

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA  
FLORENCE, ALABAMA**

**10 a.m., Friday, March 6, 2020**

Board of Trustees  
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University of North Alabama met on Friday, March 6, 2020, in accordance with Section 6 of Act No. 773 of the Legislature of Alabama. A letter from three Trustees (dated 4/20/20) was sent to Governor Kay Ivey in care of her Director of the Governor's Office. The quarterly meeting for March 6. The agenda items were sent to the Governor's office for signature as of February 18, 2020. On February 26, Board members proposed resolutions and supporting documents for individual electronic access in the Canvas software.

**ATTENTION**

Simpson Russell called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

**VOCATIONAL**

offered the opening invocation.

**ROLL CALL**

the roll, and the following members were in attendance:

- Trustee Mark L...
- Trustee Kenneth Gu...
- Trustee Lil...
- Trustee Marty Am...
- Trustee Wendell...
- Trustee Robert J...
- Trustee Joseph...

- Trustee Todd Ouelle
- Trustee Steve Pierce
- Trustee Simpson Russell
- Trustee Gary Smith
- Trustee Will Trapp
- Trustee Anne Whitaker

Members present were:

Absent were ex officio member Governor Kay Ivey and

- Dr. Robert Anderson
- Ms. Ar...
- Dr. Kenneth Gr...
- Mr. Kenneth Alexander, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
- Mr. Morgan...
- Mr. Robert Green...
- Mr. Edwin Horn...
- Dr. Sarah Lin...
- Dr. Jennifer...
- Ms. Olan Th...
- Dr. Grace Lyn...
- Ms. Jeffrey B...
- Ms. Olivia B...
- Ms. Greg Car...

**of the meeting:**

- President for Academic Affairs and Provost
- General Counsel
- President for Student Affairs
- President for University Advancement
- Director
- Enrollment Officer and Assistant to the President for Diversity
- President for Business and Financial Affairs
- Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
- Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
- Assistant to the President for Scheduling and Events
- College of Business

- Mr. Jason C. Moran, Exec. Director of Governmental Relations and Economic Development
- Ms. Cindy C. Mellon, Associate Vice President of Business and Financial Affairs
- Ms. Michelle Dubants, Interim Associate Director of Univ. Communications and Marketing
- Mr. Michael Dubutney, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Administration and Planning
- Dr. Felicia F. Harris, 2019-2020 Chair of Shared Governance Executive Committee
- Dr. Kevin J. Hayes, Director of University Center Operations and Events Management
- Ms. Leah Johnson, University Videographer/Photographer
- Dr. Katie Kinney, Dean of the College of Education and Human Sciences
- Mr. Sam M. Mourn, President of Student Government Association
- Dr. Vicki Pierce, Dean of the Anderson College of Nursing and Health Professions
- Dr. Lee Renfroe, President of Faculty Senate
- Mr. Jake Russell, Instructional Designer for Education Technology Services
- Ms. Regina S. Merrill, Senior Assistant to the President for Administration
- Ms. Amy Thompson, President of Staff Senate
- Mr. Linden White, Vice President of SGA University Program Council
- Dr. Chuhshe Zhang, Senior Vice Provost for International Affairs

### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

### IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

With only one consent agenda item for this meeting, Mr. Russell submitted the minutes of the December 6, 2019 quarterly Board meeting for approval. Upon motion by Mr. Ouellette and second by Mr. Smith, the consent agenda item was approved 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:

- An update on spring enrollment and the outlook for fall;
- Project 2020 efforts and UNA's budget appropriation position for FY 2020-2021;
- The new Strategic Diversity and Inclusion Plan presented at today's meeting;
- Work of the Town/Gown Committee; and
- Recent UNA athletics highlights.

## VI. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MATTERS

Committee chair Trapp reminded the Board of themes outlined in the University's strategic plan that have a direct correlation with development of new and innovative academic programs. Following a personal story about his experience while traveling to China as a college student, Mr. Trapp asked Dr. Alexander to review items on today's agenda that stemmed from this committee's meeting on March 5.

### A. Resolution Approving the Guizhou University-University of North Alabama International College of Engineering and Technology

Following summary comments by Dr. Alexander, several Trustees made remarks applauding this new collaboration. Dr. Alexander answered various questions related to enrollment expectations and the impact on UNA revenue. With the recommendation of the Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management Committee and upon motion by Ms. Whitaker and second by Ms. Jordan, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

### B. Resolution Approving a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Cinematic Arts and Theatre

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

## VII. ADVANCEMENT AND UNIVERSITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE MATTER

Committee chair Whitaker reported on topics covered in this committee's March 5 meeting.

### A. Resolution Approving Revised Policy for Naming Opportunities Associated with Private Donor Gifts to the University

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. Trapp, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

### B. Update on UNA Foundation and University Endowments

### C. Annual Endowment Report for UNA Board of Trustees Scholarship Fund

These two information items were not addressed during the full Board meeting, but had been reviewed in the committee setting the previous day.

## VIII. CAMPUS LIFE AND ATHLETICS COMMITTEE MATTERS

Committee chair Pierce reported on the array of topics covered during this committee's March 5 meeting, and he asked Mr. Mashburn to share with the Board brief remarks related to current SGA initiatives, particularly with regard to Project 208.

One action item from the previous day's committee discussion – **Resolution Approving the University of North Alabama's "Strategic Diversity and Inclusion Plan: 2020-2025"** – was on the agenda for the full Board at today's meeting. Mr. K. Force that developed the document and asked Mr. Patterson to provide summary comments. With the recommendation of the Campus Life and Athletics Committee, Mr. Pierce approved the resolution, and Mr. Maples seconded the motion. Mr. Maples commended the work of the task force and asked Mr. Patterson to provide summary comments. Mr. Patterson and the task force on a job well done and remarked that UNA should be proud of this document and of its position as a leader in diversity and inclusion. Mr. Patterson committed to dive further discussion, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote. Mr. Russell, the Campus Life and Athletics Committee chair, noted that the University has three excellent documents – the Strategic Diversity and Inclusion Plan – to guide its institutional mission.

## IX. FINANCE, FACILITIES, AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MATTERS

Committee chair Ouellette reported on the various topics covered during this committee's March 5 meeting and that are on today's meeting agenda.

### A. Review of Financial Information for Quarter Ending December 31, 2019

Mr. Thornton gave brief summary comments, noting that revenue and expenditures at the end of the first quarter of FY 2019-2020 are in line with expectations. The quarterly financial report was thoroughly reviewed in the committee setting. The report was approved by the Board.

### B. Resolution Approving a University of North Alabama Special Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program

In a summary of the resolution, Mr. Ouellette noted that the proposed retirement incentive program appears financially sound when considering the return on investment. With the recommendation of the Finance, Facilities, and Personnel Committee and upon motion by Mr. Ouellette and second by Ms. Jordan, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

### C. Resolution Approving Rental Rates in University-Owned Housing Facilities Effective Fall 2020

Mr. Ouellette reviewed the resolution, noting that the modest overall 1.7% increase in rental rates is less than the current Consumer Price Index, and UNA still will have the lowest student housing costs among its peer institutions. With the recommendation of the Finance, Facilities, and Personnel Committee and upon motion by Mr. Ouellette and second by Mr. Abrams, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

**D. Resolution Approving Student Meal Plan Prices Effective Fall 2020**

Mr. Ouellette reviewed the resolution, noting that price increases allowed per the University's contract with Chartwells, and the net overall price adjustment this year of 2% is less than the contract allows and is lower than the current Consumer Price Index. With the recommendation of the Finance, Facilities, and Personnel Committee and upon motion by Mr. Ouellette and second by Mr. Pierce, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

**E. 2018-2019 Audit**

The audit report was thoroughly reviewed in the committee setting Per Mr. Thornton, there were no adverse findings, and the University remains in solid financial health.

Mr. Thornton was asked for updates on additional information items:

1. **Harrison Plaza Fountain:** The University continues to wait on a final loss determination from the property insurance provider, but replacement options are being explored with plans to move forward quickly in restoring this signature piece of the campus landscape.
2. **Harrison Hall:** 120+ rain delay days have slowed construction, but the goal is to complete the project over the summer and open doors for classes this fall.
3. **ESCO Project:** Various roof repairs also have been delayed due to rain, but the contractor continues work on various other components of the energy savings program. The estimated completion date is October 2020.

**X. OTHER BUSINESS**

**Appointment of Ad Hoc Committee to Nominate 2020-2022 President Pro Tempore and Vice President Pro Tempore of the UNA Board of Trustees**

Mr. Russell named Mr. Abrams, Mr. Pierce, and Mr. Smith to serve as a three-member committee to bring forward at the June meeting nominations for the Board of Officers positions of 2020-2022 president and vice president pro tempore.

**XI. MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Russell noted that an executive session was needed to discuss matters from two Board committees. As an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Alabama, Ms. Fitts-Morgan could affirm that the Board's discussion of these matters in executive session was authorized under Section 3 of the Code of Alabama that allows for executive session to discuss the general reputation and character of individuals. Therefore, an executive session would be in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Upon motion by Mr. Maples, second by Mr. Abrams, and a unanimous vote, the meeting recessed at 10:17 a.m. for a short break and to enter into executive session.

