

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA  
MORNING, ALABAMA  
9:00 a.m., Friday, June 9, 2023**

The Board of Trustees for the University of North Alabama met on Friday, June 9, 2023 in a Banquet Hall at the Guillot University Center in Jordan with Section 6 of Act No. 773 of the 1979 Regular Session of the Alabama Legislature. A letter from three Trustees (dated May 19, 2023) was sent via email to Governor Kay Ivey in care of the Director of Constituent Affairs, requesting that the Governor call the quarterly meeting for June 9. Proposals for calling the Board to the meeting were sent for the Governor's signature as per standard practice and the same were mailed from the Governor's office to Trustees in advance of the meeting under the date of May 26, 2023. On May 31, Board members were advised via email that the agenda, proposals, and supporting documents for the meeting were available for individual electronic access through the Canvas software system.

Board President Pro Tempore Will Traub called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**I. INVOCATION**

The opening invocation was offered by Mr. Traub.

**II. ROLL CALL**

President Kenneth D. Kitt called the roll, and the following members were present in the meeting room:

Trustee Joel Anderson III	Trustee Steve Fierco	Trustee Will Traub
Trustee Wendell Gumm	Trustee Siracuse Russell	Trustee Annie Walker
Trustee Jim Page	Trustee Nancy Sanford	

Trustee Kyle Buchanan was present via video conference. Ex officio member Governor Kay Ivey and Trustees Marty Abrams and Gary Smith were absent. A quorum of voting members was in attendance.

**Others present for all or part of the meeting**

- Mr. Jason Cochran, Executive Director of Environmental Relations and Economic Development
- Ms. Minnette Ellis, Interim Chief University Officer
- Ms. Amber Fite-Morgan, General Counsel
- Mr. Kevin Haslam, Vice President of University Advancement
- Dr. Josh Looney, Athletics Director
- Mr. Evan Thornton, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs
- Dr. K.C. White, Vice President for Student Affairs
- Mr. Duell Aldridge, Coordinator of University Center Operations and Event Management
- Ms. Melissa Bolton, 2022-2023 Student Senate President
- Dr. Vince Brewton, Dean of the College of Honors
- Ms. Sheena BURGREN, Executive Director of Health and Well-Being
- Dr. Greg Carnes, Dean of the Sanders College of Business and Technology
- Ms. Cindy Conlon, Associate Vice President for Facilities Administration and Planning
- Ms. Michelle Eubanks, Director of University Media and Public Relations
- Dr. Lauren Killen, 2023-2024 Faculty Senate President
- Dr. Katie Kinney, Dean of the College of Education and Human Sciences
- Dr. Tera Kirkman, Dean of Anderson College of Nursing and Health Professions

- Mr. John McC...e, Executive Director of Educational Technology Services
- Dr. Kristy Odo... 2022-2023 Chair of Shared Governance Executive Committee
- Dr. Amber Pa...k, Deputy Provost and Board of Trustees Parliamentarian
- Ms. Amber Sa...lvig, 2023-2024 Student Government Association President
- Ms. Regina Sh...rill, Senior Assistant to the President for Administration
- Ms. Julie Tayl... Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management
- Dr. Ryan Zaya... Interim Dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering

Also present: *Ti...esDaily* reporters Bernie Delinski, David Glova...h, and Kevin Taylor  
*Ti...esDaily* photographer Dan Busey  
 W...AY-TV 31 reporter Shawn Bracey

### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Trapp submitted the agenda for consideration. Upon motion by Ms. Whitaker and second by Mr. Russell, the agenda was approved as presented by unanimous vote.

### IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Trapp submitted the following items for consideration for collective approval:

- Minutes of March 17, 2023, Quarterly Board Meeting
- Minutes of May 19, 2023, Board Executive Committee Meeting
- Resolution of Commendation to Melissa Bolton, 2022-2023 Staff Senate President, University of North Alabama
- Resolution of Commendation to Jessica Stovall, 2022-2023 Faculty Senate President, University of North Alabama

Upon motion by Dr. Gunn and second by Ms. Whitaker, the consent agenda items listed above were approved separately and severally by unanimous vote.

### V. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Kitts gave a brief summary on the state of the University from a prepared text. Topics included:

- Transitions in leadership of campus constituency groups
- Continued work with City officials to enhance pedestrian safety along Pine Street
- UNA's status in state education budget at close of 2023 legislative session
- Continued project 208 efforts
- Fall enrollment outlook

**VI. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE MATTERS**

Committee chair Page presented items from this committee's discussions that were on the agenda for the full Board at today's meeting:

**A. Resolution Approving a Doctoral Program of Social Work**

Following summary comments by Page, with the recommendation of the Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management Committee and upon Mr. Page and second by Ms. Whitaker, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

**B. Resolution Approving a Master of Science Degree Program in International Safety and Health**

Following summary comments by Page, with the recommendation of the Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management Committee and upon Mr. Page and second by Ms. Whitaker, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

**C. Resolution Approving a Bachelor of Engineering Program and Certificates in Biological Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Manufacturing Engineering**

Following summary comments by Page, with the recommendation of the Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management Committee, Mr. Page explained the question from Mr. Trapp, Dr. Zayas, and Mr. Trapp, Dr. Zayas, there being no further discussion, Mr. Page explained the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

**D. Resolution Approving a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree Program in Human Resource Management**

Following summary comments by Page, with the recommendation of the Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management Committee and upon Mr. Page and second by Ms. Whitaker, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

**E. Resolution Approving a Bachelor of Science Degree Program in Applied Technology and Design**

Following summary comments by Page, with the recommendation of the Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management Committee and upon Mr. Page and second by Mr. Pierce, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

**F. Resolution Approving the Addition of a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree Program in Entrepreneurship**

Following summary comments by Page, with the recommendation of the Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management Committee and upon Mr. Page and second by Dr. Gunn, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote. Dr. Gunn asked to comment about how students in this degree program wish to start a business and how to commercialize innovations will be of their students.

**G. Resolution Approving the Creation of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences and the School of Natural Sciences, Engineering, and Computing within the College of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering**

Mr. Page gave summary comments in which he recommended the over-arching support of College faculty for dividing into three schools. With the recommendation of the Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management Committee, Mr. Page moved for approval of the resolution. Dr. Zayac was asked for additional comments in which he described advantages for inter collaboration and efficiency with this type of organizational structure. There being no further discussion, Ms. Whitaker seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

**H. Resolution Adopting an Academic Amnesty Policy for Students Enrolled in Graduate Degree Programs at the University of North Alabama**

Mr. Page gave introductory comments and asked Dr. Paulk to describe the basis for this new academic policy. With the recommendation of the Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management Committee and upon motion by Mr. Page and second by Dr. Gunn, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

**I. Resolution Endorsing the University of North Alabama's Speech Compliance Report for Academic Year 2022-2023 Pursuant to Section 16-1-5 of the Code of Alabama**

Following summary comments by Mr. Page, with the recommendation of the Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management Committee and upon motion by Mr. Page and second by Mr. Anderson, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

**J. Accomplishments with Regard to 2019-2024 Strategic Plan**

Mr. Page provided summary comments on this update shared with the Board twice each year as an information item. A new five-year strategic plan development and will be presented to the Board for consideration in December. Dr. Pittman affirmed that UNA has made significant accomplishments in the current Strategic Plan document. There were no questions, and this matter required no action by the Board.

**VII. ADVANCEMENT AND UNIVERSITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE MATTERS**

Committee chair Whitaker presented items from this committee's June 3rd meeting that were on the agenda for the full Board at today's meeting:

**A. Resolution of Appreciation to L.C. and Louise Lenz for their Dedication to Preserving the Original LaGrange College Site**

Following summary comments by Ms. Whitaker, with the recommendation of the Advancement and University Relations Committee and upon motion by Ms. Whitaker and second by Mr. Pierce, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote. Ms. Senf noted that it is important to remember and to remind others that UNA is the oldest four-year educational institution in Alabama and that it traces its roots to its 1830 founding as LaGrange College.

**B. Update on U**

The latest endowmen  
there were no questio  
portfolios are being h

As other items of information  
brought in private gifts from  
year 2022-2023, the Advance  
surpassing this year's \$10 mil  
Ms. Whitaker encouraged com  
by the end of the fiscal year.

**ndation and Un**

had been review  
ay's me ng. M  
an app riate

Comr ee, M  
and five ountri  
n. has a yady ra  
raising al. T  
nancial pport

**ersi**

in the bon m  
Tra xp ex  
nne

Whi r n t  
We we a  
d \$: I m  
is th eed  
that avat g

**nc**

the sett  
l conf

that th cent 1830  
still in third quart  
in nev ft's to date,  
ear in w of record  
will ch the \$30

**ents**

the previo and  
ce that the and

Day scal  
g.  
mark

**VIII. CAMPUS LIFE, AT**

**ES, AN DIVER SIT**

Committee chair Pierce report  
These included:

- Continued work on ite
- Student-athlete succes
  - Impressive 3.
  - 11 of 14 sport
  - Student-athlet
- High number of stude

e array topics  
e State e Diver  
year:  
I GPA s spr  
brds in UN c  
ation i ver 4  
ng appli ions 1

vered during  
ty a nce  
Plan % complet  
of the community  
ef b to mee

tee's June ing.  
demand

Mr. Pierce presented one actio  
"Dangerous Weapons and F  
carry" is permitted in the State  
restrict/prohibit weapons on ca  
Diversity Committee and upon  
approved by unanimous vote.

om the ommit  
Policy' or the  
ama, co ge an  
With the recom  
by Mr. erce a

- F lu o  
ive y o  
ive ies u  
dat of ne  
sec s by

g Updated  
ama. Thou en  
adopt poli at  
fe, Athletic  
the resolu as

**IX. FINANCE, FACILIT**

**ND PEI ONN CC MI**

Committee vice chair Pierce p  
agenda for the full Board at to

items fr n this  
eting:

nm b's u  
disc

ons that we he

**A. Review of Fi**

**nforma on for**

The quarterly financia  
2023 budget is operati  
budget pressure. Net  
much work to be done  
to connect with the PF  
if another deficit budg  
this information item r

was thoi ghly  
lanned icit, b  
trendin positiv  
ard to s e fun  
cial adv ry fir  
in place or the  
no actio by the

iewd in the  
miti on m  
th h eir  
g an roj ch  
o de n  
ning cal  
ard

etting. The  
n place to l  
vth, but the  
hornton ha  
n UNA's c  
ere no que  
22-  
lieve  
ill  
asked  
ating  
and

**I. Resolution on Approval of Proposed University Tuition and Fees for 2023-2024**

Pierce et al. proposed a differentiated tuition model based on academic program of study. The model simplifies the tuition picture for students and eliminates a complex set of fees, course fees, etc. The Finance Committee approved by a unanimous vote the motion by Mr. Pierce and second by Mr. Page, the

**C. Resolution on Approval of Revised Internal Control Policy**

Following the recommendation of the Finance, Facilities, and Personnel Committee, the Finance, Facilities, and Personnel Committee approved by a unanimous vote the motion by Mr. Pierce and second by Mr. Whitaker, the

**D. Resolution on Approval of New Employee Programs for University Employees: Paid Birth and Parental Leave**

In a meeting held on June 8, the Finance Committee requested additional information on this matter. The Finance Committee will come back for consideration at the next meeting. The Finance Committee recommended a potential implementation date of September 1, 2024. Mr. Trapp is spearheading the proposal.

**E. Information Items**

Pierce notified the Finance Committee of two additional items brought forward by the Committee, either of which were approved by the Finance Committee.

- (1) **Public Position of Financial Disclosure Information** - This information item is provided in the meeting materials as a part of each agenda.
- (2) **2021-2022 Report - This latest financial audit** - This latest financial audit report was provided and reviewed by the State examiners. The audit was provided and reviewed by the State examiners on the UNA website.

**X. OTHER BUSINESS**

**Trustees and Reaffirmation of Acknowledgement of Fiduciary Duties**

Following the meeting, the Board of Trustees collectively acknowledged their fiduciary duties to the University by signing statements at the meeting. The statements will be held on file in the President's Office in support of the University's accreditation standards. (Statements should be secured after the meeting from those Trustees who were present in person.)

XI. MOTION

Mr. Trip...  
honorary...  
Alabama...  
was authori...  
general rep...  
Therefore, a...  
Mr. Pag...  
break and t...  
session. Ms...  
room with D...

The Board r...  
items to pres...

1. On the...  
Aut...  
for the...  
avoid...  
appro...

2. On the...  
rese...  
Proj...  
M...  
Th...  
W...  
The Board h...

MOTION TO

here being...  
hitaker and...

Approved

  
President