

JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES

The Board of Trustees of **JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY** held its Spring meeting in Jacksonville, Alabama on **Monday, April 18, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. CDT.**

Mr. Jim Bennett, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order and asked that President John Beehler open the meeting with an invocation.

Chairman Bennett welcomed JSU's newest Trustee, Mr. Greg Brown, to his first Board of Trustees meeting. He also welcomed Dr. Pam 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. Jim Bennett, Chairman
Mr. Greg Brown
Mr. Thomas Dedrick
Senator Vivian Davis Figures
Mr. Tony L. Ingram
Mr. Randall Jones
Mrs. Gale Saxon Main
Mr. Randy Owen
Mr. Ronnie Smith
Dr. Windon Edge, Faculty Senate President
Ms. Jesslan Sharp, Student Government Association

ABSENT:

Governor Robert Bentley
Mr. Clarence Dauge

Chairman Bennett noted that this was the last meeting for Dr. Windon Edge, Faculty Senate President, and thanked him for his service on the Board during the past year. Dr. Pitt Harding will be taking over as Faculty Senate President and will be attending the next Board of Trustees meeting.

Chairman Bennett recognized Mr. Tyler Brown, outgoing Student Government Association President, and thanked him for his service to the Board. He then introduced Ms. Jesslan Sharp who will be taking the place of Mr. Brown as Student Government Association President. Senator Figures thanked Tyler for the wonderful job he did in

helping with the President's Investiture Ceremony and for always serving with excellence while he was Student Government Association President.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Bennett asked that the minutes of the January 25, 2016 Board of Trustees Winter meeting be reviewed.

Mr. Tony Ingram made a motion to approve the January 25, 2016, 2015 Board of Trustees Annual meeting minutes as written. Senator Vivian Figures seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

BUILDING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Ronnie Smith, Chair of the Building and Finance Committee, stated that the committee did not have any actionable items at this time. He stated that Dr. Ashok Roy, new Vice President for Finance and Administration, shared with them his vision for the budgeting and tuition process and how we can continue to make JSU the effective organization it needs to be.

ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Randy Jones, Chair of the Advancement Committee, stated that the committee held its second meeting, but did not have any actionable items. He stated that Joseph Scott Morgan, Distinguished Scholar of Applied Forensics, gave them an update of his ongoing appearances on CNN and other media outlets. He has now been representing JSU on the Nancy Grace show for forty-four weeks in a row. The Advancement Committee also asked Dr. Lewis to prepare a scholarship document that could be used to solicit funds to provide scholarships for the children of fallen or disabled first responders to attend JSU.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Mr. Randy Owen, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, made the following motions for the Board's approval:

Motion #1

To establish a Center for Manufacturing Support in the Department of Applied Engineering. The Center will aid regional industry and provide practical experience opportunities for students.

Coming from the Academic Affairs Committee the Motion did not require a second. After discussion the Motion was approved unanimously.

Motion #2

To offer a Master of Social Work (MSW) degree program that will be accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and prepare social workers for advanced practice in the field. There is no MSW program in this region of the State of Alabama.

Coming from the Academic Affairs Committee the Motion did not require a second. After discussion the Motion was approved unanimously.

Motion #3

To establish a Concentration in Entrepreneurship in the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Business Management program. The Concentration in Entrepreneurship will enable students to learn what is needed to operate their own business.

Coming from the Academic Affairs Committee the Motion did not require a second. After discussion the Motion was approved unanimously.

Motion #4

To begin a certificate program, *On to JSU*, for students with intellectual disabilities. The program will offer an opportunity for identified students to transition to higher education and practice life-skills that will help prepare them for careers.

Coming from the Academic Affairs Committee the Motion did not require a second. After discussion the Motion was approved unanimously.

Chairman Bennett recognized Coach John Grass. He stated that Coach Grass is the first coach ever to take JSU to the FCS National Championship. He also introduced the new Head Men's Basketball Coach, Ray Harper.

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

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

That the Board of Trustees grant permission for the Awards Committee to appropriately recognize former JSU student, Danny Willett, for his success in winning the Masters for 2016.

Coming from the Athletic Committee the Motion did not require a second. After discussion the Motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Dedrick read the following statement in recognition of the historic accomplishments of the of 2015 JSU Gamecock Football Team and Coach John Grass:

The Athletic Committee would like to recognize the historic and outstanding 2015 football season by the Jacksonville State University Gamecocks and head coach John Grass.

The Gamecocks won the program's fifth Ohio Valley Conference Championship, the school's 20th overall conference championship and rolled through the playoffs to make it to the first FCS National Championship Game in the school's Division I history and the fifth NCAA National Championship game appearance since 1977.

The Gamecocks tied the school record for wins after finishing with a 13-2 record and were ranked No. 1 in the nation for 11 weeks, the first time JSU has been atop the national polls in school history. We finished the season ranked No. 2, the highest final-ranking in the school's Division I history.

The 2015 Gamecocks set 52 school records and 10 Ohio Valley Conference records en route to earning the No. 1 overall national seed in the FCS Playoffs. Once there, JSU

led the nation in playoff attendance at 22,647 fans per game and finished second in the FCS for the entire season with an average of 20,598 fans over eight home games to set both the school and OVC records for attendance.

Coach Grass became the first coach in FCS history to go unbeaten in conference play over his first two years and is a perfect 16-0 against OVC competition. He was voted the 2015 Roy Kidd OVC Coach of the Year, and it marks the second-straight season that Coach Grass has received this award.

Coach Grass was also voted the National FCS Coach of the Year by his peers in the American Football Coaches Association and is the first coach in OVC history to win this National Coach of the Year honor.

On behalf of the Jacksonville State University Board of Trustees, we would like to Congratulate Coach Grass and the 2015 Gamecock Football Team for this outstanding season and for all of the coaching honors and awards that you received.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Beehler gave the following report to the Board of Trustees:

He thanked Provost Becky Turner, Chair, and the entire Inauguration Committee for the excellent job they did in planning and implementing a successful Inauguration Week. He stated that it was an excellent team effort with all its grand events (i.e., Investiture Ceremony, Reception, President's Home Open House and Inauguration Dinner) going exactly as planned. He also recognized Project Coordinator Mr. Bill Whitaker, Interior Design Consultant Mr. Scott Skinner, and Mr. David Thompson and his Physical Plant Staff for a very successful President's Home renovation.

Dr. Beehler introduced the following new members to the President's Cabinet:

Dr. Ashok Roy – Vice President Finance and Administration and Ms. Cherise Peters – Vice President Enrollment Management and he also announced that Mr. Greg Seitz has been named as JSU's Athletic Director.

Dr. Beehler introduced the following new staff members:

Jai Ingraham – Chief Diversity Officer
Justin Parker – Director, Veterans Services
James Brigham – Director, Internal Audit/Risk Management
Paul Goodwin – Director, Respiratory Therapy Program

Finance and Administration

Capital Projects Report

Houston Cole Library: Two Air Handlers (1973), Project Costs are estimated at \$675,000.

President's House Improvements: Window Replacement, ADA Accessibility, and Modernization. Project Completed.

Stephenson Hall: Gamecock Diner HVAC, HVAC improvements, Costs were \$116,500. Project completed.

Building 3181, McClellan: Boiler Replacement. Cost of the project is \$50,000, split 50/50 with GSCC. Project completed.

Self Hall: Chiller Replacement. Salvaged from the old McClellan Child Development Building. Project Cost of \$25,000. Project Completed.

A Task Force has been created from various stakeholders on campus to evaluate revenue from tuition and fees. The Task Force will present tuition and fee recommendations at the July 18, 2016 Board meeting to be effective for Spring 2017.

A new open, collaborative approach to budgeting with campus-wide budget hearings has been established for determining funding priorities with a focus on revenue generation, cost containment, budget discipline and transparency. This will allow every unit to show justification for their budget and future needs. A President's Budget Advisory Committee has been established with representation from students, faculty, and staff across campus. They will work to help determine budgeting priorities.

Major deferred maintenance is needed on the following campus facilities:

- Sparkman Hall - renovate/remodel and HVAC
- Old Kitty Stone Property – renovate and adapt to new use
- Fort McClellan Barracks – need to be demolished
- Daugette Hall – needs new HVAC system and remodeling
- Five academic buildings and five residence halls on campus need renovations

The campus-wide Emergency Preparedness Plan is being updated and we are currently developing a University-wide Business Continuity Plan in order to continue to be able to operate the University in case of an emergency.

A new program has been adopted to provide for community policing on campus so that the campus community will be able to get to know our police officers and feel more free to contact them when they need assistance.

The auditing process is being changed. In the future the Board will be presented with an “audited” annual financial statement beginning in July 2017, instead of the preliminary “un-audited” annual financial statement in January. Financial audits will be performed by an outside public accounting firm instead of the State Examiners of Public Accounts, who will continue to do the compliance audits. A Request for Proposals for bids was issued on March 31, 2016.

University Relations

Our 2017 State Appropriation yielded an O&M of \$36,458,892, which was an increase of \$942,065. Dr. Beehler thanked Senator Figures and her colleagues for their help with this. JSU received a line item of \$700,000 in the budget for the Center for Manufacturing Support.

HB12, the Bill providing for concealed carry of guns in campus buildings, is currently stalled in the House and has not yet been passed.

Student Affairs

Enrollment - There are 3,163 accepted first-time freshmen and transfer students for Fall 2016. This represents an increase of 875 (38%) of accepted students for Fall 2016 over Fall 2015. 3,283 prospective students have visited this year by taking a campus tour, attending Preview Day or Accepted Students Day. At this time last year, 2,576 students visited. This is a 27% increase.

Student Financial Services - Student Financial Services has received 2,409 scholarship applications to date for Fall 2016. At this time last year 2,088 applications were received. Student Financial Services has received 4,938 FAFSA applications to date for Fall 2016. At this time last year 4,799 applications were received.

Office of the Registrar

There will be three commencement ceremonies this spring in the Pete Mathews Coliseum. The total number of applications for spring commencement is 872.

Ms. Emily White has been selected as the Regional Director for The Southeast Region for the North American Association of Commencement Officers.

University Housing and Residence Life

The spring total occupancy is 85%

Facility Upgrades for Housing have been made in the following buildings:

Crow Hall - Interior Painting, Bed Replacement

Dixon Hall – Bed Replacement

Colonial Arms – Asphalt Parking Lot

Campus Inn – Repair Awning

Pi Kappa Phi – Paint Interior

Kappa Sigma – Paint Interior

Meehan Hall – Paint Interior

University Recreation

University Recreation hosted the Calhoun County Basketball Tournament from January 16-23rd and the Northeast Alabama Regional Basketball Tournament from February 18-24th. The Northeast Alabama Regional Basketball Tournament set an attendance record.

Counseling and DSS

DSS was presented with the Governor's Award for improved accessibility at JSU.

Dr. Beehler introduced the following new Student Government Officers:

Jesslan Sharp – SGA President

Hayden Clay – VP of Student Senate

Dylan Jones – VP of Organizational Affairs

Ranger Rumrill – VP of Student Activities

Casey Payne – Director of Publicity

Amy Sims – Chief Justice.

Academic Affairs

Continuing Education

Through a collaboration with the College of Education and Professional Studies, the Andrews Research and Education Institute, and Champion Sports Medicine, online sports medicine education was provided to more than 500 youth coaches and administrators. The goal is to train every youth coach in the state of Alabama to prevent sports injuries.

Academic Enhancement and Tutoring

In spring 2016, ACE served 6,800 students; Martin Hall satellite tutoring center served 674 students.

Military Science

In April, Military Science commissioned two new Second Lieutenants in the U.S. Army and one will be commissioned in May.

JSU Gadsden

Ralph Burke is working on building and enhancing relationships with our community colleges to promote the FUSION! Program and the Presidential Transfer Scholarship.

Psychology

Dr. Paige McKerchar, Department Head, was appointed to a Working Group on Children with Autism to recommend the best ways to improve health care for children with autism in Alabama.

Awarded a grant by National Science Foundation for \$229,296.

Teaching, Learning, and Technology

As a member of AASCU, JSU has been selected to participate in a groundbreaking national project entitled "Re-Imagining the First Year of College". With support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and USA Funds, AASCU has created a coalition of 44 member institutions that will work together for three calendar years (2016-2018) to develop comprehensive, institutional transformation that redesigns the first year of college and creates sustainable change for student success.

Art Department

Art students won five regional Addy's. John Simmons won three (one gold, two silver). He also won JSU's first Gold District Addy.

Nursing

A proposal for the Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP) will be considered by the Alabama Commission on Higher Education on June 12, 2016.

Department of Technology and Applied Engineering

The JSU Robotics Team has been invited to serve at the VEX World Championships in Louisville, KY April 17-24, 2016.

A Center for Manufacturing Support is being established in the Department of Applied Engineering and funded through a line item in the budget for \$700,000.

Graduate Studies

Graduate applications for summer 2016 are slightly higher (210) than last summer (181).

Research, Planning & Collaboration

Program Review

10 units are currently undergoing program review and preparing their self-studies.

Sponsored Programs

Submitted 17 grant proposals for external funding and received nine grant awards from nine external funding agencies for a total of \$240,710.

EdReady

Introduced JSU's math placement application (EdReady) to regional area middle and high schools creating a pathway to college readiness.

CORE Workshop

"CORE Teachers Did It, Changing Education from the Inside Out" convened on March 10th with 60 attendees.

First in the World Grant

Finalized the award process for the \$12M grant and began recruiting 10 regional universities to expand CORE nationwide. Attended the project director's meeting at White House Complex and U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C.

University Advancement

Capital Campaign

Total gifts as of April 11, 2016 were approximately \$20,500,000.

During the first quarter of 2016, we enjoyed a 71% increase in the number of donors over that of the same time in 2015 (1,231 compared to 721). Much of this is attributable to the phonathon.

University Development Team Members - Ed Lett and Donna Callan have joined the University Development team as fundraisers for Athletics. This move will result in greater coordination of fundraising across the University.

2016 Founders Day Luncheon - a great success with 150 donors and scholarship recipients attending

Alumni Relations

As part of the "Boots on the Ground" program, alumni will be assisting the Office of Enrollment Management with JSU Scholarship presentations. The Alumni student mentoring program is up and running.

Marketing Services

Formed a marketing partnership with Rick and Bubba Radio Show

Currently marketing expanded Summer course offerings with reduced tuition and housing options and Summer Online.

Public Relations

Won two CASE awards (one in Crisis/Issues Management and one in Electronic/Digital Media).

Career Services

There are 44 students currently employed in the Cooperative Education Program.

Athletics

Golf

JSU enjoyed an historic day Sunday, April 10th, when former Gamecock and OVC Champion Danny Willett (2005-2007) won the Masters. The win makes JSU the first four-year university in Alabama with a Masters Champion. Head Coach James Hobbs was interviewed around the world by entities, such as: The Sporting News, The BBC, The Golf Channel, Golf.com, and the August Chronicle regarding Danny Willett's Championship at the Masters.

Softball

The JSU softball season is in full swing, with JSU off to its best conference start in school history. The Gamecocks are in first place with a 17-0 record in conference play. The OVC Conference Softball Tournament will be held in Oxford, AL at the Choccolocco Park May 11-14.

Baseball

The Jacksonville State baseball team has started 2016 with 24 wins to date. The Gamecocks are in first place in the OVC standings with 13 wins and only two conference losses.

Men's Basketball

On April 6, JSU hired Ray Harper as the program's 11th head coach. Harper most recently served as the head coach at Western Kentucky. He has 431 college coaching career victories and four national championships (two NAIA and two Division II).

Football

The Gamecocks finalized the 2016 football schedule in early February, one that will feature six home games. The season opener will be at 6:00 pm on Thursday September 1st against North Alabama.

Executive Session

Chairman Bennett asked for a roll call vote to enter into Executive Session for approximately 30 - 40 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 Jim Bennett, Yes
 Mr. Greg Brown, Yes
 Mr. Thomas Dedrick, Yes
 Senator Vivian Davis Figures, Yes
 Mr. Tony L. Ingram, Yes
 Mr. Randy Jones, Yes
 Mrs. Gale Saxon Main, Yes
 Mr. Randy Owen, Yes
 Mr. Ronnie Smith, Yes

Chairman Bennett 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 Bennett reported that the Board had no actionable items to consider.

There being no further business, Chairman Bennett declared that the meeting was adjourned and stated that the next meeting of the Board of Trustees would be held at the Houston Cole Library on July 18, 2016.


Secretary


President Pro Tempore