

**NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY  
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**

**JUNE 29, 2016**

The NCCU Board of Trustees convened in the Emma Marable Conference Room in the William Jones Building on the campus of North Carolina Central University on June 29, 2016. Chairman George Hamilton called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:** In memory of those who lost their lives and those injured in the tragic and historical event occurring in the Orlando Massacre and most recently the terrorist attack in Istanbul.

**INVOCATION:** Trustee Pope gave the invocation.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mr. George Hamilton, Mr. John Barbee, Mrs. Karyn Wilkerson, Mr. Paul Pope, Ms. Joan Higginbotham, Mr. Darrell Allison, Mrs. Oita Coleman, Dr. John McCubbins, Dr. Kenneth Tindall, Mr. Michael Johnson and Mr. Harold Epps

Absent: Ms. Allyson Siegel

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:** It was moved by Trustee Barbee and properly seconded by Trustee Pope that the agenda be adopted. The motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** It was moved by Trustee Higginbotham and properly seconded by Trustee Barbee to approve the minutes dated April 27, 2016. The motion carried.

**SWEARING IN CEREMONY:** Chairman Hamilton recognized Ms. Dottie Fuller, Notary, to swear in Ms. Alesha Holland, trustee-elect (SGA President). Ms. Holland is a senior, resides in Fayetteville, North Carolina, majoring in Mass Communications. She is an Eagle Ambassador, Eagle Sister, a member of the Golden Key Honor Society, Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society, Sigma Tau Delta Honor Society and Sigma Alpha Pi Honor Society and the American Association of University Women.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Chairman Hamilton noted at the April 27, 2016, Board of Trustees meeting, the Nominating Committee recommended a slate of nominees for the 2016-2017 term as follows:

Mr. George R. Hamilton, Chairman  
Mr. John Barbee, Vice Chairman  
Ms. Joan Higginbotham, Secretary

Chairman Hamilton inquired of the trustees are there other nominations from the floor? There were no additional nominations, therefore, it was moved by Trustee Epps and properly seconded by Trustee Coleman that the nominations be closed on said names. The motion carried.

It was moved by Trustee Epps and properly seconded by Trustee Coleman to approve the nominations of officers for 2016-2017, namely Trustee George Hamilton, Chairman, Trustee John Barbee, Vice Chairman and Trustee Joan Higginbotham, Secretary. The motion carried

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Chairman Hamilton informed the Board, as Chair, it is his responsibility to remind all members of the Board of their duty under the State Government Ethics Act to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict of interest as required by this Act. Each member has received the agenda and related information for this Board of Trustees meeting. If any board member knows of any conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matter coming before the board of trustees at this meeting, the conflict or appearance of conflict should be identified at this time. No conflict was presented.

**REPORT OF THE CHANCELLOR:** Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Dr. Johnson Akinleye presented the Chancellor's Report on behalf of Dr. Debra Saunders-White.

### 127<sup>TH</sup> COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

On May 13th and 14<sup>th</sup>, North Carolina Central University awarded undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees to the largest class in the university's 105-year history. Dr. Elmira Mangum, an NCCU alumna and president of Florida A&M University, was the speaker for our graduate and professional ceremony, where 156 students received Juris Doctor Degrees and 282 Eagles earned graduate degrees. We presented Attorney John David Fassett with an honorary degree for his civil rights work

throughout the course of his career, as well as his support of North Carolina Central University.

Additionally, United States Senator Cory Booker, son of our late Golden Eagle Cary Booker, spoke to more than 700 undergraduate Eagles who earned their bachelor's degrees on May 14th. During this ceremony, we recognized three students who each graduated with a 4.0 GPA: Jennifer Tracy, Janelle Billingsley and Amanda Smith. Former NCCU Board of Trustees members Dr. Dwight D. Perry, Ms. Avon Ruffin and Attorney Charles Baron were honored for their dedicated service to the university. Each of these individuals was awarded the designation of Trustee Emeriti.

Now in the process of analyzing and finalizing data related to job placements and the graduate or professional education plans for our recent class.

### STATE BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Both the House and Senate of the North Carolina State Legislature are currently in the process of reviewing the state budget and making adjustments. As was noted by Ms. Akua Matherson, Director, Budget and Financial Planning during yesterday's Committee meetings, negotiations are underway regarding raises for state employees. Senate Bill 873 still includes scholarships for North Carolina Central University and North Carolina A&T State University; however, these scholarships would require a dollar-for-dollar match by the university. Lastly, Senate Bill 872 is specific to capital improvement projects for the University of North Carolina system. This bill includes NCCU's new student center, which is a self-liquidating project, funded at a little more than \$36 million. The bill has already passed the Senate Finance Committee and we are hopeful that it will also pass the House.

### PREVIEW OF THE 2016-17 ACADEMIC YEAR

We are making preparations now to welcome more than 1,200 first-time and transfer students for the 2016-2017 academic year. A special thanks is due to the Division of Enrollment Management as well as the School of Graduate Studies and the deans and department chairs for their hard work in attracting such high-caliber, academically talented students. In our graduate programs, we have exceeded our goal by more than 30 percent over the 2015-2016 academic year. We are holding New Student Orientation sessions, called SOAR, through July, and plan a week of welcome, Eagle Mania, beginning August 11<sup>th</sup>, where we will formally welcome our new students to the Eagle family.

## NEW AWARDS AND RANKINGS

North Carolina Central University has continued to receive a number of accolades and high rankings over the past two months.

The university was ranked No.12 in the country among *Historically Black Colleges and Universities by College Choice*, an independent online publication for college-bound students and their families.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) awarded North Carolina Central University a \$150,000 research grant to pinpoint “food deserts” and “food swamps” throughout the state using geographic information systems. The award is part of a three-year, \$417,942 grant funding research by the Department of Environmental, Earth and Geospatial Sciences (EEGS) to identify communities where residents have inadequate access to healthy food.

The Biomanufacturing Research Institute and Technology Enterprise (BRITE) Program has received a \$185,000 grant from the Golden LEAF Foundation to provide science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) based opportunities for students and teachers in three rural counties of North Carolina. The grant entitled NC STEM ID, will allow BRITE to offer Nash, Edgecombe and Martin counties a multi-faceted approach to creating a STEM identity for students through STEM-based cross-curriculum professional development opportunities.

NCCU School of Education has been awarded \$1.1 million from the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) to create training programs that will create a more diverse field of top-quality education researchers. NCCU is among four minority-serving universities across the nation awarded grants under the newly formed IES Pathways to the Education Sciences Research Training Program. The Pathways program was launched in 2015 to increase the number of students who are prepared to pursue doctoral study in the education sciences, including members of racial and ethnic minorities, first-generation college students, the economically disadvantaged, veterans, and those with disabilities.

### STUDENT HIGHLIGHT: ASHANTI MODLIN

Provost Akinleye introduced Ms. Ashanti Modlin, a second semester junior, majoring in Public Health Education here at North Carolina Central University. Ashanti is a transfer student with a 3.0 GPA, who currently serves as one of twenty-seven SOAR, or New Student Orientation, leaders for our incoming Eagles. A native of Livingston, New

Jersey, Ashanti has already completed two internships in public health education here on our campus, including one with BBRI's Diabetes Family Project. Ms. Modlin shared her journey with the Board of Trustees since coming to NCCU and her career aspirations.

Chairman Hamilton thanked Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for presenting the Chancellor's report on behalf of Dr. Debra Saunders-White.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS:**

Trustee Tindall presented the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Report. There were four (4) action items and several informational items:

#### **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Dr. Johnson Akinleye, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs presented the 2016-2021 Academic Affairs Strategic Plan at the Academic and Student Affairs committee meeting on April 27, 2016. A draft plan was presented to the Board of Trustees Advisory Team who provided detailed feedback and recommendations. The Provost, key administrators, deans and faculty incorporated the recommendations into a revised document. Provost Akinleye highlighted the Big Ideas in the plan and the Committee agreed to seek approval at the Board of Trustees June meeting.

It was moved by Trustee Tindall and properly seconded by Trustee Epps that the NCCU Board of Trustees approve the 2016-2021 Academic Affairs Strategic Plan. The motion carried.

#### **STUDENT AFFAIRS**

The Committee next heard a presentation from Mr. Gary Brown, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. His presentation on the revisions to the Policy on Illegal Drugs addresses the University's position and is applicable to students and employees. The revisions include updates to references to federal and state statutes and an updated accountability protocol.

It was moved by Trustee Tindall and properly seconded by Trustee Johnson to approve the revisions to the Policy on Illegal drugs. The motion carried.

Next Mr. Brown presented the Accessibility Policy for Course Design. Although federal mandates require accessibility to all course and web content, this policy was created to provide a method of ensuring accountability of faculty for every aspect of their course design, to include ensuring accessibility.

It was moved by Trustee Tindall and properly seconded by Trustee Johnson that the NCCU Board of Trustees approve the Accessibility Policy for Course Design. The motion carried.

Mr. Brown then presented the revised Student Code of Conduct. The Code was reviewed with three (3) target areas of focus, namely; Prohibited Conduct/Charges, Student Organizations and Proactive Policies. Further the overall layout of the Code was adjusted.

It was moved by Trustee Tindall and properly seconded by Trustee Pope that the NCCU Board of Trustees approve the Revised Student Code of Conduct. The motion carried.

Next Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Miron Billingsley, presented the Student Affairs report. His presentation included the following:

- The Mission of the Office of Career Services and Outreach
- The Challenges
  - Decentralization
  - Student Preparation
  - Access to Top Employers and Internships
- The Goals
  - Restructure Career Services to adapt to current workforce demands;
  - Launch corporate Career Services Corporate Advisory Board to enhance external partnerships;
  - Implement Campus Collaboration Strategy to integrate career and professional development campus wide;
  - Create Centralized Experiential Education Initiative to increase student opportunities
- New Career Services Programs
  - Soft Skills and Networking Modules
  - Hire Me Summit
  - Eagle Exploration Program
  - Career Exploration
  - International Education Certificate

- Showcase
- Four Year Career Plan
  - Resume Boot Camp
  - Professional Development
  - Network Conference
  - Internship Showcase
  - Hire Me Summit

## RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Interim Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development, Undi Hoffler, presented her division report. Highlights of her report included the following:

- As of May 31, 2016, Sponsored Research and Programs Proposals totaled \$46,259,024; Awards \$18,089,310.
- Executed first licensing agreement from research using NCCU's chemical compound libraries
- Development of a High Throughput Screening Zebrafish Core
- Building and Sustaining a STEM Identity in Rural NC
- Outreach Included
- 979 middle and high school students served by BRITE Futures
- Three – K-12 Teacher STEM Workshops
- Camps
- STEM Summit: Robotics – Center for Science, Math and Technology Education - FabLab
- Bilingual Science Camp
- ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp
- Black Girls Code: Build a Website in a Day
- STEM Summit: Robotics – Center for Science, Math and Technology Education – Workforce Development

## ADVANCEMENT, ATHLETICS AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Trustee Barbee presented the Advancement, Athletics and External Affairs Committee Report. There were several informational items.

A presentation was made by Dr. Harriet F. Davis, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement. Vice Chancellor Davis presented the following:

- The countdown to June 30, 2016, is nearing as the end of the fiscal year approaches, with 2 days and 5 hours remaining (as of June 28, 2016, at 9:30 a.m.).
- The fourth quarter results for FY 2016 KPI 5 are:
  - The fundraising goal is \$6.5 million; to date, we are at 98% of goal, reaching \$6.4 million.
  - The alumni giving goal is \$2.4 million, and we are currently at 83% of goal, achieving \$2 million.
  - The Faculty/Staff Giving goal is 90% participation, and we have accomplished 78% of the goal.
  - The Expanding the Brand goal is 15 national media placements (earned), and we have attained 18 media national media placements achieving 120% of the goal.
  - Totals raised by constituency are:
    - Alumni - \$2 million; Corporations - \$1.2 million; Foundations - \$1.5 million; Fund-Raising Consortia - \$10,146; Religious Organizations - \$10,392; Other Organizations - \$794,698 and Other Individuals - \$781,948.
  - Totals raised by campaigns are:
    - Arts & Sciences – \$1.3 million; Athletics \$1.2 million; Behavioral Sciences - \$215,731; School of Business - \$320,074; School of Education - \$34,613; General Other Restricted - \$2.3 million; Law School - \$1.1 million; Library Sciences - \$4,637

### **AUDIT, FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE:**

Trustee Epps presented the Audit, Finance and Facilities Committee Report. There were three (3) action items and several informational items.

#### **AUDIT**

Mr. Robert Gaines, Internal Auditor presented the FY 2016-17 Annual Audit Plan. He reviewed the current slate of planned audits and noted that this is a fluid plan which is subject to change based on requests that occur throughout the year.

It was moved by Trustee Epps and properly seconded by Trustee Johnson that the NCCU Board of Trustees approve the FY 2016-17 Annual Audit Plan. The motion carried.



Next, Mr. Gaines presented the Updated Internal Audit Charter. The purpose and scope of this Charter is to provide independent, objective, assurance and consulting services designed to add value and improve the university's operation.

It was moved by Trustee Epps and properly seconded by Trustee Wilkerson that the NCCU Board of Trustees approve the Updated Internal Audit Charter. The motion carried.

Further, Mr. Gaines presented the Updated Audit Committee Charter. This Charter assists the Board of Trustees in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities for the financial reporting process; the system of internal control; the audit process; and the university's process for monitoring compliance with federal and state laws and regulations and the code of conduct.

It was moved by Trustee Epps and properly seconded by Trustee Coleman that the NCCU Board of Trustees approve the Audit Committee Charter. The motion carried.

After the above presentations, there was considerable discussion regarding audits conducted by the State Auditors Office and those conducted by independent CPAs for the four (4) Associated Entities, namely, NCCU Alumni Association, NCCU Educational Advancement Foundation, NCCU Foundation and NCCU Real Estate Foundation. The Trustees are requesting at the next Board meeting a clearer understanding of the audit process, mainly the structure, legal concept, and university's relationships with auditors, audit results (findings, recommendations and responses) and MOU.

Mr. Gaines also presented information regarding the current year's planned and unplanned audits; he announced that the Office of Internal Audit is in the process of recruiting a new auditor position and celebrated Internal Audit month which Governor McCrory proclaimed for the month of May.

## FINANCE AND FACILITIES

Ms. Akua Matherson, Director, Budgeting and Financial Planning presented information on the University Budget and a Facilities update.

- A review of the state budget through May 2016 as well as projections for year end was provided. It was noted that the University expects to be within 97.5% of the tuition revenue budget.

- A discussion on the state budget outlook was held. It was noted that the University is still waiting for final word on the reductions that may be assigned to the University. Based on the conference budget released on June 27, 2016, it appears that the reductions may be less than expected. Additionally, state employees will receive a 1.5% across the board increase as well as a 0.5% bonus of their annual salary. Funding is also being set aside to provide an estimated 1% merit increase that is not across the board.
- The Auxiliary financials were reviewed. Based on current trends and conservative budgeting, the University expects to gain approximately \$2.1 million to the fund balance.
- Information was shared on the current and upcoming projects for NCCU. They include the
  - New Student Center
  - New School of Business
  - Renovations to Baynes Hall
  - Replacement of bricks on the façade at the Turner Law School building

### **ENDOWMENT FUND**

Chairman Hamilton presented The Board of Trustees of the Endowment Fund Report. There were several informational items.

The University's Endowment report was presented to the committee by Associate Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance Yolanda B. Deaver. The UNC Management Company Fund had a performance return of (2.43) for Fiscal Year 2016. Piedmont Investment Advisors had a performance return of 2.00.

The market value of the University's Endowment Fund as of April 30, 2016, was \$28,953,467 compared to \$29,363,774 as of July 01, 2015. This change reflects a market value decrease of (\$410,307) or (1.40%) for fiscal year 2016.

### **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Trustee Wilkerson presented the Governance Committee Report. There were several informational items.

The Governance Committee presented a Year End Review Report which included:

### Accomplishments

- Developed governance policy, processes and procedures;
- NCCU Board of Trustee members completed the Skills Inventory Survey;
  - Initial step in determining areas of expertise and identifying gaps to be addressed

### Next Steps

- Use data from Skills Inventory Survey
  - Develop and implement plan to close gaps;
  - Develop and implement plan to use expertise on the Board to meet the University's needs and strategic priorities
  - Assist with succession planning and committee assignments

Further the Governance Committee presented Identifying Board Requirements, including:

- Purpose
- Issues for the Board to Discuss and Address
- Context and Perspective
- Diversity Demands
- Issues Requiring NCCU Board Engagement and Alignment
- Identifying the Requirements for NCCU's Board of Trustees
- Competency Profile: Determining Strengths and Gaps

The Governance Committee will send out a complete report to the Trustees in July.

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORT:** The Student Government Report was presented by Ms. Alesha Holland. A copy of her report is attached.

**NATIONAL ALUMNI REPORT:** The National Alumni Report was presented by Mr. David Avery, President, National Alumni Association. A copy of his full report is attached. This is Mr. Avery's last meeting as President of the Alumni Association and Chairman Hamilton along with Trustee Barbee thanked him for his services; his leadership role made a difference and significant contributions.

**FACULTY SENATE REPORT:** The Faculty Senate Report was presented by Attorney Kim Cogdell Grainger. A copy of her full report is attached.

**STAFF SENATE REPORT.** The Staff Senate Report was presented by Ms. Demetria Robinson. A copy of her full report is attached.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- The next Board of Trustees meeting is September 27-28, 2016.
- The UNC Board of Governors meetings are:
  - July 28-29, 2016, Chapel Hill
  - September 8-9, 2016, UNC Greensboro
  - October 13-14, 2016, Chapel Hill
  - First Day of Classes – August 15, 2016
  - Fall Break – October 17-18, 2016
  - Founders Day – October 14, 2016

There being no further business, it was moved and properly seconded to adjourn. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Dottie Fuller  
Recorder