Minutes of the
Informal Meeting of the Board of Trustees in the Absence of a Quorum
Oakland University
July 23, 1980

The meeting was called to order by Interim President George T. Matthews at 7:45 p.m. in Room 195 of Hannah Hall.

Present: Chairman David Lewis, Trustees David Handleman, Richard Headlee (who arrived at the time indicated in the minutes), and Marvin Katke

Absent: Trustees Alex Mair, Ken Morris and Arthur Saltzman

Information Items

Mr. Matthews made the following report on campus activitities of general interest:

Upward Bound Students - Oakland University's Upward Bound Students placed first in academics and in sports in an Upward Bound student competition held last weekend at Bowling Green State University.

Gift and Grant Activity for 1979-80 - The gift and grant activity for 1979-80 was $3,800,000 with more than half of this amount in research grants. The research grants are the result of faculty involvement beyond the expectation of an institution of this size and maturity.

Summer Camps - There are a great number of young people attending the popular university athletic camps on campus. In addition, the Detroit Lions rookies began training at the university on July 17, and the veteran players are to check in on July 24.

Artists in Residence - Two faculty members, Flavio Varani and Stanley Hollingsworth, received high acclaim from Detroit critics for their parts in the July 5 performance of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Pianist Flavio Varani was the soloist in a performance of the "Concerto for Piano and Orchestra" composed by Stanley Hollingsworth.

Kresge Foundation Award - The Kresge Foundation has made a $235,000 award in support of much needed repairs and renovations at the Festival grounds and Meadow Brook Hall.

Mr. Matthews announced that this meeting would be conducted under the procedures established by the Board for meetings in the absence of a quorum since there were only three Board members present. The procedure was approved January 22, 1975 and provides that in the event of a failure of a quorum those members present are authorized and directed to conduct a meeting which will be called an "Informal Meeting of the Board of Trustees in the Absence of a Quorum." The Board may consider only those items which appear on the published agenda. The Board members may act on the items presented with the understanding and expectation that these items will be ratified and approved at the next succeeding meeting of the Board of Trustees at which a quorum is present. It is understood, however, that the actions taken tonight are not considered to be binding on any member of the Board and are not considered to be a delegation of legislative authority to those present by the absent members. The administrative officers of the university are authorized to take such administrative action as is necessary and appropriate to implement and carry out the informal actions taken at this meeting with the expectation that the informal actions will be subsequently ratified by the Board.

Approval of Minutes of June 18, 1980

Mr. Matthews requested approval of the minutes of the meeting held by the Oakland University Board of Trustees on June 18, 1980. Mr. Katke offered a motion for approval of the minutes which was seconded by Mr. Handleman. The motion was voted on and approved by the Trustees present.

Acceptance of Gifts and Grants

Mr. Matthews requested the Board's acceptance of gifts and grants totaling $317,848. (A copy of the complete list of gifts and grants is on file in the Office of the Secretary to the Board of Trustees and the Office of the Vice President for Business Affairs.) Mr. Handleman moved that the gifts and grants be accepted with gratitude. Mr. Lewis seconded the motion which was voted on and approved by the Trustees present.

Approval of Personnel Actions

Mr. Matthews presented the following faculty personnel actions for the Board's approval:

Appointments

Assenzo, Joseph R., Adjunct Professor of Mathematical Sciences, effective August 15, 1980 through August 14, 1982

Ater, Kimberly S., Instructor in Dance, effective August 15, 1980

Appointments (Continued)

Barron, Beth A., Assistant Professor of Mathematical Sciences, effective August 15, 1980

Binnard, Birk P., Adjunct Professor of Mathematical Sciences, effective August 15, 1980 through August 14, 1982

Bonder, Seth, Adjunct Professor of Mathematical Sciences, effective August 15, 1980 through August 14, 1982

Dahm, David, Adjunct Professor of Mathematical Sciences, effective August 15, 1980 through August 14, 1982

Gatchell, Susanne M., Adjunct Assistant Professor of Engineering, effective August 15, 1980 through August 14, 1982

Izraeli, Oded, Associate Professor of Economics, effective August 15, 1980

Martin, Veronica J., Adjunct Clinical Instructor in Nursing, effective August 15, 1980 through August 14, 1981

McDonald, Gary C., Adjunct Professor of Mathematical Sciences, effective August 15, 1980 through August 14, 1982

McEwan, Susan E., Adjunct Clinical Instructor in Nursing, effective August 15, 1980 through August 14, 1982

Moore, Kathleen H., Assistant Professor of Chemistry, effective August 15, 1980

Morel, Josette, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Engineering, effective August 15, 1980 through August 14, 1982

Moylan, Edward F., Adjunct Professor of Mathematical Sciences, effective August 15, 1980 through August 14, 1982

Appointments (Continued)

St. John, Willard M., Assistant Professor of Chemistry, effective August 15, 1980

Warshay, Diana W., Adjunct Associate Professor of Sociology, effective May 1, 1980 through August 14, 1981

Wells, James R., Adjunct Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, effective August 15, 1980 through August 14, 1981

Changes of Status

Evarts, Peter G., from Professor of English and Learning Skills and Chair, Department of Learning Skills to Professor of English and Learning Skills, effective August 15, 1980

Sudol, Ronald A., from Assistant Professor of Learning Skills to Assistant Professor of Learning Skills and Acting Chair, Department of Learning Skills, effective June 23, 1980 through August 15, 1980

Wallace, W. Donald, from Associate Professor of Physics to Associate Professor of Physics and Acting Chair, Department of Physics, effective June 23, 1980 through August 15, 1980

Leaves of Absence

Berger, Beverly K., Assistant Professor of Physics, leave from January 5, 1981 through April 29, 1981

Brown, Judith K., Associate Professor of Anthropology, sabbatical leave from January 5, 1981 through April 29, 1981

Clatworthy, F. James, Associate Professor of Education, sabbatical leave from January 5, 1981 through April 29, 1981

Hirschfeld-Medalia, Adeline, Associate Professor of Communication Arts, sabbatical leave from January 5, 1981 through April 29, 1981

Leaves of Absence (Continued)

Klaits, Joseph, Associate Professor of History, sabbatical leave from January 5, 1981 through April 29, 1981

Medalia, Nahum Z., Professor of Sociology, sabbatical leave from January 5, 1981 through April 29, 1981

Orton, Lawrence D., Associate Professor of History, leave from January 5, 1981 through April 29, 1981

Pak, Moon J., Associate Professor of Biological Sciences and Associate Provost for Health Sciences and Director, Center for Health Sciences, part-time (90%) leave from July 1, 1980 through June 30, 1981

Susskind, Norman, Professor of Modern Languages and Literatures, sabbatical leave from January 5, 1981 through April 29, 1981

Urla, Carmen M., Associate Professor of Spanish, sabbatical leave from January 5, 1981 through April 29, 1981

Mr. Matthews called upon Mr. Keith Kleckner, Associate Provost, for comments.

Mr. Kleckner stated that the recommendations were routine, but noted that Assistant Professor Beverly Berger was approved for leave as the result of the receipt of a prestigious award from the Institute for Theoretical Physics at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Mr. Matthews called upon Ms. Wilma Ray-Bledsoe for comments on the following recommendations from the Employee Relations Department:

Academic Affairs

Institute of Biological Sciences
Reclassify budget position #400524 from Laboratory Research Technician I, Salary grade C-7, to Laboratory Research Technician II, salary grade C-9.

Source of funds: An externally funded grant which will not commit general fund resources.

School of Economics and Management
Establish budget position #300535, Academic Advisor, AP-III.

Source of funds: A transfer of general fund budget allocations within existing approved budget levels. No increase in the total budget allocation.

Business Affairs

Administration, Audit & Risk Management
Collapse budget position #400461, Accounting Clerk III, salary grade C-7.

Collapse budget position #300273, Manager of Business Operations, AP-VI.

Budget Office
A recommendation has been requested to change the designation of "Budget Office" to "Budget and Financial Planning Office" to reflect the broader scope of that office.

Establish budget position #300536, Business Manager, Auxiliary Operations, AP-V.

Source of Funds: A transfer of general fund budget allocations within existing approved budget levels. No increase in the total budget allocation.

Controller's Office (Voucher Audit and Cashier's Office)

Establish budget position #400537, Accounting Clerk I, salary grade C-5.

Source of funds: A transfer of general fund budget allocations within existing approved budget levels. No increase in the total budget allocation.

Golf Course

Reclassify budget position #400409 from Secretary I, salary grade C-4, to Secretary II, salary grade C-5.

Source of funds: The revenue generated by a self-supporting operation which will not commit general fund resources.

Student Accounts
Collapse budget position #300334, Special Accounts Analyst, AP-III.

Campus and Student Affairs

Campus Information, Programs and Organizations
Reclassify budget position #300195, Coordinator of Campus Programs, AP-III, to Coordinator of Campus Programs, AP-IV.

Source of funds: A transfer of general fund budget allocations within existing approved budget levels. No increase in the total budget allocation.

Reclassify budget position #300197, Assistant Director and Coordinator of Information and Services, AP-IV, to Assistant Director and Coordinator of Information Services, AP-V.

Source of funds: A transfer of general fund budget allocations within existing approved budget levels. No increase in the total budget allocation.

Reclassify budget position #300198, Coordinator of Student Organizations, AP-III, to Coordinator of Student Organizations, AP-IV.

Source of funds: A transfer of general fund budget allocations within existing approved budget levels. No increase in the total budget allocation.

Oakland Center
Establish budget position #400538, Accounting Clerk I, salary grade C-5.

Source of funds: The revenue generated by a self-supporting operation which will not commit general fund resources.

Career Development Leave

Campus and Student Affairs - Career Advising & Placement
Scott, Alan R., Assistant Director of Career Advising & Placement, career development leave to be effective from August 12, 1980 through September 29, 1980, and for a comparable thirty-five day period during the spring of 1981.

Ms. Ray-Bledsoe, Assistant to the President and Director of Urban Affairs, announced that it was her pleasure to introduce Mr. Willard Kendall, the newly appointed Director of Employee Relations.

Mr. Kendall expressed his pleasure at being with the university and said that he would be pleased to answer any questions on the department's recommendations.

Mr. Lewis inquired as to the meaning of the phrase "collapse budget position".

Mr. Kendall replied that this meant the elimination of the position which would no longer be funded in the budget.

Mr. Katke inquired about the implications involved in the change in the designation from "Budget Office" to "Budget and Financial Planning Office."

Mr. Kendall replied that this was a change in the title of the office to more adequately describe the scope of its activities.

Mr. Lewis moved that the personnel actions be approved. Mr. Katke seconded the motion which was voted on and approved by Trustees Handleman, Katke and Lewis.

Approval of 1980-81 Compensation Adjustments for Academic Administrators, Deans and Executives

Mr. Matthews stated that compensation adjustments for the fiscal year 1980-81 in contracts negotiated in 1979 are being implemented for employees represented by the American Association of University Professors, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Public Safety officers, Public Safety Sergeants, and the UAW clerical-technical employees. Mr. Matthews added that it was appropriate at this time to provide compensation adjustments for those individuals not covered under collective bargaining agreements. He presented for Board approval the following recommendation covering compensation adjustments for administrators, deans and executives:

> WHEREAS academic administrators, deans and executives have performed valuable and essential services to the university; and
>
> WHEREAS adjustments in compensation are an appropriate mechanism for recognizing such contributions; be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees grant Interim President George T. Matthews the authority to make adjustments in the compensation of 30 academic administrators, deans and executives for the fiscal year 1980-81 to be effective July 1, 1980; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the total amount of the adjustments of all employees shall not exceed $114,000 for these employees to be distributed on a merit basis; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the president be authorized to implement an improved long term disability program, which shall require the appropriate social security offset.

Mr. Matthews advised the Trustees that the foregoing recommendation was reviewed and approved by the Board's Personnel Policy Committee.

Mr. Katke moved that the recommendation be approved. Mr. Handleman seconded the motion which was voted on and approved by the Trustees present.

Approval of 1980-81 Compensation Adjustments for Administrative-Professional Employees

Mr. Matthews informed the Board that it was appropriate at this time to provide compensation adjustments for the administrative-professional employees. He presented the following recommendation for the Board's approval:

WHEREAS administrative-professional employees have performed valuable and essential service to the university; and

WHEREAS adjustments in compensation are an appropriate mechanism for recognizing such contributions; be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees grant Interim President George T. Matthews the authority to make adjustments in the compensation of 224 administrative-professional employees for the fiscal year 1980-81 to be effective July 1, 1980; and be it further

RESOLVED, That such compensation shall be authorized at an amount not to exceed $378,000 to be distributed among all employees in a ratio of 80% general increase and 20% merit; and be it further

RESOLVED, That vacation accruals for employees in Grades I-IV be adjusted by 40 hours under certain length of service conditions; and be it further

RESOLVED, That permanent employees working 20 or more hours on a regular weekly work schedule on a continuous employment basis at least 10 months per year who otherwise qualify, be eligible to participate in the retirement program; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the president be authorized to implement an improved long term disability program, which shall require the appropriate Social Security offset; and be it further

RESOLVED, That during this fiscal year the university will initiate a classification/compensation review of all administrative-professional positions, beginning with a thorough data collection process to capture pertinent information about each such position; and be it further

RESOLVED, That when this initial process is concluded, the services of an outside consulting firm will be required to provide guidance in the analyses and determination of appropriate classification levels and salary ranges.

Mr. Matthews stated that this recommendation was also reviewed and approved by the Board's Personnel Policy Committee.

Mr. Lewis moved that the recommendation be approved. Mr. Katke seconded the motion which was voted on and approved by the Trustees present.

Approval of 1980-81 Compensation Adjustments for Excluded Clerical-Technical Employees

Mr. Matthews stated that the excluded clerical-technical employees form another group not covered under a collective bargaining agreement, and therefore, it was appropriate at this time to provide them with their annual compensation adjustment. He presented the following recommendation for the Board's approval:

WHEREAS eighteen (18) clerical-technical employees are excluded from the CT/UAW; and

WHEREAS excluded clerical-technical employees have performed valuable and essential services to the university; and

WHEREAS adjustments in compensation are an appropriate mechanism for recognizing such contributions; be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees grant authority to Interim President George T. Matthews to make adjustments in compensation for excluded clerical-technical employees of five and one-half per cent (5.5%) to be effective July 1, 1980, as a general increase; and be it further

RESOLVED, That an additional adjustment of up to two and one-half per cent (2.5%) be implemented to be effective July 1, 1980; and be it further

RESOLVED, That employees be granted longevity pay on the following schedule in an amount not to exceed Five Thousand Dollars ($5,000) of the employees' regular salary to be effective October, 1980:

Continuous Service	Annual Longevity Pay
6 or more and less than 10 years	2% of the first $5,000
10 or more and less than 14 years	3% of the first $5,000
14 or more and less than 18 years	4% of the first $5,000
18 or more and less than 22 years	5% of the first $5,000
22 or more and less than 26 years	6% of the first $5,000

and be it further

RESOLVED, That no employee shall receive a combined compersation adjustment which exceeds nine per cent (9.0%), unless an individually documented equity circumstance exists; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the university complete a comprehensive classification and compensation analysis of all excluded clerical-technical positions, resulting in a determination of appropriate classification levels and salary maxima (and minima) for each such position, during this current fiscal year.

Mr. Matthews added that this recommendation was reviewed and approved by the Board's Personnel Policy Committee.

Mr. Handleman moved that the recommendation be approved. Mr. Lewis seconded the motion.

Mr. Katke stated that he wished to explain to the audience that these three compensation adjustment items could be acted upon so quickly since Ms. Ray-Bledsoe had provided the individual Board members with an excellent explanation prior to this evening's Board meeting. He then expressed his appreciation to Ms. Ray-Bledsoe for her presentation.

The motion was voted on and approved by the Trustees present.

Approval of "North Connector Road" Project

Mr. Matthews stated that in accordance with the University's Master Plan, the State of Michigan has agreed to develop a section of the "North Connector Road". The road will be fully funded from Michigan Department of Transportation funds. The State of Michigan received bids April 2, 1980 for the construction of the "North Connector Road and a Concurrent Bike Path". The low bid of B & V Construction Company was $237,212.70. The project will be monitored by the Michigan State Highway Department and coordinated through the Bureau of Facilities of the State of Michigan, Department of Management and Budget. Mr. Matthews then presented the following recommendation for the Board's approval:

> WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Transportation intends to construct the "North Connector Road" project at Oakland University as set forth in plans provided to the Board of Trustees from Department of Transportation funds at no cost to Oakland University; now therefore be it
>
> RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees approves of the project and concurs in the award of the "North Connector Road" project by the Transportation Department to the low bidder, B & V Construction Company; and be it further
>
> RESOLVED, That construction under this contract by the Michigan Department of Transportation may begin on August 25, 1980.

Mr. Lewis asked about the current status of the sound study related to this project.

Mr. Matthews called upon Mr. George Catton, Acting Director of Campus Affairs, to respond to this inquiry.

Mr. Catton stated that in response to the Board's directive at the May 22, 1980 meeting, acoustical engineering firms had been contacted regarding a study on the impact of the proposed "North Connector Road" project on the Festival area. The firms of Ralph E. Balck Consulting Engineers of Grand Rapids, Michigan, representing Jaffe Acoustics, Inc. of Norwalk, Connecticut; Swanson Environmental, Inc. of Southfield, Michigan; and R. Lawrence Kirkegaard and Associates, Inc. of Lombard, Illinois were contacted. After reviewing their proposals, the firm of Ralph E. Balck was engaged since the Jaffe firm provided the original acoustical design for the pavilion. As a result of the study conducted by the Balck firm, the following conclusion was reached:

> "If the North Connector Road is closed to traffic, the road will neither improve nor degrade the acoustics of the Festival. When traffic is permitted on the road, the resultant noise will be heard, for the first time, at the pavilion coming from the east. The amount of noise added will not be large, but will be measurable."

Mr. Katke asked if originally it had been planned to install gates so that the road could be closed.

Mr. Catton responded that it was still the plan to have gates installed so that the road could be closed prior to a performance and opened at the end of the performance.

Mr. Matthews added that the university has the legal right to close the road.

Mr. Katke moved that the recommendation be approved. Mr. Handleman seconded the motion which was voted on and approved by the Trustees present.

Mr. Katke said he was pleased to see the thorough and detailed study undertaken in connection with this project. He expressed the hope that the project would be successful and he added that from a "practical point of view there should be no concern over traffic noise" if the road is closed.

<u>Approval of Preliminary 1980-81 General Fund Budget</u>

Mr. Matthews stated that the budget process for 1980-81 is unusual in that the Legislature has not enacted the appropriation bills for the 1980-81 fiscal year and is not scheduled to act until September at the earliest. The absence of an appropriation, together with the tenuous economic climate in Michigan, creates uncertainty with respect to the development of a general fund budget for the 1980-81 fiscal year which began July 1. The Michigan State Senate has passed an appropriation bill for higher education which, for Oakland University, would provide an appropriation increase of 4.7% for 1980-81. There have been other projections and speculations from legislative and Executive Office sources, however, which would have the higher education appropriation range all the way from a net reduction to an increase of 6%. The university administration has adopted what is viewed to be a conservative estimate of the legislative appropriation for 1980-81. This conservative recommendation has been reviewed with the Board's Audit and Finance Committee. It should be noted that the university continues to experience significant enrollment growth (an expected 6.6% increase over the 1979-80 budgeted enrollment) which mandates incremental expenditures for additional faculty and other support costs. O'Dowd Hall is also expected to be completed and occupied this year and the cost of utilities and maintenance on the new facility will add to operating expenditures. Compensation adjustments and the cost of fringe benefits, most of which were determined contractually during last year's collective bargaining negotiations, will add to the expenditure level.

The proposed preliminary budget submitted to the Board, as well as the specific program cutbacks and budget reductions, were developed under the administrative procedure that has now been in effect for three years. An eleven-person Executive Budget Committee was charged with the responsibility of reviewing the divisional budget requests and recommending budget allotments to the president for 1980-81. The committee was also charged with the responsibility of reviewing and recommending program cutbacks and budget reductions sufficient, in the aggregate, to bring the projected budget for 1980-81 into balance.

The Board determined that it would not adopt a specific budget at the present session and postponed action until the August meeting.

Mr. Katke, as Chairman of the Audit and Finance Committee, then presented the following recommendation for Board approval in order to authorize the necessary administrative actions to assure a balanced budget for 1980-81:

> The Audit and Finance Committee recommends approval of the operational elements of the preliminary budget recommendations as submitted to the Audit and Finance Committee on July 15, 1980 with the understanding that the final budget for the 1980-81 fiscal year will be submitted to the Board at the August 1980 meeting for review and approval.

Mr. Katke moved that the recommendation be approved. Mr. Handleman seconded the motion which was voted on and approved by the Trustees present.

Authorization to Take Appropriate Legal Action Regarding Improper Sewer Assessment

Mr. Matthews called upon Mr. John De Carlo, Secretary to the Board of Trustees, Vice President and General Counsel, to present the item on legal action concerning the sewer assessment.

Mr. De Carlo stated that the sewer system which serves Oakland University was established in 1957 and administered by Oakland County. Several years ago this system was incorporated by the County and Pontiac Township into the Clinton-Oakland system which was developed to meet the expanded needs of eleven governmental units including Pontiac Township. While some of the townships have experienced commercial and residential growth to provide financial support for the expanded sewer system, Mr. James Howlett, university attorney, states that Pontiac Township's tax base has not increased sufficiently and it is encountering difficulties in meeting its fiscal commitments to the County. Following the expansion of the system, Oakland County transferred the administration and the assessment of charges related to the sewer system to the townships in which the facilities are located. To meet its financial commitments, Pontiac Township has increased its service rates and in addition, has levied an additional assessment against property owners. The cost of the sewer assessment by Pontiac Township to Oakland University is estimated to be approximately $27,000. Oakland University has objected to the increase in service rates and the transfer of administration as indicated in the report to the Board on April 16, 1980 on the basis that the action was in violation of the university's contract with Oakland County. The Board authorized the filing of a Declaratory Judgment action in order to resolve this contractual dispute.

On July 7, 1980 Pontiac Township included the university in its assessment rolls for service charges over the institution's objections. It is Mr. Howlett's opinion that the assessment is in violation of the law. To preserve the assets of the institution the university administration recommends the filing of legal action prohibiting the Township's assessment. Mr. De Carlo then requested the Board's approval of the following recommendation:

> WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees must carry out its fiduciary responsibility to the citizens of the State of Michigan in order to preserve the fiscal assets of the university; and

WHEREAS, there is a substantive legal question regarding the assessment of sewer facilities serving the institution; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees authorized the President of Oakland University or his designee to take appropriate administrative or legal action to resolve certain issues relating to the status, control and assessment of sewage facilities serving the institution by formal Board action on April 16, 1980; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the authority granted to the President and/or his designee on April 16, 1980 to institute such legal action to protect the institution's rights shall extend to any improper assessment or charge levied upon the university by any public body for sewer service.

Mr. Katke asked in what tribunal the legal action would be initiated.

Mr. De Carlo responded that it would be with the State Tax Tribunal.

Mr. Katke inquired on the possible length of time for this action.

Mr. De Carlo responded that it was difficult to project and could take a year.

Mr. Lewis moved that the recommendation be approved. Mr. Handleman seconded the motion which was voted on and approved by the Trustees present.

Appointment of Committee for Selection of Chairman and Vice Chairman for Board of Trustees

Mr. Matthews called upon Chairman David B. Lewis to make the recommendation on the appointment of a selection committee for the Board.

Mr. Lewis stated that each year at this time the Chairman of the Board appoints a nominating committee for the purpose of developing a slate of officers to be presented to the Board at the next meeting. He said it was customary to appoint to this nominating committee former chairmen of the Board, and that Trustees Marvin Katke and Arthur Saltzman agreed to serve as the nominating committee of the Board and would present a proposed slate of officers at the next Board meeting.

Mr. Handleman supported this recommendation. The motion was voted on and approved by the Trustees present.

Appointment of Trustee David Handleman to the Board of Directors of Meadow Brook Performing Arts Company

Mr. Matthews called upon Chairman David Lewis to present his recommendation for appointment to the Board of Directors of the Meadow Brook Performing Arts Company.

Mr. Lewis stated that in 1972 the Board of Trustees authorized the establishment of the Meadow Brook Performing Arts Company as a nonprofit corporation to act as the contracting agency for all artists and actors engaged by the Meadow Brook Festival and Theatre. Mr. Lewis added that since that time two Trustees have served on the Board of Directors of the Meadow Brook Performing Arts Company. One of the directors is Trustee Katke and the other was Mrs. Ruth Adams who recently resigned as Trustee of the university. Her resignation creates a vacancy on the Board of Directors of the Meadow Brook Performing Arts Company. Because of his various strengths and experiences in the music world, Mr. Lewis stated that he wished to appoint Trustee David Handleman to the Board of Directors of the Meadow Brook Performing Arts Company. He added that Mr. Handleman had graciously agreed to serve.

Mr. Lewis then moved that Trustee David Handleman be appointed to fill the vacancy created by Mrs. Adams. Mr. Katke seconded the motion which was voted on and approved by the Trustees.

Status Report of the Ad Hoc Commission of Inquiry

Mr. Matthews called upon Ms. Wilma Ray-Bledsoe who is chairing the ad hoc Commission of Inquiry which was formed as a result of a communication to the Board of Trustees at its April 16, 1980 meeting by Mr. James Franklin III, President of the Association of Black Students.

Ms. Ray-Bledsoe stated that Mr. Franklin had expressed concern about the policy on renewal of dormitory contracts. She informed the Board that this matter has been thoroughly reviewed and it was ascertained that letters were sent to 37 students questioning the advisability of renewing their dormitory contracts. Out of the 37 cases, 1 denial was made to a white male student who appealed. The decision was reversed, and all 37 students were granted dormitory contracts.

Ms. Ray-Bledsoe stated that Mr. Franklin expressed concern about the "Financial Aid" window. The investigation of this issue is not complete. The commission noted, however, that the workload in the Financial Aid Office has increased dramatically as a result of the eligibility of middle income students. In order to achieve more efficiency, new processing systems have been installed. She noted that Mr. Franklin questioned the current financial processing on behalf of all students. She concluded that additional information is necessary in this problem.

(Trustee Richard Headlee arrived at this time in the meeting.)

Ms. Ray-Bledsoe indicated that other areas of concern related to the Public Safety Department and the residence halls. She stated that in 256 cases reviewed to date, there was no pattern of differential treatment on the basis of race. She added that there is no serious crime problem on the campus. Ms. Ray-Bledsoe noted that there is some concern, however, in the fact that 403 Oakland University incidents are reflected in the Uniform Crime Statistics report published annually by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. She stated that more precise determinations must be made of what constitutes a crime for inclusion in FBI reports. Ms. Ray-Bledsoe stated that the commission wished to make the following three recommendations:

1. That the commission remain constituted through the fall term or until such time as its work is completed,

2. That students be added to its ranks,

3. That in-service training be strengthened for both Public Safety and Student Life staff and student leaders. This should help alleviate any possible tensions.

Mr. Matthews stated that the commission would be extended and that students would be added. He commented that no action was required by the Board since this was a report.

Report on Meadow Brook Estate Recording

Mr. Matthews noted that the Trustees received a report on the proposed Meadow Brook Estate recording. This item needed no formal action at this time but was submitted for information purposes. Mr. Matthews called upon Mr. Raynold Allvin, Chairperson, Department of Music, to summarize this report.

Mr. Allvin said that the Meadow Brook Estate is planning a professional quality recording session and that the resulting 24-channel tape may have commercial potential and may be of interest to major record companies. If the recording is of interest to a major label, a contract will be negotiated on behalf of the university and submitted to the Board for approval.

Mr. Katke asked Mr. Allvin if there were any financial obligations to the university.

Mr. Allvin said there was no obligation other than using studio time.

Mr. Katke inquired if there would be any billings "after the fact".

Mr. Allvin responded that other than the hiring of some additional musicians and the use of the recording studio on a rental basis, there was no commitment.

Mr. Katke inquired about the total cost for the musicians and studio.

Mr. Allvin stated that the costs would be about $5,000.

Mr. Katke asked if Mr. Allvin had these funds in his budget.

Mr. Allvin stated that funds were available from receipts from performances and record sales of the Meadow Brook Estate.

Mr. Handleman inquired about what would happen after the tape is pressed. Who would pay for the costs of "jackets" and promotion?

Mr. Allvin said there were several directions that might be taken. In the past, he has contracted with the "pressing" firm to also make the jackets. Oakland University then sold the records at performances to recoup expenses.

Mr. Handleman asked about the success of the previous recordings.

Mr. Allvin responded that they had pressed exactly the number of records necessary to cover expenses. He said this time they hoped to do a better job, and to make a "slicker" presentation with the possibility of pressing 5,000 or so copies which would give the university a fairly good profit. Mr. Allvin commented that the program intends to train young professionals and if the tape is satisfactory and commercial companies are interested, then there could be a substantial profit.

Mr. Matthews commented that if there was a commercial possibility, the matter would be brought to the Board for approval.

Mr. Handleman wished Mr. Allvin and the group "good luck" in their project.

Mr. Matthews noted that the formal agenda items were concluded and asked the Trustees for comments.

Mr. Handleman stated that he found the Meadow Brook Music Festival and Theatre very enjoyable and he was eager to be more closely involved. He added that he was "delighted" to be named a director of the Meadow Brook Performing Arts Company.

General Comments

Mr. Matthews invited comments from the audience.

Mr. Dirk Dieters asked for recognition. He stated that for the past five years he served as the university's varsity baseball coach. He resigned on June 15, 1980 to provide an opportunity for some other person. He said that some members of the baseball team contacted him last night because they were shocked to hear that the baseball program was being dropped. He noted that some of the young men were attending Oakland on scholarships which he was sure they would relinquish to cut costs if such an action would result in the continuance of the program. It was his opinion that $10,000 would cover the entire budget for the program. Mr. Dieters said that while it has been indicated to the students that this decision was a budget item, he felt it was more related to "people's" lives. He found the canceling of the baseball program very discouraging and added that some form of communication should have been given to the students. He requested further consideration of the proposed termination.

Mr. Matthews called upon Mr. Jack Wilson, Dean of Student Life, for his comments.

Mr. Wilson stated that the baseball program was not under consideration at this evening's Board meeting, but was an Auxiliary Activities Fund item. He said that the Athletic Department, like other departments at the university, was faced with budget cuts. Mr. Wilson stated that the Athletic Department regretted that it was forced to make cutbacks, however, in reviewing its programs the decision was made to cancel baseball for men and softball for women beginning with the spring of 1981. He added that baseball is expensive for the university since it does not coincide with the academic calendar. He added that the baseball program was very successful under Coach Dieters. He also expressed the hope that as the university's financial status improves, the programs could be reinstituted. Mr. Wilson added that the combined expenses of the two baseball programs were about $30,000.

Mr. Dieters said he appreciated Mr. Wilson's remarks. He stated that he has personally raised $40,000 to $50,000 for the Pioneer Athletic Club in the last five years. He also contributed to Oakland University almost all of his salary. He is also a member of the President's Club. He stated that he could not understand where $12,000 to $15,000 was spent on baseball.

Mr. Wilson stated that the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) was consulted to determine the status of athletic activities. He said that it was extremely important to understand that any commitment made to an athlete would be maintained and that the scholarship would be honored until the student graduated or transferred to another school. In addition, Mr. Wilson explained that NCAA rules required the termination of a sport completely if there was severe financial difficulty. The termination of a sport would permit a student to transfer to another school with his eligibility intact. If the program was cut back, and the athlete wished to transfer to another school, he would lose a year of eligibility. The interest of the students was one of the reasons for dropping the program rather than cutting the level of support. Mr. Wilson noted that unfortunately Mr. Corey Van Fleet, Director of Physical Education and Athletics, was on vacation since he would have more detailed information on this matter.

Mr. Dieters said his final comment was that "these young men do not wish to go any place else; they want to play here." It was his opinion that the baseball program costs less than any sport on campus.

Mr. James B. Franklin III, President of the Association of Black Students, asked for recognition and thanked Ms. Ray-Bledsoe's committee for its preliminary report and asked that the recommendation for its continuance be approved.

Mr. Matthews noted that the Board had not been asked to act formally on the recommendation, but that he would continue the commission.

Mr. Scott Gebbie, a senior and member of the baseball team, stated that it was by way of rumor that the students learned of the termination of the baseball program. He said that if the program was to be cut, it should have been communicated to the players so that if they wished to transfer to another school, they would have had time to investigate other alternatives. Mr. Gebbie recommended the establishment of improved lines of communication between students and administration.

Mr. Lewis asked as a matter of procedure if this subject would be reviewed with the Audit and Finance Committee.

Mr. Swanson replied that ordinarily budget action of this nature would be a part of the consolidated budget. He added that because of the uncertain status of the university budget, the development of the consolidated budget has been delayed. Procedurally, this budget will be reviewed with the Audit and Finance Committee.

Mr. Matthews said he did not know the degree of involvement the Board wished on budget actions relating to athletics. He commented that Mr. Van Fleet made the recommendation to terminate to Mr. Wilson who approved it. The recommendation seemed reasonable to Mr. Matthews since there are budget constraints, and the Athletic Department had been instructed to consider ways to save $30,000 to $50,000.

Mr. Headlee stated that Mr. Gebbie made "a good point." He added that it seemed inappropriate for the administration to make a change that involved a number of people and not to communicate this information. He said that with such a budget change, there is a need for "input, empathy and communication" which should not be overlooked. Mr. Headlee stated that it concerned him that a decision which affected a significant part of these persons' lives was not communicated to them. He added that it has been known for some time that there were budget problems. It troubled him that the university was functioning in a way that would not include communication to those involved.

Mr. Matthews asked Mr. Wilson if there had been any communication to the students.

Mr. Wilson said he wished that Mr. Van Fleet were present to answer that question, but he was on vacation. Mr. Wilson noted that it was his understanding that there had been many discussions and consultations. Moreover, if the students were not involved, then that was not in keeping with the standards of communication that he expects in his department.

Mr. Headlee asked if any other Board members knew of the dropping of the program. (None of the Board members expressed any knowledge of the subject.) He said that there has been considerable discussion about new programs, and he felt if an entire program is to be eliminated, it should be discussed.

Mr. Lewis commented that perhaps a contributing factor to the lack of communication might be the fact that the legislative appropriation for colleges and universities was not known, and undoubtedly there was hope that the program could be reinstituted. Mr. Lewis said it was important to improve the means of communication with regards to all matters, and that the lack of communication was one of the most common failings of human beings. He said he felt the comments in this respect were fair and that he certainly could understand the feelings of the members of the baseball team who are unable to make appropriate and timely educational and athletic plans.

There being no further comments, Mr. Handleman moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Katke seconded the motion which was approved by all of the Trustees present. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Approved,

John De Carlo, Secretary

David B. Lewis, Chairman
Board of Trustees

Date ____________________