# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA Atlanta, Georgia

September 10, 2019

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at approximately 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, in the Board Room, Room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, Atlanta, Georgia. The Chairman of the Board, Regent Don L. Waters, called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Chairman Waters, were Vice Chairman T. Rogers Wade; Regents Chris Cummiskey; W. Allen Gudenrath; Erin Hames; Bárbara Rivera Holmes; Samuel D. Holmes; C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; James M. Hull; Laura Marsh; Jose R. Perez; Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; Sarah-Elizabeth Reed; Sachin D. Shailendra; E. Scott Smith; Kessel D. Stelling, Jr.; Benjamin J. Tarbutton, III; and Philip A. Wilheit, Sr. Regent C. Dean Alford was excused.

## INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Georgia Gwinnett College Student Government Association President Chigbogu Ekemezie gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

# **SAFETY BRIEFING**

Chief of Police Bruce Holmes gave the safety briefing.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

With motion made and properly seconded, the Regents present voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the Board's meeting of August 8, 2019.

## **CAMPUS SPOTLIGHT - MOMENTUM YEAR: LOOKING AHEAD**

Gordon State College (GSC) President Kirk Nooks gave an update on the work the Momentum Year initiative has accomplished since its inception in 2017. The Momentum Year is a compilation of strategies designed to promote student success starting with each student's first year of college. Students are encouraged to make a purposeful choice of major; enter with a productive mindset; and follow a sequenced academic pathway including English, math, and major-related courses. At GSC, Momentum Year initiatives include a new student orientation that reinforces the importance of purposeful choices and development of core academic skills and a new scheduling process that promotes fuller course loads. This year, all of the nearly 54,000 incoming University System of Georgia (USG) students are experiencing their Momentum Year simultaneously.

Dr. Cantice Greene, a faculty member at Clayton State University, and USG students Natan Mallory, Kadian Nunes, Garren Walker, and Brittney Tatt spoke of their experience with Momentum Year initiatives at their respective institutions. Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Chief Academic Officer Dr. Tristan Denley spoke of the progress that has been made in implementing the Momentum Year initiative at all 26 USG institutions.

## THREE MINUTE THESIS – GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Vice Chancellor for Communications Jen Ryan introduced the winner of the Georgia Institute of Technology (GIT) Three Minute Thesis competition, which requires participants to condense their theses into a format that is easier for a broader audience to understand. Nusaiba Baker, an MD/PhD candidate in biomedical engineering, spoke of her work to develop DNA-based oral treatments for autoimmune disorders.

## **NURSING PROGRAM UPDATE**

Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Chief Academic Officer Dr. Tristan Denley provided an overview of the work the USG is doing to address the statewide shortage of nurses, including increasing capacity in nursing education programs, improving student success rates in nursing programs and on the NCLEX nursing exam, and improving alignment with healthcare industry partners.

Dr. Denley mentioned that the USG held its first annual Nursing Summit at Augusta University in July 2019. Representatives from the USG, the Technical College System of Georgia, and partners in the healthcare industry met to discuss current trends in the industry and to identify areas for future collaboration.

## FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET REQUEST

Vice Chancellor for Fiscal Affairs Diane Hickey presented an overview of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Amended Operating Budget Request and the FY 2021 Operating & Capital Budget Request. Both requests include reductions mandated by the Office of Planning and Budget for all state agencies.

The FY 2020 Amended Operating Budget Request includes a teaching formula credit hour correction, a decrease in funding for the Enterprise Innovation Institute, an increase in funding for pass-through agencies, and a required 4% reduction of \$10.3 million. With motion made and variously seconded, the Regents present voted unanimously to approve the FY 2020 Amended Operating Budget Request.

The FY 2021 State Funds Budget Request totals \$2,653,764,402 and the FY 2021 Capital Request totals \$255,000,000. The FY 2021 Budget Request includes an increase based on student enrollment, funding for maintenance and operations, funding for the increased cost of employee health benefits, a contribution to the Teachers Retirement System (TRS) for employees who were originally covered by TRS and later switched to the Optional Retirement Plan, and funding for the Augusta University/University of Georgia Medical Partnership expansion. It also includes a reduction in funding for Georgia Gwinnett College and a required 6% reduction of \$15.3 million. With motion made and properly seconded, the Regents present voted unanimously to approve the FY 2021 Operating & Capital Budget Request.

#### **RECESS**

The Board recessed for Committee meetings.

## COMPREHENSIVE ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW UPDATE

Upon reconvening, Vice Chancellor for Organizational Effectiveness John Fuchko, III, gave an update on the Comprehensive Administrative Review (CAR). CAR is a system-wide initiative focused on improving administration through creating efficiencies, streamlining processes, and finding ways to be more effective with USG resources. Vice Chancellor Fuchko began by thanking the members of the CAR Steering Committee for their diligent work on the initiative. He announced that 14 USG institutions and the University System Office have approved CAR action plans, which have resulted in \$43.8 million in redirected savings and the elimination of 350 positions. The remaining 12 institutions are scheduled to complete their action plans in Fall 2019.

### **CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

Chancellor Wrigley began his report by thanking Fort Valley State University, the University of West Georgia, and South Georgia State College for providing meals and lodging for USG students who were evacuated from the College of Coastal Georgia (CCG), Savannah State University, and the Armstrong Campus of Georgia Southern University during Hurricane Dorian. He also thanked the members of the CAR Steering Committee, along with committee leaders GSOU President Kyle Marrero and Vice Chancellor John Fuchko, for their hard work. The Chancellor welcomed new GIT President Ángel Cabrera, who is a GIT alumnus and previously served on the Georgia Tech Advisory Board.

Chancellor Wrigley spoke of the Momentum Year initiative and how it has fundamentally changed the first-year experience for incoming USG students. The Momentum Year is now in place at every USG institution, where it is helping improve student success in many different ways. The Chancellor described the importance of promoting higher education in Georgia and the direct link between education attainment and economic advancement. He detailed other student success-related initiatives, including the ongoing redesign of the General Education curriculum; the new USG Strategic Plan; College 2025; the Chancellor's Learning Scholars; and Know More, Borrow Less. These programs are creating a new infrastructure in which students can better attain the skills they need to be successful during and after college.

Chancellor Wrigley then shared some highlights from across the University System. He congratulated University of Georgia (UGA) President Jere Morehead, who will be honored later this month with the 2019 William M. Burke Presidential Award for Excellence in Experiential Education. The award, which is presented by the National Society for Experiential Education, recognizes his and UGA's emphasis to get students out of the classroom and into the world before earning their degree and includes a \$2000 scholarship for a deserving UGA student. UGA is the nation's largest public university to require all undergraduate students to engage in experiential learning prior to graduation. The Chancellor also congratulated Columbus State University, which will be recognized next month by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities as its 2019 Excellence and Innovation for International Education award winner. Lastly, he spoke of the recent investiture of Ms. Marion Fedrick as president of Albany State University and of the upcoming investitures of Dr. Michelle Johnston at CCG, Dr. Kyle Marrero at GSOU, and Dr. Ángel Cabrera at GIT.

Chancellor Wrigley concluded his remarks with a historical note. On this day in 1846, Elias Howe was awarded a patent for a modern sewing machine using a new lockstitch design. This breakthrough became the basis for all modern sewing machines and revolutionized modern manufacturing.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Reports of the standing committees are attached hereto. Upon motions made and duly seconded, the Board unanimously approved and adopted the reports of the following committees:

- the Committee on Academic Affairs
- the Committee on Internal Audit, Risk, and Compliance
- the Committee on Organization & Law
- the Committee on Personnel & Benefits
- the Committee on Real Estate & Facilities

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was none.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Waters appointed the Regents' Nominating Committee to select Board officers for 2020. Regents Jose R. Perez; Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; Sarah-Elizabeth Reed; and T. Rogers Wade will serve on the committee, with Regent Pruitt as chair. With motion made and seconded, the Regents presented voted unanimously to approve the roster of the Regents' Nominating Committee.

## PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

There were no petitions. Secretary to the Board Edward Tate announced that the next BOR meeting will be held on October 15-16, 2019, at the University of Georgia in Athens.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Waters called for an executive session at approximately 1:32 p.m. to discuss personnel matters. With motion properly made and variously seconded, 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, Chairman Waters reconvened the Board meeting in its regular session at approximately 1:50 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, the meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

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Don L. Waters Chairman, Board of Regents University System of Georgia

Edward M. Tate

Secretary, Board of Regents University System of Georgia

# MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

The Committee on Academic Affairs of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at approximately 11:27 a.m. in Room 7007 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chairman C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr., called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Chairman Hopkins, were Committee Vice Chairman Chris Cummiskey, Regents W. Allen Gudenrath, Bárbara Rivera Holmes, Laura Marsh, Sarah-Elizabeth Reed and E. Scott Smith. Regent C. Dean Alford was excused. Unless otherwise noted, the Regents present approved all items unanimously.

# **ACTION ITEMS**

- 1. The Committee approved the proposed General Education Principles for the University System of Georgia's new general education curriculum, with an effective date of September 10, 2019.
- 2. The Committee approved the establishment of a Bachelor of Business Administration in Cybersecurity Management at Columbus State University.
- 3. The Committee approved the establishment of a Bachelor of Applied Science in Engineering Technology at Dalton State College.
- 4. The Committee approved the establishment of a Bachelor of Science in Film and Video Production at the University of West Georgia.
- 5. The Committee approved waivers of Board of Regents Policies 2.11, Title of Emeritus or Emerita, and 8.3.2, Regents' Professorships, to award Emeritus Status and a Regents' Professorship of Mechanical Engineering with tenure at the Georgia Institute of Technology (GIT) to former GIT President G.P. "Bud" Peterson.

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

- 6. The Committee approved the establishment of several endowed faculty positions at the University of Georgia.
- 7. The Committee approved the appointment of several endowed faculty positions at the Georgia Institute of Technology and the University of Georgia.

## **INFORMATION ITEM**

8. Assistant Vice Chancellor of College Access Initiatives Dawn Cooper provided information regarding the GEAR UP Georgia grant.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:57 a.m.

# MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION AND LAW

The Committee on Organization and Law of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at approximately 11:58 a.m. in Room 7007 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chairwoman Sarah-Elizabeth Reed called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Chairwoman Reed, were Regents Chris Cummiskey; W. Allen Gudenrath; Bárbara Rivera Holmes; C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; and E. Scott Smith. Committee Vice Chairwoman Laura Marsh and Regent C. Dean Alford were excused. Unless otherwise noted, the Regents present approved all items unanimously.

## **INFORMATION ITEM**

1. The Committee heard an information item regarding a proposed revision to the *Board of Regents Policy Manual*, Section 7.13, Designation of USG as a Hybrid Entity Under HIPAA.

# APPROVAL ITEMS

- 2. The Committee approved Columbus State University President Chris Markwood's request to award an honorary degree to Ms. Shannon Ilges Candler.
- 3. The Committee approved Georgia College & State University President Steve Dorman's request to award an honorary degree to Mr. Olza M. "Tony" Nicely.
- 4. The Committee approved former Georgia Institute of Technology President G.P. "Bud" Peterson's request to award an honorary degree to Mr. Steven A. Denning.
- 5. The Committee approved University of Georgia President Jere Morehead's request to award an honorary degree to Mr. Sanford H. Orkin.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairwoman Reed called for an executive session at approximately 12:03 p.m. to discuss personnel matters and student records. With motion properly made and seconded, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to go into executive session. An affidavit regarding this executive session is on file in the Office of the Secretary to the Board.

#### RECONVENE

After the Committee exited executive session, Chairwoman Reed reconvened the Committee in its regular session at approximately 12:10 p.m. and announced that no actions were taken.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 12:10 p.m.

# MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL & BENEFITS

The Committee on Personnel & Benefits of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at approximately 11:30 a.m. in Room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chairman Philip A. Wilheit, Sr., called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Chairman Wilheit, were Regents Erin Hames; James M. Hull; Jose R. Perez; Kessel D. Stelling, Jr.; and Benjamin J. Tarbutton, III. Chancellor Steve Wrigley, Board Chairman Don L. Waters, and Board Vice Chairman T. Rogers Wade also were present. Regents Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., and Sachin Shailendra were excused.

# **INFORMATION ITEM**

Vice Chancellor for Human Resources Dr. Juanita Hicks presented the Retirement Waiver Approval Report.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:32 a.m.

# MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE ON REAL ESTATE & FACILITIES

The Committee on Real Estate & Facilities of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at approximately 11:32 a.m. in Room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chairman Benjamin J. Tarbutton, III, called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Chairman Tarbutton, were Committee Vice Chairman Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; Regents Erin Hames; Samuel D. Holmes; James M. Hull; Jose R. Perez; Sachin D. Shailendra; Kessel D. Stelling, Jr.; and Philip A. Wilheit, Sr. Chancellor Steve Wrigley, Board Chairman Don L. Waters, and Board Vice Chairman T. Rogers Wade also were present. Unless otherwise noted, the Regents present approved all items unanimously.

#### **INFORMATION ITEM**

1. Vice Chancellor for Real Estate & Facilities Jim James informed the Committee about a proposed project to construct a baseball and softball complex on the Georgia Highlands College Cartersville campus.

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

- 2. The Committee approved the below ranking of construction management firms for Project No. BR-10-1906, Veterinary Medicine Anatomy Lab Improvements, at the University of Georgia:
  - 1. Evergreen Construction, Atlanta
  - 2. Turner Construction Company, Atlanta
  - 3. Mathias Corporation, Duluth
  - 4. Leapley Construction Group of Atlanta, LLC, Atlanta
  - 5. Structor Group, Inc., Atlanta
- 3. The Committee approved a rental agreement for office space at 699 Broad Street in Augusta for Augusta University.
- 4. The Committee approved a sub-rental agreement for space at the CODA Data Center in Atlanta for the Georgia Institute of Technology.

## **APPROVAL ITEMS**

- 5. The Committee authorized Project No. BR-71-2001, New Baseball Stadium, at the University of West Georgia.
- 6. The Committee authorized Project No. BR-10-2002, Spring Street Building Renovation, at the University of Georgia.
- 7. The Committee authorized a budget modification for Project No. J-327, Convocation Center, at Georgia State University (GSU). Regent Samuel D. Holmes recused himself from voting on this item.
- 8. The Committee declared approximately 1.781 acres of real property adjacent to 755 Hank Aaron Drive in Atlanta to be no longer advantageously useful to GSU or the USG and delegated authority to the Chancellor to authorize the negotiation and execution of non-exclusive easements on the property to Carter.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:53 a.m.

# MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL AUDIT, RISK AND COMPLIANCE

The Committee on Internal Audit, Risk and Compliance of Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at approximately 11:53 a.m. in Room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chairman Kessel D. Stelling, Jr., called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Chairman Stelling, were Committee Vice Chairwoman Erin Hames; Regents Samuel D. Holmes; James M. Hull; Jose R. Perez; Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; Sachin D. Shailendra; Benjamin J. Tarbutton, III; and Philip A. Wilheit, Sr. Chancellor Steve Wrigley, Board Chairman Don L. Waters, and Board Vice Chairman T. Rogers Wade also were present. Unless otherwise noted, the Regents present approved all items unanimously.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Stelling called for an executive session at approximately 11:54 a.m. to discuss personnel matters. With motion properly made and seconded, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to go into executive session. An affidavit regarding this executive session is on file in the Office of the Secretary to the Board.

## RECONVENE

After the Committee exited executive session, Chairman Stelling reconvened the Committee in its regular session at approximately 11:59 a.m. and announced that no actions were taken.

## APPROVAL ITEM

With motion made and properly seconded, the Committee voted unanimously to appoint Ms. Claire Arnold as Chief Audit Office and Vice Chancellor of Internal Audit.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.