



**Board of Trustees Meeting
December 15, 2020
Virtual
Minutes**

Call to Order

Chair Janis King Robinson called the December Board of Trustees meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and reminded the Board that the meeting will be conducted pursuant to the new amendments to the Open Meetings Act.

Invocation

Trustee Jimmy Chambers rendered the invocation.

Roll Call

Trustee Stephanie Johnson, Board Secretary, conducted roll call. Members present included Trustees Phyllis Bosomworth, Kim Brown, Lynne Bunch, Andy Culpepper, Jimmy Chambers, Christine Evans, Stephanie Johnson, Janis King Robinson, Paul Tine and Kennis Wilkins.

State Government Ethics Act

Chair Janis King Robinson read the State Government Ethics Act. No one mentioned a conflict of interest based on the materials received.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made and seconded (Wilkins/Johnson) to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2020 Board meeting. Roll call vote recorded unanimous approval. Motion passed.

Special Recognition

At this time, Chair Robinson, on behalf of the ECSU Board of Trustees, acknowledged Dr. Althea Riddick for her service to the university. Dr. Riddick recently retired.

Chair Robinson also extended courtesy to Athletic Director George Bright on the loss of his mother.

The Board then congratulated Vice Chancellor Gary Brown on completing his work to receive his Ph.D. degree.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion was made and seconded (Bunch/Tine) to approve the consent agenda, which included:

1. Approval of the FY21 General Fund Budget
2. Approval of the FY22 Tuition and Fees
3. EC Airport Hangar Lease
4. UAS Facility Project

Roll call vote recorded unanimous approval. Motion passed.

Board of Trustees of the Endowment

During the Board of Trustees of the Endowment Committee, Chair Robinson referenced the summary provided by Vice Chancellor Lisa McClinton and Controller, Gina Knight, on the Endowment Fund, noting that the Performance Overview since inception is 5.08% for the ECSU Foundation and 4.89% for the ECSU Endowment.

Committee on Academic Excellence and Strategic Growth

Vice Chair Lynne Bunch provided an overview of information shared with the Board members which included an update on the SACSCOC Reaffirmation timeline. The due date for the Focus Report and QEP is February 1 with the on-site visit scheduled virtually for March 15 – 18, 2021. Provost Ward provided updates concerning Spring 2021 courses with 53% being face to face and 47% being online. In the fall semester, the following accreditation reports were submitted, and onsite visits held virtually for AABI, Aviation Science; AACSB, Business Administration, Accounting and Sport Management; and ABET, Engineering Technology. Provost Ward provided information regarding the Co-Admission Agreement with Vance-Granville Community College, along with ECSU's continued partnership with College of the Albemarle and Pitt Community College. A video regarding the collaboration with Wake Tech Community College centering around ECSU's Emergency Management and Unmanned Aircraft System programs was also shared. An update was provided regarding the \$1 million COVID-19 Mitigation Grant, the 11 counties that have been served in the area to date, and how the project is being used to promote interdisciplinary collaborations on campus. Provost Ward also highlighted several on campus and virtual student engagement events that were offered this semester. Enrollment data for Spring 2021 and Fall 2021 was provided and showed increases in both applications and confirmations. Information on ECSU's inclusion in the Common College Black Application as well as the Winter Open House was also included. Lastly, a video documenting the Fall 2020 semester was also shown.

Committee on Student Excellence

Trustee Kim Brown shared the following updates with the Board from Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs (Dr. Gary Brown), Athletics Director (Mr. George Bright), and Student Government Association, President (Mr. Jimmy Chambers):

Division of Student Affairs:

- Fall 2020 Highlights: Programming and services hybrid and innovative; Student Health & Counseling Services – 63 confirmed COVID cases (July-Nov 2020); total of 1,070 COVID tests administered; Residential Life – 80% Occupancy for Fall 2020, VC Brown shared a video - students feedback related to this semester and the challenges of COVID; Project GAP – A workforce development initiative funded by Golden Leaf Foundation; Voter Engagement activities, funding and student and community impact.
- 2020-2025 Strategic Plan – Year 1 Progress: 2.1.5: 58 virtual events sponsored; 4,960 students participating in events since August; 2.4.6: Awarded \$192,829 in grants since August 2020; 2.6.4: Alumni/Career Development (critical conversations) hosting Alumni: held Virtual Career Fair; 2.7.1: Implemented a Campus Climate Survey: Exceeded the goal by 7.4% for a total of 537 respondents.
- COVID Preparedness for Spring; Move in scheduled for January 14-18, 2021; requiring a negative test prior to moving into the resident halls;
- New Hires: Project GAP; hired a director, 2 job coaches; Governor’s Crime Commission; hired a prevention & awareness coordinator and a Victim Advocate.

Department of Athletics:

- Hiring of an Associate Director of Athletics for Compliance and a Faculty Athletics Representative.
- CIAA has delayed the start of all winter sports seasons which includes men & women’s basketball; track and bowling; January 9 is the start date for basketball season; game management related to COVID, temperature checks and screening;
- Strategic Plan: goals 2.5.2; 2.5.3 (delayed due to COVID) and 2.5.7, develop a facilities improvement plan that includes project prioritization, capital and operating budgets and fundraising plans; efforts to respond to mental health for Athletes by providing tips and tools for mental health wellness;
- Student Highlights; Andrea Nevola and Bia Neto (International Student Experience) and Kywaun Dukes (“I’m thankful for football, It saved me”) intriguing story on ECSU’s website; & Alumni Johnnie Walton named a Black College Football Hall of Fame 2021 Finalist;
- Update on Reimagine Roebuck and pictures showing the progress was shared.

Student Government Association:

- SGA President Jimmy Chambers provided updates, which included student highlights; Voter Engagement, Wellness Day, pass/fail options, improving safety measures on campus, UNC-ASG advocacy week and working to implement a system where students can submit their own maintenance request.
- Shared pictures of various events that took place on campus to include March to the Polls, Black Voter's Matter initiative, hosting Chief Judge Beasley, and tuition and fees meeting student forum.

Committee on Operational Excellence

Trustee Phyllis Bosomworth provided the updates in the areas of Operations, Information Technology and Communications and Marketing. She announced the new Director of Design & Construction, Onyel Bhola. She also shared updates of ongoing campus projects, which includes:

800 Ton Chiller

- Bids were received and came under anticipated budget; this provides good news as funding can be allocated to other renovations. Superior Mechanical was the lowest bidder and we have submitted bids for contract release to State Construction Office (SCO). Upon release, construction will start during Summer 2021.

Bedell Cafeteria

- This project is complete; all underground waterlines and gas lines have been replaced.

Hurricane Dorian Repairs

- JKF Architecture onsite investigating roofs for repairing and will be submitting designs for SCO approval in the spring so construction can begin Summer 2021.

Bias Hall

- Slight owner requested delay with Bias Hall roof assessment; ECSU Foundation provided assistance in getting a new roof for Bias Hall, this slight delay will not affect the April 2021 opening of Bias. The Foundation was thanked for their support.

Moore Hall/GR Little

- Proceeding on schedule for Moore Hall, as furniture is being ordered. Date of completion February 15th.
- GR Little is proceeding on schedule, as furniture is being ordered and date of completion is also February 15th.

Additional information included the following facilities updates:

- **HVAC upgrades** – focused on preferred alternate process to contract with Trane so work can be done faster.
- **Williams Hall** - outside columns have been painted.
- **Johnson Hall** – 90% completed in upgrades such as interior/exterior painting.
- **Jenkins Complex** – lab floors were started over the weekend and bathroom upgrades will provide a better user experience.
- **Trigg Hall** – water intrusion replacement was done, and interior repairs are underway. Conversations with the Historical Commission to replace the roof for longer life.
- **Roebuck Track** – the track surface and new fencing has been added to accompany the new football field.
- **Fine Arts** – resurface stage with black coded flooring, carpet repair and the new flooring in front of stage in addition to 2nd floor carpet replacement has been completed.

A six-year capital plan that focuses on things that cannot be seen is being discussed; backup generators, electrical and mechanical upgrading and campus main switch will sustain the University for Long Term Usage. Collaborative discussions with UNC-G to start seeking information on how firms were selected to formulate their master plans and how cost effective it could be. More information will be provided during the March Board of Trustees meeting.

The committee also approved the following action items:

- A Hanger Lease at EC Regional Airport for \$1,500.00 monthly.
- UAS Design Approval - *approval to move forward as funding becomes available.

Department of Information Technology Updates:

CIO Suresh Murugan reported that DIT updates were:

- Policy Manual and Codes on Chapter 1400.1, 1400.2 and 1400.3.
- 1400.1 – IT Governance ensures policy is aligned with university strategic plan; DIT is implementing an IT Governance Committee for ECSU.
- 1400.2 – Information Security – ensures the security on infrastructure and being up to par with industry standards and framework.
- 1400.3 – User Identity and Access - Chrisie Dillard spearheaded the completion of DUO two-factor authentication deployment. This system has been implemented.

In addition, it was reported that the cyber security breach ECSU experienced has been taken care of and all system upgrades and maintenance upgrades were being done continuously. Carbon Black, a 24/7 monitor for malware and ransomware was being considered.

Communications and Marketing Updates:

Michelle Ball, Executive Director for Strategic Communications reported that:

- Advertising, videos, social media, website and ECSU News encompasses billboards throughout NC, print advertising in higher education publications and tourism brochures.
- Social Media and paid ad campaigns for events such as open houses, orientations and key deadlines generate engagement opportunities for ECSU to reach audiences that otherwise would not seek information from the webpage. There were 280 landing page views for ECSU that these avenues generated. Website Banners promote all achievements and events to show points of prides and profiles of freshmen. ECSU wants to be able to tell the ECSU story and these are what Communications and Marketing strive to continue to help with recruitment and brand recognition.

Committee on Finance, Audit and University Advancement

Trustee Andy Culpepper shared the following information as updates for the Committee on Finance, Audit and University Advancement:

Vice-Chancellor for Business & Finance Lisa McClinton introduced Budget Director Robert Thibeault who presented two action items: Approval of the proposed FY21 General Fund Budget and approval of the FY22 Fee & Rate proposals. The Committee approved both items. Vice-Chancellor McClinton then gave updates on the FY21 General Fund and Trust & Auxiliary budgets, an updated financial outlook for FY21, and Business & Finance strategic goals.

Chief Audit Officer Sharnita Parker presented informational items only, which was a summary of completed reports. The three reports completed this quarter were: Architectural Services Allegation, Student Conduct Disciplinary Process and Disaster Preparedness and Continuity of Operations.

Vice Chancellor Anita Walton provided the committee with an update on fundraising progress, the solicitation plan, engagement plan and University Advancement's strategic planning. Total dollars received to date is \$372,582. There are currently \$225,000 in funded proposals that are not included in the FY21 total as the dollars have not been received. We continue to see steady growth of new donors with a focus on growing the number of alumni donors. Steady trends for donor participation are reflected across the various constituents. Alumni participation has increased. While the number of alumni donors has increased, the amount of alumni dollars is down. Further progress on fundraising was shared and a summary of the number of proposals submitted, the number funded, and the number under review were discussed. Leadership giving for both the Foundation Board and the Board of Trustees is at

50% or greater. The 1891 Campaign raised \$55,058 and brought in 87 first time donors. Giving Tuesday had 86 donors and raised \$59,613, which included a \$50,000 gift from the Duke Energy Foundation. An overview of the solicitation plan for the remainder of the year was reviewed. The engagement efforts that took place this fall were reviewed, and upcoming plans were shared which include the ECSU Foundation Scholarship Gala. It will be held virtually on March 13. Finally, an update on the strategic plan was given.

Committee on Regional Development

Trustee Paul Tine, Chair, shared information on Strategic Initiative #6:

Dr. Wilkins provided an update on Strategic Initiative #6:

- The Bylaws, Charter and Expectations documents have been created for the Board of Visitors.
- The Economic Summit to be hosted by ECSU was discussed with the next step established for inviting potential regional and state partners to assist with the planning process.

A presentation on the Small Business and Technology Development Center data year to date was shared:

Businesses served - 220

Business Counseling Hours - 1,890

Capital Formation Created - \$11,484,664

Jobs Created/Retained - 855

An overview of the state and federal election results was given highlighting a significant percentage of freshman in the state legislature, a republican majority still held in the state House and Senate and the US Senate awaiting the runoffs in Georgia to be held in January.

Committee on University Governance

Chair Janis Robinson referenced the personnel matters provided to the Board members. Human Resources presented an overview of findings from the Employee Engagement Survey for 2020. Legal Affairs reviewed the Risk Register and its relation to the University's strategic plan. Additionally, a Legal Affairs update was discussed in closed session.

Chancellor's Report

Chancellor Karrie Dixon greeted the Trustees, staff and guests joining the virtual meeting. Chancellor shared information relative to the town halls hosted to address concerns with the students and employees. She noted that ECSU has successfully kept residential students on campus while safely managing community spread of COVID-19. Another town hall celebrated the progress the campus has made towards improving

employee morale and confidence in leadership. She noted the two highlights from Winter Commencement: conferring Doctor of Public Service to Mrs. Lenora Jarvis Mackey and the designation of Professor Emeritus to Drs. Ronald and Velma Blackmon.

Chancellor Dixon then transitioned to a few slides to show some of the renovation projects. Chancellor thanked the Board members for their continued service to ECSU.

Motion was made and seconded (Brown/Wilkins) to go into closed session. By roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Once the Board returned to open session and there being no other business, Chair Robinson adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwendolyn Sanders

Gwen Sanders

Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees & Deputy Chief of Staff