

## The University of North Carolina Association of Student Governments

48th Session 2/7/2020

Members of the Board of Governors,

Recently, two members of the East Carolina University Board of Trustees met with a student in an attempt to get the student to run for the position of Student Body President. In the conversation, which the student recorded, Trustees Phil Lewis and Robert Moore offered support of the student's campaign, financial and otherwise, and revealed that they voted in favor of an increase to the ECU athletics fee to avoid giving the current Student Body President a "win."

These actions are deeply concerning. Members of the Board of Trustees are given the responsibility to adhere to high ethical standards and to support their institutions by discharging their duties with care, prudence, and diligence (UNC System Policy 200.7). When Phil Lewis and Robert Moore revealed that they voted in favor of an athletics fee increase to spite the current Student Body President, they showed without question that they were failing to discharge their duties in an appropriate manner. Their actions show a malicious and intentional violation of the trust placed in them by the people of the State of North Carolina and by the members of the East Carolina University community.

We, the students elected to represent the interests of the student body of the University of North Carolina System, believe these actions are reprehensible. Students deserve to have individuals focused on student success and interested in acting in the best interests of the University serving in positions of leadership.

Our systems of university governance can only operate if they have the trust of all constituents: students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members. Without this trust, our Boards cannot discharge their duties in earnest. It is clear from the response of faculty, staff, and student leadership at East Carolina University that Phil Lewis and Robert Moore have violated the trust that has been placed in them.



## The University of North Carolina Association of Student Governments

In support of the deep-held reverence for shared governance and respect for student leadership, we demand that Phil Lewis and Robert Moore be removed from their positions as Trustees of East Carolina University.

## Signed,

Mr. Adam Schmidt **UNC ASG President** 

Mr. Raekwon Davis **UNC ASG Senior Vice President** 

Mr. Colin Johnson East Carolina University Student Body President

Mr. William Gibson Winston-Salem State University Student Body President

Ms. Ashton Martin UNC-Chapel Hill Student Body President

Mr. Chandler Crean UNC-Charlotte University Student Body President

Ms. Allison Gilmore NC A&T State University Student Body President

Mr. Chastan Swain UNC-Chapel Hill Graduate and Professional Student

Federation President

Ms. Emma Carter NC State University Student Body President

Mr. Emmanuel Butts Elizabeth City State University Student Body President

Ms. Grace Dai NC School of Science and Mathematics Student Body

President

Mr. David Rhode Western Carolina University Student Body President

Ms. Hunter Martin **UNC-Greensboro Student Body President** 

Mr. Isaiah Green UNC-Asheville Student Body President

Fayettville State University Student Body President Ms. Kionte Bennett

Ms. Maura Wetzel UNC School of the Arts Student Body President

Mr. Nick Pianovich UNC-Wilmington Student Body President

Mr. Thomas

UNC-Pembroke Student Body President

Crowe-Allbritton