

November 19, 1971

Dr. Gordon Bigelow
Vice President for Student Affairs
University of Maine at Portland-Gorham
Gorham, Maine 04038

Dear Dr. Bigelow:

I think that it might be appropriate at this time to give you a report on the "state of affairs" regarding the student radio station project.

We have developed a proposed budget for the station, a copy of which you have received, and have shown it to Mr. Ed Winchester of the engineering staff of Maine Public Broadcasting. He has approved our equipment specifications as being reasonable and appropriate for the station.

Howard Allen presented our budget request to the publications board of the SAC on Thursday, November 11. The board received a copy of the budget, a copy of the information sheet on other college stations in Maine, and some information from the FCC, supplied by Marty Murphy, regarding the rules and procedures for establishing ten watt educational stations. Howard Allen also related the results of a survey conducted by the student station group, that reflected a very favorable response from students concerning the present station activities and the prospects for the future. The board has not yet ruled on the station request at this time. They wanted time to study the matter further and to determine if it is within their powers and responsibilities to grant the budget request or if it must be referred to the general SAC body. Some members of the board are also still somewhat concerned that the station signal may not be well received in Portland. Our survey of other Maine college stations indicated that we can expect good reception within a radius of approximately 15 miles. We feel that our superior station location on the hill here in Gorham will give us sufficient signal strength for good reception at greater than the average 15 mile radius

experienced by other Maine college stations. Ed Winchester has agreed to come to Gorham to help us determine, more definitively, what can be expected for signal reception in Portland. The publications board did, however, seem to respond quite favorably to the proposal to establish a college station for UMPG.

Howard Allen has secured permission from the housing office to use space in the west end of the basement in Anderson Hall, formerly used as a vending machine room, as a station location. Howard and I have talked with Mr. Salmon and Mr. Corson of the Physical Plant Department regarding the installation of an antenna support tower on the roof of Anderson Hall. They have tentatively approved the installation of the tower, provided that the type of tower base used and the method of attaching it to the roof are suitable.

We have been in contact with personnel at other college stations in Maine and have made some preliminary contacts with the staff of Maine Public Broadcasting. We hope to further draw upon the experience and expertise of these two groups.

Mr. Herb Crosby of WCSH has generously offered to donate two used ATC cartridge type tape recorders, and one used RCA 12 inch broadcast turntable to our station. The two cartridge machines are in need of some minor repairs. I have made a tentative acceptance of this equipment from him. I am working with Mr. Maurice Littlefield of the Office of Public Information and Development for formal acceptance of this equipment from Mr. Crosby. Mr. Littlefield has also informed me that he has some information on sources of additional support and funding for college radio that may supplement our budget (if approved and funded by the SAC).

If the SAC indicates their approval and funding support for the station, we expect to begin our formal station development plan. This plan would include all of the applications and proposals necessary to complete the FCC requirements for a formal station application. We hope to secure the assistance of the staff at Maine Public Broadcasting to accomplish this. When our formal station proposal plan is complete, we would submit it to you, President Calisti, the Chancellor, and the Board of Trustees for approval, before sending it to the FCC. If the FCC approves our application, then we would begin construction of our station.

Dr. Bigelow

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This is essentially what has been done and what we hope to do with the radio station project. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Hal Bergeson
Assistant Professor of
Education

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