

Agenda Item 4a: Discussion of Vacancies on Councils and Boards of Trustees

Situation: There is a partial-term ending on February 28, 2020, on the UNC Press Board of Governors. This vacancy results from the resignation of Sherman James of Atlanta.

Background: The Press has 15 elected members who serve 5 year terms and may be reelected for successive terms with a service limit of 3 full terms. Eleven of the current members actively hold an academic position from universities including UNC-CH, UNC Greensboro, NCSU, and NCCU.

According to its by-laws, the Press BOG creates a nominating committee and submits a slate to the Chancellor of UNC-CH who transmits it to the UNC system president, who presents it to the UNC Board of Governors.

Assessment: Ann Maxwell, who is the Committee on University Governance liaison to UNC Press, has begun working with UNC Press to identify a candidate.

Action: This item is for information.

From: Sherman James <sherman.james62@yahoo.com>

Reply-To: Sherman James <sherman.james62@yahoo.com>

Date: Tuesday, October 6, 2015 at 10:40 AM

To: J Sherer <jsherer@email.unc.edu>, Mark Simpson-Vos <simpsonv@email.unc.edu>, Eric Muller <emuller@email.unc.edu>

Subject: Resignation from the BOG

Dear John, Mark, and Eric:

Please forgive my use of email to inform you that I have decided to resign from the BOG of the UNC Press. I really agonized over this decision because serving on the Board for two separate stints (1987-89, and 2005-2015) has been one of the most enjoyable experiences of my academic career. The intellectual stimulation of the board meetings, and the dedication and collegiality of the Press staff and my fellow board members were what made me want to continue my service even after my retirement from Duke and relocation to Atlanta in 2014. However, my life has changed so much (mostly in good ways) following my move to Atlanta that it has become clear that I can no longer fulfill my duties on the board in ways that justify continued membership. Please know, however, that I am available to provide input on any matters (book proposal reviews, blurbs, etc) that, in your opinion, would be helpful to the work of the Press.

Thanks for giving me the opportunity to be associated with such an amazing group of people who do such interesting and important work.

Warm regards,
Sherman