

**WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 2017  
DRAFT PENDING BOARD APPROVAL**

Board Chair William Harris called the meeting to order.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT**

Dr. Harris read the following statement:

“It is my responsibility to remind all members of the Board of their duty under the State Government Ethics Act to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict of interest as required by this Act. Each member has received the agenda and related information for this Board of Trustees’ meeting. If any board member knows of any conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matter coming before the Board of Trustees at this meeting, the conflict or appearance of conflict should be identified at this time.”

There were no conflicts.

**ROLL CALL**

Members present: Dr. William Harris, Mrs. Coretta Bigelow, Mr. Kelvin Farmer, Mrs. Sue Henderson, Mrs. Debra Miller, Mr. Pradeep Sharma, Mr. J. Mike Shortt, Mr. Osyris Uqoezwa, and Ms. Mona Zahir.

Members absent: Mr. Robert Clark, Dr. Karen McNeil-Miller, Mr. Scott Wierman, Mr. Charles Wright

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**Motion:** Resolved, that the Winston-Salem State University Board of Trustees adopt the current agenda as distributed.

Ms. Henderson moved and Mr. Farmer seconded the motion to adopt the agenda. The motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**Motion:** Resolved, that the Winston-Salem State University Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the December 9, 2017 meeting as distributed.

Ms. Miller moved and Ms. Zahir seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Motion:** Resolved, that the Winston-Salem State University Board of Trustees approve the executive session minutes of the December 9, 2016 meeting as distributed.

Ms. Miller moved and Ms. Zahir seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion: Resolved, that the Winston-Salem State University Board of Trustees approve the consent agenda for December 9, 2016 as distributed.

Ms. Henderson moved and Ms. Miller seconded the motion to approve all policies and resolutions presented on the consent agenda. The motion passed.

### **CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

Chancellor Robinson proceeded to touch on a few things that have transpired since the last board meeting. He mentioned that the university is celebrating its 125 year anniversary and he thanked everyone for all the work that has been done to make WSSU the university that it is. Chancellor Robinson then mentioned a few major gifts that we have received.

1. \$250M Gift and a five year commitment from the Brenner Family. These funds will be placed in an unrestricted fund. They also agreed to contribute \$25M per year in unrestricted funds.
2. Mr. John Taylor's estate donated \$300M to WSSU – Mr. Taylor has always been a staunch supporter of the university before his death, and this gift just adds to the large amounts that he has contributed in the past.

Chancellor Robinson spoke briefly about the activities at the CIAA Tournament in Charlotte. He then mentioned that after the tournament he attended an HBCU Fly-In, in Washington, DC. The event organized by Senator Tim Scott and Congressman Mark Walker who want to connect with HBCUs and develop a dialog on how they can contribute and partner with HBCUs. Representative Alma Adams was also present at the event.

Chancellor Robinson discussed how we continue to lack federal funding and opportunities for contracts and how that was discussed at the Fly-In. After the Fly-In, Congressman Walker sent Chancellor Robinson correspondence stating that that he had reached out to the Chairman of the Oversight and Government Reform, asking for a timely hearing regarding; federal grants, contracts and cooperative agreements with

HBCUs, under-representation of HBCUs in the federal Government, how to improve the diversity gap, and public and private sector partnership involvements with HBCUs.

Chancellor Robinson stated that he would keep the board abreast regarding anything that may come from these conversations.

Chancellor Robinson went on to highlight a few items that WSSU has been recently recognized for.

1. Recognized as one of the top universities for improving economic mobility.
2. Recognized for its commitment to advancing economic opportunities for students.
3. Named as one of the top universities in the country as a social mobility innovator.
4. In the School of Health Sciences - The Bachelor of Science graduates had a 94% first time passage rate on their state exams.
5. The Doctor of Physical Therapy graduates had a 100% passing rate on their state exam – four students had perfect scores.

Chancellor Robinson then turned the floor over to Dr. Brenda Allen, to make the board aware of how the strategic plan is moving along.

Dr. Allen's full presentation can be found in the March 17, 2017 board materials.

## **REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES**

### **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

The committee report was given by Dr. Harris.

Please see this report as presented in the Academic Affairs section of the March board book.

### **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

The committee report was given by Mr. Shortt.

Please see this report as presented in the Finance and Administration section of the March book.

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ENDOWMENT**

The committee report was given by Dr. Harris.

Please see this report as presented in the Endowment Committee section of the March board book.

**AUDIT RISK AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

The committee report was given by Mr. Shortt.

Please see this report as presented in the Internal Audit section of the March board book.

**STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

The committee report was given by Ms. Bigelow.

Ms. Zahir gave a brief report on SGA activities.

Please see this report as presented in the Student Affairs section of the March board book.

**UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE**

The committee report was given by Mr. Farmer.

Please see this report as presented in the University Advancement section of the March board book.

**APPROVAL OF ALL REPORTS**

**Motion:** Resolved, that the Winston-Salem State University Board of Trustees approve and adopt all reports as presented.

Ms. Miller moved and Mr. Sharma seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion:** Resolved, that the Winston-Salem State University Board of Trustees move into executive closed session to consult with our attorney under N.C. Gen. Stat. 143-218.11(a)(3) to protect the attorney-client privilege and to consider and give instructions concerning potential and actual claims, administrative procedures, or judicial actions.

Ms. Henderson moved and Ms. Zahir seconded the motion to go into executive session. The motion passed.

The meeting moved into executive (closed) session.  
(The complete minutes of the executive session are recorded separately)

**Motion:** Resolved, that the Winston-Salem State University Board of Trustees return to open session.

Ms. Miller moved and Ms. Henderson seconded the motion to come out of executive session. The motion passed.

*The public meeting resumed in open session*

**PUBLIC STATEMENT REGARDING ACTIONS TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Dr. Harris reported that while in executive session, the board:

1. received advice and counsel from the university attorney;
2. received a public records report from the university attorney;
3. considered the qualifications for personnel and tenure;
4. approved recommendations for promotion and tenure; and
5. listened to a presentation from Legal Affairs about its “WE LIT” student mentoring program.

**Motion:** Resolved, that the while in Executive Session the board approved the recommendations for promotion and tenure, received advice and counsel from the Interim Chief Counsel to protect attorney client privilege, heard information concerning complaints or grievances, and heard a presentation from Legal Affairs about its student mentoring program.

Ms. Miller moved and Mr. Farmer seconded. The motion passed.

**FORMER BUSINESS**

Public Comment Session- a discussion was done regarding whether or not time should be set aside at the quarterly board meetings for a public comment session. Ms. Klutzz-Leach reported on what she had found as it relates to procedure at the other 16 UNC universities. She stated that none of the other campuses offer a public comment session at their Board of Trustees meetings.

It was decided that a special committee would be formed which would come up with a model on procedures for this session. Committee members appointed by Dr. Harris to serve with him were, Ms. Bigelow, Ms. Henderson and Ms. Zahir. Ms. Klutzz-Leach will assist this committee with coming up with procedures and structure. Recommendations will be brought back to the board at the June 9, 2017 meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business brought forth.

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting date is June 9, 2017.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** Resolved, that the Winston-Salem State University Board of Trustees adjourn until the next meeting.

By common consent the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Wierman  
Secretary