

**DRAFT**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT WILMINGTON**

**DECEMBER 13, 2019**

The Board of Trustees of The University of North Carolina at Wilmington held a special called meeting on December 13, 2019, in the Burney Center on the UNCW campus. Chairman Kitchin called the meeting to order and read the required statement from the State Government Ethics Act. No conflicts were identified.

**ROLL CALL**

Mr. Lanier, Assistant Secretary, called the roll and established that a quorum was present. Members attending in person were Dennis P. Burgard; Michael R. Drummond; H. Carlton Fisher; Gidget Kidd; Henry L. Kitchin, Jr.; Michael Lee; Henry E. Miller III; Robert S. Rippy; Yousry Sayed; Nicholas Pianovich; and Woody White. Agnes R. Beane participated by conference call connection.

**RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING DESIGN TEAM SELECTIONS FOR COASTAL ENGINEERING FACILITY AND CIS/CONGDON HALL**

Chair Kitchin called on Mr. Morgan, who presented the firms recommended for the design of the coastal engineering facility. After discussion of the process employed for the selection of firms and the consideration given to local firms, on motion made by Mr. Burgard, seconded by Mr. Rippy and duly carried, the firms recommended in priority order were approved.

Mr. Morgan then presented the firms recommended for the design of renovations and an addition to the Computer Information Systems (CIS) Building, which will be renamed Congdon Hall. After discussion, on motion made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Fisher and duly carried, the recommended firms in priority order were approved.

**RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING 2019-20 TUITION, FEES, ROOM AND BOARD RATES, AND OTHER STUDENT CHARGES**

The Chair called on Vice Chancellor Lackey, who reviewed the guidance received from the Board of Governors and UNC System Office regarding the

setting of tuition, fees, and other student charges, as well as the inclusive process used at the campus level for the development of the recommendations to be presented to the Board of Trustees. Comparisons of student costs with peer institutions and with other UNC institutions were shared and discussed.

Mr. Lackey presented the recommendations, item by item, including: 1) an increase of 3% in general tuition rates for resident and non-resident students, both undergraduate and graduate students; 2) increases totaling \$70.53 in various mandatory fees (Athletics; Education & Technology; Campus Life; and Security); 3) elimination of one special fee (DNP residency); 4) changes in several non-mandatory fees; and 5) changes in both meal plan and housing rates. As recommendations were presented, uses of revenues generated were discussed, including the necessity of increases in tuition and in some fees in order to provide salary increases beyond what are provided by the state. Discussion also centered on Title IX, the survey of students that was conducted as part of the process, votes by the student senate, previous efforts to reduce athletics costs through elimination of sports, the rate of inflation in higher education, funding and scope of the University Police Department, and more. In the discussion of housing rates, comparisons were provided to the private housing market. Vice Chancellor Lackey provided a summary of all recommendations and their impact on the total cost of attendance for a typical freshman student.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Chairman Kitchin asked if any member would like to vote on any recommendation individually, rather than taking one vote on all recommendations. After additional discussion, Mr. White moved approval of all recommendations presented, including tuition, fees, room, and board, with the exception of the increase in the athletics fee. The motion was seconded by Dr. Sayed and duly carried. Mr. Burgard moved approval of the increase in the athletics fee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Drummond. In the additional discussion that followed, Mr. Pianovich asked that the following statement be entered into the minutes:

“I would like to raise a few concerns that are shared amongst the student population regarding the athletics fee increase. While students understand the importance of the athletic fee to support our athletic program, it should be noted that there is no other mandatory fee that has been assessed to the extent of this program and while other programs have been held in check on this budgetary growth, it would appear that athletics has not. In 2011, the athletics fee was \$438.55 which then grew to \$682.55 in 2015. Since then, the athletics fee has grown to \$774.85 with board approval today the new athletics fee will be \$800.25. In the last nine years, the athletics fee has grown 82.48%. No other campus department has experienced near the type of growth that athletics has seen in the last decade. Once again, I recognize that athletics does not receive any state or legislative funding but it is not feasible to continue to put the burden of

athletics on the backs of students who are here to receive an education and further their experience in academia. I challenge the university as well as this board to look at solutions to make the budget more sustainable in the future. We should not limit ourselves with peer comparisons of other institutions, but should look to be pioneers and innovators in the way we fund our athletic department. A solution that benefits both the athletics as well as the general student body. With all of this being said, I will be voting to approve the athletics budget this year to ensure that our student athletes are adequately taken care of but I expect to see a change in the coming years as students should no longer be required to shoulder the burden of this type of fee growth.”

After additional discussion, Mr. Burgard’s motion was duly carried. Mr. Lee asked that the administration provide a briefing on the university’s budget and the budget process. Chancellor Sartarelli said that a presentation would be made at an upcoming meeting.

#### OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Kitchin said that there were ongoing discussions regarding topics for a Board workshop or retreat, including the budget process, enrollment growth, and the transition to a doctoral institution. He asked that members let him know before Christmas if there were additional topics of interest and if there was a preference for a separate retreat, possibly in February, versus scheduling the workshop or workshops during the days of quarterly meetings.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was duly adjourned.

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Chairman

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Assistant Secretary