

**ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
BOARD MEETING
APRIL 18, 2014**

The Athens State University Board of Trustees (also referred herein as the Board) held a meeting at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, April 18, 2014 in the Founders Hall Chapel to consider University matters.

**PRESIDING: DR. SANDRA SIMS-deGRAFFENRIED
CHAIR PRO TEMPORE OF THE BOARD**

The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Dr. Sandra Sims-deGraffenried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no individuals registered to speak to the Board.

ROLL CALL

On roll call, the following Board members were present and constituted a quorum to conduct business:

Dr. Sandra Sims-deGraffenried
Dr. Mark Heinrich
Ms. Mary Scott Hunter
Mr. Garth Lovvorn
Mr. Macke Mauldin
Ms. Maxine Randolph
Mr. Tazewell Shepard
Mr. Clint Shelton

Senator Arthur Orr joined the meeting at 2:15 pm.

Also present were Dr. Robert Glenn, President of Athens State University and Ms. Jackie Gooch, Secretary to the Board. Governor Robert Bentley and Ms. Cathy Dickens were absent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion made by Mr. Tazewell Shepard and seconded by Mr. Garth Lovvorn the Board approved the agenda by affirmative votes (8-0) of members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion made by Mr. Macke Mauldin and seconded by Ms. Maxine Randolph, the Board approved the minutes of the January 17, 2014 Board meeting by the affirmative votes (8-0) of members present.

OLD BUSINESS, PENDING MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

In response to the Degree Review Resolution approved and adopted at the January 17, 2014 Board meeting, Dr. Cromwell and Vice President McAbee provided a follow-up report and reviewed data from the degree review process. This will become an on-going review process for the University.

Mr. Macke Mauldin extended accolades to the University Administration for the manner in which the review was approached.

Dr. Sandra Sims-deGraffenried extended appreciation from the Board for the report.

NEW BUSINESS, PENDING MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Graduate Program Approval: Religion (Attachment A)

On a motion made by Mr. Tazewell Shepard and seconded by Senator Arthur Orr, the Board approved the graduate program in religion and authorized the President of the University to forward the program request to the Alabama Commission on Higher Education. This motion was approved by affirmative votes (9-0) of members present.

Graduate Program Approval: Logistics and Supply Chain Management (Attachment B)

On a motion made by Mr. Tazewell Shepard and seconded by Mr. Garth Lovvorn, the Board approved the graduate program in Logistics and Supply Chain Management and authorized the President of the University to forward the program request to the Alabama Commission on Higher Education. This motion was approved by affirmative votes (9-0) of members present.

Alabama Center for the Arts Phase II Financing (Attachment C)

On a motion made by Ms. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Mr. Macke Mauldin, the Board adopted a resolution for the issuance of debt relating to the capital improvement for Phase II of the Alabama Center for the Arts. This motion was approved by affirmative votes (9-0) of members present.

Board of Visitors Charter Revision (Attachment D)

On a motion made by Ms. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Mr. Tazewell Shepard, the Board approved the revised Charter for the Athens State University Board of Visitors. This revision was in Article III, Item 3 of the Charter. This motion was approved by affirmative votes (9-0) of members present.

Board of Visitors Nomination and Appointment (Attachment E)

On a motion made by Ms. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Mr. Macke Mauldin, the Board appointed Marsha White to serve on the Board of Visitors for the College of Education for a one-year term. This motion was approved by affirmative votes (9-0) of members present.

Tuition Rates Graduate Programs (Attachment F)

On a motion made by Ms. Maxine Randolph and seconded by Mr. Garth Lovvorn, the Board approved the tuition rate of \$325 per credit hour for graduate courses (face-to-face and online). This rate will be applied regardless of in-state or out-of-state student status. This motion was approved by affirmative votes (9-0) of members present.

2014-2015 Tuition Increase (Attachment G)

Vice President McCoy provided an overview on the 2014-2015 budget and recommended tuition increase options.

On a motion by Mr. Tazewell Shepard and seconded by Ms. Maxine Randolph, the Board approved a tuition increase appropriate to meet budgetary needs for 2014-2015. The amount of increase would range from 6% to 9%. The Board further authorized the Executive Committee of the Board (Dr. Sims-deGraffenried, Mr. Shepard, Mr. Mauldin, Dr. Heinrich, and Dr. Glenn) to grant the final approval for the specific amount of increase pending further budget analysis.

Ms. Mary Scott Hunter stated that the only way she would support this recommendation would be if Dr. Glenn committed to holding a summit with other educational leaders in the state to discuss the rising cost of tuition and how to make education more accessible/affordable for the citizens of Alabama.

Dr. Glenn agreed to hold a summit, with the assistance of Dr. Heinrich, with other educational leaders. Dr. Glenn further requested that he be allowed to wait on planning this summit until the graduate program issue is resolved with the Alabama Commission on Higher Education. Ms. Hunter agreed.

This motion was approved by affirmative votes (9-0) of members present.

President's Evaluation Instrument (Attachment H)

Per the President's employment contract, Dr. Glenn will be evaluated each year. Dr. Glenn provided an overview of the proposed evaluation instrument and the proposed process. Dr. Sims-deGraffenried and Dr. Glenn collaborated on the development of this instrument. Dr. Sims-deGraffenried also stated that an independent consultant would be retained to gather the final evaluation results and present a report. Mr. Shepard recognized the good job that Dr. Sims-deGraffenried had done in overseeing this task.

On a motion by Mr. Tazewell Shepard and seconded by Mr. Macke Mauldin, the Board approved the evaluation instrument to be used by the Board of Trustees, Vice Presidents, and College Deans for evaluating the President of the University. This motion was approved by affirmative votes (9-0) of members present.

OTHER BUSINESS

Area updates were presented to the Board of Trustees by the following individuals:

Dr. Ron Cromwell, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs
Mr. Mike McCoy, Vice President for Financial Affairs
Mr. Rick Mould, Vice President for University Advancement
Ms. Sarah McAbee – Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services
Ms. Belinda Krigel – Chief Information Officer
Dr. Mark Durm – Presiding Officer, Faculty Senate
Mr. Damon Lares – Presiding Officer, Staff Senate

Dr. Glenn announced that this would be Dr. Durm's last Board meeting as Presiding Officer of the Faculty Senate. Dr. Robert White will be assuming the duties on June 1, 2014. Dr. Glenn expressed his appreciation for Dr. Durm's efforts on behalf of the faculty. Dr. Sims-deGraffenried also thanked Dr. Durm for this service.

Dr. Sims-deGraffenried expressed the Board appreciation to Vice President Mould for all of the hard work he did on getting the various bills passed through during this legislative session.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Glenn expressed his appreciation to the Board for the renovation work on the kitchen of the President's Home.

Dr. Glenn will be sending information to the Board members regarding our recent request for Expansion of Instructional Role with the Alabama Commission on Higher Education.

REPORT AND CLOSING COMMENTS OF BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Sims-deGraffenried thanked everyone for the reports/presentations.

Dr. Sims-deGraffenried reminded everyone of the naming opportunity in McCandless.

Dr. Sims-deGraffenried thanked the following individuals:

- Pam Shepard for her work on the President's Gala.
- Betty Ruth-Oliver, President of the Alumni Association, for her work on the Alumni Banquet.
- Senator Arthur Orr for his help in getting the bills passed.

Dr. Sims-deGraffenried sent best wishes to Mary Scott Hunter in her upcoming campaign.

Dr. Sims-deGraffenried reminded Board members of the upcoming Honors Convocation and Spring Commencement events. Any Board members who wish to bring greetings at any of these events should let Dr. Sims-deGraffenried know.

Summer 2014 Commencement is scheduled for August 2, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Sandra Sims-deGraffenried adjourned the Athens State University Board of Trustees meeting at 4:30 p.m.