

**Minutes of the Special Meeting  
of the  
Oakland University Board of Trustees  
January 10, 1995**

**Present:** Chairman David T. Fischer; Trustees David Handleman, Ann S. Nicholson, Rex E. Schlaybaugh, Jr., James A. Sharp, Jr., and Howard F. Sims

**Absent:** Trustee Louis R. Ross

**Present:** Mr. Paul E. Bissonnette, Mr. Robert H. Bunger, Mr. David S. Disend, Ms. Susan Gerrits, Dr. Gary D. Russi, Ms. Rhonda G. Saunders, and Dr. Mary Beth Snyder

Chairman David T. Fischer called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. in the Gold Rooms of the Oakland Center.

**Closed Session on the Written Legal Opinion of Counsel**

Chairman Fischer stated that the purpose of the meeting is to move into closed session to discuss the written legal opinion of counsel. Trustee Howard F. Sims, seconded by Trustee James A. Sharp, Jr., moved approval to recess into a closed session. Chairman Fischer asked Mr. Robert H. Bunger, Acting Secretary to the Board of Trustees, to call the roll for that purpose. Mr. Bunger called the roll of the Board for a closed session to consider matters permitted under subsection 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act. The motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting recessed at 3:17 p.m., and reconvened at 5:20 p.m. Dr. Sandra Packard joined the meeting at this time.

Trustee Rex E. Schlaybaugh, Jr. moved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, President Sandra Packard has resigned from all employment at Oakland University effective January 10, 1995; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees wishes to employ Dr. Packard and grant her a professional development leave for a specified period of time and Dr. Packard wishes to accept such employment services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby accepts the resignation of Dr. Packard from all employment at Oakland University; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Trustees is authorized to execute, on behalf of the Board, an agreement with Dr. Packard titled Professional Development Leave, Release and Settlement Agreement and executed by Dr. Packard on January 10, 1995, which in part:

- a. provides for a professional development leave for Dr. Packard for a period ending August 14, 1995;
- b. provides for a mutual release of any and all claims, both in connection with Dr. Packard's employment at Oakland University pursuant to an agreement executed by Dr. Packard on April 14, 1992, and by the Board of Trustees on April 24, 1992, and in connection with the termination of such employment; and
- c. provides an option for Dr. Packard to assume a tenured faculty position in the School of Education and Human Services at the conclusion of the professional development leave.

Trustee David Handleman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

Chairman Fischer called upon Dr. Packard for her comments. Dr. Packard stated that she has long been concerned with the technological changes in higher education and has had an active interest in the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU). She stated that over the holidays AASCU extended an invitation to her to go to Washington, D.C., as a Senior Fellow to lead AASCU's technology and learning initiative. Dr. Packard stated that the Board of Trustees has agreed to a professional development leave to allow her to undertake the project upon her resignation as President. After the leave expires, she has the option to return as a tenured full professor of education; however, she has not made a determination on acceptance of that position.

Dr. Packard noted the following accomplishments during her presidency: balanced budgets; a capital improvement program; increased state funding; record enrollments; growth in gifts and grants; School of Engineering masters program; College of Arts and Sciences computer and language laboratories; School of Health Sciences physical therapy commitment; School of Nursing dean appointment; School of Business Administration scholarship programs; a strategic plan; regional and national recognition of academic and research excellence; corporate and community outreach; Board approval of a Sports and Recreation Center concept; and creation of a student liaison to the Board of Trustees. Dr. Packard expressed

appreciation to the students, faculty, staff, administrators, alumni, and Board for their efforts and support in those endeavors.

Chairman Fischer thanked Dr. Packard for her remarks and paraphrased as follows from a press statement that would be released shortly:

The Oakland University Board of Trustees has been informed recently by its President, Dr. Sandra Packard, that she is resigning her position as president of the university. The American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) in Washington, D.C., has recruited Dr. Packard as a Senior Fellow to lead its efforts to assist its more than one thousand member institutions in the use of technology to improve teaching and learning.

The search process for a new president will begin immediately. A consultant will be retained by the Board of Trustees to conduct the search, which will include campus participation.

During Dr. Packard's administration, Oakland University has experienced record enrollment, attracted prominent educators, and made significant progress on capital and building projects. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I want to extend our appreciation for her efforts in representing Oakland University on a local, regional, and national basis.

Chairman Fischer stated that the Board needs to consider providing for continuation of presidential leadership and asked for discussion.

Trustee Schlaybaugh moved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Dr. Sandra Packard resigned from her position as President of Oakland University effective January 10, 1995; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees wishes to appoint an Interim President to serve until such time as a permanent replacement is named; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees appoints Dr. Gary D. Russi to the position of Interim President of Oakland University effective January 10, 1995; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Dr. Russi shall assume full responsibility for the Office of the President and shall serve as Interim President at the pleasure of the Board.

Trustee Handleman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

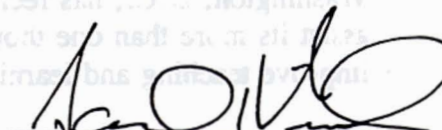
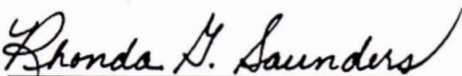
Chairman Fischer, on behalf of the full Board, congratulated Dr. Russi on his appointment as Interim President and Dr. Packard on her appointment with AASCU.

There being no further items for discussion, Trustee Sharp, seconded by Trustee Schlaybaugh, moved adjournment of the meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Submitted,

Approved,



Rhonda G. Saunders  
Administrative Assistant  
Board of Trustees

David T. Fischer  
Chairman  
Board of Trustees