MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Claibourne D. Smith, Chairman
Dr. John Land, Vice Chairman
Dr. A. Richard Barros
Mrs. Richelle Vible
Mr. Charles McDowell
Mrs. Willa Jordan
Mr. Bennie Smith
Dr. Calvin Wilson
Mr. José Echeverri
Mr. James Stewart
Dr. Matthew Mackie
Dr. Allen L. Sessoms, President
Delaware State University

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Kenneth Bell, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Mrs. Carolyn Curry, Vice President for Development and University Relations
Mr. Mark Farley, Vice President for Human Resources and Legislative Affairs
Mr. Amir Mohammadi, Vice President for Business and Administrative Affairs
Dr. Rodger Summers, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Russell Merrill, Vice President and Chief Information Officer
Mr. Rick Costello, Athletic Director
Dr. Lee Streetman, Faculty Senate Chair
Mrs. Terry Coleman, Executive Assistant to the President
Mr. Keith Ellerbe, SGA Vice President

Chairman Claibourne D. Smith welcomed all to the September Board of Trustees meeting. Chairman Smith yielded to Mr. Charles McDowell, nominating committee chair, who made the following recommendation to re-elect Dr. John Land as a Trustee of the Board of the University for another six year term ending August 31, 2013.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to re-elect Dr. Land to the Board for another six year term ending August 31, 2013.

The motion passed unanimously.
Chairman Smith administered the oath of office to Dr. Land for another six year term ending August 31, 2013.

Chairman Smith announced that if anyone wished to record the audio portion of this meeting, Delaware law requires that they announce their intention before they begin recording and that minutes of this meeting will be taken and made available once approved. There were two individuals who asked for permission to record the open sessions of the meeting, i.e. Delaware State News Reporter and a private citizen.

Following the agenda, Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to approve the minutes of the June 14 & 28, 2007 meetings of the Board of Trustees respectively.

The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Smith yielded to the Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Mrs. Carolyn Curry, who introduced several members of her Enrollment Management Team to the Board of Trustees. Mrs. Curry highlighted the exceptional teamwork demonstrated by members of her team prior to and during the summer orientation and registration sessions. She also thanked her colleagues Mr. Amir Mohammadi and Dr. Russell Merrill for their expertise, hard work and support given to the Enrollment Management Division.

Chairman Smith stated that there were legal and personnel matters to discuss; therefore, he wanted to move into executive session.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to go into executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters at 1:30 p.m.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting resumed in open session at 1:45 p.m.

Chairman Smith called for Committee Reports.

STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Dr. John Land, chair)

Vice Chairman Land thanked the Board for their vote of confidence to re-elect him to another six year term as a Trustee of the University. Dr. Land indicated that he had met with the new Athletic Director, Mr. Rick Costello, and was very impressed with his leadership style. After introducing the AD to the Board, he yielded the floor to Mr. Rick Costello.
Mr. Rick Costello gave brief comments regarding his vision to excellence; i.e. students first and athletes second. He remarked that he was excited to be at DSU and how proud he was of his student athletes, experienced coaching staff and to have the support of the Board of Trustees. AD Costello encouraged everyone to come out and support the Hornet Football Team on Thursday, October 4, 2007 and that the game will be nationally televised on ESPNU. Dr. Land returned to the chair and introduced the interim Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. Rodger Summers to the Board.

Dr. Summers commented that his goal was to redefine the Division of Student Affairs to include providing more weekend activities for the students and working with Student Government Association. He stated that he was pleased to be at Delaware State University and congratulated his colleagues on the opening of a great year.

Vice Chairman Land returned to the chair and commented that this year’s Convocation was the best in all his years at DSU. He remarked that it was standing room only and that President Sessoms presented a complete overview of the State of the University. He reported that the Student Affairs Committee met with the Student Government Association Leaders on September 6, 2007. At that meeting, the SGA and class officers presented a list of their goals, objectives and new initiatives for this school year. Vice Chairman Land commented that leadership development was a primary focus of the new SGA leaders.

Dr. Land concluded his report by listing the following schedule of meetings of the Student Affairs Committee of the Board: October 10 (Athletic Coaches); November 14 (VP Student Affairs); January 9 (Security Staff) and February 13 (Academic Enrichment). He indicated that there may be other meetings added to the schedule if necessary.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to accept the report from the Student Affairs Committee.

The motion passed unanimously.

EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE (Dr. A. Richard Barros, chair)

Dr. Barros reported that the Educational Policy Committee met on August 31, 2007 and that there items for Board action. Prior to the reading of the motions, Dr. Barros commented on the creation of a joint committee to look at University conflicts and agreements in order to establish a better working relationship with the faculty. He stated that a meeting will be held on Monday, November 5, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. in the MBNA Building – Room 310 and that the regular meeting of the Faculty Senate will begin at 4:00 p.m. Dr. Barros has asked that each group (EPC and Faculty Senate) submit an issue to be placed on the agenda for discussion during this meeting of November 5, 2007. He stated that he is looking forward to a better relationship with the Faculty Senate.
Dr. Barros read the following motions for Board approval:

MOTIONS FOR EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE

ACTION ON RELOCATION AND NAME CHANGES FOR ACADEMIC UNITS

The Educational Policy Committee met on August 31, 2007 and moved that the Board of Trustees approve the following recommendations:

MOTION: that the Sports Sciences department be moved from the College of Education and Sport Sciences to the College of Health and Public Policy.

It was moved and properly seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: that the name change for the College of Education and Sport Sciences to the College of Education.

It was moved and properly seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: that the name change from the department of Accounting and Finance to the department of Accounting, Economics and Finance.

It was moved and properly seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: that the name change for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences to the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

It was moved and properly seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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Date BOT Approved Motions

ACTION ON CALENDAR RECONCILIATION BETWEEN EPC & CBA SCHEDULES

MOTION: that the Educational Policy Committee’s recommendation to the BOT shall satisfy the requirement of article 7.2.3.3 of the CBA.
NOTE: Article 7.2.3.3 of the CBA states: “The University shall normally notify all unit members of the terms and conditions of their appointment for the following academic or fiscal year on or before April 1.”

It was moved and properly seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION FOR EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE

ACTION ON FORMAL APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH DEPARTMENT

The Educational Policy Committee moved that the Board of Trustees approve the following recommendation:

MOTION: to formally approve the establishment of a Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics in the College of Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Technology.

It was moved and properly seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to accept the report from the Educational Policy Committee.

The motion passed unanimously.

THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE (Ms. Vible & Mr. Lawrence)

Ms. Vible reported that at the last meeting in June the Board approved the 2007-2008 Budget with the caveat that the Finance Committee would review actual enrollment numbers in comparison with the budget. She indicated that the University is on budget and that the Finance Committee would continue to monitor and review the budget and bring any adjustments as needed.
In other matters, Ms. Vible stated that the Finance Committee wished to make a presentation and recommendation with respect to the proposed bond financing. She gave an overview of the tax-exempt Resolution Authorizing Bond Financing document, as presented.

Prior to the motion, Mr. McDowell stated that one of the matters to be considered in the proposed resolution concerning the bond financing was confirming the administration's continuing to retain the law firm of Potter Anderson & Corroon as the University's bond counsel as it has done for the last 15 years. Mr. McDowell noted that he is a retired partner of Potter Anderson & Corroon from whom he receives pension payments and that while he does not believe this relationship constitutes a conflict of interest under the University's bylaws, he will nevertheless recuse himself from participation in the deliberations on the matter. Mr. McDowell then left the meeting room.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the repayment of the bond as noted on page 4 of the Resolution Authorizing Bond Financing document, as presented.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to adopt and ratify the Delaware State University Resolution Authorizing Bond Financing for the “Project” as described in the document presented.

The motion passed unanimously.

After the motion passed, Mr. McDowell rejoined the meeting.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to accept the report of the Finance Committee.

The motion passed unanimously.

THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENTS (Mr. Marvin Lawrence, chair)

Mrs. Carolyn Curry, vice president for institutional advancement, reported in the absence of Mr. Lawrence that the Development and Investments Committee met on September 13, 2007 and that the University has an endowment of $20.7M.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to accept the report of the Committee on Development and Investments.

The motion passed unanimously.
AUDIT COMMITTEE (Mr. José F. Echeverri, chair)

Mr. Echeverri reported that the Audit Committee met on September 6, 2007. He commented that the external audit will be completed by October 17, 2007. Mr. Echeverri gave an overview of committee responsibilities with the external and internal auditors working for the University. He remarked on the functions and responsibilities of the internal auditor and reiterated that the external audit will be completed on time.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to accept the report of the Audit Committee.

The motion passed unanimously.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE (Dr. John Land, interim chair)

Dr. Land reported that the Buildings and Grounds Committee has been active and met on August 15 and September 12, 2007 respectively. Dr. Land commented that there were no action items for Board approval.

Dr. Land stated that the Wellness and Recreation Project is scheduled for occupancy by the end of September 2007 (Phase I Strength and Conditioning) and Recreation – Phase II is scheduled for completion in 2008.

In other matters, Dr. Land inquired into the status of a meeting to be scheduled with the Financial Aid Group and joint Sub-Committees of the Board. Mrs. Curry indicated that she would make arrangements for this meeting to take place in the near future.

Chairman Smith thanked the committee chairs for working long hours through many meetings to keep things on track at the University.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to accept the report from the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

The motion passed unanimously.

THE PRESIDENT’S REPORT (Dr. Allen Lee Sessoms, president)

President Sessoms commented on the committee structure of the Board in that it is crucial and a most effective way to do the work of the institution. He echoed the Board Chair’s sentiments that it is a privilege to work with all of you. President Sessoms yielded to Dr. Ken Bell, interim provost and vice president for academic affairs.
Dr. Bell introduced the new Dean of Libraries, Dr. Matthew Simon. Dr. Bell commented that Dr. Simon has been busy meeting with faculty, staff, and students and he has experience in fundraising and has worked as an educational consultant in the past.

In other matters, Provost Bell remarked that the faculty is second to none – working on major research collaborations with international programs and prestigious Universities in the United States. The University’s graduate students are involved in research, as well as the undergraduate students. Dr. Bell yielded to Dr. Samuel Hoff, Chairman of the Faculty Research Committee.

Dr. Hoff announced that faculty research presentations would be on display after the Board Meeting. He indicated this was the second event sponsored in conjunction with the Office of the President. He welcomed everyone to view the research presentations and the reception being held in the Multipurpose Room next to the Harcastle/Selby Board Room. Dr. Hoff informed the Board of Trustees that there would be books, articles, posters, awards, etc. on display and that Dr. William Flayhart, professor emeritus, had copies of his book for all of them.

President Sessoms returned to the chair and mentioned the Schwartz Center activities flier and the Art Center Gallery exhibit will be on display and a lecture series would be held at the Schwartz Center. He commended all the activities and exhibits to the Members of the Board and everyone present. He gave a Power Point presentation on the state of the University which he presented in greater detail during the opening Convocation. Presentation highlights follow:

- 2007 Projected Student Profile
- University Revenue Breakdown
- Endowment Growth
- In-State Tuition and Fees
- Comparable Fees with Institutions Within the Region
- Approved Changes in Academic Units
- International Opportunities
- Research Sampling
- Return on State Investment
- Athletics – (18) Sports and Gender Equity
- Faculty Leaders in the Residential Settings
- Student Affairs Redefined
- Wireless Capabilities (non-residential buildings)
- Strength and Conditioning Project (Phase I) Completion Date: 9/30/07
- Wellness Center – Completion Scheduled for December 2008
- King Student Center will be demolished early 2008
- New Student Center will house larger multi-purpose rooms, bookstore, game room – scheduled for completion in June 2009
Chairman Smith returned to the chair and thanked President Sessoms for an excellent presentation. Chairman Smith mentioned the outstanding presentation given by the SGA Leadership at the Student Affairs Committee meeting on September 6, 2007. He stated that our students are great leaders.

For the record, Vice Chairman Land remarked that this was by far the strongest Board of Trustees ever in terms of commitment to the University and the students.

Chairman Smith asked for public comments. There was one individual who signed up for public comment. Mr. John D. Flaherty commented on the University and Board’s decision not to participate in the SEEDS Program. He commented further that the University should invest the resources and to lay stepping stones for those students who were financially limited to pursue academic excellence.

Dr. Barros responded to Mr. Flaherty’s comments regarding SEEDS in that the program would not work at Delaware State University. Chairman Smith deferred to the Educational Policy Committee to ascertain if the subject needs to be reopened. The Board of Trustees had many meetings on the subject.

According to Chairman Smith, when the legislation was put into place, Delaware State University was not part of the discussion whether students had a choice in the SEEDS Program. To consider such a decision would cost $5M to create more associate degree programs which is not practical or part of the University’s mission. Chairman Smith thanked Mr. Flaherty for his comments.

President Sessoms stated that the University is working with Delaware Technical and Community College to help students transition into DSU. The University is trying to supplement what DTCC does not.

Chairman Smith stated, regrettably, that the SEEDS Program has had a negative impact on the University and that DSU has limited resources.

Chairman Smith reminded Board Members of the Reception for faculty and staff later at the President’s Residence at 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claibourne D. Smith, Chairman

Cynthia Y. Williams, Board Secretary
1. Re-elected Dr. John Land to the Board for a six year term ending August 31, 2013.
2. The Board went into Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters.
3. The Board reconvened in regular session.
4. Approved the minutes of the meeting of June 14 & 28, 2007.
5. Accepted the report from the Student Affairs Committee.
6. Approved the Sports Sciences department be moved from the College of Education and Sport Sciences to the College of Health and Public Policy.
7. Approved the name change for the College of Education and Sport Sciences to the College of Education.
8. Approved the name change from the department of Accounting and Finance to the department of Accounting, Economics and Finance.
9. Approved the name change from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences to the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.
10. Approved the Educational Policy Committee’s recommendation to the BOT shall satisfy the requirement of Article 7.2.3.3 of the CBA.

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NOTE: Article 7.2.3.3 of the CBA states: “The University shall normally notify all unit members of the terms and conditions of their appointment for the following academic or fiscal year on or before April 1.”
11. Approved the establishment of a Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics in the College of Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Technology.

12. Accepted the report from the Educational Policy Committee.

13. Adopted and ratified the Delaware State University Resolution Authorizing Bond Financing for the “Project” as described in the attached document.

14. Accepted the report from the Committee on Finance.

15. Accepted the report from the Committee on Development and Investments.

16. Accepted the report from the Audit Committee.

17. Accepted the report from the Committee on Buildings and Grounds.

18. Approved adjournment.