

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**The University of West Alabama**  
**Regular Quarterly Meeting**  
**Bell Conference Center**  
**December 12, 2016, 1:00 p.m.**

**A G E N D A**

- |       |  |                             |
|-------|--|-----------------------------|
| I.    | Call to Order  | (Mr. Jerry F. Smith)        |
| II.   | Roll Call  |                             |
| III.  | Approval of Agenda   | <b><i>(Action Item)</i></b> |
| IV.   | Approval of Minutes of September 19, 2016  | <b><i>(Action Item)</i></b> |
| V.    | Report from the Institutional Advancement Committee  | (Mr. Hal Bloom)             |
| VI.   | Report from the Athletic Committee   | (Mr. Justin Smith)          |
| VII.  | Report from the Facilities Committee   | (*Mr. Terry Bunn)           |
| X.    | Report from the Finance Committee  | (Mrs. Sheila Cloud)         |
| IX.   | Report from the University President<br>A. Grants Update<br>B. Royall & Co. Update<br>C. McIlwain Bell Trustee & Nellie Rose McCrory Award Winners | (Dr. Ken Tucker)            |
| X.    | Report from the Board President  | (Mr. Jerry F. Smith)        |
| XI.   | New Business   |                             |
| XII.  | Other Business   |                             |
| XIII. | Adjourn  |                             |

\*Mr. Terry Bunn will serve as chair in the absence of Chairperson Mrs. Jean Anderson.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**The University of West Alabama**  
**Bell Conference Center**  
**March 6, 2017, 1:00 p.m.**

**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Jerry Smith, President *Pro Tempore*, called the meeting to order.

**II. Roll Call**

Mr. Jerry Smith asked Mrs. Beard to call the roll. Other than Mr. Jerry Smith, members attending were: Mr. Hal Bloom, Mr. Joseph Brown, Mrs. Sheila Cloud, Dr. John Killian, Mr. Alex Saad, and Mr. Justin Smith. Absent: Mrs. Jean Anderson, Mr. Jerry Groce, Mr. Randy Hillman and Mr. Victor Vernon. Mrs. Beard announced there was a quorum present. Also attending were: Mr. Mike Kendrick (University Attorney), President Ken Tucker, and several other administrators and staff members, with Katie Beard recording the minutes.

Mr. Jerry Smith asked Dr. John Killian to say a prayer.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

***Mr. Hal Bloom moved to approve the Agenda; Mrs. Joseph Brown seconded the motion; and the motion was approved.***

**IV. Approval of Minutes from September 19, 2016**

Mr. Jerry Smith asked if there were any changes to the minutes from the meeting held on September 19, 2016. There were none. ***Mr. Hal Bloom made a motion to approve the minutes; Mr. Joseph Brown seconded the motion; and the motion was approved.***

**V. Report from the Institutional Advancement Committee**

Mr. Hal Bloom reported that the Institutional Advancement Committee met and discussed the plans for the upcoming year with Dr. Chris Thomason and Ms. Danielle Buckalew. Mr. Bloom stated that the enthusiasm throughout the development department is contagious and that the feedback from alumni is outstanding. Mr. Bloom informed the committee that Robert Upchurch is currently receiving proposals for investment firms for the Foundation Board.

**VI. Report from the Athletic Committee**

Mr. Justin Smith reported that Head Football Coach Brett Gilliland spoke to the Athletic Committee this morning about the state of the football program. Athletic Director Stan Williamson also provided an overview of the Athletic Department at the committee meeting and stated that UWA is currently in first place for the All Sports Trophy for the third year in a row. Dr. Chris Thomason also updated the committee on the status of the Black Belt Regional Rodeo Arena.

**VII. Report from the Facilities Committee**

Mr. Terry Bunn, in Mrs. Jean Anderson's absence, stated that Mr. Booby Truelove provided an update on all ongoing projects across campus.

***A motion was made by Mr. Terry Bunn to go into executive session for the purpose of buying/selling real estate. A second was provided by Mr. Justin Smith and the motion carried. The Board went into executive session at 1:08 p.m.***

***At 1:38 p.m. Mr. Terry Bunn made a motion to reconvene the Regular Session of the Board of Trustees meeting; Dr. John Killian seconded the motion and the motion carried.***

### **VIII. Report from the Finance Committee**

Mrs. Sheila Cloud, chair, stated that the Board had charged herself and Dr. Tucker with examining the overall financial position of the university and reporting this to the Finance Committee as result of approving The Learning House contract. Mrs. Cloud informed the committee that she and Dr. Tucker have taken action of this charge, have been making significant progress on this, but are not currently ready to give a full report at this time.

### **IX. Report from the University President**

#### Grants Update

Dr. Ken Tucker commended the Office of Sponsored Programs, Rodney Granec and Dr. J.J. Wedgworth, along with the faculty/staff of the university, for their hard work and achievements throughout the year. He stated that grant funding opportunities have increased dramatically for the fiscal year of 2016-2017, totaling \$6.7 million, in comparison to the fiscal year 2015-2016 which totaled \$3.4 million, and the fiscal year 2014-2015, which totaled \$1.3 million.

Dr. Tucker introduced Dr. Jan Miller and Dr. Denise Knight who are lead project directors for the U.S. Department of Education's Teacher Quality Partnership program grant. He announced that this is the largest single competitive, non-recurring grant that UWA has been awarded. Dr. Miller and Dr. Knight stated that the grant awarded to UWA's College of Education totaled more than \$3 million over the five-year grant period. The funding will help UWA to recruit, train, and support teachers in rural communities such as Sumter County and Demopolis by establishing partner schools in these areas. They will be adding more partner schools throughout the five-year period. The funding from this grant will also serve to establish the College of Education's Rethinking Rural Education Preparation Initiative (REP), which will provide support training for instructional leaders to lead high functioning rural schools with the goal of improving student academic achievement. The initiative is expected to be data-driven, allowing for targeted professional development. Ultimately, REP will provide partnering schools with expert teachers who are well prepared in content, concepts, pedagogy, instructional practices, and clinical experiences that support rural students' achievements.

Dr. Tucker introduced Tammy White and Veronica Triplett who presented information on the Career Pathways Initiative Grant (CPI) which was awarded to the University in April 2016 and totals \$1.25 million. Funding was provided through the UNCF Career Pathways Initiative by the Lilly Endowment. The program gives necessary support to achieve the goal of improving job placement outcomes of graduates by way of aligning curriculum with local and national workforce needs, development of intentional career pathway options for students across their collegiate experience, and strengthening career service operations. At UWA, the funding is being used to create a College to Career (C2C) program designed to enhance current career placement activities to better prepare graduates to transition immediately into the workforce upon graduation. The C2C program provides a comprehensive range of career prep activities including graduating senior career development boot camp, career development mentorship programs, standard career pathways planning courses, individual career staff assistance, and new software and tracking programs to enhance graduate employment tracking. This grant will run through May 2022.

#### Royall & Co. Update

Dr. Tucker reported that applications received for Fall 2017 have increased by 83 students, over the same time last year, going from 160 applications in the spring of 2016 to 243 applications in the spring of 2017. This does not include the numbers that Royall & Co. has facilitated for Summer and Fall 2017. With the Royall & Co. partnership, applications as of December 6, 2016 have increased to 5,319 compared to 572 for the same time last year. 1,403 students had applied by the end of the year 2016, while UWA has currently received 5,319 applications to date for summer and fall 2017. 253 were admitted to UWA as of December 6, 2016 compared with 1,649 admissions for summer and fall 2017. The yield expectations of these numbers are as follows: Fall 2016 freshman class had 53% selectivity and 67% matriculation. We are expecting the selectivity percentage to stay the same (or increase) but yield rate will almost certainly decrease. While these numbers are outstanding, they do pose several challenges. The first challenge is that the staff is increasingly overwhelmed with the number of applications and the second challenge is knowing how many students to prepare for and where to house them. Housing on campus is currently at 95% capacity. A plan is being put into place by key leadership to provide answers to the presented challenges.

#### McIlwain Bell Trustee & Nellie Rose McCrory Award Winners

Dr. Edwards introduced the recipients of the McIlwain-Bell Awards and are as follows:

McIlwain-Bell Awards

Support Staff Award – Vivian Hauser

Professional Staff Award – Dr. Debbie Rose

Trustee Professor Award – Dr. Ashley Dumas

Nellie Rose McCrory Service Excellence Award

Dr. Natasha Satcher

Each recipient made a few comments, extending their appreciation for the award.

**X. Report from the Board President**

Mr. Jerry Smith congratulated all the award winners. He stated that he attended commencement on Saturday and found it to be a very meaningful experience. He encourages all Board members to attend. Dr. John Killian added that it was inspiring to see all the graduates.

**XII. New Business**

Mr. Justin Smith presented a resolution from the K-12 ad hoc Steering Committee which would allow Dr. Tucker to continue to work with the committee in exploring the possible filing of an application for a charter school to be located on the campus of UWA; to authorize Dr. Tucker to formulate a working group composed of any individuals, as he selects; and to assist in the exploration and development plan to enhance the educational opportunities for UWA. Dr. Tucker will make periodic reports to the Committee and to the Board as it relates to the working group's progress and present to the Board a more definite plan to enhance the educational opportunities for UWA and the community. ***The motion came from the K-12 ad hoc Steering Committee and was approved unanimously.***

**XII. Other Business**

A resolution was presented to extend by two years the term of Dr. Tucker's employment contract, expiring December 31, 2019. ***On a motion by Dr. John Killian and seconded by Mr. Hal Bloom, the resolution was approved. The motion carried.***

**XIII. Adjourn**

Mr. Jerry Smith asked for a motion to adjourn. ***Mr. Terry Bunn moved to adjourn; Mr. Hal Bloom seconded the motion; and the meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m.***

Respectfully submitted,

*Katie Beard*

Assistant Secretary to the Board