A meeting of the Vermont Agricultural College Board of Trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College (the Board) was held on Saturday, May 19, 2007 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 427A Waterman Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Secretary and Acting Chair Edwin Amidon, Jr., Claire Ayer, Bill Botzow, Harry Chen, Johanna Donovan, James Leddy, Donna Sweaney, and Jeanette White.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Martha Heath

ALSO PARTICIPATING: Karen Meyer, Vice President for Federal, State, and Community Relations, Gretchen Babcock, Director of Government Relations, Doug Lantagne, Dean of the Extension System, and Michael Vayda, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Acting Chair Amidon called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and voted to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 11, 2006.

Election of Officers

As required by the Bylaws of the Vermont Agricultural College as Adopted by the Board of Trustees on June 10, 1955, the Board held its annual election of officers and elected Claire Ayer to the office of Chair and Edwin Amidon, Jr. to the office of Secretary for the coming year.

Legislative Update

Vice President Karen Meyer described the activities of the Office of Federal, State and Community Relations and briefed the Board on plans for President Fogel’s outreach visits around the state in the summer and fall.

She reported on the University’s work at the local level to strengthen relations with the City of Burlington in many areas, including public safety, and described efforts to coordinate similar activities in other local communities including South Burlington, Winooski, and Colchester.

At the Federal level, the University is working with the state’s Congressional delegation to support direct federal appropriations in FY 2008 for University research and other projects. It is also providing information for the delegation on the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act and the new Farm Bill, which will impact the University’s agricultural research and extension activities.
At the state level, the University has received a 3.5% increase in its FY 2008 general appropriation, as well as scholarship and other funding in the Next Generation Initiative legislation. Trustee Chen raised a concern about the ability to assess the legislation’s goals of attracting and retaining youth in Vermont in the absence of good measurement tools and data.

**Review of Work Plan**

The Board decided to resume at a future meeting its discussions of the Agricultural College Board’s role in advancing the University’s land grant mission. The background material prepared by former Provost Bramley will be circulated to the Board.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Edwin Amidon, Jr., Secretary