

FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY
MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING
Chancellor's Conference Room and via ZOOM
March 26, 2020
1:00 p.m.

The Fayetteville State University Board of Trustees convened on Thursday, March 26, 2020 at 1:13 p.m. in the Chancellor's Conference Room in the Barber Building and via ZOOM. Chairman Stuart Augustine presided. Chief of Staff Wendell Phillips delivered the invocation.

ROLL CALL

The following trustees were in attendance: Glenn Adams, Richard C. Adams, Valencia Applewhite, Stuart Augustine, Kiante` Bennett, Jonathan Charleston, Warren McDonald, John McFadyen, Sherida McMullan, Brando Phillips, and Brenda Timberlake. Trustee Will Warner was not in attendance.

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 Warren McDonald and properly seconded by Trustee Brenda Timberlake that the minutes of the Board meeting held December 12, 2019, the Special Called Meeting on January 13, 2020, and the Special Called Meeting on February 3, 2020 be accepted as printed. *The motion carried.*

Trustee Jonathan Charleston stated that there were some items left out of the December minutes to include President Roper's charge to the Board of Trustees. He also stated that in the minutes of the Special Called Meeting on February 3, 2020, discussion held with Mr. Brunstetter from the System Office regarding underfunding and his agreeance to take the information back to his colleagues at the System Office were not recorded in the minutes. The recorder will review and make revisions as necessary.

STUDENT REPORT

Trustee Kiante Bennett presented an update for the previous quarter on behalf of the Student Government Association (SGA). The SGA continues to uphold their Mission Statement, which is to serve as a voice of the students, promote academic excellence, and encourage positive involvement for the enhancement of student life.

SGA initiatives in the month of January included the following:

1. Four members of the SGA attended the Association of Student Government (ASG) on January 24th.
2. January 27-31 was Senate week. The program for each day consisted of concerns: 'A Day with Aramark', a Staff Appreciation Luncheon, and a spirit pre-game event among others.

Some of the SGA activities highlighted in the month of February included the following:

1. A welcome back/Senate Week Lilly party on February 1st.
2. The Student Engagement "Shogun Celebration," was held on February 5th.
3. February 9th was FSU Day at John Wesley church. Faculty and staff members attended to include Interim Chancellor Dr. Peggy Valentine, Chancellor Emeritus Dr. Willis McLeod, and Senator Kirk deViere to name a few.
4. On February 14th, Trustee Bennett visited Bronco iRadio on campus and spoke on the radio about future SGA events.
5. On February 18th, Trustee Bennett participated on the Chancellor's Webinar.
6. February 24-29, Trustee Bennett attended the CIAA Tournament in Charlotte. She stated that both teams are champions.

A few of the SGA activities highlighted in the month of March included the following:

1. Bronco Engage on March 16th
2. Election reveal was held on March 18th. Trustee Bennett thanked Mr. Jeff Womble and Student Affairs for their assistance.
3. SGA Emergency fund request was created to assist students in crisis. They assisted 37 students. Trustee Bennett has high hopes for its continuance.

The 2020-2021 slate of newly elected officers for SGA are as follows:

SGA President – Sydney Harris
SGA Vice President – Kenyon Butler
SGA Secretary – Alexia Perez
SGA Treasurer – Jordan Ferguson

Ms. Sydney Harris is the niece of one of the founders (Harris).

Trustee Bennett stated that she was proud of her team and has seen their growth—ending strong.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Augustine provided an update on where the FSU Search Committee is at present in its quest to elect a new Chancellor for FSU. Due to the current COVID-19 crisis, Chairman Augustine stated that we still have a group working behind the scenes, however community forums have been postponed temporarily. As soon as new dates are set, everyone will be provided with an update. The committee will be working on a tight timeframe. He also stated that East Carolina University (ECU) has suspended their search for now.

CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS

Interim Chancellor Peggy Valentine provided an update on the coronavirus, a snapshot of the draft strategic plan, and the revised mission statement which expires June 30, 2020.

Student instruction began online Monday, March 23, 2020. Students who didn't have computers were furnished one. Some of the rural students didn't have cellphones. While most students moved off campus, 37 remained on campus. Residence assistants are living in the dorms.

During the COVID-19 instituted mandates from the President, staff and faculty members are teleworking, while mandatory personnel will be on duty. Interim Chancellor Valentine and the cabinet will be working on problems concerning online studies for our students. Student Health Services have provided service to students who have remained on campus.

Dr. Valentine stated that she's spoken to the Department of Education regarding repurposing Title III funds. FSU was granted permission to utilize Title III funding to meet online instructional needs, which include the purchase of computers, hotspots, and online coaches. Also, the university is submitting proposals to others, i.e., the Gates Foundation, to support our online education efforts.

Spring graduation will be delayed until it's safe to do so. Interim Chancellor Valentine states that the Student Government Association (SGA) has been a great support of the students. She commended Trustee Kiante Bennett for her leadership.

Dr. Harriet Davis, Interim Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement, shared her unit's online effort to support students during the COVID-19 crisis 'Broncos Helping Broncos.' Donations can be made online by going to the university's website under Institutional Advancement.

Dr. Valentine stated that her next steps include assisting students, faculty, and staff with online assistance in completing courses, as well as teaching courses. Dr. Valentine will continue to work with the System Office on student concerns

that include refunds for housing, meals, and parking. Guidelines should be provided soon from the System Office.

Transfer student numbers are down. New strategies are being looked at to service these students.

Dr. Valentine provided a 10-year comparison of enrollment trends and demographics of persons who come to FSU. There has been a steady uptick in enrollment from 2009–2019, with a small decline in 2014. A large majority of FSU's students come from Tier I and II rural communities, where incomes are low. Most of these students are African American. For every six students, two are male. Our graduate enrollment has increased, which generates more revenue.

SAT score requirements increased, as well as GPA's. The average high school GPA for incoming, first-time freshman is 3.27. As for SCH's, Dr. Valentine stated that we would like to see the numbers become higher.

The major contributors to the increased enrollment at FSU are Business & Economics and Nursing. Fall 2019 has seen an increase in housing (1,500 students lived on campus). Most residential students are from North Carolina. A large population of our student body is over the age of 24, which may attribute to our Distance Education being a large piece of the pie. The number of transfer students have increased.

In summary, most of our students come from Tier I and II counties (rural and low income) with the majority being African American. Enrollment stats, part-time student enrollment has increased slightly; military affiliates number 3,200. Graduate Studies' increase is steady. While enrollment has increased, less students are living on campus.

Interim Chancellor Valentine presented a Board resolution in partnership with Meharry Medical College whose focus is health professions programs. She stated that she would like to open the door for our students to participate in this wonderful opportunity. There are twenty (20) slots available for students to enroll at Meharry.

Dr. Valentine acknowledged Trustee Jonathan Charleston for recognizing the opportunity to partner with Meharry Medical College and bringing it to the university. Mr. Charleston, Dr. Valentine, and others met with Dr. Matthews-Juarez of the Meharry Medical School, along with key people in the area. Dr. Valentine also thanked Provost Pamela Jackson for her participation in bringing this to the forefront. Dr. Matthews-Juarez (Meharry) would like to have the Board review the resolution.

Dr. Valentine recognized Dr. Nicole Lucas who spoke about the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan.

Dr. Lucas presented a revised Mission Statement. She stated that the revised statement was based on faculty input. The “draft strategic plan” was sent to the faculty, staff, and others to firm up the Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Core Values, and the Priorities. The Mission Statement was sent to alums for modification during a webinar with Interim Chancellor Valentine. Dr. Lucas will also send out to students for their review.

The Strategic Plan can be transformational. The hope is that Tier I and II community students can become Tier IV students.

Chairman Stuart Augustine stated that our job is to move FSU forward: figure out what tomorrow looks like. The Meharry partnership gives FSU another unique opportunity to increase revenue and exposure.

Dr. Lucas stated that the Mission Statement will be presented at the June meeting for approval.

Trustee Glenn Adams stated that the Meharry partnership is nice. He would, however, like an opportunity to review it. Trustee Warren McDonald chimed in that it would be a great opportunity for the university. He knows the Associate Dean there.

Trustee Jonathan Charleston stated that we are experiencing a shortage of physicians in North Carolina. Meharry could become a feeder program in eastern North Carolina (Cape Fear). It comes with a proposed non-exclusivity clause. Students would spend three years at FSU, three years at Meharry, and then residency. This would be a dramatic change for FSU, according to Trustee Charleston. The Board resolution would allow the Chancellor to negotiate an affiliation agreement. Trustees Glenn Adams and Charleston suggested that the Board meet more often.

Trustee Jonathan Charleston made a motion to adopt the resolution. Trustee Kiante Bennett second the motion. Trustee Glenn Adams asked that we table the motion for now. It was suggested that the Board meet via conference call next week to discuss further.

CLOSED SESSION

Trustee Valencia 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). Chairman Stuart Augustine second the motion. *The motion carried.*

OPEN SESSION

The Board of Trustees reconvened in open session and held the following discussion:

Nine faculty members were recommended for promotion as follows:

Dr. Burcu Adivar (to Associate Professor)
Dr. Murat Adivar (to Full Professor)
Dr. Erica Campbell (to Associate Professor)
Dr. Caroline Glackin (to Associate Professor)
Dr. Stephanie Hodges (to Associate Professor)
Dr. Tanya Hudson (to Associate Professor)
Mr. Dwight Smith (to Associate Professor)
Dr. Whitney Wall (to Associate Professor)
Dr. Tamara Woods (to Associate Professor)

Trustee Jonathan Charleston made a motion to approve promotion for the nine recommended candidates. Trustee Warren McDonald second the motion. *The motion carried.*

ADJORNMENT

Trustee Charleston made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Sherida McMullan second the motion. *The motion carried.* The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Timberlake, Secretary
Suzetta Perkins, Recorder