

**MINUTE OF TRUSTEES
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
9:00 a.m., Friday, March 4, 2022**

The Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama met in a special meeting on Friday, March 4, 2022, in Bankers Building, Room 1000, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held via Zoom. A letter from the Governor's Office, dated February 11, 2022, was sent to the Board of Trustees, requesting that the Board meet on Friday, March 4, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. The letter also stated that the Governor's Office had received a request from the Board of Trustees to meet on Friday, March 4, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. The Board of Trustees met in a special meeting on Friday, March 4, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held via Zoom. The Board of Trustees met in a special meeting on Friday, March 4, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held via Zoom. The Board of Trustees met in a special meeting on Friday, March 4, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held via Zoom.

President Pro Tempore Simpson

I. INVOCATION

Mr. Kevin Haslam offered the opening invocation.

II. ROLL CALL

President Kenneth A. Katts called the roll call, and the following Trustees were in attendance:

- Trustee Marty Abrams
- Trustee Joel Anderson
- Trustee Wendell Gunn
- Trustee Marcus Males
- Trustee Jim
- Trustee Steve
- Trustee Sir
- Trustee Nat
- Trustee Gary Smith
- Trustee Will Trapp
- Trustee Anne Whitaker

Therefore, a quorum was present. Executive Director James A. Adams was absent.

Officers present for all or part of the meeting:

- Mr. Ross Alexander, Provost and Executive Vice President
- Mr. Jason Cochran, Executive Director
- Ms. Amber Fite Morgan, General Counsel
- Mr. Kimberly Greenway, Vice President for University Affairs
- Mr. Kevin Haslam, Vice President
- Mr. Josh Looney, Athletics Director
- Mr. Ron Patterson, Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Mr. Evan Thornton, Vice President for Business and Economic Development
- Mr. Duell Aldridge, Coordinator for Student Affairs
- Mr. Sara Lynn Fair, Dean of the College of Education
- Ms. Melissa Boston, 2021-2022 President of the Board of Trustees
- Mr. Jay Borah, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
- Mr. Vince Brewton, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
- Ms. Cindy Conlon, Associate Vice President for Financial Affairs
- Ms. Minnette Ellis, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
- Mr. Katie Kinney, Dean of the College of Sciences
- Mr. Amber Paul, Vice Provost for Graduate & Online Education, and

- Dr. Vicki Pierce, Dean of Nursing and Health Professions
- Mr. Jake Sessel, Designer in Educational Technology Services
- Ms. Regina Sheff, Assistant to the President for Administration
- Mr. Jake Tomlin, 2021 Student Government Association President
- Ms. Julie Wylor, Executive Director of Admissions and Enrollment Innovation
- Mr. Sam Gipe, University Photographer
- Dr. Jason Matsc, 2021 Faculty Senate President
- Mr. Brian Wilcoxon, Director of Facilities Administration and Planning
- Mr. Josh Hahn, Director of Marketing and Digital Communication
- Dr. Chung Wang, Provost for International Affairs

Also present: *mes* *daily* *ernie Del* *ski and Kevin Taylor.*

III. APPEAL OF

Mr. Russell Stitt and the Board considered the appeal of Mr. Abrams, the administrator. Upon motion by Mr. Pierce and second by Mr. [unclear], the appeal was approved by unanimous vote.

IV. APPEAL OF : DECEMBER 10, 2021, QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

Mr. Russell Stitt and Ms. Sanford presented the minutes from the previous quarterly meeting for approval. Upon motion by [unclear] and second by [unclear], the minutes were approved as presented by unanimous vote.

V. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

- Dr. Kitts gave the following summary of the state of the University from a prepared text. Topics included:
- Introduction of Mr. NA's new Dean of Students;
 - Success of UNA and anticipation of completing transition to NCAA Division I classification this spring;
 - UNA's current position on the budget and deliberations for FY 2022-2023 and continued Project 208 funding;
 - Record of surpassing 9,000 headcount this fall;
 - Findings of the test that NA has \$41 million impact on local economy, and
 - \$6.5 million gift from family record private gift for UNA.

VI. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Committee chair, Dr. Trapp, prepared a report from the committee's March 3 discussions that were on the agenda for the meeting:

A. Credential in the Area of Hospitality and Events

Following the recommendation of the Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management Committee and upon motion by Mr. Trapp and second by Dr. Gunn, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

B. Admittance of Online Component of the Bachelor of Science in Special Education

This represents information regarding the addition of an online option for an existing academic program.

Copies of the new 2022-23 budget, which echoed Dr. Kitts' economic concerns, and he emphasized the impact of the pandemic on the local economy, and he emphasized the need for the Board to ensure this information through the community.

VII. ADVANCEMENT OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE MATTERS

Committee chair Wanda Anderson facilitated a recent meeting. She also encouraged the Board to support the month of March. She presented an Update on UNA Foundation Trustees Scholarship questions, and these topics were reviewed in the meeting.

Ms. Whitaker then presented the agenda for the following meeting.

A. Resolution of the Board of Trustees for the Amending Article I, Section 4: Primary Function of the Board

The proposed amendment is intended to better align the language of the current Primary Function of the Board with the University Relations Committee and upon motion by Mr. Page, the amendment was approved by a unanimous vote.

B. Resolution of the Board of Trustees for the Amending Expectations of the Financial Support of the Board of Trustees

The Advancement Committee amended this resolution for consideration was recommended and upon motion by Mr. Page, the resolution was approved by a unanimous vote.

VIII. CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS, ATHLETICS, AND UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE MATTERS

- The Committee had a meeting on the array of topics:
- Diversity: Update on various diversity initiatives
 - Athletics: New locker room renovation project
 - Campus Life: Housing data for spring semester

IX. FINANCE, FACILITIES, AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MATTERS

Committee chair Abrams presented information from this committee's which discusses items that were on the agenda for the full Board at today's meeting.

A. Review of Financial Information for Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2021

The quarterly financial report was thoroughly reviewed in the committee meeting. The University is in a solid financial position despite inequitable state funding. Revenue and expenses are as expected. There has been a 3% increase in the scholarship budget, but this is viewed as a necessary expense to assist with recruiting and retention efforts, special programs. Funding has been secured for a new math and computer science building, and construction should begin later this year.

Mr. Abrams noted that the University has held tuition charges level for the past three years, but with next year's preliminary budget gain projecting a sizable deficit, the Board may need to consider a tuition increase to help mitigate costs associated with scholarships, general inflation, and inequitable state funding. The outcome of state education budget deliberations later this spring will be an important factor.

There were no questions, and this information item requires no action by the Board.

B. Resolution Approving Rental Rates in University-Owned Housing Facilities Effective Fall 2022

Mr. Abrams noted that the proposed housing rental rate increases are based on competitive market rates and comparisons with peer institutions. With the recommendation of the Finance, Facilities, and Personnel Committee and upon motion by Mr. Abrams and second by Mr. Smith, the resolution was approved by a unanimous vote.

C. Resolution Approving Student Meal Plan Prices Effective Fall 2022

The proposed meal plan prices for next year are reflective of general inflation but represent only an average increase of 3.5% thanks to negotiations with the Charwell food service provider. With the recommendation of the Finance, Facilities, and Personnel Committee and upon motion by Mr. Abrams and second by Mr. Smith, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

D. Resolution Approving Agreement Renewal Between the University of North Alabama and Ellucia Higher Education

Following summary comment by Mr. Abrams, with the recommendation of the Finance, Facilities, and Personnel Committee and upon motion by Mr. Abrams and second by Mr. Pierce, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

Mr. Abrams noted that the Committee discussed the status of Project 208 and the need to continue the push with state legislators for funding.

OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Board Self-Evaluation Survey for ACSCOC Compliance

Mr. Russell reviewed SACSCOC criteria as it relate to an institutional governing board. As noted in previous settings, a new accreditation standards on the governing board, giving a mechanism in place for self-evaluation of its responsibilities and expectations. University has now initiated an evaluation instrument that survey will be administered, the com weeks. The new self-evaluation process is scheduled to reoccur on a regular basis. This informa item required no action by the Board at this time, but the results of the survey will be reviewed by the Board at a later date.

B. Appointment of Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate 2022-2024 President of the UNA Board of Trustees

Mr. Russell named Mr. Abrams, Dr. Greenway, and Ms. Whitaker to serve as a three member committee to bring forward its nominations for Board officer position for 2022-2024.

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Russell noted that an executive session was held to discuss matters from two Board committees and to discuss the status of a pending legal issue. The Attorney General of Alabama, Ms. Fite-Morgan could affirm that the Board's discussion of these matters in executive session is in compliance with the Code of Alabama that allows for executive sessions to discuss legal ramifications of pending litigation. Therefore, an executive session would be in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, and the Board agreed to today's meeting. Upon motion by Mr. Russell, and a unanimous vote, the meeting recessed at 10:10 a.m. for a snack break and to reconvene at 10:30 a.m.

At approximately 10:20, the Board entered into executive session. Ms. Fite-Morgan, Dr. Greenway, Mr. Abrams, and Dr. Kitts remained in the room with Dr. Kitts and the Board during this closed session. Mr. Haslam and Dr. Looney exited the room following the discussion of proposed changes to the softball facility. Ms. Fite-Morgan, Dr. Alexander, and Dr. Greenway remained in the room for the duration of executive session.

The Board reconvened in regular session at 10:40 a.m. Mr. Russell reported that the Board discussed three action items to be presented in executive session and viewed favorably by the Board:

- 1. Resolution Authorizing Honorary Naming of the University's Softball Independent Facility:** Trustee Joel Anderson II abstained from voting on this matter due to his familial relationship with Fite-Morgan and second by Mr. Trapp, the resolution was approved by a vote of 10 in favor, none opposed, and one abstained.
- 2. Resolution Authorizing Honorary Naming of the "Joel R. Anderson General and Technology Building":** Trustee Joel Anderson II noted that he would abstain from voting on this matter due to his familial relationship with Joel Anderson. Upon motion by Mr. Trapp, the resolution was approved by a vote of 10 in favor, none opposed, and one abstained.

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The Board

MOTION

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the executive session.

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