

**JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**MINUTES**

The Board of Trustees of **JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY** held its Spring meeting at the Renaissance Ross Bridge Resort in Hoover, Alabama on **Monday, May 1, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. CDT.**

Mr. William Smith, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

Chairman Smith welcomed Dr. Pamela Beehler, JSU's First Lady, to the Board of Trustees meeting.

Roll call showed the following members of the Board of Trustees were:

**PRESENT:**

Mr. William Smith, Chairman  
Mr. Greg Brown  
Mr. Clarence Daugette  
Mr. Thomas Dedrick  
Senator Vivian Davis Figures  
Mr. Rusty Fuller  
Mr. Tony L. Ingram  
Mr. Randall Jones  
Mrs. Gale Saxon Main  
Mr. Randy Owen  
Dr. Pitt Harding, Faculty Senate President  
Mr. Ranger Rumrill, Student Government Association

**ABSENT:**

Governor Kay Ivey

Chairman Smith welcomed Mr. Ranger Rumrill, the new President of the Student Government Association, to the Board of Trustees meeting and stated that this was the first Board of Trustees meeting for Mr. Rumrill. Mr. Rumrill introduced the Association's newly elected officers. Hayden Clay, Vice President of Student Senate; Miranda Fairel, Director of Publicity; Kasey Gamble, Vice President of Student Activities and Breon Moore, Vice President of Organizational Affairs. Chairman Smith thanked them for taking on leadership for our students.

Chairman Smith welcomed Dr. Pitt Harding, Faculty Senate President, to the Board of Trustees meeting. Dr. Harding commented that this would be his last meeting and that he would like to have the opportunity to introduce his successor at the July Board meeting.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Smith called for a review of the minutes of the January 23, 2017 Board of Trustees meeting.

**Mr. Thomas Dedrick made a motion to approve the January 23, 2017, Board of Trustees meeting minutes as written. Mr. Randy Owen seconded the motion and the Board approved the minutes unanimously.**

#### **BUILDING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Mr. Clarence Dauge, Chairman of the Building and Finance Committee, reported that the committee reviewed an External Auditors Report by Mr. Chris Anderson from CDPA, P.C., of Athens, AL. This is the first year an outside accounting firm performed the audit. The Committee reviewed the report in detail and noted all problems and corrections. Chairman Smith emphasized that it was a very thorough audit noting that the Board transitioned from utilizing state examiners to private examiners to improve meeting its obligations as a state institution. Mr. Dauge presented a motion for the Board of Trustees to adopt the audited financial statements of Jacksonville State University for the year ending September 30, 2016, as presented. This motion is effective May 1, 2017.

**Coming from the Building and Finance Committee the Motion did not require a second. After discussion, the Board adopted the motion unanimously.**

#### **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Randy Owen, Chairman of the Academic Affairs Committee, stated that they had very interesting meeting, but did not have any action items that required a vote.

#### **ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE**

Mr. Tony Ingram, Chairman of the Advancement Committee, stated that the committee had a good meeting, but had no action items to present to the Board at this time. He acknowledged that he is proud of the Advancement Committee and the good work they are doing.

#### **ATHLETIC COMMITTEE**

Mr. Thomas Dedrick, Chair of the Athletic Committee, made the following motion on behalf of the Athletic Committee:

**Motion #1** - Intercollegiate athletics enhances the university experience of all students, participants and non-participants alike, by developing school spirit and creating a sense of community. Athletics thus serves the University's mission of enhancing the quality of the student experience. The Athletic fee contributes to the operating costs of maintaining quality Intercollegiate Division I Athletic programs that are also NCAA and Title IX compliant.

The University currently charges a flat \$50 per semester athletic fee to all students, but the Athletic Committee recommends that we remove the per semester charge, and replace it with a per credit hour charge. We feel this is a more equitable charge to our students, specifically our part-time students compared to our full-time students.

Our committee recommends a \$6 per credit hour fee, which would remain the lowest athletic fee in the State of Alabama, the lowest athletic fee in the Ohio Valley Conference and the lowest athletic fee among our peer institutions.

Mr. Rumrill wished to go on record noting that he is unsure of students' potential reaction to the proposed revised fee and that the Board should anticipate some backlash in regards to it. He expounded that instituting a six-dollar per credit-hour fee would mean that full-time students would transition from paying a flat \$50 fee per semester to \$90 per semester, and proposed considering a cap.

Mr. Dedrick responded to Mr. Rumrill's comments by mentioning that in comparison to other institutions in surrounding areas and states, the proposed new fee is still relatively low and the appropriate direction the Athletic Committee should pursue.

**Coming from the Athletic Committee the motion did not require a second. After discussion, the Board approved the motion unanimously.**

In addition, Mr. Dedrick made known that the Committee received an update on the Baseball Stadium project and they are very excited and proud that the basketball facilities would also be receiving improvements better reflecting the quality of our programs.

The Athletic Committee gave special recognition for JSU Baseball Coach Jim Case and men's basketball coach Ray Harper for their outstanding accomplishments and records set over the last season. Mr. Greg Seitz read the following statements.

#### **MEN'S BASKETBALL RECOGNITION**

*The Jacksonville State men's basketball team recently completed the most successful season in the program's Division I history. First-year head coach Ray Harper led the Gamecocks to their first ever Ohio Valley Conference title, first appearance in the Division I NCAA Tournament and just the second 20-win season in the program's*

*Division I history. Following an 8-23 record in 2015-16, JSU finished the 2016-17 campaign as the sixth-most improved team in the nation this year.*

*The Gamecocks were the No. 4 seed in the OVC Tournament, earning them a bye in the first round. In the quarterfinals, they defeated No. 5 Southeast Missouri 74-51 and then upset No. 1 seed Belmont 65-59 in the semifinals in a nationally televised game on ESPNU. In the championship game, the Gamecocks knocked off No. 2 seed UT Martin 66-55 on ESPN2 to claim their first Division I conference title.*

*The Gamecocks' first-ever appearance in March Madness was played in Indianapolis on Friday, March 17, at the home of the Indiana Pacers – Bankers Life Fieldhouse. The broadcast team of Jim Nantz, Grant Hill, Bill Raftery and Tracy Wolfson, which is the No. 1 broadcast team for CBS, broadcast the game nationally live on CBS Television with more than 5 million viewers tuning in to watch the game. Just the earned media value from JSU's run during March Madness is projected to be more than \$100 million dollars.*

*Coach Harper is just the second Jacksonville State head coach to win 20 games in his first season at the helm, tying legendary head coach Bill Jones who began his tenure in 1974. Coach Harper also is only the second head coach in JSU's Division I history to lead the Gamecocks to a 20-win season as the team posted a 20-15 record.*

### **MEN'S BASEBALL RECOGNITION**

*JSU's win over UAB on April 4 at Choccolocco Park was a milestone win for head baseball coach Jim Case. The Gamecocks rallied from a 6-4 deficit with an eight-run inning to collect Coach Case's 500th career win, with all wins coming at the helm of Jacksonville State.*

*Coach Case is the only active coach in the Ohio Valley Conference to win 500 games at his school. After beating Alabama 11-8 last week, his career record now stands at 505 wins.*

*Coach Case is in his 16th season guiding the Gamecock baseball team and has claimed six Ohio Valley Conference Championships, and four appearances to the NCAA Regionals. Since joining the OVC in 2004, Coach Case has finished third or better 11 times out of 13 years, and JSU has played in the OVC Tournament Championship game 9 out of 13 times under his leadership.*

The coaches expressed gratitude and appreciation during their comments.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

#### **Regional Stewardship**

##### **Eleven County Tour of Northeast Alabama**

- The President and a JSU outreach team are visiting all counties in our region to learn about their distinctive competencies (e.g., business and industries, economic development initiatives, tourism, education, culture etc.) and their needs and aspirations. We let each county know that we are their regional state university and want to help them and our entire region grow and develop along all dimensions (e.g., educationally, economically, culturally, technologically etc.).
- So far, we have visited 7 of the 11 counties and have been very well received.
- Our new Center for Manufacturing Support has been a big hit with many manufacturing companies who are excited about the services we offer.
- Both our CEDBR and Career Services have been well received with great interest in various kinds of studies we can conduct and how we can help them meet workforce needs.

- Ultimate goal is to involve key players from all 11 counties in a Regional Strategic Planning effort.

## **Academic Affairs**

### **Center for Economic Development and Business Research**

- Expanding their portfolio of projects partly due to our regional stewardship visits. Projects include studies for City of Anniston – Anniston Museum Complex, City of Guntersville, Honeywell, United Ways of Alabama, Alabama National Guard (2), St. Clair County Economic Development Council (EDC), and Mentone Arts & Cultural Center.

### **Applied Engineering**

- Four grants funded totaling \$3,029,296.

### **Merrill Hall Improvements – School of Business and Industry**

- Four classrooms renovated.
- Technological improvements to 10 classrooms.
- LED Financial Tickers installed in the Atrium.
- New Financial Trading Room is almost complete.

### **Department of Art – School of Arts and Humanities**

- Department Head Seth Johnson chaired the Jacksonville Arts and Music Festival Committee to plan and implement JSU's first JAMfest scheduled for Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. This annual event will showcase art, music and drama at JSU and invite artists, musicians and acts to perform on campus for university and community members.
- New student award winning art displayed in the Breakfast Room of the President's House replacing the student art previously displayed over the past year. Held a reception for Art students and faculty at the President's House to unveil the art selected.

### **Fulbright Scholars**

- In February 2017, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs recognized Jacksonville State University as being a top producer of Fulbright Scholars in the nation for 2016-17 and having more Fulbright Scholars than other colleges and universities in the state. This recognition is one of the most prestigious awards in academia.

### **Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE)**

- At its March 10, 2017 meeting, the Alabama Commission on Higher Education approved the reorganization of Academic Affairs at JSU.

### **International House and Programs**

- New International House Strategy – recruit Global Ambassadors who will be integral to our campus-wide globalization strategy in leading the charge and collaborating with campus organizations to get our entire student body involved in many global learning activities.
- Global Ambassadors will live in the International House, which will be the hub of our globalization effort. Recruiting strategy for global ambassadors will focus on academic and English proficiency and leadership skills.
- IH scholarship plan will provide for in-state tuition (i.e., out of state waiver) and a Housing Scholarship funded by the International Endowment Foundation. The International Endowment Foundation voted to partner with JSU to fund this Housing Scholarship at its meeting this spring.

## **Student Affairs**

### **Center for Excellence for Veterans**

- Completed the first semester of tutoring and held the first Career Readiness Workshops at the Veterans Center this semester. Awarded the inaugural Veteran Annual Scholarship for 2017-2018.

**Dean of Students Office**

- Freshman Forum had a successful year focusing on leadership development and job skills for future employment, supporting the Boys and Girls Club in Anniston, and raising funds for suicide prevention.

**SGA**

- Sponsored “A Day of Unity” in celebration of Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. and honoring his legacy as a servant of the people.
- Held Campus Safety Week in March in partnership with the Alabama State Troopers and the University Police Department.

**Recreational Sports**

- Centers, a division of Brailsford & Dunleavy, will take over operations at Stephenson Hall beginning in late June or early July 2017.

**Career Services**

- For the first time, held the Career Fair at the Coliseum with a 12% increase in students participating. Participating organizations indicated that change in venue was a big improvement and a better environment for interacting with students.

**Transfer Pathways**

- Held a signing ceremony for the first Transfer Pathways MOU with a community college at Gadsden State on April 20<sup>th</sup> to assure a seamless transition from GSCC and JSU.
- Snead State Community College and Northeast Community College should be likely be ready to also sign MOUs this summer or fall.

**Admissions**

- 977 events were attended this academic year generating 25,572 prospects for future semesters.
- 9,181 applications submitted this academic year for future semesters.
- Events expanded to include national recruiting fairs throughout the U.S.
- Record attendance at Preview Days.
- Indicators are positive for fall enrollment with first year freshman applications and acceptances at all-time highs:
  - Applications for fall semester 2017 are at an all-time high of 5,734 - 16% greater than last year’s final number.
  - Acceptances are also up at 3,046 - 15% greater than last year’s final number.
- First year transfer numbers are also on track to surpass last year’s numbers and are the highest in the past five years.

**Human Resources****Women’s History Month**

- Series of events commemorating Women’s History Month throughout March.
- Iron-Jawed Angels - a movie on women’s suffrage sponsored by the SGA.
- Introduction of biographical banners across campus in key locations honoring key JSU women.
- Panel discussion of 10 key successful JSU women about their journeys, including experiences in the workplace, how they succeeded and what they learned.
- A women’s Tea Party with keynote speaker Vickie Saxon, executive with Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Alabama, and the unveiling of a portrait of First Lady, Dr. Pamela Beehler for display on campus.

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**Black History Month**

- Series of events on campus during the month of February commemorating Black History Month.
- Main event was the Black History Luncheon featuring JSU’s first Black student and graduate, Ms. Barbara Cox Curry (Class of 1969).

## **Capital Projects Report**

- **Baseball Complex**
- Morris Building of Oxford has been awarded the construction bid. Demolition commenced on March 20<sup>th</sup> and the project will be completed by Spring 2018.
- **Bibb Graves: Restroom Accessibility Improvements**
- The men and women's restrooms on the main level, second floor, will be updated to meet ADA accessibility requirements and modernized. One of the single stall restrooms will then become gender neutral. Bid was awarded to Complete Construction of Albertville. Project is completed.
- **Marching Southerner's Practice Field**
- Bid was awarded to Prograss (same contractor that replaced the turf at Burgess-Snow Field) and work commenced in January. Timeline for completion is June. This phase of work includes new artificial turf, new lighting, and ornamental fencing.
- **Leone Cole Auditorium**
- Bids were opened on February 24<sup>th</sup> and project was awarded to Kilgore Construction of Anniston. Work will add two new ADA accessible single stall restrooms. Work is scheduled to be completed by May.
- **Daugette Hall**
- Whorton Engineering is nearing completion of the design for the installation of a new HVAC system to replace the window A/C units and steam pipe-heating system dating back to the 1940's. ADA accessibility deficiencies will also be addressed at entrances and restrooms, including the addition of an elevator. Majority of the work is scheduled to be completed by the fall semester.
- **Houston Cole Library**
- There are two massive air handlers original to the building (1973) located in the penthouse. This equipment was well beyond its designed life cycle and was in need of replacement. Bid was awarded to Stateline Mechanical out of Woodland. Project is complete.
- **Tennis Court Improvements**
- Bid was awarded to Lower Brothers Company, Inc. out of Birmingham. Over 7,000 linear feet of cracks were repaired and a spectator concourse was created. Project is complete.
- **Sparkman Hall**
- Ra-Lin of Oxford has been awarded the construction bid and work commenced in February. Scope of work includes new HVAC system, sprinkler system, plumbing piping, ADA accessibility, and interior cosmetic improvements. Work is to be completed prior to the fall semester.

## **Finance and Administration**

- Made progress on the Campus Fitness and Wellness Center (P3) with an MOU between the JSU Foundation and the University.
- Awarded the new university pouring and vending rights contract to Coca Cola beginning in 2018.
- JSU has a new external audit firm, CDPA, P.C., which has completed the FY 2016 annual audit of JSU's financial statements.
- JSU has successfully consolidated Financial Aid with Student Accounts resulting in improved customer service and processes.

## **University Advancement**

### **Capital Campaign**

- The overall capital campaign total in outright, in-kind and planned gifts as of April 17, 2017, was approximately \$26,500,000. The total amount of outright gifts and pledges for 2017 as of April 1<sup>st</sup> was \$311,500 compared to a total of \$184,657 for the same period in 2016, a 69% increase.

### **Alumni Affairs**

- Alumni Relations sent out via email an alumni “Boots on the Ground” survey in partnership with the Admissions Office request for volunteers. Within 48 hours, 134 volunteered to assist with scholarship presentations this month.

### **University Development**

- Searches ongoing for a new Annual Fund Coordinator and a major gift officer for the Schools of Science and Human Services and Social Sciences
- Formed a new Annual Fund Board to help develop our new Annual Fund Program.

### **Marketing and Communications**

- Working to rebrand JSU’s website to fully transition to the six new academic schools and their programs.

### **Athletic Marketing and Promotions**

- The Ford Motor Company extended their \$30,000 contract per year through 2019.

## **Athletics**

### **Student Athlete Academic Performance**

- JSU’s student athletes had another banner semester in the classroom with a fall 2016 overall GPA of 3.14.
- This marks the 11<sup>th</sup> straight semester that JSU’s student athletes posted a 3.0 or higher overall GPA.
- 198 student athletes (64%) achieved a 3.0 or higher GPA.
- 109 student athletes made the Dean’s List with a 3.5 or higher GPA.
- 54 student athletes made the President’s List with a perfect 4.0 GPA.
- 11 sports teams posted a 3.0 or higher GPA.
- Kudos to all our student athletes for their academic performance!
- The overall capital campaign total in outright, in-kind and planned gifts as of April 17, 2017, was approximately \$26,500,000. The total amount of outright gifts and pledges for 2017 as of April 1<sup>st</sup> was \$311,500 compared to a total of \$184,657 for the same period in 2016, a 69% increase.

### **Men’s Basketball**

- First-year head coach Ray Harper led the Gamecocks to their first ever Ohio Valley Conference title and first appearance in the NCAA Division I Basketball Tournament and just the second 20-win season in the program’s Division I history.
- JSU became the first team to punch its ticket to the NCAA Tournament, and received unparalleled media coverage.
- Coach Harper became only the second head coach in JSU’s Division I history to win 20 games, and joins JSU Hall of Famer Bill Jones to win 20 games in his first season at the helm of the Gamecocks.

### **Women’s Softball**

- Having an awesome season again with a 30-9 record overall and a 9-1 record in the OVC (first place).
- Defeated Ole Miss (#24 in the country).

### **Men’s Baseball**

- Coach Jim Case reached a career milestone with his 500<sup>th</sup> career win.
- The team defeated the University of Alabama twice this season.

### **Men’s Golf**

- OVC Champions! Won the OVC Conference Tournament with a one-stroke comeback victory over ECU after beginning the last round 8 strokes back!

### **Rifle**

- The JSU rifle team once again enjoyed a solid season and finished ranked No. 14 in the nation. Senior Brandon Muske and sophomore David Sink both competed in the NCAA Rifle National Championships in March. The Gamecocks finished second in this year’s OVC Rifle Championship as a team.

### **Beach Volleyball**

- In the season finale, the Gamecocks earned their first-ever win over a nationally ranked team after defeating No. 12 South Carolina. In just its second season, JSU showed tremendous improvement from year one to year two and finished with five dual wins.

Chairman Smith indicated that he would entertain a motion for the Board to go into Executive Session. **Vice Chairman Thomas Dedrick made a motion to approve and enter into Executive Session. Mr. Tony Ingram seconded the motion and the Board approved it unanimously.**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Smith asked for a roll call vote to enter into Executive Session for approximately 30 minutes to discuss the good names of individuals or pending litigation.

President Beehler called roll for voting to approve the Executive Session. The following persons voted:

Chairman Ronnie Smith, Yes  
 Mr. Greg Brown, Yes  
 Mr. Clarence Doughty, Yes  
 Mr. Thomas Dedrick, Yes  
 Senator Vivian Davis Figures, Yes  
 Mr. Rusty Fuller, Yes  
 Mr. Tony L. Ingram, Yes  
 Mr. Randy Jones, Yes  
 Mrs. Gale Saxon Main, Yes  
 Mr. Randy Owen, Yes

**Chairman Smith reported a unanimous vote for the Executive Session and stated that the Board members would return for a public vote on any actionable items.**

Upon returning from Executive Session, Chairman Smith reported that the Board would discuss two actionable items.

It is the recommendation of the Athletics Committee to make a loan to the Athletic Department from Reserve Funds to complete the installation of the scoreboards at the football, baseball, softball and soccer fields, as well as add a scoreboard to the recently upgraded tennis complex, to improve the game day experience. Athletics stated that the new boards would allow for in-game promotions, graphics, replay bumpers, marketing entitlements and digital ads. The Athletic Department will repay the \$1.2 million loan over the next 10 years.

**Chairman Smith asked for a motion to approve the recommendation. Mr. Thomas Dedrick made the motion and Mr. Randy Jones seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.**

Chairman Smith proposed the motion to reschedule the next board meeting from July 17, 2017 to July 24 and 25, 2017 under a new two-day format.

**Mr. Clarence Daugette made a motion that the Board approve changing the Board of Trustees next meeting date from July 17, 2017 to July 24 and 25, 2017 under a new two-day format. Mr. Randy Owen seconded and the Board unanimously approved the motion.**

There being no further business, Chairman Smith declared the meeting adjourned and announced holding the next meeting of the Board of Trustees at the Houston Cole Library on July 24 and 25, 2017 under a new two-day format.

  
Secretary

  
President Pro Tempore