

JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

The Board of Trustees of JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY held its Winter Meeting in Jacksonville, Alabama, on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, commencing at 9:00 am. CDT.

CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Presiding Chair Jones called the meeting to order. Senator Figures asked for a moment of silence for Major League Baseball legend Mr. Hank Aaron, who recently passed away. Trustee Brown opened the meeting with an invocation.

ROLL CALL

The Chairman directed President Killingsworth, Secretary to the Board, to call the roll. The following members were present:

Chairman Randall E. Jones

Mr. Greg Brown

Mr. Clarence Daugette, III

Senator Vivian Davis Figures

Mr. Rusty Fuller

Mr. Tony L. Ingram

Mr. Drew Linn

Mrs. Gale Saxon Main

Mr. Randy Y. Owen

Mr. Anthony Smoke

There was a quorum represented for conducting business. Absent was Ex officio member Governor Kay Ivey. Others present included University faculty, staff, students, and members of the public and media representatives.

Chairman Jones recognized Ken and Jenny Howell for serving as co-chairs of the recently concluded "Deeply Rooted. Future Driven." Capital Campaign. Over seven years, the initiative raised \$56.6 million for the University, surpassing its original goal of \$35.1 million. The new School of Business and Industry (SBI) auditorium will be named **The Kenneth and Jenny Howell Auditorium** to honor their many contributions to the University. The Howells expressed their gratitude and love for the University.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Chairman called for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2020, Board of Trustees meeting and the Emergency Board of Trustees meeting dated December 18, 2020.

Trustee Smoke made a motion to adopt the minutes. Trustee Figures seconded the motion. The Board was unanimously in favor of adopting the minutes as presented.

FACULTY SENATE REPORT

Dr. Hammack, Faculty Senate President, thanked the Trustees for the opportunity to give an update on the Senate. He reported that the faculty is energized and optimistic for the spring semester after returning from the Christmas break.

The Senate recently voted unanimously to amend its bylaws and establish a Council of Faculty Senate Presidents. The first meeting will be held in February.

As Dr. Hammack reported, the Faculty Senate's focus will remain on producing a faculty resource guide for incoming faculty members and administrators making the transition to Jacksonville State University.

Dr. Hammack stated that the senators are amazed at the speed and grandeur with which the new Merrill Hall is being constructed. He noted that many faculty and senators from the School of Business and Industry are excited about its completion and look forward to teaching students in the new building.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION REPORT

Mr. Jerod Sharp, SGA President, reported that the SGA has several events planned for the spring semester. JSU will have a delegation at the annual YMCA Collegiate Legislature. Two of the top three positions will be held by the University, with Kate Seibert serving as Conference Coordinator and Jerod Sharp serving as Speaker of the House. Ten student leaders will be representing JSU at the annual Higher Ed Day via Zoom.

The SGA collaborated with Sodexo leadership to form the first-ever "Culinary Council," which includes students of various cultures, nationalities, and religions. This council's mission is to inspire students outside of the SGA bubble to participate in an environment where significant decisions are made.

Mr. Sharp asked that we remember the three students that passed away last semester.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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

Motion #1

The Committee recommends the Film Technology Certificate Program be deleted because the University now has both the Film major and minor available to students.

Coming from the Academic Affairs Committee, the motion did not require a second. The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the motion.

Motion #2

The Committee recommends the Department of Drama's name be changed to the Department of Theatre and Film to better represent the programs housed there.

Coming from the Academic Affairs Committee, the motion did not require a second. The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the motion.

ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Trustee Main, Chair of the Advancement Committee, reported that the Committee has no action items for consideration. She asked those in attendance to consider contributing to the President's Inaugural Fund.

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

Trustee Ingram, Chair of the Athletic Committee, presented the following Resolution for the Board's review and made a motion to approve it.

RESOLUTION 621

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT OF JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY TO EXPLORE, AND POTENTIALLY IMPLEMENT ACTION, REGARDING CONFERENCE AFFILIATION

Whereas, Jacksonville State University (the "University") is an active participant in NCAA Division I Athletics, fielding a total of 17 men's and women's teams that participate in a variety of sports;

Whereas, intercollegiate athletics enhance the University experience of our students, participants, and non-participants alike, by developing school spirit and creating a sense of community as well as fostering alumni support.

Whereas, athletics thus serves the University's mission of enhancing the quality of the student experience while also increasing the branding and reputation of the University and helping to drive enrollment;

Whereas, JSU is a member in good standing of the Ohio Valley Conference (the "OVC");

Whereas, other Division I athletic conferences have expressed interest in JSU potentially joining such conferences;

Whereas, a different conference athletic affiliation may be in the best interest of the University, particularly as it relates to the financial costs and other burdens associated with travel to distant locations;

Therefore, President Don C. Killingsworth Jr. is authorized to explore opportunities for the University to join another NCAA Division I athletic conference and if, in the exercise of his good faith discretion, he believes a new conference affiliation is in the best interest of the University, to enter into such agreement and to take the necessary steps for the University to resign its membership in the OVC. The President shall report the status of his actions at the next meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Don C. Killingsworth, Jr., Ed.D

President, Jacksonville State University

Randall E. Jones

President *Pro Tempore* of the Board of Trustees and Chairman of

The Executive Committee

Coming from the Athletic Committee, the motion did not require a second. The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the motion.

BUILDING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Trustee Smoke, Chair of the Building and Finance Committee, made the following motions for the Board's approval.

Motion #1

Approval of Brookstone purchase. The Brookstone Building is a vital component of the South Complex development. The Building and Finance Committee approved its purchase for \$2,600,000.

Coming from the Building and Finance Committee, the motion did not require a second. The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the motion.

Motion #2

Capital Outlay Request: Design of Randy Owen Performing Arts Center. Approval of \$2 million for initial project management, architect selection, and design.

Coming from the Building and Finance Committee, the motion did not require a second. The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the motion.

Motion #3

Wallace Hall: Approval of \$750,000 for the initial project management and design for Wallace Hall.

Coming from the Building and Finance Committee, the motion did not require a second. The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the motion.

AUDIT, RISK AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

Trustee Brown, Chair of the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee, reported that the Committee had one action item to present to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Motion #1

Trustee Brown made a motion to allow the Senior Vice President for Finance & Administration and the University Controller to negotiate a contract for financial audit services from a public accounting firm that complies with State of Alabama law and JSU institutional policy.

Coming from the Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee, the motion did not require a second. The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the motion.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Killingsworth welcomed Ms. Leigha Cauthen. Ms. Cauthen has been appointed to the position of Director of Government Relations. Due to Legislative Budget Hearings in Montgomery, she was unable to attend today's meeting.

Dr. Jeff Ryan, Chief of Program Operations and COVID-19 Task Force Leader introduced Mr. Michael Barton. Mr. Barton was named as the new Director of Public Safety and Chief of Police. He is a graduate of the JSU Emergency Management Program and the FBI's National Academy.

Dr. Ryan provided a brief update on the number of new COVID-19 cases reported in the region over the previous 14 days. He announced that the number of cases is decreasing, as well as the percentage of positive tests. Dr. Ryan reported that the COVID-19 vaccine has not yet been allocated to JSU. A request has been submitted to the Alabama Department of Health for 10,100 doses of the Moderna Vaccine.

President Killingsworth echoed Dr. Shelton's report on **Program Review**. He stated that successful institutional preparation is a critical component of Jacksonville State University's success. Whereas SACSCOC requires JSU to plan and evaluate the University's processes' effectiveness continuously. JSU realizes the importance of research-based planning to make the University as good as it can be. The University will launch its new Program Review process in 2021. All academic and non-academic units will participate in this planning process, with half of the units beginning in January 2021 and complete data collection by March 1, 2021. The remaining units will follow a similar schedule in 2022. Units have been notified, and they have begun the process.

A launch and planning meeting was held with each unit head to inform them that "everything is on the table" and "we cannot be everything to everyone." President Killingsworth expressed that we must be strategic. If a program needs to be phased out or units combined to make JSU better, then that decision will be warranted if and only if the decision will make JSU better. He stated that this is a time for us to "right-size" the institution.

The current five-year strategic plan that the Board of Trustees adopted in January 2017 will expire this year. The Strategic Planning Committee will begin developing a new strategic plan that will be presented to the Board of Trustees for adoption at the July Board meeting.

An articulation agreement between JSU's Integrated Studies major and Gadsden State Community College's (GSCC) sonography program allows for a seamless transfer for students desiring a BA degree. Similar agreements are in progress with GSCC's paralegal program and Wallace State's sonography program. The program should help recruit students to JSU.

President Killingsworth announced that the Department of Applied Engineering was awarded scholarship funds from the Gene Haas Foundation.

Eleven nursing faculty will be assisting the Calhoun County EMA and the Alabama Department of Public Health with vaccination clinics in January and February at the Anniston City Meeting Center.

Three Sport Management and Recreation majors have been accepted to serve as student volunteers for the Super Bowl LV in Tampa, Florida. They will be involved in fan engagement, event operations, and promotions.

Working in collaboration with Alabama Public Television, JSU, and Longleaf Studios, led by Department Head Seth Johnson, \$450,000 was secured for three other documentaries: Lilly Ledbetter, John B. Lagarde, and Richard Shelby.

A Leadership Development Program will begin on January 29, 2021. It will consist of ten administrative employees representing various campus divisions and will meet once a month for five months. JSU will provide training to a select group of supervisors in each class through this initiative. Participants will learn about leadership and management training, conflict resolution, budgeting, and university goals and objectives. The plan is to offer this training program twice a year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Jones made a motion to enter into an Executive Session for approximately forty-five minutes to 1) discuss the general reputation and character of certain individuals, and 2) to discuss legal ramifications and options on certain matters as outlined in Alabama Code 36-25A-7(a)(3) with University counsel. A written opinion from counsel was secured for the University that such exception is applicable to the planned discussion. **Trustee Figures seconded the motion.**All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

The Chairman called for a Roll Call vote. President Killingsworth called roll for voting to approve the executive session. The following persons voted:

Chairman Randall E. Jones	Yes
Mr. Greg Brown	Yes
Mr. Clarence Daugette, III	Yes
Senator Vivian Davis Figures	Yes
Mr. Rusty Fuller	Yes
Mr. Tony L. Ingram	Yes
Mr. Drew Linn	Yes
Mrs. Gale Saxon Main	Yes
Mr. Randy Y. Owen	Yes
Mr. Anthony Smoke	Yes

Chairman Jones 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, and with all Trustees present, Chairman Jones reported that the Board had several naming opportunities for approval.

Motion #1

Trustee Main made a motion to adopt the Resolution to name the vocal studio/music classroom (#260) in Mason Hall the Leslie and Faye Cotney Vocal Studio/Music Classroom. Trustee Owen seconded the motion. The Board of Trustees unanimously adopted the Resolution.

RESOLUTION 622

Whereas, the late Major General William Russell Cotney, USAF Retired, served for 40 years in the United States Air Force:

Whereas, Major General Cotney was the son of the late Faye Smith Cotney and Leslie Bruce Cotney. He witnessed their deep appreciation of music as they encouraged a love of music in their children and grandchildren.

Whereas, in accordance with the wishes of Major General Cotney, his wife Deborah, and their daughter Lauren, to honor his parents' interest in music, a generous gift has been made to the David L. Walters Department of Music at Jacksonville State University;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees of Jacksonville State University declares that the vocal studio/music classroom (#260) in Mason Hall be named the Leslie and Faye Cotney Vocal Studio/Music Classroom.

Be it further resolved that the Board of Trustees and the entire Jacksonville State University family extends its thanks and gratitude to Mrs. Deborah Cotney and her daughter, Ms. Lauren Cotney, for this generous gift to Jacksonville State University.

This Resolution presented the 26th day of January 2021.

Dr. Don Killingsworth, Jr., Ed.D

President

Jacksonville State University

Randall E. Jones

President *Pro Tempore* of the Board of Trustees and Chairman Of the Executive Committee

Motion # 2

Trustee Figures made a motion to adopt the Resolution to name the faculty lounge in Mason Hall the Dr. Patricia Corbin Faculty Lounge. **Trustee Daugette seconded the motion. The Board of Trustees unanimously adopted the Resolution.**

RESOLUTION 623

Whereas, Dr. Patricia Corbin was a leader and mentor to students throughout her career as a faculty member in music at Jacksonville State University; and,

Whereas, Ms. Pamela Corbin has generously committed to a gift to the David L. Walters Department of Music at Jacksonville State University for the "Deeply Rooted, Future Driven." Capital Campaign to honor her sister, Dr. Patricia Corbin,

Now therefore be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Jacksonville State University declares that the faculty lounge in Mason Hall be named the *Dr. Patricia Corbin Faculty Lounge*.

Now therefore be it further resolved that the entire Jacksonville State University family extends its thanks and gratitude to Ms. Corbin for this generous gift to Jacksonville State University.

This Resolution presented the 26th day of January 2021.

Don Killingsworth, Jr., Ed.D.

President

Jacksonville State University

Randall E. Jones

President *Pro Tempore* of the Board of Trustees and Chairman

Of the Executive Committee

Motion #3

Trustee Linn made a motion to adopt the Resolution to name the clarinet studio in Mason Hall the Jimmy Hixon Clarinet Studio. Trustee Owen seconded the motion. The Board of Trustees unanimously adopted the Resolution.

RESOLUTION 624

Whereas, Jimmy Hixon has been a loyal and committed supporter of Jacksonville State University; and,

Whereas, Mr. Hixon has generously committed to a gift to the David L. Walters Department of Music at Jacksonville State University,

Now therefore be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Jacksonville State University declares that the clarinet studio in Mason Hall be named the *Jimmy Hixon Clarinet Studio*.

Now therefore be it further resolved that the entire Jacksonville State University family extends its thanks and gratitude to Jimmy Hixon for this generous gift to Jacksonville State University.

This Resolution presented the 26th day of January 2021.

Don Killingsworth, Jr., Ed.D.

President

Jacksonville State University

Randall E. Jones

President Pro Tempore of the

Board of Trustees and Chairman

Of the Executive Committee

Motion #4

Trustee Fuller made a motion to adopt the Resolution to name the piano studio in Mason Hall the Dr. Susie Francis Dempsey Piano Studio. **Trustee Figures seconded the motion. The Board of Trustees unanimously adopted the Resolution.**

RESOLUTION 625

Whereas, Dr. Susie Francis Dempsey was a leader and mentor to students throughout her career as a faculty member in music at Jacksonville State University; and,

Whereas, Dr. Dempsey has made a generous gift of a 1924 Steinway Grand Piano to the David L. Walters Department of Music at Jacksonville State University for the use of the faculty and their students,

Now therefore be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Jacksonville State University declares that the piano studio in Mason Hall be named the *Dr. Susie Francis Dempsey Piano Studio*.

Now therefore be it further resolved that the entire Jacksonville State University family extends its thanks and gratitude to Dr. Dempsey for this generous gift to Jacksonville State University.

This Resolution presented the 26th day of January 2021.

Don Killingsworth, &r., Ed.D

President

Jacksonville State University

Randall É. Jones

President *Pro Tempore* of the Board of Trustees and Chairman

Of the Executive Committee

Motion #5

Trustee Daugette made a motion to adopt the Resolution to honor the legacy of Coach Don Salls. Trustee Figures seconded the motion. The Board of Trustees unanimously adopted the Resolution.

RESOLUTION 626

Whereas, Jacksonville State University pays tribute to the legacy of Coach Don Salls, who recently passed away at the amazing age of 101 years old; and

Whereas, the passing of Don Salls, who was a great ambassador for Jacksonville State University and the State of Alabama, has caused a deep void; and

Whereas, Don Salls played on a national championship football team at the University of Alabama before joining the U.S. Army and fighting in Europe during the second World War; and

Whereas, Don Salls, was head coach at Jacksonville State University from 1946 until his retirement in 1964, and has compiled the most wins in the Gamecocks' 118-years of Football Glory; and

Whereas, Don Salls won three bowl games and seven conference titles during his successful 18-year career at Jacksonville State. He led the Gamecocks to a perfect 9-0-0 record in 1947 and lost only one game by one point in 1948; and

Whereas, the 1955 team finished 10-1-0 and won the Refrigerator Bowl in Evansville, Indiana, defeating Yankee Conference Champion and powerful Rhode Island team 12-10 on December 4, 1955; and

Whereas, Don Salls coached nine Little All-American players and won 95 games and is still the winningest football coach in Gamecock football history; and

Whereas, Don Salls was inducted into the Jacksonville State University Athletic Hall of Fame in 1986, the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame in 1992, and is also a member of the Westchester County, NY Hall of Fame and the Calhoun County Hall of Fame; and

Whereas, Don Salls, authored a book in 1995 titled "Live and Love to be 100:160 natural ways to reverse the aging process and live a longer, more vital life" and fulfilled that book title by living to be 101 years old.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the members of the Board of Trustees of Jacksonville State University, as a campus community, will embrace and mourn with the family because all of us have a common bond with the legacy of Coach Don Salls.

Adopted this 26th day of January 2021.

Motion #6

Trustee Jones made a motion to adopt the Resolution to rename Bibb Graves Hall "Angle Hall." Trustee Smoke seconded the motion. The Board of Trustees unanimously adopted the Resolution.

RESOLUTION 627

Whereas, Marcus E. Angle, Jr. and Mary Hudson Angle first met as undergraduates on JSU's campus before marrying in 1984;

Whereas, Marcus E. Angle, Jr. served as President of JSU's Student Government Association before earning a Bachelor of Science in Finance in 1982 and Mary Hudson Angle performed as a Marching Ballerina while earning a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education in 1988;

Whereas, Marcus E. Angle, Jr. has enjoyed a successful career in banking while Mary Hudson Angle has served as an elementary school teacher in four states;

Whereas, Marcus E. Angle, Jr. and Mary Hudson Angle are the proud parents of one daughter, Darby Angle, who served as Miss JSU 2019 and performed as a Marching Ballerina before earning a Bachelor of Science in Sports Management and Recreation in 2020;

Whereas, the Angle family has generously contributed a substantial gift to Jacksonville State University's *Deeply Rooted. Future Driven.* campaign to honor the University;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees of Jacksonville State University declares that Bibb Graves Hall shall henceforth be named "Angle Hall."

Be it further resolved that the entire Jacksonville State University family extends its deepest gratitude to the Angle family for their generous support of the University.

This Resolution presented on January 26, 2021.

Don Killingsworth, Jr., Ed.D.

President

Jacksonville State University

Randall E. Jones

President *Pro Tempore* of the Board of Trustees and Chairman

of the Executive Committee

Motion #7

Trustee Brown made a motion to adopt the Resolution to name the JSU School of Business and Industry Auditorium the Kenneth and Jenny Howell Auditorium. **Trustee Figures seconded** the motion. The Board of Trustees unanimously adopted the Resolution.

RESOLUTION 628

Whereas, Kenneth Howell graduated from Jacksonville State University in 1972 as an accounting major and was a member of the ROTC program. Additionally, he served as President of the JSU Foundation Board for three consecutive terms:

Whereas, Kenneth and Jenny Howell have supported over 30 different initiatives of Jacksonville State University over the past 15 years;

Whereas, Kenneth and Jenny Howell have enjoyed a successful career as owners of a local business in this county as well as ballroom dance instructors and have contributed to the success of many students at Jacksonville State University;

Whereas, the Howells have generously contributed a substantial gift to Jacksonville State University's "Deeply Rooted. Future Driven." Capital Campaign to support the School of Business and Industry;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees of Jacksonville State University declares that the JSU School of Business and Industry Auditorium shall henceforth be named "The Kenneth and Jenny Howell Auditorium."

Be it further resolved that the entire Jacksonville State University family extends its sincere gratitude to Ken and Jenny Howell for their generosity and unwavering support of the University.

This Resolution presented this 26th day of January 2021.

Don C. Killingsworth, Jr., Ed.D.

President

Jacksonville State University

Mr. Randall E. Jones

President Pro Tempore of Board of

Trustees and Chairman of the

Executive Committee

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Greg Harley was introduced as the University General Counsel.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Trustees, Presiding Chair Jones declared that the meeting was adjourned and stated that the next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at 9:00 am on the 5th Floor of Stadium Towers.

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President

Jacksonville State University

Mr. Randall E. Jones

Chairman

Board of Trustees