

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THOMAS A. EDISON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

April 21, 1978

The Board of Trustees of Thomas A. Edison College of New Jersey held its third meeting of the 1977-78 Academic Year on April 21, 1978 at the College's Office in the Forrestal Center, Princeton, New Jersey.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Arnold Fletcher, Vice-President for Academic Affairs; Thomas McCarthy, Registrar; Jean Titterington, Director of Academic Counseling

Mr. Pearson formally opened the meeting at 10:35 a.m. He welcomed Jonathan Thiesmeyer who was returning after having suffered a heart attack several months earlier.

The minutes of the meeting of March 3, 1978 were presented for approval and ratification. Mr. Pearson corrected the statement covering the meeting of State College Presidents and Chairmen of the Boards of Trustees. Only Mrs. Spiegel represented the Board of Trustees. Mr. Ferguson also requested that the minutes include the names of the individuals being offered contracts, their titles, their salary and the term of the contract. Both amendments were approved unanimously. Mrs. Heard moved that the minutes, as amended, be approved. Seconded by Mr. Ferguson, the motion was approved unanimously. (8-0-0)

RATIFICATION OF  
ACTIONS TAKEN AT  
MARCH 3, 1978  
MEETING AND  
APPROVED BY MAIL  
BALLOT:

Mr. Hanford moved that the actions taken at the meeting of March 3, 1978 be approved, seconded by Mrs. Spiegel, the motion was approved unanimously. (8-0-0)

Graduates Approved: Mr. Hanford moved that the candidates presented by the President for the Bachelor of Arts (numbers 101-120 on the list submitted by the Registrar), the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (numbers 8-9), and the Associate in Arts (numbers 182-231) be approved. Seconded by Mr. Ferguson, the motion was approved unanimously. (8-0-0)

EXECUTIVE  
SESSION:

Mr. Pearson then requested that the Trustees meet in executive session to discuss personnel matters. A motion to this effect was made by Mrs. Spiegel, seconded by Mrs. Heard and approved unanimously. (8-0-0)

The executive session lasted from 11:00 a.m. to 2:40 p.m.

At the end of the executive session, the Board of Trustees resumed the open meeting at 2:45 p.m. All members still in attendance.

REPORT ON THE  
EXECUTIVE  
SESSION:

It was unanimously agreed by the Trustees present, that the following statement constituted the "sense of the meeting" during the executive session:

The Trustees reviewed the recent developments regarding the budget and relationships with the Department of Higher Education. They reaffirm the need to secure more adequate funding so that Edison College can fulfill a vital role in the state system of education. They reiterate their support for the President of the College. The Trustees will pay close attention to these matters during the coming months and they look forward to working actively and cooperatively with the President and with the Chancellor and the Department during this time.

REPORT OF THE  
PRESIDENT:

Kelsey Building: It is the consensus of all concerned that no more can be cut from the plans for renovation. Bids will be advertised in the next several weeks. Construction could start July 1 if bids are on line with the architect's estimates. Funding for overage in the estimates can be found.

Budget for FY 79: The status of the budget for FY 79 was reviewed. An operating budget will be presented in June.

Budget for FY 78: The College will experience a short-fall of approximately \$27,000. The Department of Higher Education and the Bureau of the Budget will find the proper funding for this amount. Mr. Pearson noted that the Trustees must take full responsibility for not taking action on a mid-year fee increase.

Educational Information Center: Jean Titterington has prepared final plans for establishing an Educational Information Center. There is full expectation that this will be federally funded.

Review of State Audit: The only recommendation made by the auditors was to add an additional person in the process of collecting fees. There was a question on the audit figures reported.

Audit Report Approved: Mr. Hanford moved that the Trustees accept the audit report and note its contents. Seconded by Mr. Ferguson, the motion was approved unanimously. (8-0-0)

New Trustees: Two new trustees have been selected by the Department of Higher Education. They were to be approved by the Board of Higher Education at the April meeting; approval by the Governor is also needed.

APPROVAL OF  
FEE STRUCTURE:

President Brown presented the new fee structure for approval by the Board of Trustees. The new fees were calculated in the budget for FY 79 approved by the Trustees in July, 1977. Mr. Ferguson moved that the new fee structure be approved. Seconded by Mr. Hanford. Mrs. Spiegel requested that the College seek financial aid for those individuals who cannot afford the increase in fees. President Brown indicated that the Department of Higher Education is presently studying the possibility of assigning money for financial aid to part-time students. There was additional discussion on the merits of the fee increases. The Academic Counseling Office was asked to keep a record of the needs of our students. After the discussion, the Trustees unanimously approved the new fee schedule. (7-0-0) [Mr. Thiesmeyer left before the vote took place.]

FINANCIAL AID:

Mrs. Spiegel moved that Thomas A. Edison College encourage the Department of Higher Education to resolve the need for financial aid to part-time students. The College should take a lead in the discussions with the Department. Seconded by Dr. Ried, the motion was approved unanimously. (6-0-0) [Mr. Hanford left before the vote took place.]

REVISED  
PERSONNEL  
PLAN:

Mr. Ferguson moved that the Personnel Plan as revised by the Personnel Subcommittee of the Board of Trustees, to include multi-year contracts, be approved by the Board. Seconded by Mrs. Spiegel, the motion was approved unanimously. (6-0-0)

Due to the late hour, the report on TECEP was postponed until the June meeting of the Board. Also on the agenda for June will be a report on the Goals and Plans for the institution. The Goals and Plans should be forwarded to the Department of Higher Education for approval. The Goals and Plans should also be tied into the budgetary process.

There being no new business, Dr. Ried moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Mrs. Heard, the motion was approved unanimously. (6-0-0) The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Submitted by,

  
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JAMES DOUGLAS BROWN, JR.  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
June 6, 1978  
Date

Approved by,

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
June 6, 1978  
Date