I. **Call to Order:**

Chairperson Laura Douglas called the meeting of the Kentucky State University Board of Regents to order at 1:30 p.m. on April 27, 2012.

II. **Roll Call:**

Chairperson Douglas asked the Secretary to the Board to conduct the roll call:

Regent Banks, *Present*
Regent Earfield, *Present*
Regent Bearden, *Present*
Regent Coleman, *Present*
Regent Conner, *Present*
Regent Douglas, *Present*
Regent Guarnieri, *Present—arrived after Roll Call*
Regent Henry, *Present*
Regent Reddy, *Absent*
Regent Whitehead, *Present*
Regent Williams, *Present*

Ten Regents were in attendance. A quorum was declared.

III. **Opening Remarks:**

Chair Douglas welcomed the attendees to the meeting. Chair Douglas thanked the President and her staff for an exquisite scholarship gala event. President Sias also congratulated Vice President McDuffie and the Facilities staff on the successful gala. Chair Douglas also extended congratulations to those students who will be graduating from KSU and participating in Commencement Exercises on May 4, 2012.

IV. **Approval of Minutes:**

**Action:** Motion to approve the minutes from Board of Regents meetings held on January 26, 2012 (Retreat) and January 27, 2012 (Regular Meeting) was made by Regent Henry and seconded by Regent Williams. The motion passed, 10-0.

V. **President’s Report:**

President Sias addressed the Board regarding the following:
Retirements and Resignations:
President Sias reported that Dr. Titilayo Ufomata, Associate Provost, has resigned effective June 30, 2012, to assume the position of Provost at Hobart and Williams College in New York. President Sias thanked Dr. Ufomata for her many contributions to the university and extended good wishes for her future success at Hobart and Williams.

President Sias reported that Dr. Charles Bennett, Director of Undergraduate Research, faculty member and a former dean, will retire effective June 30, 2012. President Sias thanked Dr. Bennett for his many years of service to the students, particularly in advancing undergraduate research at KSU and wished him well.

President Sias announced the resignation of Ms. Claudine Gee, Budget Director. President Sias also thanked Ms. Gee for her years of service to the university and wished her well also.

Student Government Association Executive Board 2012-2013:
President Sias asked Regent Coleman to introduce the newly-elected members of the Student Government Association Executive Board.

Mr. Joseph Franklin, President and Student Regent
Mr. Maceo Johnson, First Vice President
Mr. Rodney Gilbert, Second Vice President
Ms. Jennifer Bowles, Treasurer
Mr. Jason Carter, Chief Justice
Mr. Thomas Gardner, Chief of Staff
Ms. Kathleen Spikes-Bias, Secretary
Ms. Chelsea Hardy, Miss KSU 2012-13
Mr. Ray Bankston, Mr. KSU 2012-13

Honda All-Star Academic Team:
President Sias recognized the Honda All-Star Team and in particular, Team Captain, Mr. Joseph Franklin who was present. The team recently competed in the Honda All-Star Academic competition in Torrance, California. The current team consists mainly of new members, with the exception of Mr. Franklin. This year, the team finished the competition admirably and Mr. Franklin was congratulated for the strategies implemented and for representing KSU well. Dr. Griskell and Ms. Bennett were the coaches of this team. Mr. Franklin stated that the Honda All-Star Academic competition was a wonderful opportunity and hoped that other students would seek to participate in the future.

Transfer—KnowHow2Transfer:
President Sias discussed the KnowHow2Transfer interactive website that was developed by CPE and the public institutions to give parents and students one place to go to get the appropriate transfer information to make informed decisions about transitioning to a university.
KSU FactBook:
President Sias distributed Enrollment Fact Sheets and the KSU Mini-Factbook 2011-12 to regents. The Mini-Fact Book also includes new information about the new College of Agriculture and additional information about online courses.

KSURGE:
President Sias requested that Dr. Carolyn Carter discuss the KSURGE initiative. Dr. Carter stated that this initiative is a focus on increased student success. The kickoff of this initiative began in January 2012 with a large campus gathering of over 300 persons to discuss perceived barriers to student success and potential short and long-term solutions. The campus discussion was facilitated by professional facilitators from EKU and the report will be distributed to the entire campus community. A KSURGE committee will be created to address the issues identified and to develop recommendations to President Sias about how to increase student achievement.

President Sias has identified intrusive advising as one strategy that will be implemented to enhance student progress.

Legislative Update:
President Sias asked Steve Mason, Chief of Staff and Legislative Liaison, to discuss the outcome of the Kentucky Legislative Session. Mr. Mason stated that all postsecondary institutions will incur a 6.4% reduction in their state appropriations. Further, Mr. Mason advised that the Legislature did not approve any Maintenance and Operations (M&O) funding or agency funded bonds for higher education. Veterinary school spaces at Tuskegee for Kentucky students were approved. KEES and CAP (need-based scholarships) were fully funded. The Adult Learning Degree Attainment Program (an initiative of Rep. Arnold Simpson, alumnus of KSU) was funded in the amount of $375,000 to be administered by the Council on Postsecondary Education. The Adult Learning Degree Attainment program expects to increase college degree attainment through a collaborative effort with KCTCS and two comprehensive universities. KSU plans to offer a proposal to KCTCS to assist with the programming of non-traditional students.

Mr. Mason informed the board that the request for a pedestrian walkway across US 60/East Main Street was approved by the Legislature in the State Road Plan. The appropriation for this project will be included in the next biennium.

Mr. Mason also informed the board that the Kentucky Supreme Court had recently decided a case that would allow persons to keep a concealed weapon in their cars on postsecondary campuses.

Regent Guarnieri asked whether there was coordination between universities to share equipment because of the continued budget cuts. President Sias stated that it would be difficult and there may not be enough time to share equipment (particularly in nursing), though the university would be open to future co-sharing opportunities. Regent Whitehead stated that he would be in support of co-sharing opportunities.
Regent Bearden inquired about the state budget’s impact on the requested new Betty White Health Center nursing building. President Sias stated that no state bonded capital projects were approved for universities, including Betty White Health Center. President Sias further stated that KSU would explore alternatives for another building for the nursing program as the university cannot wait for a new building. The nursing program is growing and the university is seeking Level 5 status to enable it to offer a doctoral program in nursing practice. Without an expanded and upgraded facility, it will be unlikely that KSU could attain this Level 5 status.

**Internal Auditor:**
President Sias announced that an accounting firm has been selected to serve as the university’s internal auditor. Mr. Mark Fern, the firm’s representative has been on campus this week. President Sias informed Regent Barfield that Mr. Fern will be in contact with her soon.

**Potential Retirement Plan Changes:**
President Sias informed the Board that the university is considering changes to its Kentucky Teachers’ Retirement System (KTRS) sick leave credit policy for retirement purposes. KSU is considering changes that would affect employees’ ability to apply unlimited sick leave time towards their retirement computation. The faculty is currently capped at using 60 days of accrued sick leave towards retirement. The current cap for faculty would not change. Staff members participating in KTRS do not currently have a cap towards sick leave credit. Participants in Kentucky Employees Retirement System (KERS) have an unlimited cap for accrued sick leave that can be used towards retirement service credit. The state statute authorizing KERS does not allow agencies to place a cap on sick leave credit.

Gary Meiseles, Director of Human Resources, was requested to comment on potential changes. Mr. Meiseles stated that these recommended changes are being considered because it is very difficult to plan or budget for the payment for a retiring employee’s sick leave credit to KTRS because the university cannot predict when an eligible employee would retire. President Sias stated KSU does not have funds set aside to pay for unplanned sick leave credit payments outside of the university’s operating budget. Some of these payments have been as high as $37,000 per retiree.

President Sias also noted that KSU has a significant number of employees who have had a long career with KSU. Many employees have between 20 and 45 years of service with the university.

Regent Conner asked when the proposed changes might become effective. President Sias stated that a decision on a proposed policy change would occur by the July 2012 Board of Regents meeting. Regent Conner also asked whether the university had considered a “phased-in” approach. President Sias stated that the university has considering a change to the sick leave policy for over a year, particularly due to budget concerns.
Arbor Day Celebration:
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity participated in an Arbor Day Foundation planting of 50 trees on KSU’s campus with approximately 25 planted near the stadium. This activity was sponsored in part by Toyota. Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky President, Wil James, was present. KSU was very pleased to be a part of this initiative with 6 other HBCU’s across the USA.

President’s Written Report to the Board:
President Sias provided an overview of her written board report, Nudging, Switching and Gaining Momentum: Changing What We’ve Always Done. President Sias stated that it is critical for KSU to change its view of “doing what we’ve always done.” U.S. President Barack Obama has encouraged higher degree attainment for all Americans. President Sias stated that KSU will need to change its way of thinking if the university is to increase its degree production and develop “a culture of completion and success for all of our students.”

Regents Guarnieri and Whitehead asked President Sias about the impact of the new financial aid rules might have upon our students. President Sias explained that students taking 12 credit hours per semester would not graduate within a four year period and that the university is reviewing ways to integrate developmental education into credit bearing classes.

Patent Policy:
Lori Davis, KSU General Counsel, distributed the current patent policy and asked regents to review. Ms. Davis expects that the regents will be presented with a recommendation regarding the percentage of interest that the university and the inventors (employees, students and other collaborators) would have in a patent developed using university resources.

Regent Guarnieri asked whether an invention developed at KSU automatically belongs to the inventor. Ms. Davis responded that the general rule is that the university would own the invention and the inventors would be provided with an interest in any financial distribution.

VI. Committee Reports:

Academic Affairs:
Regent Conner presented the Academic Affairs Committee report. The Committee reviewed the written report of Dr. Mac A. Stewart, Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs. From the report, Regent Conner stated that the colleges, Whitney M. Young School of Honors and the Office of Global Education are busy with scholarly and service on behalf of the university.

Action: Motion was made to approve the recommendation made from the Committee to grant faculty tenure and/or promotion to the individuals listed below by Regent Conner. A second was not necessary for a Committee recommendation. The motion passed, 10-0.
Faculty Promotion and Tenure Approvals:
Boris Gomelsky, *Promotion to the rank of Professor*
Nkechi Amadufe, *Promotion to the rank of Associate Professor*
Siddhartha Dasgupta, *Promotion to the rank of Professor*
Shannon Brogan, *Promotion to the rank of Associate Professor*
Steven Graham-Hill, *Tenure*
Tierra Freeman, *Early Tenure and Promotion to the rank of Associate Professor*
Janice Bowers, *Tenure*
Robert Lancaster, *Tenure and Promotion to the rank of Associate Professor*

**Action:** Motion was made to approve the recommendation made from the Committee to grant confer degrees to the students who have completed the degree requirements during 2011-2012 Academic year by Regent Conner. A second was not necessary for a Committee recommendation. The motion passed, 10-0.

**Action:** Motion was made to approve the recommendation made from the Committee to grant degree programs in the Master of Arts in Gerontology; Interdisciplinary Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, Food and Environment (pending approval by SACS); and Bachelor of Science in Nursing (pending approval from SACS). A second was not necessary for a Committee recommendation. The motion passed, 10-0.

**Student Affairs:**
Regent Williams presented the Student Affairs Committee report. She provided updates on Student Life Activities, Health Services utilization, Career Placement, Enrollment and Admissions. Detailed information was included in the board book.

Regent Williams stated that a new Student Government Association board was elected on April 5, 2012. The new officers were introduced earlier in this afternoon’s meeting.

Regent Williams also offered congratulations to the KSU Academic Team for its competition in the Honda All-Star Tournament.

No action items were reported.

**Finance and Administration Committee:**
Regent Whitehead presented the Finance and Administration Committee report. Regent Whitehead reported that the university anticipates ending the year in the black with a positive balance. A detailed discussion of the upcoming university budget will be held on June 4, 2012, the date scheduled for a Special Board meeting.

Regent Whitehead discussed the university’s request to increase tuition rates by 5% for the 2012-13 academic year. Discussion ensued regarding the comparison of this request with what other public universities were requesting in
increased tuition rates. President Sias stated that the Council on Postsecondary Education sets the level of increase that public universities may request. For comprehensive universities, the ceiling is 5%.

Action: Motion was made to approve the 2012-13 Tuition and Fee rates on behalf of the Committee by Regent Whitehead. A second was not necessary for a Committee recommendation. The motion passed, 9-1 (Regent Coleman voted against).

Action: Motion was made to approve the 2012-13 Schedule of Course Fees and Optional Participation Fees on behalf of the Committee by Regent Whitehead. A second was not necessary for a Committee recommendation. The motion passed, 9-1 (Regent Coleman voted against).

External Relations and Development:

Regent Whitehead congratulated the staff on a successful Scholarship Gala.

Regent Whitehead also informed the board about the 48 significant capital projects and commented upon the visits to the recently constructed Rosenwald Center for Families and Children and the Aquaculture Production Laboratory.

No action items were reported.

VII. Closed Session:

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

The Board discussed pending litigation and personnel matters. The Board took no action in Closed Session. The Board did not reconvene in Open Session.

VIII. Adjournment:

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

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.
Approved with no corrections

Approved with corrections

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removal of sentence:
"The board did not reconvene in open session."