period of discussion, the consensus of the Board was to support the President as having acted in a professional way in deciding an administrative matter.

Education Information Centers: President Brown reviewed the concept of the EICs which had previously been discussed by the Trustees. Mr. Hanford presented the following resolution:

Whereas, Thomas A. Edison College may enter into an agreement with the New Jersey Department of Higher Education during FY 79 to establish a Statewide Information Network for Education to collect educational information on postsecondary educational opportunities and support services in New Jersey, and to establish an Educational

Information "Hotline" to disseminate this information to the citizens of the State interested in postsecondary education, and

Whereas, additional funding is being supplied by the Department of Higher Education's Federal EIC funding, and

Whereas, the Board of Trustees of the College has informally endorsed the initiative of the College to enter into this agreement, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of Thomas A. Edison College does endorse the establishment of the Statewide Information Network for Education under the administration of the College's Office of Counseling Services and in cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Higher Education.

Seconded by Mrs. Spiegel, the motion was approved unanimously.  
(6-0-0)

ACADEMIC  
COUNCIL:

Mr. Pearson then recognized Dr. Fletcher who presented two resolutions pertaining to the Academic Council:

Reappointment of Council Members: Dr. Fletcher recommended that five of the six individuals whose terms of service had ended be reappointed to the Council. A new member will be found to replace the sixth member who was not recommended for reappointment due to lack of interest. Mr. Ferguson moved that Ms. East, Ms. Drescher, Mr. Hazners, Mr. Leonard and Ms. Singer each be appointed to a three-year term on the Academic Council effective September 1, 1978. Seconded by Mr. Thiesmeyer, the motion was approved unanimously. (6-0-0)

Elimination of the Committee on Adult Learning Opportunities as a Committee of the Academic Council: Dr. Fletcher explained the reasons why this Committee was not functioning as originally planned and the plans to reorganize it as an advisory group to the Statewide Counseling/Clearinghouse and Information Network. Mrs. Heard moved that the Board of Trustees approve the removal of the Committee on Adult Learning Opportunities from the jurisdiction of the Academic Council. Seconded by Mr. Ferguson, the motion was approved unanimously. (6-0-0)

NEXT MEETING  
DATES:

Mr. Pearson indicated that the Trustees need to meet in July to approve an operating budget for FY 79 and to review the Goals and Plans for FY 78 and approve new plans for FY 79. The Trustees agreed to meet on July 21st at 10:00 a.m. at the Corporate Education Center of Western Electric in Hopewell.

The Trustees also set aside August 11th as a meeting date if needed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m. by a voice vote.

Submitted by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES DOUGLAS BROWN, JR.  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
July 21, 1978  
DATE

Approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
RICHARD PEARSON  
Chairman of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
July 21, 1978  
DATE