MINUTES OF
NCCU BOARD OF TRUSTEES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 30, 2007

The NCCU Board of Trustees met via telephone conference call and a public forum was provided in the Emma Marable Conference Room on campus. Chairman Thigpen called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. He recognized Ms. Fuse-Hall to call the roll. Executive Committee members participating on the call were Chairman Cressie Thigpen, Vice Chairwoman Kay Thomas, Trustee George Miller, Trustee R. Edward Stewart, and Trustee Robert Williams. Others present included Provost Beverly Jones, Pamela Tolson from Public Relations, Executive Assistant Rosalind Fuse-Hall, Eric Ferrari from the Raleigh New & Observer, Brianne Dupart from the Durham Herald-Sun, Summer Browka from the Triangle Tribune, and Abby Byron from WTVD.

Chairman Thigpen recognized Chancellor Ammons regarding the first agenda item. Chancellor Ammons asked Provost Jones to present the Academic Affairs matters. Provost Jones noted that she would discuss several academic policy proposals. Further she added that the Council of Deans, the Academic Planning Council and the University Planning Council have reviewed and approved the policies and the recommendation regarding the academic calendar.

Provost Jones outlined the policy proposed for approval regarding first-time without the requisite fourth mathematics requirement in order to enroll at a UNC institution. Dr. Jones explained that this proposal requires these students complete this math requirement by the end of the first summer session following their matriculation at NCCU or they will not be allowed to continue their enrollment at NCCU. Students may not withdraw from this course without consultation and signed approval from the Director of the Comprehensive Academic Support Enhancement (CASE) Center and dean. Further, these students are encouraged to participate in the Aspiring Eagles Summer BRIDGE Program. She reported that 30 students were similarly situated in the class entering fall 2006. Of that cohort, 26 completed this requirement and 4 have been notified of this deficiency. These students signed contracts outlining their responsibilities in order to continue their success. Tutors were provided also.

Following a few questions regarding student participants in the program, Trustee Thomas moved approval of this undergraduate admissions policy. The motion was seconded by Trustee Stewart and it carried.

Next, Dr. Jones presented information regarding in-state students with deficient grade point averages (GPAs) and deficient SAT scores of less than 680 that are applying for admission to the university. These first-time students will receive conditional admittance and will be required to participate and successfully complete the Aspiring Eagle Program. The students will sign contracts regarding their responsibilities for success and must attend tutorial and enhanced academic support. Participation is
mandatory. To date that involves seven (7) matriculating students. Mr. Williams asked if this permitted students to prove their ability to complete college-level course. This is correct. This program is supported by a grant from General Administration that totals $250,000. A pilot program last year involved 50 students, including those students that didn’t perform well on their placement exams. Of this cohort of students, 49 enrolled at the university with 2.8 GPAs or better. The one student that did not matriculate experienced financial problems.

Following several questions regarding early detection of academic weaknesses and retention goals, Trustee Thomas moved approval of this policy. The motion was seconded by Trustee Robert Williams and it carried.

Chairman Thigpen asked Provost Jones to continue with the next two policy proposals. Dr. Jones noted that in accordance with the four-year curriculum plan for each degree program, language would be added to the university catalogue requiring a minimum of 25 credit hours for the first year of study to fulfill unique individual requirements of the General Education Curriculum. For those curriculum plans in which students take several major courses during the first year, the catalogue will include a footnote that states:

Many courses listed in the first year of this plan are specific to this degree program, and may not fulfill degree requirements for other programs at the University. Students are advised that changing their program of study from this major to another major, after the first year, can extend the time until graduation by a semester or more.

Provost Jones noted that this notifies students the consequences of frequent changing of majors. Trustee Stewart moved approval of the proposed policy and it was seconded by Trustee Thomas. The motion carried.

Next, Provost Jones outlined the curriculum plan for first year students that have undeclared majors. This plan will assist students as they determine a major to declare. It is an effort to assist students to graduate within four (4) years. Students must declare a major by the end of the sophomore year. Trustee Stewart remarked how important this requirement is for graduation and retention rates. Therefore, Trustee Stewart moved approval of the proposed plan. The motion was seconded by Trustee Williams and it carried.

The Trustees received the recommended academic calendar for the 2009-2010 academic year. This calendar sets an earlier date for financial payments of August 1 and complies with the 46 contact hours required by UNC General Administration. Highlighted dates discussed included Fall Break October 17-19, Founder’s Day on Friday, October 31st, Winter Commencement, December 12, Spring Break, March 6-14, and Spring Commencement, May 15. Trustee Thomas moved approval of the calendar and it was seconded by Trustee Stewart. The motion carried.
Provost Jones presented information regarding the Master’s degree in Jazz Studies. She noted that East Carolina University is the only other UNC institution offering this degree. The NCCU program will focus on performance and arranging/composition with an emphasis on music technology, business of music, and facility in music engineering. The Master of Music is a terminal professional degree. Trustee Stewart commended this program that will promote this program prominently with the current faculty. In response to the dates of submission, Provost Jones informed the Trustees that the General Administration staff will fast track this request.

Trustee Thomas moved approval of this intent to establish the Master’s of Music degree program in Jazz Studies. The motion was seconded by Trustee Stewart and it carried.

Chairman Thigpen recognized Ms. Fuse-Hall for an update about Eagle Landing. She informed the board that the members of the Board of Directors of the Real Estate Foundation are continuing to work with the requisite state agencies to purchase this residence hall for the campus’ use. Last week, all parties met with Eric Frazier, Zack Abebugrin and Ms. Fuse-Hall. This conversation proved very productive as representatives from General Administration assisted the negotiations; but, everyone left with clear ideas of their respective next steps. Mr. Abebugrin and Mr. Greg Driver from the Office of State Construction will review the report that was recently issued. Also, a 30 item matrix of repairs that were completed in December has been completed. Trustees asked for a copy of this matrix.

Further, Ms. Fuse-Hall reported that the State Auditor’s Office had closed its review of the investigation of allegations regarding the construction costs and use of state employees pursuant to the management agreement. The office found no substantiation for the allegations. In accordance with office policy for unsubstantiated allegations, the Office will not issue a closing letter. This conversation was memorialized in an email and sent to Vice President Robert Nelson, who also commended the staff for their work with the Auditor’s Office. Trustee Miller asked that Public Relations issue a statement.

Chairman Thigpen recognize Mr. Miller for a motion to go into closed session to discuss several personnel items pursuant to N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(5) and (a)(6) and it was seconded by Trustee Thomas. The motion carried. Press on the call and present in the conference room were excused.

CLOSED SESSION
Chairman asked Chancellor Ammons to present his recommendation for the Interim Vice President for Student Affairs. Chancellor Ammons informed the committee that Mr. Roland Gaines joined the leadership team in Fall 2001 as the Enrollment Manager. Later he became the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. Last fall, Mr. Gaines announced his intentions to retire and Chancellor Ammons asked him to remain until the end of the academic year however, while a search was launched.
Dean Percy Murray of the Graduate School headed the search committee composed of faculty, Student Affairs personnel and students. The Search did not yield a strong pool of candidates; therefore, we decided that it was prudent to name an interim and let the next chancellor make this important selection. Chancellor Ammons spoke with Mr. Gaines, who knew the work of the Associate Vice Chancellor Frances Graham and recommended her as the interim vice chancellor. A review of her resume, Dr. Graham is responsible for Residential Life, Counseling, Training & Development, Campus Ministries, and the Women’s Center. Therefore, I recommend the appointment of Frances Graham as the Interim Vice Chancellor at a salary of $125,000, effective June 1, 2007. Chancellor Ammons addressed Mr. Stewarts question and noted that Dr. Graham was a member of the candidate pool for this position. Following additional discussion regarding Dr. Graham’s desire to grow as an administrator and the concerns of the students, Dr. Graham and the students will meet to discuss their concerns.

In another personnel matter, Chairman Thigpen asked Provost Jones to present information regarding the appointment of the candidate for the position of Dean of the College of Liberal Arts. Dr. Jones noted that the search committee began its work in September 2006 and was chaired by Dr. Louise Maynor of the English Department. The committee included faculty, administrators and students. The committee received twenty applications. The Committee recommended Dr. Linda Norfleet for this position to the Provost. The Provost consulted with the chancellor and makes this recommendation. Dr. Norfleet’s impressive resume was forwarded to the committee; however, Provost Jones reminded the committee that Dr. Norfleet had served as the Associate Dean in the College of Arts and Sciences before the restructuring of the College. Trustees Stewart and Williams noted the long-time knowledge of commended Dr. Norfleet who was known to both members. The appointment will become effective on July 1, 2007, at a salary of $125,000. Pending Trustee approval, the request will be sent to the Board of Governors for final action.

In the final personnel matter, Provost Jones presented information regarding the appointment of the candidate for the position of Dean of the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences. Dr. Jones noted that the search committee began was chaired by Dr. Deborah Parker of the Human Sciences Department. The committee included faculty, graduate and undergraduate students. The Committee recommended Dr. Elwood Robinson for this position to the Provost. The Provost consulted with the chancellor and makes this recommendation. Dr. Robinson has a stellar resume that was forwarded to the committee. He has headed the MARC Program for science students. Further, Provost Jones reminded the committee that Dr. Robinson had served as the Interim Dean of this College since July 2005 as a result of the restructuring of the College of Arts and Sciences. Further, he has received funding for 15 grants totaling $18 million. The appointment will become effective on July 1, 2007, at a salary of $150,000 (with a base salary of $137,000). In response to Trustee Stewart’s question, Provost Jones said that Dr. Robinson had been working at NCCU since 1984. Pending Trustee approval, the request will be sent to the Board of Governors for final action.
Since there was no further information for the closed session, Trustee Williams moved to reconvene in open session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Miller and it carried.

**OPEN SESSION**
When the meeting reconvened for the public, Mr. Ferreri returned to the conference room. Mr. Stewart moved approval of the three personnel matters discussed in closed session, namely, the candidates for Interim Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Dean of the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences. The motion was properly seconded and it carried.

Chancellor Ammons informed the trustees the School of Education Building will be dedicated and named on June 15, 2007, from noon until 2 p.m. at the corner of Cecil Street and Lincoln Street entrance.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]
Rosalind Furse-Hall