



## **ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**Dunn-Oliver Acadome Board Room**

**September 26, 2014**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Minutes**

### **I. Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Alabama State University Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman

Larry Thornton @ 2:00 pm.

### **II. Invocation**

The invocation was given by Jeffery Obutu, who is an International Student from Nigeria

### **III. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jeffery Obutu, and recited by all.

### **IV. Establishment of Quorum**

Upon voice call by President Gwendolyn Boyd, a quorum was affirmed. Trustees present were as follows:

Larry Thornton, Lucy Baker, Robert Gilpin, Alfreda Green, Bobby Junkins, Jeff Langham, Angela

McKenzie, Ralph Ruggs, Pamela Ware, and Herbert Young. Trustees Taylor Hodge and Buford Crutcher

were absent.

### **V. Adoption of Agenda**

Chairman Thornton called for the adoption of the agenda.

Upon a motion by Vice-Chair Baker, seconded by Trustee Green, the agenda was unanimously adopted.

### **VI. Adoption of Minutes**

Chairman Thornton called for the approval of the minutes from Board Meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014, and

Special Board Meeting August 8, 2014.

Upon a motion by Trustee Ruggs, seconded by Trustee Baker, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Comment: Trustee Young stated there was no action item on the agenda for his request for all personnel contracts to be sent to all Board Members.

Discussion: President Boyd and Trustee Young discussed the legality of what information can be disclosed, and how the information can be communicated to protect the rights of the individual, even under the Open Records Act.

Trustee Young requested a legal opinion.

General Counsel Kenneth Thomas asked for the request to be submitted to his office in writing. He further indicated that all basic documents were subject to disclosure.

Trustee Young stated that his request was ignored, and that he should have been made aware of the process to request contracts.

General Counsel reiterated that Trustees are entitled to access the requested information, and with approval from Chairman Thornton, General Counsel again asked Trustee Young to submit his request in writing to the Legal Department for review.

The minutes were adopted unanimously.

## **VII. President's Report**

Dr. Gwendolyn Boyd thanked the Board for the opportunity to share the new and exciting things happening at ASU.

The President's @ A GLANCE continues to provide monthly updates about the positive events affecting the University.

We currently have 42 nations represented on Campus.

T-Shirts were created in recognition of International Day, and the students raised \$12,000 for the University.

Some highlights under Academic Affairs are the opening of 32 Commerce in downtown Montgomery and the relocation of the College of Business Graduate School, Masters of Accountancy Program. The project, which was accomplished with Title 3 Funds, is expected to be complete by mid-October. A ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening will be scheduled upon completion of the project.

ASU has received its first Patent. Congratulations to Dr. Shree R. Singh, Director of ASU's Center for NanoBiotechnology and Life Sciences Research for all of his hard work.

September 10, 2014, we witnessed the first ASU/VCOM White Coat Ceremony for the inaugural group of students from the College of Science, Math and Technology. The ceremony signifies their official acceptance into the preparatory program of studying Osteopathic Medicine.

ASU's Band Director James Oliver was honored by the City of Montgomery September 25, 2014. Mayor Todd Strange presented Oliver with a proclamation making September 25 "James Oliver Day" in Montgomery.

Head Football Coach Reggie Barlow was honored by Sydney Lanier High School in Montgomery, Alabama as they celebrated his success in a Jersey Retirement Ceremony.

The College of Visual and Performing Arts have many ASU graduates that are performing on Broadway and on television this season.

As we increase our international footprint, we have entered an agreement with the Nigerian Government, and anticipate 50 to 60 new students. And beginning in the spring of 2015, 2 new students from South Korea will be enrolled.

Housing is still an issue, and some solutions to the problem are expected in the near future.

President Boyd is continuing to reinforce that ASU has NOT lost its accreditation, and is asking for community support to inform others regarding this matter.

SACS COC is scheduled for a follow-up visit to the campus October 14-16, 2014. Board Members may be called to interview. The expectation is for ASU to be removed from WARNING status by the end of the year.

\$150,000 was given to the Student Gap Fund from the Inauguration.

Tom Joyner, host of the Tom Joyner Morning Radio Show, has named ASU School of the Month.

The Strategic Plan of Action is in the beginning stages of being launched.

Chairman Thornton commented that ASU has NOT lost its accreditation, and that many community supporters are willing to support ASU based on its future plans for improvements.

## **VIII. SGA Report**

Gaston Gibson, Executive Secretary for the SGA, thanked the Administration for the Town Hall meeting on September 18, 2014.

They are pleased that most students have received financial aid awards and scholarships.

SGA has communicated with the Administration about possible upcoming events.

They would also like to thank the Administration for their role of bringing peace to the University.

The students voted on the suggested hours of operation for the café, and they have not been changed.

Comments:

Wanda Smith, Vice President for Business and Finance, commented that the Food Service hours were in the process of being changed, and that communication has been initiated with the vendor.

## **IX. Faculty Senate**

Mr. Charlie Handy, Chairman of the Faculty Senate advanced the following names for appointments to

Standing Committees of the Board:

• Student Affairs	Senator Janel Bell Haynes
• Athletics	Senator Sara Kiser
• Property	Senator Vincent Hinton
• Academic Affairs	Senator Brenda Gill
• Development	Senator Necoal Driver
• Audit	Senator Joyce McGriff
• Finance	Senator Sonja Harrington

The Senate would like to request voting rights within the Board Committees.

The Faculty was also quite visible during the historic Inaugural Activities for President Boyd.

We played a major role in the development and implementation of “The Mission of Excellence Campus Conversation”. The theme for this event was “The Struggle is Real: Responsibility, Accountability, and Employability”. Associate Provost Karyn Scissum Gunn was a key resource and facilitator to ensure synergy throughout the planning process.

President Boyd has addressed the Faculty Senate twice since she has been in office.

We also appreciate the interest shown by the Board of Trustees through its leadership.

Comments: Trustee Young reminded the Board that according to the Code of Alabama voting by non-board members is prohibited.

## **X. Non-Academic Staff Senate**

**No Action**

## **XI. Committee Reports**

## **A. Academic Affairs Committee**

Trustee Langham, Chairman of the Academic Affairs Committee presented a Resolution for the Department of Psychology to be housed in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences.

Trustee Young requested that all supporting documentation for the agenda be submitted to the Board 5 days in advance of the Board Meeting as required by the By-Laws. He requested a legal opinion on this requirement.

In response, General Counsel Thomas confirmed that all supporting documentation must be submitted to the Full Board at least 5 days in advance of the Board Meeting, per the ASU by-laws.

Trustee Young stated that a vote cannot be rendered on items that have not been submitted in compliance with the by-laws.

Dr. Wilson informed the Board that he did not know about the 5 day submission requirement.

- **A motion by Trustee Ruggs to suspend the rules of the by-laws and accept the Resolution was given. The motion was seconded by Trustee Baker.**

Trustee Green reiterated that documents must be submitted 5 days in advance for review according to the by-laws.

**The motion was carried unanimously.**

- **Upon a motion by Trustee McKenzie to adopt the Resolution by Academic Affairs, seconded by Trustee Baker, the Resolution was unanimously adopted.**

## **B. Student Affairs Committee**

Trustee Langham, Chairman of the Student Affairs Committee stated that the Student Affairs Committee did not submit their report electronically within the required timeframe.

However, Trustee Langham directed Trustees to review the copy of the report that was just issued to the Board. .

Trustee Young questioned if student housing concerns were the responsibility of Student Affairs.

Dr. Wilson confirmed that student housing concerns are under Student Affairs.

### **C. Athletic Committee**

- **Upon a motion by Trustee Baker, Chairman of the Athletic Committee to adopt the Drug Policy with the amendment to send treatment results to designate personnel only, seconded by Trustee Ware, the policy was unanimously adopted.**

Trustee Young requested all documents to be submitted 5 days in advance.

Trustee Young questioned if there was a Stadium Policy that existed that was not passed by the Board. He was aware of an evacuation plan that was presented, but was not aware of any policy that would prohibit someone from taking a cup out of the suite on the club level.

Trustee Baker asked VP Zillah Fluker if she could provide the policy before the end of the meeting to the Board, and she confirmed she would.

### **D. Property Committee**

Trustee Ruggs, Chairman of the Property Committee, informed the Board that 4 presentations for the new dorm project were given in the committee meeting.

Trustee Ruggs made a motion to move forward on negotiations with City Scape, subject to negotiations of acceptable terms and conditions with final proposal submitted to the Full Board for review and approval.

Trustee Ruggs and Trustee Green discussed if there were any associated up-front costs to the University. Trustee Ruggs responded that based on City Scape's proposal there would be no up-front costs to the University.

Trustee Ruggs, Trustee Young, and Eric Thornton, VP Buildings and Grounds, discussed that City Scape did come and do a presentation a few weeks before. There would not be any expenditure until after the project is complete, and the cost would be set price based on occupancy. Negotiations with City Scape would only be finalized after review and approval by the Full Board. If negotiations with City Scape were unsuccessful, the Property Committee would then consider negotiations the one of the other presenters.

Trustee McKenzie and Eric Thornton begin to discuss the factors in the decision to move with City Scape. Mr. Thornton shared with the Board that out of all the other presenters, City Scape was more relevant with projects of this magnitude. Parts would come pre-assembled, and with a 100 year product guarantee. The contractors are excellent, and are nationally known. City Scape was also able to secure the funds needed for the project. Their proposed agreement allows for a 2 or 3 year payout, with a start to finish time of 12 months.

Trustee Young requested consideration for a historical marker to be placed near the location of the new dorm with information about the use of the previous buildings and their history.

Trustee Young questioned if the new dorms would have room for non-traditional students. He stated that the University currently does not provide housing options for people who are older, and do not want to be housed with younger students.

Mr. Thornton stated that some spaces can be dedicated to non-traditional students.

- **Upon a motion by Trustee McKenzie to allow the initiation of negotiations with City Scape, seconded by Trustee Ruggs, the decision was adopted unanimously.**

#### **E. Finance Committee**

A motion was given by Trustee Gilpin, Chairman of the Finance Committee, to approve the proposed budget, and request for a 60 to 90 day review due to an 800 student shortfall. The motion was seconded.



Discussions: Trustee Young and VP Wanda Smith began discussions about the areas that needed to be addressed in the budget. Ms. Smith informed the Board that although they were able to reduce the budget by \$14 million, the 60-90 day review was needed because the previous budget was based on a projected student count of 6000. Due to the actual enrollment of 5200 students, the proposed budget would need to reflect another reduction of about \$8 Million. Ms. Smith shared that the new budget reflects more transparency, and that the necessary cuts were deep. Trustee Young raised questions and concerns about the budget specific to the Band and Athletics. Ms. Smith asked for the support of Trustee Young, and his added valuable expertise to assist in the 60-90 day review of the Budget.

Further discussions between Trustee Young and VP Wanda Smith addressed her request for approval to operate under the proposed budget, with the agreement that the University would not exceed the budget in areas of fixed cost. Trustee Young and VP Wanda Smith also discussed the dangers of approving operating costs from the previous year's budget. It could potentially increase spending, since the new proposed budget has a significant difference of \$15 million.

Trustee Young stated that the Trust of Excellence has to be a separate meeting because it is a separate Board. The Trust is intended for student scholarships, advancement of new programs and the requested amount must be specific.

Trustee McKenzie questioned the liability of the Board if it took action outside of the guidelines of the Trust. Specifically, would that be a violation of the decree?

General Counsel Kenneth Thomas stated that any changes may need to be agreed upon by both parties, including the plaintiff. Attorney Thomas requested time to review the information presented, since this was his first time revisiting the issue.

VP Wanda Smith stated that no money had been transferred out of the Trust to date, so they were not in danger of any violations at this time.

➤ **Upon a motion by Trustee Ruggs to approve the Budget, seconded by Trustee Baker, the Budget with the condition of review within 60 to 90 days was adopted by a majority vote, Trustees Young and Green opposing.**

Trustee Young stated that his caution with the Budget in regard to the Trust is the \$2.1 million amount requested

- **Upon a motion by Trustee Gilpin to amend the Budget by freezing all money from the Trust except for the \$1.2 million from last year which is within the 75% limit, seconded by Trustee Green, the amended budget was adopted by a majority vote with Trustee McKenzie opposing.**

## **XII. Development Committee**

### **A. No Action**

## **XIII. Audit Committee**

### **A. No Action**

## **XIV. Personnel Actions**

Dr. Boyd stated the current report represented a savings of around \$1.2 million in compensation.

Trustee Young questioned the purpose and necessity of the newly created Ombudsman position during a hiring freeze.

Dr. Boyd informed the Board that there are several new titles, all reflected with a savings of \$1.2 million and referred to Dr. Wilson to speak on the specific position.

Dr. Wilson, Interim Provost, VP for Academic Affairs, explained that the position exists in many Universities, and that their function is to be the chief advocate for students. Dr. Wilson also offered to provide the job description from the job posting.

There was further discussion with Trustee Young, Trustee Ruggs, Dr. Wilson, and Wanda Smith about the decision on reallocation of funds, and how best to support the students. The Student Enrollment Management positions needed, including Director of Admissions, was included in the new budget. Ultimately, decisions were made to hire within areas that were deemed critical.

Trustee Young stated for the record that the personnel report was not clear, and that the savings were not reflected.

Trustee Gilpin stated that there was a \$14.7 million reduction, which included compensation. The personnel guide, within the budget was given to all Trustees.

Trustee McKenzie wanted clarification on the personnel actions. She stated that there were 18 new hires at a cost of \$1.8 million, 52 separations with a savings of \$3 million, and that the long term reduction was not included.

Trustee McKenzie questioned if all of the hiring decisions were critical.

Dr. Boyd answered yes.

- **Upon a motion by Trustee Baker to approve the Personnel Report, seconded by Trustee Ruggs, the report was adopted by majority, with one vote abstained by Trustee McKenzie, Trustees Green and Young voted against.**

## **XV. Other Business**

Dr. Boyd introduced Ron Meers of UPI of Alabama with a presentation on the possibility of having a proton center on campus. Dr. Boyd then yield the floor to Trustee Baker who is more informed about Mr. Meers past projects.

Trustee Baker shared with the Board the potential benefit of having a Proton Center on the Campus, and the benefits he has seen with the center in Dothan.

Chairman Thornton asked for the Property and Finance Committees to further review the presentation by Mr. Ron Meers.

Trustee McKenzie yielded the floor to Janet Sutton of the ASU Foundation who shared a contribution report. \$150,000 was given to the Gap Fund to help students who are in financial need. Ms. Sutton thanked the Administration for signing the MOA in order for the Foundation and University to work more closely together. Ms. Sutton shared the options available to receive donations by the Foundation, and that they are the 501(c)(3) instrumentality of the University.

Trustee McKenzie thanked Ms. Sutton for her information and for providing clarity on the differences between the ASU Foundation and the Alumni Association, stressing the importance of working together. Chairman Thornton introduced the new Board Liaison, Kisha Howard.

Trustee Young inquired about the ASU conflict of interest form.

Dr. Boyd stressed the importance of 100% cooperation from the Board before the scheduled SACSCOC visit on October 14-16.

Trustee Green suggested that the Board re-visit the by-laws in its entirety vs. making only one amendment.

**XVI. Recess**

Upon motion, duly seconded and unanimously approved, the meeting recessed at 4:19 p.m. until the call of the Chair.



Honorable Lucy L. Baker, Chair  
Alabama State University Board of Trustees



Dr. Gwendolyn Boyd, President  
and Secretary Alabama State University  
Board of Trustees

2/5/15

Date Approved

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Resolution-Establishment of Department of Psychology  
housed in College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
2. Policy-Alabama State Drug-Testing and Education Program

Alabama State University  
Board of Trustees

**Resolution** to Establish a Department of Psychology to be housed in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Whereas, the psychology program is located in the Department of Foundations and Psychology in the College of Education under the purview of the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; and

Whereas, historically, psychology programs at HBCU's were often housed in colleges of education, as psychology programs evolved into full-fledged programs with a psychology major, they have been moved to colleges more closely aligned with their content and mission such as the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences; and

Whereas, the psychology program currently has approximately 283 undergraduate majors and graduates approximately 47 students with a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology each year ; and

Whereas, creating a Department of Psychology located in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences will allow the program to establish an identity within Alabama State University and facilitate recruitment of students interested in studying psychology; and

Whereas, creating a Department of Psychology located in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences will facilitate the growth of the psychology program; and

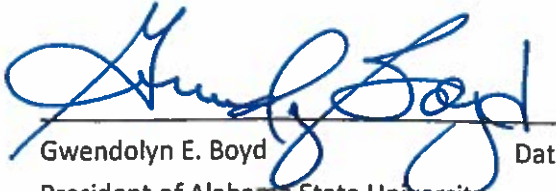
Whereas, housing the Department of Psychology in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences will facilitate additional faculty and students in the social sciences; and

Whereas, the psychology program will continue to provide the general studies course, General Psychology, to all majors and service courses to majors requiring upper-level psychology courses; and

Whereas, the move will not cost the university additional funds to implement.

**NOW, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Alabama State University Board of Trustees approves the establishment of the Department of Psychology to be housed in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. Educational foundations will be under the direct supervision of the dean of the College of Education until independent status is established.

Executed this 26<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gwendolyn E. Boyd Date  
President of Alabama State University  
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lucy Baker Date  
Chair, ASU Board of Trustees



# **ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY**

## **DRUG-TESTING AND EDUCATION Policy and Procedures**

**Alabama State University  
Department of Athletics  
915 South Jackson Street  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104**