



The University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Board of Trustees Retreat
Grandover Resort and Convention Center
1000 Club Road, Greensboro, NC 27407
August 3, 2026

Open Session Minutes

Board Members in Attendance

Dontá Wilson, Chair
Henry Atkins
John Bailey
Madison Brown
Geoff Gray
David Longo
David Ravin
Thomas Scrivener
Michael Smith
Larry Shaheen Jr.
Sasha Weintraub

Board Members Not in Attendance

Amy Klein Aznar
Jonathan Ward

Guests

Tricia Cotham, North Carolina House of Representatives
Dave Craven, North Carolina State Senate
Steven Rogelberg, UNC Charlotte Chancellor's Professor, Professor of Organizational Science
Management, and Psychology

Staff in Attendance

Sharon Gaber, Chancellor
Rich Amon, Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs
Kevin Bailey, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
Joe Bost, Special Assistant to the Chancellor for External Relations and Partnerships
Kim Bradley, Chief of Staff and Assistant Secretary to the Board
Mike Carlin, Vice Chancellor for OneIT and Chief Information Officer
Beth Crigler, Vice Chancellor for University Advancement
Jesh Humphrey, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Integrity and General Counsel
Melva Jenkins, Administrative Liaison for University Governance

Jen Ames Stuart, Chief Communications Officer/Associate Vice Chancellor for University
Communications
Jennifer Troyer, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Kevin White, Director of Athletics

Call to Order. Mr. Wilson 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.

Welcome and Overview. Mr. Wilson welcomed the trustees, expressing optimism for the upcoming academic year and university initiatives. He emphasized building on recent momentum to establish a collective vision for the upcoming year.

Chair Wilson then reviewed the committee assignments for the 2026-27 term, noting strategic adjustments to committee leadership designed to transition newer trustees into leadership roles.

Chancellor Report. Following a presentation video of the impact report highlighting UNC Charlotte's accomplishments and significant progress over the 2025-26 academic year, Chancellor Gaber summarized the key takeaways from the year, including the University's growth in both scale and strength as indicated by record enrollment, graduation rate, and degree conferment; the continued growth and recognition of the research enterprise; and the extraordinary confidence donors and partners continue to place in UNC Charlotte, as evidenced by record fundraising levels and multiple major gifts.

Next, Chancellor Gaber identified a clear set of priorities for the 2026-27 year, including the continued expansion of the research enterprise, continued fundraising success, and continued enhanced brand reputation and awareness.

Chancellor Gaber then shared some insight on things for the University to keep an eye on, including state funding, athletics resources, graduate enrollment, increased competition, and safety and security.

Chancellor Gaber next reiterated the four strategic areas in The Charlotte Difference, the refreshed strategic plan approved in April. The four areas include: Transform Student's Lives Through Educational Opportunity and Excellence; Power the Future Through Research in All Its Forms; Drive Progress for Charlotte, The State of North Carolina and Beyond; and Expedite Charlotte's Ascent to National Distinction.

Board Self-Assessment Discussion. Mr. Wilson introduced Dr. Rogelberg, the facilitator for the self-assessment discussion. Mr. Rogelberg led the Board in a robust discussion of the self-assessment results including its core strengths as well as opportunities for improvement. Two key take-aways is that the Board would like more time in meetings for strategic discussion and they would like to receive materials sent 10 days in advance of the meetings.

Establishment of School of Energy in the William Lee States College of Engineering. Provost Troyer presented a request to establish the School of Energy in the William Lee States College of Engineering.

Mr. Wilson requested a motion to approve the establishment of the School of Energy in the William Lee States College of Engineering, as presented.

Action. On a motion by Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Shaheen, the Board unanimously approved establishment of the School of Energy in the William Lee States College of Engineering.

Discussion of Strategic Funding and Prospective Appointments. Senator Craven and Representative Cotham shared their insight and perspective on actions the Board can take to elevate the legislature's awareness of and garner support for UNC Charlotte. They discussed elevating UNC Charlotte's influence within North Carolina's higher education and legislative ecosystem, engaging in strategic relationship-building with state legislators and policymakers, identifying and positioning alumni and former trustees to serve on the UNC Board of Governors, and working to strengthen state appropriations to UNC Charlotte.

Mr. Wilson called the meeting back to order after a recess for lunch.

Student Success and Satisfaction. Drs. Troyer and Bailey presented on The Charlotte Model, UNC Charlotte's holistic framework designed to help students achieve success at every stage of their college experience, from discovering their purpose to transitioning to post-graduation life. They shared new initiatives of the model, including academic advising, the focus on freshmen with 30+ credit hours, internships, peer mentoring programs and first generation student supports, as well as the positive results from these initiatives.

Next, Vice Chancellors Amon and Bailey presented on On-Campus Amenities, sharing campus amenity survey results. Dr. Amon shared feedback from two recent dining services surveys which indicated overall student satisfaction. He then shared enhancements to dining services, as evidence of ongoing efforts to continually improve the dining experience for our students. Dr. Amon next shared the results from a parking survey of students and employees, which addressed experiences finding parking on campus, time to find parking, satisfaction with walkability of campus, and current parking and transportation options. He also shared the campus parking inventory, parking comparisons with our peers, and highlights from the Mobility Master Plan. Dr. Bailey then provided survey metrics from a Fall 2023 survey on the cleanliness, programs, staff relationships and overall experience in resident housing, which indicated overall satisfaction. He also provided an overview of future housing options with The Edge apartments which offers housing for students who do not receive a space through the housing lottery, and Niner Woods which is designated for graduate student housing. Lastly, Dr. Bailey shared the results of a 2025 survey sent to a random sample of UNC Charlotte students who used University Recreation (UREC), which indicated that the majority of the students agreed that participating in UREC improved their physical health and mental health.

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

Action. On a motion by Mr. Smith, 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 N.C.G.S. Ch. 126, Art. 7 and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232g.
- b. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(2), to prevent the premature disclosure of an honorary degree, scholarship, prize, or similar award.
- c. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(3), to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged.
- d. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143-318.11 (a)(6) 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.

Closed Session

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

Open Session

Adjourn. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted:

 

Kim S. Bradley Date
Assistant Secretary to the Board
UNC Charlotte Board of Trustees

Approved:



Dontá L. Wilson Date
Chair
UNC Charlotte Board of Trustees