

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA
FLORENCE, ALABAMA
11:00 a.m., Thursday, September 10, 2015**

The Board of Trustees for the University of North Alabama met on Thursday, September 10, 2015, in the Performance Center of the Guillot University Center in accordance with Section 6 of Act No. 773 of the 1967 Regular Session of the Legislature of Alabama. A letter from three Trustees (dated August 20, 2015) was sent to Governor Robert Bentley in care of his Director of Constituent Services, requesting that the Governor call the September 10 quarterly meeting. Proposed letters calling the Board to the meeting also were sent for the Governor's signature as per standard practice, and the same were mailed to the Trustees from the Governor's office in advance of the meeting under the date of August 28, 2015.

On September 3, 2015, Board members were sent a notebook containing the agenda, proposed resolutions, and supporting documents for all items of discussion.

In the absence of Governor Robert Bentley (the President of the Board), the meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by Board President Pro Tempore Marty Abroms.

I. INVOCATION

The opening invocation was offered by Athletics Director Mark Linder.

II. ROLL CALL

The roll was called by President Kenneth D. Kitts, and the following members were present:

Trustee Marty Abroms	Trustee Libby Jordan	Trustee Simpson Russell
Trustee Joel Anderson	Trustee Marcus Maples	Trustee Will Trapp
Trustee Rodney Howard		

Absent were Trustees Lisa Ceci and Steve Pierce, and ex officio members Governor Robert Bentley and State Superintendent of Education Dr. Tommy Bice.

Others present for all or part of the meeting:

- Dr. Thomas Calhoun, Vice President for Enrollment Management
- Mr. Clinton Carter, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs
- Dr. Dan Hendricks, Vice President for University Advancement
- Mr. David Shields, Vice President for Student Affairs
- Dr. John Thornell, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
- Dr. Greg Carnes, Dean of the College of Business
- Dr. Donna Lefort, Dean of the College of Education and Human Sciences
- Dr. Linda Austin, Associate Dean of the College of Nursing
- Dr. Joy Borah, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Dr. Vince Brewton, Interim Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management
- Ms. Amber Fite-Morgan, University Attorney

- Dr. Sarah Franklin, President of Faculty Senate
- Mr. Michael Gautney, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Administration & Planning
- Mr. Bob Hill, Board of Trustees legal counsel
- Dr. Judy Jackson, Associate Vice President for Advancement Services
- Mr. Nick Lang, President of Student Government Association and *ex officio* non-voting member of the Board
- Dr. Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair of the Shared Governance Executive Committee
- Mr. Mark Linder, Athletics Director
- Dr. Natasha Lindsey, Instructional Designer in Education Technology Services
- Dr. Andrew Luna, Director of Institutional Research, Planning, and Assessment
- Ms. Carol Lyles, Director of Alumni Relations
- Ms. Audrey Mitchell, Director of Environmental Services and Housing Facilities Mgmt.
- Mr. Bryan Rachal, Director of University Communications and Marketing
- Ms. Celia Reynolds, Assistant to VPAA for SACS Reaffirmation of Accreditation
- Ms. Regina Sherrill, Assistant to the President for Administration
- Ms. Julie Taylor, Interim Director of Admissions
- Ms. Barbie Terry, College Development Gift Officer
- Ms. Melissa Thornton, Assessment Coordinator in Inst. Research, Planning, and Assessment
- Mr. Leif Trousdale, Director of Foundation Accounting
- Dr. Molly Vaughn, President of Staff Senate
- Mr. Jimmy Waddell, Asst. Director of Environmental Services and Housing Facilities Mgmt.
- Ms. Catherine White, Assistant Vice President for Human Resources
- Dr. Chunsheng Zhang, Senior Vice Provost for International Affairs
- Members of the news media: Jennifer Edwards from the *TimesDaily*
Anna Grace Usery from the *Flor-Ala*

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Abroms submitted the meeting agenda for approval and noted that Item IV, Presentation from International Affairs, could be removed from the agenda since it was covered during the work session. Ms. Jordan made a motion to amend the agenda to omit Item IV. Mr. Russell seconded the motion, and the same was approved unanimously. Mr. Maples then moved approval of the agenda as so amended. Mr. Trapp seconded the motion, and the agenda was approved unanimously as amended.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 8, 2015, ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

Mr. Abroms submitted the minutes for approval. Upon motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Russell, the minutes were approved unanimously.

VI. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND REMARKS FROM CONSTITUENCY GROUPS

Dr. Kitts reported that as of today, headcount enrollment stands at 7,040 students, a 3% increase over the 6,841 total last fall. (*Note: When enrollment data was “frozen” on September 11, the final headcount enrollment for fall 2015 had increased to 7,078.*) Of particular note is the 20% increase in first-time college students that give the University its largest ever freshman class this fall. Further, credit hour production is expected to be up 6% over last year. Large graduating classes this past May and the coming 2-3 semesters will prevent overall headcount from soaring significantly in the short term, but it is clear that positive benefits are being seen from the collective recruiting and retention efforts of the campus community.

Dr. Kitts noted that the President’s Invitational Survey recently was sent to over 1,000 persons with a connection to the University, and responses are being collected and analyzed by the Institutional Research Office. Survey results and those areas identified on which to focus attention will be shared with the Board soon. Dr. Kitts also reiterated themes from his presidential investiture.

Mr. Abrams then called on Dr. Franklin, Mr. Lang, and Dr. Vaughn for brief remarks on behalf of their respective groups.

VII. AUDIT, FINANCE, AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MATTERS

A. Resolution Approving the University of North Alabama Proposed FY 2015-2016 Budgets

This item was thoroughly discussed during the work session that preceded the Board meeting. Following additional comments by Mr. Carter, upon motion by Mr. Russell and second by Mr. Trapp, the resolution was approved unanimously.

B. Resolution Authorizing the President to Budget Additional Funds for FY 2015-2016

Mr. Carter reminded the Board that this resolution is passed by the Trustees each year so that the President may budget any additional revenue that may be received from various sources after the fiscal year budgets are approved by the Board. As in the past, the Board would be presented at its next meeting in December with a list of additional revenue items for the previous year in excess of \$1,000 and how those funds were designated by the President to be budgeted.

Mr. Anderson moved to strike the parenthetical phrase “(to the approved Education and General Budget)” from the third **WHEREAS** paragraph in the resolution. Mr. Russell seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously. Mr. Anderson then moved approval of the resolution as so amended. Mr. Russell seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved unanimously.

- C. Deferred Maintenance Projects Planned for 2015-2016**
- D. Overall Cost of Attendance Comparison of Alabama Universities**
- E. Review Financial Information for Quarter Ending June 30, 2015**
- F. Review of Investments – UNA Foundation**
- G. Review of Investments – University Endowment**

All of these remaining financial items were thoroughly discussed during the work session that preceded the Board meeting. There were no additional questions, and these items required no action by the Board.

VIII. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE MATTER

Title IX Update

Academic Affairs and Student Life Committee Chair Jordan reported that this information item was addressed during the work session that preceded the formal Board meeting. There were no additional questions, and this item required no action by the Board.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

Resolution Approving Amendments to the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees for the University of North Alabama to Correspond to Statutory Revisions Set Forth in Act 2015-210 of the Alabama Legislature

The Alabama Legislature's recent passage of Act No. 2015-210 amends in three areas the state statute relating to UNA Board operations:

1. Reduces trustee appointment terms from 12 years to 6 years
2. Permits emergency meetings of the Board; and
3. Allows for a trustee's participation via electronic communication mechanisms to constitute presence in person at a Board meeting.

Board bylaws now need to be updated to reflect and correspond with this recent legislative action. Upon motion by Mr. Russell and second by Mr. Trapp, the resolution was approved unanimously.

Mr. Abrams noted that the Board's suggestions on new Trustee service terms have been submitted to the Governor, who is expected to act on the same and re-appoint all Board members to new service terms by year-end. Those new appointments then will be forwarded to the Alabama Senate for confirmation during the spring 2016 legislative session.

X. MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion by Ms. Jordan, second by Mr. Howard, and a unanimous vote, the meeting recessed at 11:40 a.m. to go into a brief executive session to discuss a legal matter.

At approximately 11:41 a.m., the Board entered into executive session (with legal counsel Bob Hill present) to discuss a legal matter. This information item required no action by the Board.


The Board reconvened in regular session at 11:56 a.m. immediately following the executive session. Mr. Abrams reported that no action was taken and that legal counsel certified the matter discussed in executive session was in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

Note: Following the meeting, Mr. Hill, an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Alabama, certified verbally that the Board's discussion of a legal matter in today's executive session was authorized under Section 3 of the Code of Alabama that allows for executive session to discuss legal ramifications of threatened litigation, the general reputation and character of an individual, and the professional competence and job performance of an individual.


XI. MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no other business to come before the Board, upon motion by Mr. Trapp, second by Mr. Maples, and a unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Approved December 14, 2015



President Pro Tempore



Secretary