

## MINUTES

January 30, 2025

Via Videoconference and PBS North Carolina Livestream

University of North Carolina System Office

223 S. West Street, Board Room (17<sup>th</sup> Floor)

Raleigh, North Carolina

### Call to Order

The University of North Carolina Board of Governors met on January 30, 2025, at the UNC System Office in Raleigh, North Carolina. Chair Wendy F. Murphy called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. She thanked everyone for joining and recognized Rep. David Willis, as well as Mr. Ben Teague of Biltmore Farms, both in attendance.

### Invocation

Chair Murphy called on Mr. Cameron Brown to give the invocation. She asked everyone to remember those who perished in the recent plane crash in Washington, D.C.

### Roll Call

Secretary Burris-Floyd called the roll. The members present, constituting a quorum, were:

Lee Barnes	John Fraley
Kellie Hunt Blue	Kathy Greeley
Kirk Bradley	Reginald Holley
Cameron Brown	Mark Holton
Harry Brown	Alex Mitchell
Pearl Burris-Floyd	Wendy F. Murphy
Phil Byers	Sonja Nichols
Swadesh Chatterjee	Art Pope
Jimmy D. Clark	Randy Ramsey
Carolyn Coward	Temple Sloan
Gene Davis	Woody White
Joel Ford	Michael Williford

The following members were absent:

Terry Hutchens

### State Ethics Act

Chair Murphy stated that under the State Ethics Act, members have a duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts and asked if anyone had a potential conflict. There were none. She called on President Peter Hans for his report.

## **President's Report**

President Hans reported on affordable tuition. He stated it is a cornerstone of our System and is critical to foster openness and belonging. He touched on the moral obligation, as well as the state constitutional commitment to North Carolina. He spoke of the academic strength and intellectual vibrancy afforded by keeping tuition low for all students. For President Hans' complete report, please see APPENDIX A.

## **Chair's Report**

Chair Murphy thanked President Hans for his remarks. She stated that we must nurture a "culture of affordability" for public higher education. She expressed her gratitude to the taxpayers and state leaders for their strong investment, as well as the System Office, boards of trustees, and President Hans for making the tuition freeze possible. She also stated that we must continue to look for ways to lighten the financial load that our students incur. She said that raising fees should not be the first stop in this process but rather a last resort. She believes a degree from one of our universities is a good investment, and it delivers on the promise of economic mobility for those that graduate. She wants all to continue to "put students first."

## **Consent Agenda Items**

Chair Murphy referred to the consent agenda items listed as Item 5 on the day's agenda. Chair Murphy entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda items. The motion was properly seconded, and the motion carried.

### Minutes

- a. Minutes (Open) of November 14, 2024
- b. Minutes (Open) of December 12, 2024

### Committee on Budget and Finance

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| c. Capital Improvement Projects   | APPENDIX B |
| d. Disposition of Property by Demolition — Appalachian State University   | APPENDIX C |
| e. Disposition of Property by Demolition — East Carolina University   | APPENDIX D |
| f. Amendment to Existing Disposition of Property by Ground Lease — North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University | APPENDIX E |
| g. Acquisition of Property by Deed — NC State University  | APPENDIX F |
| h. Acquisition of Property by Lease — NC State University   | APPENDIX G |

### Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| i. Licensure Program Approvals           | APPENDIX H |
| j. Project Lead the Way Course Weighting | APPENDIX I |

## **Report of the Committee on Budget and Finance**

Mr. Bradley, chair of the committee, reported that the Committee on Budget and Finance received a presentation highlighting the 2025-26 Tuition and Fees proposals submitted by the UNC System institutions, which will be voted on during next month's meeting. In addition, the committee received an update on the Performance Funding Model and a presentation on student housing. All of these items were for information only. The committee also reviewed and approved six transaction items that were included on the consent agenda approved by the Board. The committee also met jointly with the Committee on Military and Public Affairs to preview the upcoming long session budget, non-budget priorities, and the 2025-26 self-liquidating capital improvement projects for the UNC System as well as the federal policy proposals, all of which will be voted on during the February meeting. He also recognized Chief Financial Officer Jennifer Haygood's birthday.

Chair Murphy thanked the committee and called on Mr. Davis for the report from the Committee on Educational Planning, Policies and Programs.

### **Report of the Committee on Educational Planning, Policies and Programs**

Mr. Davis, reporting on behalf of the chair of the committee, stated that the committee approved five institutions' requests for licensure and three limited licenses, which were submitted to the Board through the consent agenda. The committee also received the annual update on the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program, which is also submitted to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee. Dr. David English, senior vice president, gave an update on the western institutions' recovery from the impacts of Hurricane Helene. Mrs. Katherine Martin, vice president, continued her presentation from November on UNC System initiatives aimed at improving health care in North Carolina. The Rural Residency and Medical Education Training Fund will support expanding or establishing new rural residency training programs across ECU Health and UNC Health in six high need specialties, with the aim of increasing the number of physicians practicing in underserved rural areas across the state. Mr. Daniel Harrison, vice president, provided updates on the implementation of two recently adopted or revised policies. Dr. Shun Robertson, senior vice president, and Dr. Ashton Clemmons, assistant vice president, presented the final results of the UNC Systemwide review of teacher preparation in early literacy. As directed by the Board of Governors in the fall, all programs were in full compliance by December 1, 2024. The committee also heard from several chancellors: Chancellor Philip Rogers from East Carolina University, Chancellor James Martin from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, and Chancellor Sharon Gaber from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte presented on the current landscape and impact of university research at their institutions. They shared examples of cross-disciplinary, translational, and use-inspired research, among others, and the ways in which research connects students, faculty, staff, and local and regional communities and beyond. Chair Murphy thanked Mr. Davis for his report. She then called on Mrs. Coward for the report of the Committee on University Personnel.

### **Report of the Committee on University Personnel**

Mrs. Coward, chair of the committee, invited Ms. Shayna Hill, chair of the Staff Assembly, to give her remarks to the Board. Ms. Hill introduced this year's recipient of the Erskine B. Bowles Staff Service Award, Mr. Tim Sampson. Mr. Sampson is the director of financial aid and scholarships at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. An employee is honored each year for their professional service to the campus and community. A video highlighted Mr. Sampson's talents and service efforts in the community. Chair Murphy said she was honored to recognize him and have him in attendance at the meeting. She also thanked Ms. Hill. Chair Murphy then invited Mr. Mitchell to share the Committee on University Governance's report.

### **Report of the Committee on University Governance**

Mr. Mitchell, chair of the committee, stated that the committee approved several appointments. The committee approved two reappointments and one new appointment to the Project Kitty Hawk Board of Directors. Mr. Ray Carey and Mr. Courtney Crowder are nominated for reappointment. Interim Chancellor Heather Norris is nominated for appointment. All three appointments are for terms ending January 31, 2027. (See APPENDIX J).

**Motion:** Resolved, that on behalf of the Committee on University Governance, I move for the approval of Mr. Ray Carey and Mr. Courtney Crowder for reappointment and Heather Norris for appointment to the Project Kitty Hawk Board of Directors for terms ending January 31, 2027.

**Motion:** Mr. Mitchell

**Motion carried**

He stated the committee also approved the reappointment of Mr. Jim Rose to the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority Board of Directors for a term ending January 15, 2029. (See APPENDIX K).

**Motion:** Resolved, that on behalf of the Committee on University Governance, I move for the approval of Mr. Jim Rose to the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority Board of Directors for a term ending January 15, 2029.

**Motion:** Mr. Mitchell  
**Motion carried**

He stated the committee also approved the appointment of Mr. Ritch Allison to fill a vacancy on the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Board of Trustees for a partial term ending June 30, 2027. (See APPENDIX L).

**Motion:** Resolved, that on behalf of the Committee on University Governance, I move for the approval for Mr. Ritch Allison to fill a vacancy on the UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Trustees for a partial term ending June 30, 2027.

**Motion:** Mr. Mitchell  
**Motion carried**

The committee also approved the appointment of Mr. Andrew Heath to fill a partial-term vacancy on the University of North Carolina Asheville Board of Trustees ending June 30, 2027. (See APPENDIX M).

**Motion:** Resolved, that on behalf of the Committee on University Governance, I move for the approval for Mr. Andrew Heath to fill a partial-term vacancy ending June 30, 2027 on the UNC Asheville Board of Trustees.

**Motion:** Mr. Mitchell  
**Motion carried**

The committee also heard from Mr. Andrew Tripp, senior vice president and general counsel, on a proposed new policy regarding campus gatherings and related student conduct matters. The policy was approved by the committee and will be on the full Board consent agenda in February.

Chair Murphy thanked Mr. Mitchell and called on Mr. Holley for the report of the Committee on Historically Minority-Serving Institutions.

#### **Report of the Committee on Historically Minority-Serving Institutions**

Mr. Holley, chair of the committee, stated the committee held a roundtable discussion, led by Dr. Ivy Taylor, to highlight the successful partnerships our HMSIs are engaged in to leverage public investment, increase access and affordability, and support student success. Chair Holley thanked each of the HMSI chancellors, not only for their participation in the roundtable, but also for their innovative and community-minded leadership. He commended the three outstanding students who joined the committee to share the impact that their HMSI has had on their success: They included Staff Sgt. Shenitra Story from Fayetteville State University, entrepreneur Jahmir Hamilton from North Carolina Central University, and Cheatham-White Scholar Jarrod Mason from N.C. A&T State University. Chair Holley noted during the roundtable the chancellors shared a variety of partnerships such as:

- Elizabeth City State University's partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard, which provides scholarships, Reserve status, and guaranteed Officer Candidate School admission for successful graduates;
- FSU's commitment to serving the military by offering free tuition to military students and affiliates, and through the FSU-Fort Liberty Education Partnership Agreement;
- N.C. A&T's commitment to academic excellence through the Cheatham-White Scholarship, supported by the General Assembly;
- NCCU's funding provided by PNC Foundation for the Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Development;
- UNCP's community partnerships to address health disparities with organizations like the Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority, as well as the legislative funding for the new College of Optometry; and

- WSSU's unique relationship with NASCAR that provides access and opportunities, as well as a talent pipeline, into motorsports careers.

Chair Murphy noted that she attended the committee meeting and enjoyed hearing from the chancellors and students who are "more than exceptional." She then called on Mr. Byers for the report of the Subcommittee on Laboratory Schools.

#### **Report of the Subcommittee on Laboratory Schools**

Mr. Byers, chair of the subcommittee, reported the Subcommittee on Laboratory Schools met on November 19, 2024, to consider the renewal of Niner University Elementary, UNC Charlotte's lab school serving kindergarten through fifth grade in partnership with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. The subcommittee heard from Ms. Pamela Broome, executive director and acting principal of Niner University Elementary, and Dr. Malcolm Butler, dean of the Cato College of Education at UNC Charlotte. Presenters shared information related to student performance and clinical preparation. The committee appreciated hearing their plans for operation in years six through ten, as the subcommittee voted to approve UNC Charlotte's request to renew Niner University Elementary for an additional five years based on their renewal report and presentation. Mr. Byers thanked Chancellor Gaber, Dean Butler, Ms. Broome, and the entire Niner University Elementary staff for their efforts over the first five years, and stated the committee looks forward to more great things to come over the next five years.

\*\*\*\*\*

Chair Murphy called on Secretary Burris-Floyd for a motion to go into closed session.

Secretary Burris-Floyd offered the following motion:

**Motion:** Resolved, that the Board go into closed session pursuant to N.C. General Statutes §143-748 and §143-318.11(a)(1), (2), (3), and (6), for the purposes stated in the written motion that was included in the meeting materials, which have been publicly noticed (APPENDIX N). The motion was properly seconded.

**Motion:** Mr. Bradley

**Motion carried**

The Board went into closed session at 10:48 a.m. and returned to open session at 11:09 a.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Report of the Committee on University Personnel**

Mrs. Coward, chair of the committee, reported the committee received a presentation on the University's benefits shared service. The goal of shared services is to improve efficiency and consistency for the University, while freeing up more resources for constituent institutions to complete work more central to their missions. The System Office has implemented a benefits shared service at several of our institutions, including Fayetteville State University, the University of North Carolina Asheville, and Winston-Salem State University. A copy of this presentation is available in BoardEffect. The committee also voted to approve and present to the full Board a series of changes to Chapter 200 of the UNC Policy Manual. These changes are described in detail in your Board materials. The proposed revisions to the Policy Manual will be voted on by the full Board at the next Board meeting. Chair Murphy thanked Mrs. Coward for her report.

There being no further business and without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m. The next meeting of the Board of Governors is scheduled for Thursday, February 27, 2025, at the UNC System Office in Raleigh, North Carolina.

---

Pearl Burris-Floyd, *Secretary*

## **APPENDICES**

The Appendices are part of the official record of the meeting and are posted on the UNC System website at:

<http://www.northcarolina.edu/apps/bog/index.php>

APPENDIX A	President Hans' Report
APPENDIX B	Capital Improvement Projects
APPENDIX C	Disposition of Property by Demolition — Appalachian State University
APPENDIX D	Disposition of Property by Demolition — East Carolina University
APPENDIX E	Amendment to Existing Disposition by Ground Lease — N.C. A&T State University
APPENDIX F	Acquisition of Property by Lease — NC State University
APPENDIX G	Acquisition of Property by Lease — NC State University
APPENDIX H	Licensure Program Approvals
APPENDIX I	Project Lead the Way Course Weighting
APPENDIX J	Project Kitty Hawk Board of Directors Appointments
APPENDIX K	NCSEAA Board of Directors Appointments
APPENDIX L	UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Trustees Appointments
APPENDIX M	UNC Asheville Board of Trustees Appointments
APPENDIX N	Full Board Closed Motion