

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA  
Atlanta, Georgia  
August 8, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, in Room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia, and simultaneously accessible by BOR Webcast. Board Chair Harold Reynolds called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Present, in addition to Board Chair Reynolds, were Vice Chair Erin Hames; Regents Tom Bradbury; Richard T. Evans; W. Allen Gudenrath; Samuel D. Holmes; C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; James M. Hull; Cade Joiner; Patrick C. Jones; C. Everett Kennedy III; Sarah-Elizabeth Langford; Lowery Houston May; Jose R. Perez; T. Dallas Smith; and James K. Syfan, III. Regents Bárbara Rivera Holmes and Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. participated remotely. Regent Doug Aldridge was excused. Chancellor Sonny Perdue was also present.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Zae Brewer, Student Government Association President at Kennesaw State University, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**SAFETY BRIEFING**

Mike Coverson, Chief of Police, gave the safety briefing.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon a motion by Regent T. Dallas Smith and seconded by Regent Jose R. Perez, the Regents present voted unanimously to approve the amended minutes of April 18 – 19 and the minutes of May 16, May 22, May 24, June 1, and June 14, 2023.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: PERSONNEL & BENEFITS**

The Committee on Personnel and Benefits met as a committee of the whole at approximately 1:06 p.m. During its meeting led by Committee Chair Richard T. Evans, upon motions properly made and seconded, the Board members present unanimously approved the following approval items:

**APPROVAL ITEM**

1. Upon a motion by Regent Lowery Houston May and seconded by Regent Jose R. Perez, the committee approved the Healthcare Plan Changes and Premiums for Plan Year 2024.
2. Upon a motion by Regent Tom Bradbury and seconded by Regent Jose R. Perez, the committee approved the 2024 65+ Medicare Eligible Retiree Healthcare Contribution.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee of the Whole, the meeting adjourned at approximately 1:26 p.m. on Tuesday, August 8, 2023.

**CAMPUS SPOTLIGHT – GEORGIA GWINNETT COLLEGE – “STUDENT RESEARCH FROM DAY ONE AT GGC”**

President Jann L. Joseph of Georgia Gwinnett College (GGC) led the Campus Spotlight, “Student Research from Day One at GGC.” Dr. Joseph began by presenting a brief overview of GGC

research programs. She emphasized the profound significance of undergraduate research and internships in shaping the trajectory of GGC's student success. Dr. Joseph stated that GGC is deeply committed to fostering experiential opportunities, recognizing that real world experiences are integral to the growth and accomplishments of their students. Next, she introduced Dr. Ajay Mallia, Associate Professor of Chemistry. Dr. Mallia discussed his experience as a faculty member guiding students through undergraduate research and course work. He stated that conducting research is one of the high impact practices in teaching and education that creates better learning experiences for students. He continued by saying students that engage in research practices enjoy a higher level of learning successes. Dr. Mallia introduced one of his research students, Joel Suazo, who demonstrates learning successes through research. Mr. Suazo, Biochemistry major and Chemistry minor, discussed his experiences as a GGC research student. He shared that he is currently working on a National Science Foundation funded project investigating a drug design using plant proteins that can be useful in fighting cancer. Mr. Suazo stated that with the encouragement of faculty members like Dr. Mallia, he has been able to present his research to regional and national conferences. He continued by sharing that this year he won a GGC research award and was the first GGC student to win an American Chemical Society Undergraduate Research Award in Biomaterials and Bio-Interfaces. Mr. Suazo is exemplary of student success through "Student Research from Day One at GGC."

### **RECESS**

The Board recessed for track committee meetings.

### **USG STRATEGIC PLAN**

Dr. Angela Bell, Vice Chancellor of Research and Policy Analysis, gave a presentation regarding the USG Strategic Plan for 2024 – 2029. Dr. Bell discussed the planning process, vision, and values for the 2024 – 2029 USG Strategic Plan. She explained that this strategic plan empowers, informs, and impacts the work of the University System of Georgia's twenty-six diverse institutions and affiliated entities to elevate their unique missions. Dr. Bell continued by saying that the implementation of this plan across sectors and institutions will be distinct to the communities they serve but will align to the goals and metrics of the system. She proceeded by presenting the following goals for the 2024 – 2029 USG Strategic Plan: student success, responsible stewardship, economic competitiveness, and community impact. Dr. Bell also presented the initiatives in each goal area, the associated metrics and targets, and dashboards that will track system progress.

### **CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

Chancellor Sonny Perdue gave his monthly report. He began by welcoming everyone back and saying that he hoped everyone had a great summer. Then, Chancellor Perdue noted that most of USG's institutions had a great summer in reference to their enrollment. He continued by saying that it was appropriate to celebrate the hard work of the USG's presidents and their teams, the faculty, and staff. Chancellor Perdue went on to report that the System Office was going to award four institutions, one institution in each of the USG's sectors, which had the highest summer enrollment growth by percentage change over last year, with a trophy. He announced that the trophy to be awarded to the four winning institutions was called the Chancellor's Cup. He presented the Chancellor's Cup to the presidents of the respective winning institution. The winning institutions for an increase in summer enrollment were as follows: South Georgia State College, for the state colleges sector, with an increase of 14.7%, trophy received by Interim President Tanner; Albany State University, for the state universities sector, with an increase of 10.3%, trophy

received by President Fedrick; the University of West Georgia, for the comprehensive universities sector, with an increase of 8.5%, trophy received by President Kelly; and Augusta University, for the research universities sector, with an increase of 6.8%, trophy received by President Keel. Chancellor Perdue finished this presentation by saying that he appreciates everything that USG's institutions are doing.

Chancellor Perdue continued his report by announcing that twenty-three of USG's institutions maintained or saw increases in their summer enrollments. He said that as classes start on USG's campuses the institutions will have more than 334,000 students starting or continuing their journeys towards a degree. Also, Chancellor Perdue made mention of the new leaders on various campuses as follows: Dr. Stuart Rayfield, president at Columbus State University; Dr. Mike Shannon, president at the University of North Georgia; Cynthia Robinson Alexander, interim president at Savannah State University; Dr. John Fuchko, interim president at Dalton State College; and Dr. Don Green, interim president at Gordon State College.

Chancellor Perdue went on to report that USG was continuing to improve the state's economic competitiveness and the prosperity of local communities and its graduates. He continued by saying that is what makes the University System so important to Georgia. Chancellor Perdue followed up by discussing that new data shows USG's twenty-six public colleges and universities now collectively generate more than 159,000 direct and indirect jobs across the state and have an annual economic impact of \$20.1 billion. He continued by saying that the numbers for FY22 show an increase of more than 4% over the previous fiscal year and demonstrate that USG creates the same employment impact in the state as Georgia's top five employers combined. Chancellor Perdue added that USG graduates who earned their bachelor's degree in the Class of 2022 will earn over \$1 million more during their lifetimes than they would have without going to college, according to the latest data.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Reports of the standing committees are attached hereto.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Regent Cade Joiner gave the update on the 2023 USG Foundation Gala. He announced that the 19<sup>th</sup> annual Board of Regents Scholarships and Awards Gala will be held on September 8, 2023, at the Atlanta History Center. Also, Regent Joiner announced that the Board of Regents is at 90% of its fundraising goal. He continued by saying that the event will be business casual.

Board Chair Harold Reynolds called for three motions to make certain nominations for positions as a part of the proposed transaction between the AU Health System and the Wellstar Health System, upon motions properly made and seconded, the Board members present unanimously approved the following nominations:

Upon a proper motion and variously seconded, the Board members present voted unanimously to nominate Dr. Daniel Rahn to serve on the AU Health System Board of Directors, which is proposed to become the Wellstar MCG Health Board.

Upon a motion by Regent Sarah-Elizabeth Langford and seconded by Regent C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr., the Board members present voted unanimously to nominate Dr. Daniel Rahn to serve a full term on the Wellstar Board of Trustees.

Upon a motion by Regent C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr. and seconded by Regent James K. Syfan, III, the Board members present voted unanimously to nominate Edward Tate to serve for a two-year term on the Wellstar Board of Trustees.

**PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Secretary to the Board Christopher McGraw announced that there was one communication for the Board to consider that was provided in the Board’s materials before the meeting and that the next Board of Regents meeting will be held on September 8, 2023, at the Board’s offices in Atlanta.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Board Chair Harold Reynolds called for an executive session at approximately 3:16 p.m. With motion properly made by Vice Chair Erin Hames 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, Board Chair Harold Reynolds reconvened the Board meeting in its regular session at approximately 4:00 p.m. and announced that the Board took no actions during the executive session.


Following the revision the Board made earlier in the meeting to its policy on presidents’ homes, upon a motion by Regent Lowery Houston May and a second by Regent C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr., the Board members present voted unanimously to adjust the annual allowance for University of Georgia President Jere Morehead from \$23,900 to \$43,300.

Upon a motion by Regent Lowery Houston May and a second by Regent Jose Perez, the Board members present voted unanimously to authorize the Georgia Institute of Technology to enter into a settlement agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice to resolve a pending legal matter in a monetary amount of up to \$535,800, pending negotiation of satisfactory settlement terms.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, and upon a motion properly made by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. and seconded by Regent Patrick C. Jones the meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

  
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Harold Reynolds  
Chairman, Board of Regents  
University System of Georgia

  
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Christopher A. McGraw  
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 1:46 p.m. on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, in Room 7007 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chair Lowery Houston May called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Committee Chair May, were Committee Vice Chair Samuel D. Holmes; Board Vice Chair Erin Hames; Regents Sarah-Elizabeth Langford; Tom Bradbury; W. Allen Gudenrath; Cade Joiner; Jose R. Perez; and Patrick C. Jones. Regent Bárbara Rivera Holmes was excused.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

1. Upon a motion properly made by Regent Cade Joiner and seconded by Regent Tom Bradbury, the committee approved the establishment of a Bachelor of Science with a Major in Animal Biosciences at the University of Georgia.
2. Upon a motion properly made by Board Vice Chair Erin Hames, and seconded by Regent Cade Joiner, the committee approved the establishment of a Master of Science in Integrated Biotechnology at Albany State University.
3. Upon a motion properly made by Regent Cade Joiner and seconded by Board Vice Chair Erin Hames, the committee approved the establishment of a Master of Public Administration at Fort Valley State University.
4. Upon a motion properly made by Board Vice Chair Erin Hames and seconded by Regent Cade Joiner, the committee approved the establishment of a Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Engineering at the University of Georgia.
5. Upon a motion properly made by Regent Patrick C. Jones and seconded by Regent Samuel D. Holmes, the committee approved the establishment of a Doctor of Philosophy in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Georgia.

### **DEGREE AND MAJOR TERMINATION REQUESTS**

6. Upon a motion properly made by Regent W. Allen Gudenrath and seconded by Regent Cade Joiner the committee approved the termination of the Master of Science and International Logistics degree at the Georgia Institute of Technology.
7. Upon a motion properly made by Regent W. Allen Gudenrath and seconded by Regent Samuel D. Holmes the committee approved the termination of the Bachelor of Applied Science in Homeland Security/Emergency Management, the Master of Arts in Teaching with a Major in Mathematics, and the Master of Arts in Teaching with a major in English degrees at Clayton State University.
8. Upon a motion properly made by Regent W. Allen Gudenrath, and seconded by Regent Patrick C. Jones, the committee approved the termination of the Master of Education with

a Major in Secondary Education degree at Georgia College and State University.

### **INSTITUTIONAL CLASSIFICATION CHANGE**

9. Upon a motion properly made by Board Vice Chair Erin Hames, and seconded by Regent Cade Joiner, the committee approved the institutional classification change at Georgia Highlands College.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

10. The Committee approved the establishment of KPMG-Atlanta Partners' and Employees' Professorship at the University of Georgia.
11. The Committee approved the establishment of the Millihan-Reeve Pharmacy Professorship at the University of Georgia.
12. The Committee approved the establishment of the Martha Odum Distinguished Professorship in Ecology at the University of Georgia.
13. The Committee approved the establishment of the Jumeau Construction Company Professorship in Civil Engineering at the University of Georgia.
14. The Committee approved the establishment of the UGA Athletic Association Professorship in Social Work at the University of Georgia.
15. The Committee approved the renamed establishment of the Nicholas A. Beadles Chair of Economics at the University of Georgia.
16. The Committee approved named faculty positions at Augusta University, Dalton State College, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, and the University of Georgia.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:01 p.m.

**MINUTES OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE & BUSINESS OPERATIONS**

The Committee on Finance and Business Operations of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at approximately 1:50 p.m., in room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St. SW, in Atlanta, Georgia. Board Chair Harold Reynolds, called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Board Chair Reynolds, were Regents Richard T. Evans; C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; James M. Hull; C. Everett Kennedy, III; T. Dallas Smith; James K. Syfan, III and Cade Joiner. Committee Chair Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. participated remotely. Committee Vice Chair Doug Aldridge was excused. Chancellor Sonny Perdue was also present.

**APPROVAL ITEM**

1. With a motion properly made by Regent Richard T. Evans and seconded by Regent C. Everett Kennedy, III, the Committee unanimously approved the deletion of Board Policy 7.3.4.3, Waiver of Mandatory Fees for U.S. Military Reserve and Georgia National Guard Combat Veterans.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 1:53 p.m. on Tuesday, August 8, 2023.

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

The Committee on Internal Audit, Risk and Compliance of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at approximately 1:53 p.m., in room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St. SW, in Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chair James K. Syfan, III called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Committee Chair Syfan, were Committee Vice Chair C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; Board Chair Harold Reynolds; Regents James M. Hull; C. Everett Kennedy, III; T. Dallas Smith; Richard T. Evans; and Cade Joiner. Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. participated remotely. Regent Doug Aldridge was excused. Chancellor Sonny Perdue was also present.

**INFORMATION ITEM**

Vice Chancellor for Internal Audit, Ethics and Compliance and Chief Audit Officer Jenna Wiese provided the committee with an update on the conclusion of various Internal Audit engagements conducted across the system during FY23.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:01 p.m.



## **MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION & LAW**

The Committee on Organization and Law of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at approximately 2:01 p.m., in room 7007 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St. SW, in Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chair Sarah-Elizabeth Langford called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Committee Chair Langford, were Committee Vice Chair Tom Bradbury; Board Vice Chair Erin Hames; Regents Lowery Houston May; W. Allen Gudenrath; Cade Joiner; Samuel D. Holmes; Jose R. Perez; and Patrick C. Jones. Regent Bárbara Rivera Holmes was excused.

### **Approval Items:**

- I. Upon a motion properly made by Regent Lowery Houston May and seconded by Regent Cade Joiner, the committee approved a resolution in support of Savannah State University's security request for permission to have certain named personnel to apply for and receive United States Government security clearance related to classified government research and for other specifically named personnel to be excluded from clearance requirements.

### **Executive Session and Discussion Items**

Committee Chair Sarah-Elizabeth Langford called for an executive session at approximately 2:02 p.m. to discuss personnel matters and student records. With the motion properly made by Regent Lowery Houston May and seconded by Regent Tom Bradbury, 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.

Upon a motion properly made by Board Vice Chair Erin Hames and seconded by Regent Samuel D. Holmes the Executive Session was adjourned at approximately 2:11 p.m. No actions were taken in the Executive Session.

### **Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the committee, and upon motion properly made by Regent Lowery Houston May and seconded by Regent Cade Joiner, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 2:12 p.m.

## **MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE ON REAL ESTATE AND FACILITIES**

The Committee on Real Estate and Facilities of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at approximately 2:01 p.m., in room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St. SW, in Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chair T. Dallas Smith called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Committee Chair Smith, were Committee Vice Chair C. Everett Kennedy, III; Board Chair Harold Reynolds; Regents Richard T. Evans; James M. Hull; C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; James K. Syfan, III; and Cade Joiner. Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. participated remotely. Regent Doug Aldridge was excused. Chancellor Sonny Perdue was also present. Unless otherwise noted, the Regents present approved all items unanimously.

### **INFORMATION ITEM**

1. The Committee received information about an action taken by the Chancellor to authorize the execution of a rental agreement for Fort Valley State University.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

2. The Committee approved the ranking of the program management firms for project number J-403, Military Leadership Center Expansion, for the University of North Georgia. The ranked program management firms were:
  - 1) Turner & Townsend Heery, LLC (Atlanta)
  - 2) Marx | Okubo Associates, Inc. (Atlanta)
  - 3) IMPACT Development Management (Atlanta)
  - 4) Higdon + Herring (Atlanta)
3. The Committee approved the ranking of the program management firms for project number J-406, Nursing and Health Science Addition, for the College of Coastal Georgia. The ranked program management firms were:
  - 1) Jones Lang LaSalle Americas, Inc. (Atlanta)
  - 2) Turner & Townsend Heery, LLC (Atlanta)
  - 3) IMPACT Development Management (Atlanta)
4. The Committee approved the ranking of the program management firms for project number J-407, Herty Hall Renovation, for Georgia College & State University. The ranked program management firms were:
  - 1) Gleeds USA, Inc. (Atlanta)
  - 2) Turner & Townsend Heery, LLC (Atlanta)
  - 3) Comprehensive Program Services, Inc. (Atlanta)

## **CONSENT ITEMS (continued)**

5. The Committee approved the ranking of the program management firms for project number J-408, Eastman Campus Renovation, for Middle Georgia State University. The ranked program management firms were:
  - 1) Hendessi & Associates, LLC w/ Marx | Okubo Associates, Inc. (Atlanta)
  - 2) Higdon + Herring (Atlanta)
  - 3) Spectra Development Services (Atlanta)
  
6. The Committee approved the ranking of the program management firms for project number J-409, Pafford Building Renovation, for the University of West Georgia. The ranked program management firms were:
  - 1) Comprehensive Program Services, Inc. (Atlanta)
  - 2) Jones Lang LaSalle Americas, Inc. (Atlanta)
  - 3) IMPACT Development Management (Atlanta)
  - 4) Cumming Management Group, Inc. (Atlanta)
  
7. The Committee approved the ranking of the design professional firms for project number PPV-10-2301, New First-Year Student Residence Hall, for the University of Georgia. The ranked design professional firms were:
  - 1) The Beck Group, LLC (Atlanta)
  - 2) Collins Cooper Carusi Architects, Inc. (Atlanta)
  - 3) Menefee Architecture, Inc. (Atlanta) w/ CannonDesign (Boston, MA)
  - 4) May Architecture + Interiors, LLC (Atlanta) w/ RAMSA (New York, NY)
  
8. The Committee approved the ranking of the design professional firms for project number PPV-10-2302, West Campus Dining, Learning and Well-Being Center, for the University of Georgia. The ranked design professional firms were:
  - 1) May Architecture + Interiors, LLC (Atlanta) w/ RAMSA (New York, NY)
  - 2) Collins Cooper Carusi Architects, Inc. (Atlanta) w/SmithGroup, Inc. (Washington, DC)
  - 3) Perkins + Will, Inc. (Atlanta)
  
9. The Committee approved the naming of The American Opportunity Foundation CARE ASCEND Home and the naming of the CARE Ascend Courtyard on Kennesaw State University's Marietta campus.

## **APPROVAL ITEMS**

10. The Committee approved revisions to Policy Section 9.6.3, Presidents' Homes. The motion was made by Regent Richard T. Evans, Sr., and seconded by Committee Vice Chair C. Everett Kennedy, III.

11. The Committee authorized the allocation of \$65,900,000 in Major Repair and Rehabilitation funds in accordance with staff recommendations. The motion was made by Regent Richard T. Evans, Sr., and seconded by Board Chair Harold Reynolds.
12. The Committee authorized project number BR-10-2401, West Campus Parking Deck II, for the University of Georgia. The motion was made by Regent C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr., and seconded by Regent Richard T. Evans, Sr.
13. The Committee authorized project number BR-66-2401, New Baseball Facility, for Georgia Southern University. The motion was made by Regent James M. Hull and seconded by Regent Richard T. Evans, Sr.
14. The Committee authorized the execution of a sub-rental agreement for approximately 121,152 rentable square feet of classroom and administrative support space in Tower Place 200 at 3348 Peachtree Road in Atlanta for Georgia State University. The motion was made by Regent James M. Hull and seconded by Regent Richard T. Evans, Sr.
15. The Committee authorized the execution of a ground lease and rental agreement for project number PPV-40-2201, 15<sup>th</sup> Street Parking Deck, for Augusta University. The motion was made by Regent James M. Hull and seconded by Regent C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.
16. The Committee authorized the demolition and removal of several buildings located at the Coastal Plain Experiment Station on the University of Georgia's Tifton campus and requested that the Governor issue an executive order authorizing the demolition and removal of the buildings. The motion was made by Regent Richard T. Evans, Sr., and seconded by Regent C. Everett Kennedy, III.
17. The Committee authorized the acquisition of approximately 0.9724 acres of real property improved with an eighteen-story, 353,000-square foot building located at 100 Edgewood Avenue in Atlanta for Georgia State University. The motion to approve was made by Regent Richard T. Evans, Sr., and seconded by Board Chair Harold Reynolds.
18. The Committee approved the naming of Bobby Dodd Stadium at Hyundai Field for the Georgia Institute of Technology. The motion was made by Regent C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr., and seconded by Regent James K. Syfan, III.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:24 p.m. following a motion from Board Chair Harold Reynolds and a second from Regent Richard T. Evans.