

**Minutes of the Special Formal Meeting
of the
Oakland University Board of Trustees
September 10, 2003**

Present: Chair Henry Baskin; Vice Chair Penny M. Crissman; and Trustees David J. Doyle, Dennis C. Muchmore, and Rex E. Schlaybaugh, Jr.

Absent: Trustees David T. Fischer and Ann V. Nicholson

Also Present: President Gary D. Russi; Vice Presidents Susan Goepp, Virinder K. Moudgil, Lynne C. Schaefer and Mary Beth Snyder; General Counsel and Secretary to the Board of Trustees Victor A. Zambardi and Assistant Rhonda G. Saunders; and Student Liaisons Lenwood D. Compton and Rhonda R. Hanna

I. Call to Order

Chair Henry Baskin called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Elliott Hall of Business and Information Technology.

II. Roll Call

Mr. Victor A. Zambardi, General Counsel and Secretary to the Board of Trustees, conducted a roll call. All of the Board members were present except Trustees David T. Fischer and Ann V. Nicholson.

III. Action Items

A. Approval of Amendment to Oakland University FY 2004 General Fund Budget and Tuition and Fee Rate Schedule

Ms. Lynne C. Schaefer, Vice President for Finance and Administration, proposed using a portion of the additional \$1,942,000 in State appropriations to reduce the tuition and fee rates by 1.4% effective Winter semester, resulting in an 8.5% average undergraduate tuition and fee rate increase. Ms. Schaefer proposed that the remaining funds be allocated directly to support quality academic experiences for students, restore some critical faculty lines, support undergraduate programs, and provide graduate student support. One-time funds of \$420,000 generated in Fall semester will be used to supplement existing student financial aid programs. As a result, 100% of the additional State appropriations will be used to support the students.

Ms. Schaefer presented the following recommendation for Board approval:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the Revised FY 2004 General Fund budget at an expenditure level of \$123,218,355 and approved encumbrances and carryforwards from the June 30, 2003 fund balances, an increase of \$902,305 from the original \$122,316,050 approved amount; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the revised Schedule of Tuition and Fee Rates, as shown in Exhibit III, effective Winter semester 2004.

(A copy of Exhibit III is on file in the Board of Trustees Office.)

Chair Baskin clarified that only some of the critical faculty lines are being restored and that no additional faculty will be hired as a result of this proposal. Dr. Virinder K. Moudgil, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, explained that, as a result of the budget cuts, the University had to freeze or eliminate 42 faculty positions, and the proposed allocation will allow the University to restore some of those positions to meet the demands of increased enrollment and to offer courses that students need for timely graduation. Dr. Moudgil added, in response to a question posed by Trustee Penny Crissman, that about 90% of the communication he received advocated offering more courses and that the proposal would accommodate student needs.

Ms. Rhonda R. Hanna, Student Liaison, commented that students appreciate and support the additional 1.4% reduction, the additional financial aid, and the restoration of faculty lines.

Mr. Lenwood D. Compton, Student Liaison, stated that the previous proposal included a provision to eliminate additional fiscal year 2004 budget reductions for non-academic divisions. He noted that those non-academic divisions offer critical student support. Mr. Compton asked what impact that will have on the students, and Ms. Schaefer replied that for this year the Rainy Day Fund would be used to cover those needs. Dr. Moudgil added, in response to a question posed by Mr. Compton, that endorsing student scholars and supporting distinctive student experiences would impact 100 or more research students.

Trustee Dennis K. Pawley inquired if the proposed funds for financial aid could be utilized if there are further State appropriations cuts, and Ms. Schaefer replied that the Board has the discretion to change that allocation.

Trustee Muchmore, seconded by Trustee Pawley, moved approval of the recommendation. The motion was unanimously approved by those present.

Chair Baskin congratulated the administration for redesigning the former proposal to meet the Board's approval and the support of the students.

IV. Adjournment

Chair Baskin adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Submitted,

Approved,

Victor A. Zambardi
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Henry Baskin
Chair, Board of Trustees