

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
The University of West Alabama
Regular Quarterly Meeting
Bell Conference Center
March 2, 2015, 1:00 p.m.

A G E N D A

- I. Call to Order (Mr. Terry Bunn)
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda **(Action Item)**
- IV. Approval of Minutes from November 14, 2014 **(Action Item)**
- V. Report from the Student Affairs Committee (Mr. Vernon)
- VI. Report from the Academic Programs Committee (Mr. Hillman)
- VII. Report from the Institutional Advancement Committee (Mr. Smith)
- VIII. Report from the Finance Committee (Mr. Saad)
- IX. Report from the University Facilities Committee (Mrs. Cloud)
- X. Report from the Faculty Senate (Dr. Amy Jones)
- XI. Report from the Staff Senate (Mr. Mike Pratt)
- XII. Report from the Student Government Association (Mr. D. J. Jackson)
- XIII. University Provost (Dr. Tim Edwards)
 - A. McIlwain Bell Awards
 - B. Nellie Rose McAdory Award
 - C. Other
- XIV. Report from the University President (Dr. Ken Tucker)
 - A. Online Programs Report
 - B. Activities/Events Update
 - C. New Agreements
 - D. Other
- XV. Report of the Board President (Mr. Bunn)
 - A. Contract for Dr. Tucker
 - B. Resolution re: Inauguration
- XVI. New Business
- XVII. Other Matters
- XVIII. Adjourn

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March 2, 2015, 1:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Terry Bunn, President *Pro Tempore*, called the meeting to order and asked Mrs. Jean Anderson to lead in prayer.

II. ROLL CALL

Mr. Bunn asked Mrs. Lindsey to call the roll. Other than Mr. Bunn, members attending were: Mrs. Jean Anderson, Mr. Hal Bloom, Mrs. Sheila Cloud, Mr. Randall Hillman, Mr. John Northcutt, Mr. Alex Saad, and Mr. Jerry Smith. Absent: Mr. Thomas Ballow, Jr., Mr. Jerry W. Groce, Mr. Willie O'Neil, Mr. Thed Spree, and Mr. Victor Vernon. Mrs. Lindsey announced there was a quorum attending. Also attending were Mr. Mike Kendrick, the University's attorney, and several administrators.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Bunn asked for a motion to approve the agenda; Mr. Smith so moved; Mr. Bloom seconded the motion; and the motion was approved.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 14, 2014

Mr. Bunn asked if there were any changes to the minutes from the last meeting. There were none. *Mr. Bloom made a motion to approve the minutes; Mr. Northcutt seconded the motion; and the motion was approved.*

V. REPORT FROM THE STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Mr. Bunn indicated Mr. Vernon, Chair of the Student Affairs Committee, was unable to attend the meeting. He stated no quorum was present, but they heard a report from the Student Affairs' area that was presented by Mr. Buckalew.

VI. REPORT FROM THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Mr. Hillman indicated that all members of the Board attending today were at the Committee meetings and heard the report from Academic Affairs, so he would have no further comment.

VII. REPORT FROM THE INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Jerry Smith, Chair, stated the Committee heard a report from Mr. Spruiell on fundraising, alumni activities, etc., and the Committee agreed that the Development Office should start counting funds raised after the earlier Capital Campaign ended, which was the end of 2013. *He stated the Committee recommends, therefore, in the form of a motion that any funds raised beginning January 1, 2014, should be counted as part of the next campaign; Mr. Bloom seconded; and the motion carried.*

VIII. REPORT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Alex Saad, Chair, reported the Committee heard a report from Chief Financial Officer Raiford Noland. He said some good news is that the University's health insurance cost will not increase this year.

Mr. Saad reported that the Committee also approved the President's contract and recommends that the Board approve this action. Since it was recommended by the Committee, only a second was needed and it was provided by Mr. Bloom. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Saad announced he will call a meeting soon to begin work on next year's budget. Mr. Hillman stated he hopes there will be a combined budget that they all can understand, as he has been requesting for about four years.

IX. REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Mrs. Sheila Cloud, Chair, reported the Committee discussed guidelines for the policy to hire architects for routine campus projects and they approved the guidelines

and will develop such a policy after hearing comments from the Board members at the meeting. No action was needed on this item since the actual policy has not been developed.

Mrs. Cloud also reported that the Committee approved an expenditure of \$20,000 for addressing the immediate needs at the President's Home to make it functional for Dr. Tucker and his wife. ***She asked for approval on this expenditure; Mr. Bunn said it came as a recommendation from the Committee and would not need a second. He called for the vote and the motion was approved.***

She stated the Committee will develop a proposal with two options – (1) a plan for the President's Home on how much it would cost to renovate the house for a long-term with the idea it might be used as a guesthouse later; and (2) another plan for more extensive renovations on the current facility or the cost to build a new one. She said they would come back with drawings, projected costs, etc. at the next meeting.

Mrs. Cloud stated the Committee approved a motion to enter the bid process for the Bibb Graves Hall work, which would include the (1) renovation of the restrooms; (2) install the new roofing; and add as an alternate option (3) the installation of new windows, at a cost not to exceed \$1.145 million and bring the contract to the Board for consideration and/or approval. She said an approval by the Board is needed on this recommendation from the Committee. ***Mr. Bunn stated a second was not needed and called for the vote. The motion passed.***

Mrs. Cloud discussed the recommendation by the Committee to move forward on the work at the Black Belt Museum with the bid process. No second was needed, and the motion passed. The funds for this facility are already available and are not University funds.

X. REPORT FROM THE FACULTY SENATE

Dr. Amy Jones, Chair of the Faculty Senate, presented and read a resolution recently passed by the Faculty Senate to honor Dr. Ken Tucker at his Inauguration. She said this document would be presented to Dr. Tucker.

Dr. Jones said they appreciate the work of the Board in the Presidential search, and also thanked them for placing some faculty members on that Committee.

Dr. Tucker asked to make a brief comment. He said he and Dr. Edwards, Provost, went to the last Faculty Senate meeting and spoke to that body about goals and objectives. He said they, as University administrators, are sincere in looking forward to having the Faculty Senate more engaged in decision making.

XI. REPORT FROM THE STAFF SENATE

Mr. Mike Pratt, Chair of the Staff Senate, also presented and read a resolution passed by the Staff Senate to honor Dr. Ken Tucker at his Inauguration.

XII. STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

In the absence of the SGA President D'Anthony Jackson, Ms. Jerria Price, Vice President of the SGA, presented and read a resolution that was passed by the Student Government Association to honor Dr. Ken Tucker at his Inauguration.

After the reading of all of these resolutions, Mr. Bunn extended his and the Board's support to Dr. Tucker as the new President. Dr. Tucker said he was deeply humbled and appreciative of these resolutions. He said in his marketing of UWA, he delights in telling about the family atmosphere on the University campus. He said he attended the meeting of the SGA last week and was very impressed with its leaders.

XIII. UNIVERSITY PROVOST

Dr. Tim Edwards reported that the names of the recipients of the McIlwain Bell Awards and the Nellie Rose McAdory Award were distributed to the Trustees. He indicated to Mr. Bunn that the Board's approval is needed. ***Mr. Bloom made a motion to approve the slate of recipients; Mrs. Cloud seconded the motion; and the motion carried unanimously.***

At this time, Dr. Edwards called the names of the recipients and asked them to come to the podium, as follows:

McIlwain Bell Awards

Support Staff – Mrs. Sharon Harwell

Professional Staff – Mrs. Angel Jowers

Faculty Professor – Dr. Donnie Cobb

Nellie Rose McAdory Award

Dr. Alan Brown

A plaque and check for \$1,000 was given to each recipient. Dr. Edwards indicated this concluded his report. Mr. Bunn congratulated each recipient on receiving such a prestigious award.

XIV. REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

A. Online Programs Report

Dr. Tucker requested Dr. Jan Miller, Director of the Online Programs, to give a presentation. During her presentation, she noted that it is very important to obtain the CACREP accreditation for the Counseling program. She discussed some additional programs they plan to add for the Online Program.

Dr. Miller announced that the BBY Publications is now housed under Online Programs, indicating this provides a supplement to math in the elementary schools. She said one Online advisor was converted to a retention coordinator and they have provided that office with some retention tools.

Mr. Bloom asked how the prices of undergraduate online tuition could be reduced, asking what the Board needs to do in this regard. Dr. Tucker also stated that there is a critical need for the tuition to be competitive. Mr. Noland indicated that the Board needs to approve a reduced rate at its June meeting. A suggestion was made to reduce the online tuition for undergraduates from \$429 to \$329; however, Dr. Tucker indicated the administration is not quite ready to make a recommendation to the Board, but should be by the June meeting. Mr. Bloom requested that Dr. Tucker bring his recommendation to the June meeting for reducing the tuition rates.

B. Activities/Events Update

Dr. Tucker reported that he has been impressed with the feedback he has received from the faculty, staff, and students.

He said the ribbon cutting ceremony recently held at the new auto-tech facility that was partnered with Mercedes and Alabama Power Company grants was very successful. He said reps from Mercedes drove a new C-Class auto down for the event and it will be on display for a while.

C. New Agreements

Dr. Tucker stated UWA now has an agreement with the University of Alabama Arts and Sciences Department to bring some new art on campus. He said they also have a partnership agreement with Shelton State and Auburn University.

D. Other

Dr. Tucker reported that he would like to present to the Board a nominee for an honorary doctorate that was approved by the University's Honorary Doctorate Committee. He said the Committee recommends that Longhai Ma be presented an honorary doctorate at the commencement in May. Dr. Tucker indicated his biography was distributed to the Board earlier, and reported that Ma serves as the Vice President of the Guandong University of Finance and has been the key leader in establishing the International Program on campus. **Mr. Smith made a motion to approve this recommendation; Mrs. Anderson seconded the motion; and it was approved.**

Dr. Tucker thanked the Board for its support and the show of confidence they have placed in him. He said he will work tirelessly to bring the University forward.

XV. REPORT OF THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mr. Bunn presented a resolution to congratulate Bob Holycross on his recent retirement and his many years of service as the Director of Physical Plant. He requested Mrs. Lindsey to read the resolution. Afterwards, he asked for a motion to adopt the resolution for Mr. Holycross. ***Mr. Smith made a motion that the Board adopt the resolution; Mrs. Cloud seconded the motion; and it passed unanimously.***

Dr. Tucker congratulated Mr. Holycross on behalf of the faculty, staff and students for his many years of service. He stated he was a man of character and integrity, and wished him well in his retirement.

XVI. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Bunn asked if there was any new business. There was none.

XVII. OTHER MATTERS

Mr. Bunn stated there were no other matters to be presented at this meeting.

XVIII. ADJOURN

Mr. Bunn asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Smith moved to adjourn; Mr. Hillman seconded the motion; and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Earlene Lindsey
Assistant Secretary to the Board