

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA  
Atlanta, Georgia  
February 14, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met on Tuesday, February 14, 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 10:11 a.m. Present, in addition to Board Chair Reynolds, were Vice Chair Erin Hames; Regents Doug Aldridge; W. Allen Gudenrath; Bárbara Rivera Holmes; 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; Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; T. Dallas Smith; and James K. Syfan, III. Chancellor Sonny Perdue was also present. Regents Tom Bradbury and Richard T. Evans were excused.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Jalen Smith, Student Government Association President at Valdosta 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 Jose R. Perez and seconded by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., the Regents present voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2023, Board meeting.

**CAMPUS SPOTLIGHT – AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY – “One MCG, One Mission, Many Campuses”**

President Brooks Keel of Augusta University led the Campus Spotlight, “One Medical College of Georgia (MCG), One Mission, Many Campuses.” President Keel began by presenting a brief overview of Augusta University. He stated that Augusta University has one priority and that is the students and the patients. President Keel followed up by saying the university is centered around providing outstanding, quality education for the students and state of the art care for the patients. Then Dr. David Hess, Dean of MCG; Mr. Touré Jones, MD Candidate, Class of 2026; and Ms. Bailey Rodgers, MD Candidate, Class of 2024; addressed the Board. Dr. Hess described the way that Augusta University is now teaching its medical students as innovative and cutting edge. In support of MCG's program, Mr. Jones followed Dr. Hess's presentation by discussing the doctor shortage in Georgia, by specific field, and in the various counties. He also discussed the improvement of MCG's enrollment statistics. Next, Ms. Rodgers addressed the Board by discussing MCG's innovative curriculum. Ms. Rodgers elaborated on the MCG curriculum explaining a uniquely designed accelerated program in which students complete the normal four years of medical school in three years and then go straight into their residencies, to address Georgia's healthcare needs more quickly.

Achievement Award.

Upon a motion by Regent James M. Hull and seconded by Regent Jose R. Perez, the Regents present voted unanimously to approve a Resolution to recognize the many contributions made to the University System of Georgia by former Regent Don Waters.

**PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Secretary to the Board Christopher McGraw announced that the Annual Planning Retreat will be held on March 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at Brasstown Valley in Young Harris.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**


Board Chair Harold Reynolds called for an executive session at approximately 11:55 a.m. to discuss personnel issues. With motion properly made by Vice Chair Erin Hames and seconded by Regent T. Dallas Smith, 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 12:27 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 Lowery Houston May and seconded by Regent Bárbara Rivera Holmes the meeting adjourned at 12:28 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

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS**

Committee Chair Cade Joiner called the meeting to order at approximately 10:39 a.m. to discuss a request from Middle Georgia State University to enter into a new agreement regarding its athletic affiliation. Middle Georgia State President Christopher Blake led a presentation to the Board about the proposed changes, which would include a transition from the NAIA to the NCAA Division II and to the Peach Belt Conference as well as an expansion of its athletics programs offerings to include women's track. Upon a motion made by Regent James M. Hull and seconded by Regent C. Everett Kennedy, III, the committee unanimously approved the request. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting of the Committee of the Whole was adjourned at approximately 10:53 a.m.

## **RECESS**

The Board recessed for track committee meetings.

## **CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

Chancellor Sonny Perdue gave his monthly report. He began by greeting everyone and wishing everyone a great Valentine's Day. Then Chancellor Perdue noted that some USG institutions have had some leadership changes recently and introduced some of the leaders involved. He introduced Kerry Heyward, who served as the interim president at Clayton State University and announced that Dr. Heyward has now returned to Georgia State University. Next Chancellor Perdue introduced Clayton State University's new president, Dr. Georj Lewis. He continued by introducing Dr. Ingrid Thompson-Sellers, who is Atlanta Metropolitan State College's new president. Chancellor Perdue also announced that Dr. Greg Tanner will be the interim president at South Georgia State College.

Chancellor Perdue next gave an update on the legislative session. He stated it has been a productive session so far and that the USG continues to engage with our legislative partners. Chancellor Perdue continued his report by discussing the budget and explaining that aspects of the current budget formula are outdated, particularly in light of the inflationary pressures that are affecting institution budgets.

Chancellor Perdue announced that USG has testified to several committees recently and has been well received at the General Assembly. He continued by saying that everybody seems to be very pleased with the work that USG is doing, including the work that USG's institutions are doing on their campuses.

## **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 Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. announced that the USG Foundation Gala will be held on September 8, 2023, at the Atlanta History Center and that it will be the 19<sup>th</sup> annual Board of Regents Gala. Regent Pruitt also announced that former Regent Phillip Wilheit will receive the Lifetime



**A Resolution of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia Recognizing  
Regent Don Waters**

**WHEREAS, Regent Don Waters was originally appointed by Governor Nathan Deal as a member of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia in March 2013; and**

**WHEREAS, Regent Waters is a graduate of two University System of Georgia institutions, Armstrong State College and the University of Georgia; and**

**WHEREAS, Regent Waters has dedicated his time, talent and service to the Board of Regents, the State of Georgia and the cause of higher education as a member of the Board for nearly a decade; and;**

**WHEREAS, the generosity of Regent Waters and his wife Cindy made possible the creation of the Waters College of Health Professions on what is now the Armstrong Campus of Georgia Southern University; and**

**WHEREAS, Regent Waters has also provided his keen insight in generous support of the University System of Georgia Foundation, which works to increase need-based scholarship aid to deserving students who would not otherwise be able to attend a public college or university anywhere across the state; and**

**WHEREAS, during Regent Waters' tenure on the Board of Regents, the University System of Georgia strengthened its academic reputation and dramatically increased the number of degrees awarded annually to an all-time high of 74,446 degrees in 2022 - a more than 28 percent increase befitting one of the largest and best public higher education systems in the nation; and**

**WHEREAS, Regent Waters also served as Chairman of the Board of Regents in 2019 and Vice Chair of the University System's foundation in 2018, helping modernize organizational structures and improve delivery of instruction, student support and philanthropic giving in Georgia; and**

**WHEREAS, during his 9 years of service on the Board, Regent Waters provided sage guidance to his many colleagues, to a vast number of institution presidents and to countless University System employees and students; and**

**WHEREAS, he served with distinction, offering thoughtful guidance, wit and wisdom.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia hereby congratulates and thanks former Regent Don Waters for 9 years of dedicated service and generosity to the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia and for the significant accomplishments in public higher education he helped this state and system achieve.**

**Presented on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023.**

**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 11:01 a.m. on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, in Room 7007 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, in Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chair Lowery Houston May called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Committee Chair Lowery Houston May, were Committee Vice Chair Samuel D. Holmes; Board Chair Harold Reynolds; Board Vice Chair Erin Hames; Regents Sarah-Elizabeth Langford; W. Allen Gudenrath; Cade Joiner; Barbara Rivera Holmes; Jose R. Perez; and Patrick C. Jones. Regent Tom Bradbury was excused.

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. The Committee approved the establishment of a Bachelor of Science with a major in Biomedical Systems Engineering at Augusta University upon a motion by Regent Samuel D. Holmes seconded by Regent Jose R. Perez.
2. The Committee approved the establishment of a Bachelor of Science in Education with a major in Workforce Education at the University of Georgia upon a motion by Regent W. Allen Gudenrath seconded by Regent Cade Joiner.
3. The Committee approved the naming of the School of Risk Science as the Maurice R. Greenberg School of Risk Science at Georgia State University upon a motion by Regent Patrick C. Jones seconded by Regent Cade Joiner.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

4. The Committee approved the Establishment of the William C. Pate Chair in Strategic Communication at Georgia State University.
5. The Committee approved the Establishment of the Synder Distinguished Professorship in Large Animal Medicine at the University of Georgia.
6. The Committee approved the appointment of several named faculty positions at 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 11:06 a.m.

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

The Committee on Finance & Business Operations met at approximately 10:58 a.m. Tuesday, February 14, 2023, in room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St. SW, in Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chair Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Committee Chairman Pruitt, were Committee Vice Chair Doug Aldridge; Board Chairman Harold Reynolds; Regents C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; James M. Hull; C. Everett Kennedy, III; T. Dallas Smith; and James K. Syfan, III. Chancellor Sonny Perdue was also present. Regent Richard T. Evans was excused.

1. The Committee received an information item on the second quarter revenues and expenditures for the University System of Georgia.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:04 a.m. on Tuesday, February 14, 2023.

**MINUTES OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL & BENEFITS**

The Committee on Personnel and Benefits met at approximately 11:04 a.m. Tuesday, February 14, 2023, in room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St. SW, in Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Vice Chair James M. Hull called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Committee Vice Chair Hull, were Regents Doug Aldridge; C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; C. Everett Kennedy, III; Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; T. Dallas Smith; and James K. Syfan, III. Chancellor Sonny Perdue was also present. Committee Chair Richard T. Evans was excused.

**1. Information Item: Continuous Service Waivers**

Vice Chancellor for Human Resources Juanita Hicks provided an update on the Continuous Service Waivers.

**2. Approval Item: Proposed Revision to Board of Regents Policy 8.2.7.7 Other Leave**

Upon a motion by Regent C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr. and seconded by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., the Board unanimously approved the proposed revision to Board of Regents' Policy 8.2.7.7 Other Leave to add a section on Blood or Blood Platelet Donation leave and to simplify Policy language.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:09 am on Tuesday, February 14, 2023.

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

The Committee on Organization and Law of the University System of Georgia met on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at approximately 11:06 a.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 Board Chair Harold Reynolds; Board Vice Chair Erin Hames; Regents Lowery Houston May; W. Allen Gudenrath; Cade Joiner; Bárbara Rivera Holmes; Samuel D. Holmes; Jose R. Perez; and Patrick C. Jones. Committee Vice Chair Tom Bradbury was excused.

### **Approval Items:**

1. Upon a motion by Regent Samuel D. Holmes and seconded by Bárbara Rivera Holmes, the committee approved a mutual aid agreement between the City of Dahlonega Police Department and the University of North Georgia.
2. Upon a motion by Regent Lowery Houston May and seconded by Regent Cade Joiner, the committee approved a mutual aid agreement between the Fulton County Police Department and Georgia State University.
3. Upon a motion by Regent Lowery Houston May and seconded by Regent Cade Joiner, the committee approved a mutual aid agreement between the City of Dunwoody Police Department and Georgia State University.
4. Upon a motion by Regent Lowery Houston May and seconded by Regent Cade Joiner, the committee approved a mutual aid agreement between the City of Atlanta Police Department and Georgia State University.
5. Upon a motion by Regent W. Allen Gudenrath and seconded by Regent Jose R. Perez, the committee approved the awarding of an honorary degree by the University of North Georgia to James "Jimmy" Faulkner.

### **Executive Session**

Committee Chair Sarah-Elizabeth Langford called for an executive session at approximately 11:10 a.m. to discuss personnel matters and student records. With the motion properly made by Regent Samuel D. Holmes and seconded by Regent Bárbara Rivera Holmes, 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 motion properly made by Regent Lowery Houston May and seconded by Regent Cade Joiner the Executive Session was adjourned at approximately 11:14 a.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 Bárbara Rivera Holmes and seconded by Regent Cade Joiner, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 11:15 a.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, February 14, 2023, at approximately 11:09 a.m., in room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington Street SW, Atlanta, Georgia, and simultaneously accessible by BOR Webcast. 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, Regents James M. Hull, C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr., Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., Doug Aldridge and James K. Syfan, III. Chancellor Sonny Perdue was also present. Regent Richard "Tim" Evans was excused as absent. Unless otherwise noted, the Regents present approved all items unanimously.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Committee Chair T. Dallas Smith called for an executive session at 11:12 a.m. to discuss real estate matters. With a motion made by Regent James M. Hull and seconded by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., the Regents who were present voted unanimously to go into executive session. An affidavit regarding this executive session is on file in the Secretary to the Board's office.

### **RECONVENE**

Following a motion to exit executive session from Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. that was seconded by Regent C. Everett Kennedy, III, Committee Chair T. Dallas Smith reconvened the Committee in its regular session at 11:24 a.m. and announced that no actions were taken during the executive session.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

2. The Committee approved the naming of the outdoor community patio at the School of Law on the main campus of the University of Georgia as the "Carolyn and Henry Garrard Patio".
3. The Committee authorized project number BR-90-2304, Marietta Campus Quad Hardscape-Landscape Improvements, for Kennesaw State University.

### **APPROVAL ITEM**

4. The Committee authorized project number PPV-30-2301, New First-Year Student Residence Hall, for the Georgia Institute of Technology. The motion to authorize was made by Regent C. Everett Kennedy, III and seconded by Regent James M. Hull.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:31 a.m. following a motion from Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. and a second from Regent James M. Hull.