

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THOMAS A. EDISON STATE COLLEGE

June 3, 1983

MEMBERS PRESENT: Eleanor Spiegel, Chairperson; Patricia Danielson; Rita Novitt; Harvey Myers; Thomas Seessel; Christian Yegen; George Pruitt, President

MEMBERS ABSENT: Alan Ferguson; George Hanford; Robert Taylor

ALSO PRESENT: Arnold Fletcher, Vice President for Academic Affairs; John Bernard, Vice President for Administration and Finance; Richard Hansen, Vice President for Community Affairs; Thomas Streckewald, Director of Development (recorder); Jack Phillips, Registrar; Dennis Smith

Prior to the call to order, Mrs. Spiegel presented Dennis Smith with a framed copy of the resolution passed on April 8, 1983 in formal recognition of his many contributions to the College.

The public meeting was officially called to order at 1:47 p.m. Mrs. Spiegel noted that the date, time, and location for the meeting had been published in accordance with New Jersey law.

SWEARING IN OF E. HARVEY MYERS: Mrs. Spiegel administered the oath of office to new Trustee, E. Harvey Myers.

MINUTES APPROVED: The minutes of the April 8, 1983 Board of Trustees meeting were presented for approval. Rita Novitt moved acceptance of the minutes, seconded by Patricia Danielson. Rita Novitt presented a correction to the minutes which represents more clearly the reason Johnson and Johnson did not fund the BSN program. The amended statement reads as follows:

Rita Novitt stated that Johnson and Johnson would not fund the BSN at the present time because the Corporation decided, as a result of a National Commission on Nursing survey, done by Yankelovich, Skelley, & White, that they would fund a three year program on Administrative Management for the Nursing Profession.

and replaces the second full paragraph on page 2 of the April 8, 1983 minutes.

The correction was accepted without comment, and the minutes were approved (6-0).

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Adding to the "Report of The President" mailed previously, Dr. Pruitt expressed his great satisfaction with the high quality credentials and abilities of both Dr. Jerry Ice, who has accepted the position of Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Mr. Michael Scheiring, who has accepted the position of Vice President for Administration and Finance. Both appointments are effective July 1, 1983.

Dr. Pruitt reiterated his satisfaction with the efforts and final report of the Cost-Effectiveness Task Force, and again invited Board members to peruse the report.

Dr. Pruitt reported that the change in reduction in force regulations previously discussed has been referred to the Department of Higher Education by the Council of State Colleges with the request that the Department take no further action on the issue pending negotiation with the American Federation of Teachers (AFT). The Department has agreed to negotiate with the AFT. Additionally, Dr. Pruitt acknowledged the request of the local Union that Edison's Board withdraw support of the proposed changes. In light of the upcoming negotiations, Dr. Pruitt recommended to the Board that no action be taken at this time. The Board chose to take no action.

The change in fees for students of the College has been approved by the Board of Higher Education. The anticipated implementation date is July 1, 1983.

In regard to the proposed personnel plan, Dr. Pruitt reported that continuing discussions with the local Union have resulted in eliminating apparent substantive issues, and that current discussions are focused on identifying specific language which is acceptable to both the Union and the College. A full personnel plan should be ready for the proposed August meeting of the Board.

Dr. Pruitt reported that the Wang OIS 140 Word Processor has been received and will be operational in approximately one month. As the new budget (FY84) permits, the Wang system will be upgraded to a VS 80 mini-computer which will allow in-house data processing at Edison for the first time.

Dr. Pruitt reported on recent developments in the relationship between Edison and the Centre for Business Studies (CBS) in England. In spite of the formal agreement between the College and CBS, the printed material describing our agreement was not sent to Edison for review before release. The language of these materials is misleading and indicates that Edison and Middle States have been "franchised" through CBS. The Edison administration has chosen to not renew the agreement in December (when it expires) because of the difficulty in identifying language acceptable to both parties.

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Dr. Pruitt reported on recent efforts directed at externalizing the College. Before the meeting, the Board was presented with the encouraging returns of the Alumni Survey. Dr. Pruitt further noted that alumni participation in alumni activities has markedly increased in the past few months.

Dr. Pruitt shared a gratifying letter from a satisfied student, two articles in Mercer Business Magazine, and an article in the Trentonian.

Mr. John Jacobs, President of the National Urban League, met with Dr. Pruitt on April 20, 1983. He intends to arrange a meeting between all New Jersey Urban Leagues and Edison staff. This meeting holds significant potential for enhancing Edison's community service and for addressing the minority outreach commitment.

Dr. Pruitt reviewed the purpose and activity of the State "Vacancy Review Board." Upon Dr. Fletcher's retirement, the College was required to justify the need for a college to have an Academic Vice President. Chancellor Hollander has written to Governor Kean requesting an exemption for all of higher education. Mrs. Spiegel reported that the Council of State Colleges had also expressed concern and asked that the Chancellor request the exemption.

The Board then considered Dr. Pruitt's recommendation for an all day meeting on August 5, 1983. The meeting will cover the 1984 and 1985 fiscal year budgets, the personnel plan, and the annual report of the President with a statement of goals for the next fiscal year. The members present were all available and a tentative date was set, pending notification of the full Board. An announcement will be mailed when the date is set. Dr. Fletcher noted that the Academic Council calendar has been set but can be changed to maintain the two-week spacing between Council and Board meetings.

Dr. Pruitt reported briefly on the plans for the July 9, 1983 Inauguration Ceremony.

The Chancellor's meeting with College staff is scheduled for July 21, 1983. Board members who can attend will be tentatively expected at 11:00 a.m. A definite time will be announced as the day is scheduled. Mrs. Spiegel stressed the importance of Board participation in this meeting.

The College has received the first check of \$76,000 from the Kellogg Foundation for Project LEARN. The Foundation has also given permission for Edison to begin sending out press releases regarding the grant.

In concluding his report, Dr. Pruitt gave recognition to John Bernard, outgoing Vice President for Administration and Finance, for his guidance and counsel during his first few months as President.

Rita Novitt noted that morning meetings are most convenient for her and asked that Board members be again queried for meeting time preferences. Dr. Pruitt agreed to send out a poll so that preferences can be accommodated when the meeting dates for the year are established at the August Board meeting.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS:

Registrar's Report: On behalf of Dr. Fletcher, Jack Phillips presented the names of candidates for degrees. There were 16 candidates for Associate in Arts, 7 for Associate in Science, 37 for Bachelor of Arts, 12 for Bachelor of Science, and 17 for Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, for a total of 89 candidates. Mr. Phillips stated that all candidates have met all requirements for their respective degrees.

Rita Novitt moved and Ms. Danielson seconded a motion to approve all candidates as indicated on the list provided by the Registrar. The motion carried (6-0).

Mr. Phillips noted that the College has now awarded 4,312 degrees: 2,343 associate degrees and 1,969 baccalaureate degrees. The graduates number 567 for FY83, compared to 514 in FY82. As requested by the Board in April, Mr. Phillips also provided a breakdown of methods used to gain credits for the 89 new graduates. Of the 10,063 credits transcribed by the graduates, 7,789 were college transfer credits, 372 were TECEP, 427 were CLEP General, 498 were CLEP Subject, and 421 were from licenses. The remaining credit sources included other tests (81), Portfolio Assessment (222), Individual Assessment (108), and military training (145). Annie M. Bowser, secretary to the Registrar, was noted for having completed the Associate of Science in Management degree.

A discussion followed concerning the proportion of credits earned through credit-bearing options at Edison, the type of student currently enrolled, planning (particularly in marketing), and the ethnic composition of graduates. Mr. Phillips announced that he would provide the ethnic breakdown at the August Board meeting.

Preliminary Approval of New Associate Degree Options: Dr. Fletcher reviewed the proposed addition of three Associate degree options designed to parallel the Bachelor of Science in Human Services, the Bachelor of Science in Applied Science and Technology, and the Bachelor of Arts in Natural Science/Mathematics. Mr. Yegen moved and Mr. Seessel seconded a motion to grant preliminary approval of the development of three new Associate degrees, with the understanding that the final proposal would be brought back for final approval.

In discussion of the proposal, Mr. Myers asked if policies were being developed to address students who are beyond the Associate level who wish to receive one of the new degrees. Dr. Fletcher responded that this and other policy issues will be addressed in the formal development process.

Mrs. Spiegel called the question and the motion passed (5-0, Danielson not present).

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE:

Personnel Actions Report; Dr. Pruitt clarified the apparent discrepancy between the FY84 budget report and the personnel actions report with respect to the salary of Mr. Michael Scheiring. Mr. Scheiring has officially accepted the appointment at the fourth step of the salary range. However, because this represents a salary decrease, the College wishes to petition a Civil Service committee to employ Mr. Scheiring at the seventh step, commensurate with his current salary. Dr. Pruitt requested Board approval in this process in order to go forward with the petition. Mr. Seessel moved and Mr. Yegen seconded a motion to approve both the hiring of Mr. Scheiring as the Vice President for Administration and Finance and the establishment of starting salary at the seventh step. The motion carried (5-0, Danielson not present).

Dr. Pruitt then reviewed the credentials of both new Vice Presidents. Mrs. Spiegel asked if the Affirmative Action reports could be made available to the Board. Dr. Pruitt agreed to provide them.

It was moved by Ms. Danielson, seconded by Ms. Novitt to approve the appointment of Dr. Jerry Ice as Vice President of Academic Affairs. The motion carried (6-0).

Mr. Seessel then moved, and Mr. Yegen seconded the acceptance of the Personnel Actions Report. The motion carried (6-0).

Financial Report: Dr. Pruitt reviewed the 9-month budget report and indicated that the College has sufficiently frozen expenditures and increased revenues since January to bring the projected deficit in the 440 account down to \$19,354. Dr. Pruitt also announced that the College projects attainment of 86% of 100 account projected revenues for FY83, compared to 84% last year.

A discussion of the various accounts (100, 200, 440) of the College and the Edison Foundation accounts ensued. The discussion focused on the relationship between the accounts and the categories of funds in each. Mrs. Spiegel and Ms. Novitt expressed a desire to have reports on the 200 (project grant) account. Dr. Pruitt agreed to provide them as the funds from PROJECT LEARN are expended, noting that the 200 account only exists when the College is in receipt of project grant funds.

Mr. Seessel moved and Ms. Danielson seconded a motion to accept the Financial Report. The motion carried (6-0).

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

Dr. Hansen reported that this year's Alumni Phonathon was a success, raising \$18,769 in pledges. This exceeded the \$18,000 goal. The number of pledges increased 17% to 1,035, while the average pledge was \$20.63, up 3%.

Dr. Hansen indicated that the alumni surveys, which the Board reviewed over lunch, had a first-mailing return of 20%.

New Jersey Bell recently presented the College with a check of \$1,250 for student scholarships; and the Charlotte Newcombe Foundation recently awarded \$7,000 in scholarships funds for women for the 1984 fiscal year.

Dr. Hansen distributed a list of prospective corporations and organizations for the Center for Management Education and Services and a list of the PONSI evaluations completed so far in FY83.

CHAIRPERSONS REPORT: Mrs. Spiegel, reporting on the activities of the Council of State Colleges, announced that the Commission on the Future of State Colleges has reviewed the governance of the Council. The Commission report is due in late summer or fall.

The proposed legislation concerning student representation on State College governing boards has not been introduced.

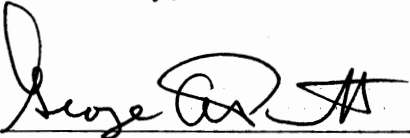
Mrs. Spiegel further reported that the Joint Appropriations Committee is deliberating the FY84 budget. System-wide and Edison State College strategies for restitution of funds cut by the Governor were briefly discussed. Mrs. Spiegel invited all Board members to participate in legislative interaction during the budget review period.

NEW BUSINESS: Dr. Pruitt distributed a memorandum requesting Board approval of two resolutions. The first resolution was to grant Dr. Fletcher the position of Vice President Emeritus upon his retirement and was moved by Ms. Danielson and seconded by Ms. Novitt. The motion carried (6-0).

The second resolution introduced by Dr. Pruitt for Board action concerned the establishment of the Arnold Fletcher Scholars Program in recognition of the continued pursuit of excellence and quality in academic programs which has characterized Dr. Fletcher's tenure at the College. Ms. Novitt moved and Ms. Danielson seconded adoption of the resolution. The motion carried (6-0).

Mrs. Spiegel noted the retirement party in Dr. Fletcher's honor following the meeting and the meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Submitted by,

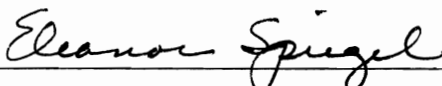


George A. Pruitt
Secretary to the Board

August 5, 1983

Date

Approved by,



Eleanor Spiegel
Chairman of the Board

August 5, 1983

Date