## **MINUTES**

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## THOMAS A. EDISON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

June 7, 1973

The first meeting of the new Board of Trustees of Thomas A. Edison College took place on June 7, 1973 at the Nassau Inn in Princeton. The following members of the Board of Trustees were present at this meeting:

Jonathan Thiesmeyer Rebecca B. Butler Richard T. Sweeney Julius Vogel Eleanor Spiegel Robert Kavesh Richard Pearson Blanche R. Ried

The following members of the Department of Higher Education and the staff of Edison College were also present:

Chancellor Ralph A. Dungan Vice Chancellor Robert Birnbaum Dr. James D. Brown, Jr. Mr. John McGarraghy Ms. Jean Titterington Mr. George Engeman Mr. Dennis Smith

Dr. John Theobald, Chairman of the visiting team from the Middle States Association, was also present as a quest.

The meeting began at 5:20 p.m. with Chancellor Dungan presiding. The first order of business was the introduction of the new Board members as well as the staff of Edison College. The Chancellor then went on to comment on the role of Edison College as an innovative institution, and on the role of the Board of Trustees in regard to setting policy for that institution. He also explained New Jersey's system of higher education and the role of the Board of Trustees within that system.

Both Vice Chancellor Birnbaum and Chancellor Dungan then talked about the unique nature and specific limited mission of Edison College, as seen in the context of cooperation with other institutions in the State. Birnbaum pointed out that the College is limited in its mission to being a non-instructional institution but it is clearly meant to facilitate instructional programs in non-traditional settings.

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Item two on the agenda was the selection of a chairman pro tempore. Chancellor Dungan asked Mr. Thiesmeyer to serve in this role until the selection of a permanent chairman in September and Mr. Thiesmeyer agreed to do so. Mr. Thiesmeyer then assumed the chairmanship of the meeting.

Item three on the agenda was the election of a president for Edison College. At this point, the members of the staff of the College absented themselves from the room. After some discussion, the Board then passed unanimously the following resolution:

That the Board of Trustees of Thomas A. Edison College of New Jersey hereby appoints James Douglas Brown, Jr. as President, at an annual salary of \$27,782 (level 41, step 1 of the State of New Jersey Compensation Plan), his appointment to begin June 15, 1973, and also appoints him to act as the secretary of the Board of Trustees

Following this action, Dr. Brown and Mr. McGarraghy returned to the meeting of the Board. Dr. Brown thanked the Board for this action and pledged his efforts for the success of Edison College. He also indicated that Mr. McGarraghy would serve as the Acting Secretary of the Board for the time being.

Item four on the agenda was the adoption of the official name of the College. Dr. Kavesh moved and Mrs. Spiegel seconded the following motion which was adopted unanimously:

That the Board of Trustees of the College hereby adopt the name of "Thomas A. Edison College of New Jersey" as the official name of the College

Item five on the agenda was the formation of a subcommittee to draft bylaws for the Board of Trustees. Vice Chancellor Birnbaum noted that the bylaws are a short document meant to govern the order of business of the Board and are not related to the programmatic concerns of the College. After some discussion of who might possibly serve on the subcommittee, Mr. Thiesmeyer appointed the following members to serve on that subcommittee: Dr. Kavesh, Mr. Pearson and Dr. Ried. Mr. Thiesmeyer asked Dr. Brown to be responsible for setting up a meeting of the subcommittee during the course of the summer, possibly in New York City, and sending out appropriate material prior to the meeting. The subcommittee was asked to report back on a proposed set of bylaws at the September meeting of the Board.

Item six on the agenda was a discussion of the role of the Advisory Council. Dr. Brown commented on the previous role of the Advisory Council for Edison College and indicated the strong desire of the Council to meet with the Board of Trustees to discuss transition process between the Advisory Council and the Board. Mr. Thiesmeyer and Mrs. Spiegel also commented on the active role

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of the Advisory Council. Agreement was then reached that there should be a meeting between the Board and the Advisory Council in early July and the date of Wednesday, July 11 was set for an all-day meeting at Forsgate Country Club. The meeting would begin at 9:30 with coffee and the actual discussion would begin promptly at 10:00 a.m.

Item seven on the agenda was the approval of candidates for the Associate in Arts degree. the following resolution was moved by Mr. Pearson and seconded by Dr. Kavesh:

That the Board of Trustees of Thomas A. Edison College hereby approves, upon the recommendation of the Director, the awarding of the Associate in Arts degree on June 15, 1973 to the following individuals:

This motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Trustees. The list was attached to the resolution and is attached to these minutes.

There then followed some discussion of the first graduation ceremony and the members of the Board of Trustees, with the exception of Mrs. Spiegel, indicated that they wished the platform guests at the graduation ceremony to wear academic regalia. Finally, there were some comments by Dr. John Theobald, the chairman of the visiting team from Middle States concerning the visit to Edison College on that day. Dr. Theobald said that the comments of the visiting team were generally favorable. He noted that there was a need for attention to the whole counseling and advisement process in the College. That this might well be a major role in the future. He also pointed out that there certainly would be challenges ahead in regard to the complete implementation of special assessment and in regard to the clinical performance evaluation connected with the nursing degree.

Mr. Thiesmeyer adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Attachment

Submitted by:

JAMES DOUGLAS BROWN Secretary

July 11, 1973

Date

Approved by:

Chairman of the Board

July 11, 1973

Date