

UCCSN Board of Regents' Meeting Minutes September 4-5, 1952

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UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA REGENTS MEETING September 4, 1952

The Board of Regents met in regular session at the Lake Tahoe home of Chairman Ross. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 1:30 P.M., Thursday, September 4, 1952. Present: Regents Hardy, Arentz, Ross; Comptroller Hayden; President Stout. Reporters Burns and Friel were also present and remained throughout the meeting. Regents Lombardi and Crumley were en route.

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion by Mr. Hardy carried unanimously that the minutes of the regular meeting of August 18, 1952 be approved and that the reading thereof be dispensed with.

Motion by Mr. Arentz carried unanimously that the minutes of the meeting of August 29, 1952, for the purpose of opening bids on Heating Plant work, be approved and that the contract be awarded to Savage & Son, as recommended by Comptroller Hayden and Architect Mills.

2. Comptroller's Claims

Motion by Mr. Hardy carried unanimously that the following claims, as approved by the Executive Committee, be approved by the Board:

Regents Checks Nos. 23-17 to 23-27 inclusive for a total of \$118,778.72 for August.

State Claims Nos. 23-10 to 23-20 inclusive for a total of \$101,507.51 for August.

3. Right-of-Way, South Virginia Farm

Comptroller Hayden presented a request from the Sierra Pacific Power Company for a right-of-way on the South Virginia Farm for the extension of a power line on the Farm

to operate a pump to be used in irrigation in certain areas of the Farm. Dean Hutchison had recommended its approval.

Motion by Mr. Arentz carried unanimously that the right-of-way be granted to the Sierra Pacific Power Company, as per their request.

4. Personnel Recommendations

Motion by Mr. Arentz carried unanimously that the following personnel recommendations be approved:

- (a) Appointment of Mrs. Martha Ciervo as Assistant Catalog Librarian, effective September 1, 1952, at a salary of \$3200 per year, in the place of Mrs. Enck, resigned.
- (b) Appointment of Miss Maribeth Elkins as Sub-Professional Assistant in the Library, effective September 1, 1952, at a salary of \$2100 per year, in the place of Miss Griffen, resigned.
- (c) Appointment of Harold Wiedman as Graduate Assistant in Biology at a salary of \$1500 for the school year 1952-53, to teach some of the courses left vacant by the resignation of Dr. W. D. Billings.
- (d) Appointment of Mrs. Mabel M. Brown as Assistant in English at a salary of \$700 for the Fall semester 1952 to teach some of the courses left vacant by the leave of absence of Dr. Charlton G. Laird.
- (e) Reappointment of Mrs. Mabel M. Brown as Assistant in Foreign Languages at a salary of \$500 for the Fall semester 1952.
- (f) Appointment of Harry Anderson as Assistant in History and Political Science at a salary of \$900 for the Fall semester 1952, to teach some of the courses left vacant by the illness of Dr. C. C. Smith.
- (g) Reappointment of Roderick A. Falk as Fellow in Chemistry at a salary of \$1100 for the school year 1952-53.

It was unanimously agreed that, in the future, unless a last minute resignation occurs which cannot otherwise be filled, faculty wives are not to be employed.

5. Astronomical Observatory

The President presented a report of the Dedication Committee of the Astronomical Society of Nevada, dated August 28, 1952 which stated:

Our Dedication Committee thought it eminently fitting to recommend to the University Regents, the name Blair Astronomical Observatory, with a record of all who shared in the work, and seeks your approval. This record will be in plaque form, suitably inscribed, as in the copy before you. Please offer corrections in details.

The matter was discussed and the suggestion made that a plaque of somewhat permanent nature be considered, preferably a bronze plaque.

Motion by Mr. Arentz carried unanimously that the President be authorized to proceed with the plans for such dedication, in conference with Dr. Church and any others with whom he might wish to consult. The name as recommended by the Astronomical Society was approved - Blair Astronomical Observatory.

6. Student Union Building

The following letter, dated August 27, 1952, and concerning the bequest of W. E. Travis, was read:

Mr. Minard W. Stout, President
University of Nevada
Reno, Nevada

Re: Estate of Wesley Elgin Travis

Dear Mr. Stout:

In the near future I contemplate filing with the Probate Court a petition authorizing me to make a ratable distribution of approximately one million dollars of the estate assets to the residuary legatees consisting of the trusts created under the Will and the charitable and educational beneficiaries. If the petition is granted, the University will receive 1/2% of approximately \$333,333.33 or \$1,666.66 in order to establish a revolving fund for needy, deserving, trustworthy students.

In addition, the University will be entitled to receive 30% of approximately \$333,333.33, or approximately \$100,000.00 to be used on the construction on the Campus of a building to be known as the "Jot Travis Student Building", provided that the condition imposed by the Will on the bequest for the construction of the said building has been complied with. You undoubtedly are aware that, as a condition to the bequest for the construction of the building, the Will provides that a sum of money equal to the bequest be furnished by the State of Nevada, or others, within 2 years from the date of Mr. Travis' death, which occurred on January 24, 1952, to be used in conjunction with the bequest in the construction of the building.

I am wondering if anything has been accomplished as yet by the University in order to comply with the condition. I will be unable to make any distribution to the University of all or any portion of the bequest for the construction of the building until the condition is fully satisfied. As Mr. Malcolm A. Love was advised by letter dated February 29, 1952, the total bequest to the University for the building should approximate \$210,000.00, which must be obtained in full by the University within the time indicated before all or any portion of the bequest for the construction of the building can be distributed to it. It is understood that the estimate of \$210,000.00 is subject to upward or downward revision, depending upon the actual condition of the estate when it is ready to be closed.

If the University cannot at this time comply with the condition, sufficient assets will be retained in the estate to fulfill the bequest for the construction of the "Jot Travis Student Building", and the same will be distributed to the University at such time as evidence is submitted revealing that the condition has been complied with within the 2-year period provided for in the Will.

Very truly yours,

Frederick W. Ackerman
Executor, Estate of
W. E. Travis

President Stout's reply was also read, as follows:

Mr. Frederick W. Ackerman
221 Pine Street
San Francisco 6, California

Dear Mr. Ackerman:

In reply to your letter of August 27, I can assure you that the Board of Regents are planning to request from the Legislature a sum of \$300,000.00 to put with the money from the estate of W. E. Travis for the construction of the "Jot Travis Student Building". The outcome of this request will not be known until the close of the next legislative session in February 1953.

Very truly yours,

Minard W. Stout
President

After general discussion concerning the bequest and the Student Union building,

Motion by Mr. Hardy carried unanimously that a copy of the Travis Will, together with correspondence concerning it, be submitted to the Attorney General with the request that he study and interpret the Will for the Regents; and further that he be requested to seek an accounting and determine how much the University must include in its budget to meet the terms of the Will.

Regents Crumley and Lombardi arrived at 2 P.M.

7. Budget

In presenting the budget for the coming biennium, the President discussed, especially the salary needs for the faculty and staff, pointing out that it would require 18-20% increase to bring the salaries of the faculty up to those of comparable educational institutions in this area. He recommended that money be included in the budget to permit personal interviews with prospective faculty members before contracting their services. He said that there is need, also, for salary adjustments in the non-academic Divisions of the University.

Adjustments to the budget, as recorded in the minutes of the meeting of August 18, 1952, have been made.

The Board recessed at 3 P.M. Regent Arentz had to leave at this time to catch a plane in Reno.

The Board went back into session at 3:10 P.M. and discussed the budget further.

Motion by Dr. Lombardi carried unanimously that the budget be accepted, with proportionate increases amounting to not over 15%; that request for salary increases be made in the amount of from \$500,000 to \$540,000 and that in so doing, the Regents recognize the fact that 20% would be required to increase salaries to an extent that the University of Nevada could meet competition with other Colleges and Universities. If this amount is not received, the alternative would be to cut courses and classes at the University.

8. Reception for President and Mrs. Stout

Mr. Ross suggested that it would be in order to have a reception for President and Mrs. Stout so that members of the Campus community and the townspeople might have opportunity to meet them.

Motion by Mr. Crumley carried unanimously that the Chairman be authorized to appoint members of the faculty as a committee to arrange for such a reception, and that expenses be paid from revolving fund surplus funds.

The Chairman appointed as a faculty committee for the reception, Dean Wood, Chairman; Dean Palmer, Dean Scheid, Dean Hutchison; and asked that they outline a program and submit it to the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, first meeting with President and Mrs. Stout to discuss with them the type of reception they would like to have.

9. Portrait of President Love

Chairman Ross presented a bill in the amount of \$650 from Hans Meyer-Kassel for portrait of President Love, as per Regents action of June 7, 1952.

Motion by Mr. Hardy carried unanimously that the Comptroller be authorized to make payment from surplus funds in the revolving fund.

10. Gifts

- (a) The Western Electrochemical Company has given a \$500 scholarship to Everett L. Witt of Henderson, Nevada, to be paid to Mr. Witt at the rate of \$250 per semester during the coming school year.

- (b) Mr. Raymond I. Smith has paid to the President's Discretionary Fund \$500 for each Monday evening during July and August for the use of the University Stadium for his fire works display. Total received - \$4000.

- (c) Dr. Fred Anderson of Reno has given a contribution of \$75 to the "Friends of the Library" fund.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 P.M.

The next meeting will be at the call of the Chairman.