



**Minutes of the Meeting of the University of North Carolina at Asheville  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Friday, April 28, 2017  
Brown Hall, Room 217**

**The following Trustees were present:**

Pat Smith, Chair  
Kennon Briggs, Vice Chair  
Richard Lutovsky, Secretary  
JW Davis  
Bob Long, Jr.  
Piyush Patel  
Ron Paulus  
Robby Russell  
Cissie Stevens  
Oscar Wong  
Charlie White, Student Trustee

**The following Trustees were absent:**

King Prather  
Wilma Sherrill

**Others present:**

Mary Grant, Chancellor  
Joseph Urgo, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
Suzanne Bryson, Internal Auditor  
Lauren Bulla, student  
Chelsey Burke, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor  
Brian Butler, Chair of Faculty Senate  
Marietta Cameron, Associate Professor and Chair of Computer Science  
Chelsea Childers, student  
Janet Cone, Senior Administrator for University Enterprises / Athletics Director  
Joshua Davis, student  
Shannon Earle, Chief of Staff  
Michael Gass, Director of Institutional Research  
William Haggard, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs  
Erin Herdy, community member  
Laura Herndon, Associate Vice Chancellor of Alumni Relations and Giving  
Sarah Humphries, Executive Assistant  
Tim Hussey, Incoming Student Trustee 2017-2018  
Amy Jessee, Associate Chief Communication and Marketing Officer  
Ellen Kennedy, community member  
Pat McGrady, community member

Stacey Millett, Executive Director of NCCHW and Community Engagement  
Bill Miller, Faculty Emeritus  
Doug Miller, Professor in Atmospheric Sciences  
Kevin Morehead, Professor of Environmental Studies  
Linda Nelms, Faculty Emerita  
Nicole Norian, Associate Vice Chancellor of Human Resources  
John Pierce, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance  
James Smith, student  
John Stevens, Faculty Emeritus  
Rhapsody Taylor, student  
Zachary Tuggle, student  
Ben Underwood, Associate Vice Chancellor for Advancement Operations  
Sally Wasileski, Associate Professor in Chemistry  
Darin Waters, Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Community Outreach  
Clifton Williams, General Counsel  
Carla Willis, Vice Chancellor for University Advancement  
Dan Zehr, student

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The meeting was called to order by Chair Smith at 9:01 a.m.

Chair Smith thanked and welcomed the faculty emeriti in the room, John Stevens, Bill Miller, and Linda Nelms.

### **Ethics Reminder**

Chair Smith reminded the Board of the duty, imposed by the State Government Ethics Act, to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict, and allowed members to declare any conflicts. No conflicts stated.

Chair Smith had the opportunity to sit with UNC Divest students yesterday. The students were articulate, and were respectful of the board's process to develop recommendations to the Board through committees. The students are eager to work with the endowment and investment committee. Chair Smith allowed James Smith '18, a member of UNCA Divest to read a statement to the Board about advancing clean energy and divesting in fossil fuels. His statement is below:

*I would like to thank you on behalf of UNCA Divest and the student body for allowing us the opportunity to voice our concerns regarding the divestment of UNC Asheville's endowment.*

*We are here today because we believe that our position as a public, liberal arts institution requires bold, decisive action on social fronts such as divestment. Only two days ago, Harvard University paused direct investments in the fossil fuel industry, reaffirming national precedent for divestment set by schools such as UMass, UC Berkeley, Yale, and locally, Brevard College and Warren Wilson University.*

*The strategic purpose of divestment is to change our behavior, not corporations. It is to revoke the social license that allows this intrinsically catastrophic business model to persist. It would only make sense to remove ourselves from industries whose work is contrary to our "commitment to sustainability and support of the natural environment, human communities, and the financial health of the institution", as is stated in UNC Asheville's strategic plan.*

*I must object to pitting climate action against scholarships. If "access to UNCA" is of such paramount importance, why is it presumed to be the first thing to succumb to budget pressure?*

*By posing this tradeoff, you inadvertently reinforce one of the fossil fuel industry's most pernicious arguments against climate action – that it would disproportionately harm the economically disadvantaged, as if selling coal and oil were a humanitarian campaign.*

*If it is wrong to cause severe damage to the planet and to future and present generations of humans, then it is wrong to profit from such activities. By holding investments that sanction and legitimize the behavior that leads to such damage, we are subsequently endorsing the very business model which makes climate change education necessary in the first place.*

*Had UNCA divested when students first asked, the endowment would be better off. The declining financial performance of fossil fuels is structural, and likely to continue. You have some terrific financial professionals at your disposal, so we would not expect you to defer to our investment advice. As a governing body, administration and Board of Trustees now has the chance to better align UNCA with its' own mission statement in shifting ourselves away from the dying investment of fossil fuels. Divestment campaigners are not asking you to give the money to Greenpeace instead, or even insisting that it all go into clean energy. The demand is simply to stop aiding and abetting this assault on the livability of the planet and on the human and intellectual virtues that UNCA exists to serve.*

*With all of this being said, we appreciate your time and hope that you consider all that we have brought to your attention today. Divestment is a very important issue and it resonates with many students, faculty, and staff, campus wide. Taking a stance toward divesting would not only be supporting campus values, but also exhibiting further implementation of UNCA's mission statement.*

*Thank you for working with us on this issue and we look forward to collaborating closely in the future soon to come.*

Chair Smith reminded the Board of two resolutions the Board passed in 2016: to UNC Management to encourage the advancement of clean energy investments, and to create a student advised investment fund. The Foundation Board also passed the same resolution. Chair Smith noted that the Endowment and Investment Committee will meet soon.

### **Approval of the Minutes of the February 17, 2017, Meeting of the Board of Trustees**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

**VOTED:** To approve the minutes of the February 17, 2017.

### **Report of the April 27, 2017, Meeting of the Audit Committee**

Trustee Davis delivered the report on behalf of the Audit Committee.

Chancellor Grant introduced the new Internal Auditor to the committee, Suzanne Bryson. Suzanne joined UNC Asheville in 2006 as the Internal Auditor, but was soon reassigned to other more pressing duties as the Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance. She has over 25 years of experience and the committee is looking forward to working with her. Suzanne will begin her new role officially on Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Suzanne updated the committee on the Internal Audit Plan for 2016-2017 and is excited to get started on updating the risk assessment work that Monique Taylor completed, as well as other audit reports due this year.

### **Report of the April 27, 2017, Meeting of the Administration and Finance Committee**

Trustee Patel delivered the report on behalf of the Administration and Finance Committee.

The committee heard several updates including the recent post-issuance tax compliance policy as part of the Debt Policy that was approved by the Board in December, construction activities and contingency line items that will be discussed with the Construction Manager at Risk, and an update on Owen and Carmichael Hall phases and the recently acquired property on Riverside Drive by the UNC Asheville Foundation.

John Pierce, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance walked the committee through the financial aspects of the recent 30-year bond sale. These bonds were issued to provide funds for construction projects, including furnishings of the new residence hall and Highsmith. With an A1 Moody's rating, our interest was secured at a competitive rate of 3.99%. Trustee Patel thanked the team in Administration and Finance for their work throughout the process with Moody's and other financial activities this past year – John Pierce, Mary Hall, David Todd, Steve Birkhover, Clayton Fogg, Suzanne Bryson, and Amanda Baranski.

Trustee Patel also thanked Chancellor Grant for her leadership.

### **Report of the April 27, 2017, Meeting of the Advancement Committee**

Trustee Stevens delivered the report on behalf of the Advancement Committee.

The goal set by General Administration for 2016 is just over \$3.9 million. To date in cash we raised over \$4.2 million, and expect to end the fiscal year at \$4.4 million.

The committee met Savannah Purdy, a graduating senior who is the 2017 CASE (Council for Advancement and Support of Education) Intern this summer in the Advancement Office. Her work will address the challenges facing Advancement operations related to the changing landscape of telephone outreach, particularly Student Call Centers. In addition to her work in the office, she will have the opportunity to travel to Washington D.C. to attend a national CASE Conference.

The University is undergoing a feasibility study for a major fundraising initiative. Vice Chancellor Willis, Trustee Stevens, Trustee Lutovsky, and Leslie Casse, Chair of the Foundation Board met with two consultants, and one has been selected to move forward.

In the fall, UNC Asheville will celebrate its 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. There will be many events to celebrate this milestone and we will hear more as planning continues.

The Bulldog Challenge raised \$106,000 this year.

On May 16 and 17, UNC Asheville will host 300 staff from across the UNC System for the UNC Advancement Professional Development Symposium. Sue Cunningham, President and CEO of CASE, will be on campus to give a keynote address on May 16 at 3 p.m. All trustees are invited.

Trustee Stevens thanked all trustees for their participation in the Board Challenge (100% participation). Chair Smith echoed Trustee Stevens and thanked the Board for their participation.

### **Report of the April 27, 2017, Meeting of the Student Affairs Committee**

Trustee Briggs delivered the report on behalf of the Student Affairs Committee.

The committee heard from three incredible students about their employability in various jobs on campus and their growth and development during that process; due in part to a student employee assessment process developed by Student Affairs. All are heavily involved on campus and are evaluated based on four metrics: professionalism, communication, critical thinking, and problem solving. All spoke about their maturation process from their first year on campus through the present day.

Trustee Briggs thanked Vice Chancellor Haggard, Jill Moffitt, and all staff in Student Affairs for their leadership in developing our students and this process. Trustee White also thanked Vice Chancellor Haggard for his leadership.

Trustees noted the importance of student employment and how important it is to student success.

### **Report of the April 27, 2017, Meeting of the Athletic Committee**

Trustee Briggs delivered the report on behalf of the Athletics Committee.

The committee heard from student-athletes and coaches from women's golf, basketball, tennis, swimming, and indoor track and field. The students highlighted their accomplishments as individuals and as a team this season, on the playing field and in the classroom. Trustee Briggs noted it was a powerful committee meeting, hearing directly from the student-athletes, and as a University we should be proud of the incredible talent we have in the classroom and on the field.

### **Report of the April 18, 2017, Meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee**

Trustee Long delivered the report on behalf of the Academic Affairs Committee.

Steve McKellips, Senior Director of Admissions and Financial Aid, joined the committee meeting and reflected on his first two months. Admissions has a strong foundation and Steve's goals are to build on this foundation. One area to do this is to bring together Admissions and Financial Aid teams to work more closely, so they are working together more fluidly. This will help our prospective students as they are looking to attend UNC Asheville.

Chancellor Grant noted that we are moving towards a true enrollment management model, and part of her charge to the new director coming in was to knit all of these pieces together. There will be more emphasis on this in the next year; not just students coming in but successfully graduating. Chancellor Grant shared her excitement in Steve's leadership and thanked the team in Admissions which has done an amazing job in a period of transition.

### **Faculty Senate Update**

Dr. Brian Butler reported to the Board of Trustees on behalf of the Faculty Senate.

Faculty Senate recently approved Interdisciplinary Certificates and a minor in American Indian and Indigenous Studies. They are working on the creation of a Faculty Conciliator or Ombudsman process, a less formal intervention for employment and faculty issues which can be resolved without resorting to formal processes.

Faculty Senate has been working more closely with Staff Council. The chair will attend each other's meetings and communicate on important issues for both faculty and staff. Dr. Butler noted the support of the administration has encouraged collaboration and open communication across campus.

Childcare continues to be an issue. Faculty Senate and Staff Council are working together to creatively think about this topic. This is a problem across Asheville, not just on our campus, as licensing, affordability, proximity, and salary ranges continue to play a part. Nicole Norian, Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, is in discussions with her counterparts across the system, as we are not the only campus with this issue.

This meeting is Dr. Butler's last meeting as Chair of Faculty Senate – a new chair will be announced next week. Chancellor Grant, Chair Smith, and the Trustees thanked Dr. Butler for his leadership, friendship and accomplishments over the last two years. They asked that the updates from Faculty Senate continue to be a part of the meetings going forward as they have added a great richness to them.

Dr. Butler thanked the Board for all they do for the University and said it was a true pleasure to be a part of the meetings.

### **Report of the March 3, 2017, Meeting of the Executive Committee**

Chair Smith delivered the report on behalf of the Executive Committee.

As a recommendation from Chancellor Grant, the executive committee approved Clifton Williams as General Counsel. Chancellor Grant thanked John Pierce, Carla Willis, and Janet Cone for serving on the search committee, as well as Trustee Prather, who represented the trustees. Trustee Patel noted the strong pool of candidates in the search process and, in the end, the successful candidate was the internal one.

At the last Board Meeting, Trustees recommended the following candidates to serve on the Endowment Fund Board: Michael Andry, Joe Kiley, George Beverly, Chair Smith, Trustee Patel, and Chancellor Grant (exofficio).

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

**VOTED:** To approve the candidates to serve on the Endowment Fund Board.

There is one more vacancy to fill on the Endowment Fund Board, which will be further discussed in future meetings.

### **Approval to go into Closed Session**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

**VOTED:** To go into Closed Session to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to G.S. § 143.318.10 (e); to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, or condition of appointment of a public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee, as allowed by sections G.S. § 143-318.11 (a) (1) and (6) of the North Carolina General Statutes.

*Closed Session began at 10:02 a.m.*

*Closed Session ended at 10:16 a.m.*

*[The Board took a 10 minute break at 10:16 a.m.]*

### **Chancellor's Report**

Chancellor Grant highlighted Trustee White's successes over the last year as Student Government President and Student Trustee. Trustee White has taken Student Government and put them on the map. There was an award established in 1995 that recognizes the Student Delegation of the Year, and this year the Delegation of the Year was the one led by Trustee White at UNC Asheville; Charlie White, Tim Hussey, Tatiana Miller, and Jasmine Dorlan. Trustee White will attend Duke University Law School in August.

Trustee White addressed the Board. He noted coming to campus four years ago and having no idea that he came to a place where the faculty, staff, and students would change him the way they did. He found his interests in government, election rights, and the legislative process. He mastered a second language, served as a summer intern with the UNC System, completed an undergraduate research project, and served as Student Trustee and Student Government President. Trustee White stressed his appreciation for the Board and their commitment and dedication to students.

Trustee White introduced Tim Hussey, incoming Student Government President and Student Trustee. Tim is a rising senior majoring in psychology and sociology, from Greenville, North Carolina. He has held several positions on campus including: student caller supervisor in the Advancement Office, resident assistant, peer mentor, and Student Body Vice President. Tim is also a member of the Black Student Association and will be a student supervisor for all student organizations in the fall. Tim is excited to be a member of the Board of Trustees and is eager to learn from the Trustees in the upcoming year.

Chancellor Grant recognized the incredible teamwork between Charlie and Tim.

Chancellor Grant updated the Trustees on several items. Highlights include the Board of Trustees and Board of Governors appointments, the \$700,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Center for Jewish Studies, hosting campus conversations around immigration and coming together as a community, Undergraduate Research Conference, successes in athletics, and many celebrations prior to graduation.

We have many wonderful partnerships across the community. We hosted the Mountain Area Workforce Development Board, where members of our faculty presented on the work our students are doing in the community. Our partnership with Mission Health is continuing to go deeper, with office space on campus and jump starting Healthy Campus 2020.

The owl family is doing well and construction is underway. Chancellor Grant thanked Dr. Andrew Laughlin, Assistant Professor in Environmental Studies for helping to guide us every step of the way.

In the next few weeks, we will graduate 480 students and honor four community members with honorary degrees: Ko Barrett, Olson Huff, Stoney Lamar, and Ella Bird.

As part of Chancellor Grant's report, faculty and students presented on the University's Chemistry Scholars Program and ACES Scholars. The two programs were funded through a program called S-STEM (Scholarships in STEM) by the National Science Foundation. The goal of the program is to fund institutions to then award scholarships to students with two requirements: financial need and academic merit.

