FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY
MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ MEETING
J. C. Jones Board Room, Charles Chesnutt Library
Thursday, June 12, 2014
1:30 p.m.

The Fayetteville State University Board of Trustees convened on Thursday, June 12, 2014, at 1:38 p.m. in the J. C. Jones Board Room in the Charles Chesnutt Library. Chairman Lucy Vidal-Barreto presided. Chair Vidal-Barreto asked that we have a moment of silence for Trustee Emeritus, Mr. Julius A. Fulmore, Jr., who recently passed away. Trustee Emeritus W. T. Brown delivered the invocation.

ROLL CALL

The following trustees were in attendance: Claude Bogues, Wayne Branch, Edward Dickerson, John R. Griffin, Jr., Vedas Neal, Inder Nijhawan, Brenda Timberlake, Ruth Dial Woods, and Lucy Vidal-Barreto. Trustee Emeritus W. T. Brown was also in attendance. Trustees Richard Adams, Jodie Ervin, and Donald Porter were not in attendance.

Before proceeding into the main portion of the meeting, Chairman Lucy Vidal-Barreto 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 Inder Nijhawan and properly seconded by Trustee Claude Bogues that the minutes of the regular Board meeting held March 27, 2014, and the Special Called Meeting held April 15, 2014, be accepted as printed and distributed. The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit Committee – Trustee Claude Bogues, Chair
Chair Bogues stated that the 2014-2015 Internal Audit Plan that Mr. Bob Stogner presented to the Audit Committee was approved by the committee and he was now seeking full Board approval. Trustee John Griffin made a motion to approve the 2014-2015 Internal Audit Plan. Trustee Vedas Neal seconded the motion. The motion carried. (See Agenda Item 8-A)
Business and Finance Committee – Trustee Donald Porter, Chair

In the absence of Trustee Porter, who was in attendance by phone for the Business and Finance Committee Meeting, Trustee Vidal-Barreto made the report. A representative from the City of Fayetteville presented information regarding the request by the City for a proposed bus easement on FSU property on Murchison Road. Trustee Claude Bogues made a motion to approve the easement requested by the City of Fayetteville. Trustee Wayne Branch seconded the motion. The motion carried.

CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS

Chair Vidal-Barreto shared that the new SGA President, Mr. Jared James, will be installed at our September Board meeting. She also stated that we mourn the loss and celebrate the life of Mr. Julius Fulmore. He was a true friend of Fayetteville State University. Chair Vidal-Barreto also introduced a close and long-time friend of hers, Dr. Maria Bello, who is a professor at Universidad Monteavila, in Caracas, Venezuela.

Again, Chair Vidal-Barreto stressed the point that the Board’s focus continues to be the Strategic Priorities of the university. The top five strategies continue to be 1) $25 million capital campaign commitment, 2) marketing and recruitment efforts, 3) new academic degree programs, online Programs, certificates and improved quality of existing programs, 4) facilities and technology, and 5) technology.

The Board is looking for the best potential administrators of the FSU Endowment Fund of the Board of Trustees. Chair Vidal-Barreto thanked Drs. Inder Nijhawan and Dr. Thomas Williams for their work in going through the proposals in search of the best candidates. The top two proposals will be presented during the FSU Endowment Fund Board of Trustees meeting.

In March, Chair Vidal-Barreto and Mr. Claude Bogues, Chair of the Audit Committee met with State Auditors to receive status of the financial audit ending June 2013.

On April 15, the Board approved the recommendation for Ms. Niesha Scott to receive an honorary Bachelor’s Degree. Ms. Scott was struck was a rare disease and was unable to continue her education. The honor was given to her at the May 10, 2014 Commencement Exercise. Trustee Branch was thanked for bringing Ms. Scott’s plight to the Board. Also, during Spring Commencement, Chair Vidal-Barreto brought greetings and presented former Board member and SGA President, Jalynn Jones, with a plaque for her outstanding service on the Board. She also brought greetings during the Founders’ Day service.

The North Carolina Legislative Black Caucus hosted their annual Education Scholarship Event on June 6, to discuss issues facing HBCUs. While Chair Vidal-Barreto was unable to attend the networking session earlier in the day, she was able to attend the dinner that evening with the chance to meet and network with donors. Scholarship funds are distributed to need-based students who attend HBCUs in North Carolina.
We received the Transportation Stem Grant, which Dr. Curtis Charles had a hand in. Forty-seven thousand dollars annually will be received in support of three students who will participate as interns. This will be administered through Career Services.

To ensure that we meet our Capital Campaign goal, Trustee Vedas Neal will continue to work with alumni and Chair Vidal-Barreto will continue working with Mr. Getchell Caldwell, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement, in securing corporate gifts. Blue Cross/Blue Shield has already given a gift of $20,000.

The larger focus of the Board remains the same.
   A) Fundraising: will continue to seek potential donors, maximize ROI, and will continue to work on endowment
   B) Outcomes – Strategic priorities
   C) Board engagement – growth and participation.

CHANCELLOR’S REPORT

Chancellor Anderson allotted space to Mr. Nick Ganesan, Vice Chancellor for ITTS, to provide an update to the Board on the state of wi-fi technology. Mr. Ganesan stated that there are more than 700 wi-fi access points on campus. As of May 2014, there were more than 95,000 unique sessions.

Student complaints have stemmed from not enough wi-fi coverage in the dorms. Renaissance Hall is the only dorm that has wi-fi installed throughout, although there were several small areas with weak signals. Those areas were identified and ITTS added 15 more access points.

Mr. Ganesan stated that wi-fi access doesn’t include coverage away from the building. It would be very expensive to try and cover the whole expanse of the campus. If we went with a vendor to supply wi-fi to the residence halls, the cost would be $290,000 per year—an added cost of $180 per year added to the student dorm fee. The cost, if ITTS provides the service, would be $290,000 the first year with a recurring fee of $100,000 for the next four years. Mr. Ganesan said that he’d look into the feasibility of obtaining wi-fi for those “gathering areas” that include the Student Center and the Science and Technology Buildings.

Mr. Ganesan provided further updates on wireless connectivity and other technology issues. Ninety percent of all classrooms have projectors and other multi-media equipment that is tested routinely before the beginning of each semester. Likewise, all computer labs are refreshed and cleaned prior to the beginning of each semester.

Chancellor Anderson shared that FSU’s Center for Defense and Homeland Security (CDHS) has received a major grant from the Office of Naval Research’s (ONR) HBCU Program and ONR’s Stem Diversity Program in the amount of $781,000. The grant will be used to develop a pipeline for the next generation of professionals who will be
equipped to address issues of compelling interest to the Navy and the security of the U.S.

The North Carolina Legislative Black Caucus held their annual gathering recently. The focus was on HBCUs and developing a plan to address the budget cuts. It was agreed that the Chief of Staffs from each HBCU would set up communication links to each HBCU and the Board Chairs. Dr. Thomas Conway, Chief of Staff for FSU, volunteered to head up this effort.

We had a successful Youth Entrepreneurship Incentive program this year that included children from Greater Oaks and the YMCA. Representatives from Morgan Stanley, Mrs. Nancy Anderson, and staff from the FSU School of Business were very involved. Profits received from the children’s efforts were divided between the charities and students. Chancellor Anderson said that we plan to build on it.

Our Business School continues to soar in the rankings. At present, it ranks number 61 nationally. Our international ranking increased as well.

Sandy and Wes Cookman of radio station WIDU are planning a radio-thon in which an entire week in August will be dedicated to help raise money for the university. Testimonials will be given and will air across three radio stations.

The Department of Social Work: Military Professional Personnel and the Family Development Program at FSU is presenting a Boots to Suits Conference, September 11, 2014, at NC State in Raleigh. The Conference is for hiring managers and HR professionals. The focus is to help military personnel move from military to civilian employment.

The strategic plan has to be complete by November of this year. It will be an evidence-based strategic plan.

The Athletic Department recently gave a going away celebration for several people in their department. Coach McDougal was one of those peoples. Chancellor Anderson stated that we will be giving him a real send-off on September 18, after the Board meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

Trustee Vedas Neal 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 John Griffin seconded the motion. The motion carried.
OPEN SESSION

The Board of Trustees reconvened in open session. Trustee Griffin, Chair of the Academic Affairs and Personnel Committee, presented the following for approval of promotion:

Four (4) candidates were recommended to the Board for promotion as follows:

Dr. Mohsen Souissi (to Full Professor)
Dr. Sheryl Linch-Parker (to Full Professor)
Dr. Subir Nagdas (to Full Professor)
Dr. Don Parker (to Full Professor)

Trustee Griffin made a motion to approve the four candidates for promotion. Trustee Nijhawan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Vedas Neal, Secretary
Suzetta M. Perkins, Recorder