

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Friday, December 4, 2020
Via Zoom Call
1:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The Board of Trustees of Appalachian State University met via Zoom and conference call at the call of the Chair and the Chancellor on Friday, December 4, 2020; at 1:00 p.m., Chair Scott K. Lampe presided and called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

James M. Barnes
M. Lee Barnes, Jr.
Donald C. Beaver
John M. Blackburn
Michael C. Davis
Scott K. Lampe
Charles V. Murray
Mark E. Ricks
Kimberly M. Shepherd
R. Thomas Sofield
James K. Reaves
E. Bonnie Schaefer
Carole P. Wilson

OTHERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

Dawn Antonucci
Jane Barghothi
JJ Brown
C. Philip Byers, Member, UNC
Board of Governors
Sheri Everts, Chancellor
Hank Foreman
Paul Forte
Megan Hayes
Jason Marshburn
Paul Meggett
Heather Norris

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.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: Chair Lampe welcomed guests and press in attendance as confirmed during the roll call.

APPROVAL OF ABSENCES: None to report.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the September 25, 2020 & November 6, 2020, 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 ATHLETICS COMMITTEE: Chair Lampe recognize Trustee Thomas Sofield, Chair of the Athletics Committee, for this report.

Trustee Sofield shared that The Athletics Committee meeting began with a presentation by Director of Athletics, Doug Gillin, who started his remarks by reviewing the Department of Athletics mission.

Mr. Gillin then presented an overview of a recent competitive update, including Women's Soccer, Volleyball, and Men's and Women's Cross Country, all have recently completed their seasons. Both Cross Country programs narrowly missed Conference titles with 2nd place finishes at the November Sun Belt Conference Championships. The App State Football program continues their 2020 campaign, currently sporting a 7-2 overall record, and is also receiving votes in the Top 25 Coaches Poll. Football has also competed six times on National TV during the 2020 season, and is scheduled to compete tonight in a high-profile matchup on ESPN at 8:30pm against the University of Louisiana.

Mr. Gillin then reviewed several additional items with the committee, including the following:

- NCAA rules proposals pertaining to NCAA transfer rules, and student-athlete Name, Image, and Likeness
- Department of Athletics financials, including revenue and expenses updates, and recent fundraising success
- Facilities updates, including the Quinn Center renovation project, and recent phased

- opening and ribbon cutting ceremony for the North End Zone facility
- Recent department diversity and inclusion efforts
- How App State sport programs continue to manage COVID-19 related testing protocols; and
- App State Athletics' commitment to live streaming App State home competitions to provide student-athlete parents and fans the opportunity to watch the Mountaineers while in-person attendance continues to be restricted due to COVID-19

To conclude the meeting, Mr. Gillin overviewed the awarding of this year's College Football Playoff Extra Yards for Teacher's Grant, in partnership with the Reich College of Education and Watauga County Schools; and App State earning the 2019-20 Sun Belt Conference Graduation Rate Award.

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 recognize Trustee Charles V. Murray, Chair of the Audit Committee, for this report.

Trustee Murray shared that the minutes from the prior Audit Committee meeting of September 24, 2020 were reviewed and approved.

The internal audits reviewed and discussed for this quarter were:

- Capital Improvement Invoice Submission Procedures
- Holmes Convocation Center
- Appalachian Real Estate Holdings, Inc. and
- Student Printing Privileges at Student Learning Center

No findings were reported.

Campus-Wide Reviews: Quarterly reviews were conducted in the areas of E&T fund disbursements, fixed assets, procurement card disbursements, travel expenditures, and departmental fund reconciliations. Recommendations were made regarding following ASU Policy and guidance concerning departmental bookkeeping, purchasing, travel and p-card controls.

An update was also provided on external audits currently in progress and external audits recently completed. Two Financial Audits: Appalachian Student Housing Corporation and Appalachian State University Foundation, Inc. were completed. Unqualified opinions were received on both. No findings to report.

The committee was also updated on two special assignments that the Office of Internal Audits participated in this quarter. This year, Kristi Gragg is participating in the Council of Internal Auditing Peer Review Program, a cooperative external review program. She is currently part of a team conducting a quality review of another State agency's Internal Audit function and plans to complete the assignment in December. Additionally, Sorina McInturff served as the UNC Auditor Association Auditor for 2020 and has been appointed to another term for 2021.

Risk Manager Denise Godwin provided the Audit Committee with an update concerning University Enterprise Risk Management.

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.

Approval of Student Tuition and Fees

Vice Chancellor Paul Forte presented an overview of the Tuition and Fee increase requests for FY2021 - 2022. The UNC System Office issued guidelines in the fall, no tuition increases for resident, market increases for non-resident undergraduate and graduate students this year.

Fee increases are capped at 3% by the legislature. However, System Office guidance stated only a Health Services increase would be considered. The student fee increase recommended is 0.3% overall, which equals \$10. Tuition and Mandatory Fee increases also requires Board of Governor approval.

Proposal rates increases for Miscellaneous Service Charges was presented Housing 1% for standard room, or \$47. The Book Store is reviewing an electronic rental system which will change existing program. These increases only require Board of Trustee approval. Book rental fee increase will be presented at the March 2021 Board meeting.

Upon motion duly made, seconded, and verified by roll call vote, the Student Tuition and Fees were approved as presented.

Capital Project – Upfit of 3rd Floor of the North End Zone

Vice Chancellor Paul Forte presented the capital project to build out, \$500K, for the 3rd floor End Zone for clinic leasing the property.

Upon motion duly made, seconded, and verified by roll call vote, the capital project was approved as presented.

Loan Approving Resolution for New River Light and Power

Vice Chancellor Paul Forte presented the Resolution for the bank loan for New River Light and Power to finance capital projects approved at the September meeting.

Upon motion duly made, seconded, and verified by roll call vote, the Resolution for New River Light and Power was approved as presented (see Attachment 3).

Vice Chancellor Paul Forte gave an update on the status of the FY2020 budget and an overview of current and planned capital projects, including the P3 Housing project, the End Zone project, and Sanford Hall.

Trustee Shepherd indicated this concluded her report for the Business Affairs Committee (see Appendix D).

REMARKS FROM CHAIR LAMPE:

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, March 26, 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)].

PUBLIC SESSION RECONVENED: Upon motion duly made, seconded and verified by roll call vote, the Board reconvened in open session at 2:29 pm.

Employment Agreement for Women's Tennis Head Coach

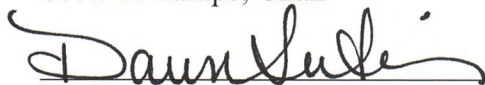
Chair Lampe recognized Trustee Sofield for this item. Trustee Sofield stated the Athletics Committee presented the employment contract for Ashleigh Antal as Women's Tennis Head Coach. The candidate's materials were included in the Closed Session materials for the Board's review.

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

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by roll call vote at 2:31 p.m.

Scott K. Lampe, Chair

By:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dawn Antonucci", written over a horizontal line.

Dawn Antonucci,
Assistant Secretary

Appalachian Board of Trustees
Roll Call Record of Votes in Open Session
December 4, 2020

Roll Call Vote to Approve Minutes:

September 25, 2020 & November 6, 2020

Motion was made by: Charles Murray

Seconded by: Carole Wilson

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

Don Beaver - Yes

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 Tuition & Mandatory Fees: Exhibit D-1

Motion was made by: From the Committee

Seconded by: Not required

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

Don Beaver - Yes

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 Upfit of 3rd floor of the North End Zone: Exhibit D-2

Motion was made by: From the Committee

Seconded by: Not required

James Barnes - Yes
Lee Barnes - Yes
Don Beaver - Yes
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 NRLP Loan Approving Resolution: Exhibit D-3

Motion was made by: From the Committee

Seconded by: Not required

James Barnes - Yes
Lee Barnes - Yes
Don Beaver - Yes
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 was made by: Mark Ricks

Seconded by: Bonnie Schaefer

James Barnes - Yes
Lee Barnes - Yes
Don Beaver - Yes
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 Employment Contract:

Motion was made by:

Seconded by:

James Barnes - Yes
Lee Barnes - Yes
Don Beaver - Yes
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 was made by: Carole Wilson

Seconded by: Michael Davis

James Barnes - Yes

Lee Barnes - Yes

Don Beaver - Yes

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

December 4, 2020 Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Remarks by Sheri Everts, Chancellor

Good afternoon.

A week from today, we will celebrate our second virtual commencement. I know we are all looking forward to a time when we will be able to celebrate this ultimate commemoration of our students' academic achievement in person again. Our December graduates have earned one of the most significant achievements of their lifetimes under historically challenging circumstances: two consecutive semesters overshadowed by a global pandemic unlike anything the world has seen in more than a century.

We began 2020 with App State Football fresh off of its fifth consecutive bowl game win. We were continuing our work toward funding faculty salary increases – even as we were entering the third quarter of our fiscal year without a state budget – and in January, we celebrated our first Inclusive Excellence Awards.

Within nine weeks, we had pivoted to virtual working and learning scenarios as we simultaneously developed policies, processes and strategies for managing a global health crisis. I doubt any of us can count the number of times we have heard or used the words “unprecedented” or “uncertain” this year.

Indeed, we faced many situations the likes of which our university has never seen. As we were shifting students to remote learning, faculty to remote teaching, and staff to remote working, we also administered emergency funds to our students, faculty and staff who were facing significant financial hardship. The work of our IT and Center for Academic Excellence teams, our Auxiliary Services staff, our Human Resources Director Mark Bachmeier and his team, and our Dean of Students team has been incredible this year. We continue to rely heavily on them, asking them to do more each day, and they continue rising to the challenges before them.

Over the course of a few short weeks, we re-built an entire university infrastructure – even as we were using it. We faced new unknowns and increasingly difficult challenges each day; and we saw our worst fears realized when tragedy struck and one of our students, Chad Dorrill, died due to COVID-19 complications.

I would like to sincerely thank you for your support and advocacy for our university during this tumultuous year. I would also like to thank:

- My senior leadership team for their around-the-clock work to ensure we had infrastructure and resources at the ready, as we faced new and daunting challenges on a daily, and sometimes hourly, basis.
- Our deans, associate vice chancellors, vice provosts, department chairs and staff managers also deserve our thanks for their extensive preparation, which mitigated risk to the greatest possible extent and allowed us to continue to further our academic mission, providing a classroom experience to students who needed it, and flexibility to students and faculty who needed remote learning options.

- Our faculty and staff, most of whom shifted to working from home – though many also continued to come to campus – have earned our thanks for ensuring the greatest possible continuity for our students as well as for their colleagues. Several of our staff members, in particular, experienced furloughs and/or re-assignments this year.
- Our students and their families, many of whom experienced significant misfortune and hardship as a result of this pandemic, have earned not only our thanks, but our respect. They have demonstrated their determination to succeed, and their grace under pressure as their schedules, course delivery methods, and fundamental college experiences changed; as well as exhibiting courtesy for one another as they complied with the many new restrictions in place to preserve the health of our community. They have adjusted to incredible challenges in their daily routines. Many lost their jobs. Their college experience has included unprecedented levels of isolation; yet they adapt – and continue protecting themselves and others. They are learning to lead and to serve in a world that has been fundamentally changed, with preparation from an institution that prioritized providing them the best and safest possible learning experience under some of the worst circumstances our university has ever encountered.

We have a structure in place that gives us the key data we need to make informed decisions. This is thanks in large part to our Environmental Health & Safety and Emergency Management Director, Jason Marshburn. Jason has done an incredible job managing countless logistics for the 317 days since our COVID-19 campus planning discussions first started, and the 279 days since we formally activated our emergency operations center to coordinate our preparedness, response and recovery efforts. His efforts were assisted by an operations team led by Vice Provost Mike McKenzie and Associate Vice Chancellors Matt Dull and Nick Katers, which coordinated more than two dozen project-specific planning teams that assembled in the spring and developed and executed their plans throughout the summer and fall.

Last semester, we conducted the majority of the tests administered in Watauga County. Since the start of the semester, we have administered more than 29,000 COVID-19 tests to students, faculty and staff, with an overall positivity rate of 3%. Our significant levels of surveillance testing provided important data for better decision-making, not only for us, but also for our public health partners.

Testing data, combined with contact tracing, give us a better picture of where and how to respond, including how best to direct resources. Even at the height of this semester's active case count in early October:

- We knew we had no in-class transmission;
- The spread of the virus was contained within the university community; and
- Our meal support and use of our quarantine/isolation space remained at very small levels.

Our COVID-19 dashboard has been a critically important communication tool. We launched it this summer, and in fact, were one of the first universities in the state to do so. This semester, we refined the data presentation with input from our faculty. Working closely with local public health, we update our dashboard daily.

A ranking tool created by two professors at Yale University College of Medicine includes our dashboard. App State's dashboard earned the second-highest ranking among North Carolina institutions. Our ranking is equal to that of UNC-Chapel Hill (and because of our daily updates, outranks that of Duke University).

We regularly review the data we provide and how we present it so the members of our university community, and the general public, can easily access and understand the information provided.

Each week, I augment the information on the dashboard with additional reports. I send my weekly updates, as well as weekly campus operations updates, to faculty, staff, students and student families. Each month, I send updates to alumni as well. All of these communications are published to our COVID-19 website.

We were able to assess and share this important information with Interim President Roper, President Hans and their UNC System leadership teams, state and local public health, our campus community and our students' families in regular meetings, daily dashboard updates, and in scheduled weekly communications. UNC System leadership support has been invaluable in securing important resources, including a steady supply of rapid-response COVID-19 tests, and testing equipment for our Student Health Service team.

I also meet with my senior leadership team daily, with President Hans regularly, and you all are well aware of the regular conversations I have with you, as well as members of the Board of Governors – thank you, Governor Byers – and with elected officials, and members of our town and county leadership. My leadership team is also engaged in regular meetings with System leadership and their counterparts at other System institutions, as well as with state and local public health officials. In each of these interactions, we have worked to ensure our university has the resources and support in place to respond and adjust to continually changing circumstances.

Our significant planning, preparation and leadership involvement allowed us to avoid taking the “one-size-fits-all” approach of moving all courses to remote instruction in the fall.

- Our faculty demonstrated their commitment to our students' educational success in many ways. Importantly, their flexibility allowed the Academic Affairs team to work with individual students on their course delivery needs. I have received countless emails from students and their family members expressing their appreciation for faculty who have responded to their needs. I'd like to thank Vice Provost Mark Ginn and Vice Provost Jacqui Bergman in particular for their extensive work with students and faculty, which allowed us to take a customized approach to course delivery. We finished our semester with 55% of our classes being delivered fully remotely and 45% being taught in hybrid or fully face-to-face formats.
- The Student Affairs, Business Affairs and Academic Affairs teams worked together to assist students in opting out of their housing contracts, reducing density in residence halls in a way that provided the option for those students who needed, or wanted, to move to all-remote instruction and return to their family homes to do so, while also retaining an on-campus experience for those who needed it. By the end of this semester, we had about 73% occupancy in our residence halls, and again, many grateful emails from students and their families who appreciated having choices available in order to make the best decisions for their individual situations.

As we wrap up this semester, we had some of the busiest testing events – and the lowest positivity rates – of the year. At our exit testing events during the last two weeks, we administered more than 5,200 COVID-19 tests, with a positivity rate just under 1%. As of today, we are not using any of our quarantine/isolation space inventory, and our meal support remains at very low levels.

Our students' adoption rate of wearing face coverings on campus has been nearly universal. Wiping down their workstations has become a standard habit. They created peer-accountability programs, and while there were some parties and group gatherings, we did not see major super-spreader parties. These facts were shared repeatedly by regional media outlets.

Our support for the greater community continues. This year our staff have prepared and delivered more than 10,000 quarantine meals to campus as well as to community members.

As we prepare to celebrate our ultimate success – our students' upcoming graduations – there are other successes I want to be sure we acknowledge. Many of you have heard me say that higher education doesn't celebrate our successes enough, and we have had some significant ones this year.

We achieved a major milestone in university history when we passed the 20,000 enrollment mark. This achievement is even more important within the context of the financial challenges presented by the global pandemic. Our strong enrollment history meant that we entered the pandemic from a strong financial position. This has allowed us to make COVID testing widely available, to re-assign staff members who might otherwise have faced furloughs, and to maximize the Federal Stimulus funding we received to provide as much direct assistance as possible to our students. Exceeding 20,000 is a turning point that has also 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 Appalachian of today.

We increased enrollment in significant strategic access areas as well, including with rural and first-generation students, and a record 18% of our student population identifies as racially and/or ethnically diverse. Since I arrived in 2014, we have increased our total underrepresented student population by 56%, and we have nearly doubled our first-year underrepresented enrollment — a 97% increase. I am incredibly proud of the work our faculty, staff and students have done to help realize these numbers, and I encourage our university to celebrate them, even as we continue to set ever-higher standards for our institution-wide diversity and inclusion initiatives.

We cut the ribbons on our newest residence halls, Raven Rocks and Thunder Hill, as well as the North End Zone facility. These projects will be key to recruitment and retention of talented students as we see the population of traditionally aged undergraduate students diminish in the near future. It is important to note that these projects are allowing us to move forward without impact to our academic budgets. The North End Zone project is funded through private donations and revenue sources. The residence halls project is a public-private partnership that is projected to save the university more than \$73 million over the cost of developing the property on its own. Both of these projects are possible because of Millennial Campus designation, which as you know, allows us the flexibility to not only enter into agreements with private firms, but also to keep all revenues related to leasing space in the properties – an option that may become

even more critical for us in the near future. Thank you for your forward-thinking approach and advocacy for these and other Millennial Campus designations that will allow us to be innovative and pragmatic as we plan for a post-pandemic future.

We welcomed the recipients of Appalachian's premier signature scholarships — a group of 24 students who exemplify Mountaineer values and ideals, and we are excited to see these students thrive at App State!

At this year's virtual Appalachian Energy Summit, we announced that institutions and affiliates in the UNC System surpassed the goal they set in 2012 of avoiding \$1 billion in energy costs by 2020 and are on track to achieve \$2 billion in avoided costs by 2025. I applaud Chief Sustainability Officer Dr. Lee Ball and the Office of Sustainability for their continued leadership of this important initiative.

App State received recognition in Forbes Magazine as one of 19 universities selected to join an ongoing project aimed at developing more inclusive faculty recruitment, hiring and retention in STEM disciplines, and our university police department hosted and sponsored a bias training session for App State and High Country police officers. Fifteen members of the university and local police forces are now certified to provide implicit bias training to other sworn officers and officers in training.

App State senior student-athlete and offensive lineman Cole Garrison, an exercise science major, is headed to the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine — the next milestone on his journey to become a surgeon. Cole is nationally recognized for his scholastic achievements, known for his community service and, this summer, he scored in the top 13% on the Medical College Admission Test. Cole credits App State's excellent professors, state-of-the-art facilities and access to resources as helping him and other students excel. Importantly, he also recognizes his App State athletics scholarship as critically important as he factors in the cost of going to medical school. Cole is one of the many students that helped App State earn the highest graduation rate in the Sun Belt Conference for the second year in a row.

Our faculty have continued to see success and media attention for their research:

- Dr. Sandi Lane, associate professor in the Department of Nutrition and Health Care Management, has contributed her expertise on the effects of COVID-19 on nursing homes across the state of North Carolina.
- In a recent interview with Forbes Magazine, Dr. Rajat Panwar, associate professor in the Department of Management, drew upon his expertise in forestry and business sustainability to discuss the effectiveness of different methods for reducing carbon dioxide concentrations in the atmosphere.
- Dr. Brooke Christian, assistant professor in the A.R. Smith Department of Chemistry and Fermentation Sciences, has co-authored research that could yield a more cost-effective storage and delivery method for drugs and vaccines that eliminates the need for refrigeration.

Work continues on our new residence halls as well as on Sanford Hall, and we are also making steady progress with the Child Development Center expansion project. You will recall zoning

and annexation into the town of Boone were approved this fall. We expect to announce a contractor for the project in a few weeks, and we are eager to get the project completed. Being able to increase the capacity for the center, which has a long waitlist, by an additional 40 to 50 children, will make a tremendous difference for our students, faculty and staff with young children.

Laurel Creek hall, our next residence hall scheduled to open in the fall, is well underway. Framing is in progress, the roof is in the beginning stages, and workers are simultaneously installing mechanical work, plumbing, electrical and the fire suppression systems. Design is underway for New River Hall, which will replace Justice Hall in phase three of this project in Fall 2022.

Work on Sanford Hall is progressing, and we are excited to be so close to opening new classrooms and common areas next semester! The renovated building will house the Department of English and feature improved classrooms and larger offices, as well as more common areas and collaborative workspace for students. Classrooms and common areas on the lower floors will be made available first, followed by office spaces on the fifth floor.

As we look forward to these milestones, I know you are aware that logistical planning for the Spring semester has been underway for many weeks. As we continue to navigate the incredible challenges before our industry, state, region and university, the safety of our community and our academic mission remain our guiding principles, and we will continue to rely on data to inform our decision making.

In many ways, Spring semester will look and feel similar to this fall. In August, every student, staff and faculty member received three washable, reusable face coverings. Next semester, they will each get five. We expect the new designs and the three-ply and adjustable ear loop features to make them even more popular than the ones we distributed in the fall.

We will continue with a robust COVID-19 surveillance testing schedule, including required entry testing for all students living in residence halls, and we are engaging in wastewater testing research with our residence halls, to help us further refine our targeted testing strategy. Daily health self-assessments will continue to be required for all faculty, staff and students prior to leaving their residence halls or coming to campus. All cleaning and sanitizing procedures and distancing requirements will remain.

Course delivery methods will be similar, although there will be more synchronous courses for those taking remote classes. We do expect to have fewer class cancellations for weather, since many classes can now pivot to remote learning.

We recognize that feelings of isolation, loneliness and anxiety can become heightened in the colder and darker months, and we are working on ways to facilitate the community connections our students need, while also following safety guidelines. You'll see on this slide a concept for some outdoor campfire locations we are installing on campus. These will allow students to gather, roast hotdogs and marshmallows, listen to music and enjoy the outdoors, while staying physically distanced, but socially connected.

Our regular meetings and engagement with UNC System leaders, and with state and local public health officials, will continue. We will be involved in administering COVID-19 vaccines, and have already been engaged in conversations with state and local public health officials so we will be ready when the time comes to distribute the vaccine.

We will also continue building upon the important diversity and inclusion initiatives we have underway, and I'd like to thank our Chief Diversity Officer Dr. Willie Fleming for his leadership in this regard, and especially thank Chair Lampe and Trustee Reaves for dedicating their time and efforts to our Diversity and Inclusion Accountability Team. We appreciate your guidance and support as we continue this important work.

Looking ahead to fall, and encouraged by news of a COVID-19 vaccine, we are also encouraged by our very, very preliminary enrollment reports, which show increases in submitted and completed applications of more than 10% compared to this time last year. Provost Norris will want me to remind everyone that these are still very early days (I hope I said "very" enough for you, Heather!), but as we all anticipate the budget challenges we know are coming, it is nice to be able to look to some positive signs.

We have been forever changed, but we will return to the traditions of college life at App State, building new memories upon those currently dominated by Zoom meetings, face coverings and hand sanitizer.

We anticipate the days when our football stadium will again be full of cheering fans, when the Schaefer Center will be filled with the sights and sounds of patrons enjoying performing arts events, when students will gather together in study spaces, when classrooms will be full, and when Founders Day, Homecoming and Commencement will again be held in person.

When we emerge from this pandemic, the words "App Strong, App Resilient" will hold new meaning, and carry a new sense of pride.

Thank you all, again, for your continued support and leadership, through the challenges we have seen and those yet to come.

Mr. Chair, this concludes my remarks.

APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY

**RESOLUTION OF THE APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVING FINANCING FOR
NEW RIVER LIGHT & POWER COMPANY**

WHEREAS, Appalachian State University (the “**University**”), d/b/a New River Light & Power Company (“**NRLP**”), intends to undertake improvements to NRLP’s electric system, including a substation replacement and installation of underground transmission lines, underground conversion of high maintenance overhead lines, remodeling of a warehouse, parking lot repairs, replacement of two bucket trucks, and other miscellaneous capital improvements (collectively, the “**Project**”); and

WHEREAS, the Project is expected to cost approximately \$6,400,000; and

WHEREAS, the University intends to borrow up to \$6,500,000 to finance the Project, including paying financing costs, by issuing its Utility System Revenue Bonds, Series 2020 (the “**2020 Bonds**”) under the General Trust Indenture dated as of December 1, 2011 (the “**NRLP Indenture**”) and a Series Indenture No. 3 dated as of December 1, 2020 (“**Series Indenture No. 3**”) between Appalachian State University d/b/a New River Light & Power Company and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee (the “**Trustee**”), which are payable from the revenues of the NRLP system; and

WHEREAS, the University has received a proposal from Truist Bank to purchase the 2020 Bonds pursuant to a term sheet dated October 26, 2020 and a Rate Lock Letter dated November 9, 2020 (collectively, the “**Truist Proposal**”);

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Appalachian State University Board of Trustees as follows:

1. The proposed financing of the Project for NRLP by issuing the 2020 Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$6,500,000 to finance the Project, and the sale of the 2020 Bonds to Truist Bank (or an affiliate thereof) pursuant to the Truist Proposal is hereby approved. The 2020 Bonds will be issued as additional bonds under the NRLP Indenture.

2. The Chancellor and the Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs are authorized and directed (a) to issue the 2020 Bonds in the form of parity bonds under the NRLP Indenture, (b) to execute and deliver such documents containing such terms and conditions for the issuance of the 2020 Bonds as such officers deem necessary or desirable in connection with the issuance of the 2020 Bonds and the financing of the Project; (c) execute such documents, certificates, requests and closing papers as may be required in order to issue the 2020 Bonds and to finance the Project; and (d) take such action as may be required in order to provide the financing for the Project.

3. The Board of Trustees authorizes and directs the Chancellor or Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs to take all appropriate further action necessary or desirable in connection with the issuance of the 2020 Bonds, including approving, executing and delivering all documents relating to the issuance of the 2020 Bonds or the undertaking of the Project on behalf of the University and NRLP.

4. All previous actions taken by the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor for Business, the general manager of NRLP or other officers and representatives of ASU and NRLP in connection

with the proposed Project and financing through the issuance of the 2020 Bonds are hereby ratified and approved.

5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

The undersigned secretary of the Board of Trustees of Appalachian State University does hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct extract from minutes of the Board of Trustees' meeting duly called and held on December 4, 2020.

Chair

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

Friday, December 4, 2020
Via Zoom Call
11:00 am

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, December 4, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. via conference call. R. Thomas Sofield presided and called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

James M. Barnes
Donald C. Beaver
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 June 26, 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.

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

- Recent competitive updates, including Women’s Soccer, Volleyball, and Men’s and Women’s Cross Country, who all recently completed their seasons. Both Cross Country programs narrowly missed Conference titles with 2nd place finishes at the November Sun Belt Conference Championships. The App State Football program continues their 2020 campaign, currently sporting a 7-2 overall record, and is currently receiving votes in the Top 25 Coaches Poll. Football has also competed six times on National TV during the 2020 season, and is scheduled to compete on 12/4 on ESPN at 8:30pm against the University of Louisiana

- NCAA rules proposals pertaining to NCAA transfer rules, and student-athlete Name, Image, and Likeness
- Department of Athletics financials, including revenue and expenses updates, and recent fundraising success
- Facilities updates, including the Quinn Center renovation project, and recent phased opening and ribbon cutting ceremony for the North End Zone facility
- Recent department diversity and inclusion efforts
- How App State sport programs continue to manage COVID-19 related testing protocols; and
- App State Athletics' commitment to live streaming App State home competitions to provide student-athlete parents and fans the opportunity to watch the Mountaineers while in-person attendance continues to be restricted due to COVID-19

To conclude the presentation, Mr. Gillin overviewed the awarding of this year's College Football Playoff Extra Yards for Teacher's Grant, in partnership with the Reich College of Education and Watauga County Schools; and App State earning the 2019-20 Sun Belt Conference Graduation Rate Award.

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 126-22 of North Carolina General Statutes or regulations;
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)]; and
3. consider the qualifications, competence, performance, or condition of appointment of a public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee. [N.C.G.S § 143-318.11(a)(6)].

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 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan B. Reeder
Recording Secretary

Appalachian Board of Trustees
Athletics Committee Roll Call Record of Votes
December 4, 2020

Roll Call to Approve June 26, 2020 Committee Minutes:

Motion was made and seconded

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

Roll Call to Convene in Closed Session:

Motion was made and seconded

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

Roll Call to Adjourn:

Motion was made and seconded

James M. Barnes - yes
Donald C. Beaver - 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, December 4, 2020

9:00 a.m.

Zoom Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: The Audit Committee of the Board of Trustees of Appalachian State University met at the call of the Chair on Friday, December 4, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. via the virtual Zoom Meeting format. Mr. Charles V. Murray, Chair, presided and called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

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

OTHERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

John Adams
Dawn Antonucci
Sharon Bell
Philip C. Byers, BOG Representative
Eloise Covalt
Sheri Everts, Chancellor
Hank Foreman
Paul Forte
Denise Godwin
Megan Hayes
David Jamison
Paul Meggett
Heather Norris
James Reaves
Monica Saner
Kelli Wilson

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

ROLL CALL: Chair Murray called on Dawn Antonucci to confirm all members were present by roll call. No absences to report.

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 OPEN & CLOSED MINUTES: The minutes of the September 24, 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 September 24, 2020 Audit Committee meeting. Upon motion duly made and seconded, a roll-call vote commenced. All voting members of the Audit Committee were present and recorded as voting Aye, and the minutes of the meeting were approved as presented.

SUMMARY OF 2020-2021 AUDIT PLAN AND RECENT INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY UPDATE: Mrs. Eloise Covalt, Chief Audit Officer, reviewed the 2020-2021 Audit Plan. Mrs. Covalt provided the committee with a summary of internal audit reports completed in the recent quarter. The internal audit activity update included reports for the following:

- Capital Improvement Invoicing Submission Procedures
- Holmes Convocation Center
- Appalachian Real Estate Holdings, Inc. 6-30-2020
- Student Printing Privileges at the Student Learning Center
- Quarterlies:
 - Travel Disbursements for the quarter ended September 2020
 - Education & Technology Funds for the quarter ended September 2020
 - Fixed Asset Control for the quarter ended September 2020
 - Fund Reconciliations for the quarter ended September 2020
 - P-Card Review for the quarter ended September 2020

Mrs. Covalt also updated the committee regarding recent internal auditor participation in conjunction with the Council of Internal Auditing Peer Review Program and the UNC Auditor Association. Current Office of Internal Audits' staffing levels were also discussed.

RECENT EXTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY UPDATE: Mrs. Covalt provided an update on external audits currently in progress and external audits recently completed. Two Financial Audits: Appalachian Student Housing Corporation and Appalachian State University Foundation, Inc. were completed. Unqualified opinions were received on both.

ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE: Mrs. Denise Godwin, Risk Manager, reported an update to the committee concerning certain insurance policies currently held by the University. While certain premium increases are expected, Appalachian has not experienced the projected 20%

increase cautiously reported at the last meeting to date. Mrs. Godwin discussed the five areas of risk identified in the recently updated Risk Register. These include cybersecurity; policy and procedure protocols and personnel training; funding, budget and personnel flexibility; campus growth and campus culture; and student-athlete eligibility/well-being.

Mrs. Godwin also reported the Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Committee meeting is set to meet on December 18, 2020. This will be an introductory meeting and will discuss the function of ERM within the University.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the Audit Committee meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

CHARLES V. MURRAY, Chair

By: _____
Monica Saner
Recording Secretary

Appalachian State University Audit Committee Meeting
December 4, 2020
9:00 am

Roll Call to Approve the September 24, 2020, Audit Committee Minutes:

Thank you, the motion was made by: John Blackburn

Seconded by: Lee Barnes

James Barnes/ yes

Lee Barnes/yes

Charles Murray/yes

John Blackburn/yes

Kim Shepherd/yes

Roll Call Vote to Adjourn:

Thank you, the motion was made by: John Blackburn

Seconded by: Lee Barnes

James Barnes/yes

Lee Barnes/yes

Charles Murray/yes

John Blackburn/yes

Kim Shepherd/yes

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

Friday, December 4, 2020
Via Zoom Call
10:00 am

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, December 4, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. via zoom. Mrs. Kimberly M. Shepherd presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Donald C. Beaver
Scott K. Lampe
Charles V. Murray
James K. Reaves
E. Bonnie Schaefer
Kimberly M. Shepherd
R. Thomas Sofield

OTHER TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Michael C. Davis, President
Student Government Association

OTHERS PRESENT:

John Adams
Jane Barghothi
Sharon Bell
J.J. Brown
Matthew Dockham
Sheri Everts, Chancellor
Paul Forte
David Jamison
Nick Katers
Paul Meggett
Heather Norris
Diane Pitts

All votes were taken by roll call vote (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 June 26, 2020 and the closed session minutes of the June 26, 2020 meetings of the Business Affairs Committee have been reviewed and, upon motion made and seconded, were approved as submitted.

PROPOSED 2019-2020 STUDENT TUITION AND FEES: Paul Forte, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, gave an overview of the proposed tuition and fee increases for FY 2021 which will be submitted to the Board of Governors for approval. The following tuition/fees increases were proposed:

Campus-Based Tuition Increases:

Undergraduate Non-Resident	\$ 800.00	
Graduate Non-Resident	1,578.00	
Total	\$2,378.00	

Board of Governor Approved Fees:

General Fees:

Health Services	<u>10.00</u>	
Total	\$10.00	(.3% increase)

Chancellor Approved Fees:

Housing	<u>\$ 47.00</u>	
Total	\$47.00	(1.0% increase)

Following discussion, the motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed FY 2021 increases for tuition and fees.

The motion carried.

CAPITAL PROJECT APPROVAL - END ZONE 3RD FLOOR CLINIC BUILD OUT

Paul Forte, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, presented information regarding the 3rd floor clinic buildout of the new end zone facility. The projected cost of this project is \$500,000. Once completed the space can be available for long-term lease as a sports medicine clinic. The project

is time sensitive and construction will begin spring semester 2021 with completion anticipated within 3-4 months. Following discussion, the motion was made and seconded to approve the construction of the 3rd floor end zone clinic build out.

The motion carried.

NEW RIVER LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY LOAN RESOLUTION

Paul Forte, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, presented a resolution (Exhibit D-3) to approve a loan of \$6,500,000 for New River Light and Power Company. This loan will provide funding for improvements to the electronic system, a substation replacement, installation of underground transmission lines, underground conversion of high maintenance overhead lines, remodeling a warehouse, parking lot repairs, replacement of two bucket trucks and other miscellaneous improvements. Following discussion, the motion was made and seconded to approve the loan for New River Light and Power Company.

The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Pitts
Recording Secretary

Appalachian State University
Business Affairs Committee Roll Call Record of Votes
December 4, 2020
10:00 a.m.

Roll Call to Approve Absences:

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

Roll Call to Approve Tuition and Fee Proposed Increases FY 2021:

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

Roll Call to Approve Capital Project – End Zone 3rd Floor Clinic Buildout:

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

Roll Call to Approve New River Light and Power Company Loan Resolution:

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

Roll Call to Adjourn:

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