MINUTES OF  
NCCU BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
August 15, 2008

The NCCU Board of Trustees Executive Committee met via telephone conference call and a public forum was provided in the Hoey Administration Building, Conference Room 311. Chairman Thomas called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. She recognized Ms. Dottie Irving Fuller to call the roll.

Executive Committee members participating on the call were: Chair Kay Thomas, Trustee Ed Stewart, Trustee George Miller and Trustee Glenn Adams. A quorum was established.

Others present included: Trustee Avon Ruffin, Chancellor Charlie Nelms, Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Lenneal Henderson, Ms. Susan Hester, Attorney Kaye Webb, Mr. Zack Abegunrin, Ms. Dottie Irving Fuller, Ms. Miji Bell and Mr. Greg Childress, The Herald Sun and Mr. Eric Ferreri, News and Observer.

OPEN SESSION

Chair Thomas recognized Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Management Zack Abegunrin for presentation regarding the selection of a designer for Chidley Residence Hall. Mr. Abegunrin indicated to the committee that the Building Committee met on June 23, 2008 and interviewed 4 firms for the design of Chidley Residence Hall project and ranked the firms as follows:

(1) Millennium 3 Design Group  
(2) Lord, Aeck & Sargent, Inc.  
(3) BJAC  
(4) SFL+A Architects

The Millennium 3 Design Group was recommended and approved by the Board of Trustees at its meeting on June 25, 2008.

Mr. Abegunrin indicated that NCCU has further reviewed Millennium’s performances and business practices on previous and current projects on campus and other campuses. The performances and business practices of Millennium demonstrated on those projects were not satisfactory, i.e., not within budget; construction documents were incomplete; construction documents were not coordinated among disciplines, financial and schedule information, etc. Trustees Adams and Miller expressed their extreme concern NCCU did not do diligence before this group was allowed to present knowing these issues existed on this campus and other campuses. Mr. Abegunrin responded we contacted UNC-W and were told they decided to part ways with Millenium. Chancellor Nelms observed that when you do a reference check you cannot compel people to share all information with you. Question arose that there were defects in the Ruffin Residence Hall and also that this project came in under budget. First, Chancellor Nelms has no knowledge of defects in the Ruffin Residence Hall; secondly Chancellor Nelms has no knowledge or heard any conversation of any firm saving the University $2 million. That project was approximately $17 million and the design fee would have been $1.7 million. Nothing in our
records shows the project came in under $2 million under budget; third, at the point of which the information was presented to Chancellor Nelms following the interviews, there were rumors, and Chancellor requested specific information from the UNC General Administration and Mr. Abegunrin and upon receipt of that information Chancellor Nelms expressed these are significant concerns being expressed. We do not want to go down a path of selecting an agent that will not produce in a timely manner within budget and have the proper coordination regardless of the presentation. Trustee Miller further indicated we must be able to rely on the staff to do the leg work before bringing matters before the board for consideration and possible action. It is better late than never to be caught before entering into a contract.

Trustee Miller requested of Attorney Webb a legal opinion that we are not putting the Board or the University in harm by rescinding the original vote. Attorney Webb shared with the committee that the statute and the procedures that have been adopted by the State Building Commission require that the trustees submit no more than six (6) and not less than three (3) qualified firms. It is anticipated that a contract would be negotiated with the best qualified firm. If for some reason the first priority is unable to be negotiated then you would go to the second priority of the list. With respect to other state agencies, other than the UNC System, when it goes to the State Building Commission they have the option of selecting the person based upon the priority as submitted, change the priority as submitted or they can request the agency to go back and do a new priority listing. The guidelines for UNC-General Administration are comparable. The action taken by the trustees would be taking the second priority on the list based upon the additional information received. Therefore, it would be in the best interest of NCCU to contract with the best-qualified firm. The design firm ranking order is recommended as follows:

(1) Lord, Aeck & Sargent, Inc
(2) BJac
(3) SFL+A Architects.

It was moved by Trustee Stewart and properly seconded by Trustee Miller that the NCCU Board of Trustees Executive Committee amends its choices of the designer firm for the Childley Residence Hall be as follows: (1) Lord, Aeck & Sargent, Inc.; (2) BJAC; and (3) SFL+A Architects. The motion carried.

**CHANCELLOR NELMS’ REMARKS:** We are commencing the 98th year of instruction for NCCU; it has been a very busy summer and week with freshmen and upper class students moving in this week. We continue to be challenged by insufficient residential facilities at NCCU and the action taken today will move us closer to fulfill the void that exists.

We had a very successful Faculty and Staff Institute this week and under the theme “Enhancing the Intellectual Climate at NCCU – The Collective Commitment” we had excellent attendance and engagement on the part of faculty and staff; it was an electrifying day.

Our highest priority is to increase persistence in graduation at NCCU. The centerpiece is about raising the expectations that we have for students, administrators, faculty and staff with the provision of instruction as well as support services students need.
We are coming to the end of our budget preparations for 2008-2009. We are appreciative for the support we received from the General Assembly. We have received funding in the amount of $24.5 million for the Nursing Building; $2 million for the law school and $1 million for the BRITE Program. Planning is underway for the 2009-2011 Biennial Budget Process.

Dr. Pauletta Bracy is heading up the effort for the reaffirmation of our accreditation for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The report is due to SACS on August 31, 2008.

There has been quite a bit of conversation regarding NCCU program offerings through the New Birth Missionary Baptist Church. Chancellor is working with UNC General Administration to complete a thorough review of all aspects of the program, academic, financial and legal and we will be purposeful, transparent and responsive. Also we will be working with an array of internal (NCCU and UNC General Administration) and external (SACS and others) to make sure we do what we need to do to ensure the success of the students involved. Chancellor Nelms had no further comments because we have a review currently underway and we are all working to expedite and to move forward on matters we need to do.

Chancellor Nelms shared with the committee he celebrated his first anniversary on August 1st. He encouraged the trustees to drive around the campus and experience the beauty of the campus especially on Brant Street, new lighting on the track that the band can now practice safely and without injury and using the track for exercise and walking.

Chair Thomas recognized Trustee Miller for a motion to go into closed session to discuss three personnel matters pursuant to N.C. General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6). It was moved by Trustee Miller and properly seconded by Trustee Thomas to go into closed session. The motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Thomas recognized Chancellor Charlie Nelms to present his recommendation for a candidate for the Internal Auditor position. He provided background information and qualifications of the candidate for the position.

Chair Thomas recognized Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Lenneal Henderson to present a candidate regarding an administrative appointment for the Sun Trust Endowed Professor. He provided background information and qualifications of the candidate for this appointment.

Further, Chair Thomas recognized Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Lenneal Henderson to present a candidate regarding the administrative appointment for Full Professor with Tenure. He provided background information and qualifications of the candidate for this appointment.

Chair Thomas inquired of the board if there are any questions, since there were none, Trustee Miller moved and it was properly seconded by Trustee Stewart to reconvene in open session. The motion carried.
OPEN SESSION

It was moved by Trustee Stewart and properly seconded by Trustee Miller that the NCCU Board of Trustees Executive Committee approve the recommendation of the candidate for Internal Auditor, Najla R. Shareef, effective August 15, 2008, with a salary of $80,000. The motion carried.

It was moved by Trustee Stewart and properly seconded by Trustee Adams to recommend the appointment of Sun Trust Endowed Chair and that said recommendation be forwarded to the UNC Board of Governors for final action. The motion carried.

Further, it was moved by Trustee Adams and properly seconded by Trustee Miller to recommend the appointment of Full Professor and Tenure and that said recommendation be forwarded to the UNC Board of Governors for final action. The motion carried.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was proffered. The motion was properly seconded and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dottie Irving Fuller

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