Minutes of the
Board of Trustees of
North Carolina Central University
May 18, 2007

The NCCU Board of Trustees convened in a special called meeting in the Emma Marable Conference Room in the William Jones Building on the campus of North Carolina Central University on May 18, 2007. Most trustees participated via telephone conference call. Chairman Cressie Thigpen called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

Chairman Thigpen recognized Trustee George Miller for the roll call.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mr. Cressie Thigpen, Jr., Mr. Glenn Adams, Mr. Charles Baron, Mr. Robert Dolan, Bishop Eddie Long, Mr. Eric Michaux, Mr. George Miller, Mr. Travis Porter, Mr. Muhktar Raqib, Mr. R. Edward Stewart, Mrs. Kay Thomas, and Mr. Robert Williams. Absent: Mrs. Nancy Wysenski.

Although Trustee Miller made a motion to go into closed session, that was seconded and carried, the chairman wanted Ann Lemmon, Associate Vice President for Human Resources, at UNC General Administration to discuss the search process. Therefore, Trustee Miller moved to reconvene in open session for this process, that was seconded by Trustee Baron and it carried. Mrs. Fuse-Hall announced that the meeting had reconvened in open session for the public and permitted the public access.

Chairman Thigpen recognized Ms. Lemmon, who joined the call via teleconference, to discuss the search process to date. Ms. Lemmon noted that she served as the liaison to chancellor searches on behalf of UNC General Administration. The process, she said, is governed by the Code of the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina, specifically, Appendix, Section I.D. She recited the pertinent paragraphs regarding the process of the search committee reporting the requisite names to the Board of Trustees that then recommends names to the president. This has been the process since 1987 according to her records. President Bowles charged the search committee and he requested three names be forwarded to him for consideration. Further, the search committee was required to hold public forums, including forums for the alumni, faculty and students. This occurred.

In regards to confidentiality, Ms. Lemmon noted that most candidate names are confidential and that prior to making any names public, one must have the candidate’s approval to release their name. The search committee has made three names available to the NCCU Board of Trustees for consideration and the work of the search committee has concluded. She noted that in 3 of the 4 chancellor searches that were recently completed, each search committee recommended three names and three names were forwarded to the president. In one search, the committee recommended two names and those two names were forwarded to the committee.
There was discussion regarding the level and degree of community involvement in other searches. Often the chair of the search will send a letter to the community regarding the search process and she remarked that the process remained the same. Ms. Lemmon exited the call.

Chairman Thigpen recognized Trustee Miller for a motion. Trustee Miller moved that the board convene in closed session pursuant to North Carolina General Statute Section 143-318.11(a)(5) and (a) (6). The motion was seconded by Trustee Kay Thomas and it carried.

CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Thigpen noted that the members had received copies of the resumes of the three finalists. He announced the three names in alphabetical order and noted that this was not in rank order.

The trustees discussed the credentials of the candidates. A trustee commended the search committee for their work. He noted that his review of the credentials of these candidates revealed a breath of experience. Another trustee noted that all are strong, especially among their respective administrative experiences.

There was a thorough discussion of the diversity of the pool of candidates with specific references to candidates, including how some trustees nominated names to the search firm.

Following this discussion, Trustee Thomas moved to return to open session and it was seconded by Trustee Stewart. There was discussion on the motion until the question was called. The motion carried.

OPEN SESSION

The board reconvened in open session and Ms. Fuse-Hall announced open session and members of the public and the press entered the conference room.

Trustee Thomas moved that the three names of candidates for the position of chancellor as discussed in closed session be forwarded to President Bowles and the Board of Governors. The motion was seconded by Trustee Miller.

Trustee Michaux moved to table the matter; however, the motion died for the lack of a second. By voice vote the original motion carried. Trustee Michaux called for a division; therefore, each member announced their vote and it was recorded.
FAVORABLE VOTE: Chairman Thigpen, Trustee Baron, Trustee Dolan, Trustee Long, Trustee Miller, Trustee Porter, Trustee Raqib, Trustee Stewart, Trustee Thomas and Trustee Williams.

NAY VOTE: Trustee Michaux and Trustee Adams.

The motion carried by a 10-2 vote.

Chairman Thigpen asked if there was any additional information to come before the board and Ms. Fuse-Hall noted the memorandum from Chancellor Ammons regarding the recently adopted budget by the House of Representatives. The memorandum was sent to each trustee this afternoon and their prompt attention to the request was encouraged.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalind Fuse-Hall

Rosalind Fuse-Hall
Assistant Secretary of the Board of Trustees