

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA
Atlanta, Georgia
January 13, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at 9:20 a.m. on Thursday, January 13, 2022, in Room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, Atlanta, Georgia, and simultaneously accessible by BOR Webcast. The Board Chair, Regent Harold Reynolds, called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Chairman Reynolds, were Vice Chair Erin Hames; Regents Richard T. Evans, Sr.; W. Allen Gudenrath; Bárbara Rivera Holmes; Samuel D. Holmes; C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; James M. Hull; Cade Joiner; Everett Kennedy; Rachel B. Little; Lowery May; Jose R. Perez; Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; Sarah-Elizabeth Langford Reed; T. Dallas Smith; and James K. Syfan, III. Regents Sachin Shailendra and Don L. Waters were excused.

At the outset, Chair Reynolds welcomed newly appointed Regents Evans and Syfan to the Board. He also thanked former Regents Kessel D. Stelling, Jr., and Philip A. Wilheit, Sr., for their long service to the Board and to the State of Georgia.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Curtis Walker, Student Government Association president at Columbus State University, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SAFETY BRIEFING

Mike Coverson, Chief of Police, gave the safety briefing.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

With motion made and variously seconded, the Regents present voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the Board's meetings of November 9, November 22, December 7, and December 22, 2021.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Board Chair Reynolds thanked his fellow Regents, Acting Chancellor Teresa MacCartney, University System Office staff, and institution presidents, faculty, staff, and students for their perseverance in keeping the University System of Georgia (USG) strong and successful.

Chair Reynolds emphasized the importance of welcoming a diversity of ideas, supporting the Momentum Year, improving retention and graduation rates as well as degrees conferred, all of which are essential to the mission of the USG. He reiterated his commitment to ensuring the availability of high-quality college education in Georgia.

THREE MINUTE THESIS – UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Communications Kristina Torres introduced the winner of the University of Georgia Three Minute Thesis competition, which requires participants to condense their thesis into a format that is easier for a broader audience to understand. Shannon Rodriguez, a Ph.D. candidate in linguistics, spoke on her work about the Latino Southerner's Linguistic identity in her presentation, "But . . . where are you really from?"

CAMPUS SPOTLIGHT- KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY CARES

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Communications Kristina Torres introduced Interim President Kat Schwaig to discuss Kennesaw State University (KSU) programs: Center for Young Adult Addiction and Recovery and Campus Awareness, Resource and Empowerment (CARE) services. KSU students Ziggy Kolker, Artis Jordan Obote, and Frankie Berryman spoke about their experiences with those services that have shaped and prepared them for success.

RECESS

The Board recessed for Committee meetings.

SENATE STUDY COMMITTEE REPORT

Executive Vice Chancellor for Strategy and Fiscal Affairs Tracey Cook provided a brief update on the final report adopted by the Senate University Fees Study Committee. During the 2021 legislative session, Senate Resolution 300 was passed, which created the Senate University Fees Study Committee. The Committee was chaired by Senator Lindsey Tippins, and other members included Senator Sally Harrell, Senator Jeff Mullis, Acting Chancellor MacCartney, and Lynne Riley, the president of the Georgia Student Finance Commission. The stated purpose of the Committee was to review fees associated with the cost of postsecondary education and to make recommendations regarding potential changes. There were five recommendations found in the Committee's final report to include the discontinuation of the Special Institutional Fee, a more consistent approach to how fees are charged to online and part-time students, broader memberships of student fee committees, standardized approaches to fee terminology and additional transparency regarding fee purposes, and to increase reporting to the General Assembly on fees. The recommendations of the Senate University Fees Study Committee are not official legislation. The Acting Chancellor charged a fee working group made up of representatives from the System Office and institutions to respond to these concerns and to recommend modifications to our fee strategy with a focus on student affordability and transparency. The recommendations of the Committee and the working group are being reviewed. Final recommendations will be presented to the Board at the April or May board meeting.

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Acting Chancellor Teresa MacCartney began her report by welcoming everyone back from the winter break. She also welcomed the two newest board members: Regents Richard T. Evans, Sr., and James K. Syfan, III. She acknowledged the hard work and dedication that students, faculty, and staff have exhibited throughout the past year. She also thanked the Regents for their leadership and guidance.

Acting Chancellor MacCartney recognized Governor Brian Kemp for announcing the amended Fiscal Year 2022 and Fiscal Year 2023 budget recommendations, which among other things would restore \$262 million in previous cuts that would enable the elimination of the special institutional fee for our students. Also, providing an additional \$5.5 million in federal GEER II funds makes clear that higher education is a priority in this state.

Acting Chancellor MacCartney recognized that we cannot let COVID-19 control us but that we will continue practicing safe behaviors, including encouraging vaccines and boosters, wearing masks indoors, washing hands, testing, and other ways to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 on campuses while the USG carries on with its mission. She thanked Georgia Commissioner of Public Health Kathleen Toomey and her staff for their willingness to partner with the USG to ensure that faculty, staff, students are safe.

Acting Chancellor MacCartney concluded her report by acknowledging several institutions for their recent athletic achievements: Georgia Tech's women's volleyball team qualified for the NCAA Elite Eight; Valdosta State University played in the Division II national football championship game; Georgia State University's football team won the Camellia Bowl; Gordon State College claimed the South Atlantic Conference championship in club football, and the University of Georgia won its first national football championship since 1980.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Reports of the standing committees are attached hereto. Upon motions made and duly seconded, the Board unanimously approved and adopted the reports of the following committees:

- the Executive & Compensation Committee
- the Committee on Academic Affairs
- the Committee on Economic Development

- the Committee on Finance & Business Operations
- the Joint Committees on Finance & Business Operations and Internal Audit, Risk & Compliance
- the Committee on Internal Audit, Risk & Compliance
- the Committee on Organization & Law
- the Committee on Personnel & Benefits
- the Committee on Real Estate & Facilities

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Regent C. Thomas Hopkins proposed a hotline or similar mechanism for students to address their concerns regarding the First Amendment and free speech on campus.

With motion made by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., and variously seconded, the Regents present voted unanimously to appoint Vice Chancellor of Legal Affairs Christopher McGraw as Secretary to the Board.

Board Chair Reynolds thanked former Vice Chancellor of Legal Affairs and Secretary to the Board Edward Tate for his years of service to the Board.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Secretary to the Board Christopher McGraw announced that the next Board of Regents meeting will be held on February 8, 2022, at the Board's offices in Atlanta.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board Chair Reynolds called for an executive session at approximately 11:55 a.m. to discuss personnel matters. With motion properly made and variously seconded, the Regents present voted unanimously to go into executive session. An affidavit regarding this executive session is on file with the Office of the Secretary to the Board.

RECONVENE

Following executive session, Board Chair Reynolds reconvened the Board meeting in its regular session at approximately 1:20 p.m. and announced that the Board took no actions during the executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.



Harold Reynolds
Chairman, Board of Regents
University System of Georgia



Christopher A. McGraw
Secretary, Board of Regents
University System of Georgia

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE & COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

The Executive & Compensation Committee of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at approximately 9:00 a.m. in Room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, Atlanta, Georgia. Board Chair Harold Reynolds called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Chair Reynolds, were Board Vice Chair Erin Hames; Regents C. Everett Kennedy; Samuel D. Holmes; Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; and T. Dallas Smith. Acting Chancellor Teresa MacCartney was also present. Regents Sachin Shailendra and Don L. Waters were excused.

APPROVAL ITEM

1. Upon motion by Board Vice Chair Hames which was seconded by Regent Pruitt, the Committee members present unanimously adopted the following recommendations as developed in response to the Board's November 9, 2021, self-assessment:
 - a. Regent Training. The Board should continue the practice, established late last year, of participating in a series of training events where Board members can learn about a particular policy area in greater detail. Topics include ethics-related questions, accreditation topics, higher education governance, oversight practices, etc.
 - b. In-Depth Reviews. The Board may wish to request the Chancellor to conduct an in-depth review of specific topics, institutions, processes, etc. (Note: The System Office can conduct these types of reviews using internal resources as well as contracting for external reviews as needed.)
 - c. Committee Structure. The Executive and Compensation Committee, with assistance from the Chancellor's staff, should conduct a review of current standing and special committees to ensure that the roles, duties, etc. of each committee reflect the current priorities of the Board of Regents.
 - d. Conduct of Meeting. The Board Chair and Committee Chairs should consider using a more structure or formal approach and their respective authority as Board / Committee Chair(s) to maintain balanced discussion, provide sufficient opportunity for members to speak, and to remain focused on the topic at hand.

2. Upon motion by Regent Pruitt which was seconded by Board Vice Chair Hames, the committee members present unanimously voted to forward to the full Board Acting Chancellor MacCartney's recommendation to appoint Christopher McGraw to serve as Secretary to the Board of Regents.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

The Committee on Academic Affairs of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at approximately 10:08 a.m. in Room 7007 of the Board's Offices, 270 Washington St., SW, in Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chair Jose R. Perez called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Committee Chair Perez, were Committee Vice Chair Samuel D. Holmes and Regents W. Allen Gudenrath; Cade J. Joiner; Bárbara Rivera Holmes; and Rachel B. Little. Board Vice Chair Erin Hames was also present. Regents Sachin Shailendra and Don L. Waters were excused.

ACTION ITEMS

1. The Committee approved the establishment of a Bachelor of Science with a major in Regenerative Bioscience at the University of Georgia. The motion was made by Regent Cade Joiner and seconded by Board Vice Chair Erin Hames.
2. The Committee approved the establishment of a Bachelor of Science with a major in Environmental and Natural Resources at Georgia Highlands College. The motion was made by Regent Allen W. Gudenrath and Rachel B. Little was seconded by Regent Cade Joiner.
3. The Committee approved the establishment of a Doctor of Philosophy in Health Sciences at Georgia State University. The motion was made by Regents Erin Hames and Samuel D. Holmes and was seconded by Regent Cade Joiner.
4. The Committee approved the termination of programs at Georgia State University, Kennesaw State University, and the University of North Georgia. The motion was made by Regents Samuel D. Holmes and Cade Joiner and was seconded by Regent Erin Hames.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for Committee consideration, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:23 a.m.

**MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The Committee on Economic Development of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at approximately 10:24 a.m. in Room 7007 of the Board's Offices, 270 Washington St., SW, in Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chair Cade Joiner called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Committee Chair Joiner, were Committee Vice Chair Bárbara Rivera Holmes; Regents W. Allen Gudenrath; Samuel D. Holmes; Rachel B. Little; and Jose Perez. Board Vice Chair Erin Hames was also present. Regents Sachin Shailendra and Don L. Waters were excused.

INFORMATION ITEM

1. Chris Green, USG Director of Economic Development, presented a brief orientation on the committee mission and ongoing economic development initiatives at the University System of Georgia.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:32 a.m.

**MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION AND LAW**

The Committee on Organization and Law of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at 10:32 a.m. in Room 7007 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, in Atlanta, Georgia. Board Vice Chair Erin Hames called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Board Vice Chair Hames, were Committee Vice Chair Rachel Little; Regents W. Allen Gudenrath; Bárbara Rivera Holmes; Samuel D. Holmes; Cade Joiner; and Jose Perez. Regents Sachin Shailendra and Don L. Waters were excused.

APPROVAL ITEMS

1. The Committee approved certain named personnel at the Georgia Institute of Technology and the University of Georgia to use United States Government security clearances related to classified government research and to exclude members of the Board of Regents and certain other University System employees from obtaining access to such classified materials. The motion was made by Regent Cade Joiner and was seconded by Board Vice Chair Hames and unanimously approved by the committee members present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board Vice Chair Hames called for an executive session at 10:34 a.m. to discuss personnel matters and student records. With motion properly made and seconded, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to go into executive session.

RECONVENE

After the Committee exited executive session, Board Vice Chair Hames reconvened the Committee in its regular session at 10:50 a.m. and announced that no actions were taken during the executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

**MINUTES OF THE
JOINT COMMITTEES ON
FINANCE & BUSINESS OPERATIONS AND INTERNAL AUDIT, RISK AND COMPLIANCE**

The Joint Committees on Internal Audit, Risk and Compliance and Finance & Business Operations of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at approximately 10:19 a.m. on Tuesday, January 13, 2022, in Room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, in Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chair Sarah-Elizabeth Langford Reed called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Committee Chair Langford Reed and Committee Vice Chair James K. Syfan, III, were Regents James M. Hull; C. Thomas Hopkins; C. Everett Kennedy, III; Lowery Houston May; T. Dallas Smith; and Richard T. Evans, Sr. Acting Chancellor Teresa MacCartney; Board Chair Harold Reynolds; Board Vice Chair Erin Hames; and Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. were also present.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Vice Chancellor for Internal Audit and Chief Audit Officer Claire Arnold presented the Fiscal Year 2021 Financial Engagement Results for the University System of Georgia.
2. Associate Vice Chancellor for Accounting and Reporting Amanda Bibby presented the 2021 Consolidated Annual Financial Report for the University System of Georgia.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committees, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:36 a.m.

**MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL AUDIT, RISK AND COMPLIANCE**

The Committee on Internal Audit, Risk and Compliance of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at approximately 10:38 a.m. in Room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, in Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chair Sarah-Elizabeth Langford Reed called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Committee Chair Langford Reed, were Committee Vice Chair James K. Syfan III; Regents Richard T. Evans, Sr.; James M. Hull; C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; C. Everett Kennedy, III; Lowery Houston May; Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; and T. Dallas Smith. Acting Chancellor Teresa MacCartney; Board Chair Harold Reynolds; and Board Vice Chair Erin Hames were also present.

INFORMATION ITEM

1. Vice Chancellor for Internal Audit Claire Arnold presented a brief orientation on the Internal Audit and Ethics and Compliance committee. Following the orientation, Ms. Arnold presented an informational update on the internal audit reports issued across the University System of Georgia over the last 12 months.

APPROVAL ITEMS

1. The Committee approved the proposed Internal Audit Charter. The motion was made by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., and was seconded by Regent T. Dallas Smith.
2. The Committee approved the proposed Compliance and Ethics Charter. The motion was made by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., and was seconded by Regent T. Dallas Smith.
3. The Committee approved the proposed Committee on Internal Audit, Risk and Compliance Charter. The motion was made by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., and seconded by Regent T. Dallas Smith.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:59 a.m.

**MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE & BUSINESS OPERATIONS**

The Committee on Internal Audit, Risk and Compliance of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at approximately 11:00 a.m. in Room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, in Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chair Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Committee Chair Pruitt, were Committee Vice Chair James M. Hull.; Regents Richard T. Evans, Sr.; C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; C. Everett Kennedy, III; Lowery Houston May; Sarah-Elizabeth Langford Reed; T. Dallas Smith; and Jim K. Syfan, III. Acting Chancellor MacCartney and Board Chair Harold Reynolds were also present.

INFORMATION ITEM

1. The Committee received an orientation on the Finance and Business Operations committee and forward agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:07 a.m.

**MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL AND BENEFITS**

The Committee on Personnel & Benefits of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at approximately 10:08 a.m. in Room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, in Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chair Lowery Houston May called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Committee Chair May, were Committee Vice Chair Richard T. Evans, Jr.; Regents C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; James M. Hull; Everett Kennedy; Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; Sarah-Elizabeth Langford Reed; and T. Dallas Smith. Acting Chancellor Teresa MacCartney and Board Chair Harold Reynolds were also present.

INFORMATION ITEM

Vice Chancellor for Human Resources Dr. Juanita Hicks presented the Personnel and Benefits Committee Orientation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:12 a.m.

**MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE ON REAL ESTATE & FACILITIES**

The Committee on Real Estate & Facilities of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met at approximately 11:00 a.m. in Room 8003 of the Board's offices, 270 Washington St., SW, in Atlanta, Georgia. Committee Chair T. Dallas Smith called the meeting to order. Present, in addition to Committee Chair Smith, were Committee Vice Chair C. Everett Kennedy, III; Regents Richard T. Evans, Sr.; C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; C. Everett Kennedy; Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; Sarah-Elizabeth Langford Reed; and James K. Syfan, III. Acting Chancellor Teresa MacCartney and Board Chairman Harold Reynolds also were present. Unless otherwise noted, the Regents present approved all items unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Vice Chancellor for Real Estate and Facilities Sandra Lynn Neuse provided an orientation for members of the Committee, including its responsibilities and a projected forward agenda of anticipated approval and information items for 2022.
2. Vice Chancellor Neuse provided a written report of real estate actions taken under delegated authority between August 1, 2021, and November 30, 2021.

APPROVAL ITEMS

3. The Committee authorized Project No. BR-67-2022, Griffin Bell Conference Center Renovation and addition, at Georgia Southwestern State University. The motion was moved by Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. Numerous Regents seconded the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:07 a.m.