

**North Carolina A&T State University
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CALL TELECONFERENCE MEETING
April 18, 2011**

MINUTES

The Board of Trustees convened for a call teleconference meeting on Monday, April 18, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Buncum.

Roll Call revealed that the following were:

Present:	Mrs. Pamela McCorkle Buncum	Mr. Emerson Fullwood
	Dr. Stanley Allen	Mr. Wayne Kimball, Jr.
	Mrs. Karen Collins	Mr. Albert Lineberry, Jr.
	Mr. Charles Cornelio	Mrs. Faye Tate Williams
	Mr. Willie Deese	Mrs. Patricia Miller Zollar

Absent: Mr. Spence Broadhurst
Ms. Janice Bryant Howroyd
Dr. Bertram Walls

Others Present:	Chancellor Harold L. Martin	Mr. Wendell Phillips
	Ms. Janese Fails	Dr. Charles Waldrup

Chairwoman Buncum thanked the members for availing themselves for the call teleconference meeting. She stated there would be one confidential action item for Closed Session and one update when Open Session resumed. She then asked Dr. Waldrup to provide the language needed to move into Closed Session. Prior to the statement, Chancellor Martin paused to introduce the staff joining him in the meeting. Those persons were: Trustee Kimball, Dr. Waldrup, Ms. Fails, and Mr. Wendell Phillips would be invited into the meeting during the Open Session. Due to the nature of the first item of business, Mr. Deese was excused from the call and asked to reconnect in about 10 minutes.

Dr. Waldrup said a motion would be needed to move into Closed Session pursuant to N.C.G.S.143-318.11(a)(2) to prevent the premature disclosure of an honorary degree, scholarship, prize, or similar award. Chairwoman Buncum then entertained said motion. The motion made by Dr. Allen was seconded by Mr. Fullwood and unanimously carried.

Chairwoman Buncum then called upon Chancellor Martin to present the first agenda item. Chancellor Martin said the primary purpose of the meeting was that he wanted to present

for Board consideration a recommendation to confer upon Willie Deese the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humanities at the spring Commencement on May 7, 2011. He noted that information about Mr. Deese was forwarded to the Board for review in advance of the meeting, and without any reservations, he was pleased to make the recommendation. Chairwoman Buncum opened the floor for discussion or questions. There being none, she then entertained a motion for approval of the conferral as presented for Mr. Deese. A motion was made by Dr. Allen and Mr. Lineberry and was seconded by Mr. Cornelio and unanimously approved.

Chairwoman Buncum then entertained a motion to resume to Open Session. A motion was made by Mr. Kimball and Dr. Allen and seconded by Mr. Cornelio and unanimously carried. She then paused to allow Mr. Deese to reconnect to the meeting.

OPEN SESSION RESUMES

Chairwoman Buncum again called upon Chancellor Martin to present the second discussion item. Chancellor Martin confirmed that they received the budget summary he emailed earlier that day. The members confirmed receipt of the information. Chancellor Martin said he would touch on the highlights in the cover memo and discuss in greater detail the spreadsheet that accompanied the memo. He would then ask Mr. Phillips to make comments and lastly share how he plans to move forward with conversations with President Ross and the UNC General Administration.

Chancellor Martin shared that the Governor Perdue's budget proposal is a 9.95 percent reduction. The House has taken her budget and issued its draft budget recommendations that will total 15.5 percent; however, an additional reduction of \$35 million in state-based financial aid, which reduces the \$167 million budget to \$127 million in state aid that would bring the total reduction to the UNC system to 17.4 percent. Chancellor Martin said the total impact of the reduction equates to approximately 3200 faculty and staff positions and eliminates approximately 240,000 seats and classroom space across the University system. He noted that for North Carolina A&T, the 17.4 percent reduction or \$18 million will equate to the loss of 217 positions—93 faculty and 124 staff; the reduction of 744 class sections, and 16,368 classroom seats. He further noted that approximately 90 percent of our students receive some type of federal or state financial aid. The current budget proposes an \$800 reduction in state financial aid that will impact A&T. Of the \$165 million total grant funds that the University receives, \$12.8 million of grant aid is provided to 5,260 students: \$4.2 million to freshmen; \$2.9 million to sophomores; \$2.3 million to juniors, and \$3.2 million to seniors. If the \$35 million dollar cut occurs, the students will have to replace this aid through the following options: 1) use of family resources or work; 2) by taking out additional loans, or 3) the University would need to reappropriate as much state funding as possible to help fill the void.

Chancellor Martin asked Mr. Phillips to provide an update on what is happening with the legislature, the Governor and General Administration. Mr. Phillips said the Governor's budget as presented to the House Appropriations Education Subcommittee and it should be voted out of subcommittee and moved to the full committee and to the House floor by next week. The next advocacy focus will be on the full committee with a targeted set of actions toward working with those who depend on North Carolina voters to remain in office. Mr. Phillips said by the first week of May, the Senate should be reviewing the budget. The recent storms may impact their considerations. He said another strategy may be to involve the business community to help get letters of support to the legislators.

Chancellor Martin said that Mr. Phillips helped to develop a letter that was sent to the Board of Trustees, Board of Visitors, A&T Foundation Board, Aggie Athletic Foundation Board and to each of the advisory boards of the various schools and colleges. The letters were targeted with advocacy to the leadership of the House to try to encourage them to reduce the current 17.4 percent reduction to a substantially lesser amount. He said after the House has completed its decisions, the Senate will begin their considerations and will likely be more sensitive to education in general and the UNC system. Once the Senate begins deliberating in about two weeks, the University will seek advocacy through targeting alumni in North Carolina and asking them to write their legislative delegates on the House side. General Administration has asked that constituents write their own letters and not to send form letters. Chancellor Martin said he is waiting for the system to provide feedback, but the University is moving forward with its strategies. Mr. Lineberry asked if there is some way to find out what the economic impact per student toward the State might be particularly as it pertains to job losses and potential changes in electoral seats. Chancellor Martin said he will have Mr. Phillips look into that matter. Dr. Allen asked if there are any press conferences being held so that the message gets out to the general public helping to understand the impact of the cuts. Chancellor Martin replied that the media has had a number of stories about the impact on the cuts to the UNC system and how the cuts will affect the universities. Mrs. Buncum suggested that we work through the faith-based constituents to get the word to the voters. She also suggested that alumni who live outside of state could let the legislators know in their letters how the budget will impact their personal contacts and families that reside in North Carolina. Mrs. Williams asked what the level of student involvement is in this effort. Mr. Kimball replied said that a bus load of A&T students travelled to Raleigh on UNC Advocacy Day and another bus load traveled on HBCU Lobby Day. A&T had more student representatives in attendance on each occasion than any other universities. Mr. Kimball said he attended a meeting of the NC Student Body Presidents last week and they are involved in two campaigns with students from the UNC campuses statewide. The first is through the North Carolina Association of Educators who have agreed to fund the mobilization of all UNC schools to travel to Raleigh, but the trip is planned during exams week. The second

campaign is through the social network by making YouTube videos which will be sent in electronic form to each state legislator. He will keep the Board posted as the students move forward and he will pass the torch on to Christian Robinson so that the momentum continues through the summer. Mrs. Collins asked if the Board of Governors are fully supportive and championing the appropriate message to the House and Senate. Chancellor Martin said we could always contact the leadership, but he is not sure if they have been to Raleigh to talk directly with the legislators. He, Chancellor Brady and President Ross have visited the legislators in Raleigh. Mrs. Buncum asked when the legislative session would end. Mr. Phillips said this is the long session, and considering the speed at which they are moving, they may be finished by mid-July.

Chancellor Martin said it is important to continue communications with the House and Senate leaders. He and Chancellor Brady will find time in their schedules to return to Raleigh to continue talking with the legislators about the impact of these reductions. Mr. Deese asked when the letters should be in. Chancellor Martin said this week would be very timely and letters should be sent to all four of the House leader chairs. Mrs. Williams asked if letters should go to local representatives as well. Chancellor Martin said that is a good idea also.

Chairwoman Buncum thanked the Board for taking time to participate in the teleconference and for committing to write and call the legislative leaders. Mrs. Buncum invited the Chancellor to call on the Board whenever there are matters in which they can offer assistance. They stand ready to help in whatever way they can.

There being no other items for discussion, Chairwoman Buncum declared the teleconference meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Harold L. Martin, Sr.
Chancellor



Janese A. Fails
Recording Secretary