

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
The University of West Alabama
Lyon Hall
September 8, 2014, 1:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Mr. Terry Bunn, President *pro tem*, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. He asked Mrs. Jean Anderson to say a prayer.

II. Roll Call

Mr. Bunn asked Mrs. Lindsey to call the roll. Members attending were: Mrs. Jean Anderson, Mr. Hal Bloom, Mr. Terry Bunn, Mrs. Sheila Cloud, Mr. Randall Hillman, Mr. John Northcutt, Mr. Willie O'Neal, Mr. Alex Saad, Mr. Jerry F. Smith, Mr. Thed Spree, and Mr. Victor Vernon. Absent: Mr. Jerry Groce. Mrs. Lindsey announced that a quorum was present. Mr. John G. Blackwell, Mr. Mike Kendrick (University Attorney), and others were also present, with Mrs. Lindsey recording minutes.

III. Approval of Agenda **(Action Item)**

Mr. Bunn said he would like a motion to approve the Agenda. Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the Agenda; Mr. Vernon seconded the motion; and the motion passed.

IV. Approval of Minutes for June 2, 2014 **(Action Item)**

Mr. Bunn asked if anyone had any changes to the minutes from June 2, 2014. There were none. *Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 2, 2014; Mr. O'Neal seconded the motion; and the motion was approved.*

V. Report of the Board President

Mr. Bunn said it gave him great pleasure today to discuss the response from SACS, where they announced that they cleared UWA from any wrong doing, as a complaint sent to them had stated. He said a copy of the letter from SACS was sent to the person who filed the complaint. Mr. Bunn indicated what disappointed him the most and he was not here to drag up old business, was that someone, particular an alumnus of this institution, would jeopardize the accreditation of the University and for all that it stands only for selfish reasons. He said this person tried to harm the character of some of the University personnel and some Board members and it was appalling that they thought they could intimidate this Board of Trustees with such actions. Mr. Bunn said he hopes it is a long time before he sees someone ever stooping to such action again. He said it is an honor for him to serve on the Board, the character of these members of the Board is impeccable, and he added that this body does what they feel is in the best interest of the institution.

Mr. Bunn said he wanted the Board to know how much he thinks of them, the employees at the University, and also how much he loves this institution.

Mr. Bunn stated that SACS also stated the University should have a policy in place for video surveillance, collecting, storing, and sharing of video, audio, and other electronic files and data, and it should be according to SACS standards. He said the University has taken steps to put a policy in place.

Mr. Bunn reported that he mentioned in an earlier Board Meeting about having a retreat; however, he has not set a date simply because the Board members have been asked to meet so much lately and also there is a presidential search ongoing. He stated he thinks it is important that the person who is selected to lead the University forward is part of the retreat and for that reason, he will announce a date for the retreat later.

VI. Report of the Academic Programs Committee

Mr. Hillman, Chair of this Committee, had to leave the meeting earlier and no report was presented.

VII. Report of the Institutional Advancement Committee

Mr. Smith reported that this Committee met this morning and heard a report from Mr. Spruiell on the Trustee Scholarship initiative, Athletic fundraising and its challenges, stewardship, and the default rate of 2.5% for the Capital Campaign, which is a good rate. He said most schools have about a 10% default rate. Mr. Smith indicated that this office needs to start thinking about the next Capital Campaign, and he understood from Mr. Spruiell that a resolution will be considered at the next Foundation Board meeting on Friday.

Mr. Smith said Mr. Spruiell introduced the new Alumni Director at the meeting and they discussed some of the goals for that area.

VIII. Report from Student Affairs Committee

Mr. Vernon stated that the Committee met this morning and received an informative report on enrollment from Ms. Angel Jowers and Mr. Danny Buckalew, adding that they also discussed retention and a recruiting strategy. He said they also received a report on student activities. Mr. Vernon indicated that he had no action items to bring before the Board.

IX. University Facilities Committee

Mrs. Cloud reported that the Committee had a lively discussion and some general information was presented, as well as an overview of University facilities; the amount of space in classrooms; and the condition of the facilities. She said a report on the status of all campus projects was presented. She said they did follow up on actions from the last meeting of the Board and the Committee also acted on several items and approved moving forward on certain projects as long as the costs were within the budgets.

Mrs. Cloud indicated she wants to have another meeting of the Facilities Committee in a month to six weeks and she would contact Mrs. Lindsey to come up with a date.

Mr. Bunn asked Mrs. Cloud if there were any action items that needed to come before the Board. Mr. Saad indicated one action was the approval by the Committee to move forward on the repairs of the Covered Bridge on campus, not to exceed the amount of grant funds that are available. Mr. Kendrick mentioned there were other action items. *Ms. Cloud said the Committee recommends that the Board approve the repairs of the Covered Bridge, the repairs of the Elizabeth Church, and moving forward on the Black Belt Museum, all within the funds that are available for each of these projects. Since these were recommended by the Committee, no second were needed. Motion passed.*

X. Report of the Finance Committee

Mr. Saad reported that the Finance Committee met a few minutes ago and the University's budget for the coming year ended up with a deficit of over \$747,000+, which will be taken out of the Reserve Fund. *He said the Committee recommends to the Board to accept the finalized budget; and the motion passed.*

XI. Report of Presidential Search Committee

Mr. Bunn asked Mr. Jerry Smith, Chair of the Search Committee, to give this report. Mr. Smith said the Search Committee is made up of ten members and at the last meeting they reviewed applications from 19 qualified candidates. He said the list was narrowed down to five candidates and the Committee will interview them at the end of this month. Mr. Smith indicated the Committee would determine their next steps after the interviews.

XII. Report from the University President

Mr. Bunn thanked Mr. Blackwell and Mr. Kendrick for their hard work and support to the University in dealing with the response to SACS. (Applause)

Mr. Blackwell said he had thought about it, and many have worked hard to put the University in this position at the end of the six months. As part of a six-month report, he said when he arrived the University was in the midst of hirings, firings, investigations, and we moved on to better things, such as honors, convocations, graduations, etc. He said he attended the Gulf South Conference meeting and he was very impressed with the new Commissioner; and a reception was recently held on campus for Dr. Andrea Mayfield (UWA Alum and new President of Shelton State).

Mr. Blackwell thanked the Board for their support and leadership; he also thanked the faculty and staff for their support, positive energy and willingness to move UWA forward in a positive direction. He said he also wanted to introduce some of the leaders of the University, and

asked Dr. Edwards for his assistance. Dr. Edwards introduced Mrs. Lynn Lashley, the new Director of Nursing, and Dr. John McCall, the new Dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

Mr. Blackwell introduced the newly hired Director of International Programs, Ms. Sue Ann Balch, and he added there are 138 International students this semester. He also introduced Ms. Danielle Buckalew, the new Alumni Director, who reported on some of the alumni events that are coming up and she stated there would be an alumni tent at Saturday's football game, and that Homecoming is on October 25.

Mr. Blackwell announced that there was chevron sticker before each member of the Board and he asked them to lead the effort in placing these UWA decals on vehicles across the country. He said plans are to place 30,000 of these decals on vehicles in the next 30 days. He said he is also working on the University town and gown relationship and believes it is improving within the community and the County. He said he receives a lot of suggestions and advice about three times a week when he goes to Dandy Don's.

Mr. Blackwell said he is very proud of where the University is at this time and where it is going this Fall. He said several of the Athletic programs have all new coaches this year.

He also introduced Rodney Granec, who was hired as a program grants specialist for the University a few years ago, and just recently was promoted to head the Office of Sponsored Programs. Mr. Granec reported that UWA has received over \$1 million in grants during the last six months and also received the University's first grant from the National Science Foundation. He reported that Tom Tartt was able to get them an appointment with Senator Richard Shelby last week and they will meet with Senator Sessions before the end of the month week.

Mr. Granec announced that they have over \$14 million pending in grant applications.

Mr. Blackwell reported that during Labor Day week, UWA received notice of the following: \$28,000 on Tuesday, \$98,000 on Wednesday, \$225,000 on Thursday, and \$30,000 on Friday. He added that this week began with the \$150,000 from the Alabama Power Company. He said this concluded his report.

XIII. New Business

Mr. Bunn stated that each member should have before them two draft policies – (1) the Email Confidentiality and Security Policy, and (2) the Interception and Recording of Wire, Oral, or Electronic Communications Policy. He said this is something the Board needs to approve, that SACS requested it, and Mike Kendrick has reviewed and approved both policies. Mr. Blackwell indicated these proposed policies have also been reviewed by the President's Council. Mr. Saad stated the Board, or the Executive Committee, should be notified if any of this is happening at

UWA. Mr. Blackwell indicated that the policies state the University attorney has to be notified. Mr. Kendrick and Mr. Bunn concurred it is understood that Mr. Kendrick will notify Mr. Bunn of any matter or action of this *type*. ***Mrs. Cloud made a motion to approve both of the policies; Mr. Vernon seconded the motion; and the motion passed.***

Mr. Bunn appointed a Committee to Review the Board Bylaws and Charter with Mike Kendrick for possible changes in the future, as follows: ***Mr. Saad (Chair), Mr. Hillman, Mr. Bloom, Mr. O'Neal, and Mrs. Anderson. A motion was made by Mr. Smith, and seconded by Mr. Spree, to approve this Committee. The motion was approved.***

Mr. Saad said he would give the members of the Committee to set up a meeting, possibly in Montgomery, and indicated if the charter has any changes, they will need to go to the Legislature.

XIV. Other Matters

Mr. Saad brought up the matter of banning certain people from the University campus, and he believes Mr. Spree agrees with him. He said he believes the Board should consider some action against Mike Holliman and Gary Stone. After much discussion, pros and cons, ***Mr. Spree made a motion to ban or to prohibit Mike Holliman's and Gary Stone's physical presence from any property or facilities owned or operated by the University of West Alabama, until such time as further action is taken by the Board of Trustees of the University; that notification of this action shall be delivered by the University of West Alabama Board President, University Attorney or Chief of Police to Mike Holliman and Gary Stone, notifying them of such action by the Board; and, further, if either Mike Holliman or Gary Stone enters any University-owned or operated property or facilities, after receipt of notice of this action by the Board, each will be subject to arrest for trespass by the University Police or other law enforcement officials. Mr. Saad seconded the motion, and it passed, with three voting against.***

XV. Adjourn

Before adjourning, Mr. Blackwell asked Mr. Bunn for the floor. Mr. Bunn acknowledged him. Mr. Blackwell said two important things happened today – (1) the Board approved the final phase of the budget and (2) the University received a donation of \$150,000 from the Alabama Power Company.

Mr. Bunn said if there were no other matters to be considered today, he would call for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Saad made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Smith seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Victor Vernon
Secretary to the Board

Earlene Lindsey
Assistant Secretary to the Board