

MINUTES

March 30, 2020
University of North Carolina
Center for School Leadership and Development, Board Room
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Call to Order

The Board of Governors met in a special session via teleconference on March 30, 2020, in the Board Room, at the UNC Center for School Leadership and Development in Chapel Hill. Chair Ramsey called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He thanked the members for their continued flexibility as we navigate through these unprecedented times and stressed that the Board will remain united.

Roll Call

Secretary Burris-Floyd called the roll. The following members were present:

Darrell Allison	W. Marty Kotis, III
W. Louis Bissette, Jr.	Steven B. Long
Kellie Hunt Blue	J. Alex Mitchell
Pearl Burris-Floyd	Wendy Floyd Murphy
C. Philip Byers	Anna Spangler Nelson
Carolyn Coward	R. Doyle Parrish
N. Leo Daughtry	David Powers
Thomas H. Fetzer	Randy Ramsey
Thomas C. Goolsby	Robert Rucho
Reginald Ronald Holley	Adam Schmidt
James L. Holmes, Jr.	Temple Sloan
Mark Holton	Dwight D. Stone
Terry Hutchens	Michael Williford

State Ethics Act

Chair Ramsey 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.

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

Mrs. Nelson, chair of the Committee, reported that, at its meeting on February 20, 2020, the committee discussed and approved proposed revisions to Section 700.1.1 of the UNC Policy Manual – Minimum Requirements for First-time Undergraduate Admissions Minimum Course Requirements. The committee recommended that prospective students meet either the minimum 2.5 weighted high school GPA or a higher combined SAT/ACT score, with an effective date of Fall 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the SATs and ACTs have been cancelled. There are currently over 6,000 students whose admission to the UNC System is in jeopardy due to these cancellations. Mrs. Nelson asked the Board to adopt the policy with a change to the effective date to Fall 2020.

Motion: On behalf of the Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs, the Board of Governors vote to approve the proposed amendment to Section 700.1.1 of the UNC Policy Manual – Minimum Requirements for First-time Undergraduate Admission Minimum Course Requirements, effective Fall 2020.

Motion: Anna Nelson

Chair Ramsey opened the item for discussion.

Mr. Long expressed his concern with the revision to the policy and stated that adoption of a permanent policy change should not be done at a special meeting held by videoconference but should be discussed when the Board could meet in person. He proposed that the Board take additional time to consider the issue. Mr. Kotis also suggested that, given these special circumstances, the policy be reevaluated. Chair Ramsey called on Elizabeth City State University's Chancellor Dixon, who spoke about the importance of the campus having the flexibility to enroll a diverse student body and urged the Board to adopt the policy. Dr. Rucho suggested that the matter be debated at length and offered the following motion.

Substitute motion: Resolved, that the Board delay a permanent vote on this item until the Board can meet face-to-face, and table the motion.

Motion: Robert Rucho

Motion seconded: Steve Long

Motion failed

Mr. Kotis made an amendment to the original motion made by Chair Nelson.

Amended motion: Resolved, that the Board adopt a System-wide, three-year sunset to the pilot policy.

Motion: Marty Kotis

Motion seconded: Robert Rucho

Motion carried

Next, the Board voted on the main motion as amended.

On behalf of the Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs, the Board of Governors vote to approve the proposed amendment to Section 700.1.1 of the UNC Policy Manual – Minimum Requirements for First-time Undergraduate Admission Minimum Course Requirements, effective Fall 2020 through the Fall 2022 semester.

Motion: Anna Nelson

Motion carried

President's Report

Interim President Roper reported that, despite the major disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the University is rising to the occasion and is working in close collaboration with the chancellors, state and local officials, and other experts to continue the work of the University. Next, Interim President Roper provided an update regarding the University's operational and academic changes including, student housing restrictions; refunds for housing and dining plans; and students working on campus. He also mentioned that 95 percent of the University's classes were being conducted online. Dr. Roper also explained that he and his team would be meeting with the chancellors later in the day and that he would keep the Board apprised with respect to all these topics.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m. The next meeting of the Board of Governors is scheduled for Friday, April 17, 2020, at the UNC Center for School Leadership Development in Chapel Hill.

Pearl Burris-Floyd, Secretary