

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THOMAS A. EDISON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

June 2, 1976

The Board of Trustees of Thomas A. Edison College of New Jersey held its fifth meeting of the 1975-76 Academic Year on June 2, 1976 at the Turtlebrook Inn, West Orange, New Jersey. The meeting began at 10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Thiesmeyer, Chairman; Richard Pearson, Vice-Chairman; Rebecca Butler; Anita Heard; Allison Jackson; Eleanor Spiegel; James Douglas Brown, Jr., President

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Kavesh; Blanche Ried; Richard Sweeney

ALSO PRESENT: Arnold Fletcher, Vice-President for Academic Affairs; Thomas McCarthy, Registrar

MINUTES APPROVED: The minutes of the meeting of April 2, 1976 were presented for approval. Mrs. Jackson requested that the minutes be corrected as follows:

Page Two. Insert a fourth paragraph under the Report from Personnel Committee: Mrs. Jackson stated that there be an objective evaluation of the President to be included in the Personnel Committee Report.

Mrs. Heard moved that the minutes be so corrected, seconded by Mrs. Spiegel; the motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Spiegel moved that the minutes, as corrected, be approved; seconded by Dr. Butler, the motion was approved unanimously. (6-0-0)

GRADUATES APPROVED: Mr. Thiesmeyer recognized President Brown who presented the names of those who had met the degree requirements since December 12, 1975. A total of 117 candidates for the Associate in Arts degree, 4 candidates for the Associate in Science degree, 58 candidates for the Bachelor of Arts degree, and 5 candidates for the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree were presented. Mrs. Spiegel moved that the candidates presented by President Brown be approved as graduates, upon the formal request of each candidate; seconded by Dr. Butler, the motion was approved unanimously. (6-0-0)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Mr. Thiesmeyer recognized President Brown for his report on the status of the College.

Middle States Association Visit and Team Report: President Brown reported on several aspects of the Team's Report, a copy of

which had previously been sent to the Trustees along with a copy of his report. In response to the concerns expressed with regard to counseling/advising of enrolled students, President Brown described his plan to expand the Individual Assessment Program by adding Program Advisors who would work with the baccalaureate students under the direction of the Program Directors. This may entail several additional changes in the assessment techniques. Mr. Pearson pointed out that the College should stay with the counseling/advising aspect of the College's services as long as possible before getting into instruction.

As the services rendered to students change, it will be necessary to revise the fee structure to best suit the needs of students and the College.

Several Trustees expressed the need for the Board to review and redefine, if necessary, the goals and mission of the College. Mr. Thiesmeyer recommended that the Trustees reread the Self-Study and the Visitation Team's report and to note recommendations for change which should be brought to the special meeting to be held later in the summer. One major question to be answered is the role the College is to play in the higher education community.

President Brown suggested that the Board should meet with the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor to discuss the future of the College in the whole higher education community. The fall would be the appropriate time since the budget will be in the process of being approved.

Mrs. Jackson expressed the concern of some of the community colleges in central New Jersey over the possibility that the College is taking over the function of the community college. President Brown stated that he would be willing to meet with the officials of the colleges concerned to explain just what the College is doing.

It was agreed by all that the accreditation report should have a major place in the special summer meeting. Emphasis will be on policy changes.

Budget for FY 77: Appropriations Committee approved change in allocation to \$563,000.00. The legislature plans to pass the budget without funding education. The current status of the budget for FY 77 shows that the College will be in good standing. There was some miscalculations in predictions of expenses for FY 76. These have been corrected and new budget figures have been given to the Trustees. Where deficits appear for some grant fund accounts, the deficits will be made up by surpluses in other accounts.

The CETA grants will be extended to October, the start of the new Federal fiscal year. Most of the current CETA grants should be renewed for FY 77.

The College is making adjustments in the area of telephones in an effort to reduce the charges in the future. Other changes will be effected to reduce costs. New bookkeeping procedures are being implemented in the Administrative Services Office which will enable the College to know more precisely the status of its fund accounts.

A detailed budget for FY 77 will be prepared for the special summer meeting.

Commencement Plans: President Brown gave a run down of the plans for the Commencement to take place later in the day at the National Historic Site of Thomas Alva Edison's laboratories.

Budget for FY 78: The forms and the dates for deadlines for the budget for FY 78 have not been released by the Department of Higher Education. When these are made available, President Brown will prepare the new budget for approval by the Trustees.

REPORT FROM THE  
ACADEMIC COUNCIL:

Mr. Thiesmeyer recognized Dr. Fletcher for a report from the Academic Council. Dr. Fletcher distributed a copy of the revisions of the Bachelor of Arts concentrations and explained the rationale for the changes. He also distributed a list of the members of the Bachelor of Science degree committee. There was some discussion about the make-up of the committee centering on the need to have practitioners in the field as well as those from the academic community.

Dr. Fletcher then presented his recommendations for the re-appointment of four members of the Academic Council to full three-year terms. He also presented a recommendation to make the student representatives terms likewise be three years and that the present student representatives be appointed to staggered terms: Mrs. Rickmers to a three-year term, Mrs. Hackett to a two-year term, and Mr. Krehley to a one-year term. Dr. Butler moved that both recommendations be approved; seconded by Mr. Pearson the motion carried unanimously.

(6-0-0)

Dr. Fletcher pointed out that there are four vacancies on the Council as a result of the completion of terms and one resignation from the Council. Replacements will be presented at the summer meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION  
CALLED:

The Board of Trustees has approved contracts for the nine individuals presented by President Brown after a review of the evaluations recently completed. The Board also enthusiastically reappointed the President.

A nominating committee to select officers for next year was appointed. The committee consists of Rebecca Butler, Blanche Ried

and Jonathan Thiesmeyer. The committee is to present its selection at the September meeting.

NEW POSITIONS ESTABLISHED:

Five new positions were presented to the Trustees for approval: a Director of the Clearinghouse (A27), three (3) new Academic Counselors (A24), and one Administrative Assistant for External Affairs (A20).

In addition, two Academic Advisors (A24) will be added through funding from other sources. Academic Counselors will report to the Director of Academic Counseling and the Academic Advisors to the appropriate Program Director. Mr. Pearson moved that the new positions be established if funding is available; seconded by Mrs. Jackson; the motion was approved unanimously. (6-0-0)

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Pearson asked if any of the Trustees had received mailings from the State Board of Higher Education concerning the involvement of the state college trustees in the total higher education process. There seemed to be a concern that the Board and the Department of Higher Education were getting too involved in the budgetary matters of the state colleges. President Brown suggested that at least one trustee should attend the meeting that was being set up.

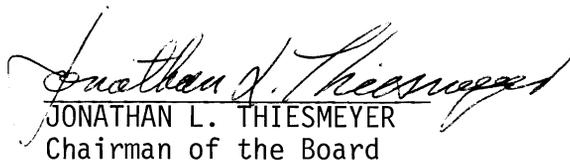
There being no additional new business, Dr. Butler moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Mrs. Spiegel. The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Submitted by:

  
JAMES DOUGLAS BROWN, JR.  
Secretary

August 2, 1976  
Date

Approved by:

  
JONATHAN L. THIESMEYER  
Chairman of the Board

August 2, 1976  
Date