A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College was held on Monday, March 10, 2008 at 12:00 p.m., via conference call, in room 351 Waterman Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Interim Chair Frank Cioffi, Edwin Amidon, William Botzow*, Robert Cioffi*, Martha Heath, Daniel Fogel

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Staff Council Representative Eileen Hanerfeld

OTHER TRUSTEES PRESENT: Ian Boyce*

ABSENT: Trustee Debbie McAneny and Robert Young, Faculty Representative Robyn Warhol-Down, Alumni Council Representative Janet Terp and Student Government Association Representative Kesha Ram

PERSONS ALSO PARTICIPATING: Senior Vice President and Provost John Hughes, Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel Francine Bazluke, and Chief of Staff Gary Derr

*By means of conference telephone.

Interim Chair Frank Cioffi called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Interim Chair Cioffi entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the January 14, 2008, meeting. The motion was seconded and it was voted to approve the minutes as presented.

President’s Report

President Fogel referred to the Delegation of Executive Authority Policy pre-distributed as attachment 2 in the meeting materials explaining the policy was established to clarify authority and responsibility for discharge of presidential duties in the absence of the President. He offered an opportunity for comment or questions. There being none, he next offered brief updates on the following:

- The Internal Revenue Service has cleared the University on the issue of bonding and planning expenditures for PeopleSoft conversion.
- Enrollment management is going well as evidenced by the recent well populated admitted student day visits.
President Fogel concluded his report by noting recent articles appearing in the New York Times, Los Angeles Times, and Washington Post that offered good product placement of the University. The Sunday New York Times article on college admissions included a quote on the front page from President Fogel. The Los Angeles Times featured an op-ed piece by Robert Costanza, director of the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics, on the American quality of life and its decline since 1975. The Washington Post’s Science Notebook included an article co-authored by Sociology Chair Nick Danigelis and colleague Steven Cutler, along with a Penn State Sociologist, on recent sociological research about elderly people’s traditional stereotypes.

An opportunity for questions was offered. Trustee Bill Botzow inquired whether the administration had heard back from the Governor in response to the letter he co-authored with Audit Committee Chair Ed Amidon regarding the Global Commitment fund. President Fogel responded that the administration has been in direct contact with appropriate State personnel and that proposed language has been offered for an agreement between the State and the University to resolve this matter and as of yesterday there was no response from the State.

**Strategic Initiatives Update**

Provost Hughes reported that the applicant pool has reached 21,000 and that deposits are running ahead of last year at this early stage. The search for a new Dean of the Honors College has two candidates, including the sitting interim dean. The search committee expects to conclude its work by April 10 with an announcement shortly thereafter. Searches are commencing in the School of Business Administration to replace Dean Rocki-Lee DeWitt who will step down next summer, the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources to replace Dean Donald DeHayes who is departing the University to become Provost at the University of Rhode Island, and several candidates are being considered for the position of interim dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences when Rachel Johnson steps down in June 2008.

Provost Hughes next reported that the budget process is progressing with a balanced budget expected to be presented to the Finance, Budget & Investment Committee at its April 14, 2007 meeting. He noted that while not as robust as he would like, the budget does not reflect the draconian cuts that are being seen in higher education across the nation.

Provost Hughes concluded by reporting on the College of Medicine’s Clinical Translational Science application score of 182, up from 320 in the last submission. He reminded Trustees that three submissions are allowed and because the last submission did not count, this is an excellent first score. The University will learn in April if the Center will receive funding and will prepare a subsequent application for October if not.
Other Business

At 12:20 p.m., Interim Chair Cioffi entertained a motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing contracts and collective bargaining negotiations. The motion was seconded and approved.

All in attendance were excused from the meeting with the exception of Trustees, Provost Hughes, Vice President Bazluke and Chief of Staff Gary Derr.

Adjournment

The meeting was re-opened to the public at 12:55 p.m. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Cioffi, Vice Chair