

6-13-2014

USM Board of Visitors Meeting Notes (for the MUSG) June 13th, 2014

University of Southern Maine

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Recommended Citation

University of Southern Maine, "USM Board of Visitors Meeting Notes (for the MUSG) June 13th, 2014" (2014). *Maine's Metropolitan University*. 47.
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USM Board of Visitors

Meeting Notes (for the MUSG)

June 13th, 8:00 a.m., 102 Wishcamper

BOV Updates

- The way that its BOV interacts varies by campus and even college
 - a. The UMS Board of Trustees is interested in more integration and is looking for more input from the USM BOV.
 - b. In October there will be a BOV/BOT summit
- There needs to be more interaction between USM, BOV and the legislature
 - a. Cecile will be organizing a group of BOV members to try and start the process of cultivating mutually beneficial relationships between legislators and USM

President/USM Update

- USM Enrollment
 - a. Although reservations for residence halls are up 7%, undergraduate and graduate enrollments are down from projections (they were already down)
 - b. Interestingly, 2nd year out of state enrollment is up 5% which indicates that the work UMS has done in that direction is paying off
 - c. There is still a serious problem with enrollment in non-degree students

Systems Update

- The legislative dynamics and especially the gubernatorial race will affect Maine's public universities at both the System and campus level
- Money is now being allocated more to the K-12 school systems
 - a. Asking for more money is not as simple as having good ideas, it requires asking them to take money away from one place and give it to USM/UMaine system
- There is an 8 million dollar bond on the ballot for a new plant and animal diagnostic lab at Orono which will provide significant statewide impact and benefit
 - a. It is necessary to adjust how this is campaigned so that those who will benefit the most from it (ex: Aroostook County) will support it
- Facilities & Administrative Review Committee
 - a. They are looking at the size of the student population in contrast to the amount of buildings and administrators within the system – how do we staff the system given the demographics
 - b. Emphasis being placed on finding ways to do preventative maintenance on older buildings

- Comments/Questions on The Work of the MUSG
 - a. The goal is to reward those who are doing it, and support those who want to do it
 - b. A cohort of students to pay attention to is those from the Community Colleges
 - c. It's essential to get the stories of what people are already doing out into the community
 - d. The "Metropolitan University" is an old term – we really need to think about how we want to convey this idea in an exciting, modern way
 - e. There is serious risk to only doing incremental changes – we must take risks and make big changes
 - f. The market is going to respond to what it needs
 - g. We should have a focus group of employers to really get a sense of what the communities needs are
 - i. Ex: Maine Health is the 2nd largest employer in the state and has an internship program that is not connected to USM
 - h. External factors and trends are moving faster than the UMaine System
 - i. We must "Be Bold"
 - ii. It is not just the marketing, we have to mobilize the stakeholders
 - i. The University of Maine System needs to fix itself – it is a broken model and it's time to make a change. It was noted that conversations about a new model **are** being held at the campus presidents' level.