

**ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
BOARD MEETING  
MAY 20, 2022**

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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 20, 2022 in the Sandridge Student Center Ballroom to consider University matters.

**PRESIDING: MR. MACKE MAULDIN**

The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 2:37 p.m. by Mr. Macke Mauldin.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one officially registered for public comment.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Mr. Jim America  
Mr. Ronnie Chronister  
Ms. Cathy Dickens  
Mr. Bill Dunnavant  
Mr. Macke Mauldin  
Senator Arthur Orr  
Mr. Goodrich 'Dus' Rogers  
Dr. Sandra Sims-deGraffenried

Also present were Dr. Philip Way, 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 Mrs. Missy Ming Smith were absent.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On a motion made by Senator Orr and seconded by Dr. Sims-deGraffenried, the Board approved the agenda by affirmative votes (8-0) of members answering present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion made by Senator Orr and seconded by Mr. Chronister, the Board approved the minutes of the January 21, 2022 meeting by affirmative votes (8-0) of members answering present.

**OLD BUSINESS, PENDING MOTIONS AND RESOLUTION**

None.

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

### **2020-2021 Financial Audit Acceptance**

#### **(Attachment A)**

On a motion made by Mr. Dunnivant and seconded by Dr. Sims-deGraffenried, the Board accepted the 2020-2021 Financial Audit as presented by Mark Abernathy of the accounting firm of Mauldin and Jenkins, LLC. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES  
Ronnie Chronister – YES  
Cathy Dickens – YES  
Bill Dunnivant – YES  
Macke Mauldin – YES  
Senator Arthur Orr – YES  
Dus Rogers – YES  
Dr. Sims-deGraffenried - YES

### **Horizon 2030 Report Card 2020-2021 Acceptance**

#### **(Attachment B)**

On a motion made by Dr. Sims-deGraffenried and seconded by Mr. Chronister, the Board accepted the 2020-2021 Horizon 2030 Report Card as presented. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES  
Ronnie Chronister – YES  
Cathy Dickens – YES  
Bill Dunnivant – YES  
Macke Mauldin – YES  
Senator Arthur Orr – YES  
Dus Rogers – YES  
Dr. Sims-deGraffenried - YES

### **Presidential 360<sup>0</sup> Evaluation Process**

#### **(Attachment C)**

On a motion made by Mr. Dunnivant and seconded by Dr. Sims-deGraffenried, the Board approved contracting with AASCU Consulting for the purpose of conducting an evaluation of the President of the University. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote.

Jim America – YES  
Ronnie Chronister – YES  
Cathy Dickens – YES  
Bill Dunnivant – YES  
Macke Mauldin – YES  
Senator Arthur Orr – YES  
Dus Rogers – YES

Dr. Sims-deGraffenried - YES

**Depositories for University Funds  
(Attachment D)**

On a motion made by Senator Orr and seconded by Dr. Sims-deGraffenried, the Board approved President Way's recommendation for the following institutions as the University's banking and investing partners: Pinnacle Financial Partners, PNC Bank, UBS Financial Services and Edward Jones. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES  
Ronnie Chronister – YES  
Cathy Dickens – YES  
Bill Dunnivant – YES  
Macke Mauldin – Abstain  
Senator Arthur Orr – YES  
Dus Rogers – YES  
Dr. Sims-deGraffenried - YES

**Capital Improvement: New Maintenance Building  
(Attachment E)**

On a motion made by Dr. Sims-deGraffenried and seconded by Ms. Dickens, the Board approved expending funds for a new Maintenance Facility on the Athens State University Campus. Mr. Dunnivant made a motion to table this item, no second was given, motion to table not approved. This motion to expend the funds was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES  
Ronnie Chronister – YES  
Cathy Dickens – YES  
Bill Dunnivant – NO  
Macke Mauldin – YES  
Senator Arthur Orr – YES  
Dus Rogers – YES  
Dr. Sims-deGraffenried - YES

**New Academic Program: UG Certificate in Bioinformatics  
(Attachment F)**

On a motion made by Senator Orr and seconded by Mr. America, the Board approved the UG Certificate in Bioinformatics. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES  
Ronnie Chronister – YES  
Cathy Dickens – YES  
Bill Dunnivant – YES  
Macke Mauldin – YES  
Senator Arthur Orr – YES

Dus Rogers – YES  
Dr. Sims-deGraffenried - YES

**New Academic Program: GR Certificate in Accountancy  
(Attachment G)**

On a motion made by Senator Orr and seconded by Mr. America, the Board approved the GR Certificate in Accountancy. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES  
Ronnie Chronister – YES  
Cathy Dickens – YES  
Bill Dunnavant – YES  
Macke Mauldin – YES  
Senator Arthur Orr – YES  
Dus Rogers – YES  
Dr. Sims-deGraffenried – YES

**New Academic Program: Master of Science in Acquisition and Contract Management  
(Attachment H)**

On a motion made by Mr. Rogers and seconded by Senator Orr, the Board approved the Master of Science in Acquisition and Contract Management. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES  
Ronnie Chronister – YES  
Cathy Dickens – YES  
Bill Dunnavant – YES  
Macke Mauldin – YES  
Senator Arthur Orr – YES  
Dus Rogers – YES  
Dr. Sims-deGraffenried - YES

**AY 2022-2023 Tuition/Fee Schedule  
(Attachment I)**

On a motion made by Mr. Chronister and seconded by Dr. Sims-deGraffenried, the Board approved the AY 2022-2023 Tuition/Fee Schedule that included a 7% increase in undergraduate and graduate tuition rates. The 7% increase is based on the December 2021 12-month CPI. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES  
Ronnie Chronister – YES  
Cathy Dickens – YES  
Bill Dunnavant – NO  
Macke Mauldin – YES  
Senator Arthur Orr – YES  
Dus Rogers – YES

Dr. Sims-deGraffenried - YES

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **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.

### **Board Evaluation Survey**

Opening May 31 until June 13, 2022

### **Board of Trustees Retreat – August/September**

More details to following regarding Board Retreat.

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

Dr. Way provided the following updates:

1. Thanked Board members Jim America and Bill Dunnivant for bringing greetings at the Spring 2022 Commencement ceremonies.
2. Dr. Way announced that the University will be hosting the Regional Workforce Conference on December 7, 2022.
3. Dr. Way announced that the University will be hosting the 2023 Achieve Conference on March 1-2, 2023.
4. Dr. Way announced that the University's outlook is very positive with increased state appropriations and improvement in enrollments. Summer enrollment for new students is more than in the last three years. New programs continue to grow.
5. Dr. Way announced that the University is increasing alumni efforts across the state. Dr. Way participated in an alumni event recently in Mobile to connect with alums in that area. At the conclusion of the event, the University received a first-time contribution from one of the alums in attendance. Alumni events are being planned for the Huntsville and Decatur areas.

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

### **Finance and Facilities Committee – Mr. Mauldin**

Mr. Mauldin provided the Finance and Facilities update.

**Enrollment and Student Affairs Committee – Mr. Rogers**

Mr. Rogers provided the Enrollment and Student Affairs update.

**Academic Affairs Committee – Mr. America**

Mr. Chronister provided the Academic Affairs update.

**Development Committee – Ms. Dickens**

Ms. Dickens provided the Development Committee update to include 1) Capital Campaign is currently at \$19.6 million of the \$20,000,000 goal with the anticipation of an additional upcoming \$1.1 million estate gift. On a motion made by Senator Orr and seconded by Ms. Dickens, the Board accepted the Board Committee reports. This motion was approved by the following roll-call vote:

Jim America – YES  
Ronnie Chronister – YES  
Cathy Dickens – YES  
Bill Dunnavant – YES  
Macke Mauldin – YES  
Senator Arthur Orr – YES  
Dus Rogers – YES  
Dr. Sims-deGraffenried - YES

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion made by Senator Orr and seconded by Mr. America, Mr. Mauldin adjourned the Athens State University Board of Trustees meeting at 3:32 pm.