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 18, 2013, at 7:30 a.m., in the Chittenden Bank Room of the Dudley H. Davis Center.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair David Potter, Vice Chair Kesha Ram, Secretary Joan Lenes, Bill Botzow, Christopher Bray, Sarah Buxton, Jeff Wilson, Anne O’Brien and Carolyn Branagan

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PARTICIPATING: President Tom Sullivan, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Tom Vogelmann, Vice President for University Relations and Campus Life Thomas Gustafson, and Director of State Relations Clarence Davis

Chair David Potter called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded and voted to approve the minutes from the February 9, 2013 meeting.

Annual Election of Officers

In accordance with the Vermont Agricultural College Board of Trustees of the University of Vermont by-laws, the following officers were elected to serve one-year terms: David Potter, Chair; Chris Bray, Vice Chair; and Joan Lenes, Secretary.

Legislative Discussion

President Tom Sullivan led a discussion regarding upcoming issues for the 2014 legislative session. The purpose of the discussion was to begin a conversation about the modification of the statutory requirement that restricts tuition for all in-state students to 40% of out of state tuition, and allowing the University to establish tuition for online and graduate level courses that would provide access and affordability to Vermonters according to their ability to pay while focusing more on strategies to address appropriate financial aid. The original “40% rule” was instituted in the mid-1950’s when the higher education world was much different than it is today.

Update on the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Tom Vogelmann provided an update on the activities of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, including new initiatives and areas of research such as on farm research collaborations, Methane Digester research and possible capital investment at the Miller Farm on Spear Street. He invited members to tour the facilities at their convenience.
Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Lenes, Secretary