

Board of Trustees Meeting



North Carolina
School of Science
and Mathematics

DRAFT Minutes

Friday, December 11, 2020

9:00 a.m. - 2:10 p.m.

Via Videoconference

The Board of Trustees met in regular session on December 11, 2020 via videoconference. The meeting was conducted by use of simultaneous communication, in which members were participating by simultaneous communication, and the minutes will reflect when such members joined or left the remote meeting. Chair Mark Morgan called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL - Ms. Laura Baker Campbell

Mark W. Morgan, Chair
Jabbar R. Bennett, Vice Chair
Richmond Baker
Stephanie Bass
Paula T. Benson
Ellen C. Collett
Adam Falk
Robert M. Freeman
Genevia Gee Fulbright
Cindy Goodman
Steve Griffin
Hugh A. Holston

Page Ives Lemel
Thomas F. Looney
Bobby R. Maynor
Alisa Atkinson McDonald
Beryl C. McEwen
Catherine B. Mitchell
Nathan Ramsey
Erik Troan
Keethan Kleiner, Faculty Senate President
Crystal Woods, Staff Senate Chair
Megan Mou, SGA President

The following members were not present:

Katharine E. Stewart (for Warwick Arden)
Robert A. Blouin
Michael G. Dougherty
Vimal Kumar Kolappa

Lisa Cooper
Sally Kornbluth
Alan C. Lewis

OPEN MEETINGS ACT ANNOUNCEMENT

Chair Morgan announced that the meeting is being conducted pursuant to the new amendments of the Open Meetings Act that apply during states of emergency. All votes will be taken via roll call. All chats, instant messages, texts, or other written communications between members of the Board regarding the transaction of public business during this remote meeting are deemed public record. All members and staff are asked to identify themselves before participating in deliberations.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

Chair Morgan read the Conflict of Interest statement and asked about potential conflicts. None were identified.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Action: Mr. Robert Freeman moved to approve the Agenda. Mr. Hugh Holston seconded the motion. Pursuant to a roll call vote taken by Ms. Laura Baker Campbell, the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOT MINUTES FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2020

Action: Mr. Richmond Baker moved to approve the BOT Minutes for Friday, September 18, 2020. Ms. Geneva Fulbright seconded the motion. Pursuant to a roll call vote taken by Ms. Laura Baker Campbell, the motion passed unanimously.

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT - Dr. Todd Roberts

Dr. Roberts recognized the life of Dr. John Kolena, iconic NCSSM physics instructor for 32 years. Details about a community-wide celebration of life will be forthcoming.

Dr. Elizabeth Moose announced that the Humanities Department is hosting a special virtual event on February 22, 2021, featuring a keynote address by Madame Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, 2011 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and former President of Liberia. The event is made possible from the generous support of the Broyhill Family Foundation.

Dr. Amy Sheck announced that the Science Department will be holding a COVID-19 Symposium on March 13, 2021, emceed by Dr. Holden Thorp, editor-in-chief of the *Science* family of journals. Speakers will include Dr. Cindy Gay, lead researcher of the UNC Moderna Clinical Trials, and Dr. Francis Collins, Director of the National Institutes of Health. A panel of experts will be interviewed by Secretary Machel Sanders of the NC Department of Administration.

Ms. Crystal Woods was recognized for her recent election as the Chair-Elect of the UNC Staff Assembly, and will become Chair on October 27, 2021.

Appreciation was extended to faculty and staff members doing outstanding work in: pivoting to hybrid learning practices; creating a safe environment by housekeeping, maintenance, and grounds; transforming student life; and creating strong partnerships during COVID-19.

Fall Semester Update

Dr. Terry Lynch shared results of COVID-19 testing from the Fall Semester, which included pre-arrival, surveillance, and pre-departure testing of students, and optional testing of employees.

Spring Semester Planning Update

Dr. Roberts provided an update on efforts to plan for Spring Semester, including convening a planning committee, seeking feedback from the community through surveys, and holding meetings to address concerns. As with the Fall Semester, preparations have been made for both a lower-density model and a fully remote model. Facilities and Student Life will continue with

cleaning protocols, facilities upgrades, testing, as well as counseling, health and physical activity and wellness services for students.

Dr. Sarah Shoemaker shared that Mentorship and Research programs are currently functioning at full capacity virtually. Dr. Terry Lynch announced the decision to suspend Varsity Sports for the rest of the academic year. Dr. Katie O'Connor shared that Academic Programs has adapted January Term and the Spring Semester Academic Calendar to allow for both low-density and fully remote models. Mr. Taylor Gibson presented how the Cohorts were created using a complicated mathematical model.

Summer 2021 Program Planning

Dr. Melissa Thibault shared plans for a low-density model for Summer Programs. Summer Accelerator will include both on-campus and online courses. Step Up to STEM will be divided into two cohorts, one for rising 9th graders remotely, and one for rising 10th graders (who participated last summer) on campus in July.

NCSSM-Morganton Update - Mr. Kevin Baxter

Mr. Baxter provided updates regarding: hiring for 8 new positions at NCSSM-Morganton, with searches at various stages of the hiring process; the FY2021-23 Biennium Budget Request; construction progress on site; funding as of November 30, 2020; the Annual Outreach Campaign (*Thank-a-thon*); and presented engagement opportunities for Board members.

Strategic Plan Update

Planning for the construction of an Academic Commons and renovations to the Residential Halls at the Durham campus continues with the generous anonymous \$7.5 million gift from an alumni donor. Dr. Krissi Hewitt presented NCSSM's Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Process. Dr. Roberts shared the preparations for biennium budget planning.

[Dr. Cindy Goodman left the meeting]

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT - Dr. Jabbar Bennett

The Executive Committee met on November 12, 2020. The minutes from the August 19, 2020 Executive Committee meeting were approved.

[BREAK FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS]

[Dr. Jabbar Bennett left the meeting]

Fiscal, Audit & Human Resources Committee Report - Ms. Paula T. Benson, Chair

The committee was presented with updates regarding: the Internal Audit Update; Enterprise Risk Management Update; Associated Entity Audit Report; Financial Report as of September 30, 2020; Construction/Renovation Report; HUB Detailed Report; Business Process Compliance Report; and the NCSSM Foundation Financial Statements. The committee went into closed session to consider nominations for Staff Emeritus.

Institutional Advancement Committee Report - Ms. Alisa Atkinson McDonald, Chair

The committee received updates on: the Ignite + Transform Campaign; communications efforts; constituent relations, including alumni and legislative connections; and the success of the first ever virtual Alumni Weekend.

Distance Education & Extended Programs Committee Report - Mr. Hugh Holston, Chair

The committee received updates regarding: Summer Programs; the new Library website and Chat service; Open Enrollment; the First in Talent Collective: Students working with NC Business Partnerships; and the 2020 Ethics Leadership Conference. Mr. Blake Reed was also introduced as an Associate Manager for Summer and Extended Programs.

Educational Policies & Practices Committee Report - Dr. Adam Falk, Chair

The committee received reports from Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, and Student Government. Updates were provided from Academic Programs and Student Life. The committee went into closed session to consider nominations for Faculty Emeritus.

Closing Remarks

A video featuring Governor Jim Hunt was presented to the Board. Chair Morgan adjourned the meeting.



February 3, 2021

J. Todd Roberts
Chancellor, NCSSM