

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THOMAS A. EDISON COLLEGE

September 12, 1973

The Board of Trustees of Thomas A. Edison College of New Jersey met on September 12, 1973 at the Western Electric Education Center.

Members Present: Jonathan Thiesmeyer
Rebecca B. Butler
Richard T. Sweeney
Julius Vogel
Eleanor Spiegel
Robert Kavesh
Richard Pearson
Blanche R. Ried
James Douglas Brown, Jr.

Also Attending: Robert Birnbaum, Vice Chancellor,
Department of Higher Education
Thomas P. McCarthy, Registrar
Edison College

The minutes of the meeting of July 12, 1973 were approved as stated.

The nominating committee through its Chairman, Mr. Sweeney, placed the names of Mr. Thiesmeyer and Mr. Pearson into consideration for Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively. There being no other nominees, Mr. Thiesmeyer and Mr. Pearson were elected unanimously. There was a discussion on the need for an official meeting in July for the purpose of electing officers, the need for meetings more often than once a quarter, and the need to publicize the meetings as open meetings. It was decided that there would be no need for a meeting prior to the first scheduled meeting each September. It was also decided that the Chairman should call meetings when he saw the need for one. It was also decided that an effort should be made to notify the public about stated meetings through the newspapers.

Dr. Brown then gave his President's Report. Included in the report were the following topics: Resignation of Mr. Bonachea from the Board of Trustees and method used for replacing him; Resignation of Dr. McGarraghy and suggested replacement for his position; July planning sessions of the Edison College staff which covered concepts concerning special assessment, both individual and group; Need for an academic council; Need to rectify the New York relationship; Progress of the nursing degree; Development of a Bachelor of Arts Degree; Other degree possibilities; Results of the evaluation by Middle States.

There were two areas within the president's report which were covered in detail: Special Assessment and the progress of the Nursing Degree. It was pointed out that the degree is an interstate degree; it was also pointed out that there will be a need for a full time nursing coordinator who will advise students, work with hospitals in setting up refresher courses for LPNs, helping

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arrange the clinical performance area. Questions raised included the possibility of linking counseling aspects to the counseling network, the need for an overseer from the National League of Nursing, classroom training vs. waiver by examination, whether there is a need for more nurses and whether Edison College should become involved. It was resolved that at a special meeting the entire nursing program should be discussed. It was pointed out in reference to questions that the New Jersey Board of Nursing has been involved from the beginning in deliberations; that Edison College commitment has amounted to at least \$30,000 in consulting and norming fees. Dr. Birnbaum pointed out the state does try to identify the marketability of new degrees and that Edison College's program is certification and not instructional. Dr. Kavesh pointed out that Edison College must identify the state's needs so that future programs can be anticipated.

Following the President's report, Mr. McCarthy gave a brief overview of the printed registration reports for Edison College and the August administration of CPEP and the grade report of the May administration. It was suggested that the occupational status of enrollees should be included in the report.

Since Dr. Birnbaum would be unable to attend the afternoon meeting, the relationship with the New York Regents External Degree Program was advanced. Dr. Birnbaum discussed the historical aspects of the cooperative arrangement between the Regents External Degree Program and Edison College. The Regents External Degree Program had already begun developing degree programs when New Jersey requested a joint interstate cooperative arrangement. New York did not need it but agreed to it. Problems have arisen which concern the viability of the interstate agreement.

A lengthy discussion followed Dr. Birnbaum's remarks in light of the letter of Dr. Donald J. Nolan to Dr. Brown concerning the interstate relationship. Members of the Board questioned Dr. Brown about the implications of Dr. Nolan's letter specifically what effect a loss of the interstate cooperative arrangement would have on the degree programs, use of tests. Alternatives suggested were going it alone and merely buying tests from New York; submit to New York in all aspects of degree development; effect a meaningful compromise.

Discussion then centered on the draft letter of Dr. Brown in response to Dr. Nolan's letter. Dr. Brown explained his understanding of the degree committees as equivalent to curriculum committees but not academic standing committees. After much discussion, Dr. Pearson moved that the Board express its appreciation to New York for past help and hope and confidence for continued help in the future; that the Board is aware of Dr. Nolan's concerns and Dr. Brown's intended response; that the Board reserves the right to make the final commitment as it pertains to Edison College; that the Board supports Dr. Brown in his attempt to satisfactorily resolve the outstanding issues. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sweeney. After some additional discussion, the Board adjourned for lunch at 12:30 p.m.

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The afternoon session of the Edison College Board of Trustees began at 2:00 p.m. with all who attended the morning session present except Dr. Birnbaum. Also present were Dr. Engeman, Mr. Hamer and Mr. Smith.

Discussion continued on Dr. Pearson's motion. The discussion included the possibility of a meeting between New Jersey representatives (Dr. Brown and Dr. Birnbaum) and New York representatives (Dr. Nolan and Dr. Hollander). It was noted that there is a difference in administrative outlook between New Jersey and New York. It was noted that there is a difference in educational philosophy between Dr. Brown and Dr. Nolan.

After considerable discussion, Mr. Pearson and Mr. Sweeney agreed to withdraw their motion from discussion and substitute the following resolution:

The Board of Trustees recognizes the very helpful spirit of cooperation which has been extended by the New York Regents External Degree Program in the formative stages of Thomas A. Edison College and it sincerely hopes that this close cooperative relationship can be continued. In expressing this hope, the Board takes note of areas of apparent disagreement and potential divergence of interest as expressed in the letter of Dr. Donald Nolan dated August 17, 1973 and encourages the President to work toward resolving these differences toward a continuance of an effective cooperative relationship.

The resolution was moved by Mr. Pearson and seconded by Mr. Sweeney and passed unanimously.

The Board then discussed a Resolution expressing appreciation to Dr. John J. McGarraghy for his contribution to the development of the College. The Resolution passed unanimously by the Board of Trustees is as follows:

WHEREAS, Dr. John McGarraghy was intimately connected with Thomas A. Edison College from its inception and during its planning and early developmental stages and contributed immeasurably to the creation of its organization, philosophy and relationships with the educational community; and

WHEREAS, Dr. McGarraghy as Director of Academic Affairs during the first year of the College's operation served the College with distinction; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Thomas A. Edison College of New Jersey expresses its sincere appreciation to Dr. John J. McGarraghy for the enormous contribution he has rendered to the College and expresses its wish for his continued success in what will, undoubtedly, be a distinguished career in the field of higher education.

The Board then considered the appointment of Dr. Arnold Fletcher as Vice-President of Academic Affairs. In the discussion, it was recommended that the Vice-President for Academic Affairs act in the place of the President in his absence. Mr. Pearson moved that Dr. Fletcher be appointed to the position of Vice-President for Academic Affairs. Seconded by Mrs. Spiegel. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Board then considered the budgets for FY 1974 (current year) and FY 1975 (next year). After discussion on some aspects of the budget including counseling needs and projected income, Dr. Kavesh moved that the budget for FY 1974 be accepted; Seconded by Mr. Vogel; Passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the Budget for FY 1975 especially the concept of a one-line item allotment from the state, and the possibility for outside funding. Mrs. Spiegel moved that the Budget for FY 1975 be accepted; Dr. Butler seconded the motion; Passed unanimously.

The Board then discussed the need for a Special Meeting to be used as an educational meeting for the trustees. It was decided to meet on November 1, 1973 at 9:30 a.m. in Newark, New Jersey at the Prudential Building (24th Floor). The topics to be discussed at the special meeting are:

1. Explanation of the Budget in greater detail
2. Report of the Office of External Relations (originally scheduled for September 12 meeting)
3. A report on the situation between New York Regents External Degree Program and Edison College
4. Counseling services

It was decided that at the December meeting of the Board, to be held at Western Electric in Hopewell, that the concept of Special Assessment be discussed. It was suggested that William Turnbill from ETS be invited to discuss the technical aspects of evaluation.

The Board then discussed the concept of an Academic Council for Edison College. This would give Edison College the faculty representation it needs. The Board members had several questions concerning the idea: work of sub-committees, relationship of the committee to the Board of Trustees (advisory), restricting membership to faculty members of colleges and universities, who should chair meetings, should ex-officio members vote. Mr. Pearson moved that the Board approve the concept of the Academic Council as stated in the draft proposal with the following amendments:

1. The committee would advise on the academic program and not matters related to
2. Examine and advise on the procedures and policies and not examine the procedures
3. They would come from educational institutions of the state both public and private, and not from two and four year colleges
4. The Vice-President for Academic Affairs would act as Chairman and not the President

Mr. Pearson's motion was seconded by Mr. Vogel and passed unanimously.

The Board then adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m. The next meeting will be the special meeting, November 1, in Newark. The next stated meeting will be December 12 in Hopewell.

Submitted by:


JAMES DOUGLAS BROWN, JR.
Secretary

November 1, 1973
Date

Approved by:


JONATHAN L. THIESMEYER
Chairman of the Board

November 1, 1973
Date