



JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES

The Board of Trustees of **JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY** held its Winter Quarterly Meeting on the 5th Floor of Meehan Hall on January 9, 2024, **commencing at 9:00 a.m. CDT.**

CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Presiding Chair Jones officially called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone present. Trustee Brown opened the meeting with an invocation.

ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

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

Randall E. Jones, Chairman
 Senator Vivian D. Figures, Vice Chair
 Mr. Greg Brown
 Mr. Clarence Daugeette, III
 Mr. Rusty Fuller
 Mr. Tony Ingram
 Mrs. Gale S. Main
 Mr. Randy Y. Owen
 Mr. Tony Smoke

The Trustees listed above constitute a quorum for conducting business. Trustee Linn and Ex-officio member Governor Ivey were absent. Others present included Mrs. Kristi Killingsworth, Dr. Reginald Overton, Faculty Senate President; Ms. Tierra Thatch, Student Government Association (SGA) President; university faculty, staff, and students; members of the public; and media representatives.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A draft of the annual meeting minutes on October 17, 2023, and the Executive Committee minutes on November 17, 2023, were previously distributed for consideration. Chairman Jones called for a motion to approve both sets of minutes as distributed. Trustee Daugeette reported that although he joined the Executive Committee meeting via Teams, he logged off his computer when

the Committee entered the executive session. He empathized that he did not participate in any executive session discussion, vote, or actions. **Upon a motion made by Trustee Main and seconded by Trustee Smoke, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the minutes.**

THE BOARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(The records of the Board Committee meetings are in the respective committee meeting minutes, which are on file in the Office of the President.)

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Trustee Owen, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, reported that the Committee met on January 8, 2024, and reviewed one action item, which the Committee unanimously approved. **Chairman Owen made a motion for a revision to the Faculty Senate Constitution, specifically Section 3 and Section 5, addressing two key aspects:**

1. Add the third Monday as an additional option for Faculty Senate meetings commencing in August.
2. Formality in response to resolutions and recommendations from the Faculty Senate to the Provost.

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

Dr. Tim King, Vice Provost for Student Success, reminded the Trustees about the Better Together Retention Committee's primary goal. Their main job is to figure out why first-year students who started at JSU in the fall of 2021 are leaving. They talked to 77 students and found that 59% left because of financial issues.

The Committee then looked at all first-year students, checking if they used the Student Success Center. The results showed that students who used the center's help did better. They also considered transfer students, understanding that using any campus service helps students succeed.

Dr. King and the Committee have outlined plans to conduct focus group discussions with teachers to gain insights into student success. They will also work with the Student Affairs and the Enrollment Management staff. After that, they will make a detailed report with suggestions for the president and the cabinet. The aim is to improve student retention and graduation rates, making JSU a strong academic community.

The Student Success Center is having an audit conducted this spring, and its results are expected to contribute to improving its programs.

ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Trustee Main, Chair of the Advancement Committee, reported that the Committee met on January 8, 2024, and reviewed two action items, which the Committee unanimously approved. **Trustee Linn moved for the full Board's approval, and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted separately and collectively.**

RESOLUTION #660**The Cheryl Orange Computer Science Classroom**

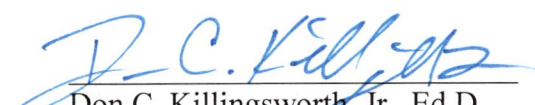
Whereas, Ms. Cheryl Orange, class of 1990, is a proud alumna of Jacksonville State University. Ms. Orange resides in Texas but is a native of Alabama and holds a dual bachelor's degree in computer science and marketing from JSU.

Whereas, Ms. Orange has served on the Board of Directors for the JSU Foundation since 2020 and has generously supported the University through her many contributions and her time.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees of Jacksonville State University declares that a classroom in Merrill Hall shall henceforth be named The Cheryl Orange Computer Science Classroom.

Be it further resolved, that the entire Jacksonville State University family extends its deepest gratitude to Ms. Orange for her generous support of the University.

This Resolution was presented on the 9th day of January 2024.



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

RESOLUTION #661**The Anthony "Speedy" Cannon Endowed Memorial Scholarship**

Whereas, the Anthony "Speedy" Cannon Endowed Memorial Scholarship, Established by Pam Baker and his Jacksonville High School Classmates, has funded an endowed scholarship to memorialize this JHS football player, one of the first African American students to enter the Jacksonville City School System. "Speedy" died tragically after receiving an injury during a high school football game, which received national attention, helping to overcome racial barriers for African American students nationwide.

Whereas, many Jacksonville High School graduates who have gone on to attend and generously support the University through their contributions, led by the JHS Class of 1973, are funding an endowed scholarship to a deserving student attending Jacksonville State University.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees of Jacksonville State University declares and shall henceforth memorialize the memory of "Speedy" Cannon by telling his story to the future recipients of this endowed scholarship so that future students will be aware of the injustices of the past so that we will not be doomed to repeat them. Providing a scholarship to a deserving JSU student is an appropriate tribute to "Speedy" Cannon, who was a young man with a bright future, extinguished too soon.

Be it further resolved, that the entire Jacksonville State University family extends its deepest gratitude to Pam Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Salls, II, and the Jacksonville High Classmates of "Speedy" Cannon for their generous support of the University.

This resolution was presented on the 9th day of January 2024.



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

Chairman Jones offered an opportunity for discussion and comments. Coming from the Advancement Committee, the motion did not require a second.

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

Trustee Ingram, Chair of the Athletic Committee, reported that the Committee met on January 8, 2024, and the highlight of the meeting was a conversation about winning the New Orleans Bowl. The Committee had **no action items** to bring before the Board.

AUDIT, RISK, AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

The Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee did not hold a meeting. Mr. Clark, the Chief Internal Auditor, said he is finalizing the reports for the first two audits conducted this month. He's worked with the Information Technology Department and the Office of Military and Post-Traditional Services. Mr. Clark announced that he would also work with Dr. King (Student Success) and Chief Barton.

BUILDING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Trustee Smoke, Chair of the Building and Finance Committee, reported that the Committee convened on January 8, 2024, and considered **two action items**, which the Committee unanimously approved. **Trustee Smoke moved for their approval by the Board, and the following action items were unanimously adopted, separately and collectively.**

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Approval for the President to execute a ground lease agreement with the City of Jacksonville to construct a Joint Public Safety Facility.** Approve for the Jacksonville State University President to enter into a ground lease agreement with the City of Jacksonville, pursuant to which the University will lease certain real property on one of the vacant parcels across from Merrill Hall for the City to build a fire station which will be constructed in accordance to plans to be approved by the University. After the project is completed, the station will provide enhanced fire protection services to the University. The president shall negotiate the lease on such terms acceptable to the University provided; However, the lease will not be effective unless and until this Board duly approves it.
2. **Approval of the FY2024-2029 Deferred Maintenance & Capital Improvements**

Chairman Jones offered an opportunity for discussion and comments. The motion coming from the Building and Finance Committee, did not require a second.

Trustee Smoke reported that the Committee received an update from Dr. Harmon regarding the progress of current projects. He announced that we can anticipate at least four grand openings in August.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Trustee Daugeette donated a portrait of Jacob Forney, IV, to the University. Mr. Forney held the position of president from 1893-1899. Trustee Daugeette specified that the portrait be displayed on the 11th Floor of the Houston Cole Library alongside other portraits of past presidents. In addition to the portrait, Trustee Daugeette donated a framed original JSU crest. The president will determine the placement of the crest, either in Angle Hall or any location he considers most appropriate. President Killingsworth thanked Trustee Daugeette for the gifts to the institution.
- President Killingsworth thanked Dr. King and the Student Success Center for their presentation and positive discussion. He stated that their commitment and hard work have not gone unnoticed. President Killingsworth acknowledged that Student Success is a top priority and assured everyone that the administration is committed to providing every opportunity and resource for students to succeed.
- Chief Michael Barton provided an update on their discussions with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT). Chief Barton acknowledged the collaboration with ALDOT and highlighted the partnership with the City of Jacksonville. He reported on recent collaborations with ALDOT and outlined a draft proposal from the Pedestrian and Motorist Safety Task Force recommendations. The report highlighted planned improvements in various areas, including changes to parking spaces, pedestrian crossings, lighting, and traffic flow. Chief Barton also discussed recommendations for intersections and access points, emphasizing safety measures. The presentation included updates on specific locations such as the Coliseum, Hwy. 21, and Hwy. 204, with funding details for the projects. Chief Barton expressed gratitude to ALDOT and acknowledged the ongoing efforts of the Pedestrian Motorist Safety Task Force. The report emphasized that the presented information is in draft form and encouraged community input during the upcoming public involvement meeting scheduled by ALDOT.
- In compliance with SASCOC Principle 4.2a, the JSU Board of Trustees is required to approve and periodically review the institution's Mission Statement formally. Complying with JSU Strategic Plan Policy 101-01-13, this review is conducted annually in January. The Board officially approved the new Strategic Plan framework and Mission Statement in January 2022, with a subsequent review occurring in January 2023. As of January 2024, President Killingsworth recommends a call for a motion to continue with the current Mission Statement.

Chairman Jones motioned to continue with the current mission statement as presented. Trustee Ingram seconded the motion. All were in favor. None Opposed. Motion Carried.

- President Killingsworth provided updates on the current Strategic Plan for 2023. Minor changes related to the reorganization of Student Affairs and Advancement and Enrollment Management have now been integrated into the existing strategic plan. Initially, Enrollment Management and Advancement were part of a single division but they have now since been separated and combined with Student Affairs. All individuals responsible for reporting in various strategic plan areas have submitted their reports, showing 100% compliance in the spring and fall of 2023. He thanked everyone for their diligent work on reporting, emphasizing the importance of maintaining an up-to-date strategic plan. Of the strategic plan initiatives, 16% have already achieved their intended targets, and the remaining 84% are on track to meet their goals by the end of the plan. Trustees were reminded to refer to the summary of the previous strategic plan (2017-2022) provided in their packets for reference. President Killingsworth thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to present the updates.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:17 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. **The motion was seconded by Trustee Brown and approved unanimously.**

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

Randall E. Jones, Chairman	Yes
Mr. Greg Brown	Yes
Mr. Clarence Daugeette, III	Yes
Senator Vivian D. Figures	Yes
Mr. Rusty Fuller	Yes
Mr. Tony Ingram	Yes
Mrs. Gale S. Main	Yes
Mr. Randy Y. Owen	Yes
Mr. Tony 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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNED

The executive session adjourned at 11:25 a.m. with no other business to discuss.

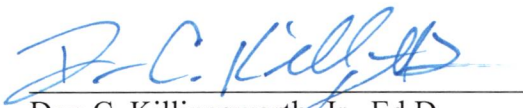
RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Upon returning from the Executive Session with a quorum present, Chairman Jones reported that the Board had one action item for approval.

Trustee Smoke motioned to change the next Board of Trustees meeting from April 15-16, 2024, to April 29-30, 2024. Trustee Daugette seconded the motion. All were in favor. None Opposed. Motion Carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There was no further business to come before the Board of Trustees. By consent, the meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m. The next meeting will be on April 30, 2024, on the 5th Floor of Meehan Hall.



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

Catherine H. Chappell
Recording Secretary