

TRUSTEES BOARD OF NORTH ALABAMA
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA
10:30 Tuesday, December 12, 2017

The Board of Trustees of the University of North Alabama met on Tuesday, December 12, 2017, in the Board Room of the University Center in accordance with Section 6-2-1 of the Alabama Constitution. A letter from the Governor's Office, dated November 17, 2017, requesting the Board to meet on December 12, 2017, at the University Center in Florence, Alabama, was received by the Board on November 17, 2017. The Board met in accordance with the agenda provided in the letter and practice and procedure manual of the University of North Alabama. The meeting was held in the Board Room of the University Center in Florence, Alabama, at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, December 12, 2017. The meeting was held in accordance with the agenda provided in the letter and practice and procedure manual of the University of North Alabama. The meeting was held in the Board Room of the University Center in Florence, Alabama, at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, December 12, 2017. The meeting was held in accordance with the agenda provided in the letter and practice and procedure manual of the University of North Alabama.

On December 5, 2017, the Board received electronic access to the agenda, proposals, and supporting documents for items of discussion. The agenda, proposals, and supporting documents were available for individual review. The agenda, proposals, and supporting documents were available for individual review. The agenda, proposals, and supporting documents were available for individual review.

In the absence of Governor Kay Ivey, the President of the University of North Alabama, Protempore Marty A. Brown, presided over the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Protempore Marty A. Brown.

I. INVOCATION

Athletic Director Mark Underwood led the opening invocation.

II. ROLL CALL

President Kenneth D. Hays called roll, and the following members were present:

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|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Trustee Marty A. Brown | Trustee Marcus Maples | Trustee Simpson Russell |
| Trustee Rodney Brown | Trustee Todd Ouellette | Trustee Will Traub |
| Trustee Libby Jordan | Trustee Steve Pierce | |

Absent were Trustee of State Superintendent of Education Richard H. Hodson, Governor Kay Ivey and Interim

Others present for all or part of meeting:

- Dr. Ross Alexander, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
- Ms. Amber Fite-McNair, University Attorney and Chief University Officer
- Mr. Mark Lindner, Athletics Director
- Mr. Ron Patterson, Chief Enrollment Officer
- Dr. Debbie Sawyers, Vice President for University Advancement
- Mr. David Shields, Vice President for Student Affairs
- Mr. Evan Thornton, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs
- Dr. Roy Borak, Senior Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Dr. Carmen Parkler, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
- Dr. Donna LePort, Interim Dean of the College of Education and Human Sciences
- Dr. Vicki Pierce, Dean of the Carson College of Nursing

- Mr. Bishop Alexander, Vice President of Staff
- Dr. Terrance Brown, Chair of the Department
- Mr. Hugo D'Amico, President of Student Government and *ex officio* non-voting member of the Board
- Mr. Michael Gautney, Assistant Vice President of Facilities Administration and Planning
- Dr. Leah Graham, SACS COC Liaison and Associate Professor of Political Science
- Dr. Dan Hall, President of Faculty Senate
- Mr. Bryan Rachal, Director of University Communications and Marketing
- Dr. Lee Renfro, Chair of the Shared Governance Executive Committee
- Mr. Jake Russell, University Events Coordinator
- Ms. Regina Sherrill, Senior Assistant to the President for Administration
- Ms. Darlene Townsend, Interim Director of Career Library
- Ms. Shannon Wells, University Photographer
- Dr. Chunsheung Zhang, Senior Vice Provost for International Affairs
- Ms. Jennifer Edwards, *TimesDaily* reporter

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Abrams submitted the meeting agenda for approval. Upon motion by Mr. Trapp and second by Mr. Pierce, the agenda was approved unanimously.

IV. SACS UPDATE/PRESENTATION

Following introductory comments by Dr. Alexander, the importance of accreditation efforts, Dr. Graham gave an overview presentation that highlighted the following:

- Continued work to finalize UNA's mid-accreditation-cycle 5th Year Report that is due to SACS in March 2018;
- Function and purpose of accreditation; and
- SACS policies of interest as relate to institutional governance boards.

Dr. Graham then answered various questions from the floor.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2017 QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

Mr. Abrams submitted the minutes for approval. Upon motion by Mr. Pierce and second by Mr. Russell, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

VI. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Kitts gave a following notes:

- 534 students
- Early income
- UNA is at
- The engineering technology thanks to significant
- The spirit for UNA

of summary on the... are scheduled to... for spring 20... the peer average... ing technology... thanks to significant... mester will have equity in state

the University. His remarks include the... this Saturday at the mid-year commencement;... ment look promising;... tion and graduation rate... s expanding to include chemical engineering... g from the School of Economic Development... eal of focus and work with legislators on the push... when compared to other Alabama institutions.

VII. REMARKS FROM CONSTITUENT GROUP LEADERS

Mr. Abrams called their respective campus that may

in Mr. Alexander's. Ms. Jordan reported when the

ite, and Dr. Hall for the Board be advised of the Attitude Survey's administration... k for brief remarks on behalf of any problem issues on this spring.

VIII. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Committee chair on December 6. discussions:

lan reported on following are it

s topics covered during this committee's meeting... day's agenda that stemmed from those committee

A. Resolution

tion Approving Alabama

l Honorary Degrees Policy for the University of

Ms. Jordan clarity and With the Committee was approved

and Dr. Alexander strengthens the recommendation of and upon motion by unanimous

ted on how this revised policy provides more... n a nominee is considered for a honorary degree... mic Affairs and Enrollment Management... rdan and seconded by Mr. Maple, the resolution

B. Resolution

tion Approving College at the

nsition of the Current Honors Program to an... ity of North Alabama

Ms. Jordan College. Academic Ouellette

and Dr. Alexander transition involving Affairs and Enrollment second by Mr. T

ted on the advantages of moving to a Honors... nimal cost. With the recommendation of the... gement Committee, and upon motion by Mr... resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

Resolution providing a School of the Arts at the University of North Alabama

Jordan announced that the Board will provide a unified strategy for arts-based programs in these areas. With the recommendation of the Management Committee, and upon the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

2017-18 University of North Alabama University Catalog

Alexander noted the list of significant changes to the catalog. The Board discussed the proposed changes and approved the catalog for the 2017-18 academic year.

Update on Academic and Administrative Efficiency and General Information

Alexander gave an overview of certain restructuring efforts and cost savings. Continued review will be conducted. This information is for general information.

IX. VANCE CENTER AND UNIVERSITY RELATIONSHIP MATTERS

Chair Trauger reported on the various topics covered in the meeting. The following items are on today's agenda:

Update on UFA Foundation and University Investment

The committee chair reported that the investment portfolio is performing well and continuing with a positive trend. The Board is pleased with the results.

UNA Campaign Update

Shaw gave an overview of the campaign progress. The Board raised more than \$33.9 million toward its \$35 million goal. The campaign is on track.

Resolution of Appreciation to the City of Fayetteville-Timed Street Signs

Following recommendations by Mr. Trauger, with the recommendation of the University Relations Committee, and upon motion by the Board, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

D. Resolution of Request for Equitable State Funding for the University of North Alabama

Mr. Trapp reviewed a set of charts that speaks to the decades-long and continuing disparity in state funding for UNA versus other Alabama institutions on a per-student basis. Several Board members and President Kitts commented on this matter made during the discussion:

- Funding inequity is a serious issue that requires Board involvement with Montgomery lawmakers.
- UNA must be clear on its message to alumni and legislators statewide.
- UNA's position as to state appropriations when compared to its peers is a serious concern to the entire Shoals community, given the University's impact on the region.
- Greater transparency is needed as to how funding decisions are made for individual institutions. The current allocation process in Montgomery is unclear.
- The lack of equity funding causes UNA to be forced to continue to raise tuition each year. Therefore, a strong student voice in demanding fairness is just as well.

With the recommendation of the Advancement and University Relations Committee upon motion by Mr. Trapp and second by Mr. Russell, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

X. CAMPUS LIFE AND ATHLETICS COMMITTEE MATTERS

Committee chair Pierce reported on the various informational topics covered during the committee's meeting on December 5. The following are items on today's agenda that were discussed from those committee discussions:

A. Resolution Approving Contractual Agreement with Adidas for Athletic Apparel and Shoes

Mr. Linder reviewed general terms of the agreement. With a financial outlay of \$250,000 per year for five years, this contract exceeds the \$250,000 threshold for requiring approval. With the recommendation of the Campus Life and Athletics Committee upon motion by Mr. Pierce and second by Ms. Jordan, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

B. Sports Programs upon Transition to Division I

Mr. Linder discussed the rationale for being a volleyball and women's golf to re-evaluate women's indoor and outdoor track in UN's array of sports programs effectively. He noted several accomplishments since December's announcement of UN's transition to Division I, and he highlighted a few scheduling arrangements being made with FCS and FBS institutions. This information item required no action by the Board.

(Mr. Howland exited the meeting at this point at 1:15 p.m.)

XI. FINANCE, FACILITIES, AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MATTERS

Committee chair Russell reported on the various topics covered during this committee's meeting on December 6. The following items were discussed at that meeting and are items on today's agenda that stem from those committee discussions:

A. Review of Financial Information Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2017

Per Mr. Thornton, the university ended the fiscal year in a solid financial shape. The financial statements were reviewed in more detail at the last week's committee meeting, and there were no additional questions from Trustees. This item required no action by the Board.

B. Budgeting of Additional Funds Revenue during the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year

Mr. Thornton briefly reviewed this information and that required no action by the Board. There were no questions concerning the report.

C. Resolution Approving Agreement between the University of North Alabama and Collegis Education and the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Education and the College of Nursing

Mr. Russell made introductory comments about the importance of expanding online programs, especially for non-traditional students. Mr. Alexander noted great success for the College of Business and MBA program in Alabama. UNA now has the largest online program in Alabama. This proposal would expand the Collegis relationship to provide similar support for UNA's 13 other degree programs across the other three colleges. Mr. Thornton discussed the main financial terms, i.e., financial commitment, provision for an opt-out clause, and administrators carefully reviewed the program to ensure that UNA sees an appropriate "return on investment" that can be directly tied to Collegis efforts.

With the recommendation of the Finance, Facilities, and Personnel Committee, and upon motion by Mr. Russell and second by Mr. C. Trapp, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

D. Resolution Authorizing Expenditures for Renovations to the Athletics Media Center for Fall

Following overview comments by Mr. Thornton, the Finance, Facilities, and Personnel Committee recommended the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

E. Information Items:

- 1) **Space for Counseling Services** - Demand for services has grown significantly in recent years, and the Counseling Center has outgrown its current location. The University is evaluating options and trying to find suitable space for this student support area.
- 2) **Status of New Harrison Hall Construction Project for College of Nursing** - The Alabama Building Commission has given preliminary approval for revised building plans. New bids will be received in the spring, with a timeline for construction to be completed before the end of this fiscal year.
- 3) **Update to Campus Master Plan** - The University soon will issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a firm to assist with an update to the campus master plan. A campus committee will be formed to work on this project.

These information items required no action by the Board at this time.

XII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Resolution Adopting a Code of Ethics for the University of North Alabama Board of Trustees

Mr. Abrams gave summary comments on the importance of having this document in place as a part of best practices among other institutions and for better alignment with SACS standards. Upon motion by Ms. Jordan and second by Mr. Maples, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

B. Status of UNA Board of Trustees Scholarship Endowment Fund

Mr. Abrams encouraged members of the Board to financially support this Scholarship Fund on an annual basis.

C. 2018 Board of Trustees Meeting Dates

Suggested dates for regular quarterly meetings – March 20, June 13, September 19, and December 12 – and two dates for advance committee meetings were identified by the President's Office and provided for calendar/planning purposes. Trustees were asked to advise of any serious scheduling conflicts that would warrant changes to the proposed dates.

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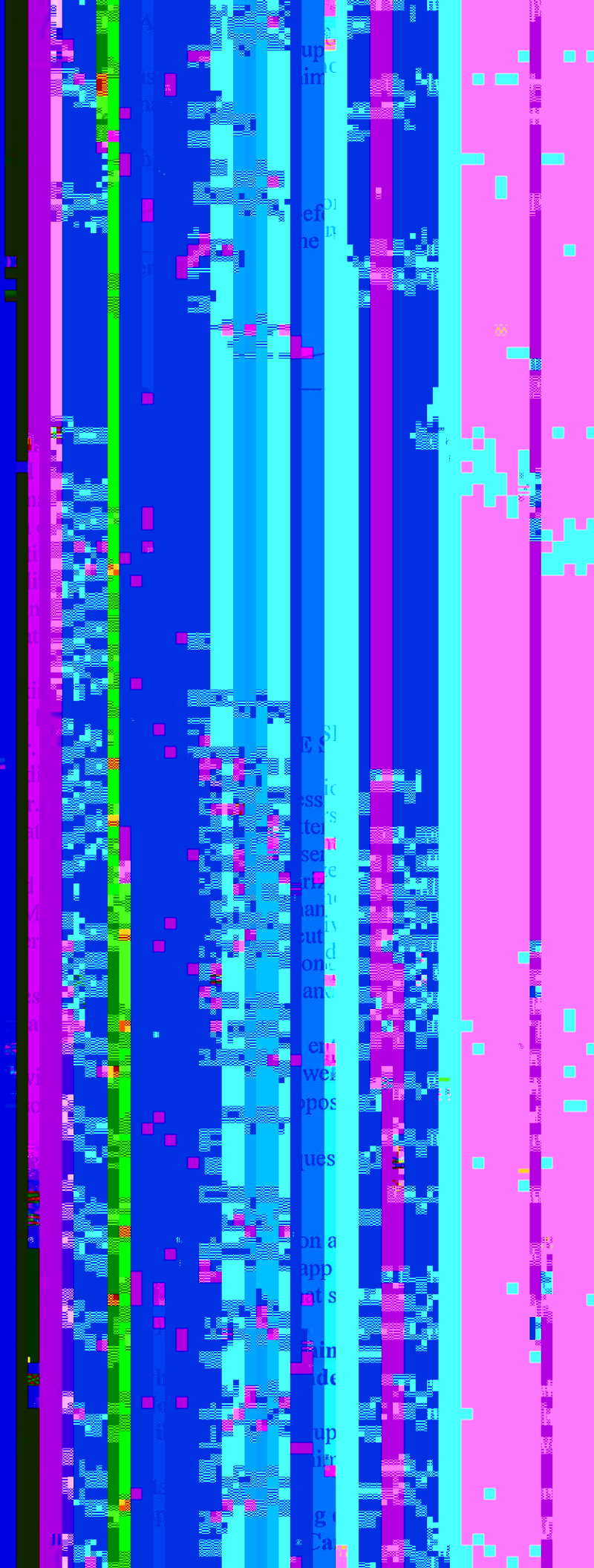
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