



**July 15, 2025**  
**Special Called Meeting**  
**1:00 pm**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

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**Members Present:** George Hoyle, Chair; Mae Douglas, Vice Chair; Anita Bachmann, Margaret Benjamin, David Brown; Oita Coleman, Dale Phipps, Matthew Rankin, Tim Rice, Tim Sessoms

**Members Absent with Notice:** Ernest Grant, Linda Sloan

**Others Present:** Chancellor Frank Gilliam; Alan Boyette; Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor; Bob Shea, Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration; Jerry Blakemore, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Integrity and General Counsel; Cathy Akens, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs; Diana Lawrence, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Communications; Patricia Lynch, Interim Vice Chancellor and Chief Human Resources Officer; Tina McEntire; Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management; Waiyi Tse, Chief of Staff; Juan Pleitez, Director of External Engagement; Kelly Harris, Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees; James Lyons, Technology Support Analyst; and other members of staff and general public.

Chair Hoyle called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm, welcomed Trustee Matthew Rankin to the Board, and read the conflict-of-interest statement. No conflicts were identified.

Roll Call was read, and a quorum was confirmed.

**Open Session**

*Action Items*

BOT-1 Consent Agenda

- 1.1 Approval of Minutes – May 13, 2025
- 1.2 Election of Officers for 2025-2026

Chair Hoyle reviewed the items on the consent agenda; all were included in the trustees' pre-meeting materials. There being no questions or requests to discuss either item individually, Hoyle invited a motion to approve. Trustee Brown made the motion; Trustee Benjamin seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

*Discussion Item:*

BOT-2 Campus, System, and Legislative Updates

*Chair's Update*

Chair Hoyle updated the Board on the Board of Governors' directive that all campus board of trustee chairs appoint a subcommittee to review the University's Equality Policy Certification and announced that he was designating, with the System's approval, the standing CARL Committee to assume this oversight function. This designation will be submitted to President Hans. The CARL Committee will convene a special-called session on August 20 in order to meet a September 1 deadline; as such, the Committee will not meet on September 9 as previously scheduled.

Vice Chancellor Blakemore reported that the university was in compliance with the Policy, as certified for the 2023-2024 academic year and currently. CARL Chair Anita Bachmann stated that she had consulted with Vice Chancellor Blakemore and felt confident with the university's compliance activities.

*Chancellor's Updates*

Chancellor Gilliam welcomed Trustee Rankin to the Board and introduced Diana Lawrence, new Vice Chancellor for Strategic Communications, who started in June after holding the equivalent role at Dartmouth. He then reported on several topics: the System personnel cap, state legislative update, federal budget bill, accreditation, and NIL.

*System Personnel Cap*

Gilliam reported that the System Office has issued a directive that all campuses control labor costs in light of proposed cuts to higher education by the North Carolina General Assembly and the federal landscape. Per that directive, total permanent salary spending and total staff headcount is capped at April levels. Chancellors must approve contracts with a value over \$100,000, and they or their designees must approve all new faculty and staff hires, a practice UNCG has had in place for some time. This directive forces campuses to look at positions enterprise-wide and make more strategic decisions ahead of state budget cuts.

*State Legislative Update*

Chair Hoyle and Trustee Sessoms joined the Chancellor and Juan Pleitez, Director of External Engagement, for a June meeting in Raleigh with House Speaker Destin Hall. Chair Hoyle and Chancellor Gilliam have also had individual conversations with Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger. While the conversations were all positive, the General Assembly has not passed a budget for Fiscal Year 25-26 and we don't expect one in the near future.

Per the Office of State Budget and Management's contingency plan, state agencies and universities will operate under a continuing resolution at a level that cannot exceed the recurring certified budget from the prior fiscal year. In addition, there are restrictions on personnel actions, including salary increases. This will not impact the Library project, as all of the appropriations have been received. For other approved projects where we have received a 10% allocation of total funding request (e.g., Moore Building, Chilled Water Phase 2, Campus Elevator replacements), we are in the early stages and in various stages of the RFP process.

## Federal Budget Bill

The meeting included a discussion of the federal budget bill and its implications for UNCG. The bill introduces significant changes to student aid, notably affecting Pell Grant eligibility and loan repayment plans. Pell Grants will no longer be awarded to students enrolled in programs deemed to have “low earnings outcomes,” a designation that will be determined by the Secretary of Education. Additionally, modifications to income-based loan repayment plans are expected to impact recent graduates who benefitted from COVID-era repayment assistance. Despite these changes, which will take effect on July 1, 2026, the overall impact is less severe than anticipated.

## Accreditation

The UNC System is joining a consortium of six public university systems to establish a new accrediting body known as the Commission for Public Higher Education (CPHE). In addition to the UNC System, the consortium includes the State University System of Florida, Texas A&M University System, University System of Georgia, University of South Carolina System, and University of Tennessee System. Accreditation is essential for institutions to maintain eligibility for federal financial aid, as it ensures compliance with standards related to academics, finances, governance, and other institutional functions. This development does not affect UNCG’s ten-year reaffirmation, which was completed in spring 2024. Institutions are expected to begin seeking pre-accreditation status with the new entity in fall 2025. New accreditors must undergo a two-year trial period before receiving federal recognition. While state law requires institutions to change accreditors every eight to ten years, transitioning to CPHE will be voluntary. The System Office has been actively engaging with campus accreditation staff to keep them informed.

## NIL

The meeting also covered updates related to the House settlement on Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) policies. Key outcomes include backpay for former student-athletes, the introduction of permissive revenue sharing allowing institutions to directly compensate athletes, increased scholarship availability, and greater institutional involvement in athlete compensation. For UNCG, the scholarship count will remain unchanged, and the university may distribute permissible benefits to athletes. The only athletic program affected by new roster limits is baseball. To fund the \$2.8 billion in damages resulting from the settlement, the NCAA will withhold revenue distributions to member institutions over a ten-year period. This will impact UNCG’s budget by approximately \$290,000 annually.

## **Adjourn**

There being no further business, Chair Hoyle adjourned the meeting at 1:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Harris  
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees