

FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

MINUTES, SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

FSU BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Via ZOOM

Thursday, April 2, 2020

10:00 a.m.

A Special Called Meeting of the Fayetteville State University Board of Trustees was held Thursday, April 2, 2020, at 10:04 a.m. via ZOOM Conferencing System. Chairman Stuart Augustine presided.

ROLL CALL

The following Trustees were in attendance: Mr. Glenn Adams, Ms. Val Applewhite, Mr. Stuart Augustine, Ms. Kiante Bennett, Mr. Jonathan Charleston, Dr. Warren McDonald, Mrs. Sherida McMullan, Dr. Brandon Phillips, and Ms. Brenda Timberlake.

Others in attendance were: Interim Chancellor Dr. Peggy Valentine, Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance Mr. Carlton Spellman, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Pamela Jackson, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Dr. Janice Haynie, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement, Dr. Harriet Davis, Vice Chancellor for ITTS Mr. Nick Ganesan, General Counsel Wanda Jenkins, and Mr. Jeffrey Womble.

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

Chairman Augustine relinquished the floor to Dr. Peggy Valentine for discussion on the proposed Resolution between Fayetteville State University (FSU) and Meharry Medical College. Prior to Dr. Valentine's remarks, Trustee Jonathan Charleston asked that we go into Closed Session to consider an economic opportunity. General Counsel Wanda Jenkins stated that the statue didn't pertain to the 3+3+3 resolution. She suggested that the item be tabled until she's able to seek advice from the System Office.

Dr. Valentine stated that Dr. Patricia Juarez from Meharry was on the line and could offer more detail.

Trustee Warren McDonald stated that we could put the motion before the Board in support of this and have someone from the outside discuss it further.

Trustee Charleston stated that he was perplexed as to why the Board was concerned that other schools are having a problem with FSU looking out for the community it serves. Trustee Charleston made a motion to adopt the resolution presented and that Meharry and FSU be excluded from this discussion.

Trustee Glenn Adams stated that we shouldn't exclude people's right to say what they wish to say, especially due to the impact this may have on other universities who may have a concern about the proposal. Trustee McDonald stated that East Carolina would be affected by this proposal. Trustee Charleston withdrew the limitations on the motion. He stated the proposal is so that the Board could move forward with the first discussions of the affiliation agreement.

Chairman Augustine inquired about the proposal being the springboard for a medical school. General Counsel Wanda Jenkins stated that any decision to be made for a medical school at FSU must be approved by the UNC Board of Governors (BoG).

Trustee Glenn Adams stated that the first two items/bullet points of the resolution are fine. However, the remaining bullet points (3-5) need to be discussed and studied further by the Board.

Trustee Charleston stated that a concept is to be established, looked at, and then a recommendation made by the committee and recommendation from Dr. Matthew-Juarez. Chairman Augustine agreed this should be done after the first step is accomplished. Trustee Adams inquired as to whether a committee would be established to study the resolution. Trustee Charleston stated that a committee would be established to evaluate. All agreed that the Board would establish a committee to evaluate, review, and bring back to the Board its findings.

Interim Chancellor Valentine stated that she was excited and thrilled about the Board's excitement of this program. She then introduced Dr. Patricia Matthews-Juarez (Meharry Medical College) to the Board to provide further information about the 3+3+3 program. Dr. Matthews-Juarez visited FSU a few weeks and shared information with Dr. Valentine, Dr. Pamela Jackson, and Trustee Jonathan Charleston. She has a strong track record with these kinds of program and her work has many similarities to the goals of Dr. Valentine and FSU, which is to serve communities with disparities.

Dr. Matthews-Juarez stated that there are potential opportunities with Meharry. There is a shortage of primary care doctors and health physicians. Dr. Juarez grew up in rural North Carolina and understands the needs of those communities.

The idea of a 3+3+3 program is for students to attend FSU for three years, attend Meharry Medical School for three years as a medical student, and prepare for

licensing to go into three-year residency training at Meharry or school of choice. FSU would identify students who are interested in medical, dentistry, and bio medical that are currently aligned with a medical school curriculum and will be taking the NCAT at beginning of their third year.

Dr. Matthews-Juarez stated that programs such as this aren't new. Meharry has a program with Tennessee State, Penn State, Cal Davis, and Pamlico County. Students should be on the front lines. Individuals who graduate from rural communities will go back to those rural communities to serve, and certainly, FSU should be able to fill a void.

Trustee Brandon Phillips inquired as to whether students would be penalized if they specialized in i.e., surgical medicine or is the program geared toward primary care only. Dr. Matthews-Juarez stated that under the 3+3+3 program, students would be exposed to general medicine—coordination of care, patient-centered. There is a shortage of primary care doctors, therefore, the emphasis is on primary care.

If a student identifies that they will be pre-med, attend Meharry, and wishes to enter the residency training program, it will cut approximately one (1) year from the program. Jonathan Charleston stated that it's clear that there is a shortage of primary physicians in North Carolina.

Interim Chancellor Valentine asked: "Do we have students who can manage a medical school curriculum who are from the rural areas?" And she answered that we do, and they do will.

Dr. Matthews-Juarez stated that if we don't prepare now to have primary care doctors in our rural communities, we will continue to see a high rate of mortality, diabetes, hypertension, strokes, and heart disease. There is excitement to grow our own cadre of young people who will get the education and come back and serve. The commitment to the southeastern region should be tremendous.

Trustee Jonathan Charleston stated that with the non-exclusivity clause, there is a better chance of our students getting into medical school. Conditional acceptance is tied to NCAT score.

Trustee Glenn Adams stated that students who come from southeastern counties will incur debt. Will Meharry offer scholarships so that students won't have a tremendous debt?

The structure of a reasonable pathway without a lot of debt would be debt forgiveness. Debt forgiveness is good if a student comes back to serve in a rural community, if possible.

Trustee Jonathan Charleston commended Dr. Valentine and Provost Pamela Jackson for their participation in seeking to get this resolution passed. Trustees Brandon Phillips, Val Applewhite, Stuart Augustine, and Warren McDonald all commended the leadership on such an opportunity to create a pathway for our students. Chairman Augustine stated that we look at this idea and go ahead and negotiate an affiliation agreement.

Trustee Charleston stated that he disagreed with Trustee Glenn Adams regarding the last three bullets on the resolution. It says:

We are planning for a Rural Training Track program in primary care (family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine, and general obstetrics and gynecology) that engages federally qualified health centers, local and regional hospitals, and local clinics for rotations and clerkships.

Chairman Augustine suggested that we change the ending. Trustee Glenn Adams inquired as to who would establish the planning committee. Trustee Charleston stated that the Chair would establish the committee.

General Counsel Wanda Jenkins stated that she will review the resolution for language change and resubmit to the Board.

Trustee Warren McDonald stated that a motion was on the floor to approve the Resolution. The motion was seconded and approved with language changes. *The motion carried.* There was no opposition.

Chairman Augustine relinquished the floor to Vice Chancellor Carlton Spellman. Vice Chancellor Spellman shared, for information only, that Fayetteville State University's Series 2011 Limited Obligation Bond (LOB) could be subject to a proposed advance refund, based on the current market conditions and the advice of the First Tryon Advisors, the university's financial advisor. The 2011 LOB's have an aggregate outstanding principal amount of \$18,230,000 that was issued to finance the construction of Renaissance Hall dormitory. Mr. Spellman recommends that this request be submitted to the FSU Student Housing Corporation for approval at their next meeting.

Trustee Jonathan Charleston stated that there should be substantial diversity on the finance team. Vice Chancellor Spellman stated that he will have that discussion with the FSU Student Housing Corporation.

Vice Chancellor Spellman recommended to the Board that Fayetteville State University, based on the current market conditions and at the advice of First Tryon Advisors, the university's financial advisor, advance refund the Series 2013 A&B General Revenue Bonds "2013 A&B Bonds." The bonds have an

aggregate outstanding principal in the amount of \$20,955,000, which was issued to finance the Rudolph Jones Student Center addition.

Trustee Glenn Adams made a motion to allow Fayetteville State University to advance refund the Series 2013 A&B General Revenue Bonds, "2013" A&B Bonds," at the June 11, 2020 Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Jonathan Charleston second the motion with a caveat (that there is diversity). *The motion carried.*

Trustee Charleston made a motion to approve the Lyons Science Comprehensive Renovation project authority to be increased from \$11 million to \$12 million, with final approval by the UNC Board of Governors (BoG). Trustee McDonald second the motion. *The motion carried.*

Trustee Charleston thanked Interim Chancellor Valentine and the Vice Chancellors for their presentations at the last Board of Trustees meeting. As there was no more discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Suzetta M. Perkins, *Recorder*

Trustee Brenda Timberlake, *Secretary*