

Committee on Public Affairs

Thursday, October 23, 2014

Minutes

The Committee on Public Affairs met Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 3:45pm in the Board Room of the C.D. Spangler Building in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Committee members present included Chairman Holmes, Vice Chairman Parrish, Mrs. Goodnight, Mr. Harrelson, Mr. McMahan, Mr. Nath, Mr. Parker, Mr. Powers, Ms. Wiley, Mr. Rippey and Mr. Trask. Chancellors Sederburg of UNC-Wilmington, Saunders-White of North Carolina Central and Roberts of the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics also attended, along with Dr. Roper, Dean of the UNC School of Medicine. Other Board of Governors Members in attendance included Chairman Fennebresque, Mr. Taylor, Dr. Perry, Ms. Maxwell and Mr. Lampe. Guests in attendance by special request of the Committee included North Carolina State House Representatives John Bell, Nelson Dollar and Tim Moore. Vice President Moretz, Vice President Rhinehardt, and Director of State Relations Kappler all attended as staff.

Chairman Holmes opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance. He gave a special acknowledgement to the three State Representatives in attendance, who he said were invited to participate in a panel discussion to forge a stronger relationship between the UNC Board of Governors and North Carolina's elected representatives. He invited each of the three representatives to address the room. In general each expressed they had had positive interactions with the Board of Governors and thought there was a significant opportunity to grow and strengthen that relationship over the next few budget cycles.

Chairman Fennebresque offered a response indicating that he felt this Board of Governors was responsive and engaged and he is impressed by the character and professionalism of his colleagues and has no doubt that members of the Public Affairs Committee along with other members of the Board of Governors would continue to build upon and improve the Board's strong relationship with the North Carolina General Assembly and its members.

Vice President Rhinehardt gave an overview of Title IV of the Higher Education Act which focuses on financial aid. She asked Chancellor Saunders-White to give brief remarks on her experience with provisions of the Higher Education Act relating to Perkins loans.

Chancellor Saunders-White shared that many North Carolina parents have had difficulty qualifying for Perkins loans because of new regulations arbitrarily handed down by the United States Department of Education.

In closing, Chairman Holmes thanked assembled Committee Members for their attendance and acknowledged Vice President Moretz for his hard work with the North Carolina General Assembly over the course of the 2014 Legislative Short Session.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.

James B. Holmes, Chair
Committee on Public Affairs

Henry Hinton, Secretary
Committee on Public Affairs