

MINUTES  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Friday, March 26, 2021  
Via Video Conference  
3:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The Board of Trustees of Appalachian State University met via video conference at the call of the Chair and the Chancellor on Friday, March 26, 2021, at 3:00 p.m., Chair Scott K. Lampe presided and called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM: M. Lee Barnes, Jr.  
James K. Reaves  
E. Bonnie Schaefer  
Carole P. Wilson

MEMBERS PRESENT: James M. Barnes  
John M. Blackburn  
Michael C. Davis  
Scott K. Lampe  
Charles V. Murray  
Mark E. Ricks  
Kimberly M. Shepherd  
R. Thomas Sofield

MEMBER ABSENT: Donald C. Beaver

OTHERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Dawn Antonucci  
Jane Barghothi  
JJ Brown  
C. Philip Byers, Member, UNC  
Board of Governors  
Paul Forte  
Doug Gillin  
Jason Marshburn  
Paul Meggett  
Heather Norris

OTHERS PRESENT: Sheri Everts, Chancellor  
Hank Foreman  
Megan Hayes

All votes were taken by roll call (see Attachment 1).

CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTICE: Chair Lampe read the following statement:

"Under the State Government Ethics Act, all voting members of the Board of Trustees have a duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts. Looking at the agenda for today's meeting, does anyone know that you have a conflict of interest or an interest that would give rise to the appearance of a conflict of interest? If so, please let me know now."

Trustee Wilson noted that she would recuse herself on any matters related to Mako Laboratories.

ROLL CALL: Chair Lampe asked Dawn Antonucci to call roll to verify all participants on the call.

APPROVAL OF ABSENCES: Chair Lampe stated Trustee Donald Beaver was not able to attend due to personal reasons. Upon motion duly made, seconded and verified by roll call vote, his absence was approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the December 4, 2020 & February 12, 2021, meetings had been delivered to all members via BoardEffect. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and verified by roll call vote, the minutes of all meetings were approved as presented.

REMARKS FROM CHANCELLOR EVERTS: (see Attachment 2).

REPORT FROM ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: Chair Lampe recognize Trustee Lee Barnes, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, for this report.

#### Bridge Strategic Plan

Trustee Barnes stated that Dr. Lee Ball, Chief Sustainability Officer, presented the *Bridge Strategic Plan* to the committee for approval. The *Bridge Strategic Plan* was made available in advance in BoardEffect for Trustees review.

Trustee Barnes on behalf of the Academic Affairs Committee, requested the Board approve the plan as presented.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and verified by roll call vote, the Bridge Strategic Plan was approved as presented.

Trustee Barnes indicated the Committee had additional items for closed session and that this concluded his report from the Academic Affairs Committee (see Appendix A).

REPORT FROM ATHLETICS COMMITTEE: Chair Lampe recognized Trustee Thomas Sofield, Chair of the Athletics Committee, for this report.

## Presentation of the UNC Intercollegiate Athletics Survey

Trustee Sofield stated the Athletics Committee met and began with a brief presentation on the UNC Intercollegiate Athletics Survey as required by University of North Carolina policy. Executive Associate Athletics Director, Jonathan Reeder, provided a brief overview of the report, which includes athletics financial information, student-athlete admission and academic profile data, and a course-clustering analysis of student-athletes, in which no corrective action was required.

## Presentation from Director of Athletics

Director of Athletics, Doug Gillin, then provided a presentation to the committee beginning with a review of the Department of Athletics mission. Mr. Gillin then discussed a recent Diversity and Inclusion presentation by Athletics to the campus Accountability Team, which overviewed the department's Diversity and Inclusion efforts, Recruitment and Hiring strategies, and ongoing plans. Campus and Community connections were then discussed, which included the announcement of a college summer baseball league, the "Boone Bigfoots", who are set to compete this summer at Beaver Field at Jim & Bettie Smith Stadium.

Competitive updates were discussed, including App State Women's Basketball who advanced to the Sun Belt Conference Tournament semifinals before concluding their season, as well as the Wrestling program who qualified a program record seven Student-Athletes for the NCAA Wrestling Championships this season. 149 pounder, Jonathan Milner, also became the 9<sup>th</sup> All-American in program history after finishing in 8<sup>th</sup> place at the Championships. The App State Football program's finish to the 2020 season was reviewed, as App State became the first FBS program to win a bowl game in each of its first six years eligible. The program is also the only state of North Carolina program to receive votes in the final Associated Press or Coaches top 25 poll every year since 2017, and is one of four FBS programs with 9 or more wins every year since 2015, along with Alabama, Clemson and Oklahoma.

The 2021 Football schedule was reviewed, which includes a season opener App State home game versus East Carolina University, being held at Bank of America Stadium in Charlotte. To conclude the competitive updates, Mr. Gillin recapped App State Men's Basketball's competitive success this past season, including the first Sun Belt Conference Tournament Championship in program history, and the first NCAA Tournament Appearance since the 1999-2000 season. The recent Sun Belt Championship culminated in a Championship Game versus Georgia State University, broadcast on ESPN2 on March 8<sup>th</sup>. The NCAA Tournament Game versus Norfolk State on TruTV on March 18<sup>th</sup> drew over 1.47 million viewers, which is the most of any App State Athletics event since 2017. Coach Dustin Kerns also appeared on the CBS national pre-selection show, and appeared on over 20 national and regional TV or radio programs for interviews as a result of Men's Basketball's tremendous accomplishment this season. To conclude the meeting, Mr. Gillin provided a brief overview of Athletics Facilities progress, as well as the recent announcement of the Mountaineers Athletic Fund, designed to rebrand the App State Athletics Fundraising unit.

Trustee Sofield indicated the Committee had an additional item for closed session and that this concluded his report from the Athletics Committee (see Appendix B).

REPORT FROM THE AUDIT COMMITTEE: Chair Lampe recognized Trustee Charles Murray, Chair of the Audit Committee, for this report.

Trustee Murray stated the Audit Committee minutes were approved as presented.

### State Auditor Report

Trustee Murray shared that Mr. David Ehricht from the North Carolina Office of the State Auditor discussed the recently completed 2020 ASU Financial Statement Audit Report. No findings were reported. Mr. Ehricht also presented the results of the 2020 Federal Compliance Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund Audit. No findings were reported.

### Internal Audits

The internal audits reviewed and discussed for this quarter were:

- The internal audits for the 2020 Gear Up Grant, and the Review of Completion and Approval of the IT Security Risk Assessment were completed. No findings were reported.
- Campus-Wide Reviews were conducted in the areas of educational and technology funds, fixed assets, travel expenditures, p-card expenditures and fund reconciliations. In addition, a quarterly review was conducted regarding the removal of network access for terminated employees. Also, if necessary, follow-up procedures were performed to determine the resolution of previous findings concerning the campus-wide reviews. Departmental administrators were contacted concerning the results of these reviews and the University policies and procedures were reviewed with them. Recommendations were made regarding ensuring compliance with university policy. No other significant findings to report.

### 2020 Independent Accountants Report

The 2020 Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures was completed by Combs, Tenant, and Carpenter, CPA. NCAA member institutions are required to submit financial data detailing operating revenues and expenses related to its intercollegiate athletics program to the NCAA on an annual basis. No exceptions were noted as a result of these agreed-upon procedures.

### OIA Update

Kristi Gragg was recently promoted to Audit Manager. Kristi has been with the Office of Internal Audits for 11 years. She holds a certification in risk management assurance and is a Certified Internal Auditor.

### Enterprise Risk Management

Mr. Paul Meggett, General Counsel, provided an update regarding Enterprise Risk Management. The Office of General Counsel is currently in the process of creating a Risk Management internship. They are working with the Risk Management and Insurance Program in the Walker College of Business and also University Advancement to establish the internship.

### IT Security Update

In conjunction with the Audit Committee's oversight of the Information Security Program, Chief Information Security Officer and Deputy CIO, Mr. Jim Webb, presented an IT Security Update to the Committee.

Trustee Murray indicated that this concluded his report from the Audit Committee (see Appendix C).

REPORT FROM BUSINESS AFFAIRS: Chair Lampe recognized Trustee Kimberly M. Shepherd, Chair of the Business Affairs Committee, for this report. Trustee Shepherd stated there were three (3) action items to present to the Board for approval.

Trustee Shepherd stated that Vice Chancellor Paul Forte presented the proposed new book rental digital material program as well as the proposed parking enforcement technology program.

Trustee Shepherd recognized Vice Chancellor Paul Forte to present an overview of the demolition of Gardner and Coltrane Residence Halls which was included in the original P3 Residence Housing plan. Trustee Shepherd, on behalf of the Business Affairs Committee, requested Board approval of the demolition of both Gardner and Coltrane Residence Halls.

Upon motion made, seconded and verified by roll call vote the demolition of Gardner & Coltrane Residence Hall was approved as presented

Trustee Shepherd also stated the Vice Chancellor Paul Forte presented capital project to build out, \$650K, for the 3rd floor End Zone for modern theater style team room.

Upon motion made, seconded and verified by roll call vote the Capital Project for the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor End Zone was approved as presented.

Trustee Shepherd indicated she had additional items for closed session and this concluded her report for the Business Affairs Committee (see Appendix D).

REPORT FROM STUDENT AFFAIRS: Chair Lampe recognize Trustee John Blackburn, Chair of the Student Affairs Committee, for this report.

Trustee Blackburn stated the Student Affairs Committee met earlier today and the agenda consisted of two informational presentations, and one closed session item.

Dr. Alex Howard, Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, presented an update on a number of health and wellness initiatives undertaken by the Student Health Center, Counseling Center, University Recreation and Wellness & Prevention. Dr. Howard shared how students are being served by each of these departments. Dr. Howard also talked to the committee about the focus on the entire student with regards to their health and wellness and how each of these departments support this effort.

The second information item consisted of a presentation by Mr. Matt Dull, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, who provided an update on several capital projects within Student Affairs. The committee heard an update on the Housing project, including progress on Laurel Creek Hall which will be open for students in the fall. Mr. Dull also shared an update on the final phase of the housing project, New River Hall, which is currently being constructed at the former location of Justice Hall. A brief report on the progress on the Child Development Center expansion with construction slated for completion in August was also shared. Lastly, an update on the Career Development relocation project in the Student Union was provided. This space will be finalized this summer and open for students when fall semester begins.

Trustee Blackburn indicated that this concluded his report from the Student Affairs Committee (see Appendix E).

REMARKS FROM SGA PRESIDENT: Chair Lampe recognized SGA President Michael Davis who provided brief remarks of his experience over the past year.

REMARKS FROM CHAIR LAMPE: Chair Lampe shared the following statement:

“As we wind down this academic year I have a couple of observations. First and most important, this year has reminded me of the strength and perseverance of Mountaineer Nation. We do not shrink from a challenge and this year has been no exception. When many other campuses shut down we persevered. It is this spirit that makes App State the special place we all love.

Second, I am inspired by the way our faculty have responded to the challenges of teaching online. While in-person teaching seems to generally be superior, this year has taught us that there are many possibilities for online learning. I look forward to continuing and expanding online options for our students.

And finally, I want to recognize the tremendous staff of this university. The facilities, IT, HR and other staff services functions too often go unnoticed. Not this year. This year we were reminded of how dependent we all are on the people who make the trains run on time.”

Chair Lampe made the following comments/announcements/reminders:

- Thanked the Committee and their Chairs for their reports.
- Thanked the staff who worked diligently to ensure this meeting was conducted in a way that safely provided the Board members and the public an opportunity to attend.

- Thanked the College of Fine and Applied Arts' App TV for making the livestreaming possible.
- The next scheduled Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Friday, June 18, 2021.

CLOSED SESSION: Chair Lampe announced that he would entertain a motion for the Board to convene in closed session. Chair Lampe asked that the Trustees, Chancellor Everts, Governor Byers, Interim Provost, Vice Chancellors, General Counsel, Chief Communication Officer, Athletics Director, Director of Environmental Health and Safety and Emergency Management and the Assistant Secretary join the voting members in closed session.

Chair Lampe stated the secondary telephone line would be closed to conduct closed session business. Should participants like to attend once open session is reconvened they can simply stay on the line and the host will reopen the telephone line at the appropriate time.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and verified by roll call vote, the Board convened in closed session to:

prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential information pursuant to North Carolina General Statute, Section 126-22 and 132-1.2(1) in accordance with [N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a) (1)]; and

Prevent the premature disclosure of an honorary degree, scholarship, prize, or similar award in accordance with [N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a) (2)]; and

consult with the University's attorney in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege pursuant to [N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a) (3)]; and

discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by this Board in accordance with [N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(a)(4)]; and

establish or instruct the staff or an agent concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of this Board in negotiating the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract in accordance with [N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(a)(5)]; and

consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee in accordance with [N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(a)(6)]; and

hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee in accordance with [N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(a)(6)].

PUBLIC SESSION RECONVENED: Upon motion duly made, seconded and verified by roll call vote, the Board reconvened in open session at 4:55 pm.

#### Distinguished Professorship Amendment

Trustee Barnes, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, presented the recommendation for an amendment to the Kenneth E. Peacock Distinguished Professorship in Accounting in closed session and requested board approval. The recommendation was approved as presented by roll call vote.

#### 2020 – 2021 Promotion and Tenure

Chair Lampe recognized Trustee Lee Barnes for this report. Trustee Barnes, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, presented the recommendations for Promotion and Tenure in closed session and requested Board approval.

The Promotion recommendations were approved as presented by roll call vote.  
The Tenure recommendations were approved as presented by roll call vote.

#### Tier 1 Employee Action

Chair Lampe recognized Interim Provost Heather Norris for this report. Interim Provost Norris requested Board approval of compensation for Dr. Marie Hoepfl, Acting Dean of the Cratis D. Williams School of Graduate Studies.

The compensation recommendation was approved as presented by roll call vote.

#### Appeals Committee Recommendation

Chair Lampe requested the Board to approve the Appeals Committee's recommendation regarding two (2) personnel grievances as discussed in closed session.

The recommendation regarding the personal grievances were approved as presented by roll call vote.

#### Employment Contract Addendum

Chair Lampe recognized Trustee Thomas Sofield for this item. Trustee Sofield stated the Athletics Committee presented the employment contract addendum for Dustin Kerns as Men's Head Basketball Coach. The employment contract was included in the closed session materials for Board review.

Upon motion duly made, seconded, and verified by roll call vote, the employment contract addendum was approved as presented.



Lease Agreements

Chair Lampe recognized Trustee Kimberly Shepherd for this report. Trustee Shepherd, Chair of the Business Affairs Committee, requested Board approval of three leases to include:

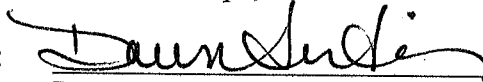
- Verizon Tower Lease
- Quantum-Appalachian State Kidd Brewer DAS Agreement
- Break Through Physical Therapy Lease Agreement

Upon motion duly made, seconded, and verified by roll call vote, the three lease agreements were approved as presented.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by roll call vote at 5:15 p.m.

Scott K. Lampe, Chair

By:



Dawn Antonucci,  
Assistant Secretary

Appalachian Board of Trustees  
Roll Call Record of Votes in Open Session  
March 26, 2021

Roll Call Vote for Attendance:

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

**Don Beaver - Absent**

John Blackburn - Yes

Michael Davis - Yes

Scott Lampe - Yes

Charles Murray - Yes

James Reaves - Yes

Mark Ricks - Yes

Bonnie Schaefer - Yes

Kim Shepherd - Yes

Thomas Sofield - Yes

Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote for Excused Absences:

**Motion: Mark Ricks**

**Second: James Barnes**

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

**Don Beaver - Absent**

John Blackburn - Yes

Michael Davis - Yes

Scott Lampe - Yes

Charles Murray - Yes

James Reaves - Yes

Mark Ricks - Yes

Bonnie Schaefer - Yes

Kim Shepherd - Yes

Thomas Sofield - Yes

Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote to Approve Minutes:

December 4, 2020 & February 12, 2021

**Motion: Charles Murray**

**Seconded: John Blackburn**

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

**Don Beaver - Absent**

John Blackburn - Yes

Michael Davis - Yes

Scott Lampe - Yes

Charles Murray - Yes

James Reaves - Yes

Mark Ricks - Yes

Bonnie Schaefer - Yes

Kim Shepherd - Yes

Thomas Sofield - Yes

Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote to AA Approve Bridge Strategic Plan:

**Motion was made by: Committee**

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

**Don Beaver - Absent**

John Blackburn - Yes

Michael Davis - Yes

Scott Lampe - Yes

Charles Murray - Yes

James Reaves - Yes

Mark Ricks - Yes

Bonnie Schaefer - Yes

Kim Shepherd - Yes

Thomas Sofield - Yes

Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote for BA Gardner & Coltrane Hall Demolition:

**Motion was made by: Committee**

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

**Don Beaver - Absent**

John Blackburn - Yes

Michael Davis - Yes

Scott Lampe - Yes

Charles Murray - Yes

James Reaves - Yes

Mark Ricks - Yes

Bonnie Schaefer - Yes

Kim Shepherd - Yes

Thomas Sofield - Yes

Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote for BA New End Zone 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Team Room:

**Motion was made by: Committee**

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

**Don Beaver - Absent**

John Blackburn - Yes

Michael Davis - Yes

Scott Lampe - Yes

Charles Murray - Yes

James Reaves - Yes

Mark Ricks - Yes

Bonnie Schaefer - Yes

Kim Shepherd - Yes

Thomas Sofield - Yes

Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote to Convene in Closed Session:

**Motion: Mark Ricks**

**Second: Bonnie Schaefer**

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

**Don Beaver - Absent**

John Blackburn - Yes

Michael Davis - Yes

Scott Lampe - Yes

Charles Murray - Yes

James Reaves - Yes

Mark Ricks - Yes

Bonnie Schaefer - Yes

Kim Shepherd - Yes

Thomas Sofield - Yes

Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote to AA Approve Distinguished Professorship Amendment

**Motion was made by: Committee**

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

**Don Beaver - Absent**

John Blackburn- Yes

Michael Davis - Yes

Scott Lampe - Yes

Charles Murray - Yes

James Reaves - Yes

Mark Ricks - Yes

Bonnie Schaefer - Yes

Kim Shepherd - Yes

Thomas Sofield - Yes

Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote to AA Approve Promotion

**Motion was made by: Committee**

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

**Don Beaver - Absent**

John Blackburn- Yes

Michael Davis - Yes

Scott Lampe - Yes

Charles Murray - Yes

James Reaves - Yes

Mark Ricks - Abstain

Bonnie Schaefer - Yes

Kim Shepherd - Yes

Thomas Sofield - Yes

Carole Wilson – Yes

Roll Call Vote to AA Approve Tenure

**Motion was made by: Committee**

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

**Don Beaver - Absent**

John Blackburn- Yes

Michael Davis - Yes

Scott Lampe - Yes

Charles Murray – Yes

James Reaves - Yes

Mark Ricks - Abstain

Bonnie Schaefer - Yes

Kim Shepherd - Yes

Thomas Sofield - Yes

Carole Wilson – Yes

Roll Call Vote to AA Approve Tier 1 Employee Compensation

**Motion was made by: Committee**

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

**Don Beaver - Absent**

John Blackburn- Yes

Michael Davis - Yes

Scott Lampe - Yes

Charles Murray - Yes

James Reaves - Yes

Mark Ricks - Yes

Bonnie Schaefer - Yes

Kim Shepherd - Yes

Thomas Sofield - Yes

Carole Wilson – Yes

Roll Call Vote from Appeals Committee to Approve Grievances

**Motion was made by: Committee**

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

**Don Beaver - Absent**

John Blackburn- Yes

Michael Davis - Yes

Scott Lampe - Yes

Charles Murray - Yes

James Reaves - Yes

Mark Ricks - Yes

Bonnie Schaefer - Yes

Kim Shepherd - Yes

Thomas Sofield - Yes

Carole Wilson – Abstain

Roll Call Vote to Athletics Approve Employment Contract

**Motion was made by: Committee**

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

**Don Beaver - Absent**

John Blackburn- Yes

Michael Davis - Yes

Scott Lampe - Yes

Charles Murray - Yes

James Reaves - Yes

Mark Ricks - Yes

Bonnie Schaefer - Yes

Kim Shepherd - Yes

Thomas Sofield - Yes

Carole Wilson – Yes

Roll Call Vote to BA Approve 3 Leases

**Motion was made by: Committee**

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

**Don Beaver - Absent**

John Blackburn- Yes

Michael Davis - Yes

Scott Lampe - Yes

Charles Murray - Yes

James Reaves - Yes

Mark Ricks - Yes

Bonnie Schaefer - Yes

Kim Shepherd - Yes

Thomas Sofield - Yes

Carole Wilson – Yes



Roll Call Vote to Adjourn:

**Motion: Mark Ricks**

**Second: Bonnie Shaefer**

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

**Don Beaver - Absent**

John Blackburn - Yes

Michael Davis - Yes

Scott Lampe - Yes

Charles Murray - Yes

James Reaves - Yes

Mark Ricks - Yes

Bonnie Schaefer - Yes

Kim Shepherd - Yes

Thomas Sofield - Yes

Carole Wilson – Yes

Board of Trustees  
Friday, March 26, 2021

## **Remarks by Sheri Everts, Chancellor**

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Good Afternoon,

It has been more than a year since this board began meeting virtually to comply with COVID safety precautions. Four hundred and thirty-two days ago, campus planning discussions first started around COVID-19, and it has been 380 days since our Emergency Operation Center formally activated to coordinate our preparedness, response and recovery efforts.

I cannot express how proud I am of the efforts of our staff, in particular, to help keep our campus safe and healthy, our operations running and our university strong and prepared for post-pandemic operations during the most challenging year in university history.

To date, we have conducted more than 52,000 COVID-19 tests on campus. Our positivity rate has remained well below the county and state rates throughout the spring semester, and we have had no documented cases of transmission in the classroom.

Our campus is very, very ready to get back to normal operations, and with the supply of vaccines reaching our campus, I am relieved and encouraged. We will begin vaccinating all students who live in residence halls and apartment buildings at our clinic next week, and will continue to operate our clinic as Group 5 eligibility opens in the state. Our clinic has the capacity to vaccinate 1,500 people each day. At our first clinic on March 11 and 12, we vaccinated 680 faculty, staff, students and community members. Yesterday, our clinic vaccinated nearly 300 people in four hours, and next week, we expect to receive 2,000 additional vaccines. Of the 16 UNC System campuses receiving allotments next week, App State is among the three who will receive the largest allotments. I am so very grateful to Jason Marshburn and his Emergency Management team, as well as the staff in Wellness and Prevention Services, Student Health Service, and the Campus Dining staff in particular who were re-assigned to work with the university's COVID-19 response team. These individuals have worked tirelessly to prepare for the time when we could begin vaccinating our campus and community, and they were literally dancing at our first clinic!

The incredible work that has gone into setting up and staffing our vaccine center includes students and staff in the Convocation Center, and Department of Nursing faculty and students. Dr. Michele Rudisill, a clinical instructor in our Department of Nursing, oversaw the student nurses during the clinic as they joined our many university frontline health care workers in a critical moment in the history of our university, our state and our nation.

Members of the Dean of Students Office, the Appalachian Police Department, our Parking and Transportation personnel and volunteers from campus also have been assisting in our on-site clinics, and I know you join me in thanking them so very much.

The hundreds of individuals involved in our COVID response and recovery efforts will tell you they are simply doing their jobs, but they are all heroes in the fight against COVID-19.

After two virtual-only commencements, we are thrilled to be able to offer an in-person option for our May graduates. Graduates who wish to participate will walk across the commencement stage in their regalia, have their names read aloud as they receive their diploma covers and have their degrees conferred by me in person. In order to maximize safety and allow for guests to attend, our preliminary schedule, which is designed to provide an in-person commencement opportunity for 3,000 students, is to have three ceremonies each day for five days — a total of 15 ceremonies.

Currently we have 2,442 registered, and they want to be here! I really do love commencement! We will livestream all in-person ceremonies, and I will also confer degrees virtually on May 7 for those who wish to celebrate with their loved ones remotely.

I know we are all excited about fall semester for so many reasons. Last month, as we were looking ahead to vaccine distribution, I announced our upcoming fall semester will look more like fall 2019, pending continued success with the vaccine rollout. We will be launching several community campaign efforts, including radio PSAs, billboards, social media badges and giveaways to encourage our community to get vaccinated.

We will, of course, continue to set the standard for excellence with safety and cleaning procedures. We are busily planning for in-person classes, on-campus work, fully occupied residence halls, fully operational campus dining, and resuming events and activities. We are diligently developing return-to-work safety protocols, in alignment with UNC System guidance. The most recent System guidance recognizes that employees who have been working remotely need to return to work safely to prepare for normal operations in the coming fall semester. Of course, our vaccine center will be a significant asset in our ability to have our employees who have been working remotely return to their offices, classrooms, and work environments very soon.

I know we are all very excited for football season! Yesterday, we were thrilled to announce the Homecoming game date, and are looking forward to celebrating a football alumni reunion at the Oct. 30 football game as well. In addition to all of the planning Doug's team has happily underway, I know Stephanie Billings and her team are also already busily planning alumni events.

This year, we earned the distinction of being one of only 10 universities that won FBS bowl games and made the NCAA Tournament. Our women's basketball team made us very proud this season as well, and our student-athletes continue to be successful this spring season, on the field and in the classroom. Given the challenges presented by COVID-19, we can all be particularly proud of them and their accomplishments.

We continue to support all of our students as they manage the challenges presented by the pandemic on top of the standard pressures and demands of college life. I would like to thank Dr. Alex Howard and his teams in Wellness and Prevention Services, Student Health Service, Counseling and Psychological Services and University Recreation for the incredible work they have been doing to engage and support our students. Additionally, our Career Development Center's relocation to the Student Union and its enhanced programming to support our students and help them find jobs is more important than ever.

We are in the process of distributing a second round of federal funding — about \$8 million to nearly 18,500 of our students. I'd like to thank Associate Vice Chancellor Sharon Bell and University Treasurer Timothy James and their teams, as well as our Financial Aid team. They have streamlined a bureaucratic process and worked hard to develop an equitable process that helps our students receive this federal aid as quickly and as easily as possible.

As our country struggles with societal challenges, our university community feels the effects. Last week, our Chief Diversity Officer, Dr. Willie Fleming, shared an important message with the Appalachian Community in support of Asian Americans. His words were especially meaningful, as he called upon the entire App State Community to stand together in solidarity to help bear the burden so many Asian Americans have borne unsupported. My own family has experienced firsthand this intolerance, prejudice and discrimination, and I greatly appreciate his call to action.

Our Diversity and Inclusion Accountability team also met yesterday. Presenters were faculty members Dr. Jamie Parson, Dr. Greg McClure and Dr. Elizabeth Bellows. These members of our Inclusive Excellence team shared progress on their team's initiatives to assist faculty with curriculum

and course development, as well as assisting departments with developing their infrastructure, knowledge and capacity to strengthen their overall diversity and inclusiveness. I appreciate the work of this team a great deal. They are helping make fundamental, institutional changes that are needed and required of a university of our size and scope.

The Appalachian Police Department has developed the Diversity, Inclusion and Community Engagement Unit to help build meaningful relationships and trust between APD officers and campus and community members from underrepresented groups. The unit is led by alumna Cashae Cook, who was appointed diversity, inclusion and community engagement officer in January. This is another important step in the university's work to graduate professionals who are leaders in their fields and who will make wonderful changes in the industry.

I am very pleased to share that App State has earned the No. 6 spot among large public schools receiving the Top 10 Military Friendly® Schools honor for 2021–22. This national designation recognizes U.S. higher education institutions for their support of and resources for student veterans and active-duty military members. We advanced two positions above the No. 8 ranking we received last year! For more than a decade, App State has been recognized for being in the top 15% of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace military students, and to dedicate resources to ensure their success in the classroom and after graduation. This is an accolade shared by many units across our university whose work honors and values the contributions of our military students, faculty and staff, and who work daily to strengthen services and resources that support our military community and their families.

The work of our faculty has worldwide impact. Dr. Baker Perry, who many of you will remember was recently featured in a National Geographic documentary about his expedition to set up meteorological stations on Mount Everest, is continuing his groundbreaking climate research, and is also inspiring young scientists around the world.

Recently, a 4-year-old boy from Brazil named Max has, in the words of his father, “become fascinated with all things Everest, climbing, and especially Baker Perry” after seeing the National Geographic documentary. Max calls Baker Perry his “superhero,” and dresses up in a Baker Perry outfit, complete with wearing a COVID face mask, which he says is part of his climbing gear. Dr. Perry recently sent Max and his sister a video telling them about what it was like to climb Everest, why he did it, and encouraging them to study and work hard to accomplish their goals. You will recall that Dr. Perry is also the great-great-grandson of two of our founders, D.D. and Lille Shull Dougherty. He certainly continues their legacy of inspiring young people to follow their educational dreams, and he makes us all proud to be Mountaineers.

At the beginning of this month, we completed our most successful iBackAPP campaign yet. Many of you were iBackAPP Champions and I thank you for your involvement. It was a day of much-needed fun, celebration and making Mountaineer connections across the country and the world. Vice Chancellor Barghothi reported to the Foundation Board yesterday that we surpassed all prior donor and fundraising numbers to raise \$259,000 from more than 2,600 donors. Significantly, 311 of those donors contributed to App State for the first time. I congratulate Jane and her team for making this day such an important success for App State students, faculty and staff.

After a year without a new state budget followed by 12 months of major disruptions in university operations and their personal and professional lives, our staff and faculty are very attentive to the current budget discussions taking place in Raleigh. We greatly appreciate UNC System President Hans prioritizing faculty and staff salaries as one of the System's key operating budget priorities.

As you know, on our campus level, I continue to advocate for legislative budget increases, as well as for appropriate staff and faculty compensation. We have been fortunate to have had several recent visits from state legislators and have greatly appreciated the time they have taken with us to have

more extensive conversations. In these meetings, my leadership team and I regularly champion the tremendous quality of work, research, scholarship and creative endeavors taking place on our campus. We expect to see renovation and restoration prioritized by the General Assembly, and are sharing our priorities for the possibility of one-time funding for these projects.

We share stories of our faculty and staff working to make a difference in our classrooms and community — and their far-reaching impacts across our state and region. We pair these high-impact stories with key information about App State that reinforces our peer group and comparison institutions to help make the case for appropriate funding. My team and I are not alone in this advocacy work. I want to take this opportunity to thank Governor Byers, Chair Lampe and Trustee Blackburn for their longstanding advocacy for App State. As Chair Lampe and I have shared with Staff Senate and other campus groups, exceeding 20,000 in enrollment this year was an important turning point that allowed us to work with the UNC System on assigning a new peer group for App State, so our reference institutions for resource allocations will be more relevant to the App State of today.

In April, members of the university's leadership will share our annual budget briefing and strategic initiatives with campus. My leadership team and I began holding these annual, public budget presentations in 2016 in order to engage campus input in this important process. I look forward to these presentations each spring — they are a time for members of our campus community to be involved in the beginning of each year's budget process, offer a chance to ask questions, and also provide important reporting on resource allocation.

Over the last incredibly difficult year, we have seen unprecedented expenses due to the global pandemic. We have been forced to furlough Athletics employees, reduce occupancy in our residence halls, cut sports programs, and direct much of our resources towards our COVID response and recovery efforts.

Earlier today, our Chief Sustainability Officer, Dr. Lee Ball, presented a bridge strategic plan to the Academic Affairs committee. In early fall 2020, Interim Provost Heather Norris and Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs Paul Forte charged a faculty and staff working group to develop this plan as a bridge from the most recent University Strategic Plan. Lee, and Heather Langdon, Executive Director of Institutional Research, Assessment and Planning, led the working group to develop this plan. It is designed to guide the university through our current time of financial and social uncertainty, and to provide guidelines for the university's next five-year strategic plan. The bridge plan is an important, pragmatic step in planning for App State's future. I know you join me in thanking Lee, Heather and the many others who came together to help our university pivot and respond to the circumstances of the pandemic.

We remain future-focused, and I would like to thank you for your support as we continued and completed several construction projects over the last few months. As you know, the funding for these projects could not be re-allocated, and completing them not only helped support the local economy, but also positions us to continue moving forward as an institution. It also allows us to emerge from the pandemic stronger and ready for what the future holds for the higher education industry post-pandemic.

Last summer, we opened our new residence halls on time and on budget; we are meeting today in our new, state-of-the-art end zone building, and yesterday we were thrilled to officially celebrate a newly renovated Sanford Hall, which serves, on average, 4,600 students per day and holds more than 100 offices for faculty and staff. Major construction on our Child Development Center will be completed in August, and by October of this year, the center will be able to welcome 40 to 50 additional children — on top of the nearly 70 they already serve!

Our focus on the future includes exciting and innovative academic initiatives as well. Last month, I was thrilled to announce a **multimillion-dollar sponsored contract between App State and Banfield Pet Hospital to develop a first-of-its-kind, four-year, online degree program for licensed veterinary technicians**. We are proud to engage in a forward-thinking partnership with the leading provider of preventive veterinary care in the U.S. to address the market demand for skilled, veterinary professionals, especially in rural areas. We are developing a visionary academic program that will advance the profession and elevate the role of licensed veterinary technicians. Students will be eligible to apply in August, and the program's first class will begin in less than 18 months.

This partnership with Banfield signifies App State's ability to grow strategically, focusing on serving the needs of the state and the region with exceptional academic programs.

It also aligns with the UNC System's strategic priorities, which include access to education and degree completion for rural, first-generation and low-income North Carolinians. It also supports the myFutureNC goal of ensuring that by 2030, 2 million North Carolinians will have a postsecondary degree or credential that meets the demands of our businesses and industries.

2021 is the final year of reporting for the UNC System's five-year strategic performance benchmarks as set in 2017. Based on data provided by the UNC System office in December 2020, we are on track to meet or exceed all of our goals. Among our prioritized goals, we are performing particularly well in rural and first-generation enrollments. Notably, our rural student enrollment exceeds the System's strategic plan benchmark for this year by more than 300 students, and we are above our benchmark goals for low-income completions.

In areas designated for improvement:

- we are above the benchmark goals for low-income enrollments;
- we have surpassed our final target in undergraduate degree efficiency — a measure of enrollments per degrees awarded;
- to date, we can report \$28 million in external funding from grants and contracts, which far surpasses the system's strategic goal of \$18.3 million by 2022; and
- we have surpassed our goal to sustain our five-year graduation rate, which has reached 78.6% in the last year.

These achievements speak to the dedication of our all of our faculty and staff to ensuring student success, and I know you join me in thanking them for their steadfast commitment.

Before I conclude my remarks, I would like to thank Tom Van Gilder, who is serving in the role of interim associate vice chancellor. As you know, this role was previously held by David Hayler. We appreciate David's 32 years of leadership and service to App State, and wish him well in his retirement. Tom has worked in various IT roles at App State for 23 years. For the past five years, he has served as the director of learning technology services within the Center for Academic Excellence. In the last year in particular, Tom has shown his ability to help our university utilize technology to adapt and change quickly and under difficult circumstances. I know you join me in thanking Tom for his willingness to serve in this new role.

Additionally, I would like to thank Marie Hoepfl, who is serving as interim dean of the Cratis D. Williams Graduate School. Dr. Hoepfl joined Appalachian's faculty in 1997 and had a distinguished career as a faculty member in the Department of Sustainable Technology and the Built Environment, and served as a graduate program director and chair of the Graduate Academic Policies and Procedures Committee before being appointed to associate dean of the Graduate School in 2019. We thank Marie for her advocacy of our campus and online graduate education, and for serving in the

role as interim dean. Dr. Mike McKenzie has transitioned fully into his new position of vice provost of academic program development and strategic initiatives. We appreciate his outstanding leadership of the graduate school since 2018 and his exceptional COVID response and recovery work over the past year.

As we look to a post-pandemic future, the future of App State is bright. Your support through this most difficult time has been an important touchstone for those who have worked tirelessly to lead our institution through the most turbulent times in its history, and for me personally. In the face of adversity, the many successes of our students, faculty and staff inspire us all. This outstanding university community deserves a strong, vibrant institution that will carry forward the legacy of innovation, resilience and increased access to education for North Carolina's citizens. Thank you for helping us shape and strengthen this legacy for future generations.

Mr. Chair, this concludes my remarks.

MINUTES  
MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Friday, March 26, 2021  
Via Video Conference  
1:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees of Appalachian State University met at the call of the Chairperson, Lee Barnes, on Friday, March 26, 2021 at 1:00 pm via video conference. Chairperson Lee Barnes presided and called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lee Barnes, Chairperson  
Michael Davis  
Charles Murray  
Bonnie Schaefer  
Carole Wilson

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jane Barghothi  
JJ Brown  
Kathy Brown  
Sheri Everts, Chancellor  
Paul Forte  
Mike McKenzie  
Heather Norris  
James Reaves  
Lee Ball  
Heather Langdon  
Ece Karatan

All votes were taken by roll call (See Attachment 1).

CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTICE: Chairperson Barnes read the following statement:

*“Under the State Government Ethics Act, all voting members of the Board of Trustees have a duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts. Looking at the agenda for today’s meeting, does anyone know that you have a conflict of interest or an interest that would give rise to the appearance of a conflict of interest? If so, please let me know now.”* Carole Wilson responded that she would recuse herself from any discussions relating to Mako Medical Laboratories.

EXPECTATION OF CONDUCT NOTICE: Chairperson Barnes read the following statement:

*As we begin the business portion of the meeting, I would like to remind everyone of the Subcommittee’s expectations for conduct at our meetings. We ask that those attending today*



*remain respectful of fellow attendees and the Committee. Those attending an official meeting may not engage in conduct that is inconsistent with our Bylaws or that interferes with the rights of others to observe and listen to the proceedings. Any individual who disrupts the meeting will be asked to leave and may be subject to arrest.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Carole Wilson and seconded by Bonnie Schaefer to approve the meeting minutes from the February 12, 2021 meeting of the Academic Affairs committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

### Bridge Strategic Plan

Lee Ball, Chief Sustainability Officer, presented the Bridge Strategic Plan to the committee for approval. This plan bridges the gap between the most recent university strategic plan and the next 5-year strategic plan and was created as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic to provide an interim road map to guide App State through a time of financial and societal uncertainty. Reference Exhibit A-1.

Chairperson Barnes requested a motion to approve the Bridge Strategic Plan as presented to the committee in Exhibit A-1 and present to the full board for approval. A motion was made by Bonnie Schaefer and seconded by Carole Wilson to approve the Bridge Strategic Plan as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION: Chairperson Barnes announced to the committee members and others present that the committee will prepare to convene in closed session in order to prevent the disclosure of privileged information. The Chair appointed Carole Wilson to read the "Motion to Convene in Closed Session" document to others present.

Carole Wilson read the following from the "Motion to Convene in Closed Session" document: I move to convene in closed session in order to:

- prevent the premature disclosure of an honorary degree, scholarship, prize, or similar award. [N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(a)(2)] and
- to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee. [N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(a)(6)].

Chairperson Barnes requested a second to the motion to adjourn in closed session. Charles Murry seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chairperson Barnes excused others present with the exception of: Lee Barnes; Michael Davis, Charles V. Murray, Bonnie Schaefer, Carole Wilson, Heather Norris, Mike McKenzie, Ece Karatan, Sandra Vannoy, and Kathy Brown. The meeting convened in closed session.

Reconvene in Open Session: Chairperson Barnes requested a motion that the Committee approve the Amendment to the Peacock Distinguished Professorship in Accounting as presented in Exhibit A-3. A motion was made by Carole Wilson and seconded by Charles Murray to approve the amendment.

Chairperson Barnes requested a motion that the Committee approve all promotion recommendations, as presented and discussed in Exhibit A-4. A motion was made by Carole Wilson and seconded by Bonnie Schaefer to approve all promotion recommendations. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chairperson Barnes requested a motion that the Committee approve all tenure recommendations, as presented and discussed in Exhibit A-5. A motion was made by Carole Wilson and seconded by Bonnie Schaefer to approve all tenure recommendations. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chairperson Barnes requested a motion, if no further business, to adjourn. A motion was made by Charles Murray and seconded by Carole Wilson to adjourn. The motion was approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Brown  
Recording Secretary

Appalachian Board of Trustees  
Roll Call Record of Votes in Academic Affairs Committee Meeting  
March 26, 2021

Roll Call for Attendance:

Roll Call was taken by: Chair Barnes

Lee Barnes - Present  
Michael Davis - Present  
Charles Murray - Present  
Bonnie Schaefer - Present  
Carole Wilson - Present

Roll Call Vote for Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by: Carole Wilson  
Seconded by: Bonnie Schaefer

Lee Barnes - Yes  
Michael Davis - Yes  
Charles Murray - Yes  
Bonnie Schaefer - Yes  
Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote for Bridge Strategic Plan:

Motion was made by: Bonnie Schaefer  
Seconded by: Carole Wilson

Lee Barnes - Yes  
Michael Davis - Yes  
Charles Murray - Yes  
Bonnie Schaefer - Yes  
Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote to Convene in Closed Session:

Motion was made by: Carole Wilson  
Seconded by: Charles Murray

Lee Barnes - Yes  
Michael Davis - Yes  
Charles Murray - Yes  
Bonnie Schaefer - Yes  
Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote on Honorary Degree:

Motion was made by: Charles Murray  
Seconded by: Bonnie Schaefer

Lee Barnes - Yes  
Michael Davis - Yes  
Charles Murray - Yes  
Bonnie Schaefer - Yes  
Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote on Emeriti Requests:

Motion was made by: Carole Wilson  
Seconded by: Bonnie Schaefer

Lee Barnes - Yes  
Michael Davis - Yes  
Charles Murray - Yes  
Bonnie Schaefer - Yes  
Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote on Motion to Reconvene in Open Session:

Motion was made by: Charles Murray  
Seconded by: Carole Wilson

Lee Barnes - Yes  
Michael Davis - Yes  
Charles Murray - Yes  
Bonnie Schaefer - Yes  
Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote on Amendment to Peacock Distinguished Professorship in Accounting:

Motion was made by: Carole Wilson  
Seconded by: Charles Murray

Lee Barnes - Yes  
Michael Davis - Yes  
Charles Murray - Yes  
Bonnie Schaefer - Yes  
Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote on Faculty Promotions:

Motion was made by: Carole Wilson  
Seconded by: Bonnie Schaefer

Lee Barnes - Yes  
Michael Davis - Yes  
Charles Murray - Yes  
Bonnie Schaefer - Yes  
Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote on Faculty Tenure:

Motion was made by: Carole Wilson  
Seconded by: Bonnie Schaefer

Lee Barnes - Yes  
Michael Davis - Yes  
Charles Murray - Yes  
Bonnie Schaefer - Yes  
Carole Wilson - Yes

Roll Call Vote to Adjourn:

Motion was made by: Charles Murray  
Seconded by: Carole Wilson

Lee Barnes - Yes  
Michael Davis - Yes  
Charles Murray - Yes  
Bonnie Schaefer - Yes  
Carole Wilson - Yes

MINUTES  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ATHLETICS COMMITTEE  
APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Friday, March 26, 2021  
Via Video Conference  
2:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The Athletics Committee of the Board of Trustees of Appalachian State University met at the call of the Chairperson and the Chancellor on Friday, March 26, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. via conference call. R. Thomas Sofield presided and called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

James M. Barnes  
James K. Reaves  
R. Thomas Sofield  
Carole P. Wilson

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sheri Everts, Chancellor  
Hank Foreman  
Doug Gillin  
Jonathan Reeder

All votes were taken by roll call vote (see Attachment 1).

CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTICE: Chair Sofield read the statement: “Under the State Government Ethics Act, all voting members of the Board of Trustees have a duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts. Looking at the agenda for today’s meeting, does anyone know that you have a conflict of interest or an interest that would give rise to the appearance of a conflict of interest? If so, please let me know now.” [None reported]

OPENING STATEMENT ON EXPECTATIONS OF CONDUCT: Chair Sofield read the statement: “As we begin the business portion of the meeting, I would like to remind everyone of the Committee’s expectations for conduct at our meetings. We ask that those attending today remain respectful of fellow attendees and the Committee. Those attending an official meeting may not engage in conduct that is inconsistent with our Bylaws or that interferes with the rights of others to observe and listen to the proceedings. Any individual who disrupts the meeting will be asked to leave and may be subject to arrest.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chair Sofield stated the December 4, 2020 Athletics Committee meeting minutes were included in Committee members’ materials. A motion was made and approved by roll call vote by the Board of Trustees Athletics Committee members to accept the minutes as distributed.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS SURVEY:  
Executive Associate Athletics Director, Jonathan Reeder, provided a brief overview of the UNC

Intercollegiate Athletics Survey report as required by University of North Carolina policy, which includes athletics financial information, student-athlete admission and academic profile data, and a course-clustering analysis of student-athletes, in which no corrective action was required.

PRESENTATION BY DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS: Director of Athletics, Mr. Doug Gillin, then provided a presentation to the committee beginning with a review of the Department of Athletics mission.

Mr. Gillin then discussed recent academic success of App State Student-Athletes, including the 17<sup>th</sup> straight semester of a collective 3.0 Grade Point Average. Recent Diversity and Inclusion presentation by Athletics to the campus Accountability Team was then discussed, overviewing the department's Diversity and Inclusion efforts, Recruitment and Hiring strategies, and ongoing plans. Campus and Community connections were then discussed, which included the announcement of a college summer baseball league, the "Boone Bigfoots", who are set to compete this summer at Beaver Field at Jim & Bettie Smith Stadium.

Competitive updates were then presented, including App State Women's Basketball who advanced to the Sun Belt Conference Tournament semifinals before concluding their season, as well as the Wrestling program who qualified a program record seven Student-Athletes for the NCAA Wrestling Championships this season. 149 pounder, Jonathan Millner, also became the 9<sup>th</sup> All-American in program history after finishing in 8<sup>th</sup> place at the Championships. The App State Football program's finish to the 2020 season was then reviewed, as App State became the first FBS program to win a bowl game in each of its first six years eligible. The program is also the only state of North Carolina program to receive votes in the final Associated Press or Coaches top 25 poll every year since 2017, and is one of four FBS programs with 9 or more wins every year since 2015, along with Alabama, Clemson and Oklahoma. The 2021 Football schedule was then discussed, which includes a season opener App State home game versus East Carolina University, being held at Bank of America Stadium in Charlotte. To conclude the competitive updates, Mr. Gillin recapped App State Men's Basketball's competitive success this past season, including the first Sun Belt Conference Tournament Championship in program history, and the first NCAA Tournament Appearance since the 1999-2000 season. The recent Sun Belt Championship culminated in a Championship Game versus Georgia State University, broadcast on ESPN2 on March 8<sup>th</sup>. The NCAA Tournament Game versus Norfolk State on TruTV on March 18<sup>th</sup> drew over 1.47 million viewers, which is the most of any App State Athletics event since 2017. Coach Dustin Kerns also appeared on the CBS national pre-selection show, and appeared on over 20 national and regional TV or radio programs for interviews as a result of Men's Basketball's tremendous accomplishment this season.

To conclude the meeting, Mr. Gillin provided a brief overview of Athletics Facilities progress, as well as the recent announcement of the Mountaineers Athletic Fund, designed to rebrand the App State Athletics Fundraising unit.

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made, seconded and verified by roll call vote for the Committee to convene in closed session to:

1. prevent the disclosure of confidential or privileged information under section 126-24 of North Carolina General Statutes or regulations. Pursuant to [N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(a)(1)]; and

2. establish or instruct the staff or agent concerning the negotiations of the amount of compensation or other terms of an employment contract. [N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(a)(5)].

The motion was made and approved unanimously by all Board of Trustees Athletics Committee members. All Board of Trustees Members, Board of Governors Representative, Philip Byers, Chancellor Sheri Everts, Hank Foreman, Heather Norris, Paul Forte, JJ Brown, Jane Barghothi, Paul Meggett, Megan Hayes, Doug Gillin, and Jonathan Reeder were asked to remain for closed session. All others were excused.

OPEN SESSION RECONVENED: Chair R. Thomas Sofield reconvened the open session.

ADJOURNMENT: After the open session reconvened, a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Athletics Committee was approved unanimously by all Board of Trustees Athletics Committee members at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan B. Reeder  
Recording Secretary



Appalachian Board of Trustees  
Athletics Committee Roll Call Record of Votes  
March 26, 2021

Roll Call to Approve December 4, 2020 Committee Minutes:

Motion was made by Carole P. Wilson and seconded by James K. Reaves

James M. Barnes - yes  
James K. Reaves - yes  
R. Thomas Sofield - yes  
Carole P. Wilson - yes

Roll Call to Convene in Closed Session:

Motion was made by James K. Reaves

James M. Barnes - yes  
James K. Reaves - yes  
R. Thomas Sofield - yes  
Carole P. Wilson - yes

Roll Call to Adjourn:

Motion was made by Carole P. Wilson and seconded by James K. Reaves

James M. Barnes - yes  
James K. Reaves - yes  
R. Thomas Sofield - yes  
Carole P. Wilson - yes

MINUTES  
MEETING OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE  
APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Friday, March 26, 2021  
Via Video Conference  
9:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The Audit Committee of the Board of Trustees of Appalachian State University met at the call of the Chair on Friday, March 26, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. via video conference. Mr. Charles V. Murray, Chair, presided and called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

Charles V. Murray, Chair  
James M. Barnes  
M. Lee Barnes  
John M. Blackburn  
Kimberly M. Shepherd

OTHERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

John Adams  
Jane Barghothi  
Cindy Barr  
Sharon Bell  
JJ Brown  
Eloise Covalt  
David Ehricht, Assistant State  
Auditor  
Sheri Everts, Chancellor  
Hank Foreman  
Paul Forte  
Tom Van Gilder  
David Jamison  
Paul Meggett  
Heather Norris  
Monica Saner  
Jim Webb

All votes were taken by roll call vote (see Attachment 1).

CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTICE: Chair Murray read the following: "Under the State Government Ethics Act, all voting members of the Board of Trustees have a duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts. Looking at the agenda for today's meeting, does anyone know that you have a conflict of interest or an interest that would give rise to the appearance of a conflict of interest? If so, please let me know now." [None reported.]

EXPECTATION OF CONDUCT NOTICE: Chair Murray also read the following: “As we begin the business portion of the meeting, I would like to remind everyone of the Committee’s expectations for conduct at our meetings. We ask that those attending today remain respectful of fellow attendees and the Committee. Those attending an official meeting may not engage in conduct that is inconsistent with our Bylaws or that interferes with the rights of others to observe and listen to the proceedings. Any individual who disrupts the meeting will be asked to leave and may be subject to arrest.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the December 4, 2020 Audit Committee meeting were delivered to all members of the Audit Committee prior to the meeting. There being no corrections, Chair Murray called for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2020 Audit Committee meeting. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and verified by roll call vote the minutes of the meeting were approved as presented.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2020 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT REPORT AND THE 2020 FEDERAL COMPLIANCE AUDIT (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund – HEERF): Mr. David Ehricht, Assistant State Auditor - Supervisor, presented to the committee the results of the 2020 Financial Statement Audit and the 2020 Statewide Federal Compliance Audit Procedures (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund - HEERF). Mr. Ehricht discussed the State Auditor’s audit procedures as well as ASU management’s responsibilities in conjunction with the ASU financial statement. Mr. Ehricht also discussed the scope of the statewide single audit of major federal programs. ASU was selected for audit procedures applied to the HEERF federal program. Mr. Ehricht reported no audit findings or reportable non-compliance in the audits performed. He expressed appreciation to David Jamison (University Controller), Wes Armstrong (Senior Director for the Office of Student Financial Aid and University Scholarships) and their staff for their assistance.

SUMMARY OF 2020-2021 AUDIT PLAN AND RECENT INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY UPDATE: Mrs. Eloise Covalt, Chief Audit Officer, provided the committee with the 2020-2021 Audit Plan in progress and a summary regarding recent internal audit activity. The committee had no questions regarding the information received. Additionally, Mrs. Covalt provided the Audit Committee with the following written internal audit reports:

IT Security Risk Assessment - Review of Completion and Approval

2020 GEAR UP – Year 6

Quarterly Reviews for quarter ended December 2020:

Fixed Assets

Travel Expenditures

Educational and Technology Funds

Departmental Fund Activity Reconciliation

P-Card Expenditures

Computer Access Review for the quarter ended September 2020

SUMMARY OF RECENTLY COMPLETED EXTERNAL AUDIT: Mrs. Eloise Covalt, Chief Audit Officer, provided the committee with a summary of a recent external audit. NCAA member institutions are required to submit financial data detailing operating revenues and

expenses related to its intercollegiate athletics program to the NCAA on an annual basis. The 2020 Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed Upon Procedures was completed by Combs, Tenant, and Carpenter, CPA. No exceptions were found as a result of these procedures.

ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE: Mr. Paul Meggett, General Counsel, provided an update to the committee regarding Enterprise Risk Management. He reported that they are currently conducting a search to fill the Risk Manager position. Additionally, they are working with interns from the Risk Management and Insurance Program (Walker College of Business) to update the University risk assessment.

CLOSED SESSION: Chair Murray called for a motion to enter into closed session at 9:19 a.m. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and verified by roll call vote, all voting members present of the Audit Committee convened in closed session to "a) prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential information pursuant to North Carolina General Statute section 132-6.1(c) or under section 126-22 of North Carolina General Statutes; b) consult with our attorney to preserve the attorney-client privilege [N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(3)]; and c) plan, conduct, or hear reports concerning investigations of alleged criminal conduct. [N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(a)(7)].

Chair Murray asked that Chancellor Sheri Everts, Hank Foreman, Paul Meggett, Heather Norris, Paul Forte, Sharon Bell, David Jamison, Cindy Barr, Tom Van Gilder, Jim Webb, Eloise Covalt and Monica Saner, the recording secretary, join the voting members in closed session.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION: Upon motion duly made, seconded, and verified by roll call vote, the Audit Committee reconvened in open session.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

CHARLES V. MURRAY, Chair

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By: Monica Saner  
Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENT 1

Appalachian State University Audit Committee Meeting  
March 26, 2021  
9:00 am

Roll Call to Approve the December 4, 2020, Audit Committee Minutes:

Thank you, the motion was made by: Lee Barnes

Seconded by: John M. Blackburn

Charles V. Murray / yes

James M. Barnes /yes

M. Lee Barnes /yes

John M. Blackburn /yes

Kimberly M. Shepherd /yes

Roll Call Vote to Move into Closed Session:

Thank you, the motion was made by: Jimmy Barnes

Seconded by: John Blackburn

Charles V. Murray /yes

James M. Barnes /yes

M. Lee Barnes /yes

John Blackburn /yes

Kim Shepherd /yes

Roll Call Vote to Adjourn:

Thank you, the motion was made by: Charles V. Murray

All Approved

Charles V. Murray /yes

James M. Barnes /yes

M. Lee Barnes /yes

John Blackburn /yes

Kim Shepherd /yes

MINUTES  
MEETING OF THE STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Friday, March 26, 2021  
Via Video Conference  
1:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees of Appalachian State University met at the call of Chairperson on Friday, March 26, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. via video conference. Chair Blackburn presided and called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON:

James M. Barnes  
John M. Blackburn  
Michael Davis

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

James K. Reaves  
Carole P. Wilson

OTHERS PRESENT IN PERSON:

Sheri Everts, Chancellor

OTHERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

Dawn Antonucci  
Jane Bargothe  
J.J. Brown  
Matt Dull  
Lori Eggers  
Paul Forte  
Alex Howard  
Darrell Laws  
Paul Meggett  
Heather Norris

All votes were taken by roll call vote (see Attachment 1).

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTICE:** Chair Blackburn read the following statement: Under the State Government Ethics Act, all voting members of the Board of Trustees have a duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts. Looking at the agenda for today's meeting, does anyone know that you have a conflict of interest or an interest that would give rise to the appearance of a conflict of interest? If so, please let me know now."

**EXPECTATIONS OF CONDUCT:** Chair Blackburn read the following statement regarding conduct at the meeting: "As we begin the business portion of the meeting, I would like to remind everyone of the Committee's expectations for conduct at our meetings. We ask that those attending today remain respectful of fellow attendees and the Committee. Those attending an official meeting may not engage in conduct that is inconsistent with our Bylaws or that interferes with the rights of others to observe and listen to the proceedings. Any individual who disrupts the meeting will be asked to leave and may be subject to arrest."

ROLL CALL: Chair Blackburn asked Lori Eggers to call roll to verify all participants present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chair Blackburn stated the November 13, 2019 Student Affairs Committee minutes were provided as an attachment in BoardEffect. A motion was made, seconded and verified by roll call vote, the minutes were approved as presented.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS UPDATE: Dr. Alex Howard, Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs presented an update on health and wellness initiatives to support our students. Dr. Howard provided an overview of information and services provided to students from the Student Health Center, Counseling Center, University Recreation and Wellness & Prevention Services. Dr. Howard explained to the committee the importance of supporting college students in regards to their health and wellness.

CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE: Mr. Matt Dull, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs then provided an update on capital projects within Student Affairs. Mr. Dull shared updates and images on the Housing project, the Child Development Center expansion, and the Career Development Center relocation project. Mr. Dull shared the progress of Laurel Creek Hall which is to open this fall. Mr. Dull informed the committee the final phase of the Housing project, New River hall, is in progress at the former location of Justice Hall. Mr. Dull shared images of the Child Development Center expansion which is scheduled for completion in August 2020. And lastly, Mr. Dull shared images of the newly relocated Career Development Center in the Student Union. The Career Development Center project is scheduled for completion this summer and will be open to students fall semester.

CLOSED SESSION: Chair Blackburn read the motion to convene into closed session to:

1. prevent the premature disclosure of an honorary award or scholarship [N.C.G.S § 143-318.11 (a)(2)].

A motion was made, seconded and verified by roll call vote. Chair Blackburn requested that Chancellor Everts, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs J.J. Brown, Trustees, General Counsel and Recording Secretary remain for closed session. All others were excused.

ADJOURNMENT: After the closed session was adjourned, the Committee reconvened in open session. Chair Blackburn asked J.J. Brown to call roll vote to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Eggers  
Recording Secretary

Appalachian Board of Trustees  
Student Affairs Committee Roll Call Record of Votes

Roll Call to Approve November 22, 2019 Committee Minutes:

Motion was made and seconded

James M. Barnes – yes  
John M. Blackburn – yes  
Michael Davis – yes  
James K. Reaves – yes  
Carole P. Wilson – yes

Roll Call to Convene in Closed Session:

Motion was made and seconded

James M. Barnes – yes  
John M. Blackburn – yes  
Michael Davis – yes  
James K. Reaves – yes  
Carole P. Wilson – yes

Roll Call to Adjourn:

Motion was made and seconded

James M. Barnes – yes  
John M. Blackburn – yes  
Michael Davis – yes  
James K. Reaves – yes  
Carole P. Wilson – yes



MINUTES  
MEETING OF THE BUSINESS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

March 26, 2021  
Via Video Conference  
11:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The Business Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees of Appalachian State University met at the call of the Chairperson and the Chancellor on Friday, March 26, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. via zoom. Mrs. Kimberly M. Shepherd presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michael Davis, President SGA  
Scott K. Lampe  
Charles V. Murray  
James K. Reaves  
E. Bonnie Schaefer  
Kimberly M. Shepherd  
R. Thomas Sofield

MEMBER ABSENT:

Donald C. Beaver

OTHERS PRESENT:

John Adams  
Jane Bargothe  
Sharon Bell  
J.J. Brown  
John Eckman  
Sheri Everts, Chancellor  
Paul Forte  
Doug Gillian  
David Jamison  
Nick Katers  
Paul Meggett  
Heather Norris  
Diane Pitts

All votes were taken by roll call votes (see Attachment 1).

CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTICE: Mrs. Kimberly M. Shepherd read the following:  
"Under the State Government Ethics Act, all voting members of the Board of Trustees have a duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts. Looking at the agenda for today's meeting, does anyone know that you have a conflict of interest or an interest that would give rise to the appearance of a conflict of interest? If so, please let me know now." [None reported]

The following statement was also read, as we begin the business portion of the meeting, I would like to remind everyone of the Committee's expectations for conduct at our meetings. We ask that those attending today remain respectful of fellow attendees and the Committee. Those attending an official meeting may not engage in conduct that is inconsistent with our Bylaws or that interferes

with the rights of others to observe and listen to the proceedings. Any individual who disrupts the meeting will be asked to leave and may be subject to arrest.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the December 20, 2020, February 12, 2021 and closed session February 12, 2021 meetings of the Business Affairs Committee have been reviewed and, upon motion made and seconded, were approved as submitted.

#### Book Rental Fee Digital Course Material Program

Mr. Paul Forte, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, presented as an informational item, the proposed new book rental digital program. Campus Services is working with the company Vital Source for delivery of fully digital text materials. Due to COVID-19 teaching and learning have changed, this is a pilot program with currently 500 sections using digital books and course work. Students will get the material by the first day of class with no delay. The benefits of the program include: flexibility and ease of access, interactive study material, inclusive of distance learners and graduate courses, elimination of the 2-year book adoption and allows new options for instructions, more sustainable and Faculty Senate support. For a \$20 fee, a student may get a hard copy of a book. The contract is still under negotiation with hopes of implementing the program by Summer 2021. The Chancellor has approved the fee.

#### Parking Enforcement Technology

Mr. Paul Forte, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, presented as an informational item, the proposed new license plate recognition technology. This proposed parking enforcement technology program uses hardware to scan license plates, thus eliminating hang tag permits, increases efficiency and replaces obsolete parking controls. The benefits of this new technology include real time parking data, better customer service and contact free payment, and safer and faster parking access. This technology is the future of parking management.

#### Demolition of Gardner and Coltrane Residence Halls

Mr. Paul Forte, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, presented a resolution regarding the demolition of Gardner and Coltrane Residence Halls. The University researched the renovation of both these facilities as part of developing the master plan for student housing. It was determined to be more cost effective to raze the buildings and replace them with new construction compared to renovating the existing facilities due to their current condition and the work required to bring the buildings up to current building code and campus design standards. The demolition of Gardner and Coltrane will be part of the Phase 3 Student Housing Project.

Following discussion, the motion was duly made and seconded, allowing the administration to demolish both Gardner and Coltrane. The motion carried.

#### Capital Projects

Mr. Paul Forte, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, presented information on the End Zone-3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Build Out. This project will complete the second portion of the unfinished 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the New End Zone facility. The project will include a modern theater style team meeting room. This

project was originally part of the End Zone project but was removed in early 2019 to keep the project within the authorization limit. The estimated cost is \$649,666. The scope include the standard upfit of the partially completed space for the App State Football Program to use as a team meeting room. The area is approximately 4,300 spare feet of the available 9,000 square feet of the End Zone 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor. The project is anticipated to start in May with a 3-4 projection duration.

Following discussion, the motion was made and seconded to approve the Athletics End Zone- 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Build Out. The motion carried.

#### Moody's Rating Update

Mr. Paul Forte, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, provided an update that Moody's Investors Service had revised the University's outlook to stable from negative. Moody's affirmed the Aa3 rating for Appalachian on approximately \$203 million of the University's outstanding general revenue bonds and the A1 rating on \$39 million of the University's outstanding Millennial Campus Revenue Bonds.

CLOSED SESSION: Chair Shepherd announced that she would entertain a motion for the Business Affairs Committee to convene in closed session.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the Business Affairs Committee convened in closed session to:

- prevent the disclosure of privileged information under North Carolina General Statutes 132-1.7, subsections (a) and (a2) of United States laws or regulations [N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(1)]; and
- consult with our attorney to preserve the attorney-client privilege [N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(3)].

OPEN SESSION RECONVENED: Upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the Board reconvened in open session at 11:35 a.m.

#### ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Pitts  
Recording Secretary

Board of Trustees Meeting  
Business Affairs Committee  
March 26, 2021  
11:00 a.m.

Roll Call to Approve Absences:

James K. Reaves  
E. Bonnie Schaefer  
Kimberly M. Shepherd  
R. Thomas Sofield

Roll Call to Approve Minutes:

James K. Reaves  
E. Bonnie Schaefer  
Kimberly M. Shepherd  
R. Thomas Sofield

Roll Call to Approve Demolition of Gardner and Coltrane Residence Halls:

James K. Reaves  
E. Bonnie Schaefer  
Kimberly M. Shepherd  
R. Thomas Sofield

Roll Call to Approve Capital Project – End Zone 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Clinic Buildout:

James K. Reaves  
E. Bonnie Schaefer  
Kimberly M. Shepherd  
R. Thomas Sofield

Roll Call to Convene in Closed Session:

James Reaves  
Bonnie Schaefer  
Kim Shepherd  
Thomas Sofield

Roll Call to Adjourn:

James K. Reaves  
E. Bonnie Schaefer  
Kimberly M. Shepherd  
R. Thomas Sofield