

KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY
Regular Meeting of the Board of Regents
1:30 p.m., July 27, 2012
Julian Carroll Academic Services Building, Frankfort, Kentucky
Regent Laura M. Douglas, Presiding

MINUTES

I. Call to Order:

Chair Laura Douglas called the meeting of the Kentucky State University Board of Regents to order at 1:25 p.m. on July 27, 2012.

II. Opening Remarks:

Chair Douglas welcomed the attendees to the meeting. Chair Douglas outlined the meeting agenda and stated the purposes of the meeting, including the President's presentation of her Annual Report.

III. Roll Call:

Chair Douglas asked Lori Davis, Secretary to the Board, to conduct the roll call:

Regent Banks, *Present*
Regent Barfield, *Present*
Regent Bearden, *Present*
Regent Conner, *Present*
Regent Douglas, *Present*
Regent Franklin, *Present* (after the administration of the Oath of Office)
Regent Guarnieri, *Absent*
Regent Henry, *Present*
Regent Reddy, *Present*
Regent Whitehead, *Present*
Regent Williams, *Present*

Ten Regents were in attendance. A quorum was declared.

IV. Administration of the Oath of Office:

Board Secretary Lori Davis administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Joseph Franklin, the student regent. President Sias also noted that Mr. Franklin is a member of the Kentucky National Guard. Chair Douglas welcomed Mr. Franklin to the Kentucky State Board of Regents.

V. Approval of Minutes:

Action: Motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Regents meeting held on June 4, 2012 was made by Regent Whitehead and seconded by Regent Henry. The motion passed 10-0.

VI. Committee Reports:

Academic Affairs: Regent Bearden presented the Academic Affairs Committee report. Regent Bearden stated that there were no action items from the Committee. Regent Bearden reported that there was robust conversation among the Committee members about changes to the Liberal Studies requirement and that discussion led to a broader discussion about the way that the university must constantly be reviewed and revised.

Regent Bearden further stated that the faculty has been engaged in a high level of scholarship and service to the university community.

Regent Bearden stated that Dean Tsegaye of the College of Agriculture, Food Sciences and Sustainable Systems shared the activities in the college particularly in the promotion and recruitment of students for the college. Regent Bearden further commented that the Committee was impressed with the efforts demonstrated by college.

Regent Bearden requested Regent Conner to add further comments. On behalf of the faculty, Regent Conner expressed his appreciation for his years of service to the university to Dr. Mac Stewart, Interim Provost. Regent Conner stated that Dr. Stewart was a gentleman and diplomat.

Student Affairs: Regent Williams stated that Ms. Vernell Bennett provided an overview of the activities completed by the Office of Student Affairs. Regent Williams updated the board about many activities, including the following:

- Student Life sponsored events, including, a student trip to Memphis, Tennessee
- Student Government Association leadership conferences trips
- Ms. Chelsea Hardy (Miss KSU) and Mr. Ray Bankston (Mr. KSU) attended a leadership conference for HBCU kings and queens.
- Student Health Services promotional project for Epilepsy Awareness
- University Police relocation to the Rosenwald Building
- New Student Orientation, held on August 16, 2012
- Awards by the local NAACP to Mr. Ron Banks and Ms. Irma Johnson

Finance and Administration: Regent Henry presented the Finance and Administration Committee report. The Fiscal Year 2012 audit is expected to be

completed by October 2012 with a goal of no material findings. The university is currently operating with a Fiscal Year end surplus of \$2.4 million operational surplus and a reduction of net assets of \$ 2.5 million. At this time, year over year, the university is up approximately \$36,000. Regent Henry also stated that the committee was provided information on personnel changes in the Finance Area. There were no action items.

External Relations and Development: Regent Whitehead presented the External Relations and Development Committee report. There were no action items.

Regent Whitehead stated that KSU received \$2.654 million dollars in contributions from 772 contributors during Fiscal Year 2012. Scholarships received \$334,854. Regent Whitehead stated that the Office of Alumni Relations has been reaching more alumni with increased mailings. The goal is to increase alumni participation by 10% per year.

Regent Whitehead reported that the Banner implementation is at 100%. Another module will be added, the Luminus module.

Regent Whitehead reported that new computers were distributed to faculty, staff and in student areas, such as residence halls and computer labs.

Regent Whitehead reported that at the end of the 2012 Fiscal Year, university housing occupancy was at 86%.

Audit: Regent Barfield presented the Audit Committee report. Regent Barfield stated that the Committee received a report from the university's internal auditor, Mark Firm from Tronconi and Associates. Mr. Firm developed an internal audit plan for the university including, risk assessment reviews of Finance, Financial Aid Department, CAFSSS-Land Grant. There were no action items.

VII. President's Report:

President Sias provided the following report:

Introduction of New Employees:

President Sias introduced Dr. Joel Thierstein, newly appointed as university Provost and Vice President, effective August 6, 2012. Dr. Thierstein previously worked at Rice University and the U.S. Department of Education with Undersecretary Martha Kanter. Dr. Sias provided Dr. Thierstein an opportunity to offer any comments. Dr. Thierstein stated that he is excited about being at KSU.

President Sias informed the board of a new addition to the university, Dr. Lorenzo Esters, previously employed with the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities. Dr. Esters will start on August 6, 2012. Dr. Esters will lead student success efforts at the university.

President Sias also informed the board that Dr. Mary Spor will join the university as an Associate Vice President for Grants and Sponsored Projects in September. She has received over \$20 million in grants and has already begun work on grant opportunities for KSU.

Recognition of Dr. Denisha Hendricks:

President Sias recognized KSU Athletic Director, Dr. Denisha Hendricks for being featured in the NCAA magazine, Champions. Dr. Hendricks, at 33 years of age, is one of the youngest university Athletic Directors in the U.S. Dr. Hendricks is also one of 15 African American female university Athletic Directors. Dr. Hendricks also serves on a NCAA leadership committee. President Sias also informed that board that over 37% of KSU athletes are on the Honor Roll and congratulated Dr. Hendricks for representing the university well.

Governmental Affairs:

President Sias discussed changes in federal rules. President Sias informed the board that the federal Pell grants can no longer be used for summer semesters. KSU is down 8% in summer enrollment that is mostly attributable to the change in the Pell grant program.

President Sias stated that Congress did not increase the student loan interest rates this summer. President Sias will be monitoring the possibility that Congress may enact Sequestration rules. She is concerned that Congress may attempt to balance the budget with cuts in funding to Higher Education.

President Sias reminded the board that it is the 150th anniversary of the Morrill Act, the Congressional precursor to the 1890 Morrill Act that provided federal funds to Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The 1890 act allowed access to higher education to black Americans by supporting historically black colleges and universities.

Presidential Annual Report:

President Sias offered her annual report for the university. President Sias distributed a comprehensive written report and orally highlighted the following items:

- KSU values learning, excellence in teaching and learning both inside and outside the classroom
- KSU must increase retention and graduation outcomes
- A culture of completion will be re-emphasized on campus
- KSU will be known as an HBCU on the move
- KSU worked with faculty, staff and students in KSURGE, an initiative to identify and remove barriers to retention and graduation
- Accolades in the Princeton Review and the U.S. News and World Report are not enough.

- KSU is listed on the Honor Roll for Presidential Seal for Higher Education Community Code of Service
- Two new deans were added; one in the College of Business and one in the College of Agriculture
- KSU plans upgrades to Bradford Hall for the Colleges of Business and Music
- KSU piloted a Fall Commencement that will continue this next year
- Two bachelor's programs were added in the College of Agriculture, Food Sciences and Sustainable Systems and in the College of Nursing approved by SACS
- In the 2011-12 Academic Year, 5 faculty members were granted tenure; 6 more were promoted
- In Spring 2012, 129 students were on the Honor Roll; In Fall 2011, 84 students were recognized, including more diversity in the STEM fields
- KSU applied for SACS Level 5 Designation to begin offering doctoral degrees
- The College of Arts and Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies are doing well
- KSU received a \$1 million grant for the College of Agriculture from KY Agriculture Board
- The School of Education has obtained an overall 100% student pass rate on the PRAXIS Exam
- The School of Nursing obtained more than an overall 90% student pass rate on the NCLEX Exam
- KSU received \$16 million in grants
- Blazer Library will be redesigned for the 21st century to include additional space for student group work
- Title III federal funding was used to purchase equipment, including security installations and scholarships and to fund capital construction
- KSU plans to work harder to increase Masters degree production
- The Green2Gold program is an innovative program helpful to students pay down their tuition and fees
- KSU's Women's Volleyball Team won last year's SIAC Championships
- The Football Team signed up 382 bone marrow donors during a Bone Marrow Donor Drive
- Updates and upgrades to the Student Cafeteria were made
- The Old Federal Building located in Downtown Frankfort is currently under renovation
- Aquatic Research Vessel is under completion and will be docked at the Old Federal Building
- The Campus Entrance and security gate is under renovation
- The Center for Families and Children is ready for opening and the university is currently seeking an Executive Director

- KSU is partnering with the Links Inc., to strengthen retention and transfer initiatives
- KSU needs a stronger national alumni network
- A new scoreboard was purchased for the football stadium
- Bradford Hall Auditorium has new seats and carpeting installed
- Greater connectivity with the south side of campus will be pursued
- KSU has prominent signage in the Louisville Airport and signage in the Lexington Airport
- President Sias served as the Chair for APLU and her term ends in November 2012
- President Sias served as moderator for the Women Leading Kentucky this year
- President Sias appeared on the cover of Diverse Magazine and featured in that issue
- President Sias will be the incoming Chair of AASCU in October 2012
- Discussion of the KSU Strategic Plan benchmarks

VIII. Closed Session:

Action: Motion was made to convene a closed session to discuss individual personnel matters and pending litigation pursuant to the Kentucky Open Meetings Act. The motion was made by Regent Barfield and seconded by Regent Banks. The motion passed, 10-0 at 3:05 p.m.

The Board discussed pending litigation and personnel matters. The Board took no action in Closed Session.

IX. Open Session:

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 4:38 p.m.

Chair Douglas responded to President Sias' assessment and Annual Report. Chair Douglas stated that the Board of Regents was very gratified and pleased with her work over the past year. Chair Douglas further mentioned the level of detail President Sias demonstrated as well as her genuine love for the students and their welfare. Chair Douglas expressed the view that KSU is moving forward and moving higher in achieving its goals.

Action: *Motion was made by Regent Barfield to provide Dr. Sias a retention bonus of \$250,000 payable on December 31, 2016 if she remains as President of KSU until that date. However, if Dr. Sias must leave the presidency due to an illness or injury which renders her incapable of performing her duties as President, the retention bonus of \$250,000 shall be paid in full*

to Dr. Sias nevertheless. Dr. Sias will also receive an additional week of vacation for this year and for subsequent years. A second was provided by Regent Williams. The motion passed, 10-0.

X. Board Elections/Board Committee Appointments:

Chair Douglas relinquished her seat to Board Secretary Lori Davis for the sole purpose of conducting Board elections.

Action: *Nominations were requested from Regents for the Office of Chair. Regent Bearden nominated Regent Douglas for the Office of Chair. A second was provided by Regent Williams. Additional nominations were requested. No other nominations were made. Nominations were closed. Thereafter, the Board Secretary declared Regent Douglas as Chair (by acclimation).*

Action: *Nominations were requested from Regents for the Office of Vice Chair. Regent Henry nominated Regent Bearden. A second was provided by Regent Franklin. Additional nominations were requested. No other nominations were made. Nominations were closed. Thereafter, the Board Secretary declared Regent Bearden as Vice Chair by acclimation.*

After the elections, Chair Douglas resumed her seat as Chair. Chair Douglas announced the following Board Committee appointments:

1. *Finance and Administration Committee:* Regent Henry will serve as Chair
2. *Audit Committee:* Regent Barfield will serve as Chair
3. *Student Affairs Committee:* Regent Franklin will be added to the Committee

XI. Approval of 2012-13 Board of Regents Calendar:

Chair Douglas requested that regents review a draft meeting calendar.

Action: **Motion was made to approve the 2012-13 Board of Regents Calendar as presented. The motion was made by Regent Barfield and seconded by Regent Bearden. The motion passed, 10-0. The Board of Regents Calendar was adopted.**

XII. Adjournment:

Action: Motion was made to adjourn the Board meeting by Regent Williams and seconded by Regent Whitehead. The motion passed 10-0.

The meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Submitted by:

Lori A. Davis, Secretary
General Counsel
Kentucky State University

Karen Bearden, Vice Chair
Board of Regents
Kentucky State University

Approved with no corrections

Approved **with corrections**