The Fayetteville State University Board of Trustees convened on Thursday, December 8, 2016 at 1:30 p.m. in the J. C. Jones Board Room in the Charles Chesnutt Library. Chairman Jodie Ervin presided. Trustee Brenda Timberlake delivered the invocation.

ROLL CALL

The following trustees were in attendance: Richard C. Adams, Claude Bogues, Jodie Ervin, Elliot Jackson, Vedas Neal, Inder Nijhawan, Donald Porter, Brenda Timberlake, and Kirk deViere. Trustees Edward Dickerson and Rajan Shamdasani were not in attendance.

Before proceeding into the main portion of the meeting, Chairman Ervin 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 Vedas Neal and properly second by Trustee Donald Porter that the minutes of the Board meeting held September 22, 2016, be accepted as printed. The motion carried. It was moved by Trustee Claude Bogues and properly second by Trustee Inder Nijhawan that the minutes of the Special Called meeting of the Board held November 18, 2016, be accepted as printed. The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs and Personnel Committee – Trustee Vedas Neal, Chair

Chairman Ervin asked the Board to approve the 2017-18 Tuition and Fee increases as presented. Trustee Neal made a motion to approve the Tuition and Fee increases for 2017-18. Trustee Porter seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Ervin asked the Board to approve the revised Board of Trustees Appellate Policy and Procedures. Trustee Nijhawan made a motion to approve the revised Board of Trustees Appellate Policy and Procedures. Trustee Adams seconded the motion. The motion carried.
STUDENT REPORT

Trustee Elliot O. Jackson provided an update of Student Government Association (SGA) activities. The SGA theme for 2016-17 is “A Different Blue.” Trustee Jackson introduced the Executive Members of his Board that included a former SGA president from 1989, Ms. Mary Forbes.

The SGA held a number of events during the last quarter to include a spirit rally that was held during Homecoming. A series of election engagement activities were also hosted by the SGA. These activities were as follows: Strut to the polls; FSU Broncos Vote Challenge; Souls to the Polls – 75 students participated (Trustee Jackson received a $500 grant that was used to have a party at the polling station); and the March on Murchison (going to the poles to vote), which 150+ students participated led by Chancellor Anderson. Of the 150 students that participated in the march, a number of organizations were represented to include the Men’s Basketball Team, A.U.T.O.S (commuter students), and Wellness Ambassadors. The latter event happened on vote day, November 11, 2016. The initial goal for SGA President/Trustee Jackson was to register 35% of the residential students to vote; however, he surpassed his goal at 36%.

Trustee Jackson stated that the SGA has bi-weekly open Senate meetings. Senators are elected to a one-year term. One of the recent concerns of the Senate has been the quality of food presentation served by Aramark. As well, there have been some housekeeping issues (dirty silverware and routine cleaning of the dining room). Trustee Jackson stated that he’s reviewed parts of the Aramark contract to understand its contractual obligations to the students. Trustee Jackson also states that Aramark has been proactive in coming to their meetings and have listened to the students’ concerns. He contends that there has been little change, although Aramark is privy to their concerns. Vice Chancellor of Business and Finance, Mr. Ken Craig, contends that there have been changes made and that surveys reflect that most students are satisfied.

The SGA still has concerns within the residence halls, which have been communicated to Hall Directors. However, the more severe concerns have been directed to the Housing Director. One of the wishes of the students is to have prepaid washer and dryer services on campus. It would be a convenience.

The mission of the SGA is to restore campus involvement and student buy-in. It’s difficult to achieve with the many student concerns, Trustee Jackson contends. Students don’t feel they are supported.

The FSU SGA will host the UNC Association of Student Governments (ASG) on campus January 27-28. FSU is the only HBCU that the ASG will be visiting this year. Kudos for FSU SGA.

In final, the SGA is working on a $6,000 grant for FSU students to participate in The CIAA Experience. The purpose of attending the CIAA Experience is for
students to make professional connections, obtain alumni development and career exposure. In order for a student to participate he/she will have to meet the GPA standard, will be required to attend 3 of 3 learning sessions, and have no judicial sanctions. While this event will happen during the CIAA, students participating will be allowed to go to the game if FSU is playing.

CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS

Chairman Ervin, along with Chancellor Anderson, presented outgoing Chair, Donald Porter with a plaque in appreciation for his services as Chair for the past two years. Former Chair Porter was grateful for the plaque and stated that he looks forward to assisting the Board onward as he continues his service on the Board.

Chairman Ervin thanked and applauded the FSU staff for hosting two outstanding historical events on our campus—the visit of our 44th President, Barack Obama, and former President Bill Clinton who came a week or so prior to campaign in support of Hillary Clinton. Members of the National Democratic Committee gave our staff rave reviews for a well-organized event.

On November 5th, Chancellor and Mrs. Anderson hosted Cotton Club II on our campus. Chairman Ervin thanked the Andersons, Dr. and Mrs. Richard Adams, and the students for an outstanding event in which 300 guests attended. Over $20,000 was raised from this effort. Chairman Ervin said this year’s event will be hard to beat next year and it may take getting Beyonce to perform in order to achieve it.

A few weeks ago, Trustee Emeritus W. T. Brown passed away. Chairman Ervin stated that he recalled several meetings in which Trustee Emeritus Brown would sit on the end and share his wisdom with the Board. He will be missed.

The Chancellor’s Review Committee headed up by Trustee Porter was commended by Chairman Ervin. The Committee was responsible for hiring an outside consulting firm to conduct the review, who collected data and summarized the information. Chairman Ervin also thanked General Counsel Wanda Jenkins for all of her efforts in helping to facilitate the process.

Chairman Ervin thanked Trustee Porter for an outstanding job chairing the campaign committee. He reminded Board members to submit their contributions, if they hadn’t already done so.

Our Chairman gave special congratulations to Chancellor Anderson for receiving the 2017 American Association of Blacks in Higher Education (AABHE) Harold Delaney Exemplary Leadership Award, which he’ll receive in the spring.
In final, Chairman Ervin thanked the Board for their service, dedication and financial support. As well, he thanked the Board for their confidence in selecting Trustee Vedas Neal, Claude Bogues, and himself as their officers for the 2016-17 academic year.

CHANCELLOR’S REPORT

The University System recently mourned the death of North Carolina Central University’s Chancellor Dr. Debra Saunders-White. Chancellor Anderson attended her Memorial Service.

On Wednesday, Chancellor Anderson was invited to W. T. Brown Elementary School to speak to students. As one who’s fascinated with superheroes, Chancellor Anderson shared with the students a chart/board that showcased a number of superheroes. He asked students to identify them. There was a true story in his asking the students to do so. He stated that the superheroes weren’t real, but the school they attended was named after a real superhero—Dr. W. T. Brown. Chancellor Anderson said they should all bring a dime to school to honor this superhero. The Chancellor went on to tell the students about his own background of being poor etc., and as children do speak the truth, a student told Chancellor Anderson that he should get the dime, as it seemed he was the one who needed it.

Chancellor Anderson called Mr. Bryan Kent, Director of the Center for Defense and Homeland Security (CDHS), to give an update of the Center’s progress to date. Chancellor Anderson also stated that Mr. Kent would be leaving the university in January.

Chancellor Anderson met earlier this week with Tonya Taylor from The Gift Development Group, a consultant working with Institutional Advancement. She says the university is on target to meet its $25 million goal. They have some high-end prospects, which are mostly banks. Visits are being tracked—30 vendors identified and 8 contacted. Mr. Tim Minor at the UNC System Office has helped to make connections.

The Chancellor’s Christmas Party is next Thursday, December 15th from 4 to 6, and all are invited to attend. Chancellor Anderson stated that the university will be unveiling several pieces of art during the Christmas party that were purchased for the Sesquicentennial.

The early games of the CIAA that take place at the end of February will be played at the Bojangles Arena in Charlotte.

Recently, Chancellor Anderson attended a special session at SACS for Chancellors. Three of Mr. Trump’s African-American supporters (to include Omarosa Manigault—Trump Aide and former Celebrity Apprentice star) were
there to share Mr. Trump’s vision for higher ed (as they believe it is) when he takes office. There will be a meeting in January at NAFEO to discuss policies. Chancellor Anderson received an invitation to visit Rome as a part of International Globalization.

The Committee is finalizing the calendar for the Sesquicentennial. Henry Louis Gates’ name is on the table to be a possible speaker for Founders’ Day 2018. Another possibility is Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.

The Board of Governors is still working on the Strategic Plan for the system. The five goals include as follows: 1) access, 2) affordability, 3) student success, 4) community, and 5) economic development. Target date for completion of the Strategic Plan is May 17.

Commencement will be held on Saturday, December 10, 2016, and Chancellor Anderson asked that all participants be at the arena no later than 7:45 a.m. This will be the last fall commencement.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Claude Bogues, Secretary
Suzetta Perkins, Recorder