

**Minutes**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING**  
**February 29, 2024**  
**Adams Administration Bldg., Troy University Campus**  
**Troy, Alabama**

The Troy University Board of Trustees convened at 1:00 p.m. on February 29, 2024, at the Troy University Campus, Troy, Alabama.

**I. Call to Order**

Board President Pro Tempore Gibson Vance called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Board of Trustees.

**II. Roll Call**

At the request of Mr. Vance, the following members, comprising a quorum, answered present:

Mr. Gibson Vance, Mrs. Karen Carter (by telephone), Gen. Ed Crowell, Sen. Gerald Dial, Mr. Roy Drinkard (by telephone), Mayor Earl Johnson, Mr. Forrest Latta (by telephone), Mr. Charles Nailen, Senator Cam Ward and Mr. Theo Thoenes

Absent: Governor Kay Ivey, Mr. John Harrison, Mr. Allen Owen

Pro Tempore Gibson Vance called on Trustee Carter to pray.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

A draft copy of the minutes from the August 24, 2023 meeting was provided to the Board members prior to the meeting.

**ACTION: TRUSTEE WARD MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FOR THE AUGUST 23, 2023 MEETING AS PRESENTED. THERE WERE NO CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS BROUGHT FORWARD. FOLLOWING A SECOND BY TRUSTEE JOHNSON. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**IV. Reports**

Chancellor Hawkins extended a personal welcome to Col. Alan Miller, President and CEO of American Village and Mr. Val Crofts, of the American Village.

Chancellor Hawkins welcomed Miss Troy University 2024 Miss Sarah Jane Houston to the meeting. Miss Houston, a sophomore psychology major from Albany, provided brief comments.

## **A. Chancellor**

The following is an outline of the Chancellor's Report.

- National Picture in Higher Education
- Confidence in Higher Ed Declining
- Budget/Program Cuts Continue
- Workforce Development a Priority
- Nationwide: Enrollment Slowly Improving
- Flagship Trends
- The Path forward: Enrollment Growth & Stewardship
- Troy University Enrollment & Stewardship
- Review Academic Inventory
- Satellite Campuses
- Distal Faculty
- Online Data Now
- Role Change/Road to R2
- Campus News
- Points of Pride
  - American Village
  - Quality
  - Stewardship
  - Trojan Book Bag Program
- Sneak Peek of Jones Hall Interior!
- Sneak Peek of Research Interior!
- "Gem of the Sun Belt"
- Points of Pride: Athletics
  - Most football, basketball & baseball tickets sold in program history
  - Football SBC Champs
  - Men's and Women's Basketball having great year!
  - Student-athlete GPA Fall 2023 was 3.006
- Points of Pride: External Relations
  - 23% increase in alumni donors and 17% increase in overall donors for 2023
  - Over \$3m in research generated for FY2023 (Goal is \$5m)
- Point of Pride: 1<sup>st</sup> Mock Trial Team wins 1<sup>st</sup> Competition
- Points of Pride: Adkins Hall
- Thank you, Hon. Allen E. Owens, III!
- Thank you, Dr. Mickey DiChiara!
- Welcome Gerad Parker!
- Welcome Kyle Shook!

- Congratulations Dr. Diane Orlofsky!
- Congratulations Dr. Fred Figliano!
- Dates to Remember:
  - March 5-11: SBC Basketball Tournament in Pensacola
  - April 15: Honors Convocation, Coach Chanda Rigby
  - May 7: Rededication of Baseball Field, commemorating Hon. Allen Owen, III and Dr. Mickey DiChiara
  - (Proposed) Next Board meeting that afternoon

Commencement Ceremonies;

- May 10 - Troy, Sen. Arthur Orr
- May 19 - Dothan
- May 20 - Montgomery
- July 26 - Troy, Dr. Marnix Heersink
- May 21-25: SBC Baseball Tournament in Montgomery

## **B. Board Committee Reports**

### **Executive Committee, Honorable Gibson Vance**

President Pro-tem Vance introduced Resolution No. 1:

#### **Resolution No. 1**

#### **Recognizing Allen E. Owen, III as Board of Trustee Emeritus**

**WHEREAS**, The Hon. Allen E. Owen, III has served as a member of the Troy University Board of Trustees since his appointment on October 13, 1988; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Owen holds three degrees from Troy University as a member of the classes of 1971, 1982, and 1984 and was a member of the University's football team and the Pi Kappa Phi social fraternity; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Owen served in the United States Marine Corps from 1971 until 1974 and in the Alabama National Guard from 1977 until 1999, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Owen enjoyed a long and distinguished career in private business and public service, working for West Point Pepperell, Inc., serving as Manager of the Legislative Liaison Officer under Gov. Guy Hunt, and then serving as Manager of the Southern Region State Government Affairs for the MeadWestvaco Corporation; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Owen is married to the former Annette Colley, who also holds three degrees from TROY, where she served as head majorette in the Sound of the South Marching Band; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Owen's service to the Troy University Board of Trustees as chair of the Athletics Policy Committee has been marked by a vision for and devotion to the evolution of TROY athletics from NCAA Division II to the highest level of NCAA competition; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Owen has also served the Board with distinction as a member of the Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committees as an advocate for maintaining high-quality standards in the classroom and excellent service to TROY students;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Mr. Owen's devotion to Troy University and his exemplary service to its Board of Trustees be honored by naming him Board of Trustee Emeritus. The title honors a Trustee who has provided long, dedicated service to the institution and provided exemplary leadership.

**ACTION: TRUSTEE DIAL MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 1. TRUSTEE WARD PROVIDED A SECOND TO THE MOTION. THERE BEING NO DISCUSSION, THE MOTION WAS ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE**

- **Academic Affairs Committee, Honorable Karen Carter**

President Pro-Tem Vance called on Trustee Carter for a report from the Academic Affairs Committee.

Trustee Carter introduced Resolution No. 2. The Academic Affairs committee brings Resolution No. 2 forward as a motion.

#### **Resolution No. 2**

##### **Renaming of the College of Health and Human Services to the College of Health Sciences**

**WHEREAS**, the name of the college comprised of the School of Nursing, School of Social Work and Human Services, and Department of Kinesiology and Health Promotions is College of Health and Human Services; and

**WHEREAS**, the current name does not clearly reflect current and future programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the name College of Health Sciences would mirror and coincide with the opening of the new Jones Hall Center for Health Sciences; and

**WHEREAS**, 2024 marks the thirtieth anniversary of the College of Health and Human Services making for an opportunity to celebrate both its growth and renaming,

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that effective August 1, 2024, the new name of the College of Health and Human Services shall be College of Health Sciences by action of the Board of Trustees on February 29, 2024.

**ACTION: TRUSTEE CROWELL MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO.2 RENAMING THE COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2024 TO THE COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES. TRUSTEE JOHNSON PROVIDED A SECOND TO THE MOTION. THERE BEING NO DISCUSSION, THE MOTION WAS ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

Trustee Carter called on Dr. Kerry Palmer, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, to provide an update on the R2 strategy. Dr. Palmer provided an update on the steps toward achieving R2 status.

Mr. Ray White, Vice Chancellor Montgomery Campus, provided an update of the evaluation of the distal Alabama campuses as well support sites across the states. Mr. White also provided a report on the progress of ten actions items from the Chancellor.

1. Increase full-time faculty to adjuncts to 50/50.
2. Change accountability of online faculty.
3. All offices on distal campuses in use.
4. Close out of state offices and retain distal recruiters as necessary.
5. Determine most cost-effective way to recruit online students.
6. Maximize existing staff resources.
7. Train the staff at distal campuses on degree map.
8. Review 80 staff positions on distal campuses.
9. Review the future of the three physical locations in Alabama.
10. Develop and expand teaching programs on the distal campuses.

Dr. Fred Figliano, Dean of the College of Education introduced Col. Alan Miller, President and CEO of the American Village Citizenship Trust. Col. Miller introduced a sample video which will serve as an introductory video for middle school curriculum.

Dr. Figliano report on activities with the American Village highlights:

- Trojan Patriot Academy taking place June 9<sup>th</sup> – June 14<sup>th</sup>

- American Village advisory board

Chancellor Hawkins asked Col. Miller to speak briefly on the American Village.

- **Student Affairs Committee, Honorable Cam Ward**

President Pro-tem Vance called on Trustee Ward for a report from the Student Affairs Committee. Trustee Ward introduced Resolution No. 3 on behalf of the Student Affairs Committee.

**Resolution No. 3**

**Resolution to Rename the Collegeview Building**

**WHEREAS**, Upon the departure of the School of Nursing to its new facility the Collegeview Building will be available, and

**WHEREAS**, The Collegeview Building will soon host the Army ROTC Program, the Air Force ROTC Program, and the TROY University Police Department, and

**WHEREAS**, Command Sgt. Maj. Bennie G. Adkins was a TROY alumnus who earned three degrees from TROY University and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by TROY University, and he served with distinction in the US Army involving three combat tours in Vietnam, which included a 38-hour defense and 48-hour rescue evasion in which he suffered 18 different wounds while protecting his men, and

**WHEREAS**, For his heroic action Command Sgt Maj Adkins was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, America's highest recognition for courage under fire, and

**WHEREAS**, The name "Bennie Adkins Hall" would best mirror and coincide with the new programs to be housed in the Collegeview building,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Troy University Board of Trustees approves the renaming of the Collegeview Building to the **Bennie G. Adkins Hall**.

**ACTION: THE STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE PRESENTED A MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 3. TRUSTEE DIAL PROVIDED A SECOND TO THE MOTION. THERE BEING NO DISCUSSION, THE MOTION WAS ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

- **Finance Committee, Honorable Charles Nailen**

President Pro-tem Vance called on the Finance Committee to report. Trustee Nailen provided brief comments and called on to Dr. Bookout, Senior Vice Chancellor for Financial Affairs and Online Education to provide the financial report.

Dr. Bookout recognized two employees from the division: Tara Donaldson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance and Ashley English, Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources.

- **Financial Report – Dr. Jim Bookout**

Dr. Bookout presented the Financial Deep Dive – FY 2022 to include the following:

- FY 2022 CHP Budget to Actual (Full Fiscal Year)
- Statements of Revenue, Expense & Changes in Net Position - Revenue
- Statement of Position
- Budget to Actual CHP – Fiscal YD Through Spring/T3 2022
- Primary Reserve Ratio
- Return on Net Position Ratio
- Net Operating Revenue Ratio
- Viability Ratio
- Composite Financial Index
- Financial Ratio Summary – FY 2021 Comparison
- Funds Held for Investment
- Funds Held for Investment – Performance Summary
- Facilities Update
- Projects in Progress

Dr. Bookout introduced the following Resolution No. 4 on behalf of the Finance Committee.

**Resolution No. 4**

**Proposed Tuition Rate Structure**

**WHEREAS**, Troy University is anticipating an increase (probably will not exceed 7%) in state appropriations for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 based on the 2024-2025 Alabama Commission on

Higher Education Budget Hearing held in November 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, Troy University's current appropriation from the State of Alabama totals 30% of its operating budget. For this reason, Troy University has become a self-reliant, self-funded and tuition driven institution. Only through good stewardship of its resources, sound financial management, and its entrepreneurial spirit has it been able to not only sustain itself but advance its mission; and

**WHEREAS**, Troy University's current tuition structure is as follows; and

Undergraduate per credit hour tuition - \$408, In-Class; \$408, Online

Graduate per credit hour tuition - \$475, In-Class; \$475, Online

Doctoral per credit hour tuition - \$550, In-Class; \$550, Online

**WHEREAS**, Troy University's proposed tuition structure is as follows; and

Undergraduate per credit hour tuition - \$424, In-Class; \$424, Online

Graduate per credit hour tuition - \$475, In-Class; \$475, Online

Doctoral per credit hour tuition - \$550, In-Class; \$550, Online

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES** that Troy University proposes the adoption of the tuition rate changes as previously stated, based upon passage by the Alabama Legislature of the Budget, specifically Troy University's Appropriation, recommended by the Governor and the Alabama Commission on Higher Education.

**ACTION: THE FINANCE COMMITTEE PRESENTED A MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 4. TRUSTEE JOHNSON PROVIDED A SECOND TO THE MOTION. THERE BEING NO DISCUSSION, THE MOTION WAS ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

- **Institutional Advancement Committee, Honorable Forrest Latta**

President Pro-Tem Vance turned for meeting over to Trustee Latta. Mr. Latta called on Mr. William Filmore, Vice Chancellor for Government Relations and External Affairs for a report from the division.

Mr. Filmore reported on the organization of the division and provided an update on legislative activity

Mr. Filmore reported the Office of Sponsored Programs submitted 274 grants in 2023.



Mr. Filmore reported on activity in Development to include a 23% increase in alumni donors. There has been an increase in the number of donors and the dollar amount of donations.

Trustee Latta and Chancellor Hawkins will attend the Association of Governing Boards Conference for College Trustees and Chancellors in Boston in March.

- **Athletic Policy Committee, Honorable Ed Crowell**

Trustee Owen called on Mr. Brent Jones, Director of Athletics, to provide the report from the Athletic Policy Committee.

Mr. Jones provided an update from Athletics to include:

- Six teams in post season play
- Most community service hours
- Highest GPA
- Update on football staff and recruiting
- T-day scheduled for April 27<sup>th</sup>
- DeMarcus Ware Day
- Update on Men's basketball
- Only school in Sun Belt to win 20 games in three straight seasons
- Nine straight seasons of sixteen wins for women's basketball
- Spring sports update
- Preview of football schedule
- Conference realignments

Mr. Jones provided a video of athletic highlights.

## V. **New Business**

### **Resolution No. 5**

#### **Honoring Retirees**

**WHEREAS**, the following Troy University faculty and staff members retired in 2023:

Dr. Robert F. Abbey, Jr., Barbara Kim Barron, Dr. Jeffrey Bohler, Olivia L. Brinson, Dr. Gayle L. Bush, Dr. William I. Cheng, Thomas Winton Davis, Dr. Billy Grantham, Audrey S. Hodge, Tracey Lea Hodges, Jeffrey Ickes, Dr. Donnie Jeffrey, Eugene Kermit Johnson, Linda Jordan, Dr. Hae S. Kim, Joanne M. Krist, Dr. Dianne Lawton, William Lewis, Rex Earl Luker, Alyssa Martin Weiler, William Neese, Karen Peters, Elisabeth Fran Smith, Tammy Marie Sneed-Ives, Janiece S.

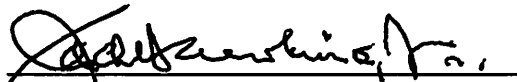
Stafford, Sidney R. Starling, Peggy T. Stewart, Dr. Lance Edward Tatum, Brent Tucker, Richard A. Turpin, Annette Walters, Gena S. Williamson, Dr. Michael Woods


**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that this Board express to these faculty and staff members sincere appreciation for loyal and conscientious service to the University and wish them health and happiness in their retirement.

**ACTION: TRUSTEE WARD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 5. TRUSTEE JOHNSON PROVIDED A SECOND TO THE MOTION. THERE BEING NO DISCUSSION, THE MOTION WAS ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

#### VI. Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, President Pro-Tem Gibson called for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Johnson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

  
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Jack Hawkins, Jr., Ph.D.  
Chancellor, Troy University  
and Secretary, Board of Trustees

  
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C. Gibson Vance  
President Pro Tempore  
Troy University Board of Trustees