



**MINUTES OF THE
TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday, April 25, 2024**

I. Call to Order

The Board of Regents of Texas Southern University held a regular meeting on Thursday, April 25, 2024. Mr. Brandon L. Simmons, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 9:16 AM. The meeting convened at Texas Southern University, Library Learning Center, 3100 Cleburne Street, Houston, Texas 77004.

II. Roll Call

The following Board Members were in attendance and constituted a quorum:

Mr. Brandon L. Simmons, Chairman
Mr. James M. Benham
Ms. Stephanie D. Nellons-Paige, *virtual*
Ms. Marilyn A. Rose
Ms. Caroline Baker Hurley
Dr. Richard A. Johnson III

The following Board Members were absent:

Ms. Pamela A. Medina
Mr. Dylan C. Getwood, Student Regent, *nonvoting*

Other Attendees: Interim President Dr. Mary Evans Sias, Raijanel Crockem, Carl Goodman, Kevin Granger, Melanie Jackson, Latonya Joseph, Lisa McBride, Charlie Nhan, John Pittman, Georgia Provost, Faith Ruiz, Chris Wilson (virtual)

III. Prayer

Chairman Simmons invited Ms. Georgia Provost to announce that Bishop C.D. Boulden would deliver the prayer. Following the announcement, Bishop Boulden led the attendees in a spoken prayer.

IV. Open Forum

Chairman Simmons reminded the speakers of the Open Forum rules that are governed by the Board Bylaws and reiterated the significance of being respectful.

The following individuals participated in the Open Forum:

- Dr. Rasoul Saneifard, Faculty Senate Chair
- Ms. Ioke Frank-Williams, Staff Counsel Chair
- Dr. Anjanette Wyatt
- Ms. D'Mya McCray



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V. Conflict of Interest Statement

Chairman Simmons addressed the matter of conflict of interest with the Board members, inquiring if any member had a conflict of interest to disclose regarding the items on today's agenda. Observing no such disclosures, he proceeded with the agenda.

VI. Chairman's Comments

Chairman Simmons gave a few special announcements regarding recent happenings at TSU, to include:

- TSU has partnered with United Aviate, United's pilot career development program, to offer former and current students and Certified Flight Instructors a secure path to United Airlines.
- The Bullard Center for Environmental and Climate Justice and Clean Energy Fund of Texas was awarded \$156 million by the EPA's Solar for All program.
- TSU was featured by Scripps News (national) for its response to FAFSA rollout challenges.

Dr. James White also gave a few brief remarks after being acknowledged by Chairman Simmons.

VII. Board Business

- Item A: Approval for past meeting minutes of the Board of Regents
[Motion to approve by Chairman Simmons; 2nd by Regent Benham; Motion passes]
- Item B: Discussion and Selection of the Sole Finalist for the President of Texas Southern University

Chairman Simmons motioned to proceed with the discussion, presenting the sole finalist, Vice Admiral James Crawford III, along with his background and qualifications for the presidency.

After presenting the background and qualifications of the sole finalist for the presidency, additional remarks were provided by the other Regents in attendance. Chairman Simmons then invited Vice Admiral James Crawford III to address the audience, during which he gave a few brief remarks.

[Motion to approve by Chairman Simmons; 2nd by Regent Johnson; Motion passes]

VIII. Committee Reports

Academic Affairs, Research & Student Life – Dr. Richard Johnson

Provost Goodman presented information on the following items for approval:

- Item A: Candidates for Rank, Promotion, and Tenure FY 2023-2024
[Motion to approve by Regent Johnson; 2nd by Regent Hurley; Motion passes]



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- Item B: Request to Negotiate and Execute a Contract to Modernize the Access Control System for Campus Dormitories
[Motion to approve by Regent Johnson; 2nd by Regent Rose; Motion passes]
- Item C: Request Approval to Negotiate and Execute the Purchase of an Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS)
[Motion to approve by Regent Johnson; 2nd by Regent Benham; Motion passes]
- Item D: Approval is Requested to Purchase Computers for the College of Science Engineering and Technology's Student Computer Lab
[Motion to approve by Regent Johnson; 2nd by Regent Benham; Motion passes]
 - **Item D Action Item:** *Regent Benham asked Dr. Goodman for the percentage of our students who do not own a computer.*
- Item E: Request Approval to Negotiate and Execute Contract Renewals for Subscriptions and Databases with EBSCO, Elsevier & ProQuest for Library Learning
[Motion to approve by Regent Johnson; 2nd by Regent Hurley; Motion passes]

Administration & Finance – Mr. James Benham

Mr. John Pittman presented the following items for approval:

- Item A: Approval is Requested to Execute a Contract for Banking Services for the University
[Motion to approve by Regent Benham; 2nd by Regent Johnson; Motion passes]
- Item B: Approval is requested to Execute a Contract for Bookstore Operation Services
[Motion to approve by Regent Benham; 2nd by Regent Rose; Motion passes]
- Item C: Approval is Requested to Execute a one-year Contract for Risk Management Services for the University
[The item has been removed from consideration by the administration.]
- Item D: Approval is requested to Increase Housing & Dining Rates for Fiscal Year 2025
[Motion to approve by Regent Benham; 2nd by Regent Johnson; Motion passes]
- Item E: Approval is requested to Simplify Texas Southern University's Endowment Managers
[Motion to approve by Regent Benham; 2nd by Regent Hurley; Motion passes]

Mr. John Pittman was scheduled to present information on the following item:

- Item F: Presentation of FY24 Annual Financial Report by FORVIS (BKD)



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[The item has been removed from consideration by the administration.]

Mr. Chris Wilson virtually presented information on the following item:

- Item G: Endowment Performance & Update (February 29, 2024)

Personnel and Litigation – Ms. Caroline Baker Hurley

Mr. Charlie Nhan presented information on the following item for approval:

- Item A: Request Approval to Extend the Employment Contract for Men's Head Basketball Coach

[Motion to approve by Regent Hurley; 2nd by Regent Johnson; Motion passes]

IX. President's Report

Before delivering the President's Report, President Sias commenced by introducing the incoming SGA President, Katelyn Vault. She approached the podium and delivered a few brief remarks. Following her, the President acknowledged the outgoing Mr. & Miss TSU, Mr. Javion Cox and Miss Kynnedi Brown, who also came to the podium and shared a few remarks. Subsequently, the President introduced the incoming Mr. & Miss TSU, Mr. Jackie Edwards and Ms. Briana Turner, who greeted the audience with waves.

Following these introductions, Chairman Simmons offered a few brief remarks, expressing gratitude to the student leaders. He then extended an invitation to the Regents, the President, and the Royal Court to gather for a group photo.

After the group photo session, Dr. Crockem was invited to provide a summary of updates to the Board concerning Key Performance Measures at the University.

President Sias then presented the following informational item:

- Item A: President's Report

At the onset of her presentation, President Sias expressed commendations to VP Granger for the recent victory of the men's track and field team, securing the 2024 Indoor Championship and marking its 11th SWAC indoor title in school history. Following this recognition, VP Granger introduced several members of the team present at the meeting, along with Head Coach Clyde Duncan. They were subsequently invited to the podium to individually introduce themselves to the audience.

Another student, Mr. Kohl Crawford who is a rising junior, was honored as he was named one of 20 Harvard University Dubois Scholars recipients. Mr. Crawford also approached the podium and gave a few brief remarks.

- **President's Report Action Item:** *Regent Johnson requested that Ms. Melanie Jackson provide a written report of all demolition projects to the Regents and President.*



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X. Consent Docket

The following items were tabled until after Executive Session by Chairman Simmons:

- Item A: Student Accounts Receivable Write-Off
- Item B: Requesting Approval to Amend FY 24 Operating Budget for \$146,360,541
- Item C: Approval is requested to renew Commercial General Liability (CGL), General Liability Excess (GLX) and Internships & Professional Liability (IPL) Insurance
- Item D: Texas Southern University Fiscal Year 2025 Holiday Calendar

XI. Executive Session

The Board entered into Executive Session for a discussion on specific matters as outlined in the Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 through 551.074 at 11:55 A.M.

XII. Reconvene and Roll Call

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 2:21 P.M. with a roll call.

The following Board Members were in attendance and constituted a quorum:

Mr. Brandon L. Simmons, Chairman
Mr. James M. Benham, Vice Chair
Ms. Marilyn A. Rose, Secretary
Ms. Caroline Baker Hurley
Dr. Richard A. Johnson III
Mr. Dylan C. Getwood, Student Regent, *Nonvoting*

The following Board Members were absent:

Ms. Stephanie D. Nellons-Paige, Second Vice Chair
Ms. Pamela A. Medina

XIII. Consent Docket

Chairman Simmons presented the following items for approval:

- Item A: Student Accounts Receivable Write-Off
- Item B: Requesting Approval to Amend FY 24 Operating Budget for \$146,360,541
- Item C: Approval is requested to renew Commercial General Liability (CGL), General Liability Excess (GLX) and Internships & Professional Liability (IPL) Insurance
- Item D: Texas Southern University Fiscal Year 2025 Holiday Calendar

[Motion to approve Items A, C and D collectively by Chairman Simmons; 2nd by Regent Benham; Motion passes]



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[With no objections, Item B was removed from the Consent Agenda for consideration at the next Special Called Board meeting by Chairman Simmons.]

XIV. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the regular board meeting by Chairman Simmons at 2:24 P.M.; 2nd by Regent Johnson; Motion passes.

SIGNATURE OF APPROVAL

I certify that the foregoing minutes constitute a true, correct, and complete record of the regular board meeting of the Board of Regents of Texas Southern University, held in Houston, Texas on April 25, 2024.

Faith Ruiz
Executive Director
Board Relations Office

Date Approved by the Board

Marilyn A. Rose
Secretary
Board of Regents