

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Grandview Ballroom, North Endzone Facility, Ricks Athletic Complex
Friday, March 25, 2022
9:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The Board of Trustees of Appalachian State University met in the Grandview Ballroom in the North Endzone Facility on the campus of Appalachian State University and via livestream at the call of the Chair and the Chancellor on Friday, March 25, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. Chair Kimberly M. Shepherd presided and called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

James M. Barnes
John M. Blackburn
J. Jeffries Chesson
Fairley Bell Cook
Bailey K. Gardin
James E. Harris
Scott K. Lampe
James K. Reaves
Mark E. Ricks
Kimberly M. Shepherd
R. Thomas Sofield
Steven D. Wyatt

MEMBER PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

E. Bonnie Schaefer

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dawn Antonucci
Jane Barghothi
JJ Brown
Sheri Everts, Chancellor
Hank Foreman
Megan Hayes
Heather Norris

MEDIA PRESENT:

Matty Staskel, *Watauga Democrat*
Anna Oakes, University Communications

CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTICE: Chair Shepherd 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." None reported.

Chair Shepherd also read the following: "As we begin the business portion of the meeting, I would like to remind everyone of the Board's expectations for conduct at our meetings. We ask that those attending today remain respectful of fellow attendees and the Board. 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 Shepherd asked Dawn Antonucci to call roll to verify all participants joining the meeting.

APPROVAL OF ABSENCES: None to report

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the December 3 & 15, 2021 and January 18 & March 14, 2022 meetings had been delivered to all members via BoardEffect. Upon motion duly made and seconded the minutes were approved as presented.

REMARKS FROM CHANCELLOR EVERTS: (see Attachment 1).

REMARKS FROM CHAIR SHEPHERD: Chair Shepherd stated the following:

"Thank you for your remarks, Chancellor, and thank you for your leadership. As illustrated in your presentation, the state of our university is strong and vibrant. Prior to today's meeting, a list of recent high-level strategic successes achieved during Chancellor Everts' leadership was shared with me as Chair of the Board of Trustees. I have provided each of you with a hard copy of this document at your place today. Many of our university's successes are regularly shared through Chancellor Everts' remarks and weekly messages, as well as through the many channels of App State's communications. That said, seeing these successes in one document soundly reaffirms my faith, and the faith of this board, that we have the right leader for this time in App State's history. Change, innovation and resiliency are paramount to the health and longevity of our institution. Our Chancellor, with the thoughtful input of the leadership team she has developed, faculty, staff, students, alumni, community members, and trustees is ensuring a bright future for Appalachian State University. People are noticing, as evidenced by record enrollment, our Hickory campus, national recognition by publications and agencies, strengthened campus infrastructure with a focus on academic facilities, record fundraising and research dollars, and the best state budget in App State's history – including the key priority of raises for faculty and staff. App State is on the right path. Our academic mission is engaged every day for the betterment of our students, our state, our region and the world. As always, I encourage us as trustees, and all those listening, to engage in our work together through their departments, colleges, division, boards, partnerships, committees and organizations. Chancellor Everts, we celebrate your successes today, and recognize there is much work underway and on the horizon. As chair of this board, I want to make sure you know our expectation is that you will be at the helm of this great institution for years to come to ensure many more successes are

achieved, and we all look forward to continued momentum and an even brighter future under your leadership.”

REPORT FROM ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: Chair Shepherd recognized Trustee James Barnes, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, for this report.

Trustee Barnes reported that the Academic Affairs Committee met and considered one action item in open session. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes from the September 24, 2021 Academic Affairs Committee meeting were approved as presented.

Beaver College of Health Sciences Presentation

Dr. Marie Huff, Dean of the Beaver College of Health Sciences, gave an informative presentation on the exciting work being accomplished in that college and their opportunities for the future.

Trustee Barnes stated this concluded his report from the Academic Affairs Committee (see Appendix A).

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

Introduction / Student-Athlete Presentations

Trustee Sofield stated the Athletics Committee met yesterday, and began with a presentation given by Men’s Basketball student-athlete, Donovan Gregory, who gave the Committee insight into his transformational experience as a student-athlete at Appalachian. Donovan is currently a Junior, and is a Recreation Management major with a General Business minor.

Presentation from Director of Athletics

Trustee Sofield stated Director of Athletics, Doug Gillin, then provided a presentation to the Committee beginning with an update on academic performance, where App State Student-Athletes finished the fall 2022 semester with their 19th straight semester over a 3.0 GPA. Recent campus and community connections were then discussed, including attendance records set for multiple sports this year, including ticket revenue records for Football, Basketball, Wrestling, and Baseball. Competitive updates were also overviewed, including Jonathan Millner earning NCAA Wrestling All-American honors for the second consecutive year, and the Men’s and Women’s Basketball programs finishing a program best 2nd and 4th in the overall Sun Belt Conference Regular Season standings.

Facilities updates were then discussed, including progress on the Outdoor Track and Field complex, and the need for additional fundraising to complete Appalachian 105 and other facility projects such as Indoor and Outdoor Tennis, Softball, Locker Rooms, and a new on-campus Indoor Practice facility.

To conclude the meeting, the Committee was provided with updates on recent revenue generation efforts, where new records have been set in the areas of Licensing and Ticket Sales during the current academic year.

Trustee Sofield stated that this concluded his report from the Athletics Committee (see Appendix B).

REPORT FROM THE AUDIT COMMITTEE: Chair Shepherd recognized Trustee John Blackburn, Chair of the Audit Committee, for this report.

Trustee Blackburn stated that upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes from the Audit Committee meeting on September 24, 2021 were approved as presented.

Internal Audit Activity Charter

Trustee Blackburn stated there was review and discussion of the updated Internal Audit Activity Charter. This charter defines the purpose, authority, and responsibility of the internal audit activity. It is consistent with the mandatory elements of the Institute of Internal Auditors' International Professional Practices Framework. The Audit Committee recommended the approval of the updated Internal Audit Activity Charter to the full Board.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Internal Audit Activity Charter was approved as presented.

Audit Committee Charter

Trustee Blackburn stated there was review and discussion of the updated Audit Committee Charter. This charter defines the purpose, authority, organization, duties and responsibility of the Audit Committee of the Board of Trustees. The Audit Committee recommended the approval of the updated Audit Committee Charter to the full Board.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Audit Committee Charter was approved as presented.

Internal Audits

Trustee Blackburn stated the internal audits reviewed and discussed for this quarter were: A financial audit of the Center for Analytics Research and Education audit was completed. No findings were reported.

Follow-Up Reviews monitor management's implementation of recommendations from previous audits that were performed. One follow-up review was performed for this quarter and the results were summarized and discussed.

Campus-Wide Reviews were conducted in the areas of educational and technology funds, fixed assets, p-card expenditures, and travel expenditures. In addition, a 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.

External Audits

Trustee Blackburn stated an update was also provided on external audits currently in progress and external audits recently completed. The 2021 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.

In conjunction with the Audit Committee's oversight of the Information Security Program, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor and CIO, Tom Van Gilder, and Chief Information Security Officer and Deputy CIO, Mr. Jim Webb, presented a Security Update to the Committee.

Lastly, Trustee Blackburn stated Faith Cope was recently promoted to Internal Auditor - Journey Level. Faith has been with the Office of Internal Audits for two years.

Trustee Blackburn stated this concluded his report from the Audit Committee (see Appendix C).

REPORT FROM BUSINESS AFFAIRS: Chair Shepherd recognized Trustee James Reaves, Chair of the Business Affairs Committee, for this report.

Trustee Reaves reported the Business Affairs Committee had four (4) items to present for approval.

All Funds Budget

Trustee Reaves reported the All Funds Budget is an initiative by the UNC System, to encourage best practices in budgeting by requiring increased transparency for all fund types. The "All Funds Budget" provides a comprehensive operating budget for the institution, reflecting both General Funds, Auxiliary, Trust, and Restricted funds. "All Funds Budget" report includes budget template, 2-page narrative and budget process checklist which requires Board of Trustees approval and is due to the UNC System Office on May 4, 2022. Information was provided in the BoardEffect materials.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the All Funds Budget was approved as presented.

Write Off of Noyce Scholarship-Loan

Trustee Reaves stated the second item for approval was for the write off of Noyce Scholarship-Loan program based on a waiver request for a student with a hardship. Noyce Teacher Scholarship program was created by National Science Foundation (NSF) to support certain STEM majors and student agrees to teaching service commitment. If commitment is not met, the

scholarship converts to a loan. The write off is \$23,908.41 and was provided in the BoardEffect materials.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the write off of the Noyce Scholarship-Loan was approved as presented.

Property Action Items

Trustee Reaves stated the third action item was the request for approval for three property actions. The details of the property actions were made available in BoardEffect for review.

Town of Boone requests the state release a 45' strip of land adjacent to the Hunting Hills bridge to allow the failing bridge to be replaced and expanded. Transfer and easements will be finalized by State Property office.

The Blue Ridge Conservancy is requesting a letter of intent to allow a greenway trail to cross Appalachian State property.

The 5-year lease with Elkin City Schools for the Lab School space. Term will start on July 1, 2022. The Academy will serve 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade students.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Property Actions were approved as presented.

Capital Projects

Trustee Reaves stated the final action item was the request for approval for three capital projects. The details of the capital projects were provided in the BoardEffect materials for review and encompass the following:

Summer Repaving project \$500K
Cone Roof Authorization Increase \$620K
Holmes Convocation Center 600 space parking deck \$20M

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Capital Projects were approved as presented.

Lastly, Trustee Reaves requested approval for the resolution to issue self-liquidating bonds of up to \$20M which requires Board of Governors and State Legislature approval. Supporting documents were labeled as EXHIBIT D-5C in the BoardEffect materials.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Resolution to Issue Self Liquidating Bonds was approved as presented.

Information Items

Trustee Reaves stated the Business Affairs Committee discussed two information items. The first item was the increase in Book Rental fee for undergraduate students of 4%, from \$500 to \$520

an academic year. Second, implementing a graduate book rental fee of \$70 a semester or \$140 per an academic year. Students can opt out of the program before the census date. The details are labeled as EXHIBIT D-3 in your BoardEffect materials.

Next, Associate Vice Chancellor Nick Katers presented the capital projects update report as an informational item.

Trustee Reaves stated this concluded his report for the Business Affairs Committee (see Appendix D).

REPORT FROM STUDENT AFFAIRS: Chair Shepherd recognized Trustee Fairley Bell Cook, Chair of the Student Affairs Committee, for this report.

Trustee Cook reported the Student Affairs Committee met and the agenda consisted of two informational presentations.

Career Development Center

Trustee Cook stated the Committee heard about the Career Development Center and the collaboration that takes place with academic departments and colleges. Staff shared how they engage students from researching majors for those undecided to helping build plans for employment, resume critique, hosting employment fairs, as well as interview preparation and coaching. We also learned there are a number of current job opportunities available for those getting ready to graduate.

Capital Projects Update

Trustee Cook stated 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. The vision for the redevelopment of our residence halls through the P3 project is nearly complete. Mr. Dull shared the latest updates from New River Hall, the final phase of the project, and it will be completed this summer. Mr. Dull also provided information on the expansion of the Child Development Center. The construction of this addition will be completed in May after a long journey to fulfill the Chancellor's goal of increasing child care space.

Trustee Cook stated that this concluded her report from the Student Affairs Committee (see Appendix E).

REMARKS FROM CHAIR SHEPHERD: Chair Shepherd thanked the Committees and Chairs for their reports and shared the next scheduled Board of Trustees Meeting for Appalachian State University will be held on Friday, June 17, 2022.

Chair Shepherd also reminded the Trustees about the groundbreaking to celebrate the first academic building on App State's Innovation District later that afternoon and asked the Trustees to please join if their schedule permitted.

CLOSED SESSION: Chair Shepherd announced that she would entertain a motion for the Board to convene in closed session. Chair Shepherd asked that the voting Trustees, Chancellor Everts, the Provost and Vice Chancellors, General Counsel, Chief Communications Officer, Director of Emergency Management and the Assistant Secretary join the voting members in closed session.

Chair Shepherd stated the livestream will be closed as we enter into closed session. Once we return to open session, the livestream will resume.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board convened in closed session to:

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

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)];

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

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)].

The motion was approved as presented.

PUBLIC SESSION RECONVENED: Upon motion duly made, seconded, and approved the Board reconvened in open session at 11:21 a.m.

Promotion & Tenure

Chair Shepherd recognized Trustee Barnes, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, for this item. Trustee Barnes stated the Academic Affairs Committee was presenting the recommendations for Promotion for approval. Trustee Barnes stated materials were included in the closed session section of BoardEffect for the Board's review.

Trustee Barnes, on behalf of the Academic Affairs Committee, recommended approval of the Promotion recommendations as presented. The Committee's recommendation was approved as presented.

Trustee Barnes stated the Academic Affairs Committee also presents the recommendations for Tenure for approval. Trustee Barnes stated materials were included in the closed session section of BoardEffect for the Board's review.

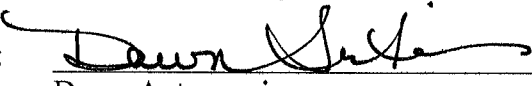
Trustee Barnes, on behalf of the Academic Affairs Committee, recommended approval of the Tenure recommendations as presented. The Committee's recommendation was unanimously approved.

SGA President Remarks

As Trustee Bailey Gardin's last meeting, he shared a few comments about his positive experience serving on the Board. Trustee Gardin thanked the Trustees for their guidance and mentorship over the past year.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Kimberly M. Shepherd, Chair

By: 
Dawn Antonucci
Assistant Secretary

Remarks by Sheri Everts, Chancellor

Good morning. There is much to report today, and I appreciate your indulgence as I share some of the incredible progress and success we have had so far this year.

Today marks the 800th day since we first began planning, preparing and responding to COVID. I am so proud of how our staff, faculty and students came together as a community to persevere. Together we managed the most significant crisis our university has ever faced. While we certainly didn't all agree at all times, we kept our focus on making data-driven decisions and our goal — always — was to do what was best for our students.

Over the last two years, the university has donated nearly 20,000 meals for university and local community members who were in isolation or quarantine due to COVID; we conducted more than 93,000 COVID tests - free to the individual, for students, faculty and staff; and administered more than seven thousand vaccines to students, faculty, staff and community members.

We held our first COVID immunization clinics last Spring, and by January of this year, 90% of App State employees and more than 81% percent of students were verified as having been fully vaccinated.

While no one is saying the global pandemic is over, we are finally seeing the other side. The CDC has downgraded Watauga County's COVID-19 Community Level to "Low," they did that last night, and last week, Governor Cooper announced that the state is shifting its approach from crisis response to disease management, utilizing important tools, including the widely available COVID vaccines, treatment options, testing and personal protective equipment. We remain attentive to our campus data, as well as state and national trends and public health guidance. The university's approach is in alignment with guidance from the federal, state and local levels: People may choose to mask at any time, and those with symptoms, a positive test or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a face covering. Vaccines continue to be the most important and effective tool we have to mitigate serious risk, and we continue offering vaccines, testing and face coverings free of charge to students, faculty and staff.

Last week, students, faculty, staff, business leaders and community members came together for the Walker College of Business' 63rd Boyles Distinguished Lecture, which featured Pam Mars Wright as the keynote speaker. Many of you were in attendance — and I thank you so much for joining us!

Pam spent the morning with female student leaders in the Walker College of Business, engaging in conversation and sharing her breadth of knowledge in navigating many aspects of the business world.

She then joined us for a luncheon, during which senior marketing major Isabella Riley addressed the audience of university and community leaders. Isabella described the many ways in which her Appalachian Experience has set her up for success, and — as we hear from so many of our students — how our dedicated faculty and staff have gone above and beyond to help her along the way.

For the afternoon's signature event, about 2,500 students, faculty and staff were able to hear Pam's insights about successful business strategies and lessons she has learned from being in a multi-generational family business. She shared many examples from the beginning of her career, to her time as chair and director of the Mars Incorporated board of directors — which governs the \$40 billion business owned by the Mars family — and director on the Board of Banfield veterinary hospitals. We are so fortunate to have had Pam on campus, sharing her time and expertise. It was a

fabulous day, and the perfect return to the series after COVID forced us to put so many of our in-person events on hold.

As you know, Pam became engaged with App State through our esteemed Vice Chair of the Board, her husband and alumnus Trustee Ricks. App State has benefited greatly from the generosity of both Pam and Mark, who worked with us to develop an innovative partnership between Banfield Pet Hospital and App State.

You will recall that last year, I announced a multimillion-dollar sponsored contract with Banfield to support the development of a four-year, App State Online degree program for licensed veterinary technicians, which will combine Bachelor of Science credentials with veterinary technician licensure. We will provide a four-year degree with on-site clinical training that will prepare students for meaningful employment in the growing veterinary medical profession, and lead to career advancement opportunities for those already working in the field.

A team of App State faculty, staff and external collaborators has worked to develop the curriculum, which is based on the American Veterinary Medical Association standards. App State's curriculum will become a model for developing veterinary professional talent. It is the first of its kind, and will help meet shortages for skilled veterinary professionals in the rural areas of our region and beyond. We are proud to engage in this innovative partnership, which will advance the profession and elevate the role of licensed veterinary technicians. And we are thrilled to welcome the program's first class this fall!

App State has a strong legacy of preparing educators to lead and serve, and we remain steadfast in our commitment to recognize the promise of each student. This commitment is carried forward by the educators who teach in classrooms across the state and nation. For the sixth year in a row, App State has retained the #1 position in the nation for the number of alumni who are National Board-Certified Teachers. This accomplishment speaks to the dedication of these stellar professionals, particularly during these incredibly challenging times, and we admire and celebrate their commitment to education. Congratulations Melba.

App State educators are building on the success of the App State Academy at Middle Fork lab school. In August, we will open our second laboratory school, in partnership with Elkin City Schools. The new App State Academy at Elkin will utilize a "school-within-a-school", and will serve approximately 100 students in second through fourth grades. App State will be the only UNC System institution to operate two lab schools. We have seen strong and steady support from the Board of Governors and the North Carolina General Assembly for the App State Academy at Middle Fork lab school, and we greatly appreciate the trust placed in us to replicate this model in other North Carolina school districts.

This trust translates into important financial support for our academic enterprise, and led to the creation of App State's named, distinguished professorship of early child literacy, which will be housed in the Reich College of Education.

The individual who holds this position will teach in the college's teacher preparation programs and conduct research in early literacy to advance the field and establish a strong presence for the college in the state and nation as a leader in reading instruction. This education professorship will be funded by a \$2 million gift to the College of Education from the C.D. Spangler Foundation, and we greatly appreciate the Foundation, and its director and Board of Governors member Anna Spangler Nelson, for their investment in the education of young people in our state.

The Spangler Distinguished Professorship of Early Child Literacy is the most recent endowed professorship. Since my arrival in 2014, App State has added eight new, endowed professorships, and we expect to add more.

The current market value of our distinguished professorship endowments is \$41 million, which includes funding received from the state in support of these positions.

This funding allows the university to provide a higher salary and more research dollars to accompany the prestigious title of endowed or distinguished professor. It also rewards top faculty for outstanding contributions in academic work, excellence in the advancement of learning and student attainment, and exceptional leadership and service to the profession.

These professorships make real and powerful differences in the lives of our students, and are among the many ways private and public funds combine to support our institution.

App State's ninth annual iBackAPP giving celebration is scheduled for April sixth and seventh, and we are inviting all Mountaineers to serve as iBackAPP Champions. This is a fun way to support the university while inspiring others to do the same. Champions make a gift, dress in their favorite App State gear and share on their social media accounts the reasons why they "Back" App. I always enjoy reading the many reasons people support App State — the reasons range from fun to touching, and all are very inspiring. We hope you will join in the fun in April.

We are on track for the best fundraising year in App State's history, and I'd like to take a moment to share some of the accomplishments of our students, faculty and staff — a few examples of the kinds of successes you and many others are supporting.

Dr. Michael Reddish, an assistant professor in App State's A.R. Smith Department of Chemistry and Fermentation Sciences, has been awarded a grant from the North Carolina Biotechnology Center to study medications proposed to treat triple-negative breast cancer. Approximately 10 – 20% of breast cancers are triple negative, and triple negative breast cancer has the least number of treatments and the least effective treatment options. In his lab at App State, Dr. Reddish and his team are testing medications in hopes of finding one that minimalizes adverse side effects.

Several App State students are assisting Dr. Reddish in his work, including Ethan Harris, a senior from Clemmons and Noah Arnold, a senior from Mount Pleasant, both of whom are double majoring in biochemistry and cellular/molecular biology.

Dr. Andrew Koricich, Associate Professor in the Higher Education program in the Reich College of Education, and the Executive Director of the Alliance for Research on Regional Colleges, is among a national group of five researchers who developed and recently launched a tool that uses evidence-based criteria to define what it means to be a Rural-Serving Institution. This groundbreaking tool utilizes publicly-available data and tools to help advance research for rural serving and regional institutions of higher education. The potential for this tool and its associated research is tremendous, as the criteria for federal higher education policies and funding appropriations do not employ common data sets or a consistent definition to determine which institutions are rural-serving. This work has been recognized in national mainstream, as well as national higher-education media outlets, and is sure to help shine a brighter spotlight on the contributions rural-serving institutions are making in the higher education landscape.

We are also celebrating the recent recognitions of App State faculty by the UNC System Board of Governors.

App State musicology professor Dr. Reeves Shulstad, earned the 2022 Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching. This award was established by the board in 1994 to highlight the importance of teaching and recognizes the extraordinary contributions of faculty members Systemwide. Dr. Shulstad will receive a commemorative bronze medallion and a \$12,500 cash prize, and will be recognized during Spring Commencement. Dr. Shulstad is committed to student mentorship, undergraduate research and inclusive excellence — all pillars of an App State Education — and she

has earned the respect of her colleagues and her students. We are all so pleased the Board of Governors is recognizing her extraordinary contributions with its Excellence in Teaching Award.

At the campus level, Dr. Joseph Bathanti, professor in the Department of English, is the recipient of App State's Excellence in Teaching Award, and will receive a \$1500 cash award. College awards, which come with a \$1,000 cash award, were earned by:

- Jeana Klein, Professor in the Department of Art;
- Brooke Hofsess, Associate Professor in the Department of Art;
- Andy Bellemer, Associate Professor in the Department of Biology;
- Theresa Redmond, Associate Professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction; and
- Jason Xiong Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Information Systems (who earned his Master's and PhD at University of Nebraska, Omaha where I used to be).

Each of these outstanding faculty has demonstrated the highest levels of excellence, engaging and mentoring students in order to provide a transformative App State experience.

This July, App State will host the 2022 Appalachian Entrepreneurship Academy aimed at preparing the next generation of entrepreneurial leaders and thinkers.

This is a two-week, free residential program for high school students, who will develop and implement their own business ideas and then present them to an audience of entrepreneurs in a pitch competition.

Faculty and staff at App State received more than \$260,000 in grant funding to support this experiential learning project, which is designed to cultivate creativity and develop skills that are essential for entrepreneurial success.

The project is a partnership among App State, the Appalachian Regional Commission, the National Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education, and STEM West in Hickory. App State's project leaders are:

- Tracie Salinas, professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences and director of App State's Mathematics and Science Education Center,
- Corinne Smith, director of App State's GEAR UP program, and
- Doug Thompson, assistant director of curriculum and instructional design in App State's College Access Partnerships.

App State's Police Chief, Andy Stephenson, has been named one of six national finalists for Campus Safety Director of the Year for his outstanding leadership skills, ingenuity, selflessness and overall achievement. Chief Stephenson is among an elite group of campus safety leaders who are being recognized for, among other criteria, their excellent community relations, extensive involvement with the public, fostering high officer morale and motivation, even under difficult circumstances and implementing innovative solutions in the face of complex problems. Congratulations, Andy, on this recognition. To those of us who are fortunate to work with Andy every day, this recognition comes as no surprise.

As evidenced by many of you on this board and in this room, App State students become successful and respected alumni. We recently profiled several members of App State's National Pan-Hellenic Council fraternities and sororities — historically Black Greek-letter organizations. Seven of these

sororities and fraternities are currently represented at App State, and our NPHC Alumni are foundational to App State's history. These alumni, including Trustee Reaves, were notable student leaders who have continued a legacy of leadership and service both on and off campus. As alumni, they continue to open doors and create possibilities for the generations who follow them, and we are proud to celebrate their contributions to App State, their communities and beyond.

Our solar vehicle team is still energized by their success in 2021, in which they secured a first-place win — clocking a total of 964.8 miles, winning all three stages of the race from Missouri to New Mexico, and also earning awards for teamwork and electrical design. Their trophy is on display, and I hope you will have a chance to see it up close, although it's so big you can't miss it from across the room!

Team Sunergy students are outstanding representatives of App State with a history of excelling among (OK— I will just say it— a history of BEATING) a roster of highly elite institutions with engineering programs, such as Georgia Tech, UC Berkeley and MIT. Team Sunergy is the epitome of true Mountaineer spirit and I am extraordinarily proud of their ingenuity, their perseverance, their teamwork, and their kindness.

This summer, they are heading to Topeka Kansas to compete in the Formula Sun Grand Prix track race, before defending their trophy in the American Solar Challenge road race, which follows the Oregon Trail to Twin Falls, Idaho. We are confident they will continue their legacy of success.

The beginning of 2022 marked an important milestone in App State's climate action plan. The transition to a new power provider for our university-owned utility company, New River Light and Power, is complete. Our new energy contracts, effective this year, are allowing us to not only increase our renewable energy purchase portfolio from just under two percent to eighteen-point-three percent, but also to realize a cost savings of about half a million dollars. We are also negotiating with the power provider for other university buildings to convert the purchased electricity to renewable sources.

This move is a clear demonstration of many units across the university working cooperatively to effect major purchasing changes that have economic and environmental benefits. It also includes an important commitment from the student-led, student-funded Renewable Energy Initiative, which voted to contribute \$50,000 toward the university's renewable power purchases.

Because New River Light and Power is also the energy supplier for the majority of the Boone area, including about 25% of the municipal operations for the Town of Boone. This new energy contract is allowing the Town of Boone to meet its climate neutrality goals, and it also makes available flexible options for New River Light & Power's 9,000 residential and commercial customers to purchase renewable power for their homes and businesses.

As Provost Norris and Chief Sustainability Officer Lee Ball have shared with campus, the University Planning and Priorities Council has been developing the strategic plan that will guide App State through the next five years. The UPPC, as we call it, is a group of nearly 60 individuals representing faculty and staff from every college and division, and includes the heads of Faculty Senate, Staff Senate and Student Government. Listening sessions open to the entire campus were held last November, followed by meetings with constituent groups that included Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, the Student Government Association and Alumni Council. Feedback from these listening sessions is being incorporated into the draft of the plan right now. It will be shared with campus for feedback again soon, and the final version will be presented to the Board for approval in June. I extend my appreciation to everyone who has been working on this plan — it has been a comprehensive, transparent and collective effort that has allowed everyone who wants a voice in the process to have one. We continue to encourage campus participation as the plan is finalized in the coming months. Thank you all for your incredible amount of work.

As you know, UNC System leadership is also preparing to update and refresh the current System strategic plan. Earlier this week, faculty, staff and students joined a virtual Town Hall event hosted for our campus by the UNC System. Faculty, staff and students joined the event, and the comments shared were insightful and constructive. Feedback from our campus included:

- Considering the long-range impacts of the pandemic;
- Developing creative methods for reaching new students and ensuring their educational attainment goals using delivery methods that fit their needs;
- Resourcing the mental health and wellbeing of students;
- Preparing students to become leaders who recognize that career and professional development is a lifelong process;
- Building upon the UNC System's most recent initiatives to foster a more diverse and inclusive environment within its institutions, particularly the UNC System Racial Equity Taskforce and Black Male Achievement programs;
- Strengthening campus efficiency strategies that support our sustainability, resilience, and climate goals;
- Ensuring metrics will not adversely impact the goals of growing institutions like ours; and
- Implementing an economic impact study to better understand and share the return citizens of our state are earning on their investment in public higher education.

I think the last time we did an Economic Impact Study was 2015 and a lot has changed since then.

It was a rich and engaging discussion, and the System's Strategy and Policy team appreciated the thoughtful input from our campus. Senior Vice President for Strategy and Policy Andrew Kelly specifically addressed the comments regarding carbon neutrality strategy and racial equity brought forward from our students, which was supported with ideas for action items by our Chief Sustainability and Chief Diversity Officers.

The UNC System is the process of updating its metrics for the current strategic initiatives Strategic Plan Dashboard, which measure its five-year Strategic Plan goals. Based on data provided by the UNC System office in January 2022, App State has exceeded our prioritized goal of increasing rural enrollments, our improvement goals of increasing low-income enrollments, overall undergraduate degree efficiency and research productivity. We have improved our five-year graduation rate by nearly 5.5%, exceeding our goal by 3%. By Fall 2021, App State's research and development sponsored program awards and licensing income exceeded \$35.5 million.

We have prioritized innovative research and creative endeavors, which has benefited the community and positioned App State as a leader among its peers. App State faculty and staff are regularly called upon for their expertise in areas as diverse as human performance, rural health care, international leadership training, student health and safety, and sustainability and resilience.

Our Millennial Campus projects involve repurposing decommissioned property and re-envisioning inactive building sites, allowing the university to think strategically about how to operate as a campus while also meeting regional needs in the long term.

A key example of this, and a long-held goal, is App State's Innovation District. This afternoon, we will — at long last — break ground on the first academic building of the Innovation District! The Conservatory for Biodiversity Education and Research will serve as a vital link between the campus and the regional community through education, research and outreach.

The Conservatory is the FIRST academic building of the Innovation District. Other facilities that are also in discussion include:

- spaces for research, teaching and demonstration;
- workspace for multidisciplinary projects;
- renewable energy labs;
- conference rooms; and
- expanded exhibition and studio spaces.

We also asked the design firms submitting proposals to include faculty and staff housing into the Innovation District Master Plan, as one way to help address housing shortages that affect our ability to recruit and retain talented faculty and staff.

The multi-phased development concepts we are reviewing are forward-thinking and comprehensive. Going beyond what is our standard — to build LEED-certified buildings — we are reviewing concepts for a Zero-Carbon District. This means the buildings in the Innovation District will be highly energy efficient, and powered by carbon-free, renewable energy sources. This will not only lower the environmental impact of the buildings, it will also help make them more financially viable.

This project is a long-held goal made possible with a biennial budget allocation of \$54 million in non-recurring funds in the current fiscal year to begin work on App State's Innovation District project. At App State, we have a well-earned reputation for being shovel-ready when funding for buildings is allocated, AND for completing them on time and on budget. We are thrilled to get this project underway, and I know we all look forward to this afternoon's event. You all know I love a groundbreaking! In fact, the only events I love more are commencement and ribbon-cuttings!

It's been a little more than two months since Governor Cooper signed into law the biennial budget bill, in which our representatives in the General Assembly included the Innovation District, and more allocations for App State than ever before. I'd like to express continued thanks on behalf of the university community, to this board, and the Board of Governors, particularly Governor Philip Byers, for your advocacy and support. This IS the BEST budget in App State's university history. Thank you all.

In addition to allowing us to break ground on the first academic building of the Innovation District, this budget provides well-deserved salary increases for our employees. Faculty and staff received a 2.5% increase this fiscal year, and will receive another 2.5% increase next fiscal year, which begins July 1.

Since I arrived at App State, I have been committed to leveraging any authority granted to me by the legislature and the Board of Governors to increase compensation for our employees, and I remain dedicated to doing so. Once the budget was passed, I worked with Provost Heather Norris, Vice Chancellors Hank Foreman, J.J. Brown and Jane Barghothi, and Interim Chief Financial Officer Sharon Bell to review our university-wide budget. As a result, in addition to the budgeted legislative increases, we identified a pool of funds to provide additional merit-based increases of up to 5% for faculty and other employees who are exempt from the State Human Resources Act, exercising the maximum discretionary authority provided me by the UNC System. I will continue to prioritize employee compensation, and will leverage authority and funding to do so at every opportunity. Thank you again Governor.

The budget also funds renovations of classrooms and offices for enhanced student learning. It includes \$25 million, which is earmarked specifically for renovations to Peacock Hall, and we will

begin the academic expansion of the building this year. We will also begin the planning for daylighting of the Boone Creek, a project that will transform a surface parking lot into a place for education and natural inspiration, while also improving the resilience of our natural ecosystems. As we transition more of our surface parking to parking decks, we will gain parking spaces... and also new tailgating locations!

Also included in the budget is \$15 million for Wey Hall renovations and nearly \$21 million for Duncan Hall renovations — both academic buildings.

Our newest residence hall, New River Hall, is on schedule to be completed, with 750 beds, in July. In the Fall 2022, students moving into New River Hall will live in a modern, air-conditioned building with a mix of suite-style and apartment-style units. You will recall we are phasing out large bath and shower areas shared by multiple students in our new residence halls, which students prefer — and which has the added benefit of lowering the risk of exposure to illness.

We are also eagerly anticipating the completion of our Child Development Center expansion, which will allow licensure for nearly 125 children. I've been updating you on this Center for quite some time, and I am very pleased that we've overcome several hurdles related to the expansion, and it will be completed in May. The center currently provides care for 68 children from infancy through pre-school. The expansion will include five additional classrooms, a kitchen and laundry facilities.

There is a tremendous demand for childcare in this area. Our Child Development Center has earned the highest possible licensure rating of five stars, making it one of the most sought-after childcare facilities in the community. Our expanded facility will help meet this demand with exceptional quality care for the children of our students, faculty and staff.

Next month, we will extend our tradition of hosting community leaders with a community leaders breakfast in Hickory. We had a terrific event with High Country community leaders earlier this month, which we held in this room. We were able to showcase this beautiful space, while engaging in conversations with representatives from the North Carolina Federal delegation, members of the General Assembly and local government officials, as well as leaders from education, business, and community development. The Hickory event will be held in our new building, and we will follow it with a tour of the building for legislators. We have been warmly welcomed by the Hickory community, and look forward to discussing opportunities for the future of the App State campus in Hickory with the area's community leaders.

Before I close my remarks, I'd like to update you on some personnel matters:

We are concluding our national search for the Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, and will be making a determination in the coming weeks. Our plan is to announce the new Vice Chancellor in April. The national searches for the Chief Diversity Officer and Chief Audit Officer are progressing, and I expect to provide you with timelines for the completion of those searches very soon. We are also concluding the national search for the Dean of the Walker College of Business, and expect to make an announcement about that appointment very - very soon.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank the faculty, staff, students and those of you who are serving on these committees. It is a major commitment, and your work will have an important and lasting impact on the future of App State.

I also have some bittersweet news to share about our Assistant Vice Chancellor and Director of Wellness and Prevention Services, Dr. Alex Howard. We are excited for him, and sad for ourselves, because Alex is leaving App State to take the position of Vice President of Impact for Health and Wellness at the private foundation, Dogwood Health Trust, in Asheville. Dogwood Trust's mission is to dramatically improve the health and well-being of all people in Western North Carolina.

ATTACHMENT 1

Alex has been a key member of Vice Chancellor JJ Brown's leadership team since 2015. He has solidified App State's holistic approach to student wellness, has contributed to the faculty by teaching courses in the College of Health Sciences and has been an incredibly important adviser as we have navigated through the COVID pandemic. His experience, many talents, mentorship and counsel will be greatly missed by countless students, faculty, staff and administrators. We will also miss him for his sharp wit, keen insight and compassion. Thank you, Alex, for your leadership at App. We know you are well-prepared to be a key leader at the Dogwood Foundation and your influence will continue to have a positive impact on our state and our region. We will greatly miss you.

Finally, a quick reminder of a few upcoming events I hope you will join — in addition to today's groundbreaking.

On Tuesday, the App State Baseball team will play UNC-Asheville at the L.P. Frans Stadium in Hickory — home of the Hickory Crawdads. The first pitch will be thrown at 6pm. Stephanie Billings and her team have put together a full Mountaineer fan experience, which includes reserved seats, and an all-you-can-eat buffet in a specially reserved Mountaineer Picnic area. The weather forecast is looking lovely, and we've provided each of you with a customized "Hickory 23" t-shirt to wear to the game, denoting when we will begin classes in Hickory.

I have to also mention our softball team, which is currently tied for fourth in the conference standings, they play their next conference game tonight at 7pm at the University of Louisiana Monroe. While we won't be able to attend that game in person, they've played a terrific season so far, and I know we are all pulling for them with just over a month to go in their season.

It may be hard to believe, but Spring Commencement is just six weeks away, on May 6 & 7. After two years of modified, re-scheduled, online and socially distanced Commencements, we are looking forward to returning to our regular schedule with no guest limits! I'm also pleased to announce that the official App State regalia is environmentally conscious and made in the USA. Our new line of graduation wear is made of fabric produced from one-hundred-percent post-consumer recycled plastic bottles. An average of 25 plastic bottles are used to produce each cap and gown. Margaret McCoy and the Commencement team are ensuring that official regalia is available for every graduate, regardless of their ability to pay.

We have had so many successes since we last met in December, and I am excited about the promise ahead. Your support of — and advocacy for — App State's students, faculty and staff continues to be critical to our institutional success.

Thank you for your work for App State, each and every day.

Madam Chair, this concludes my remarks.

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

Thursday, March 24, 2022
Grandview Ballroom, Room A
2:00 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, James M. Barnes, on Thursday, March 24, 2022 at 2:00pm. Chairperson James Barnes presided and called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

James Barnes, Chairperson
John Blackburn
Bailey Gardin
Jamie Harris
Bonnie Schaefer

OTHERS PRESENT:

Cindy Barr
Bryan Belcher
Talana Bell
Kathy Brown
James Douthit
Mark Ginn
Marie Huff
Ece Karatan
Mike McKenzie
Michael Madritch
Adryona Nelson
Heather Norris
Sue Polanka
Kim Shepherd
Neva J. Specht
Melba Spooner
Tom Van Gilder
Jeff Vahlbusch
Sandy Vannoy
Steve Wyatt

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."

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 Trustee Bonnie Schaefer and seconded by Trustee Jamie Harris to approve the minutes from the December 2, 2021 meeting of the Academic Affairs committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

Beaver College of Health Sciences Presentation

Dr. Marie Huff gave a presentation on the exciting clinical work being accomplished by the students and faculty in the college and their plans and opportunities for the future. The benefits to the local community are numerous and inspiring.

Convene in Closed Session

Chairperson Barnes announced to the committee members and others present that the committee would prepare to convene in closed session in order to prevent the disclosure of privileged information. The Chair appointed Trustee John Blackburn to read the "Motion to Convene in Closed Session" document to others present.

Trustee John Blackburn read the following from the "Motion to Convene in Closed Session" document: I move to convene in closed session in order to: 1)] prevent the premature disclosure of an honorary degree, scholarship, prize, or similar award. [N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(a)(2)] and 2) 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 convene in closed session. Trustee Bailey Gardin seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chairperson Barnes excused others present with the exception of: Trustees: John Blackburn, Jamie Harris, Bonnie Schaefer, Bailey Gardin, Kim Shepherd, Steve Wyatt, and University

personnel: Heather Norris, Neva Specht, Ece Karatan, and Kathy Brown. The meeting convened in closed session.

Reconvene Open Session

Chairperson Barnes requested a motion that the Committee approve all promotion recommendations, as presented and discussed in Exhibit A-1. A motion was made by Trustee Jamie Harris and seconded by Trustee 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-2. A motion was made by Trustee Bonnie Schaefer and seconded by Trustee Bailey Gardin 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 Trustee John Blackburn and seconded by Trustee Bonnie Schaefer to adjourn. The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Brown
Recording Secretary

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

Thursday, March 24, 2022
Grandview Ballroom, Room B
3:00 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 Thursday, March 24, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. in the North End Zone Facility Breakout Room B on the campus of Appalachian State University, Boone, North Carolina. R. Thomas Sofield presided and called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

James M. Barnes
J. Jeffries Chesson
James K. Reaves
Mark E. Ricks
R. Thomas Sofield

OTHERS PRESENT:

George Baldwin
Jane Barghothi
John M. Blackburn
C. Philip Byers
Sheri Everts, Chancellor
Douglas P. Gillin
Mark Ginn
Donovan J. Gregory
Scott K. Lampe
Paul A. Meggett
Jonathan C. Millner
Anna Oakes
Jonathan B. Reeder
Kimberly M. Shepherd
Meghan Wills

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 3, 2021 Athletics Committee meeting minutes were included in Committee members’ materials. A motion was made by Trustee Reaves, seconded by Trustee Chesson, and approved to accept the minutes as distributed.

COMMENTS FROM STUDENT-ATHLETES: Junior Men’s Basketball student-athlete, Donovan Gregory, and junior Wrestling student-athlete, Jonathan Millner, provided the Committee insight into their transformational experiences as a student-athletes at Appalachian State University.

PRESENTATION BY DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS: Mr. Doug Gillin, Director of Athletics, presented several updates to the Committee:

- An update on App State Athletics’ academic performance, where App State Student-Athletes finished the fall 2022 semester with their 19th straight semester over a 3.0 GPA
- Recent campus and community connections were then discussed, including attendance records set for multiple sports this year, including ticket revenue records for Football, Basketball, Wrestling, and Baseball
- Competitive updates were also overviewed, including Jonathan Millner earning NCAA Wrestling All-American honors for the second consecutive year, and the Men’s and Women’s Basketball programs finishing a program best 2nd and 4th in the overall Sun Belt Conference Regular Season standings
- Facilities updates were then discussed, including progress on the Outdoor Track and Field complex, and the need for additional fundraising to complete Appalachian 105 and other facility projects such as Indoor and Outdoor Tennis, Softball, Locker Rooms, and a new on-campus Indoor Practice facility
- To conclude open session, Mr. Gillin reviewed updates on recent revenue generation efforts, where new records have been set in the areas of Licensing and Ticket Sales during the current academic year

OPEN SESSION ADJOURNED: A motion was made and seconded that the Committee convene in closed session to:

1. prevent the disclosure of confidential or privileged information under Chapter 126-24 of North Carolina General Statutes or regulations [N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(a)(1)]. 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 approved unanimously. Chancellor Sheri Everts, Board of Trustees members, General Counsel, Mr. Doug Gillin, Director of Athletics, and Mr. Jonathan Reeder, Deputy Athletics Director, 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, the meeting of the Athletics Committee adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan B. Reeder
Recording Secretary

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

North End Zone Facility, Room A
Thursday, March 24, 2022
4:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The Audit Committee of the Board of Trustees of Appalachian State University met at the call of the Chair on Thursday, March 24, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. in meeting room A, North End Zone facility on the campus of Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. Mr. John Blackburn, Chair, presided and called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

John M. Blackburn, Chair
Kimberly M. Shepherd
Scott Lampe
Steven D. Wyatt

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kristi Gragg
Sarah Ames
Sheri Everts, Chancellor
Daniel Lightfoot
Tom Van Gilder
David Jamison
Sharon Bell
Anna Oakes
Heather Norris
Megan Wills
John Adams
Paul Meggett
Boris Salvador Moldonado
David Ehricht

CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTICE: Chair Blackburn 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."

EXPECTATION OF CONDUCT NOTICE: Chair Blackburn 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 2, 2021 Audit Committee meeting were delivered to all Audit Committee members prior to the meeting. There were no corrections. Chair Blackburn called for a motion to approve the December 2, 2021 Audit Committee meeting minutes. Upon motion made by Trustee Scott Lampe and seconded by Trustee Steve Wyatt, the minutes of the meeting were approved as presented.

INTRODUCTION OF DAVID EHRIGHT: Mrs. Kristi Gragg, Interim Chief Audit Officer, introduced the Committee to Mr. David Ehricht, who presented via Zoom the results of the 2021 Financial Statement Audit Report for the University.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2021 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT REPORT: Mr. David Ehricht, Assistant State Auditor – Supervisor, Office of the State Auditor, provided the Committee with a review of the objective of the 2021 Financial Statement Audit Report. No deficiencies were reported for the 2021 fiscal year. Audits conducted by outside entities found no deficiencies to report. Mr. Ehricht acknowledged those working within University Audit for their hard work. Mr. Ehricht then opened for questions. No questions were brought forward.

SUMMARY OF 2021-2022 AUDIT PLAN AND RECENT INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY: Mrs. Kristi Gragg, Interim Chief Audit Officer, provided the Committee with the 2021-2022 Audit Plan progress and summary to date regarding recent internal audit activity. Ms. Gragg outlined the goal of completing existing audits. Copies of all internal audit reports completed this quarter were provided to the Committee. Ms. Gragg provided a summary of the following internal audits:

- CARE Center – No written findings reported
- Grant Proposal 20-0115, *Supporting the World Bee Census...* Follow-Up – status reported as resolved.
- Educational and Technology Funds (Quarterly Review OND 2021) - Certain items of non-compliance with policy were reported. Corrections or strengthening of internal controls was recommended and resolution is in progress.
- P-Card (Quarterly review OND 2021) – No written findings reported.
- Fixed Assets (Quarterly review OND 2021) - No written findings reported.
- Travel Disbursements (Quarterly Review OND 2021) – No written findings reported.

- User Access Controls (Quarterly reviews for AMJ and JAS 2021) – No written findings reported.

SUMMARY OF EXTERNAL AUDITS COMPLETED AND IN-PROGRESS:

Mrs. Kristi Gragg, Interim Chief Audit Officer, provided a summary of the following external audits:

In Progress:

- Foster Grandparents Program – External Auditor: AmeriCorps.

Completed:

- OSA – Financial Audit for FY 2021 – An audit of the financial statements – June 30, 2021. Report presented by Mr. David Ehricht (see Agenda item 3). External Auditor: NC Office of the State Auditor. No exceptions found.
- Athletics NCAA Agreed Upon Procedures – The review of financial data with an end period of June 30, 2021 was completed – report dated December 27, 2021. External CPA: Combs, Tenant, and Carpenter, CPA. No exceptions were found as a result of these procedures.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY CHARTER – EXHIBIT C-1:

Mrs. Kristi Gragg, Interim Chief Audit Officer, reviewed the charter. Chair Blackburn called for a motion to approve the Internal Audit Activity Charter – Exhibit C-1. Upon motion made by Trustee Steve Wyatt and seconded by Trustee Scott Lampe, the charter was approved as presented.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER – EXHIBIT C-2:

Mrs. Kristi Gragg, Interim Chief Audit Officer, reviewed the charter. Chair Blackburn called for a motion to approve the Internal Audit Activity Charter – Exhibit C-2. Upon motion made by Trustee Scott Lampe and seconded by Trustee Steve Wyatt, the charter was approved as presented.

CLOSED SESSION: Chair Blackburn called for a motion to enter into closed session at 4:21 p.m. A motion was made by Steve Wyatt and seconded by Scott Lampe that the Committee adjourn the open session and convene in closed session to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential information pursuant to North Carolina Statute section 132-6.1(c) and to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential information pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes sections 126-22 in accordance with N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(a)(1). The motion was unanimously approved. Chair Blackburn asked that Trustee Kimberly N. Shepherd, Trustee Scott K. Lampe, Trustee Steven D. Wyatt, Chancellor Sheri Everts, Mrs. Kristi Gragg, Mr. Paul Meggett, Provost Heather Norris, Mr. Tom Van Gilder, Mr. Jim Webb, and Mrs. Sarah Ames join the voting members in closed session.

OPEN SESSION RECONVENED: Chair Blackburn reconvened open session at 4:35 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made by Trustee Steve Wyatt and seconded by Trustee Scott Lampe to adjourn the meeting at 4:36 p.m.

JOHN BLACKBURN, Chair

By: _____
Sarah Ames
Recording Secretary

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

Thursday, March 24, 2022
Grandview Ballroom, Room B
2:00 p.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 Thursday, March 24, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. in the End Zone Facility - Meeting Room B. Mr. James K. Reaves presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

J. Jeffries Chesson
Fairley Bell Cook
James K. Reaves
Mark E. Ricks
R. Thomas Sofield

OTHERS PRESENT:

John Adams
Jane Bargothe
George Baldwin
Sharon Bell
J.J. Brown
Mathew Dockham
Matt Dull
Chancellor Sheri Everts
Hank Foreman
David Jamison
Nick Katers
Boris Maldonado
Paul Meggett
Sandy Mullins
Anna Oakes
Diane Pitts
Megan Wills

CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTICE:

Mr. James K. Reaves, 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 02, 2021, meeting of the Business Affairs Committee had been reviewed and upon motion duly made and seconded, were approved as submitted.

ALL FUNDS BUDGET:

Sharon Bell, Interim Chief Financial Officer/Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration presented information on the all funds budget which is an initiative by the UNC System Office to encourage best practices in budgeting across the System by requiring transparency for all fund types. This forward-looking plan encompasses all expected revenues and expenses, accommodates strategic plans and provides transparency in allocation decisions, it is generally cash based and includes inter-departmental transaction activity. By reviewing a more robust review of all institutional resources, this process will provide a structural foundation for the execution of the System's and Institutional strategic plans. The all funds budget components are required for submission to the System Office by May 2022. All funds budget will include general funds, auxiliary, other trust funds, and overhead receipts and restricted funds but exclude Foundation, Endowment, Appalachian Student Housing Corporation funds, bond proceeds and capital construction costs. The organizational units will include academic, administrative and auxiliary. Campus involvement will include the CFO and University Budget Office staff reviewing budgets and strategic initiatives. The Chancellor and senior management annually review and approve divisional budget requests.

Following discussion, the motion was made and seconded to approve the all funds budget process as presented. The motion carried.

WRITE OFF STUDENT LOAN:

Sharon Bell, Interim Chief Financial Officer/Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, presented information regarding the write off of a student loan totaling \$23,908.41. This write off involves a student in the Robert Noyce Teaching Scholarship Program which was created by the National Science Foundation for students committing to teach in the Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics field. In exchange for a teaching commitment, the student receives scholarship support. If the student doesn't meet the scholarship commitment, the scholarship converts to a loan program due to the Federal Government. The Noyce program has a waiver provision that allows a university to waive loan repayment in case of hardship. The University received a waiver request from a student that experienced a significant medical hardship. After a

faculty committee review, it was determined the student's request warranted a loan repayment waiver as provided by the Noyce guidelines. The administration is requesting permission to write off this \$23,908.41 student loan. Write offs in excess of \$1,000 require Board of Trustees approval.

Following discussion, the motion was made and seconded to write off the requested amount. The motion carried.

BOOK RENTAL FEE:

For informational purposes, Sharon Bell, Interim Chief Financial Officer/Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, presented the following information on the 4% book rental fee increase approved by the Chancellor. In 2022, the "digital first" rental program was implemented. For a flat rate, the program includes most of the books a student will need. The approved 4% undergraduate fee increase equates to a \$10 increase per semester, for a total of \$520/year. Also approved was a 4% increase in the graduate book rental fee to \$70/semester for a total of \$140/year.

PROPERTY ACTIONS:

Sharon Bell, Interim Chief Financial Officer/Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, recognized Nick Katers, Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Management. Mr. Katers presented the following property actions for approval:

- **Hunting Hills Bridge Expansion - Permanent Easement and Fee Simple Right of Way:**
The Town of Boone is requesting the state to permanently release a 45' strip of land adjacent to the Hunting Hills bridge to allow the failing bridge to be replaced and expanded. The expansion will include room for a 10' greenway trail.
- **Blue Ridge Conservancy - Letter of Intent to Allow Greenway Trail**
The Blue Ridge Conservancy is requesting a letter of intent from the University's Board of Trustees stating Appalachian's agreement in principle to allow a greenway trail to cross state property. The path of the trail has not been finalized, but is between Payne Branch Road and Old Blowing Rock Road. The letter of intent will allow the conservancy to apply for grant funding for trail development as well as the purchase and development of contiguous acreage.
- **Elkin City Schools - Lease for Lab School Space**
This lease will secure space at 195 Old Virginia Road, Elkin, NC, for operations of the Appalachian State University Academy at Elkin. The Academy will serve 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade students. The term of the lease is 5 years; July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2027 for a rental amount to be determined.

Following discussion, the motion was made and seconded to approve the property actions as presented. The motion carried.

CAPITAL PROJECTS APPROVAL:

Sharon Bell, Interim Chief Financial Officer/Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, recognized Nick Katers, Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Management. Mr. Katers presented the following capital projects for approval:

1. Summer Repaving Project	\$ 500,000
2. Cone Roof Authorization Increase (Increase from \$499,000 to \$620,000)	620,000
3. Holmes Convocation Center Parking Deck/Resolution for funding	20,000,000
TOTAL	<u>\$21,120,000</u>

Following discussion, the motion was made and seconded to approve these capital projects as presented.

The motion carried.

CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE:

Nick Katers, Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Management, gave a capital projects update.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Pitts
Recording Secretary

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

Thursday, March 24, 2022
North End Zone Facility
3:00 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 Thursday, March 24th, at 3:00 p.m. Chair Fairley Bell Cook presided and called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON:

Fairley Bell Cook, Chair
Bailey Gardin
Steven Wyatt

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

James Harris
Bonnie Schaefer

OTHERS PRESENT:

J.J. Brown
Jeff Cathey
Elisabeth Cavallaro
Matt Dull
Lori Eggers
Beth Holcomb
Alex Howard
Rodo Leone
Heather Jo Mashburn
Geraldyn Mitchell
Brandon Nelson
Heather Norris
Jennifer Shaffer
Moriah Stegall
Abigail Swanger
Brad Vest

CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTICE: Chair Cook 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 Cook 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 Fairley Bell Cook asked Lori Eggers to call roll to verify all members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chair Cook stated the December 2, 2021 Student Affairs Committee minutes were provided as an attachment in BoardEffect. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the minutes as presented.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT, RESPONDING TO STUDENT AND EMPLOYER NEEDS: Geralyn Mitchell, Associate Director for Career Development, and Jennifer Shaffer, Associate Director of Employer Relations and Marketing, presented on the ways the Career Development Center collaborates with academic departments and colleges. They shared ways in which they engage with students to build plans for employment, resume assistance, interview preparation and coaching, and hosting employment fairs bringing employers to campus. Jennifer and Geralyn shared there are job opportunities available to those graduating.

CAPITAL PROJECTS: Matt Dull, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, presented on capital project updates. He provided updates on the Child Development Center and the Housing P3 project including New River Hall. New River Hall is the final phase of the P3 project and is expected to be completed summer 2022 and open for fall 2022. Bowie Hall and Eggers Hall demolition will begin in June 2022. Mr. Dull shared the Child Development Center expansion will include five additional classrooms, kitchen and laundry facilities, new playground equipment and a new parking area. The expansion will allow 55 additional students spaces. The project is expected to be completed in May 2022 with State inspection in the summer.

CLOSED SESSION: Trustee Steven Wyatt read the motion to convene in closed session to:

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

The motion was seconded and approved. Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, J.J. Brown, Trustees, Legal Counsel, Jeff Cathey and the Recording Secretary, Lori Eggers, were asked to remain for closed session. All others were excused.

ADJOURNMENT: After the closed session was adjourned, the Committee reconvened in open session. There being no further business to come before the Committee, a motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Eggers
Recording Secretary