

Board of Trustees  
External Affairs Committee  
April 27, 2023 10:00 a.m.  
Burney Ballroom A

Draft Meeting Minutes

The External Affairs committee met on Thursday, April 27 at 10:07 a.m. The following board members were present: committee members Agnes Beane, Gidget Kidd, Hank Miller, Bobby Rippey, Yousry Sayed, and Kevin Sills. Chairman Sills called the meeting to order, welcomed trustees and read the required statement of ethics. No conflicts were identified. Chairman Sills called for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 26, 2023 meeting. Gidget Kidd motioned to approve, and Bobby Rippey seconded. The motion passed, and the minutes from the last committee meeting were approved. Chairman Sills then introduced Mike Oblinger, Director of Athletics.

Assistant to the Chancellor Mark Lanier provided updates on federal and state governmental relations. He shared information about the 2023 UNCW request for Community Project Funding to build UNCW's program in maritime cybersecurity. Letters of support were provided by the NC Ports and the City of Wilmington. Congressman Rouzer has submitted the request.

Mr. Lanier provided the committee with an update on the General Assembly's regular session. He said that the budgetary priority for UNCW for 2023 remains the request for funding for "Critical Workforce Programs, Research, and Teaching." It is a total request of \$16M, with \$8M recurring in each year of the biennium. He said that the House version of the budget included university faculty and staff salary increases of 7.5% across the biennium and included three renovation projects at UNCW (Cameron School of Business, Deloach Hall, and Kenan Auditorium).

Chairman Sills called on Eddie Stuart, vice chancellor for university advancement to provide an Advancement Campaign update. The current fiscal year to date total is \$11,325,813, with the Campaign total of \$109,783,756. He also shared the latest successful events including Homecoming, Chancellor's Installation, and Seahawks Give, which raised \$268,688.09. Upcoming events include the Commencement Toast and hosting the UNC System Advancement Symposium. That concluded his report.

Chairman Sills then called on Andrea Weaver for an Office of University Relations presentation. Jarrett Piner, director of IT project management, shared a preview of the new UNCW website. The site was redesigned incorporating feedback from internal and external constituents and is compatible with different devices. The site will be launched on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm. A website redesign team will work with over 200 content managers across campus to manage the site.

Chairman Sills then opened the floor for old business or new business to report. With none brought forward, he shared the reception this evening at 5:30 p.m. at the Aquaculture Facility on Harbor Island at Wrightsville Beach. Chairman Sills adjourned the meeting at 10:49 a.m.