



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

To: The Tuskegee University Community

From: Norma Clayton,
Chair of the Board

Lily D. McNair, Ph.D.
President

Date: September 23, 2020

Subject: Fall Meeting of the Board of Trustees

The Tuskegee University Board of Trustees (“Board”) held its fall meeting September 18-19, 2020 via teleconference. During the meeting, the Board received updates on the university’s overall performance FY 2019-20. President McNair and her cabinet also discussed the university’s COVID-19 pandemic recovery plan, fall enrollment, and other academic and student related issues.

Board committees met on Friday, September 18, followed by the full Board of Trustees meeting on Saturday, September 19. During the meeting, President McNair reported on significant activities since the June retreat. The highlights focused on the COVID-19 Pandemic Recovery Plan, the recent US News and World Report rankings, and the university’s five-year strategic plan, among other topics. The following summarizes the discussions/actions taken during the meeting.

- 1) President McNair offered updates on the pandemic recovery plan, which outlined the policies and procedures regarding the opening and maintaining of a safe campus environment.
- 2) In the 2020 US News and World Report rankings, Tuskegee jumped four spots to #4 among all HBCUs. The university ranked #20 among all southern regional universities – universities that offer a broad range of baccalaureate degrees, master’s degrees and few doctoral degrees.
- 3) President McNair discussed the historic \$20 million gift from philanthropist Mackenzie Scott her principles around utilizing the historic gift to carry out important strategic initiatives for the university.
- 4) President McNair informed the Board of her decision to re-launch the strategic planning process and that it would be co-led by Dr. Kellei Samuels and Dr. Clayton Yates. An initial



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draft will be presented during the Winter Meeting in January 2021. The final draft will be submitted to the Board for approval during the June 2021 Summer Meeting/Retreat.

- 5) The Finance Subcommittee on Investments received updates on the performance of the university's endowment portfolio from our investment advisors, Prime Buchholz & Associates. The value of the endowment as of August 31, 2020 was \$133.3 million.
- 6) The Board approved the following recommendations of the educational policies committee:
 - a. Due to low enrollment, industry saturation and market outlook, it was determined that the hospitality management degree program would not be offered in the Andrew F. Brimmer College of Business and Information Science. The currently enrolled students will be allowed to finish their degree.
 - b. Award emeritus status to Dr. Ntam Baharanyi, who recently retired as Professor in the College of Agriculture, Environment and Nutrition Sciences (CAENS). Dr. Baharanyi, a member of the Tuskegee faculty for 34 years, served as Professor, Extension Economist, Assistant Extension Administrator, Acting Extension Administrator and Interim Associate Provost.