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

# **SEPTEMBER 28, 2022**

The NCCU Board of Trustees convened in person in Pearson Dining Hall, First Floor, Banquet Hall, on the campus of North Carolina Central University on Wednesday, September 28, 2022. Chairman Holloway called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

# **OPEN SESSION**

**INVOCATION:** Trustee James Mitchell gave the invocation.

Chairman Holloway recognized Trustee Oita Coleman to call the roll.

# **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Chairman Holloway	Present
Trustee Abebe	Present
Trustee Allison	Present
Trustee Bell	Present
Trustee Chadwell	Present
Trustee Coleman	Present
Trustee Dickens	Present
Trustee Johnson	Present
Trustee Mitchell	Present
Trustee Slade	Present
Trustee Tidwell	Present
Trustee Walker	Present

There were twelve (12) members present. A quorum was established.

**NOTE:** Roll call after each action item is no longer required only for attendance.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:** It was moved by Trustee Chadwell and properly seconded by Trustee Coleman that the agenda be adopted.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** It was moved by Trustee Johnson and properly seconded by Trustee Tidwell to approve the minutes dated June 22, 2022 and July 28, 2022. The motion carried.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Chairman Holloway 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.

#### SWEARING IN OF TRUSTEE-ELECT

Chairman Holloway introduced Trustee-elect Alexandra Valladares. She was elected by the UNC Board of Governors on July 6, 2022, to fill the unexpired term of Trustee John Herrera.

Trustee-elect is a Double Eagle, BS degree in chemistry with a minor in Biology and a MS degree in Earth Science.

On March 3, 2020, Trustee-elect Valladares became the 1st Latina elected to the Durham Public Schools Board of Education, and was officially sworn into office on July 7th, 2020.

Currently she is Director of Community Collaboration with East Coast Migrant Head Start which involves leading a team that designs and coordinates agency-wide community assessments across ten states. She engages community members and stakeholders around the issues, priorities, and opportunities that matter to families.

Chairman Holloway recognized Ms. Dottie Irving Fuller to swear in Trustee-elect Alexandra Valladares.

# **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Chairman Allison presented the Nominating Committee Report.

In accordance with the NCCU Board of Trustees Bylaws, at the annual meeting the Board will elect a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary.

On August 25, 2022, the Governance/Nominating Committee met via telephone conference call to fulfill its responsibility to present a recommended slate of nominees to the Board of Trustees at the September meeting.

Each member was contacted to seek their input regarding nominees and the results were overwhelming that the current elected officers, namely Chairman Kevin Holloway, Vice Cairman Michael Johnson and Secretary Oita Coleman be reelected and all three have agreed to continue to serve. The Bylaws also allowed additional nominations from the floor.

The Governance/Nominating Committee shall nominate at least one (1) candidate for each office to be filled. The officers are elected for one year and their term of office begins immediately following their election of office. The Bylaws also rquire the Governance/Nominating Committee to provide a copy of its report to each member of the Board at least twenty (20) days prior to the annual meeting. This report was emailed to each trustee on September 7, 2022.

The Bylaws also allow additional nominations from the floor, there were no additional nominations.

Therefore, it was moved by Trustee Dickens and properly seconded by Trustee Slade that the NCCU Board of Trustees approve the recommended slate of officers for 2022-2023, namely:

Chairman Kevin Holloway Vice Chairman Michael Johnson Secretary Oita Coleman

The motion carried.

Next, the NCCU Board of Trustees Bylaws require the Endowment Fund Board membership be elected by the full Board. The membership shall consist of a minumum of six (6) members, including the Chairman of the Board serving as Chair and the Chancellor serving as Vice Chair.

It was moved by Trustee Mitchell and properly seconde by Trustee Tidwell to approve the following Trustees to serve on the Endowment Fund Board.

Trustee G. Keith Chadwell
Trustee William Bell
Trustee Emily Dickens
Trustee Alexandra Valladares

The motion carried.

Further, the NCCU Board of Trustees Bylaws, Appendix 2, the membership of the Executive/Personnel Committee shall consist of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, as Chair of the Committee, the Vice Chair and Secretary of the Board of Trustees and two (2) additional board members be elected at the annual meeting.

It was moved by Trustee Mitchell and properly seconded by Trustee Coleman to approve the following Trustees to serve on the Executive/Personnel Committee, namely:

Trustee Hellena Tidwell Trustee James Walker

The motion carried.

In the next two weeks the Chairman Holloway will appoint Chairs and members to the remaining committees.

# ELECTION OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairman Holloway recognized Chancellor Johnson Akinleye to nominate Dr. Catherine Edmonds as Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees.

It was moved by Trustee Allison and properly seconded by Trustee Mitchell to approve Dr. Catherine Edmonds as Assistant Secretary to the NCCU Board of Trustees.

The motion carried.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE**

Chairman Tidwell presented the Advancement Committee Report. There was one (1) action item for Closed Session and several informational items.

Chairman Tidwell recognized Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement Dr. Gia Soublet to present the Fundraising Report. Highlights of this report included the following:

A total of \$14,011,242 (cash, pledges, and property) was raised for FY22, which accounts for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. This amount reflects all non-research related private fundraising activity. The fundraising chart below reflects this amount as contributed by each constituent group as a year-to-date comparison.

As of (6/30/2022)				
	FY22	FY21	FY20	
Alumni	\$ 2,439,933	\$2,200,563	\$2,129,033	
Faculty/Staff	\$119,048	\$90,905	\$116,540	
Friends	\$2,644,929	\$1,010,567	\$487,168	
Parents	\$7,559	\$10,756	\$2,215	
Corporations	\$5,788,053	9,139,581	\$1,075,924	
Foundations	\$1,515,854	\$1,682,017	\$490,853	
Other Organizations	\$1,494,405	\$621,335	\$577,168	
Students	\$1,461	\$205	\$2,200	
TOTALS	\$14,011,242	\$14,755,929	\$4,881,101	



Next, Vice Chancellor Soublet presented Institutional Advancement Three-year Strategic Plan.

The Division of Institutional Advancement has developed a three-year strategic plan that supports the mission, vision, and strategic objectives of NCCU. The division works with alumni, donors, current students, employers, and community partners to secure financial resources and foster relationships that support the university's mission of preparing students to become responsible global citizens and professionals. Highlights of this report included the following:

- Institutional Advancement Structure
- History of Fundraising Activity
- Conducted Assessment
- Initiate Strategic Plan

Further Vice Chancellor Soublet introduced and recognized Mr. Christopher Clark, lead consultant with BWF to present the Campaign Planning Study Update. Highlights of this presentation included the following:

- Current Landscape
- Campaign benefits
- Role of the Board
- Campaign Planning Study
  - o Internal Readiness
  - o External Testing
- Next Steps
  - External interviews
  - o Launch survey
  - Insight analysis
  - o Continue to plan for campaign
  - o Fill staff roles and Invest in Program
  - o Board reviews campaign study report
    - Votes on next action
  - o Recruitment of campaign steering committee
  - o Set campaign timeline
  - Build out campaign gift table
  - o Early leadership phase gift conversations

# **DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION REPORT**

NCCU's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Report was presented by Ms. Emily Guzman, Diversity Officer Director. Highlights of this report included the following:

- NCCU DEI Institutional Goals
- DEI Personnel DEI Expenditures
- DEI Departmental Goals
  - o Programming
  - Student Facilitation Skills
  - Student Learning
- Programming, Engagement, Events and Conference
- Student Engagement and Organizations Latino Advisory Committee Facebook Live Programming
- Collaborators
   Diversity and Inclusion Updates

## **ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

# **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Chairman Coleman recognized Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. David Jackson to present the Academic Affairs Committee Report. There were informational items. Highlights included the following:

# **Enrollment Update**

•	Fall 2020	8,078
•	Fall 2021	7,953
•	Fall 2022	7,553
•	1-year Difference	(400)
•	% Difference	-5.0%

- First-time Full-time Residence
- Student Level and Program Type
- Fall to Fall Retention Rates

# Highlights from Academic Affairs Retreat

- Team Building Exercises
- Focus on Strategic Priorities for the Year and Metrics
- Enrollment Strategies for each School and Collee
- Mental Wellness

# Amazon Career Choice Partnership

- NCCU selected to partner with Amazon
- Partnership began fall 2022
- Provides tuition and fees to associates who have been with Amazon for three consecutive years.
  - o Full-time \$5,200
  - o Part-time \$2,700
- Partnering with local fulfillment sites:
  - o Durham
  - o Garner
  - o Mebane/Graham

# Welcome to the Nest

- Dr. Mohammad Ahmed, Dean, College of Health and Sciences
- Dr. Will Guzman, Assistant Vice Chancellor for International Programs and Community Engagement
- Dr. Deepak Kumar, Interim Associate Provost and Dean of Research and Sponsored Programs

• Schools and Colleges Updates

The Trustees requested of Provost Jackson that future Enrollment Reports include data on Transfer students.

# **STUDENT AFFAIRS**

Chairman Coleman presented the Student Affairs Committee Report. Informational items included the following:

- Healthy Campus Plan
- Residential Life Data
- Signature Fall Programs
- The Ultimate Homecoming Experience
- 2021-22 Annual Report

# **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Chairman Allison presented the Governance Committee Report which included informational items.

The Board of Governors meeting materials in July included the 2022-2023 Boards of Trustees Selection Process Calendar of Events. It appears they have already begun the process of Trustee Selection for 2023.

The NCCU Board of Trustees membership will have seven (7) appointments whose terms will expire on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Of the seven appointments – 4 are UNC BOG appointments, namely Trustees Johnson, Bell, Chadwell and Tidwell). Trustee Johnson is not eligible for reappointment as he has served two full four year terms in succession.

Two are Legislative (Speaker and President Pro Tem) appointments, namely Trustee Coleman and Allison. Trustee Coleman is not eligible for reappointment as she has served two full four year terms in succession.

The SGA President term on the Board is one year. Trustee Abebe is a Junior and would be elible to be reappointed if elected by the student body.

The BOG calendar indicates they plan to finalize the recommendations for appointment/reappointment in May 2023. Chairman Holloway will be in touch with those trustees whose terms expire in the coming weeks. Input from

Trustees to seek suggested nominees to fill the two vacancies of those no longer eligible to serve is welcomed.

No action by the North Carolina General Assembly is expected until after the November 8<sup>th</sup> election and on January 11, 2023 when the General Assembly convenes and a Speaker and President Pro Tem are elected

# **ATHLETICS COMMITTEE**

Chairman Slade recognized Athletic Director Skip Perkins to present the Athletics Committee Report. There were several informational items. Highlights included the following:

- Academics and Compliance
- Competition
- All Conference Student-Athletes
- Athletic Facilities
- Fundraising
- External
  - Selected to serve on FCS ADA Executive Committee
  - MEAC Championship Administrative Committee
  - o MEAC Constitution and Bylaws Committee
  - o Threw out first pitch at Durham Bulls HBCU Night

# FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Chairman Johnson recognized Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance Ms. Akua Matherson to present the Finance Committee Report. There was one (1)) action item and several informational items. Highlights of the Finance Report included the following:

- End of Year Updated 6/30/22
  - General Funds
  - o Auxiliar; y Funds
- New Year Budget FY 22-23
- Additional Compesaton Options (UNC Guidance)
- Update on FY 21 Financial Statements Audit

Further Vice Chancellor Matherson presented for the Board of Trustees approval a Resolution to allow the Chancellor and/or his designee (CFO) to explore and begin

discussions around strategic partnerships to leverage the University's millenniall campus designation as well as fulfilling the Master Plan.

It was moved by Trustee Mitchell and properly seconded by Trustee Tidwell to adopt the Resolution to allow the Chancellor and/or his designee (CFO) to explore and begin discussions around strategic partnerships to leverage the University's millenniall campus designation as well as fulfilling the Master Plan.

The motion carried.

Next, Vice Chancellor Matherson presented the Facilities Management Capital Projects and Facilities Operations Report. There were three (3) action items and informational items. Highlights of the Facilities Update included the following:

- Major Capital Projects Update
- Minor Capital Projects
- Property Acquisitions Update
- HUB Participation Data
- Facilities Operations

Vice Chancellor Matherson next presented to the Board a Request for Approval of project budget increase for the WNCU Radio Station Renovation Project. The current radio station, operated by the Mass Communication Department located in Farrison-Newton Communications Building is outdated and in dire need of of upgrading. The renovation will provide updated equipment, new acoustics and new prodction rooms. The current budget for this project is \$1.5 and it will be increased by \$850,000 to a total of \$2,350.00. Funding is provided by Title III.

It was moved by Trustee Tidwell and properly seconded by Trustee Mitchell to approve the project budget increase for the WNCU Radio Station Renovation Project.

The motion carried.

Next, Vice Chancellor Matherson presented a Request to Approve the Design Firm of Davis Kane Architects for the Lee Biology Comprehensive Renovation Project.

It was moved by Trustee Mitchell and properly approved by Trustee Coleman to approve the Design Firm of Davis Kane Architects for the Lee Biology Comprehensive Renovation Project.

The motion carried.

Further, Vice Chancellor Matterson presented a Request to Approve the Design Firm of RND Architects for the Taylor Education Comprehensive Renovation Project.

It was moved by Trustee Coleman and properly seconded by Trustee Tidwell to approve the Design Firm of RND Architects for the Taylor Education Comprehensive Renovation Project.

The moton carried

# **ENDOWMENT BOARD**

Chairman Holloway presented the Endowment Fund Report. There were several informational items. Highlights of this report included the following:

- The UNC Management Company Fund had a performance return of 4.13% for the period ending June 30, 2022.
- Xponance Investment Advisors had a performance return of -7.01% for the same period.
- The market value of the University's Endowment Fund as of June 30, 2022 was \$56,953,738 as compared to \$55,851,080 as of July 1, 2021. This change reflects a market value increase of \$1,102,658 or 1.97%.

#### AUDIT COMMITTEE

Chairman Walker presented the Audit Committee Report. There were several informational items. Highlights of this report included the following:

- Changes to the Internal Audit Act
- Self-Assessment Maturity Model (SAMM)
- Internal Attestation of Internal Audit Risk Based Audit Plan
- Planned and Unplanned Audit Activities for FY 23

# **EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

The Executive/Personnel Committee had one (1) action for Closed Session and several information items.

Chairman Holloway recognized Mr. Michael Hill, Chief Human Resources Officer to present the Report on Classification and Compensation. Highlights of his Report included the following:

- State Human Resources Act (SHRA)
- Exempt from the State Human Resources Act (EHRA)
- Classification and Compensation
- UNC Peer Group
- Compensation based on Peer Group EHRA
- Compensation Based on Peer Group SHRA
- UNC System Office Salary Range Projects

# **CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

Chancellor began his report welcoming the newest member of the Board, Trustee Alexandra Valladares. Thank you for agreeing to serve on the Board of Trustees.

Chancellor also extended sincere condolences to Trustee Cornell Slade on the passing of his brother, Mr. William (Bill) Slade, earlier this month. We will be keeping you in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Sadly, we have another Fallen Eagle at the university. Dr. Johnathan Brian Horton, assistant professor in the Department of Music, and director of NCCU's Jazz Studies program and Jazz Ensemble, passed away on September 14, 2022. The funeral services are taking place today in Kinston, NC, and a busload of Dr. Horton's colleagues and students have made the trip to fellowship with his family. We will keep Dr. Horton's loved ones in our thoughts and prayers.

# FALL OPENING

The Fall 2022 semester has opened. We are now in week 7. Students are back to campus in full force. We have a campus housing rate of 96%, compared to ~60% in some prior years.

There are no major issues with COVID-19 thus far and the students seem to be comfortable. We continue to offer COVID testing, and have expanded our capabilities to be able to offer Monkeypox information, testing and vaccination on campus. Other ways we are supporting students' wellbeing is through the expansion of mental health initiatives. Two examples are our contracting with Care.com to provide mindfulness and meditation services and launching TAO digital self-help and therapy.

# **ENROLLMENT**

Enrollment details are shared in your pre-reading There is a persistent decline in high school graduates, both in NC and across the nation. We are working with the UNC System to remove the out-of-state cap on new students. We are also intensifying our efforts to implement new, muscular strategies to recruit in-state students. The Graduate Studies enrollment process needs some review and improvement in execution.

# RESEARCH

Our research enterprise continues to thrive. Since our previous meeting, the university has been awarded over \$17.4 million in funding. We have already received more than 40 awards year-to-date thanks to our prolific grant writers.

BRITE was awarded \$6.2 million from President Biden's Build Back Better Regional Challenge. These funds will be used establish workforce training hubs at five NC HBCUs and UNC – Pembroke, promoting workforce equity for biomanufacturing Our TRIO programs provide students with tangible opportunities and accommodations to take full advantage of our Eagle Promise.

Some of the new and renewed TRIO Program grants received year-to-date include:

- Renewal of Ronald E. McNair Grant (August 2022, \$1,309,440)
- Bound Program Grant- Graham High School (September 2022, \$1,437,685)
- Upward Bound Program Grant- Person High School (September 2022, \$1,437,685)

# **ATHLETICS**

We are doing well under our new Athletics Director, Dr. Skip Perkins. He has been on the job and we are seeing great progress.

Our student-athletes are winning both on the field and in the classroom. Not only are we off to a 4-0 start with our football team, we have also won the MEAC award – including \$10k – for the highest academic progress rate.

Fundraising activity in the department is on the rise, including several major gifts of \$10K and above.

Dr. Perkins has also initiated renovations of the Athletics facilities, including the new scoreboard at the stadium.

# **ADVANCEMENT**

Today is Dr. Gia Soublet's last day with us at NCCU. We are grateful for her service and leadership of the Division of Institutional Advancement. She realigned her unit and ushered in a new culture of philanthropy at the university. Her strategic plan was submitted to the Board for review and adoption.

## ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

The new School of Business building at the intersection of Alston Avenue and Lawson Street will have beneficial occupancy in the spring, with student programming beginning in Fall 2023.

Renovations have started on the Lee Biology Building, Taylor Education Building and the WNCU Radio Station.

Construction on the 24-7 Collaborative Learning and Research facility – designated exclusively for student use – will begin soon on the corner of Fayetteville and Lawson Streets.

# FIVE YEARS IN REVIEW

NCCU has finished a comprehensive five-year review of our results of implementing our Strategic Plan and Strategic Priorities. This review is contained in a new publication pictured here, "The Eagle Promise Realized." An online version is currently available, and you will have printed copies on hand at our next meeting, during which we will review the major accomplishments.

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Mr. Torrance Harrell is an MBA student pursuing the new Real Estate specialization at our School of Business. Interned with Dell Technologies' Corporate Real Estate Team. In his own words, "I participated in the optimizing of Dell's \$7trillion + real estate portfolio, which allowed me the opportunity to contribute to lease terminations, property sales, workplace experience enhancement and the development & re-development activities that Dell has currently undertaken."

Mr. Harrell continues, "The greatest take away from the internship was the realization of how important my life and professional experiences are to the changing real estate climate, [developing] an increased appetite for learning how to value properties, and

completing a development project that required creativity, teamwork, and technical knowledge. My biggest accomplishment was developing a plan for a Convention Center on Dell's main campus that included community connection spaces, opportunity to connect with Dell's technical development, and an opportunity for Dell employees to come together in-person for company events. Through research, he was able to present an opportunity for Dell to build the facility using outside funding."

**SGA REPORT:** Mr. Manuhe Abebe, SGA President presented his report. A copy of his full report is attached.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

October 10-11 Fall Break

November 4 Founder's Day/Convocation

November 5 Homecoming

November 15 (Tuesday) NCCU Board of Trustees Meeting

November 23-27 Thanksgiving Recess

Chairman Holloway recognized Trustee Coleman for a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance or condition of appointment of a public officer or employee of prospective public officer or employee and pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(2) to prevent the premature disclosure of a prize or award.

The motion carried.

# **CLOSED SESSION**

Chairman Holloway recognized Trustee Tidwell to present a Request to Rename McLean Residence Hall to Fayetteville Street Residence Hall. Background materials were provided.

Chairman Holloway recognized Chancellor Akinleye to present a candidate for Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement. Background materials were provided.

There being no further business for Closed Session, it was moved by Trustee Coleman and properly seconded by Trustee Walker to reconvene into Open Session. The motion carried.

# **OPEN SESSION**

When the meeting reconvened in Open Session it was moved by Trustee Slade and properly seconded by Trustee Walker that the NCCU Board of Trustees approve the Request to Rename McLean Residence Hall to Fayetteville Street Residence Hall.

The motion carried.

Next it was moved by Trustee Allison and properly seconded by Trustee Dickens that the NCCU Board of Trustees approve the internal promotion of Ms. Susan L. Hester, effective immediately, as Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement.

The motion carried.

There being no further business, it was moved by Trustee Mitchell and properly seconded by Trustee Slade to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted:

Dottie Irving Fuller Recorder