

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA  
Atlanta, Georgia  
March 9, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met on Wednesday, March 9, 2016, in the Board Room, Room 8003, 270 Washington Street SW, Atlanta, Georgia. The Chair of the Board, Regent Kessel D. Stelling, Jr., called the meeting to order at approximately 9:30 a.m. Present, in addition to Chair Stelling, were Vice C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr.; and Regents C. Dean Alford; W. Paul Bowers; Lori Durden; Rutledge A. Griffin, Jr.; James M. Hull; Doreen Stiles Poitevint; Sachin Shailendra; E. Scott Smith; Benjamin J. Tarbutton, III; Richard L. Tucker; T. Rogers Wade; Larry Walker; Don L. Waters; and Philip A. Wilheit, Sr. Regents Larry R. Ellis, Donald M. Leebern, Jr., and Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., were excused.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Albany State University Student Government Association President Laurentiis M. Gaines, Jr. gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**SAFETY BRIEFING**

Chief of Police Bruce Holmes gave the safety briefing.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

With motion made and variously seconded, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the Board's Jan. 6, 2016, meeting.

**CONSOLIDATION: ALBANY STATE UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT**

At approximately 9:35 a.m., Chair Stelling introduced Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Houston Davis to provide background on a proposed mission statement for the consolidation of Albany State University and Darton State College. The proposed mission statement was developed through an extensive process involving a broad spectrum of key stakeholders from Darton State College and Albany State University, according to Dr. Davis, and will best reflect the consolidated institution, effective January 2017. With motion made and variously seconded, the Regents present voted unanimously to approve the mission statement. An audio recording of Dr. Davis' remarks is on file with, and available for inspection in, the office of the Secretary to the Board.

**HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE UPDATE**

At approximately 9:45 a.m., Chancellor Henry M. Huckaby introduced Mr. Ben Robinson to update the Board on the University System of Georgia's efforts to bolster Georgia's healthcare workforce. Mr. Robinson focused his remarks particularly on nursing and graduate medical education efforts. The system's response to a growing need has been to expand medical residency positions, increase the number of nursing graduates, and stabilize and grow the nursing faculty ranks. Mr. Robinson said pre-licensure nursing graduates are up more than 100 percent since 2002, advanced degree graduates are up 140 percent since 2006, and the number of USG nursing faculty has increased by 14 percent since 2008. An audio recording of Mr. Robinson's remarks and a copy of his presentation are on file with, and available for inspection in, the office of the Secretary to the Board.

**SPECIAL GUESTS**

Chair Stelling welcomed several guests to the meeting and recognized them in turn. Among them were several Student Government Association presidents: Laurentiis Gaines, Jr., Albany State University; Amma Sarfo, Augusta University; Juawn Jackson, Georgia College and State University; Shavada Williams, Gordon State University; Teara Mayfield, Georgia State University; and Sri Rajasekaran, Georgia State University-Perimeter Campus. Chair Stelling also recognized Speaker Pro Tem Jan Jones; State Senator Larry Walker, III; and State Representative Earl Ehrhardt.



### **FY 2015 USG AUDIT RESULTS**

At approximately 1:05 p.m., Regent Don L. Waters Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts Education Audit Division Deputy Director Jennifer Thomas presented information on the Fiscal Year 2015 Financial Statement Audit results for the University System of Georgia. Based on review of all audit findings, management letter comments and misstatements, Associate Vice Chancellor for Fiscal Affairs Claire Arnold presented a summary of audit results and corrective action plans for the Fiscal Year 2015 State Audit findings. Vice Chancellor for Fiscal Affairs & Planning Shelley Nickel also presented information on the Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Financial Report for the University System of Georgia. Audio recordings of these remarks and copies of the presentations are on file with, and available for inspection in, the Office of the Secretary to the Board.

### **CUSTOMER SERVICE RECOGNITION**

Chancellor Huckaby and Director of Service Excellence Deborah Webb presented the USG Service Excellence Awards at approximately 1:25 p.m. These awards went to employees or teams that modeled exceptional service through their actions, leadership and innovative processes, benefiting the institutions' stakeholders. The 2016 winners were:

- *Service Excellence Team of the Year*: The Georgia Gwinnett College Advising Center Team, led by Dr. Karen Jackson
- *Outstanding Front Desk or Help Center of the Year*: The Help Desk at Columbus State University, led by Ms. Barbara Psalmond
- *Gold Service Excellence Initiative Award for Increased Effectiveness and Efficiency*: Card Service Initiative Team at Armstrong State University led by Greg Surrette
- *Chancellor's Service Excellence Initiative Award for Increased Service to Students*: The Birdfeeder Student Improvement Initiative at Dalton State College, led by Janet Hayes, Administrative Assistant for VP of Enrollment and Student Services, Natalie Bates, Director of Residential Life, and the late Jason Ramos, Assistant Director of Residential Life
- *Chancellor's Gold Winner Leadership Award*: Dr. Kim Harrington, Associate Vice President for Human, Resources and Georgia Tech
- *Service Excellence Ambassador of the Year*: Mr. Tim Yorkey, Training Assistant at Valdosta State University
- *Chancellor's Service Excellence President and Institution of the Year is the*: University of West Georgia Employees and President Kyle Marrero

An audio recording of Ms. Webb's remarks and a copy of her presentation are on file with, and available for inspection in, the Office of the Secretary to the Board.

### **CHANCELLOR'S REPORT**

Chancellor Henry M. Huckaby gave his report at approximately 1:38 p.m. The Chancellor recognized the Board's legislative guests. He provided an update on the System's fiscal year 2017 budget, still in consideration in the state Legislature, and remarked that the figures looked positive. Chancellor Huckaby spoke on House Bill 859, the Campus Carry bill, and voiced again the system's opposition to it. Chancellor Huckaby continued by touting recent accomplishments and milestones of several System institutions and students. An audio recording of Chancellor Huckaby's remarks is on file with, and available for inspection in, the Office of the Secretary to the Board.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Reports of the standing committees are attached hereto.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was none.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The Board appointed Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs Samuel C. Burch as Secretary to the Board.

**PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

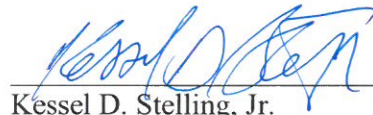
The next Board of Regents meeting will be May 10-11, 2016, in Atlanta.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At approximately 2:16 p.m., Chair Stelling called for an executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel and compensation matters. With motion properly made and unanimously seconded, the Regents voted unanimously to go into executive session. University System of Georgia staff members who were also present for portions of the executive session included Chancellor Huckaby and members of his staff. An affidavit regarding this executive session is on file with the Office of the Secretary to the Board. Chair Pruitt reconvened the Board meeting in its regular session at approximately 2:52 p.m., and announced that no actions were taken during the executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:54 p.m. Wednesday, March 9, 2016.



Kessel D. Stelling, Jr.  
Chair, Board of Regents  
University System of Georgia



Samuel C. Burch  
Secretary, Board of Regents  
University System of Georgia