

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE

March 14, 1997

MEMBERS PRESENT: George Fricke, Chairman; Richard Arndt; Nicholas Carnevale; Ida Hammond; E. Harvey Myers; Carole Nerlino; William Kisby, student; George A. Pruitt, President.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Fred Abbate; Wendy Logan; Thomas O'Neill; Cordell Trotman, student.

ALSO PRESENT: Jerry Ice, Vice President and Provost; Michael Scheiring, Vice President and Treasurer; John Thurber, Vice President for Public Affairs; Penelope Brouwer, Executive Assistant to the President; Jack Livingstone, State Librarian; Donald Trucksess, Union Representative.

The public meeting was officially called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman George Fricke who noted that the date, time, and location for the meeting had been published in accordance with New Jersey law.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the December 20, 1996 meeting were presented for approval. Richard Arndt moved and Carole Nerlino seconded a motion to approve the minutes. Motion carried (7-0).

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Adding to his written report, Dr. Pruitt commented on the meeting that recently took place in Washington between five state college presidents and members of the New Jersey congressional delegation. He stated that discussions centered around state issues, primarily the budget, and the Higher Education Reauthorization Act. He further stated that the Higher Education Reauthorization Act of 1992 was constructed in a very limited fashion, particularly in terms of correspondence courses/distance learning; it described the number of weeks in a semester, and made assumptions based on a traditional model. Dr.

Pruitt reported that the College has been very involved in better informing government in this area in an effort to influence language in the new act.

Dr. Pruitt then spoke about the March 13 ceremony which formally renamed the John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy. He commented that in attendance were all the former speakers that John Watson served under, the current speaker, Jack Collins, and 150 other people. Nicholas Carnevale stated that John Thurber handled the ceremony well, and that the speakers were eloquent with comments inspired by John Watson's memory. He mentioned that there was a favorable reaction to the College by the attendees and that Bill Watson did a very good job. George Fricke agreed and said that it was a day on which he was especially proud to be associated with the College. George Fricke further commented that Stanley Van Ness was very inspirational, and suggested that an oral history might be a valuable output from the Institute.

Dr. Pruitt mentioned that there would be a feature article on the College in the Sunday, March 16 edition of the Trenton Times, and that copies of the article would be distributed to Trustees.

George Fricke asked about the State Library's assumption of responsibility for the library facilities at the Department of Environmental Protection and Energy and the Department of Transportation. Jack Livingstone stated that without the State Library's support, both libraries would collapse.

Richard Arndt asked about the status of the military program. Dr. Pruitt stated that a team from the College attended a bidders conference in Washington hosted by the Department of Defense. This team determined that if the College was successful in winning the contract, Thomas Edison would need to create a substantial infrastructure up front. For this and other reasons, including programmatic match and likelihood of success, it was concluded that the College should pursue the military through other means.

Dr. Ice provided further information and stated that there are over 100 military sites in Asia and Europe, and that the College would probably need \$1 million to get started. All the numbers the College was given were for classroom-based instruction; not for distance learning. He then stated that he is going to Germany to explore other avenues.

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Richard Arndt presented the written report and reviewed the committee's deliberations on February 19.

A discussion on the budget followed. Dr. Pruitt commented on the positive recommendations on the Library and indicated that good progress has been made with the Libraries 2000 plan. The Library is still in need of per capita aid, and the Library will, for

the first time this year, present their budget to the legislature. Jack Livingstone mentioned the great benefits derived from the association with the College.

Dr. Pruitt then commented on the January 13 meeting with State Treasurer Brian Clymer, Eileen McGuiness from the Governor's Office of Policy and Planning; Elizabeth Pugh, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and state college presidents. He noted that the Treasurer reported that the Governor's budget for higher education would include; a 10% cut in operating budgets, continuation of the attrition program, and no funding for the salary program. Dr. Pruitt remarked that the response from the presidents was that this was not an acceptable situation and that the responsibility of the presidents was to try to secure appropriate and adequate resources. Dr. Pruitt further reported that the meeting was difficult and that the basic assertion by the state is that the colleges have sufficient reserves to cover these cuts.

The President continued by noting that although the Governor's budget did not reflect the 10% cut, it does not include funding for the salary program, and continues the attrition program initiatives that amount to a 14% cut for the College. He remarked that the colleges will continue to press their concerns about the budget and funding issues with the media and the legislature. He further stated that there needs to be a fundamental overhaul of the financing model for the state; funding issues are a multi-year problem. Dr. Pruitt said that what appears to be driving public policy is politics, perception and balancing the budget, rather than the focus on the public good.

Dr. Pruitt talked about the March 10 Trustee Conference where Frank Newman, President of the Education Commission of the States, talked about "the college of the future" and, without mentioning Thomas Edison State College specifically, described the model of this college.

Dr. Pruitt then discussed the March 10 state audit team visit by Kristi Sarchet from the Governor's Office of Policy and Planning; Alice Chandler, retired president of SUNY New Paltz; and others from the Treasurer's Office. Dr. Pruitt pointed out that the stated purpose of the exercise is to help colleges identify opportunities for efficiencies. He further remarked that he had informed the team that this audit process had no relevance to Thomas Edison.

Richard Arndt asked if a resolution from the Board regarding budget cuts and their impact on tuition increases would be useful. Dr. Pruitt stated that would probably be very helpful in June. He also commented that statements of appreciation from the Board to Senator Inverso would be very appropriate and welcomed. The President noted that he has reached out to Don Silberman regarding the state's intention not to fund the negotiated salary increases and stated that we will not know what the actual budget will be until after November.

Nicholas Carnevale commented that the Commission on Higher education really does not seem to know what their job and/or direction is, and that it is apparent also that the "larger" schools are not taking any leadership. Dr. Pruitt responded that leadership is coming from Presidents Speert, Eickhoff, James and himself. He noted that all of the cuts are focused on the 11 public institutions (excluding UMDNJ), and that victory is defined as not going backwards. He also mentioned that the College's targets will be to have the salary program restored and to secure \$500,000 in funding for the Watson Institute.

Michael Scheiring then presented an update on the status of the townhouses. He stated that the College did not receive sufficient or competitive bid responses, as there were only 2 responses per bid package, and the bids came in \$2 million over budget. Mr. Scheiring indicated that Turner Construction has agreed to relax the schedule without an increase in cost, and has made changes and modifications to some of the specifications; thus tightening the packages. He further stated that there is a great deal of activity in the construction market. Harvey Myers agreed. Dr. Pruitt expressed the College's disappointment over the problems with the estimates, but noted that project completion in the spring of 1998 is still anticipated.

Nicholas Carnevale asked if the College is still being considered for management of the War Memorial. Dr. Pruitt stated that the College remains interested, but that there has been no decision as of yet. He commented that Treasury has referred the management choice to the Governor's Office.

Richard Arndt then presented the following bid waiver resolutions:

College Catalog

WHEREAS: The "State College Contracts Law," Chapter 64 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes requires that any purchase exceeding \$11,700 must be publicly advertised for sealed bids in the local newspapers; and

WHEREAS: Section 5a of the additional article to Chapter 64 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes states that the College may waive the bidding procedures by resolution of the Board of Trustees of the College for the printing of the College Catalog; and

WHEREAS: The purchasing policies of Thomas Edison State College approved by the Board of Trustees on October 10, 1986 provide for the granting of categorical prior approval and postreporting to the Board of such purchases; and

WHEREAS: The College is planning to purchase a College Catalog in June 1997, which will cost over \$11,700; and

WHEREAS: The estimated printing cost is approximately \$73,500; and

WHEREAS: The College will not be going to a sole source, but will seek proposals from a list of printers; and

WHEREAS: The recommendation has been reviewed by the Administration and Finance Committee of the Board; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State College does hereby authorize a bid waiver for the College to purchase a College Catalog, and that any purchase pursuant to this authority is reported to the Board of Trustees in public session at its next scheduled meeting.

Carole Nerlino moved and Ida Hammond seconded a motion to adopt the resolution. Motion carried (7-0).

DIAL Bulletin

WHEREAS: The "State College Contracts Law," Chapter 64 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes requires that any purchase exceeding \$11,700 must be publicly advertised for sealed bids in the local newspapers; and

WHEREAS: Section 5a of the additional article to Chapter 64 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes states that the College may waive the bidding procedures by resolution of the Board of Trustees of the College for the printing of the DIAL Bulletin; and

WHEREAS: The purchasing policies of Thomas Edison State College approved by the Board of Trustees on October 10, 1986 provide for the granting of categorical prior approval and postreporting to the Board of such purchases; and

WHEREAS: The College is planning to purchase a DIAL Bulletin in May 1997, which will cost over \$11,700; and

WHEREAS: The estimated printing cost is approximately \$56,250; and

WHEREAS: The College will not be going to a sole source, but will seek proposals from a list of printers; and

WHEREAS: The recommendation has been reviewed by the Administration and Finance Committee of the Board; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State College does hereby authorize a bid waiver for the College to purchase a DIAL Bulletin, and that any purchase pursuant to this authority is reported to the Board of Trustees in public session at its next scheduled meeting.

Carole Nerlino moved and Ida Hammond seconded a motion to adopt the resolution. Motion carried (7-0).

Test Description and DANTES Books

- WHEREAS:** The "State College Contracts Law," Chapter 64 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes requires that any purchase exceeding \$11,700 must be publicly advertised for sealed bids in the local newspapers; and
- WHEREAS:** Section 5a of the additional article to Chapter 64 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes states that the College may waive the bidding procedures by resolution of the Board of Trustees of the College for the printing of the Test Description and DANTES Books; and
- WHEREAS:** The purchasing policies of Thomas Edison State College approved by the Board of Trustees on October 10, 1986 provide for the granting of categorical prior approval and postreporting to the Board of such purchases; and
- WHEREAS:** The College is planning to purchase Test Description and DANTES Books in August 1997, which will cost over \$11,700; and
- WHEREAS:** The estimated printing cost is approximately \$14,800; and
- WHEREAS:** The College will not be going to a sole source, but will seek proposals from a list of printers; and
- WHEREAS:** The recommendation has been reviewed by the Administration and Finance Committee; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED:** That the Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State College does hereby

authorize a bid waiver for the College to purchase Test Description and DANTES Books, and that any purchase pursuant to this authority is reported to the Board of Trustees in public session at its next scheduled meeting.

Ida Hammond moved and Harvey Myers seconded a motion to adopt the resolution. Motion carried (7-0).

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREE:

Jerry Ice presented the candidates for the associate and baccalaureate degrees as of January 15, 1997. There are 7 candidates for the Associate in Arts, 3 candidates for the Associate in Science in Management, 1 candidate for the Associate in Science in Natural Science and Mathematics, 1 candidate for the Associate in Science in Public and Social Services, 15 candidates for the Associate in Science in Applied Science and Technology, 79 candidates for the Bachelor of Arts, 9 candidates for the Bachelor of Science in Human Services, 32 candidates for the Bachelor of Science in Applied Science and Technology, 10 candidates for the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, and 4 candidates for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, for a total of 161 candidates.

He commented that 47% are in-state residents; 41% are female; 5% are African-American; and 65% are between the ages of 31 and 50. He also estimated that we will be over 1,200 graduates for the year.

George Fricke presented the following resolution to approve the candidates as indicated:

The Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State College does hereby approve the awarding of the appropriate degrees to those January 15, 1997 candidates indicated on the lists provided and incorporated herein by reference.

The action herein taken is pursuant to a certification by the President that the aforementioned candidates have satisfied all relevant degree requirements as recommended by the Academic Council and as established by the Board of Trustees.

Nicholas Carnevale moved and Carol Nerlino seconded a motion to adopt the resolution. Motion carried (7-0).

CONTRACT RENEWALS:

George Fricke presented the recommendations for contract renewals as follows:

DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS CONTRACT RECOMMENDATIONS

Jamie Heulitt Priester, Program Assistant	1 Year	1997 - 1998
Donna Higgins, Assistant to the Director	1 Year	1997 - 1998
Donna Keebler, Evaluator	1 Year	1997 - 1998
Kanti Ponamgi, Assistant to the Director/Nursing	1 Year	1997 - 1998
Nadine Shapiro, Evaluator	1 Year	1997 - 1998
Bettye Smith, Admissions Representative	1 Year	1997 - 1998

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION CONTRACT RECOMMENDATIONS

John Cosolito, Systems Coordinator	1 Year	1997 - 1998
Ken Hunt, Assistant Administrator Student Fees & Revenues	1 Year	1997 - 1998
Noreen O'Donnell, Administrative Assistant	1 Year	1997 - 1998
Wendy O'Hare, Fiscal Administrator	1 Year	1997 - 1998
Barbara Sandstrom, Systems Coordinator	1 Year	1997 - 1998
Randolph Schwartz, Desktop Applications Specialist	1 Year	1997 - 1998

DIVISION OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONTRACT RECOMMENDATIONS

Patricia Memminger, Program Assistant	1 Year	1997 - 1998
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George Fricke presented the following resolution:

The Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State College does hereby approve the contract recommendations as indicated on the lists provided and incorporated herein by reference.

The action taken herein is pursuant to an evaluation of each employee's work performance and the recommendation of the President.

Richard Arndt moved and Ida Hammond seconded a motion to adopt the resolution. Motion carried (6-0, student abstention).

PERSONNEL ACTIONS:

George Fricke presented the following resolution:

The Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison State College does hereby approve all appointments as indicated on the lists provided and incorporated herein by reference.

The action herein taken is pursuant to a recommendation by the President of the College.

Carole Nerlino moved and Ida Hammond seconded a motion to adopt the resolution. Motion carried (6-0, student abstention).

NEW BUSINESS:

Dr. Pruitt remarked on the proposed FY 1998 meeting dates for the Board of Trustees, noting that the dates will be formally acted upon at the June 1997 meeting.

There being no further business, Nicholas Carnevale moved and Ida Hammond seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried (7-0).

Submitted by,

Approved by,



George A. Pruitt
Secretary to the Board



George V. Fricke
Chairman