

**North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University  
Greensboro, NC**

**JULY 28, 2020**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

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**OPEN SESSION MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairwoman Venessa Harrison called the special called meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 12:00 p.m. on July 28, 2020. The meeting was held via Zoom due to the university moving to teleworking March in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to adhere to state social distancing and stay at home guidelines.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT**

In accordance with Chapter II, Section 204 of the Code of the UNC Board of Governors, Chairwoman Harrison called for the presentation of the Ethics and Conflicts of Interest Statement via an audio recording. No conflicts were noted.

**ROLL CALL**

Next, roll call was taken by Shannon Bennett, Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees. Quorum was confirmed.

Members present: John Bluford, Calvin Brodie, Mark Copeland, William Dudley, Kim Gatling, Venessa Harrison, Paul Jones, Timothy King, George Mainor, Joe Parker, Hilda Pinnix-Ragland, Bhaskar Venepalli and Brenda Caldwell.

Members absent: none.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Chairwoman Harrison invited Vice Chancellor for University Advancement Ken Sigmon to present an update on the Alumni Association.

Ken Sigmon advised the board that since the April meeting regarding the Alumni Association's conversion to an Advisory Council, the University Advancement team has hosted a variety of meetings with alumni through town halls and meetings with the alumni chapters. In June the university began accepting applications for the advisory council and in July the articles of corporation was submitted. The members of the advisory council will be announced in August with the first meeting being held in September.

Chairwoman Harrison invited General Counsel Melissa Holloway to provide an update on federal regulations.

Melissa Holloway advised the board of new Title IX regulations which must be implemented by August 14, 2020. The Office of Legal Affairs is working with Title IX, the Dean of Students, and Human Resources to develop an interim policy. The new policy will include a revised definition of sexual harassment and jurisdiction required by new regulations, instructions for referring complaints that no longer meet the new definitions for resolution through other university disciplinary channels, provisions for training advisors to parties in the Title IX process, and adoption of the designated official term to ensure the university's "actual knowledge" of Title IX complaints

Melissa Holloway also advised the board about federal regulations regarding distance education and internal students. On July 6, 2020, the government issued guidance that would significantly restrict the ability of international students to continue their studies at an institution operating completely online in fall 2020. On July 14, 2020, the guidance was rescinded and allowed international students to enroll in online classes due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chairwoman Harrison invited Trustee Timothy King, chair of the Athletics Conference Assessment Committee to present the conference recommendation.

Trustee King advised the board that due to a procedural error related to the February 4, 2020 meeting of the Athletic Assessment Committee and the university's alleged failure to comply with the requirements of the North Carolina Open Meetings Law, this recommendation is coming forth out of an abundance of caution and is consistent with the university's commitment to integrity and compliance.

Trustee King presented the recommendation of the Athletic Conference Assessment Committee that the board inform the Mid-Easter Athletics Conference of the university's resignation from full conference membership, effective June 30, 2021; and, that the board inform the Big South Athletics Conference of the university's acceptance of their invitation to join the conference as full members, effective July 1, 2021.

Chairwoman invited the motion to approve the recommendation as presented by Trustee King which was moved by Trustee Hilda Pinnix-Ragland, seconded by Trustee Joe Parker, and approved. Trustee Paul Jones abstained from the vote.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairwoman Harrison invited a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was moved by Trustee Paul Jones, seconded by Trustee John Bluford, and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Bennett  
Assistant Secretary