



UNC  
**GREENSBORO**  
Board of Trustees

**Athletics Committee**  
**April 9, 2024**  
**1:45 p.m.**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ernest Grant, Chair; David Brown, Dale Phipps, Tim Sessions

**MEMBERS ABSENT WITH NOTICE:** George Hoyle, Awa Mbai

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Chancellor Franklin D. Gilliam, Jr.; Brian Mackin, Director of Athletics; Bob Shea, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration; Jerry Blakemore, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Integrity and General Counsel; Waiyi Tse, Chief of Staff; Kelly Harris, Associate Chief of Staff and Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees, and other members of staff and the general public.

**PROCEEDINGS:**

Chair Ernest Grant called the meeting to order at 1:54 p.m. and read the Conflict-of-Interest Statement from the State Government Ethics Act. No conflicts were identified. Roll call was read, and a quorum was confirmed.

The minutes of the February 20, 2024 meeting were approved without additions or corrections.

**Open Session**

*ATH-1 Student Athlete Guest Speaker – Ayanna “YahYa” Khalfani, Women’s Basketball*

The Committee had the pleasure of hearing from Women’s Basketball student-athlete Yahya Khalfani. A graduate transfer from University of San Diego, Khalfani maintains a 3.3 GPA while pursuing a graduate degree in international business with a focus on human resources. She played 974 minutes this season, scored 364 points, and was a leader on and off the court. Athletics Director Mackin applauded Khalfani’s significant contribution to the team’s success while taking on leadership roles, both on the team and in the student athlete government committee.

Khalfani shared that she transferred to UNCG from the west coast because it provided a vibrant and diverse community as well as the opportunity for her to pursue her academic goals. She discussed the holistic supportive culture of the women's basketball program, which is built around the attributes of Trust, Unity, Service, and Gratitude. She believes that the coaching staff sees and cares for the team members as people before athletes and reported that there is mutual respect. She also noted that the Southern Conference is a more physical and defensive conference than the Big West where she previously played. After graduating this summer, Khalfani hopes to join a professional basketball league overseas.

#### *ATH – 2 Spring Sports Update*

Athletics Director Brian Mackin gave an update on the status of Spring sports.

- Men's Golf is having another great season with several tournament wins. They expect to play in the NCAA tournament which begins next month.
- Women's Golf is also doing well, having placed in the top 5 in each of the five tournaments they have played.
- Baseball has also been successful – their season includes a win over Wake Forest, which was ranked #1 at the time, and #14 NC State.
- Softball is a contender for another SoCon championship – we are hosting the tournament which begins May 8.
- Both the Women's and Men's Tennis teams are competitive. Despite the impacts of budget constraints, the athletes are competing hard and having wonderful student experiences.
- Cross Country and Track have recorded dozens of personal bests this season; men's and women's track just took home seven top-10 finishes last week in High Point.
- Both the Men's and Women's basketball finished the regular season second in the conference. Women's Basketball reached the championship game of the SoCon Conference tournament and then competed in the post season WNIT tournament.
- Mackin reported that there will be a national search for a Baseball Head Coach and that current interim Head Coach Ellis will be included in that search.

AD Mackin and Jerry Blakemore, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Integrity and General Counsel, discussed the new North Carolina law regarding sports gambling and its impact on UNCG.

Taking a conservative approach, General Counsel Blakemore issued a university wide memo advising a blanket prohibition against sports wagering. This is a matter of continual education in the Athletics Department.

AD Mackin provided a brief update on the Spartan's Unite NIL Collective, which has been successful in fundraising for Men's Basketball.

### **Transition to Closed Session**

Chair Grant moved to convene in closed session pursuant to Section 143-318.11(5) and (6) of the North Carolina Open Meetings Law, to consider the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract, and consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an employee or prospective employee.

Trustee Brown seconded the motion, which carried.

### **General Account of Closed Session Discussion**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ernest Grant, Chair; David Brown, Dale Phipps, Tim Sessions

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Chancellor Franklin D. Gilliam, Jr.; Brian Mackin, Director of Athletics; Bob Shea, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration; Jerry Blakemore, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Integrity and General Counsel; Waiyi Tse, Chief of Staff; Kelly Harris, Associate Chief of Staff and Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees

#### *ATH – 3 Head Coach Contracts*

AD Mackin presented four head coach contracts for the committee's discussion and consideration.

### **Open Session**

Following return to open session, Chair Grant confirmed that closed session discussion was limited to the contracts presented in agenda item ATH-3 and invited a motion to approve. Trustee Brown made the motion, which was seconded by Trustee Phipps. The motion carried.

Chair Grant announced that the contracts would be recommended by the Committee for approval by the full Board of Trustees at the April 11, 2024 meeting.

### **Adjournment**

With no new business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Harris  
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees