



**JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

The Board of Trustees of Jacksonville State University held an Executive Committee Meeting in Jacksonville, Alabama, on Friday, June 2, 2023.

**Call to Order:** Mr. Randall E. Jones, Chairman of the Executive Committee called the meeting to order in the Executive Conference Room of Angle Hall at 10:00 am CDT.

**Roll Call:** Board Secretary, Dr. Killingsworth called the roll, and the following members of the Committee were present: Mr. Randall E. Jones, Chair, Senator Vivian Davis Figures, Vice-chair, Mr. Tony Smoke, Mr. Randy Y. Owen and Mr. Greg Brown (Via Zoom). The secretary announced the presence of a quorum. In addition, Trustee Clarence W. Daugette, III was in attendance. Others present included: President Don C. Killingsworth, Jr., Dr. Arlitha Harmon, Mr. Terry Casey, Ms. Leigha Cauthen, Dr. Kevin Hault, Dr. Christie Shelton, Mrs. Buffy Lockette, Dr. Reginald Overton and Mr. Michael Barton.

**Counsel Present:** Mr. Greg Harley and Mr. Charlie Waldrep

Chairman Jones welcomed everyone to the meeting. He stated that the meeting was called to address several unresolved issues that need to be finalized before the July Board of Trustees meeting. The following action items were approved in April by the Board, and according to Chairman Jones, the resolutions require some ratification.

**Dual Enrollment Tuition Resolution:**

The dual enrollment tuition rate approved in April 2023 was done in accordance with Resolution 551. Resolution 551 mandated that JSU's dual enrollment credit hour rate be assessed at half of the undergraduate credit hour tuition rate. However, Resolution 551 was revoked at this meeting to allow for a regionally competitive credit hour rate to improve student access to rigorous coursework and equitable postsecondary opportunities. The timing of this modification was imperative to aid students and their families in making informed decisions regarding their 2023-2024 Academic Year financial commitments. **Chairman Jones asked for a motion to approve the Dual Enrollment Tuition Rate Change Resolution. The motion was moved by Trustee Smoke and seconded by Senator Figures. The motion passed with all in favor.**

## DUAL ENROLLMENT TUITION RATE CHANGE RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, this Board of Trustees is committed to keep tuition at its lowest possible cost while maintaining the highest quality education for our student body; and

**WHEREAS**, Jacksonville State University's Dual Enrollment (DE) Program provides an opportunity for eligible high school students to earn high school and college credits for courses taken through an higher institution while still enrolled in high school; and

**WHEREAS**, postsecondary institutions dual enrollment courses are available to students attending public, private, parochial, or church/religious schools pursuant to §16-28-1 of the Code of Alabama 1975, or who are receiving instruction from a home school/private tutor pursuant to §16-28-5 of the Code of Alabama 1975; and

**WHEREAS**, Jacksonville State University current tuition and fees policy requires Dual Enrollment Tuition be charged at one-half of the undergraduate tuition rate pursuant to Resolution 551 approved for implementation in FY2013-14; and

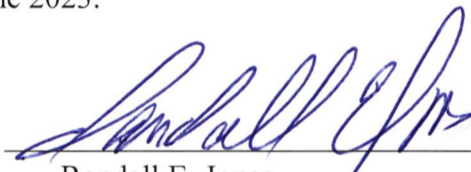
**WHEREAS**, this Resolution will revoke Resolution 551;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that this Board of Trustees authorizes the implementation of a Dual Enrollment tuition rate be charged at one half of the undergraduate tuition rate or equal to other regional higher education institutions.

This Resolution was presented on 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2023.



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



Randall E. Jones  
President Pro Tempore of the Jacksonville  
State University Board of Trustees and  
Chairman of the Executive Committee

### **Ed.D. Doctorate & MBA Tuition Resolution:**

In April, the board approved the increases for MBA tuition and the Ed.D. Program after the Academic Affairs Committee presented the original Resolution. However, there is a need to refine the language used in the Resolution to clarify how the increases will be applied to student accounts.

The Budget and Finance Committee and the Academic Affairs Committee will collaborate closely to prevent any future confusion. They will work together to ensure that the Budget and Finance Committee report includes corresponding resolutions and action items. This coordination will ensure that the actions taken regarding the tuition increases are properly aligned and implemented smoothly without overlapping or conflicting timelines.

Dr. Harmon requested approval to move forward with officially approving the rates for the MBA tuition and the education doctorate, which had been previously approved on April 18, 2023.

**Chairman Jones offered an opportunity for discussion and comments. There being none, a motion was made, seconded and the following Resolution was unanimously approved as presented.**

**Ed.D. DOCTORATE & MBA TUITION RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, this Board of Trustees is committed to providing quality education programs while expanding advanced and terminal degree options; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees approved at the April 21, 2021, meeting for Jacksonville State University's College of Education and Professional Studies to offer a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree in educational leadership and the Alabama Commission on Higher Education approved for the Ed.D.program with a \$500 per credit hour cost to commence with the spring 2023 semester; and,

**WHEREAS**, this Board of Trustees authorized an increase in the Masters of Business Administration (MBA) Program's online tuition at the October 18, 2022, meeting; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that this Board of Trustees authorizes that the Doctor of Education Leadership and Master of Business Administration per hour approved course costs be applied to tuition only.

This Resolution was presented on 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2023.

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

  
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Randall E. Jones  
President Pro Tempore of the Jacksonville  
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**Y2023-24 Housing, Meals and ID's:**

Dr. Hoult presented a list of areas that require approval due to reported increases. These areas include:

- JSU ID card fee changed from \$10 to \$15, and the cost of a replacement ID card changed from \$25 to \$30.
- A 2% increase in housing per semester.
- A 4% increase on all meal plans per semester.

**A motion was made by Senator Figures to approve the rate increases. It was seconded by Trustee Smoke. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion passed.**

**Project Updates:**

- South Complex: Progress is being made.
- Randy Owen Performing Arts Center (ROC): Officially closed on the purchased of First Baptist Church.
- North Village Housing; Dining Hall; and Football Operations: Expected to be completed by August 2024.
- Kitty Stone: Progressing according to the planned budget and schedule.

**Tuition Assistance Policy:**

Dr. Harmon stated that while the Board doesn't typically handle policies, it is necessary to present this particular policy due to its financial implications. According to Dr. Harmon, the terminology has been revised to clarify the definition of dependents, address employment obligations, and the University's return on investment. Previously, the policy did not include any requirements for employees to remain with the institution for a specific period of time. However, an additional provision now mandates that employees receiving tuition remission for themselves, or their dependents must commit to continue employment at JSU. The undergraduate degree, master's degree, and above obligation is a minimum of two years. Employees terminated or voluntarily resigning prior to the obligation period will be required to pay back to the University the full tuition assistance cost of benefits received. Employment obligation will go into effect fall 2023 for those employees entering the program after summer 2023. Dr. Harmon provided an extensive and thorough discussion on the additional modifications made to the policy.

President Killingsworth announced the removal of doctoral degree from the policy. Any exception to this policy must be approved by the President.

**Chairman Jones asked for a motion to approve the changes to the Tuition Assistance Policy. The motion was moved by Trustee Smoke and seconded by Trustee Owen. The motion passed with all in favor.**

**Healthcare Provider Agreement Update:**

Chief Michael Barton gave an update regarding the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. He mentioned that there are currently two finalists identified and that a meeting has been scheduled with both providers on June 26th at 1:30 pm. Each provider will have 30 minutes to give their presentation. Following the presentations, the committee will have the opportunity to ask questions.

**By-laws Update:**

Dr. Shelton provided an update on the by-laws. She reported that as she continues to work through our SACSOC accreditation documents, the committee is in the process of fine-tuning the documents and addressing certain revisions. Specifically, it seems they recognize the need to explicitly state the **approval of the budget** within the by-laws. This update is expected to be presented at the July meeting for consideration. The purpose of providing this information is to keep everyone informed and ensure that all aspects are appropriately addressed.

**Executive Session:**

At 11:10 a.m., Chairman Jones made a motion to enter into an Executive Session for one hour to 1) discuss the general reputation and character of certain individuals and 2) to discuss with the University counsel legal ramifications and options on certain matters as outlined in Alabama Code 36-25A-7(a)(3). A written opinion from counsel was secured for the University that such an

exception applies to the planned discussion. Trustee Smoke seconded the motion. **All were in favor. None opposed. The motion carried.**

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

Randall E. Jones, Chairman	Yes
Mr. Greg Brown	Yes (Via Zoom)
Senator Vivian Davis Figures, Vice-chair	Yes
Mr. Randy Y. Owen	Yes
Mr. Tony Smoke	Yes
Mr. Clarence Daugette	(He did not vote)


**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 Chairman Jones reported that there was **one action item** for approval.

**Trustee Smoke made a motion to accept the changes to the by-laws as presented by President Killingsworth. It was seconded by Trustee Owen. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.**

### Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Jones declared the Executive Committee Meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm and stated that the next Board of Trustees meeting would be held on the **5<sup>th</sup> Floor of Meehan Hall on July 18, 2023.**

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

  
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