

NC State Natural Resources Foundation, Inc.
Board Meeting Open Session Minutes
Hybrid: StateView Hotel and via Zoom
April 28, 2022, 3:00 p.m.

Members Present: Hunter Jenkins, Myron Floyd, Genie Ussery, Jennifer Piercy, Miles Daniels, Tom Hines, Gary Allred, Lewis Ledford, Blas Arroyo, Georgia Brown, Barbara McCutchan, Gray Carter, Harry Sideris, Lou Boos, Sam Cook, Brian Dangler, Erin Delehanty

Members Absent: Larry Perkins

Others Present: Shane Jarvis, Jennifer Viets, Cathy Moon, Paula Harrod, David Goodman, Robin Banker, Sarah Corica, Josh Gira, Liz Snyder, Bob Bardon, Chris Collins, Erin Sills, Stacy Nelson, Yvonne Lee, Carolyn Brooks, Ellie Rinehart, Raushanah McNeill, Steve Kelley, Megan Lupek, Gigi Gaultier, Kaly Wall, Griffin Miller, Katy Savant, Rachel Weaver, Megan Lipek, Wallace Layman, Roslyn Powell, Kaly Smith

Chair Jenkins called meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. The Board members were introduced.

Chair Jenkins read the Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest Policy and asked if there were any conflicts of interest. There were none noted.

Dr. Melissa Pasquinelli presented an overview of Academic Affairs Department and introduced the department's staff. The strategic priorities for Academic Affairs is to provide high quality college level support for undergraduate and graduate education, maintain a customer service focus and strive for continuous improvement

Dr. Pasquinelli gave a breakdown of the demographics of students demographically, racially and economically. The College is trying to recruit heavily among the Black population to more closely reflect North Carolina demographics. Undergraduate enrollment has been mostly due to the Environmental Science and Sport Management programs moving to CNR.

Dr. Chris Collins presented the recruitment cycle. Two student ambassadors were introduced and they addressed their role in recruitment and why this has advantages of CNR.

Dr. Megan Lupek gave an overview of the Environmental First Year Program.

The Academic Services and Success Initiatives for Students (ASSIST) program was presented followed by the Ronald and Dale Terry Student Assistance and enrichment Fund which helped 18 students with an average award of \$927.78. There is an Undergraduate Tutoring program in the Academic Affairs Department as well.

CNR is one of the few colleges on campus that does not have a dedicated career services unit.

Chair Jenkins thanked Dr. Pasquinelli and her team for the presentation and put the board in recess at 5:06 p.m. until 8:30 a.m. the next morning.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine H. Moon, Secretary

NC State Natural Resources Foundation, Inc.
Board Meeting Open Session Minutes
Hybrid: StateView Hotel and via Zoom
April 29, 2022 8:30 a.m.

Members Present: Hunter Jenkins, Myron Floyd, Genie Ussery, Jennifer Piercy, Miles Daniels, Tom Hines, Gary Allred, Lewis Ledford, Blas Arroyo, Georgia Brown, Barbara McCutchan, Gray Carter, Larry Perkins, Harry Sideris, Jasmine Varela, Lou Boos, Sam Cook

Members Absent: Brian Dangler, Mary Peloquin-Dodd, Erin Delehanty

Others Present: Shane Jarvis, Jennifer Viets, Cathy Moon, Emily Lowman, Steve Kelley, Rasul Mowat, Robin Banker, Paula Harrod, Stacy Nelson, Liz Snider

Chair Jenkins called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

A motion was made by Lewis Ledford and seconded by Tom Hines to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

Chair Jenkins presented the Conger and Schenck Professorships, neither of which have a Memorandum of Understanding. In practice, the funds from these accounts have been used for expenses including graduate student stipends, etc. but there are no documents to provide details as to what is acceptable. A recommendation was made to the board to assign a fund purpose which would be to support the office of the Professorship. A motion was made by Tom Hines and seconded by Georgia Brown to approve the recommendation for the Conger funds. The same motion was made for the Schenck Professorship with Harry Sideris making the first motion and seconded by Miles Daniels. Both motions carried.

In January, Jewel Walcott former Foundation Secretary, left the University for another opportunity. Cathy Moon, the Foundations Accountant has stepped up to fill the position in the interim. A motion was made by Gary Allred to approve Cathy Moon as Secretary of the Foundation, seconded by Lewis Ledford. The motion carried.

The next item of business was to vote on the recommended General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2023 which was submitted by Dean Floyd. The General Fund budget reflects a decrease in mitigation credits income which has varied in the past few years. It also reflects a decrease in funding for the Forest Assets group which recognizes that we need to use a different funding source to fully fund them primarily because of the reduced mitigation credits.

Another new line item in the General Fund Budget is \$20,000 in scholarships for transfer students. We have had a shortfall in the past because transfer deadlines are after the decision to admit traditional students. At that point most of the scholarship funds are used. This line item will help recruit for some of the under enrolled majors, etc.

Auto expense is projected to be higher in Fiscal Year 23 because the current cars are aging and one needs to be replaced.

The budget was considered by the Audit and Finance Committee and is recommended to the board for approval. A motion was made by Lewis Ledford to approve, seconded by Tom Hines. The motion carried.

Blas Arroyo presented the three year projection for the General Fund Budgets and the Endowment Fund Budget also known as the Timber Deed. The Timber Deed Budget was presented for the Board's information. This budget reflects that the shortfall for the Forest Assets Team support will be covered here. Faculty Startups are reflected in this budget. Faculty Startups cover the expenses to set up labs, graduate students, etc. that we need to recruit new professors as current faculty retire or leave. This is not a one-time item; it is an ongoing expense as we have additional retirements and growth in the College. The College Offices line represents funding for different offices that fall under the Dean's Office-Research, DEI, Advancement, IT, Facilities and Academic Affairs. These are not funded via state dollars.

Chair Jenkins gave the Executive/Nominating Committee Report. We just welcomed four new members-Jazmin Varela, Georgia Brown, Miles Daniels and Gray Carter. We have four positions to fill – Dick Ludington's position which will run until 2024, Chris Davidson's position (which remains unfilled) which will expire in 2025. Genie Ussery and Barbara McCutchan's second terms both expire in September. Chair Jenkins asked for the board to consider who they would recommend for nomination. We are currently balanced with representation across the departments; we encourage considering Diversity and Inclusion. The Nominating Committee will have a virtual meeting over the summer. The goal is to be able to vote on the new members at the Sept 29-30 board meeting.

Gary Allred presented the Forest Management report. The current graduation class is the first pandemic group which means they did not have the benefit of in-person experiences over about half their time in the college. Summer Camps will be back in person under a normal schedule this summer. There have been a lot of improvements at the camp with plans to possibly bring in a caterer to improve the food and to outsource some of the chores currently done by the students. Liz Snyder presented women and non-binary individuals in the Forestry Program. There have been a series of three pop-up dinners on the Schenck. One was a 9 course dinner for a wedding. This is a potential new revenue source.

Sam Cook gave an overview of the solar project at Hofmann. There is one year left on the Duke Energy Progress (DEP) option. Negotiations are underway now on the first renewal with the University Real Estate Department and Mary Peloquin-Dodd. DEP wants to renew for 1-2 years. Additionally on Hofmann, negotiations continue on leasing some of the facilities. A fire was reported yesterday at the Pocosin. This is a slow moving fire and expected to be contained.

There are two mitigation banks; one is at Hofmann, the other is Weyerhaeuser, also known as Batchelor's Delight. Nothing has been sold from Hofmann for about three years. Covid slowed down sales and we are hoping to increase sales as construction activity improves.

Genie Ussery presented the Advancement Committee report. The Think and Do Campaign was discussed and how it impacted CNR. The celebration at the museum and Day of Giving were also reviewed. Ideas were exchanged for strategies for moving forward. For CNR, the biggest source of giving is corporate. We hope to work with University Advancement to educate CNR alumni on planned giving. NCSU has risen to #3 in fundraising against our peers. The set of peers is determined by the University. During the Campaign, Forest Biomaterials received two

gifts in kind which included software valued at over \$1 million. When Covid hit, there was concern that fundraising would slow down, but in the end, every unit exceeded its goals. Staff continue to move forward to deal with the changing environment. We are at 92% of the current goal of \$3.5 million with stretch goal of \$4 million. The University is probably about three years from starting the next campaign. Fundraising doesn't stop. The College must decide how to evolve in the new environment.

Blas Arroyo presented the Audit and Finance report. The largest substantive item was discussion of the investments and a pie chart was provided to the board with a summary as of December 31, 2021. The Foundation had total investable assets of \$56.3 million as of that date. Operating Cash made up \$4.2 million of total investable assets of which approximately \$2.1 million was invested in the NC State Intermediate Term Fund (ITF). This fund realized a net investment return of 3.4% for the one-year period ended December.

Life Income Funds consisted of two Charitable Remainder Trusts managed by TIAA-Kaspick and had a market value of \$1.7 million at December 31, 2021. These funds experienced a net return of 12.1% for the one-year period ended December 31.

The bulk of the Foundation's assets are endowments valued at \$50.4 million at December 31, 2021. These are invested in the NC State Investment Fund, Inc. which realized a net investment return of 28.8% for the year ended December 31, 2021, compared to a benchmark of 15.1%. The fiscal year-to-date return for the six months ended December 31, 2021 was 7.9% compared to the benchmark of 4.8%.

Endowment spending budgets including both programmatic spending and endowment assessments for the College, total \$6.4 million for the next fiscal year, FY23. This is an increase of \$792.4 thousand (14.1%) over the current fiscal year's budgets of \$5.6 million. Of the FY23 budget amount, \$1.8 million was generated by endowments held by the Natural Resources Foundation and \$4.6 million from endowments benefiting the College held by other university-associated entities

The Treasurer presented the results of the National Association of Business Officers rankings; NCSU ranked 7th among its peers or \$63,000 per student.

Dean Floyd presented an update of the College, including campus updates, CNR highlights, award and recognitions, and challenges.

There is a new UNC system budget model for enrollment growth. In the past, we were funded based on the number of students in arrears. The new plan will be based on graduation rates. It also is budgeted at the same cost per undergraduate and graduate/PhD students regardless of major. There is concern that it costs more to educate STEM PhDs versus History undergraduates, for example. NCSU has not crafted a response yet. This will go into effect in FY 24. In the past there was an incentive to grow program because it increased funding. In the future, that will not be the case so we will have to consider the best way to grow.

There are three new deans appointed in Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, Veterinary Medicine. Leadership Searches are underway for a Dean of CALS, Senior Vice Provost of Instructional Programs and Senior Vice Provost of Interdisciplinary Programs. The Chancellor has been highly supportive of Interdisciplinary Programs; CGA is one of those as well as the Coastal Resiliency Initiative

Effective March 7th, Jennifer Piercy has stepped in as Interim Assistant Dean for Advancement. Pack the Museum was held on April 1, 2022 and was a huge success. The event was held to celebrate the end of the Think and Do Campaign which raised over \$41 million for CNR.

The Search Committee has been chosen for the Associate Dean for Advancement position. The position will be posted shortly. The board is invited to help to refresh the position description.

Dr. Robert Scheller is now Associate Dean for Research. The Research department is now fully staffed. Dean Floyd presented highlights from the Research Office.

Josh Gira, Director of Information Technology and Operations is working on creating student collaboration spaces. The Biltmore Lobby will be renovated this summer. CNR has collaborated with the College of Design on the outdoor space on the lower level of Biltmore and construction is underway. Some of the materials which will be used are color changing materials which change color based on humidity and temperature, developed by Dr. Natalie Lavoine. The Natural Resources Library is open. There are student collaboration areas for study. An Open House is scheduled for May 12th. The café in the library won't be open until September.

Dr. Bob Bardon has been reappointed to another 5 year term. Extension Highlights and Updates were presented. There are three Extension programs in the College – Forestry, Wood Products Extension and Tourism Extension.

Ongoing leadership searches are for a Department Head in Forest Biomaterials and Assistant Dean of Advancement, as well as three Distinguished Professorships; The Ecology Wildlife Professor in Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Biology, the Goodnight Professor of Coastal Resilience and Sustainability and the Karla Henderson Professor in Parks Recreation and Tourism Management.

Some examples of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion funded projects were presented.

The Strategic Plan is being implemented. Departments have been tasked with determining how the plan will be implemented. The leadership team will sift through the ideas so that the best ideas can be submitted to the University.

Dean Floyd presented faculty awards. The 2022 Goodnight early career scholars are Zakiya Legget and Rajan Parajuli. Each will receive \$22K for each of three years each.

Kathryn Stevenson and Jack Wang are the 2021-2022 University Faculty Scholars each will receive a permanent 5% increase in salary.

2022 Alumni Association Faculty Awards went to Jonathan Casper and Lokendra Pal. Each will receive a check for \$4,000. On the graduate side, Erin Seekamp received a 2022 NCS Alumni Association Faculty Award..

Extension and Engagement awards went to Rachel Cook and Richard Venditti. Governor Cooper recognized PhD student Deja Perkins as an outstanding black student in STEM.

The challenges before the College now are:

- Health and wellbeing of students, staff and faculty
- Leadership transitions

- Staff and faculty retention
- Facilities and upgrades

Dean Floyd thanked the board for their overall support of the College and students.

Jennifer Piercy presented an Advancement Update. The Day of Giving was March 23, 2022, and \$251,592 was raised. The Forestry Club won the student organization challenge, raising over \$18,000 and receiving \$2,500 in challenge funds as a result. The next best student organization was \$3,300. \$25,395 was raised for Slocum Camp Lodge. CNR won several challenges and earned \$9,700. Day of Giving 2023 will be March 23, 2023.

The Pack the Museum event was successful. We are at 92% of fundraising goal for the year, or \$3,224,042. At March 31st, \$106,000 of the \$90,000 goal for CNR Enhancement has been raised. Last years' Day of Giving was higher because we were closing gifts for the Campaign and incentivized for that day in particular. In last year's total, there was a \$35 million gift to the University.

There was a great amount of effort to put the meeting together given turnover and Dean Floyd thanked the staff for making it go smoothly. He also thanked the Board for their willingness to be supportive which motivates our staff.

A motion to adjourn was made by Tom Hines and seconded by Miles Daniels. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m. The next meeting will be September 29-30, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine H. Moon, Secretary