

**ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
BOARD MEETING  
MAY 19, 2023**

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The Athens State University Board of Trustees (also referred herein as the Board) held a meeting at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, May 19, 2023 in the Sandridge Student Center Ballroom to consider University matters.

**PRESIDING:**                    **Senator Arthur Orr**

The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by Senator Orr.

**ROLL CALL**

On roll call, the following Board members were present and constituted a quorum to conduct business:

Mr. Jim America  
Ms. Cathy Dickens  
Mr. Bill Dunnivant  
Senator Arthur Orr  
Mr. Goodrich ‘Dus’ Rogers  
Dr. Sandra Sims-deGraffenried (electronically at 2:49 pm)  
Mrs. Missy Ming Smith (2:34 pm)  
Mr. Mike Underwood

Also present were Dr. Catherine Wehlburg, Acting President of Athens State University and Mr. Shane Black, University Legal Counsel, and Ms. Jackie Gooch, Secretary to the Board. Governor Kay Ivey, Chancellor Jimmy Baker and Mac McCutcheon were absent. Several faculty/staff attended electronically.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On a motion made by Mr. Rogers and seconded by Mr. America, the Board approved the agenda by affirmative votes (6-0) of members answering present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion made by Ms. Dickens and seconded by Mr. Rogers, the Board approved the agenda by affirmative votes (6-0) of members answering present.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one officially registered for public comment.

**OLD BUSINESS, PENDING MOTIONS AND RESOLUTION**

Executive Committee minutes were provided (previously provided electronically) for February 6, March 27, and April 10, 2023.

## **NEW BUSINESS, PENDING MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

### **New Academic Program: UG Certificate – Space Systems Management College of Business (Attachment A)**

On a motion made by Mr. America and seconded by Mr. Rogers, the Board Approved the undergraduate certificate in Space Systems Management for the College of Business. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES  
Cathy Dickens - YES  
Bill Dunnavant – YES  
Senator Arthur Orr – YES  
Dus Rogers – YES  
Mike Underwood - YES

### **University Organizational Structure (Attachment B)**

On a motion made by Ms. Dickens and seconded by Mr. America, the Board reviewed and concurred with the University Organizational Structure as presented by Dr. Wehlburg. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES  
Cathy Dickens - YES  
Bill Dunnavant – YES  
Senator Arthur Orr – YES  
Dus Rogers – YES  
Missy Ming Smith – YES  
Mike Underwood - YES

### **Capital Improvement: Chiller Replacements – Library and Sandridge Student Center Capital Improvement: Roof Replacements – Chasteen Hall and Center for Lifelong Learning Capital Improvement: Founders Hall Elevator (Attachments C, D and E)**

On a motion made by Mr. Underwood and seconded by Mr. America, the Board approved capital improvements for 1) chiller replacements for Library and Sandridge Student Center, 2) roof replacements for Chasteen Hall and Center for Lifelong Learning, and 3) Founders Hall Elevator. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES  
Cathy Dickens - YES  
Bill Dunnivant – YES  
Senator Arthur Orr – YES  
Dus Rogers – YES  
Missy Ming Smith – YES  
Mike Underwood - YES

### **Capital Improvement: Powers Hall Window Replacement (Attachment F)**

On a motion made by Mr. Rogers and seconded by Mr. Underwood, the Board approved expending funds for Powers Hall Window replacement contingent on appropriate legislative funding (supplemental funding) from the State. The motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES  
Cathy Dickens - YES  
Bill Dunnivant – YES  
Senator Arthur Orr – YES  
Dus Rogers – YES  
Missy Ming Smith – YES  
Mike Underwood - YES

### **2022-2023 Budget Amendment #2 (Attachment G)**

On a motion made by Mr. America and seconded by Ms. Dickens, the Board approved the 2022-2023 Budget Amendment #2 of \$623,057. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES  
Cathy Dickens - YES  
Bill Dunnivant – YES  
Senator Arthur Orr – YES  
Dus Rogers – YES  
Dr. Sims-deGraffenried – YES  
Missy Ming Smith – YES  
Mike Underwood - YES

Senator Orr thanked Mr. Black, Mr. Dunnivant, Mr. McCoy, Mrs. Smith and Dr. Wehlburg for their hard work on the conclusion of the Archer contract.

## **AY 2023-2024 Tuition/Fee Schedule (Attachment H)**

On a motion made by Dr. Sims-deGraffenried and seconded by Mr. Rogers, the Board approved the AY 2023-2024 Tuition/Fee schedule as recommended by the Finance and Facilities Committee that includes a 3.75% tuition increase. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES  
Cathy Dickens - YES  
Bill Dunnavant – YES  
Senator Arthur Orr – YES  
Dus Rogers – YES  
Dr. Sims-deGraffenried – YES  
Missy Ming Smith – YES  
Mike Underwood – YES

## **OTHER BUSINESS (No Action Required)**

### **Quarterly Financial Update**

The Board received the quarterly financial update.

### **Alabama Commission on Education (ACHE) Update**

The Board received a handout on actions taken by the Commission.

### **Bad-Debt Write-Off**

The Board received notification from the Attorney General's Office approving bad-debt write-off.

### **Learning Partnerships**

Dr. Keith Ferguson provided an update on Learning Partnerships. With approval of today's organizational structure, responsibility for Learning Partnerships will now be in the Office of University Advancement.

## **Acting President's Report/Update**

Dr. Wehlburg provided the following:

1. Previewed recruitment video of the State of Alabama Student Retention Council featuring Athens State's own Levi Seibert.
2. Announced SCALE Conference on June 8, 2023
3. ACHE focus on Re-Engage Alabama
4. Marketing Updates
5. Summer Enrollment is up with a 28% increase in graduate programs.
6. Announced Giving Day – August 1<sup>st</sup>
7. Announced July 29<sup>th</sup> Commencement Speaker will be Lily Ledbetter.

## **Board Committee Updates and Report Acceptance**

### **Finance and Facilities Committee – Senator Orr**

Senator Orr provided the Finance and Facilities update.

### **Enrollment and Student Affairs Committee – Mrs. Smith**

Mrs. Smith provided the Enrollment and Student Affairs update.

### **Academic Affairs Committee – Mr. America**

Mr. America provided the Academic Affairs update.

### **Development Committee – Ms. Dickens**

Ms. Dickens provided the Development Committee update.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Senator Orr adjourned the Athens State University Board of Trustees meeting at 3:25 pm.