



**The University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Board of Trustees Retreat
Harris Alumni Center
August 7-8, 2024**

Open Session Minutes - Day 1 - August 7

Board Members in Attendance

Dennis Bunker, Chair
John Bailey
Isaiah Grayson
Wendy Grubbs (via Zoom)
J. Brett Keeter
Hugh McColl Jr
Michael Smith
Larry Shaheen Jr.
Sasha Weintraub
Dontá Wilson
Teross Young Jr.

Board Members Not in Attendance

Geoff Gray
Christine Katziff

Staff/Faculty in Attendance

Sharon Gaber, Chancellor
Rich Amon, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs
Kevin Bailey, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
Kim Bradley, Chief of Staff
Mike Carlin, Chief Information Officer/Vice Chancellor for OneIT
Beth Crigler, Vice Chancellor for Advancement
Jay Davis, Senior Director of Executive Communications
Betty Doster, Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Constituent Relations
Mike Hill, Director of Athletics
Jesh Humphrey, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Integrity and General Counsel
Melva Jenkins, Administrative Liaison for University Governance
Anna Parks, Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff
Jen Ames Stuart, Chief Communications Officer/Associate Vice Chancellor for University Communications
Deb Thomas, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research
Jennifer Troyer, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Guests

Jenna Robinson, The James Martin Center for Academic Renewal

Call to Order. Mr. Bunker called the meeting to order and reminded members of the Board of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts under the State Government Ethics Act in accordance with Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes and advised the trustees to make him aware of any conflict of interest or any appearance of a conflict of interest with respect to any matters coming before the Board at any time during this meeting. No conflicts of interest were reported.

Overview of Agenda. Chancellor Gaber provided a brief overview of the agenda, to apprise trustees of the materials that would be presented.

BOT Roles and Responsibilities. Mr. Bunker provided an overview of the roles and responsibilities of trustees. He then summarized the powers and duties of Boards of Trustees as set forth in the NC General Statutes.

Update on N Tryon Tech Hub. Chancellor Gaber and Ms. Doster provided an update on the status of the North Tryon Tech Hub initiative. They shared actions that have been taken with corporate partners to map out next steps to explore industry needs and the University's capabilities.

General Education Curriculum. Provost Troyer provided an overview of the University's recent revision of the General Education curriculum aimed to update the curriculum, re-engage the faculty. The revision aims to align the curriculum to the University's strategic plan with a focus on four core competencies that will prepare students to be adaptable within their careers and to be engaged citizens, and links general education learning to department curricula and learning outside of the classroom.

Free Speech/Freedom of Expression. Messrs. Humphrey and Metzgar provided an update on the free speech and free expression initiative introduced at last year's retreat. They discussed the University's guiding commitment, shared applicable laws and policies, and future plans of the Free Expression & Constructive Dialogue Task Force.

Motion to Convene in Closed Session. Mr. Bunker called for a motion to convene in closed session.

Action. On a motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Bailey, the Board convened in closed session pursuant to the following General Statutes of the State of North Carolina:

- a. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(1), to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the laws of this State or of the United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes, such privilege or confidentiality arising under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. §1232g) or N.C.G.S. Ch. 126, Art. 7;
- b. to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(6).

Closed Session

Closed session minutes are filed in the office of the Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees.

Open Session

What Went Well and Not So Well for Students. Provost Troyer and Dr. Bailey provided an update on the most impactful successes and challenges students dealt with on campus in the last year.

2023-24 Annual Report. Chancellor Gaber presented the 2023-24 annual report and highlighted five “Great Things Happening at Charlotte” after premiering the annual video report. First, Chancellor Gaber acknowledged UNC Charlotte’s growing reputation as an academic powerhouse, as supported by US News rankings, which lists UNC Charlotte as the 4th fastest rising public university in the US over the past two years. She promised to provide more details on the US News rankings at the September meeting when strategic plan metrics will be discussed.

Chancellor Gaber next reported record-breaking student success in the University’s fall enrollment number and key metrics. She indicated one of the Board’s strategic actions is to assist in increasing internship opportunities for our students and thanked Board members for identifying opportunities in their organizations.

Next, she highlighted the University’s growing research profile with the R1 projection from the Chronicle of Higher Education based on key metrics such as a \$220 million current grant portfolio, being the top 10 in the US for new startups created per research dollar, and the Million Dollar Research Circle, which includes 65 faculty with \$1 million or more in active research dollars.

Chancellor Gaber then discussed the University’s fundraising success, reporting \$66.3 million in giving, representing the third consecutive year over \$60 million, due in part to several recent large alumni gifts.

Next Chancellor Gaber recognized the athletics department’s strong inaugural season claiming five AAC championships. Charlotte Athletics had the highest-ever finish of any non-ACC school in North Carolina in the Learfield Directors’ Cup standings, was awarded the Excellence in Management Cup, and touted the highest GPA average in the fall and spring with 90 student-athletes earning a degree.

Chancellor Gaber then identified the four major priorities and areas for opportunities for success in 2024-25: continuing to accelerate student success, launching the \$500M fundraising campaign, continuing to grow the research enterprise, and continuing to advance reputation and brand awareness. She also discussed the two priority challenges for 2024-25, campus safety and security, and challenges around the performance-based funding.

Chancellor Gaber concluded by affirming that this is UNC Charlotte's year to harness "unstoppable momentum", build on successes and embrace the journey to becoming a preeminent public research university.

Board Discussion of Next Steps. Chairman Bunker encouraged trustees to continue to provide the needed support to move the university forward. He summarized a review of the Board's strategic actions formulated last year. Robust discussion ensued about how the Board can best continue to support the strategic priorities in the coming year.

Master Plan. Dr. Amon provided an update and summary of the status of the Master Plan, which will be ready for approval at the September Board of Trustees meeting. He reiterated that it is the Board's desire to ensure the Master Plan and Strategic Plan are in sync.

Mission Statement Revision. Chancellor Gaber presented proposed revisions of the mission statement to remain in compliance with the new system policy and guidance.

Mr. Bunker requested a motion to approve the proposed revisions of the mission statement.

Action. On a motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Grayson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed revisions of the mission statement.

Resolution for the Prohibition of Betting on UNC Charlotte Athletic Contests. Trustee Keeter presented his perspective on the assumed impact on Niner athletics and the potential ethical concerns that could arise now that gambling on college sports is legal in North Carolina. Mr. Humphrey discussed the proposed resolution initiated by Trustee Keeter.

Mr. Bunker requested a motion to approve the proposed resolution for the prohibition of betting on UNC Charlotte athletic contests.

Action. On a motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Young, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed resolution for the prohibition of betting on UNC Charlotte athletic contests.

Post-Tenure Review Policy and Procedure. Chancellor Gaber presented the post-tenure review policy and procedure.

Mr. Bunker requested a motion to approve the post-tenure review policy and procedure.

Action. On a motion by Mr. Keeter, seconded by Mr. Sheehan, the Board voted

unanimously to approve the post-tenure review policy and procedure.

Motion to Convene in Closed Session. Mr. Bunker requested a motion to convene in closed session.

Action. On a motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board convened in closed session pursuant to the following General Statutes of the State of North Carolina:

- a. *Pursuant to N.C.G.S §143-318.11 (a)(1), to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of the United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes.*
- b. *To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee.*

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Action on Tenure Requests. Mr. Bunker requested a motion to approve the tenure requests as presented in closed session.

Action. On a motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Young, the Board voted unanimously to approve tenure requests as presented.

Adjourn. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:26 pm.

Open Session Minutes - Day 2 - August 8

Board Members in Attendance

Dennis Bunker, Chair
John Bailey
Wendy Grubbs (via Zoom)
J. Brett Keeter
Larry Shaheen Jr.
Dontá Wilson
Teross Young Jr.

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Jesh Humphrey, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Integrity and General Counsel
Melva Jenkins, Administrative Liaison for University Governance
Jennifer Troyer, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Guests

Armand Alacbay, Chief of Staff and Senior VP of Strategy, American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA)
Veronica Mayer Bryant, PhD, Curricular Improvement Fellow, American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA)
Steven McGuire, PhD, Paul & Karen Levy Fellow in Campus Freedom
Jenna Robinson, The James Martin Center for Academic Renewal
Anna Sillers, Data Analyst Fellow, American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA)

Call to Order. Mr. Bunker called the meeting to order and reminded members of the Board of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts under the State Government Ethics Act in accordance with Chapter 138A of the North Carolina General Statutes and advised the trustees to make him aware of any conflict of interest or any appearance of a conflict of interest with respect to any matters coming before the Board at any time during this meeting. No conflicts of interest were reported.

Introduction and Overview. Mr. Bunker welcomed Mr. Alacbay and invited him to introduce the rest of the ACTA team.

The Basics of Trustee Governance. Mr. Alacbay discussed the basics of trustee governance based on the “three A’s” of academic excellence, academic freedom, and accountability.

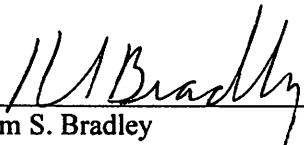
Intellectual Diversity and Campus Freedom of Expression. Dr. McGuire discussed promoting intellectual diversity and freedom of expression on college campuses.

University Curricula: Trends and Opportunities. Dr. Mayer Bryant discussed trends and opportunities in university curricula.

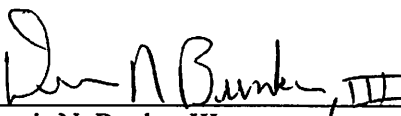
Administration, Spending Practices, and Construction. Ms. Sillers provided an overview of university administration, spending practices, and construction.

Adjourn. There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Bunker adjourned the meeting at 1:40 pm.

Submitted:

 9/26/24
Date
Kim S. Bradley
Assistant Secretary to the Board
UNC Charlotte Board of Trustees

Approved:

 9/26/24
Date
Dennis N. Bunker III
Chair
UNC Charlotte Board of Trustees