CALL TO ORDER
The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 7, 2020, via a telephonic meeting in light of the Georgia Public Health State of Emergency due to COVID-19. The Chairman of the Board, Regent Sachin D. Shailendra, called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Chairman Shailendra, were Vice Chairman James M. Hull; Regents W. Allen Gudenrath; Erin Hames; Bárbara Rivera Holmes; Samuel D. Holmes; C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; Cade Joiner; Everett Kennedy; Rachel B. Little; Lowery May; Jose R. Perez; Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; Sarah-Elizabeth Langford Reed; Harold Reynolds; T. Dallas Smith; Kessel D. Stelling, Jr.; and Philip A. Wilheit, Sr. Regent Don L. Waters was excused.

BUDGET DISCUSSION
Chancellor Steve Wrigley discussed developments regarding the state budget during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. The University System of Georgia (USG) is focused on prioritizing the health of its students and employees and plans to return to in-person instruction for the Fall 2020 semester. The USG continues to provide support for the State of Georgia’s coordinated effort to combat the pandemic.

The Chancellor announced that the Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget has instructed state agencies to develop a new spending plan for Fiscal Year 2021 that includes a 14% reduction from the current fiscal year. Updated spending plans for the University System Office and all USG institutions are due by May 20. The final budget will be presented to the Board of Regents following completion of the appropriations process.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
Chairman Shailendra called for an executive session at approximately 10:08 a.m. to discuss personnel matters. With motion properly made and seconded, the Regents present voted unanimously to go into executive session.

RECONVENE
Following the executive session, Chairman Shailendra reconvened the Board in its regular session at approximately 10:29 a.m. and announced that the Board took no actions during the executive session.

APPROVAL ITEM
Chancellor Wrigley proposed authorizing a budget reduction to help USG institutions respond to the State’s request to reduce spending by 14%.

With motion made and variously seconded, the Regents present voted to authorize the Chancellor, working with the presidents, to implement a furlough program requiring employees to take unpaid days of leave from work and any other necessary personnel actions. The Chancellor shall establish guidelines for the program, including, but not limited to, the number of furlough days to be taken by each employee, and such guidelines will supersede any other Board of Regents guidance on the topic. The Chancellor may delegate additional authority to the presidents to address situations unique to their campuses.

ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:33 a.m.