

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
MINUTES OF THE TRUSTEES**

**January 19, 1953**

**For the confidential information  
of the Board of Trustee**

The Board of Trustees met at 1:45 p.m. on January 19 in the Board room, with the following members present: McCracken, Reed, Sullivan, Hansen, Bush, Jones, Brough and, ex-officio, Stolt and Humphrey. Absent were: Simpson, Del Monte, Burwell, Patterson, Newton and, ex-officio, Rogers. In the absence of President Simpson, Vice President McCracken presided.

President Humphrey asked that action be taken on one appointment and two budget changes before attention was given to the principal item of business for which the meeting was called.

Mr. Jones moved that the Board approve the appointment of Miss Sadaho Hayase as Research Assistant in the Department of Research Chemistry, effective January 20, 1953, at a salary rate of \$3,600 on a twelve-month basis, to be paid from Atomic Energy Commission grant funds.

1. College of Liberal Arts. Mr. Sullivan moved that an appropriation of \$3,125.04 be authorized to cover part-time instructional assistance for the winter quarter in three departments of the College of Liberal Arts as follows: English, \$1,200; Mathematics, \$1,160.98; and Physics, \$764.06. Mrs. Bush seconded the motion and it was carried.

2. Department of Animal Production. Mr. Jones moved that an appropriation of \$150 be made to cover expenses in connection with the third dairy manufacturing short course, with the understanding that the income from the \$5.00 registration fee would go into the General Fund of the University. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion and it was carried.

President Humphrey stated that, in the absence of the President of the Board of Trustees from the state, the Vice President had authorized

APPOINTMENTHayaseBUDGET CHANGESCollege of  
Liberal ArtsDepartment of  
Animal ProductionRESIGNATION,  
BOWDEN WYATT

and directed him to call a meeting of the Board to consider the request of Mr. Bowden Wyatt, Head Football Coach, that he be released from his ten-year contract with the University of Wyoming to permit him to accept a similar position at the University of Arkansas. Dr. Humphrey outlined briefly the events which led to Mr. Wyatt's request and indicated that his principal regret was that Mr. Wyatt had made application for the position at Arkansas without seeking permission from the Athletic Director or the President.

Mr. McCracken asked for expressions of opinion from each Board member, and it was the consensus of the Board that Mr. Wyatt had done a splendid job for the University, that the University had also done a great deal for Mr. Wyatt, and that, as much as the Board regretted to see him leave Wyoming, there was nothing to do except to release him. The opinion was expressed, however, that in acquiescing to Mr. Wyatt's request for release some notice should be taken of his apparent disregard for the sanctity of his contract, which still had approximately nine years to run.

After some further discussion, a statement was prepared for release to the press incorporating the various suggestions made by Board members. Mr. Reed moved, Mr. Brough seconded, and it was carried that the statement which follows be approved by the Board of Trustees:

"Last year the Board of Trustees of the University of Wyoming and Coach Bowden Wyatt entered into a ten-year contract. After the expiration of one year of his contract, Mr. Wyatt has asked his release.

"Regardless of the varying fortunes of football, the Board of course would have lived up to the contract, and we regret and are

disappointed that Mr. Wyatt has asked that it be broken. In that he has done so, however, we have no alternative, all things considered, but to acquiesce.

"In so doing, the Board is constrained publicly to call attention to the high frequency with which contractual relations between educational institutions, either at the collegiate or at the public school level, have been broken almost at will by individuals with no assumption of liability on their part. On the other hand, were the situation in reverse and the employer were to seek escape from the contract, it is universally regarded that the employer is definitely and positively liable.

"Except in instances where ill health or some equally unavoidable emergency arises to prompt mutual severance of the agreement, both parties to a contract should regard their signatures sacred. This statement we commend to the consideration of the N.C.A.A. and the various associations of athletic coaches.

"After all, our academic institutions are operated for one purpose only, the education, training and guidance of our young people. Every effort should be made to assure no interruption in their education and training. And with respect to the equally important matter of guidance, certainly both the institution and those whom it employs could set no better example than to hold inviolate the terms of their contracts."

Mr. G. J. Jacoby, Athletic Director, was invited into the meeting to read the statement prepared by the Board and to answer the Trustees' questions regarding a successor for Mr. Wyatt. Mr. Jacoby stated that he expected to have a recommendation to make to the President within

MEETING TO CONSIDER  
MR. WYATT'S SUCCESSOR

the next two or three weeks. President Humphrey asked the Board's direction as to whether a full meeting or a meeting of the Executive Committee should be called to consider the recommendation for a new coach. After some discussion, Mrs. Bush moved that all members of the Board be invited to the meeting and that if there was not a quorum the Executive Committee be empowered to act for the Board. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion and it was carried. Following this motion, Vice President McCracken authorized and directed President Humphrey to call the meeting as soon as he has a recommendation to make.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



H. D. Del Monte  
Secretary