

**NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**

SEPTEMBER 23, 2020

The NCCU Board of Trustees convened VIRTUAL VIA WEBEX/DIAL IN ACCESS on Wednesday, September 23, 2020. Chairman Holloway called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

INVOCATION: Trustee Holloway gave the invocation

ROLL CALL: Present: Mr. Kevin Holloway, Mrs. Karyn Wilkerson, Mrs. Oita Coleman, Mr. James Walker, Mr. Michael Johnson, Mr. Keith Chadwell, Mr. William Bell, Mr. Roderick Allison, Mrs. Hellena Tidwell, Dr. Kenneth Tindall, Mr. Keshawn Coleman and Ms. Allyson Siegel

Absent: Mr. John Herrera

NOTE: In accordance with the Attorney General's Advisory Letter Public Bodies can conduct Open Meetings electronically pursuant to NCGS 143.318.13. The public body must comply with statutory requirements and provide notice and access of the meeting to the public, in this case through electronic means so members of the public as well as media may be present via WEBEX or Dial in Access.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: It was moved by Trustee Coleman and properly seconded by Trustee Johnson that the agenda be adopted. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: It was moved by Trustee Coleman and properly seconded by Trustee Johnson to approve the minutes dated June 24, 2020 and July 24, 2020. The motion carried.

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Chairman Holloway informed the Board, as Chair, it is his responsibility to remind all members of the Board of their duty under the State Government Ethics Act to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict of interest as required by this Act. Each member has received the agenda and related information for this Board of Trustees meeting. If any board member knows of any conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matter coming before

the board of trustees at this meeting, the conflict or appearance of conflict should be identified at this time. No conflict was presented.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

As background, the NCCU Board of Trustees Governance Committee met via telephone conference call on May 21, 2020 to consider and recommend a slate of officers for 2020-2021. The slate of officers recommended by the Governance Committee was:

Kevin Holloway, Chairman
Michael Johnson, Vice Chairman
Oita Coleman, Secretary

This recommended Slate of Officers was presented to the NCCU Board of Trustees at the June 24, 2020 meeting, as an informational item.

Today, at the NCCU Board of Trustees meeting, which is the Annual Meeting, prior to the election of officers, nominations from the floor shall be permitted.

The floor was open for nominations from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor.

It was moved by Trustee Tidwell and properly seconded by Trustee Roderick Allison to Close said nomination. The motion carried.

Next it was moved by Trustee Walker and properly seconded by Trustee Tidwell to approve the Slate of Officers for 2020-2021, namely:

Kevin Holloway, Chairman
Michael Johnson, Vice Chairman
Oita Coleman, Secretary

The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Chairman Tindall presented the Academic and Student Affairs Committee Report. There was one (1) action item and several informational items.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Chairman Tindall recognized Dr. Angela Coleman, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs to present the Revisions to the Student Code of Conduct Policy which included an overview of the proposed changes to the Policy and insight regarding the rationale for such changes. The revisions included the following:

- Policy Title and References
- Definitions
- Rights of Involved Students
- Prohibited Conduct

It was moved by Trustee Johnson and properly seconded by Trustee Coleman to approve the Revisions to the Student Code of Conduct Policy. The motion carried.

Vice Chancellor Coleman's Division of Student Affairs Update was included in the Trustees materials as informational. There were no questions or concerns raised as to this presentation. Highlights of this update included the following:

- Health Promotion and Education Plan
- Plan for Surveillance, Testing and tracing
- Student Health Clinic Realignment Plan
- COVID Testing Statistics – July 1-September 2, 2020
- Residential Life Operations Plan
- Residential Hall Occupancy Overview
- Student Conduct & Community Standards
- Student Activities and engagement Plan
- Virtual Programming Endeavors
- Department Highlights
- Lessons Learned
- SOAR Summer Orientation

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Yolanda Banks Anderson provided an update which was included in the Board's materials. Highlights of this update included the following:

- Enrollment Update

- Instructional Delivery Modes
- Faculty Preparation for Instruction
- UNC System Digital Course Enhancement Initiative
- Designing effective Online Courses Workshop
- Office of Faculty Professional Development
- Student Success Initiatives

Trustee Tindall commented on the challenge of fulfilling the Eagle Promise during COVID. The Promise commits to:

- Provide students with a pathway to earn their bachelor's degree in four years;
- Provide students with opportunities to engage with people and programs both national and international scope including student abroad and international exchange opportunities;
- Require students hone their leadership skills through initiatives in the classroom and in the community;
- Prepare students to be job-ready for employment in their field of student or to be well-qualified to proceed to graduate or professional school upon graduation.

Trustee Tindall complimented Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor Yolanda Banks Anderson and Vice Chancellor Angela Coleman for their leadership and determination to continue this Promise. Both Drs. Banks Anderson and Coleman commented on specific university efforts that were underway to address meeting the Eagle Promise during this pandemic.

Also Trustee Keshawn Coleman shared comments from the students which has had positive feedback during this transition. The response to COVID has been very active by not creating clusters, wearing masks, and staying social distance. The students are engaged in seeking additional ways to keeping students safe. All activities on campus are virtual and students are encouraged to do the right thing.

ADVANCEMENT, ATHLETICS AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Chairman Siegel presented the Advancement, Athletics and External Affairs Committee Report. There were several informational items.

Chairman Siegel recognized and welcomed Dr. Gia Soublet newly appointed Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement.

ADVANCEMENT

Dr. Gia Soublet, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement presented the Fundraising Report FY20-FY21, Vision and Priorities.

The fundraising report reflects the total amount raised for FY20, as well as the year-to-date raised for FY21. Included in the report is a breakdown of how much money was specifically raised by alumni and how much of the total was directed towards endowment.

These figures are listed below:

FY20 Results: Cash & Pledges	
Total Overall Giving	\$5,500,556
Alumni Giving	\$2,257,353
FY21 YTD: Cash & Pledges	
Overall Total Giving:	\$372,606
Alumni Giving:	\$169,896

VISION

To develop and lead an Advancement staff that is performing at a high level of efficiency, productivity, and integrity; adequately support the chancellor in his role as chief fundraiser; and, cultivate a culture of philanthropy across campus that will yield transformational financial growth for North Carolina Central University.

PRIORITIES

Vice Chancellor Soublet identified priorities for her first 90 days, as well as those to be addressed by the end of the current fiscal year. The most critical of which is to conduct a comprehensive assessment of Institutional Advancement operations. Interviews with the entire Advancement staff and key stakeholders are currently underway to assist the vice chancellor in understanding what processes and programs are in place, how resources have been allocated and utilized, and how well the division has engaged with the campus community to determine the depth of the division's infrastructure, efficiency and capacity. A written

report will be prepared and the findings used to determine additional priorities that will be used to develop a work plan for FY21 and a five-year strategic plan.

ATHLETICS

Dr. Ingrid Wicker-McCree provided the FY21 Sports Season Update and Budget Update which were included I the Board’s materials. Highlights of this report included the following:

- MEAC suspended Fall Sports (football volleyball and Cross Country)
- MEAC voted to move football ad volleyball season to Spring 2021
- NCAA Board of Directors decision
- Cancelled fall championships and moves to Spring 2021
- Student athletes can “opt out” of the 2020-2021 season and still maintain their current athletic grant-in-aid
- All student athletes will be granted an additional season of eligibilities; seniors may return, but athletic grant-in-aid not guaranteed
- NCAA DI Council and Board of Directors will make decisions on bracket sizes later I the semester.
- Budget Update
 - Revenue
 - Expenditure
 - Reduction
- External Relations and Resource Acquisition (ERRA)

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Chairman Walker presented the Audit Committee Report. There was one (1) action item and several informational items.

Chairman Walker presented the Audit Committee Charter which included the following:

- Purpose
- Authority
- Composition
- Meetings
- Responsibilities

- Financial Statements
- Internal Control
- Internal Audit
- External Audit
- Compliance
- Reporting Responsibilities
- Other Responsibilities

It was moved by Trustee Johnson and properly seconded by Trustee Tindall to approve the Audit Committee Charter. The motion carried.

Included in the Board’s packet of materials were the Unplanned Internal Audit Activities and Planned Internal Audit Activities as of FY21.

FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Chairman Johnson presented the Finance and Facilities Committee Report. There were several informational items.

FINANCE AND FACILITIES

Ms. Akua Matherson, Interim Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance provided the Administration/Finance and Capital Project Updates. Highlights of her report included the following:

End of year budget information related to general funds and auxiliary funds; fiscal year Budget for FY 20-21; and information on COVID funding and COVID supply chain (PPE).

The facility update on the status included the following:

- Major Capital Projects
 - P3 Housing
 - Student Center
 - New School of Business
 - WNCU Radio Station
 - Collaborative Learning Center
 - Starbucks
- Campus Master Plan Update and Timeline
- Minor Capital Projects

ENDOWMENT FUND

Chairman Holloway presented the Endowment Fund Report. There was an informational item.

The Investment at a Glance through the end of the 3rd Quarter was provided as reading material only.

The UNC Management Company Fund had a performance return of .39% for the period ended June 30, 2020.

The Piedmont Investment Advisors had a performance return of (1.38) % for the same period.

The market value of the University's Endowment Fund as of June 30, 2020, was \$39,542,784 compared to \$39,525,319 as of July 01, 2019. This change reflects a market value increase of \$17,465 or 0.04% for fiscal year 2020.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Chairman Wilkerson presented the Governance Committee Report. There were three (3) action items to be presented in Closed Session and informational items.

As you recall at the February 26, 2020, Board of Trustees meeting, Chairman Wilkerson presented a Board Performance Assessment Timeline. In March an electronic survey was created and said assessment was circulated to each Trustee. The results of the survey are included in your materials for your review. Discussion of the findings and to develop an improvement action plan for 2020-2021 will be considered at a later date.

Next, included in the UNC Board of Governors July 22, 2020 packet of materials was an overview of the 2020-2021 Boards of Trustees Selection Process. The proposed calendar of events is included in your packet materials. This process will begin this month thru May 2021, when the University Governance Committee will present finalized recommendations of new trustees and will be presented to the UNC Board of Governors as an action item.

New Trustee Orientation will be scheduled for Fall 2021.

The NCCU Board of Trustees has four (4) Board of Governors Appointments, whose terms will expire on June 30, 2021, namely; Kevin Holloway, John Herrera, Allyson

Siegel and Kenneth Tindall. Of these four (4) two (2) are eligible for reappointment (Holloway and Herrera) and two (2) are not eligible for reappointment due to term limit, namely Siegel and Tindall.

As for the NC General Assembly's legislative appointments, this process will not begin until the Legislature convenes in January. First item of business, of course, is to elect a Speaker of the House and President Pro Tem. The appointments by the Legislators is one of the last things they do prior to adjournment which will most likely occur in June 2021.

The NCCU Board of Trustees has two (2) legislative appointments whose terms expire June 30, 2021. One (1) for the NC Senate Trustee Wilkerson who is not eligible for reappointment due to term limit and one (1) for the NC House Trustee Walker who is eligible for reappointment.

So as you can see if those eligible for reappointment which are Holloway, Herrera and Walker are reelected to the NCCU Board of Trustees we will have three (3) new appointments to the Board of Trustees two by the UNC Board of Governors and one by the NC Senate.

So with that in mind Chairman Wilkerson is asking the Trustees to identify potential candidates to serve as Trustees and forward to her. The list of potential candidates will be considered by the Board of Trustees at its November meeting and finalized. As far as the UNC Board of Governors Chairman Wilkerson indicated above this process has already started so we need to get busy. Those whose terms are expiring and are eligible for reappointment please let me know of your desire to continue to serve. Chairman Wilkerson will need your current vitae. The nomination forms from the UNC Board of Governors are available.

EXECUTIVE/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Chairman Holloway presented the Executive/Personnel Committee Report. There was one (1) action item.

Assistant University Legal Counsel Piper Mitchell provided an overview of the proposed revisions and the rationale for such revisions to the Sexual Harassment Policy.

It was moved by Trustee Oita Coleman and properly seconded by Trustee Walker to approve the revisions to the Sexual Harassment Policy. The motion carried.

The NCCU Board of Trustees met in Closed Session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(2) to prevent the premature disclosure of an honorary degree, scholarship, prize or similar award.

In Closed Session Chairman Holloway presented two (2) candidates for Trustee Emeriti status. Background materials were provided.

Next, Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor Yolanda Anderson presented one candidate for Professor Emeriti. Background materials were provided.

There being no further business in Closed Session it was moved by Trustee Coleman and properly seconded by Trustee Johnson to reconvene in Open Session. The motion carried.

When the meeting reconvened in Open Session it was moved by Trustee Johnson and properly seconded by Trustee Oita Coleman to approve Trustee George R. Hamilton and Trustee John a Barbee to Trustee Emeriti Status. The motion carried.

Next it was moved by Trustee Bell and properly seconded by Trustee Tidwell to approve Dr. Les Brinson to Professor Emeriti Status. The motion carried.

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

INTRODUCE NEW MEMBER OF ELT

Chancellor Akinleye introduced the newest member of the Chancellor's Cabinet who joined NCCU last month.

Dr. Gia Soublet began as Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement on August 17th. She came to our institution with more than 25 years of successful fundraising, development and nonprofit management experience. Dr. Soublet served as vice president for Institutional Advancement at Xavier University of Louisiana from 2015 to 2020, where she oversaw strategic initiatives and daily operations for the office. Please join me in welcoming Dr. Soublet!

OVERVIEW: NCCU TODAY

As Chancellor shared with the university community when we convened the 2020 University Conference for the first time virtually in August, we began the academic year very differently due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID crisis has been unlike anything else we have seen in the course of our history but, as Eagles, we know that we shall persevere and get through this challenging time, together.

You will be pleased to know that:

- We continue to keep members of our community safe and healthy;
- Our students remain vigilant in practicing the critical three “w”s;
- We adhering to the guidelines established by county, state and federal health authorities.

Even in the midst of a global pandemic and despite the challenges that many higher education institutions have faced, we successfully opened the 2020-2021 academic year on August 24, after moving more than 2,100 students into our residence halls, including the newly completed Alston Avenue Apartments and George Street Residence Hall.

FALL 2020 SEMESTER HIGHLIGHTS

We are providing instruction in multiple modes to meet COVID-19 protocols. A special thanks is due to the Division of Academic Affairs and Division of Administration and Finance, especially the Division of Extended Studies, Office of e-Learning, Department of Environmental Health and Safety and Facilities Operations for working hard since March to transition our classes online, conduct training sessions for our faculty, provide students with best practices for learning successfully online and ensure our campus and classroom setups were redesigned in accordance with new COVID-19 guidance.

ACADEMIC COURSE DELIVERY

For the fall 2020 semester, we are offering classes as follows (face-to-face, online and hybrid):

- Face-to-face, at 0.8%
- Hybrid, at 28.5%
- Online, at 70.7%

The photo to the left is of Dr. Diane Markoff, a professor in the Department of Mathematics and Physics, who teaches a hybrid course that has students in a face-to-face and online formats. Students are properly distanced and wearing their masks. I visited Dr. Markoff’s class on August 24 and can attest to the interaction and engagement between the students in the room and those who were joining online. At last week’s UNC System Board of Governors’ meeting, I shared with the governors that our campus has adjusted to and embraced the pivot we have made, all to ensure our students still receive a competitive, high quality educational experience.

COVID-19 TESTING, QUARANTINING AND ISOLATION

This summer, we contracted with Apex Solution to serve as the third-party vendor who conducts all COVID-19 testing and contact tracing for our campus. Apex Solutions is integrated into our COVID-19 team. We have also established an MOU with Durham County Health Department. In addition to testing symptomatic students and faculty and staff who have had an occupational exposure to COVID-19, we are providing surveillance testing for students in high exposure populations on a weekly basis. Students selected for surveillance testing are chosen randomly from identified populations, including student-athletes, medically vulnerable students and those in health professions. This plan does include testing all students who live on campus.

As of September 18th, we have tested 1,932 students, and have a 2.4 percent positivity rate, with 47 students having tested positive since July 1st. This rate is low and we working diligently to keep it below four percent. We had 24 students in isolation and quarantine as of September 21st. Four residence halls are dedicated to isolation and quarantine; we are currently utilizing rooms in only two halls.

ENROLLMENT: FY 2021

The demand for obtaining an education at NCCU is high and validated by our healthy enrollment growth for the 2020-2021 academic year. Chancellor acknowledged the tireless work of the Division of Enrollment Management, School of Graduate Studies, School of Law, all our schools and colleges, along with our dedicated alumni and each of you for helping us reach and surpass some of our goals for this year. The following numbers are a testament to our diverse academic portfolio that is attracting more bright talent to our campus, including the third cohort of Cheatham-White Scholars who boast the highest academic profile of all three program cohorts:

- Our overall enrollment as of our census date, September 8, is 8,078, which is .84% over 2019.
- We welcomed 1,224 first-year students, which exceed our goal of 1,200.
- We enrolled 465 transfer students, which is slightly down from last year.
- Our graduate student population increased by 4.01% over 2019, with 1,608 students in our graduate programs this year.
- Our Legal Eagles community totals 402 students, which is a growth of 10.71% percent over 2019. These students possess strong LSAT scores and GPAs, consistent with the adjustments that we made with our revised admissions requirements.
- Our Distance Education hours have increased for our programs that are fully online. Additionally, we have transitioned many of our other course online, which

contributes to our distance education only and main campus student credit hours that total 24,744. For 2020, we have an online headcount of 1,568 students, as these are students who are enrolled in online degree programs, and our online credit hours are 13,081.

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT RANKINGS

NCCU's profile has led to positive movement in the U.S. News & World Report rankings for 2021.

Of note is NCCU's positioning on the following lists:

- The university moved up seven positions, to **No. 47**, among 133 Regional Universities in the South.
- We are positioned as **No. 21** among public southern regional universities.
- NCCU is listed at **No. 11** among all HBCUs.
- The university also moved up from No. 7 to **No. 4** as a Top Performer on Social Mobility among southern regional universities.

NCLEX AND BAR EXAM RESULTS- JULY 2020

The good news continues with the results our recent graduates received after taking the NCLEX nursing licensing exam and the Bar exam. Our nursing students posted a 92.31% passage rate as of July for those who took the NCLEX exam. First-time takers of the North Carolina Bar exam had a 78.57% pass rate for the July 2020 exam, and the university had an overall pass rate of 71.76%.

I would like to extend congratulations to our alumni who are entering the nursing and law professions armed with their credentials! We know they persevered in difficult circumstances, but Eagles soar high! I would also like to offer a special thanks to the leadership, faculty and staff in the Department of Nursing and School of Law for your dedication in helping our students achieve these very important milestones as they begin their careers.

RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS

Our work leading novel research initiatives continues to increase annually. NCCU generated \$34.75 million in fiscal year 2020, up from our total of \$33.1 million in 2019. This highlights how NCCU continues to lead the way among master's level, comprehensive institutions.

Our faculty have started the first quarter of the fiscal year strong. Two recent awards of note are:

- A \$6 million gift in assets from IBM to NCCU as one of 13 HBCUs that are part of its newly announced Skills Academy for technology, assets, resources and skills development. This project will be managed by Dr. Jon Gant, dean of the School of Library and Information Sciences.
- Also, last week we were notified of a five-year, \$1.6 million award from the National Institutes of Health's National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism that was secured by Dr. Maxwell Gyamfi of BBRI. His project will focus on the study of alcoholic liver disease. This is an R-1 grant, which is highly competitive and selective, and supports health-related research and development based on the mission of the NIH.

2018-2019 UNC SYSTEM METRICS

It is also important to provide an update on the nine metrics each university in the UNC System must address. Our objectives for each metric are listed here, as well as an update on where we are in addressing each metric. You will see that we are exceeding in our goals for graduation rates, undergraduate degree efficiency and research.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Chancellor mentioned earlier in his report, we have two new residence halls that have expanded our university's footprint.

- These two residence halls are part of the three P3 projects.
 - Alston Street Apartments has 386 apartment units.
 - George Street Residence Hall has 406 semi-suites.
- Construction has started on a third residence hall on Lawson Street, which will have 482 semi-suites. It is expected to be finished by June 2021.
- Tremendous progress has been made at the site of the New Student Center. Construction continues on schedule and the center is slated for completion in December 2021.
- Early site work will begin in March 2021 on the new School of Business. We expect to occupy the building in May 2022.

RECENT GRADUATE HIGHLIGHT: JOSHUA L. RICHARDSON, J.D.

Even in this virtual environment, it is important to still showcase to you how we are fulfilling The Eagle Promise. Today, Mr. Joshua Richardson is joining us. Joshua graduated summa cum laude from the School of Law in May. While a student, he served as president of the Student Bar Association, president of the Native American Law Students Association, and founded the NCCU Soaring Eagle Pow Wow. I will allow

Joshua to share his own story briefly so you can see how even a pandemic cannot deter a determined Eagle from being successful.

SAFETY AND CRIME IN DURHAM

Over the past several weeks, crime has increased significantly in Durham. In the past week, these criminal incidents have seen their way onto our campus. The safety and security of our students and all members of the university community are our priority. I took photos of the bullet hole the pierced a window in Ruffin Hall Residence Hall on Saturday night. I have contacted Mayor Steve Schewel, other Durham City and County leaders, as well as members of the North Carolina State Legislature about this critical issue. We are looking to quickly mobilize a strategy that protects the safety of our students.

The Trustees thanked Mr. Richardson for sharing his NCCU experiences.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Prior to going into Closed Session Chairman Holloway recognized and on behalf of the entire Board and extended congratulations to Ms. Tomeika Bowden, Class of 2000 who is the newly elected President of the NCCU Alumni Association and also to Dr. Ralph Barrett, newly elected NCCU Faculty Senate Chair.

Additional announcements included the following:

October 22, 2020 UNC BOG Meeting
*November 17, 2020 NCCU BOT Meeting
December 17, 2020 UNC BOG Meeting
January 21, 2021 UNC BOG Meeting
February 18, 2021 UNC BOG Meeting
February 24, 2021 NCCU BOT Meeting

*The NCCU Board of Trustees Wednesday, November 18, 2020 meeting has been changed to Tuesday, November 17, 2020, due to a conflict with the UNC Board of Governors scheduled meeting on Wednesday, November 18, 2020.

There being no further business, it was moved and properly seconded to adjourn. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Dottie Fuller
Recorder