

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA
Atlanta, Georgia
April 18 – 19, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met on Tuesday, April 18 and Wednesday, April 19, 2023, in the Library Technology Center – Third Floor, at the University of North Georgia, 82 College Circle, Dahlonega, Georgia, and simultaneously accessible by BOR Webcast. Board Chair Harold Reynolds called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. on April 18. Present on both days, in addition to Board Chair Reynolds, were Vice Chair Erin Hames; Regents Doug Aldridge; Tom Bradbury; Richard T. Evans; W. Allen Gudenrath; Bárbara Rivera Holmes; Samuel D. Holmes; James M. Hull; Cade Joiner; Patrick C. Jones; C. Everett Kennedy, III; Sarah-Elizabeth Langford; Jose R. Perez; Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; and James K. Syfan, III. Chancellor Sonny Perdue was also present on both days. Regent T. Dallas Smith participated remotely on Tuesday, April 18, and was present on Wednesday, April 19. Regent Lowery Houston May was present on Tuesday, April 18, and participated remotely on Wednesday, April 19. Regent C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr. participated remotely on both days.

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

The University of North Georgia Corps of Cadets Color Guard presented the colors.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Emma Mitchell, Student Government Association Vice President at the University of North Georgia, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SAFETY BRIEFING

Greg Williams, University of North Georgia Chief of Police, gave the safety briefing.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Regent Bárbara Rivera Holmes and seconded by Regent C. Everett Kennedy, III, the Regents present voted unanimously to approve the minutes of February 14, February 24, March 1, March 9, March 14 – 15, and March 31, 2023.

PRESIDENTIAL PRESENTATION AND CAMPUS SPOTLIGHT: “EDUCATING LEADERS FOR A DIVERSE AND GLOBAL SOCIETY”

President Bonita Jacobs of the University of North Georgia (“UNG”) led the Campus Spotlight, “Educating Leaders for a Diverse and Global Society.” President Jacobs began the presentation by sharing background on UNG. She shared that in January 1873, 150 years ago, the agricultural college provided quality, free educational opportunities to the young men and women of UNG – many of whom were not able to or could not afford to travel for education. Dr. Jacobs continued by explaining that the college began as a land grant university through a partnership with the University of Georgia and funding from the historic Morrill Land Grant Acts. She shared that the college attracted students from counties throughout North Georgia and from as far away as Savannah. Dr. Jacobs reported that the first class had 177 students – 98 men and 79 women, which was during a time that most institutions did not admit women. She also noted that UNG was the

first college in Georgia, public or private, to grant a bachelor's degree to a woman. Dr. Jacobs announced that currently UNG is one of six federally designated senior military colleges in the nation. The Corps of Cadets is extremely important to the State of Georgia; about two hundred UNG cadets serve simultaneously in the Georgia Army National Guard and UNG has produced more than fifty percent of the new ROTC commissioned officers for the Guard each year. This is one program that highlights UNG's educating leaders for a diverse and global society. Dr. Jacobs also stated that because leadership permeates throughout all UNG's courses, the Board of Regents has recognized UNG as a State leadership institution.

To further support the campus spotlight, other members of UNG's faculty and students shared their experiences at UNG. Dr. Chris Jespersen, Dean, UNG's College of Arts and Letters, shared the composition and successes of his department, such as Film and Television production, which has allowed UNG students to produce independent films. Ms. Amisha Nair, 2022 UNG graduate, shared her experiences at UNG and current success as a filmmaker and photographer. Mr. Chris Mitchiner, Executive Director of the Institute for Cyber Operation, highlighted UNG's cyber security program by talking about its implementation of a new national standard of cyber security and that UNG is designated as a national center of academic excellence in cyber defense. Next Mr. Scott Snow shared with the Board his experiences as a Cyber Security major and language enthusiast. He also expressed his aspirations to work for the NSA or any federal agency after graduation. Colonel Joe Matthews, Commandant of Cadets, highlighted the Corps of Cadets and spoke about the leadership labs that UNG offers. Ms. Anna Kubas, Fall 2022 UNG graduate, highlighted the cadet program and shared that she is a recruiter and a semi-finalist for Fulbright this year. These experiences firmly support UNG's spotlight – "Educating Leaders for a Diverse and Global Society."

SPRING ENROLLMENT

Vice Chancellor of Research and Policy Analysis Angela Bell gave a presentation on Spring 2023 Student Enrollment Update. Dr. Bell began by presenting a brief overview of Spring 2023 USG enrollment, which included the System's overall total Spring enrollment of 311,484 students. She then presented the total student enrollment by university categories as follows: research universities student enrollment is 138,968; comprehensive universities 83,990; state universities 55,508; and state colleges 33,018. Dr. Bell continued her presentation by highlighting the Spring enrollment Undergraduate vs. Graduate five-year change. There was a -5% decrease in undergraduate enrollment and a 24% increase in graduate and professional enrollment from 2019 to 2023. Her presentation went on to show that the number of Spring beginning Freshmen has decreased by 14% from 2019 to 2023 and increased by 10% from 2022 to 2023. Additionally, in-State enrollment has decreased by 1.4% and out-of-State enrollment has decreased by 0.6% from 2022 to 2023.

GEORGIA DEGREES PAY UPDATE

Vice Chancellor of Research and Policy Analysis Angela Bell gave a report on Georgia Degrees Pay Update. Dr. Bell said that this is the one stop USG website that provides tools to get information on the cost of attending college in the USG and comparing institutions on student outcomes including their earnings after graduation. She continued by saying that USG has made enhancements to help students understand how the number of hours a student enrolls in each term affects time to degree and the degree's total cost. Dr. Bell continued by saying this enhancement

was requested by the Board in August 2022. The second enhancement adds national wage outcome information for USG graduates by institution and academic area. She noted that previously USG only had wage outcomes for those who work in Georgia. Dr. Bell continued to report that the third enhancement provides information by institution academic program area on the amount of loan debt past USG graduates have accrued. This allows students to see how the associated monthly loan payments compare with earnings for the programs.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: FINANCE AND BUSINESS OPERATIONS

The Committee on Finance & Business Operations met as a committee of the whole at approximately 2:31 p.m. During its meeting led by Committee Chair Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. four information items were presented to the Board and upon motions properly made and seconded, the Board members present unanimously approved the request for Multi-Year Leasing Contract Value Authority.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. The Committee received an information item on a Fiscal Update on the FY24 Budget landscape.
2. The Committee received an information item proposing a revision to Board of Regents Policy Manual, Section 7.2.2 Auxiliary Enterprises and Student Activities Revenues and Expenditures.
3. The Committee received an information item proposing a revision to Board of Regents Policy Manual, Sections 7.3.1.5 Tuition Agreements with Corporations, Organizations, and Other Legal Entities.
4. The Committee received an information item on the USG Capital Liability Management Plan.

APPROVAL ITEM

5. Upon a motion by Regent James M. Hull and seconded by Regent T. Dallas Smith, the Committee approved the request for Multi-Year Leasing Contract Value Authority.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 3:23 p.m. on Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: ORGANIZATION AND LAW

The Committee on Organization and Law met as a committee of the whole at approximately 3:23 p.m. During its meeting led by Committee Chair Sarah-Elizabeth Langford, upon motions properly made and seconded, the Board members present unanimously approved the following items:

APPROVAL ITEMS:

1. Upon a motion by Regent James M. Hull and seconded by Regent Richard T. Evans, the committee approved the awarding of an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters Degree by Kennesaw State University to (1) Norman Radow; and upon a motion by Regent Richard T. Evans and seconded by Regent Doug Aldridge, the committee approved the awarding of an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters Degree by Kennesaw State University to (2) Audrey Morgan.

2. Upon a motion by Regent C. Everett Kennedy, III and seconded by Regent Jose R. Perez, the committee approved the awarding of an Honorary Doctor of Arts and Letters Degree by Valdosta State University to Jerry Jennett.

EXECUTIVE SESSION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

The Organization and Law Committee met in executive session during the full Board's executive session on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, to discuss personnel matters and student records. Minutes regarding this executive session are in the full Board minutes, and an affidavit regarding the executive session is on file with the Office of the Secretary to the Board.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the committee, and upon motion properly made by Regent Richard T. Evans and seconded by Regent Samuel D. Holmes, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 3:28 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: INTERNAL AUDIT, RISK AND COMPLIANCE

The Committee on Internal Audit, Risk and Compliance of the University System of Georgia met as a committee of the whole at approximately 3:28 p.m. Committee Chair James K. Syfan, III called the meeting to order. During its meeting Chairman Syfan called for an executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Syfan called for an executive session at approximately 3:29 p.m. to discuss personnel matters and attorney work product. With the motion properly made by Regent James M. Hull and seconded by Regent Doug Aldridge, the Regents present voted unanimously to go into executive session; Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. was excused. An affidavit regarding this executive session is on file in the Office of the Secretary to the Board.

Upon motion properly made by Regent Samuel D. Holmes and seconded by Regent Lowery Houston May, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the Executive Session at approximately 4:14 p.m., no actions were taken in the Executive Session

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 4:14 p.m.

RECESS

On Tuesday, April 18, 2023, the Board recessed for the day at approximately 4:15 p.m.

RECONVENE

On Wednesday, April 19, 2023, Board Chair Harold Reynolds called the meeting back into session at 9:02 a.m. and announced that no action was taken during the Internal Audit, Risk and Compliance executive session the previous day.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Warren Walker, Cadet Colonel at the University of North Georgia, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SAFETY BRIEFING

Greg Williams, Chief of Police, gave the safety briefing.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Committee on Economic Development met as a committee of the whole at approximately 9:05 a.m. During its meeting led by Committee Chair Bárbara Rivera Holmes the following information item was presented to the Board.

INFORMATION ITEM

1. University of North Georgia – Regional Education and Economic Development Partnerships

Dr. Bonita Jacobs, President of the University of North Georgia, led a presentation with UNG faculty and students that highlighted how institutional partnerships are addressing the education, healthcare, and industry talent needs of Northeast Georgia. Other attendees included Dr. Karla Swafford, Hall County Schools Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Melisa Rouse, Northeast Georgia Health System Executive Director of Nursing Excellence and Research, and Mr. Daniel Bacus, Syfan Logistics Director of Community and Academic Outreach.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee of the Whole, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:41 a.m. on Wednesday, April 19, 2023.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: REAL ESTATE AND FACILITIES

The Committee on Real Estate and Facilities met as a committee of the whole at approximately 9:41 a.m. Committee Chair T. Dallas Smith called the meeting to order. Unless otherwise noted, the Regents present approved all items unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEM

1. The Board received information about an action taken by the Chancellor to authorize a budget modification for project number BR-67-2202, Griffin Bell Conference Center Renovation and Addition, for Georgia Southwestern State University.

CONSENT ITEMS

2. The Committee authorized project number BR-30-2308, Area 2 Housing Electrical Infrastructure, for Georgia Institute of Technology.
3. The Committee authorized project number BR-30-2309, 20kV Loop B Expansion and Automation, for Georgia Institute of Technology.
4. The Committee authorized project number BR-65-2301, New Music Practice Facility, for Georgia College and State University.
5. The Committee authorized project number BR-90-2305, Crawford Lab Envelope and Infrastructure Improvements, Marietta Campus, for Kennesaw State University.

6. The Committee approved a modification to the name of Georgia Southern University's new athletic practice facility to the "Anthony P. Tippins Family Training Facility".

APPROVAL ITEMS

7. The Committee approved the ranking of the design professional and construction management firms for project number BR-10-2304, Riverbend Research Building 1 Addition, for the University of Georgia. The ranked design professional firms were:

- 1) Page Southland Page, Inc. (Atlanta)
- 2) Lord Aeck Sargent Planning & Design, Inc. (Atlanta)
- 3) HKS, Inc. (Atlanta)

The ranked construction management firms were:

- 1) Sheridan Construction (Macon)
- 2) McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. (Atlanta)
- 3) JE Dunn Construction Company (Atlanta)

Regent James M. Hull recused himself from the vote on this item prior to the motion to approve, which was made by Regent Cade Joiner and seconded by Committee Vice Chair C. Everett Kennedy, III.

8. The Committee authorized project number BR-10-2305, Softball Stadium Improvements, for the University of Georgia. The motion to approve was made by Regent Samuel D. Holmes and seconded by Regent James M. Hull.
9. The Committee authorized project number BR-10-2306, Baseball Stadium Expansion and Renovation, for the University of Georgia. The motion to approve was made by Regent Cade Joiner and seconded by Committee Vice Chair C. Everett Kennedy, III.
10. The Committee approved an advance rental payment for Building F located at 55 Collins Industrial Way in Lawrenceville for Georgia Gwinnett College. The Committee further acknowledged that the advance rental payment would allow for the early termination of the corresponding rental agreement, and approved the acquisition of the property as a gift. The motion to approve was made by Regent James M. Hull and seconded by Board Vice Chair Erin Hames.
11. The Committee approved an advance rental payment for the University of North Georgia's Oconee Campus. The Committee further acknowledged that the advance rental payment would allow for the early termination of the ground lease and rental agreement. The motion to approve was made by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., and seconded by Regent Samuel D. Holmes.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:51 a.m. following a motion from Regent Cade Joiner and a second from Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

The Committee on Academic Affairs met as a committee of the whole at approximately 9:52 a.m. During its meeting led by Committee Vice Chair Samuel Holmes, upon motions properly made and seconded, the Board members present approved the following items and information items were also presented:

ACTION ITEMS

1. Upon a motion by Board Vice Chair Erin Hames and seconded by Regent Richard T. Evans the Committee approved revisions to the Board of Regents Policy Manual Section 8.3.5.4 Post Tenure Review and Section 8.3.9.1 Grounds for Removal.
2. Upon a motion by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. and seconded by Regent Richard T. Evans the Committee approved the extension of the temporary test optional admissions for academic year 2024-2025 for 23 of the USG institutions and to require the University of Georgia, Georgia Tech, and Georgia College & State University to use both GPA and standardized tests for admissions decisions, with Georgia College & State University being held harmless if this decision negatively affects admissions. Regent Tom Bradbury voted against the motion.
3. Upon a motion by Regent James M. Hull and seconded by Regent T. Dallas Smith the Committee approved the establishment of a Bachelor of Science with a Major in Neuroscience at Augusta University.
4. Upon a motion by Regent Cade Joiner and seconded by Regent Richard T. Evans the Committee approved the establishment of a Bachelor of Science in Data Science and Analytics at Kennesaw State University.
5. Upon a motion by Regent Cade Joiner and seconded by Regent C. Everett Kennedy, III the Committee approved the establishment of a Nexus Degree in Digital Entertainment, Esports, and Game Development at the University of West Georgia.
6. Upon a motion by Regent Richard T. Evans and seconded by Regent Cade Joiner the Committee approved the termination of four degree programs at the University of West Georgia.
7. Upon a motion by Regent Richard T. Evans and seconded by Regent Cade Joiner the Committee approved the renaming of the existing School of Health Sciences to the Atrium Health Floyd School of Health Sciences at Georgia Highlands College.
8. Upon a motion by Regent James M. Hull and seconded by Regent Cade Joiner the Committee approved the renaming of the existing Academic Learning Center to the Morgan and Bailey Academic Learning Center at Kennesaw State University.
9. Upon a motion by Board Vice Chair Erin Hames and seconded by Regent Richard T. Evans the Committee approved the renaming of the D. Abbott Turner College of Business to the D. Abbott Turner College of Business and Technology at Columbus State

University.

10. Upon a motion by Regent Cade Joiner and seconded by Regent Richard T. Evans the Committee approved a proposed statement of principles regarding academic freedom. The statement, as approved, is attached to these minutes.

CONSENT ITEMS

11. The Committee approved the Establishment of Distinguished Professor in Agriculture at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College.
12. The Committee approved the establishment of the Richard A. Duke Endowment Fund at the Georgia Institute of Technology.
13. The Committee approved the establishment of the Thomas A. Fanning Chair of Equity-Centered Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology.
14. The Committee approved the establishment of the Melvyn P. and Eleanor N. Galin Early Career Professorship at the Georgia Institute of Technology.
15. The Committee approved the establishment of the Kenneth L. Waters Pharmacy Professorship at the University of Georgia.
16. The Committee approved the establishment of the Jane W. Wilson Professorship in Business Law at the University of Georgia.
17. The Committee approved the establishment of the Orkin Professorship in Urban Entomology at the University of Georgia.
18. The Committee approved the establishment of the UGA Small Animal Medicine and Surgery Professorship at the University of Georgia.
19. The Committee approved the establishment of the John & Alice Sands Offensive Coordinator at the University of Georgia.
20. The Committee approved the authorization to rename the Louise McBee Professorship Fund to the Louise McBee Distinguished Professorship in Higher Education at the University of Georgia.
21. The Committee approved the authorization to rename the Dr. Morrill M. Hall Distinguished Professor Educational Administration to the Dr. Morrill M. Hall Chair in Educational Administration at the University of Georgia.
22. The Committee approved the authorization to move 14 Distinguished Chair designation to Distinguished University Chair at Augusta University.
23. The Committee approved the appointment of several named faculty positions at Augusta

University, Columbus State University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, and the University of Georgia.

INFORMATION ITEMS

24. Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dana Nichols provided an update on the technology used for post tenure review.

25. Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs Scot Lingrell provided an update on Board of Regents tuition waivers.

26. Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dana Nichols presented a proposed addition to Board Policy Section 8.3.2.3 Establishment of Termed Positions. The proposed addition will be presented to the Board of Regents at the May board meeting for approval.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:25 a.m.

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Chancellor Sonny Perdue gave his monthly report. He began by stating that it had been a wonderful visit to the University of North Georgia (UNG), and he thanked President Jacobs and her students, faculty, and staff for their hospitality. He went on to say that he had the honor during the legislative session of joining Dr. Jacobs at the state Capitol to celebrate UNG's sesquicentennial and its role as the Military College of Georgia. Chancellor Perdue said that it's quite an accomplishment for a school that more than a century ago was founded in an abandoned U. S. Mint property and that at the time, it was a small agricultural college that happened to have a military education program. He also noted that the college grew up and grew stronger over the last century and recognized Dr. Jacobs as overseeing the consolidation of North Georgia College & State University and Gainesville State College. Chancellor Perdue said that this multi-campus university now serves 18,000 students from Blue Ridge to Oconee County.

Chancellor Perdue continued his report sharing that Dr. Jacobs has announced her upcoming retirement this June. He went on to say that she has too many accomplishments for him to list, but he did compliment her leadership and influence on what UNG has become and where it will go in the future. Chancellor Perdue congratulated Dr. Jacobs on her long career in public higher education and wished her well.

Chancellor Perdue also stated that these types of campus meetings allow the University System Office ("System") to experience the important work of our students, faculty, and staff firsthand and it allows them to also experience the work of the Board and the System firsthand, and to engage in the process. He continued by saying that he has enjoyed the System's relationship with the faculty from across the System. Chancellor Perdue also said that he has met with them candidly and what he finds is it's important for them to understand the process of how decisions are made, what's being done and that their opinions are being taken into consideration; even if they may not agree with overall ending policy, in that way the process has been fair, and there's been respect

toward the shared governance and honoring their opinion.

Chancellor Perdue went on to say that he appreciates the Board's willingness to continue to work with the System on the Test Optional Waiver. He also mentioned that quality, quantity, and competition are the System's driving factors, along with helping students to graduate successfully and enter the workforce. He also said with the state funding formula we need to drive enrollment to sustain our financial health and we are competing with colleges and universities across the South and across the nation for Georgia students who he wants to stay in their home state.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to come before the Board.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Secretary to the Board Christopher McGraw announced that the next Board of Regents meeting will be held on May 16, 2023, at the Board's offices in Atlanta.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board Chair Reynolds called for an executive session at approximately 11:42 a.m. to discuss personnel matters, student records, real estate related matters, and attorney work product. With the motion properly made by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. and seconded by Regent Doug Aldridge, the Regents present voted unanimously to go into executive session. An affidavit regarding this executive session is on file with the Office of the Secretary to the Board.

RECONVENE

Following executive session, Board Chair Harold Reynolds reconvened the Board meeting in its regular session at approximately 12:45 p.m. and announced that the Board took no actions during the executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, and upon a motion properly made by Regent James Hull and seconded by Regent Patrick Jones, the meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.



Harold Reynolds
Chairman, Board of Regents
University System of Georgia



Christopher A. McGraw
Secretary, Board of Regents
University System of Georgia

BOARD OF REGENTS STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM

PRINCIPLE 1: The BOR affirms the 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom (from the American Association of University Professors).

1. “Teachers are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of the results, subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties; but research for pecuniary return should be based upon an understanding with the authorities of the institution.

2. Teachers are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subject, but they should be careful not to introduce into their teaching controversial matter which has no relation to their subject. Limitations of academic freedom because of religious or other aims of the institution should be clearly stated in writing at the time of the appointment.

3. College and university teachers are citizens, members of a learned profession, and officers of an educational institution. When they speak or write as citizens, they should be free from institutional censorship or discipline, but their special position in the community imposes special obligations. As scholars and educational officers, they should remember that the public may judge their profession and their institution by their utterances. Hence they should at all times be accurate, should exercise appropriate restraint, should show respect for the opinions of others, and should make every effort to indicate that they are not speaking for the institution.”

PRINCIPLE 2: USG values the diversity of intellectual thought and expression, which shall be reflected in a student body and faculty that respect the individuality and beliefs of all.

PRINCIPLE 3: The BOR values our faculty and the important role they play in teaching, conducting research and providing service. Faculty have the right to be unburdened by ideological tests, affirmations and oaths. The key basis for hiring, promotion and tenure should be achievement and a commitment to student success.