

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA  
Atlanta, Georgia  
November 12, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at approximately 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 12, 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 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.; and Philip A. Wilheit, Sr. Regents Chris Cumiskey and Benjamin J. Tarbuton, III, were excused.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Chairman Don Waters observed a moment of silence in memory of Rutledge "Rusty" Griffin, a former member of the Board of Regents and University of Georgia alumnus who died last week.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Georgia State University – Decatur Campus Student Government Association Executive Vice President Hadejja Manais 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 October 15-16, 2019.

**FALL ENROLLMENT UPDATE**

Executive Director of Research and Policy Dr. Rachana Bhatt provided an update on Fall 2019 student enrollment across the University System of Georgia (USG). Total USG enrollment for the Fall 2019 semester is 333,507 students, which is a 1.5% increase in enrollment compared to Fall 2018. Eleven USG institutions saw increases in enrollment this semester, while 13 had declines and two experienced no significant change. As of Fall 2019, USG enrollment has been at a record high for four years in a row, and the USG as a whole is experiencing more positive enrollment growth than the national average.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHT – COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY AND ALBANY STATE UNIVERSITY**

Regent Bárbara Rivera Holmes introduced an economic development highlight, which focused on the work that Columbus State University (CSU) and Albany State University (ASU) are doing to support their local and regional business communities with technology-focused academic programs.

CSU Vice President for University Advancement Dr. Rocky Kettering described the university's partnership with TSYS, one of the world's leading financial firms. By aligning its curriculum and instruction with workplace needs, CSU has built a strong talent pipeline for TSYS and other technology businesses in the area. Jacob Worthington, a 2018 CSU graduate who works at TSYS in cybersecurity and business analysis, spoke of his experience as an undergraduate student in the TSYS School of Computer Science. Mr. Worthington was one of the first students of cybersecurity at CSU and completed a related internship at TSYS that led him to his current career. Brandon Corn, a junior in computer science, spoke of the skills, experience, and certifications he has acquired at CSU that will make him a competitive candidate in the job market once he graduates.

Dr. Robert Owor, interim chair of the mathematics and computer science department at ASU, described how the campus is empowering its students to take on challenges facing agribusiness, southwest Georgia's most critical industry. Dr. Tripp Morgan, founder and CEO of Pretoria Farms, spoke of the company's partnership with ASU. ASU computer science students Sabrina Netters and Amiralca Johnson recently completed an apprenticeship with Pretoria Farms. They described how they used algorithms and machine learning to solve problems in agriculture, save money, improve productivity, and conserve natural resources.

### **THREE MINUTE THESIS – GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

Vice Chancellor for Communications Jen Ryan introduced the winner of the Georgia State University Three Minute Thesis competition, which requires participants to condense their theses into a format that is easier for a broader audience to understand. Mary Fernandes, a Ph.D. candidate in clinical neuropsychology, spoke of her work analyzing the connection between physical reactions and levels of depression and anxiety

### **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

Board Chairman Don L. Waters began by thanking Chancellor Steve Wrigley and his staff for their hard work and effective management during 2019. He also thanked the Governor's Office and the members of the Georgia General Assembly for their partnership and support of public higher education in the state. The Chairman drew special attention to the Mental Health Task Force, which was announced by the Chancellor last month and will address a critical issue facing many USG students. He also stressed the importance of ethics and integrity on campus and across the USG. Chairman Waters thanked his fellow Regents for a year of growth and joy and welcomed incoming Board Chairman Sachin D. Shailendra and incoming Board Vice Chairman James M. Hull, who will lead the Board in 2020. The Chairman ended by thanking his wife, Mrs. Cindy Waters, for her love and support over the years.

### **RECESS**

The Board recessed for Committee meetings.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN**

Upon reconvening, Vice Chancellor of Research and Policy Analysis Dr. Angela Bell and Dalton State College President Margaret Venable presented the new USG strategic plan for approval. Since its most recent update to the Board in October, the Strategic Plan Working Group has incorporated feedback gathered from diverse groups of stakeholders across the USG and the state. The proposed strategic plan focuses on four main priorities of student success, responsible stewardship, economic competitiveness, and community impact.

### **CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

Chancellor Wrigley began his report by thanking all veterans and active duty military personnel for their service and commemorating Veterans Day. He also thanked the University System Office staff and the 26 USG institutions for their hard work this year. The Chancellor thanked outgoing Board Chairman Don L. Waters for his service and passion for public education, and welcomed Chairman-elect Sachin D. Shailendra, who will lead the Board in 2020. Lastly, he welcomed Tommy Marshall, the new director of the Georgia FinTech Academy, to the USG.

The Chancellor spoke of the importance of innovation in Georgia's economy and stressed that higher education must be ready to reinvent itself to meet the challenges and opportunities that face the industry in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He described the progress that the USG has made related to increasing the number of degrees awarded each year, reducing administrative costs, and improving completion and efficiency. He also described the new strategic plan, which was approved by the Board earlier today, and thanked Dr. Angela Bell and the members of the Strategic Plan Working Group for their hard work and leadership.

Chancellor Wrigley then shared some highlights from across the University System. He spoke of the work done in support of the USG's commitment to affordability, including the creation of the Fee Working Group. This group, which is chaired by Kennesaw State University President Pamela Whitten, will review and evaluate all

student fees across the USG and recommend ways to lessen the impact on students and their families. The Chancellor also mentioned that the USG has partnered with the Georgia Chamber of Commerce to promote the 2020 InVenture Prize contest. The 2019 InVenture Prize was awarded to a team from Fort Valley State University that created a retractable electrical outlet.

Chancellor Wrigley concluded his remarks with a historical note. On this day in 1966, NASA astronaut Buzz Aldrin took the first selfie photograph in space.

### **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 Executive & Compensation Committee
- the Committee on Academic Affairs
- the Committee on Internal Audit, Risk, and Compliance
- the Committee on Finance & Business Operations
- the Committee on Organization & Law
- the Committee on Real Estate & Facilities

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

With motions made and properly seconded, the Regents present voted unanimously to appoint Regents Sachin D. Shailendra and James M. Hull as 2020 Chairman and Vice Chairman, respectively.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., gave an update on the 2020 USG Foundation Gala. The event will be held on Friday, February 21, 2020, at the St. Regis Hotel in Atlanta. The USG Foundation Gala raises funds for needs-based scholarships for students across the USG.

### **PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no petitions. Secretary to the Board Edward Tate announced that the next BOR meeting will be held on January 8, 2020, at the Board's offices in Atlanta.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Waters called for an executive session at approximately 1:26 p.m. to discuss personnel matters and student records. 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 1:49 p.m. and announced that the Board took no actions during the executive session.

With motion made and variously seconded, the Regents present voted unanimously to waive Board of Regents Policy 2.1 regarding the appointment of interim presidents and to appoint Dr. Georj Lewis President of Atlanta Metropolitan State College, at a level of compensation to be negotiated by the Chancellor.

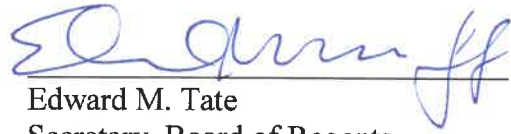
### **ADJOURNMENT**

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



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Edward M. Tate  
Secretary, Board of Regents  
University System of Georgia

**MINUTES OF THE  
EXECUTIVE & COMPENSATION COMMITTEE**

The Executive & Compensation Committee of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at approximately 9:31 a.m. in Room 8026 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, Atlanta, Georgia. Board Chairman Don L. Waters called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Chairman Waters, were Board Vice Chairman T. Rogers Wade; Regents W. Allen Gudenrath; Erin Hames; C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; Samuel D. Holmes; Bárbara Rivera Holmes; James M. Hull; Laura Marsh; Jose R. Perez; Sarah-Elizabeth Reed; Sachin D. Shailendra; Kessel D. Stelling, Jr.; and Philip A. Wilheit, Sr. Regent Benjamin J. Tarbutton, III, was excused. Chancellor Steve Wrigley and several members of his staff also were present.

**INFORMATION ITEM**

The Committee conducted its annual self-assessment pursuant to Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) requirements. Chancellor Steve Wrigley and Vice Chancellor for Organizational Effectiveness John Fuchko shared the results of changes made in response to last year's self-assessment. The Committee also discussed opportunities to improve the Board's functions this year. The results of this assessment will be shared in more detail at the January 2020 Board Meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

## **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 11:06 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 Regents W. Allen Gudenrath, Bárbara Rivera Holmes, Laura Marsh, Sarah-Elizabeth Reed, and E. Scott Smith. Committee Vice Chairman Chris Cummiskey was excused. Unless otherwise noted, the Regents present approved all items unanimously.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

1. The Committee approved proposed revisions to the Gordon State College mission statement.
2. The Committee approved the establishment of a Bachelor of Social Work at Middle Georgia State University.
3. The Committee approved the establishment of a Bachelor of Arts with a major in applied art and design at Middle Georgia State University.
4. The Committee approved the termination of four academic programs at the University of Georgia.
5. The Committee approved proposed revisions to the *Board of Regents Policy Manual*, Section 2.8, Institutional Mission.
6. The Committee approved proposed revisions to the *Board of Regents Policy Manual*, Section 3.8, Degrees.
7. The Committee approved Gordon State College's request to grant out of state border waivers to all approved states, and Clayton State University's request to grant out of state border waivers to South Carolina residents.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

8. The Committee approved the establishment of the Dr. Samuel C. Benedict Professorship at the University of Georgia.
9. The Committee approved the appointment of several endowed faculty positions at Georgia State University and the University of Georgia.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business for Committee consideration, the meeting adjourned at 11:28 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 11:28 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 Committee Vice Chairwoman Laura Marsh; Regents W. Allen Gudenrath; Bárbara Rivera Holmes; C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; and E. Scott Smith. Regent Chris Cumiskey was excused. Unless otherwise noted, the Regents present approved all items unanimously.

### **APPROVAL ITEM**

The Committee approved Georgia Southwestern State University President Neal Weaver's request to award an honorary degree to Dr. Michael Pruett.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairwoman Reed called for an executive session at 11:30 a.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 11:35 a.m. and announced that no actions were taken.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

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

The Committee on Finance and Business Operations met at approximately 11:07 a.m. in Room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chairman Sachin D. Shailendra called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Chairman Shailendra, were Regents Erin Hames; Samuel D. Holmes; James M. Hull; Jose R. Perez; Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; 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. Regent Benjamin J. Tarbutton, III, was excused.

**INFORMATION ITEM**

Executive Vice Chancellor for Strategy & Fiscal Affairs Tracey Cook presented the Fiscal Year 2020 first quarter financial update.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:16 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 11:16 a.m. in Room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Vice Chairman Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Vice Chairman Pruitt, were 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. Committee Chairman Benjamin J. Tarbutton, III, was excused. Unless otherwise noted, the Regents present approved all items unanimously.

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Vice Chancellor for Real Estate & Facilities Jim James provided the Committee with a written report of real estate actions taken pursuant to the Chancellor's delegated authority between July 1, 2019, and October 31, 2019.
2. Vice Chancellor James informed the Committee about a proposed project to construct a new student residence hall on the Marietta campus of Kennesaw State University.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

3. The Committee authorized Project No. BR-82-2001, Coastal Community Center for Arts, at the College of Coastal Georgia.
4. The Committee authorized Project No. BR-10-2003, Butts-Mehre Heritage Hall Expansion and Renovation, at the University of Georgia.
5. The Committee authorized Project No. PPV-10-2001, New First-Year Student Residence Hall, at the University of Georgia and delegated specific authority to the Chancellor to approve the design professional firm rankings.
6. The Committee approved a rental agreement for space at 817 West Peachtree St., NW, Atlanta, for the Georgia Institute of Technology.
7. The Committee approved amendments to two rental agreements for space at 171 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Atlanta, for the Georgia Institute of Technology.

### **APPROVAL ITEMS**

8. The Committee authorized the acquisition of real property located at 269 Morrison Moore Parkway in Dahlonega, and authorized Project No. BR-68-2001, Renovation for New Public Safety Facility, at the University of North Georgia.
9. The Committee declared approximately 8 acres of real property north of U.S. Highway 20 in Cartersville to be no longer advantageously useful to Georgia Highlands College or the USG and authorized the grant of a non-exclusive easement to Anverse, Inc. or its affiliated entity.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:29 a.m.

**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 at approximately 11:29 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; and Philip A. Wilheit, Sr. Chancellor Steve Wrigley, Board Chairman Don L. Waters, and Board Vice Chairman Thomas Rogers Wade also were present. Regent Benjamin J. Tarbutton, III, was excused. Unless otherwise noted, the Regents present approved all items unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Stelling called for an executive session at approximately 11:30 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 11:45 a.m. and announced that no actions were taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:46 a.m.