



Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Full Board Meeting March 25, 2021 1:00 p.m.

The Fayetteville State University Board of Trustees convened on Thursday, March 25, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. in the Rudolph Jones Student Center, Multipurpose Room 242, and via Zoom. Chairman Stuart Augustine presided. Trustee Glenn Adams delivered the invocation.

ROLL CALL

The following trustees were in attendance: Glenn Adams, Richard C. Adams, Val Applewhite, Stuart Augustine, Jonathan Charleston, John Douglas English, Sydney Harris, John McFadyen, Sherida McMullan, Brandon Phillips, and Will Warner. Trustee Warren McDonald was not in attendance. *(See Addendum A.)*

Before proceeding into the main portion of the meeting, Chairman Augustine read the State Government Ethics Act to remind all members of the board of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict under this act.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Trustee Glenn Adams and seconded by Trustee Brandon Phillips that the minutes of the regular board meeting held on Dec. 10, 2020; special called meetings held on Dec. 21, 2020, Jan. 6, 2021, and Jan. 29, 2021; and the special called meeting of the Executive Board on March 9, 2021, be accepted as printed. The motion carried. *(See Addendum A.)*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business and Finance Committee: Trustee Brandon Phillips, chairman
Chairman Phillips asked for a motion to approve the firm of Vines Architecture to provide campus master planning services for the Fayetteville State University Master Plan. Trustee Glenn Adams made a motion to approve the selected firm, a HUB firm from Raleigh, North Carolina, to provide campus master planning services. Further, he asked that the board authorize the university staff to negotiate a contract and fee with Vines Architecture. Trustee John Douglas English seconded the motion. The motion carried. *(See Addendum A.)*

Chairman Phillips asked for a motion of approval to allow the university to increase project authority from \$14 million to \$16.5 million for the Lyons Science Building Comprehensive Renovation. Trustee Adams made a motion that the board approve increasing project authority from \$14 million to \$16.5 million, with final approval by the UNC Board of Governors. Trustee Will Warner second the motion. The motion carried. *(See Addendum A.)*

Chairman Phillips asked for a motion to approve Fleming & Associates to provide engineering services for the George L. Butler Envelope Improvement and Window Replacement Project. Trustee Adams made a motion to approve Fleming & Associates to provide engineering services for the Butler project. Further, he asked that the board authorize university staff members to negotiate a contract and fee with Fleming & Associates. Trustee John Douglas English seconded the motion. The motion carried. (*See Addendum A.*)

STUDENT REPORT

Trustee Sydney Harris presented an update on the activities of the Student Government Association (SGA).

February initiatives included a senior class general body meeting. Discussions were centered around options to present to Chancellor Darrell Allison that included having an in-person commencement ceremony for the Class of 2021. Also, student elections were held, and Trustee Harris was selected for a second term as SGA president.

As part of the March initiatives, the SGA sponsored Senate Week. Some of the activities held during Senate Week were a Black-Owned Business Fair; a Distress Fest during which mental health issues were discussed; and a Collective Concerns forum where students could voice their concerns about student issues. For every concern submitted, the student received a meal from McAllister's or Chick-fil-A. Also held in the month of March was a virtual sip-and-paint party.

On Wednesday, March 17, 2021, the student body participated in a town hall meeting with Chancellor Darrell Allison. Trustee Harris stated that it was a great meeting.

The SGA Student Safety Committee met with university administrators to discuss student safety. Also, the SGA sponsored a march against student injustice. Students voiced their opinions about current policies. Trustee Harris stated that their concerns were not against Chancellor Allison. Trustee Harris stated further that the SGA would like for students to have a voice and vote on the UNC Board of Governors.

The SGA discussed student priorities with Chancellor Allison. Trustee Harris listed four priorities student leaders would like to see the administration and Board of Trustees address.

- Priority 1: Increased direct engagement with students. The SGA would like to see board members attend student activities.
- Priority 2: The SGA would like each board member to attend at least two SGA meetings per quarter. By attending the meetings, board members would be able to hear student concerns.

- Priority 3: The SGA requests that all trustee meetings and minutes be publicized for review by all students and constituents. (That information appears on the FSU website under Board of Trustees.)
- Priority 4: The SGA requested a forum to discuss the process of increasing student fees.

Trustee Harris said she would like board members to sign an agreement that they will participate and engage in the priorities that have been outlined.

There was subsequent discussion regarding spring graduation. While many hoped that the Crown Coliseum would be the site of 2021 graduation, it appears that the Crown will not work for FSU as it will allow only 176 graduates inside at a time. Also, graduates would be limited in the number of family members as guests. No arrangements have been finalized. Trustee Glenn Adams said he would like to help with the Crown situation. There was also a question about incorporating the Classes of 2020 with 2021, although members of the Class of 2021 have said they would prefer their commencement ceremony be separate from the Class of 2020.

Next initiatives include: Priority discussions/statements; Rudolph Jones Student Center renovations; increase student engagement; and improve communication between students and staff, faculty and administration.

Chairman Augustine acknowledged UNC Board of Governors liaison Mr. Leo Daughtry.

Trustee Jonathan Charleston asked Mr. Daughtry what, if any, roll the Board of Trustees can play, along with Chancellor Allison, in getting funding from the UNC System. Mr. Daughtry said the Board of Governors has people working on the issue. The board has a list of priorities, and his job is to make sure FSU is included among the priorities that are sent to the General Assembly, he said.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION REPORT

Ms. Terri Tibbs, associate vice chancellor for human resources, presented the annual Diversity and Inclusion Report to the board. This report was borne out of a study on diversity and inclusion at the system level, with a policy adopted in September 2019 that established regular reporting to the Board of Trustees and president with respect to diversity and inclusion goals and outcomes.

The report will consist of four parts:

- The impact of the institution's diversity and inclusion (D&I) programs and activities with respect to systemwide D&I metrics and institutional D&I goals,

- The number of positions and full-time equivalents with D&I responsibilities, indicating the percentage of each associated with D&I responsibilities,
- Institutional funding expended on D&I operations and activities.
- D&I programs (Student Affairs) that include an inaugural safe zone open house; programs on coping with college life as an FSU student; and mental health services, to name a few.

Plans going forward include designating a new D&I officer and D&I executive for FSU; establishing a D&I committee; and utilizing available data such as an engagement survey, voluntary turnover data, training, and performance management.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Augustine asked that the board and FSU family keep Trustee Warren McDonald in prayer. He is very ill and in the hospital.

Chairman Augustine welcomed Chancellor Darrell Allison to FSU, saying he is thrilled to have him here.

In final, Chairman Augustine said he sent out a rough draft of upcoming committee assignments that will become active at the next board meeting. Each board member was assigned to three committees, and Chairman Augustine would like to receive feedback as soon as possible. There are six active committees.

CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS

Chancellor Darrell Allison addressed the skepticism about his being selected as chancellor of Fayetteville State University. He said he will lead competently and is wholeheartedly committed to serving the university well. Chancellor Allison said he sincerely appreciates the chance to demonstrate his competency and loyalty to FSU.

Since his arrival, Chancellor Allison has had conversations with student leaders; has held a series of town hall meetings; and met with the mayor of Fayetteville and Fayetteville City Council members. His message to each was constant, he said: He asked stakeholders what things they'd like to see at FSU.

Chancellor Allison said he is a collaborative leader and that together, the FSU community and its partners can elevate the university. He said he requires excellence from everyone.

CLOSED SESSION

Trustee Val Applewhite made a motion to go into closed session to prevent the disclosure of information that is confidential pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6). Trustee Sherida McMullan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

OPEN SESSION

Five faculty members were recommended for promotion:

- Dr. Cynthia Wooten, to associate professor.
- Dr. Kristen Delaney Nguyen, to associate professor.
- Dr. Zahra Shekarkhar, to associate professor.
- Dr. Alanna Miller, to associate professor.
- Dr. Dorrance Kennedy, to associate professor.

Trustee Glenn Adams made a motion to approve the promotion of the five candidates. Trustee Val Applewhite seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The following faculty members were recommended for the title of professor emeritus:

- Dr. Blanche Radford-Curry, professor of philosophy.
- Dr. Kwaku Twumasi-Ankrah, professor of sociology.
- Dr. Kwame Boakye-Sarpong, professor of political science.

Trustee Glenn Adams made a motion to approve the recommendation for the three candidates. Trustee Jonathan Charleston seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chancellor Allison shared new leadership changes and promotions within the Office of the Chancellor.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
John McFadyen, secretary
Suzetta Perkins, recorder