
MINUTES OF A MEETING
of
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
of
AUBURN UNIVERSITY

April 17, 2026

**SCHEDULE AND AGENDA
APRIL 17, 2026 BOARD MEETING
AUBURN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

I. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

II. Committee Meetings

A. Property and Facilities Committee | Chairperson Z. Smith

Project Approvals:

1. Petrie Hall Restoration – Project Initiation and Architect Selection (Jim Carroll)
2. Jordan-Hare Stadium North Endzone Multipurpose Events Center Addition – Final Approval (Jim Carroll/John Cohen/Bobby Woodard)
3. North Plaza – Project Initiation, Architect Selection, and Final Approval (Jim Carroll/John Cohen/Bobby Woodard)
4. Foy Hall Student Veterans Resource Center Renovation – Project Initiation (Jim Carroll/Bobby Woodard)

Real Estate Approval:

5. Authority to Purchase Existing Building and Land at 177 Technology Parkway in Auburn, Alabama (Jim Carroll/Mark Stirling)

Informational Reports:

6. Davis Aerospace Engineering Hall – Building Envelope Restoration – *For Information Only* (Jim Carroll)
7. Status Updates – *For Information Only* (Jim Carroll)
 - a. Current Status of New Construction/Renovation/Infrastructure Projects with Budgets of \$5,000,000 and Greater
 - b. Quarterly Report for Projects Costing More than \$500,000 but Less than \$5,000,000 – 2nd Quarter, Fiscal Year 2026

B. Academic Affairs Committee | Chairperson Roberts

1. Proposed Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Engineering (Vini Nathan)
2. Proposed Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering (Vini Nathan)

3. Proposed Minor in Civic Life and the Public Good (Vini Nathan)
 4. Agenda Item for the Board of Trustees – *For Information Only* (Vini Nathan)
 5. Proposed Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (Carl Stockton)
 6. Proposed Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and Cybersecurity (Carl Stockton)
- C. Executive Committee | Chairperson Riggins
1. Proposed Awards and Namings (Quentin Riggins)
- D. Trustee Reports
- III. Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
- IV. Proposed Executive Session
- V. Reconvened Meeting of the Board of Trustees
1. Approval of the Minutes of the February 13, 2026 Board Meeting
 2. Awarding of Degrees for Spring 2026
 3. AUM Chancellor’s Report
 4. President’s Report
 5. Action Items and Committee Meeting Reports
- A. Property and Facilities Committee
1. Petrie Hall Restoration – Project Initiation and Architect Selection
 2. Jordan-Hare Stadium North Endzone Multipurpose Events Center Addition – Final Approval
 3. North Plaza – Project Initiation, Architect Selection, and Final Approval
 4. Foy Hall Student Veterans Resource Center Renovation – Project Initiation
 5. Authority to Purchase Existing Building and Land at 177 Technology Parkway in Auburn, Alabama

B. Academic Affairs Committee

1. Proposed Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Engineering
2. Proposed Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering
3. Proposed Minor in Civic Life and the Public Good
4. Proposed Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics
5. Proposed Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and Cybersecurity

C. Executive Committee

1. Proposed Awards and Namings

VI. Recess Meeting

President *Pro Tempore* Sanford convened a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Auburn University on Friday, April 17, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. in the Legacy Ballroom of The Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center.

President *Pro Tempore* Sanford then called upon Board Secretary Waggoner to call the roll. The following voting board members were deemed to be in attendance:

Ms. Caroline M. Aderholt; Mr. William P. Ainsworth; Mr. Michael A. DeMaiores; Mr. Robert W. Dumas; Ms. Elizabeth H. Huntley; Mr. James R. Pratt, III; Mr. James W. Rane; Mr. Quentin P. Riggins; Mr. B.T. Roberts; Mr. M. Clark Sahlie; Mr. James H. Sanford; Mr. Wayne T. Smith; Mr. Zeke W. Smith; Mr. Timothy Vines; and Mr. Walter S. Woltoz.

Governor Kay Ivey, President of the Board, was absent from the meeting.

The individuals listed above represent all persons recognized as voting board members at the time of the meeting.

Also sitting with the Board were the following persons: Dr. Christopher B. Roberts, Auburn University President; and Mr. Jon G. Waggoner, Secretary to the Board of Trustees.

Board Secretary Waggoner welcomed those serving on the Board *ex officio* as follows: Dr. Lori Eckhardt, Faculty Advisor to the Board of Trustees from the Auburn University campus; Dr. Gil Duenas, Faculty Advisor to the Board of Trustees from the Auburn University at Montgomery campus; Mr. Willis Orr, President of the Auburn University Student Government Association; and Mr. Samuel Alford, the President of the Auburn University at Montgomery Student Government Association.

Board Secretary Waggoner also welcomed the following persons that serve Auburn University and AUM in various capacities: Dr. Virginia Davis, Academic Affairs Committee Faculty Representative; Dr. Kira Bowen, Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee Faculty Representative; Dr. Kimberly Pyszka, AUM Committee Faculty Representative; Dr. Kerry Inger, Finance Committee Faculty Representative; Dr. William Lyle, Finance Committee Faculty Representative; Dr. Jason Bryant, Institutional Advancement Committee Faculty Representative; Professor Lauren Redden, Property and Facilities Committee Faculty Representative; Dr. Karen Hopkins, Student Affairs Faculty Representative; Dr. Paul Fox, Student Affairs Faculty Representative; Ms. Anna Thompson, Chair of the Auburn University Administrative & Professional Assembly; Mr. Jason Yeomans, Chair of the Auburn University Staff Council; Dr. Samantha McNeilly, President of the AUM Faculty Senate; Ms. Brooke Nonnenmann, Vice President of the AUM Staff Council; Mr. Pat Henry, Chair of the Auburn University Foundation Board of Directors; Mr. Jeffery Moore, President of the Auburn Alumni Association; and Mr. Rehman Qureshi, President of the Graduate Student Council.

The following persons were also in attendance at the meeting: Dr. Vini Nathan, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs; Ms. Kelli Shomaker, Senior Vice President for Business & Administration and Chief Financial Officer; Dr. Bobby Woodard, Senior Vice President for Student Affairs; Ms. Jaime Hammer, Senior Vice President for Legal Affairs and

General Counsel; Mr. Jim Carroll, Vice President for Facilities Management; Dr. Carl Stockton, Chancellor of AUM; Mr. Mark Stirling, Director of Auburn University Real Estate; Dr. Joffrey Gaymon, Vice President for Enrollment; Mr. Kevin Robinson, Vice President for Audit, Compliance & Privacy; Dr. Jared White, Vice President for Governmental Affairs; and Dr. Jennifer Adams, Vice President for Public Affairs, Communication and Marketing.

The Board then met in various committees, each discussing the items which would later appear on the Reconvened Board Meeting Agenda, as follows:

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
PROPERTY AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE OF THE
AUBURN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026 AT 8:35 A.M.**

Chairperson Z. Smith convened a meeting of the Property and Facilities Committee of the Auburn University Board of Trustees on Friday, April 17, 2026 at 8:35 a.m. in the Legacy Ballroom of The Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center.

After calling the committee meeting to order, Chairperson Z. Smith called upon Mr. Carroll for discussion of the following Property and Facilities Committee agenda items:

1. Petrie Hall Restoration – Project Initiation and Architect Selection

Mr. Carroll reported that the University Administration has proposed the restoration of Petrie Hall. He stated that the project will enable the University to restore the envelope of Petrie Hall, to prepare the building for future programmatic development, and enable this project's construction to align with the timelines of the adjacent Jordan-Hare Stadium North Endzone Multipurpose Events Center Addition and Haley Center Comprehensive Evaluation projects.

Mr. Carroll shared that to facilitate a more timely and efficient design process, the University Architect recommends the approval of CDFL Architects + Engineers of Jackson, Mississippi as the architect for the project.

Mr. Carroll indicated that the project will be financed by University Renovation Program and gift funds.

Mr. Carroll stated that the request before the Board of Trustees is to adopt a resolution to approve the Petrie Hall Restoration project and the selection of CDFL Architects + Engineers of Jackson, Mississippi as project architect.

A motion to report the item favorably to the full Board during the reconvened meeting was received from Mr. W. Smith and seconded by Mr. Dumas. The committee approved the motion by voice vote.

2. Jordan-Hare Stadium North Endzone Multipurpose Events Center Addition – Final Approval

Mr. Carroll reported that the University Administration has proposed the construction of the Jordan-Hare Stadium North Endzone Multipurpose Events Center Addition. He stated that the project will construct a seven-story, approximately 300,000 square-foot addition to the existing stadium. He explained that the program requirements include new campus and gameday kitchens, flexible dining and concession venues, a multi-purpose hall and ballroom, flexible and adaptable spaces for both campus and gameday usage, and new club and premium sites.

Mr. Carroll indicated that the estimated total project cost is \$305 million, to be financed by bond and gift funds.

Mr. Carroll stated that the request before the Board of Trustees is to adopt a resolution providing final approval for the Jordan-Hare Stadium North Endzone Multipurpose Events Center Addition project.

A motion to report the item favorably to the full Board during the reconvened meeting was received from Mr. Riggins and seconded by Ms. Aderholt. The committee approved the motion by voice vote.

3. North Plaza – Project Initiation, Architect Selection, and Final Approval

Mr. Carroll reported that the University Administration has proposed the construction of the North Plaza. He noted that the project will construct an elevated plaza above Heisman Drive between Jordan-Hare Stadium and Petrie Hall, including expanded hardscape and landscape on the plaza and operational support space for the North Endzone Multipurpose Events Center Addition beneath, with additional campus connections to the east and west of Petrie Hall.

Mr. Carroll indicated that the estimated total project cost is \$18 million, to be financed by University General Funds and gift funds.

Mr. Carroll stated that the request before the Board of Trustees is to adopt a resolution to approve the selection of the firm HOK Architects of Kansas City, Missouri as the architect; Robins & Morton of Birmingham, Alabama as the construction manager; and provide final approval for the North Plaza project.

A motion to report the item favorably to the full Board during the reconvened meeting was received from Mr. Sahlie and seconded by Mr. DeMaioribus. The committee approved the motion by voice vote.

4. Foy Hall Student Veterans Resource Center Renovation – Project Initiation

Mr. Carroll reported that Student Affairs has proposed the renovation of a portion of Foy Hall for the Student Veterans Resource Center to provide additional space and resources to accommodate the needs and recognition of student veterans. He explained that the project will enable Student Affairs to expand and enhance the student-veteran-focused space and services including advising, study, and community areas, while improving access to resources to better support the success and well-being of student veterans.

Mr. Carroll stated that the request before the Board of Trustees is to adopt a resolution to approve the Foy Hall Student Veterans Resource Center Renovation project and authorize the commencement of the architect selection process.

A motion to report the item favorably to the full Board during the reconvened meeting was received from Mr. Dumas and seconded by Mr. W. Smith. The committee approved the motion by voice vote.

5. Authority to Purchase Existing Building and Land at 177 Technology Parkway in Auburn, Alabama

Mr. Carroll reported that this proposal involves the purchase of an existing 28,955 square-foot building on an 11.49-acre parcel from Beehive Distribution for \$2,750,000.00, located at 177 Technology Parkway, Auburn, Alabama within the Auburn Technology Park near the Auburn University NCAT facility.

Mr. Carroll explained that the existing building would house the proposed Vehicle Research and Innovation Laboratory (VRIL) for Auburn University's Component Assessment Program. He noted that the VRIL, funded by the Federal Transit Authority, will accommodate certified testing of a range of vehicles, including buses, and be flexible to allow for future opportunities for vehicle technology and design. He added that the facility will require space for vehicle prep, environmental dynamometer testing, emissions testing, and office/conference space.

Mr. Carroll stated that the request before the Board of Trustees is to adopt a resolution approving the offer to purchase the property located at 177 Technology Parkway, Auburn, Alabama for \$2,750,000.00, funded entirely by restricted College of Engineering funds generated from grants/contracts and provided that any proposed sale transactions must be reviewed and approved by the Office of General Counsel prior to closing.

A motion to report the item favorably to the full Board during the reconvened meeting was received from Mr. Vines and seconded by Mr. Sahlie. The committee approved the motion by voice vote.

6. Davis Aerospace Engineering Hall – Building Envelope Restoration – *For Information Only*

Mr. Carroll reported that Auburn University Facilities Management proposed a project to replace the paver system, roofing, exterior glazing, brick and limestone façade on Davis Aerospace Engineering Hall.

The item was presented for information only; no vote was taken.

7. Status Updates – *For Information Only*

Mr. Carroll presented the following items to the Board:

- a. Current Status of New Construction/Renovation/Infrastructure Projects with Budgets of \$5,000,000 and Greater**

b. Quarterly Report for Projects Costing More than \$500,000 but Less than \$5,000,000 – 2nd Quarter, Fiscal Year 2026

The item was presented for information only; no vote was taken.

Chairperson Z. Smith thanked Mr. Carroll for his reports, and with there being no further items, recessed the committee meeting at 9:10 a.m.

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE
AUBURN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026 AT 9:10 A.M.**

Chairperson Roberts convened a meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Auburn University Board of Trustees on Friday, April 17, 2026 at 9:10 a.m. in the Legacy Ballroom of The Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center.

After calling the committee meeting to order, Chairperson Roberts called upon Dr. Nathan for discussion of the following Academic Affairs Committee agenda items:

1. Proposed Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Engineering

Dr. Nathan reported that the Department of Chemical Engineering proposes a new PhD in Biomedical Engineering to expand advanced research and graduate education within the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering. She explained that the program will integrate existing faculty expertise and coursework across engineering disciplines into a unified academic framework, strengthening interdisciplinary collaboration and research capacity. She noted that the program is designed to meet growing workforce demands in Alabama's biomedical and biotechnology sectors and will also support commercialization of Auburn research while preparing highly trained biomedical engineering professionals.

A motion to report the item favorably to the full Board during the reconvened meeting was received from Mr. Z. Smith and seconded by Mr. Ainsworth. The committee approved the motion by voice vote.

2. Proposed Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering

Dr. Nathan reported that the Department of Chemical Engineering in the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering proposes a new Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering featuring thesis and non-thesis options offered on campus and through distance education. She shared that the program will integrate existing faculty expertise and research across engineering disciplines in areas such as biomaterials, medical devices and diagnostics. She noted that the program is designed to strengthen interdisciplinary collaboration and research capacity and will also respond to growing workforce demand in Alabama's biomedical biotechnology and pharmaceutical sectors while creating new graduate pathways for Auburn students.

A motion to report the item favorably to the full Board during the reconvened meeting was received from Mr. Sahlie and seconded by Ms. Aderholt. The committee approved the motion by voice vote.

3. Proposed Minor in Civic Life and the Public Good

Dr. Nathan reported that the proposed Minor in Civic Life and the Public Good will provide

Auburn University undergraduates with an interdisciplinary pathway to develop the knowledge and skills necessary for meaningful participation in civic life. She added that the 15-credit-hour program, housed in University College and open to student of all majors, combines a foundational course of U.S. civic life with coursework in philosophy, political science, history, communication and leadership, culminating in a capstone experience focused on civic engagement and democratic leadership.

A motion to report the item favorably to the full Board during the reconvened meeting was received from Ms. Huntley and seconded by Mr. DeMaioribus. The committee approved the motion by voice vote.

4. Agenda Item for the Board of Trustees – *For Information Only*

Dr. Nathan reported that Auburn University is introducing two new graduate certificates in the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering and approving a program renaming in the College of Nursing to strengthen academic pathways and better align programs with workforce needs.

She stated that the Department of Chemical Engineering has established graduate certificates in Biomaterials, Biomanufacturing, and Biomedical Engineering and Computational Biomedical Engineering, both of which would be offered on campus and online to expand accessible biomedical engineering education and provide specialized training aligned with growing demand in the biotechnology, pharmaceutical, and healthcare sectors.

Dr. Nathan also reported that the College of Nursing will rename its Master of Science Primary Care Nurse Practitioner program to Family Nurse Practitioner to better reflect the program's scope of practice and alignment with national certification standards, while providing greater clarity for students, employers, and external stakeholders.

The item was presented for information only; no vote was taken.

Chairperson Roberts thanked Dr. Nathan for her reports and then called upon Dr. Stockton for discussion of the committee's remaining agenda items.

5. Proposed Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics

Dr. Stockton reported that the College of Sciences has submitted a proposal to create a Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics. He explained that the proposed degree program would provide Auburn University at Montgomery with a rigorous, interdisciplinary curriculum that integrates artificial intelligence, machine learning, robotics, and embedded computing to prepare students for careers at the forefront of AI systems and automation.

He stated that students would build strong foundations in data analytics, machine learning, deep learning, intelligent agents, and generative AI, while advancing into robotics system design, intelligent vision, reinforcement learning, edge-AI mechatronics, and AI-driven

industrial automation. He further reported that the curriculum emphasizes emerging areas including generative AI, large language models, natural language processing, machine speech processing, AI-assisted digital media, and interactive simulation environments.

Dr. Stockton noted that the program emphasizes the tight integration of software, hardware, and algorithms through hands-on laboratories and project-based learning in embedded systems, reconfigurable computing, and real-time AI deployment. He reported that the proposed degree would not require any additional investment in faculty positions, library holdings, or space.

He stated that the proposal for the B.S. in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics has been endorsed by the faculty of the Department of Computer Science, the Dean of the College of Sciences, the Provost, and the Chancellor.

A motion to report the item favorably to the full Board during the reconvened meeting was received from Mr. Vines and seconded by Mr. Riggins. The committee approved the motion by voice vote.

6. Proposed Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and Cybersecurity

Dr. Stockton reported that the College of Sciences has submitted a proposal to create a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and Cybersecurity. He explained that the proposed degree program would provide Auburn University at Montgomery with a comprehensive and practice-oriented curriculum that bridges core information technology foundations with advanced cybersecurity principles.

He stated that, in addition to developing strong security expertise, students would acquire essential IT skills in operating systems, network systems, cloud computing, distributed platforms, embedded and reconfigurable computing, and Internet of Things infrastructures. He further reported that the proposed program emphasizes the design, deployment, management, and reliability of modern computing systems, integrating secure system administration, scalable cloud and network architectures, data protection, and system performance optimization.

Dr. Stockton noted that advanced topics, including secure AI and machine learning platforms, confidential and private computing, distributed ledger technologies, post-quantum security, ethical hacking, and digital forensics, would prepare students to build, operate, and protect complex IT ecosystems. He stated that, through hands-on labs and foundation courses, graduates would be equipped to manage enterprise-scale information systems, ensure their security and resilience, and adapt to emerging technologies and threats across industry, government, and research environments.

He reported that the proposed degree would not require any additional investment in faculty positions, library holdings, or space.

He stated that the proposal for the B.S. in Information Technology and Cybersecurity has been endorsed by the faculty of the Department of Computer Science, the Dean of the

College of Sciences, the Provost, and the Chancellor.

A motion to report the item favorably to the full Board during the reconvened meeting was received from Mr. Z. Smith and seconded by Mr. Ainsworth. The committee approved the motion by voice vote.

Chairperson Roberts thanked Dr. Stockton for his reports, and with there being no further items, recessed the committee meeting at 9:25 a.m.

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
AUBURN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026 AT 9:25 A.M.**

Chairperson Riggins convened a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Auburn University Board of Trustees on Friday, April 17, 2026 at 9:25 a.m. in the Legacy Ballroom of The Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center.

1. Proposed Awards and Namings

Chairperson Riggins asked for a motion to move consideration of the item, a list of proposed awards and namings, to the reconvened meeting.

A motion to report the item favorably to the full Board during the reconvened meeting was received from Mr. Ainsworth and seconded by Mr. Rane. The committee approved the motion by voice vote.

With there being no further items, Chairperson Riggins recessed the committee meeting at 9:30 a.m.

President *Pro Tempore* Sanford then moved to reports from various committee chairpersons and lead trustees as follows:

Alumni

Lead Trustee Dumas reported that the Alumni Engagement team continued to connect alumni, parents, and friends of Auburn through a life-stage-based engagement strategy. He noted that Auburn had more than 257,000 living alumni, including more than 140,000 post-2000 graduates, as well as approximately 223,000 parents and friends.

Lead Trustee Dumas highlighted several spring engagement efforts, including Volunteer Leader Weekend, the Women of Auburn Series, Tiger Giving Day, and the Black Alumni Reunion. He reported that Volunteer Leader Weekend brought alumni volunteer and club leaders to campus for updates, relationship-building, and collaborative engagement, with increased participation over the prior year. He also reported that the Women of Auburn Series included regional events during Women's History Month, and that Tiger Giving Day fully funded all 35 participating projects, exceeding its \$498,000 goal with more than \$655,000 raised.

Lead Trustee Dumas also reviewed upcoming alumni engagement activities for the summer and fall, including the Next Group reception, Memorial Day veteran recognition campaign, Alumni Association Board of Directors meeting, Lifetime Achievement Awards, Auburn on the Hill, the AMBUSH tour, Homecoming activities, the Auburn vs. Tennessee away-game tailgate, and the 20 Under 40 recognition. He noted that the 2026 Lifetime Achievement Awards would mark the 25th anniversary of the event and would recognize Bennie Bray, Harold Melton, Jimmy Rane, George Uthlaut, and Young Alumni recipient Emily Traylor.

Governmental Affairs Committee

Chairperson Rane provided a federal update, reporting that President Roberts and senior leaders visited Washington, D.C., earlier in the year to meet with members of the Alabama congressional delegation, discuss Auburn's priorities for the coming year, and provide an overview of the university's activities. He reported that federal funding legislation was expected to be released during the summer and was anticipated to include many of the initiatives discussed with the delegation.

Chairperson Rane also provided a state update, reporting that the State Legislature adjourned its final session of the quadrennium on April 9, 2026. He noted that what was initially expected to be a relatively quiet and expedited session proved to be more active than anticipated. On the funding side, Chairperson Rane reported that Auburn secured more than \$86 million in new one-time and recurring appropriations.

Institutional Advancement Committee

Chairperson Woltosz reported that the current combined endowment value was \$1.4 billion, with foundation and university portfolio values of \$1.014 billion and \$386 million, respectively. He reported that the combined portfolio's March 2026 monthly return was -4.2%, its

one-year return was 12.7%, and its five-year annualized return was 7.9%. He further noted that, as of April 9, 2026, month-to-date performance stood at a positive 3.0%, reflecting a partial recovery from the volatility experienced in March. During those periods, the portfolio performed in accordance with the policy benchmarks.

Chairperson Woltosz also provided a philanthropy update, reporting that the fiscal year 2026 fundraising goal was \$205 million. He reported that \$114,483,016 had been raised to date, representing 56% of the goal with 52% of the fiscal year elapsed.

Chairperson Woltosz further reported that planning for the university's next comprehensive campaign continued. Advancement was working with university leadership to establish working projects and goals for the university, colleges, and programs; establish a campaign budget; and identify campaign volunteer leadership.

Research and Technology Committee

Chairperson DeMaioribus provided an update on Auburn University's research enterprise, including the current status of the university's research portfolio and ongoing efforts to strengthen research activity across campus. He noted that Auburn continued to support a robust research environment through its commitment to faculty scholarship, student engagement, innovation, and collaboration with external partners.

President *Pro Tempore* Sanford thanked the chairpersons and lead trustees for their reports. He then indicated that the committee meetings and trustee reports were complete.

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
AUBURN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026 AT 9:40 A.M.**

President *Pro Tempore* Sanford convened a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees on Friday, April 17, 2026 at 9:40 a.m. in the Legacy Ballroom of The Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center.

President *Pro Tempore* Sanford asked General Counsel Hammer if there was any pending litigation that needed to be discussed in an executive session. General Counsel Hammer indicated that there was pending litigation that needed to be discussed in an executive session.

President *Pro Tempore* Sanford then asked for a motion for the Board to enter an executive session. A motion was received from Mr. Dumas and seconded by Ms. Huntley. The Board approved the motion by voice vote.

President *Pro Tempore* Sanford recessed the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees at 9:45 a.m.

**MINUTES OF A RECONVENED MEETING OF THE
AUBURN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026 AT 11:00 A.M.**

President *Pro Tempore* Sanford reconvened the meeting of the Board of Trustees on Friday, April 17, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. in the Legacy Ballroom of The Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center.

After reconvening the meeting, President *Pro Tempore* Sanford noted that this was the final meeting for Dr. Lori Eckhardt, Dr. Gil Duenas, and Mr. Samuel Alford in their official capacities as ex officio board members. President *Pro Tempore* Sanford recognized each of the outgoing ex officio members and called upon them to offer farewell remarks. Following their remarks, President *Pro Tempore* Sanford thanked Dr. Eckhardt, Dr. Duenas, and Mr. Alford for their service and contributions to the university.

President *Pro Tempore* Sanford then asked for a motion to adopt the minutes of the February 13, 2026 meeting. A motion was received from Ms. Huntley and seconded by Mr. Sahlie. The Board approved the motion by voice vote.

The following resolution was approved:

RESOLUTION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

WHEREAS, copies of the minutes of the February 13, 2026 meeting of the Board of Trustees have been distributed to all members of this Board for review; and

WHEREAS, the members have reviewed the minutes and determined that they constitute a true and correct recitation of the business of the respective meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Auburn University that the minutes of the February 13, 2026 meeting of the Board of Trustees are hereby approved as distributed.

Following the approval of the minutes of the February 13, 2026 Board Meeting, President *Pro Tempore* Sanford asked for a motion to approve the resolution regarding the awarding of degrees for the Spring 2026 semester. A motion was received from Mr. Rane and seconded by Mr. Z. Smith. The Board approved the motion by voice vote.

The following resolution was approved:

RESOLUTION

AWARDING OF DEGREES

WHEREAS, Auburn University confers appropriate degrees upon those individuals who have completed requirements previously approved by this Board of Trustees and stated in University Catalogs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That all degrees to be awarded by the faculty of Auburn University and Auburn University at Montgomery at the end of the Spring 2026 semester, complying with the requirements heretofore established by the Board of Trustees, be and the same are hereby approved.
2. That a list of the degrees awarded be filed and maintained in the records of the University and hereby made an official part of this resolution and of these minutes.

**PROPERTY AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT**

Chairperson Z. Smith indicated that the Property and Facilities Committee met earlier and discussed five action items and two items of information. Chairperson Z. Smith moved for approval of a consent agenda for the committee's five action items.

A motion to approve the consent agenda was received from Chairperson Z. Smith and seconded by Mr. W. Smith. The Board then approved the motion by voice vote.

The following resolutions were approved:

PROPERTY AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

PETRIE HALL RESTORATION

APPROVAL OF PROJECT INITIATION AND
PROJECT ARCHITECT SELECTION

WHEREAS, Reenvisioning campus between Jordan-Hare Stadium and Haley Center offers an opportunity to reimagine this zone for the next generation of the Auburn Family; and

WHEREAS, the University Administration has proposed the restoration of Petrie Hall; and

WHEREAS, the project will enable the University to restore the envelope of Petrie Hall, to prepare the building for future programmatic development, and enable this project's construction to align with adjacent project timelines; and

WHEREAS, to facilitate an accelerated design process, the University Architect recommends the firm CDFL Architects + Engineers of Jackson, Mississippi, as the architect for the project; and

WHEREAS, this project will be financed by University Renovation Program and gift funds; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Board of Trustees policy, "D-3, Capital Projects Approval," the initiation of this project and the architect selection must be submitted to the Board, through the Property and Facilities Committee, for approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Auburn University that the initiation of the Petrie Hall Restoration project is approved and that Christopher B. Roberts, President, or such other person as may be acting as President, be and the same is hereby authorized and empowered to perform the following tasks:

1. Engage CDFL Architects + Engineers of Jackson, Mississippi, as project architect to consult in the development of the facility program and project design; and
2. Limit the project planning and design development to the schematic design phase until the program requirements, budget, funding plan, and site are approved by the Board.

PROPERTY AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

JORDAN-HARE STADIUM NORTH ENDZONE
MULTIPURPOSE EVENTS CENTER ADDITION

FINAL PROJECT APPROVAL

WHEREAS, Reenvisioning campus between Jordan-Hare Stadium and Haley Center offers an opportunity to reimagine this zone for the next generation of the Auburn Family; and

WHEREAS, the University Administration has proposed the construction of the Jordan-Hare Stadium North Endzone Multipurpose Events Center Addition; and

WHEREAS, the project will construct a seven-story, approximately 300,000 square-foot building addition to the stadium with new campus and gameday kitchens, flexible dining and concession venues, a multi-purpose hall and ballroom, intentionally flexible spaces for campus and gameday usage, and new club and premium suites; and

WHEREAS, at its previous meeting in September 2024, the Board of Trustees adopted a resolution that approved the initiation of the North Endzone Multipurpose Events Center Addition project and at its meeting in February 2025, approved the recommendation of HOK Architects of Kansas City, Missouri, as the architect and the firm Robins & Morton of Birmingham, Alabama, as the construction manager for the overall project; and

WHEREAS, the estimated total project cost of the Jordan-Hare Stadium North Endzone Multipurpose Events Center Addition project is \$305 million, to be financed by bond and gift funds; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Board of Trustees policy “D-3, Capital Projects Approval,” the final approval of the project must be submitted to the Auburn University Board of Trustees through the Property and Facilities Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Auburn University that the Jordan-Hare Stadium North Endzone Multipurpose Events Center Addition project is approved and that Christopher B. Roberts, President, or such other person as may be acting as President, be and the same is hereby authorized and empowered to perform the following tasks:

1. Establish a budget for the Jordan-Hare Stadium North Endzone Multipurpose Events Center Addition project at \$305 million, to be financed by bond and gift funds; and
2. Direct the consultants to complete the required plans for the project; and
3. Solicit bids and award a contract for construction conditioned upon the lowest responsible and responsive bid being consistent with the approved project budget.

PROPERTY AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

NORTH PLAZA

APPROVAL OF PROJECT INITIATION,
ARCHITECT AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGER SELECTION AND
FINAL PROJECT APPROVAL

WHEREAS, Reenvisioning campus between Jordan-Hare Stadium and Haley Center offers an opportunity to reimagine this zone for the next generation of the Auburn Family; and

WHEREAS, the University Administration has proposed the construction of the North Plaza; and

WHEREAS, the project will construct an elevated plaza above Heisman Drive between Jordan-Hare Stadium and Petrie Hall; and

WHEREAS, the project will include expanded hardscape and landscape on the Plaza and operational support space for the North Endzone Multipurpose Events Center Addition beneath; and

WHEREAS, to facilitate an accelerated design process, the University Architect recommends the firm CDFL Architects + Engineers of Jackson, Mississippi, as the architect and Robins & Morton of Birmingham, Alabama, as the construction manager for the project; and

WHEREAS, the estimated total project cost of the North Plaza project is \$18 million, to be financed by University General funds and gift funds; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Board of Trustees policy, "D-3, Capital Projects Approval," the initiation of this project, the architect and construction manager selections and final approval of the project must be submitted to the Board, through the Property and Facilities Committee, for approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Auburn University that the initiation of the North Plaza project is approved and that Christopher B. Roberts, President, or such other person as may be acting as President, be and the same is hereby authorized and empowered to perform the following tasks:

1. Engage CDFL Architects + Engineers of Jackson, Mississippi, as the architect and Robins & Morton of Birmingham, Alabama, as the construction management services to consult in the development of the facility program and project design; and
2. Establish a budget for the North Plaza project at \$18 million, to be financed by

- University General funds and gift funds; and
3. Direct the consultants to complete the required plans for the project; and
 4. Solicit bids and award a contract for construction conditioned upon the lowest responsible and responsive bid being consistent with the approved project budget.

PROPERTY AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

FOY HALL STUDENT VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER RENOVATION

APPROVAL OF PROJECT INITIATION AND AUTHORIZATION
TO COMMENCE THE PROJECT ARCHITECT SELECTION PROCESS

WHEREAS, Student Affairs has proposed the renovation of the Student Veterans Resource Center; and

WHEREAS, the project will provide additional space and resources to accommodate the needs and recognition of student veterans; and

WHEREAS, this project will enable Student Affairs to expand and enhance the student-veteran-focused space and services while improving access to resources to better support the success and well-being of student veterans; and

WHEREAS, according to the Board of Trustees policy, "D-3, Capital Projects Approval," the initiation of this project must be submitted to the Board, through the Property and Facilities Committee, for approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Auburn University that the Foy Hall Student Veterans Resource Center Renovation project is approved; and Christopher B. Roberts, President, or such other person as may be acting as President, be and the same is hereby authorized and empowered to commence the project architect selection process.

PROPERTY AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

**AUTHORITY TO PURCHASE LAND AT 177 TECHNOLOGY PARKWAY IN
AUBURN, ALABAMA**

WHEREAS, Auburn University is interested in acquiring property in Auburn, Alabama, for the benefit of Auburn University and the College of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, the property consists of a 28,955 SF building and 11.49 acres located at 177 Technology Parkway, Auburn, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, this parcel located in the City of Auburn Technology Park and near Auburn University's NCAT main office property; and

WHEREAS, College of Engineering received funds from the Federal Transit Administration for Component Assessment Program test of vehicles; and

WHEREAS, in addition to providing space for vehicle prep, environmental dynamometer testing, emission testing and office space. The space will allow flexibility to expand future research into vehicle technology and design; and

WHEREAS, the University has acquired an option to purchase the property, subject to AU Board of Trustees approval

WHEREAS, the property will be transferred by general warranty deed; and

WHEREAS, the purchase price does not exceed the MAI appraisals of the property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Auburn University that the offer to purchase the property at 177 Technology Parkway, Auburn, Alabama is approved and that Christopher B. Roberts, President, or such other person as may be acting as President, be and the same is hereby authorized and empowered to perform the following tasks:

1. Offer to purchase property for Two Million Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand dollars (\$2,750,000.00), funded entirely by restricted College of Engineering funds generated from grants/contracts; and,
2. All documents consummating purchase of property shall be reviewed, as to form, by the General Counsel.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT**

Chairperson Roberts indicated that the Academic Affairs Committee met earlier and discussed five action items and one item of information. Chairperson Roberts moved for approval of a consent agenda for the committee's five action items.

A motion to approve the resolution was received from Chairperson Roberts and seconded by Ms. Huntley. The Board then approved the motion by voice vote.

The following resolutions were approved:

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

PROPOSED DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

WHEREAS, the Department of Chemical Engineering in the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering provides rigorous graduate programs and research experiences that prepare students for academic careers, advanced research roles, and leadership positions in industry; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program would integrate existing courses and faculty expertise across engineering disciplines into a coordinated academic framework, creating more efficient graduate pathways for students in the fields of biomaterials and drug delivery, cell and tissue biomanufacturing, medical imaging and diagnostics, and biomechanics and medical devices; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program would strengthening interdisciplinary collaboration, expanding research capacity, and supporting the continued development of biomedical engineering scholarship across the college; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program responds to workforce needs within the State of Alabama, where employers in the biomedical, biotechnology, pharmaceutical, and biomanufacturing sectors report increasing demand for professionals with biomedical engineering training; and

WHEREAS, establishing a doctoral program in Biomedical Engineering would help develop a pipeline of highly trained professionals, improve the state's ability to retain Alabama STEM talent, and support the continued growth of Alabama's health and biotechnology industries; and

WHEREAS, the program would further support the commercialization and industry translation of institutional research, particularly among biotechnology companies founded on Auburn-generated intellectual property; and

WHEREAS, projected steady-state enrollment for the program is approximately 25 doctoral students, corresponding to an anticipated graduation rate of approximately five doctoral graduates annually.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Auburn University's Board of Trustees that the proposed Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Engineering be approved and submitted to the Alabama Commission on Higher Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges for review and approval.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

PROPOSED MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

WHEREAS, the Department of Chemical Engineering in the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering provides rigorous graduate programs and research experiences that prepare students for academic careers, advanced research roles, and leadership positions across industry; and

WHEREAS, faculty in the department have proposed a new Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering, including both a course-based, non-thesis option offered on campus and through distance education and a thesis-based option, to advance the development of healthcare solutions through engineering; and

WHEREAS, the proposed degree would integrate existing courses and faculty expertise across engineering disciplines into a coordinated academic framework, creating more efficient graduate pathways for students in the fields of biomaterials and drug delivery, cell and tissue biomanufacturing, medical imaging and diagnostics, and biomechanics and medical devices; and

WHEREAS, the proposed degree would strengthening interdisciplinary collaboration, expanding research capacity, and supporting the continued development of biomedical engineering scholarship across the college; and

WHEREAS, establishing a master's degree program in Biomedical Engineering would help develop a pipeline of highly trained professionals, improve the state's ability to retain Alabama STEM talent, and support the continued growth of Alabama's health and biotechnology industries; and

WHEREAS, the program would further support the commercialization and industry translation of institutional research, particularly among biotechnology companies founded on Auburn-generated intellectual property; and

WHEREAS, projected enrollment for the program is approximately 50 students annually.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Auburn University's Board of Trustees that the proposed Master of Science of Biomedical Engineering be approved and submitted to the Alabama Commission on Higher Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges for review and approval.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

PROPOSED MINOR IN CIVIC LIFE AND THE PUBLIC GOOD

WHEREAS, Auburn University, as a land-grant institution, is committed to preparing students to be engaged citizens and civic leaders; and

WHEREAS, the university has proposed a new academic minor in Civic Life and the Public Good to provide undergraduates with an interdisciplinary introduction to the knowledge and skills necessary for thoughtful participation in civic life and democratic engagement; and

WHEREAS, the proposed minor will be housed in University College and supported by faculty from University College and the College of Liberal Arts, drawing on coursework in history, philosophy, political science, communication and leadership and culminating in a capstone experience focused on civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, the program will be open to students from all colleges and majors and will utilize existing courses and faculty expertise to strengthen civic knowledge, communication skills and ethical leadership in public life; and

WHEREAS, the program will rely primarily on existing academic resources, requiring only limited additional support for program administration and signature courses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Auburn University's Board of Trustees that the proposed Minor in Civic Life and the Public Good be approved and submitted to the Alabama Commission on Higher Education as an item of information.

RESOLUTION

PROPOSED BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND ROBOTICS

WHEREAS, a Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics is designed to provide students with a rigorous, interdisciplinary curriculum that integrates artificial intelligence, machine learning, robotics, and embedded computing; and

WHEREAS, the College of Sciences at Auburn University at Montgomery proposes to create a Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics that would prepare students for careers at the forefront of artificial intelligence systems and automation in the Montgomery region and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program would provide Auburn University at Montgomery with a Computer Science degree that emphasizes emerging areas including generative AI, large language models, natural language processing, machine speech processing, serious game development, AI-assisted digital media, and interactive simulation environments; and

WHEREAS, the proposed degree program would enhance enrollment of students by providing them with the opportunity to tailor their studies to their unique career goals; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program would enhance persistence in computer science by providing students with greater flexibility in degree completion and open new pathways in a variety of career areas; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program would position Auburn University at Montgomery to be highly visible and attract students interested in making themselves marketable by enhancing their preparation for areas of high current and future demand; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program would not require any additional resources; and

WHEREAS, the proposal for the Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics has been endorsed by the Department of Computer Science faculty, the Dean of the College of Sciences, the University Curriculum Committee, the Provost, and the Chancellor,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Auburn University Board of Trustees that the proposed Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics from the College of Sciences at Auburn University at Montgomery be approved and submitted to the Alabama Commission on Higher Education for review and approval.

RESOLUTION

PROPOSED BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND CYBERSECURITY

WHEREAS, a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and Cybersecurity is designed to provide students with a comprehensive and practice-oriented curriculum that bridges core information technology foundations with advanced cybersecurity principles; and

WHEREAS, the College of Sciences at Auburn University at Montgomery proposes to create a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and Cybersecurity by directly connecting to advanced IT jobs that require technological training that can lead to external certifications; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program would provide Auburn University at Montgomery with a Computer Science degree that would allow students to target a variety of career options and varied job entry levels, as well as enhancing their preparation for possible continuation in graduate degree programs; and

WHEREAS, the proposed degree program would enhance enrollment of students by providing them with the opportunity to tailor their studies to their unique career goals; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program would enhance persistence by providing students with greater flexibility in degree completion and open new pathways by emphasizing the design, deployment, management, and reliability of modern computing systems; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program would position Auburn University at Montgomery to be more visible and attract more students interested in making themselves marketable by equipping them to manage enterprise-scale information systems and adapt to emerging technologies and threats across industry, government, and research environments; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program would not require any additional resources; and

WHEREAS, the proposal for the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and Cybersecurity has been endorsed by the Department of Computer Science faculty, the Dean of the College of Sciences, the University Curriculum Committee, the Provost, and the Chancellor,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Auburn University Board of Trustees that the proposed Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and Cybersecurity from the College of Sciences at Auburn University at Montgomery be approved and submitted to the Alabama Commission on Higher Education for review and approval.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT**

Chairperson Riggins indicated that the Executive Committee met earlier and discussed one action item. Chairperson Riggins moved for approval of the committee's single action item, a list of proposed awards and namings.

A motion to approve the resolution was received from Chairperson Riggins and seconded by Mr. Rane. The Board then approved the motion by voice vote.

The following resolutions were approved:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

NAMING THE TRAINING ROOM IN THE
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL LOCKER ROOM IN NEVILLE ARENA
AS THE J. LACEY LEWIS TRAINING ROOM

April 17, 2026

WHEREAS, Lacey Lewis is a distinguished 1981 graduate of Auburn University, where she earned her degree in accounting before beginning a 37-year career with Cox Enterprises. She retired in December 2021 as Senior Vice President of Finance, a role in which she oversaw financial planning and analysis, accounting, audit, fleet, newsprint supply, and sustainability functions; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lewis has demonstrated exceptional professional leadership and continues to share her expertise in service to others through her work on the Auburn University Foundation Board of Directors, as well as through her roles on the Advisory Council for the Harbert College of Business and the Advisory Council for Tigers Unlimited; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lewis also extends her leadership beyond Auburn, serving on the Board of Directors for Formation Venture Engineering, a fund supporting early-stage health science companies. She previously served as chair of the Emory University Board of Visitors; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lewis is a longtime and deeply committed supporter of Auburn University and Auburn Athletics, as reflected in her membership in the Heisman Society, the 1856 Society, and the On to Victory Founders Society; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lewis's philanthropic support represents a meaningful investment in Auburn Athletics and the continued growth and success of Auburn student-athletes; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the training room in the Auburn Women's Basketball Locker Room in Neville Arena be named the J. Lacey Lewis Training Room in recognition of her generous support, leadership, and lifelong commitment to Auburn University.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

NAMING THE HOME RADIO BOOTH AT PLAINSMAN PARK
AS THE ROD BRAMBLETT HOME RADIO BOOTH

April 17, 2026

WHEREAS, Rod Bramblett served as the iconic “Voice of the Auburn Tigers,” delivering play-by-play commentary for Auburn Athletics and becoming a beloved figure within the Auburn Family; and

WHEREAS, Rod Bramblett’s passion, professionalism, and unforgettable calls brought Auburn’s greatest moments to life, leaving an enduring legacy that continues to inspire generations of Auburn supporters; and

WHEREAS, Across decades behind the microphone, Mr. Bramblett became far more than a broadcaster, he became the voice through which Auburn fans experienced triumph, heartbreak, and every unforgettable moment in between; and

WHEREAS, His deep love for Auburn shone through every call, and with each game he narrated, he wove himself into the very fabric of Auburn Athletics. Through his unwavering dedication and remarkable talent, he embodied the Auburn Creed and enriched the spirit of the Auburn Family in ways that continue to resonate today; and

WHEREAS, Auburn University seeks to honor Rod Bramblett’s extraordinary contributions and lasting impact on Auburn Athletics and the Auburn Family. His voice became the soundtrack of countless Auburn memories, capturing the emotion and spirit of every moment he called. By recognizing his legacy, Auburn pays tribute to the joy, unity, and pride he brought to generations of fans—an influence that continues to resonate today;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the home radio booth at Plainsman Park be named the Rod Bramblett Home Radio Booth in recognition of his remarkable career and enduring legacy as the Voice of the Auburn Tigers.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

NAMING THE EDUCATIONAL, FOUNDATIONS, LEADERSHIP
AND TECHNOLOGY SUITE IN THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
AS THE DR. WILLIAM A. SPENCER SUITE

April 17, 2026

WHEREAS, Dr. William A. “Bill” Spencer was born in Salem, Illinois, later graduating from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale before spending three years teaching English in Cochabamba, Bolivia; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Spencer earned his PhD in Comparative and International Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign, establishing the foundation for a distinguished and far-reaching academic career; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Spencer joined Auburn University in 1971 as a faculty member in the Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership, and Technology, where he served with excellence for nearly four decades, including two terms as Department Head; and

WHEREAS, He was recognized with the Gerald & Emily Leischuck Outstanding Teaching Award in 1991 and served the Mid-South Educational Research Association with distinction, culminating in his receipt of the Harry Bowman Service Award in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Spencer was known for his warmth, humor, and ability to connect with individuals from all backgrounds, fostering friendships that transcended culture, personality, and language; and

WHEREAS, He inspired, mentored, and shaped generations of teachers and administrators with dedication and kindness, leaving a lasting impact on countless students and communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Educational Foundations, Leadership, and Technology Suite in the College of Education be named the Dr. William A. Spencer Suite, in recognition of his dedicated leadership, his deep commitment to Auburn University, and his humanity, which have enriched and advanced the field of education.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

NAMING THE EAGLES PROGRAM COUNSELING LAB
IN THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AS THE
DAVE AND DEBBIE DRESHER FAMILY COUNSELING LAB

April 17, 2026

WHEREAS, Dave and Debbie Dresher and their family share a long, devoted, and multigenerational relationship with Auburn University; and

WHEREAS, Dave and Debbie first met as students at Auburn University, later married after graduation, and passed their love for Auburn on to their daughters, Jessica Dresher Hall and Rachel Dresher Wudel—both proud Auburn graduates—continuing a strong family tradition of Auburn education; and

WHEREAS, The Dresher family considers Auburn a cherished home, returning often not only for athletic events but for the sense of community, energy, and enduring Auburn spirit shared by the University and the city alike; and

WHEREAS, Debbie Dresher, a graduate of Auburn's College of Education, devoted many meaningful years to teaching at the junior high level before choosing to focus her time and energy on raising their family; and

WHEREAS, Dave and Debbie have been longtime supporters of the College of Education, and they remain especially passionate about the EAGLES program and its unique, transformative impact on students and their families; and

WHEREAS, Their support of the Counseling Lab reflects a deep, heartfelt commitment to strengthening the EAGLES program and helping Auburn advance its mission of meaningful, inclusive education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Counseling Lab in the EAGLES program be named the Dave and Debbie Dresher Family Counseling Lab in honor of their enduring commitment and in recognition of the lasting impact their support will have on Auburn students and their families for generations to come.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

NAMING THE COFFEE LAB IN ROSS HALL
IN THE SAMUEL GINN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
AS THE MILES AND EVA MOTES COFFEE LAB

April 17, 2026

WHEREAS, David Motes earned his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Auburn University in 1977; and

WHEREAS, His parents were Miles Lafayette "Fay" Motes, a World War II veteran and successful business owner of Motes Construction Company, and Eva Pruet Motes, a registered nurse, devoted mother, and selfless volunteer; and

WHEREAS, David spent his 40-year engineering career with ExxonMobil Production Company, focusing primarily on increasing production and optimizing facility operations to reduce costs and enhance profitability, as well as troubleshooting, project development, design, and construction; and

WHEREAS, David made a significant gift to the Department of Chemical Engineering in honor of his parents, Miles and Eva Motes, further supporting the advancement of students, faculty, and the future of engineering at Auburn University;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Coffee Lab in Ross Hall be named the Miles and Eva Motes Coffee Lab in honor of his generous support and ongoing dedication to the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering and Auburn University.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

NAMING THE UNIT OPS LAB IN ROSS HALL
IN THE SAMUEL GINN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
AS THE DAVID MOTES UNIT OPS LAB

April 17, 2026

WHEREAS, David Motes earned his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Auburn University in 1977; and

WHEREAS, David spent his 40-year engineering career with ExxonMobil Production Company, focusing primarily on increasing production and optimizing facility operations to reduce costs and enhance profitability, as well as troubleshooting, project development, design, and construction; and

WHEREAS, David contributed to numerous patents during his tenure with ExxonMobil Production Company and completed work rotations in Australia, Chad, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Kazakhstan; and

WHEREAS, David made a significant gift to the Department of Chemical Engineering in the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering, further supporting the advancement of students, faculty, and the future of engineering at Auburn University;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Unit Ops Lab in Ross Hall be named the David Motes Unit Ops Lab in honor of his generous support and ongoing dedication to the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering and Auburn University.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

NAMING THE STUDENT LOUNGE IN ROSS HALL
AT THE SAMUEL GINN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
AS THE MILES MOTES FAMILY STUDENT LOUNGE

April 17, 2026

WHEREAS, David Motes earned his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Auburn University in 1977; and

WHEREAS, David's father was Miles Lafayette "Fay" Motes, who graduated from Auburn University in 1936 with a bachelor's degree in architecture and went on to enlist in the U.S. Army during World War II, surviving the attack on Pearl Harbor and being among the first to land at Okinawa; and

WHEREAS, Miles founded Motes Construction Company with his father after the war, growing it into a successful business responsible for the construction of many prominent buildings in the Sylacauga area; and

WHEREAS, Miles married Eva Pruet Motes, and together they had five children: Miles Lafayette Motes Jr. of Mobile, David R. Motes of Houston, Thomas Julian Motes of Mobile, Margaret Motes Mugg of Birmingham, and Carol Motes Headley of Memphis;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Student Lounge in Ross Hall be named the Miles Motes Family Student Lounge in honor of the Motes' generous support and ongoing dedication to the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering and Auburn University.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

NAMING THE DORMITORY AT THE SOLON DIXON EDUCATION LAB
IN THE COLLEGE OF FORESTRY, WILDLIFE, AND ENVIRONMENT
AS THE SOLON AND MARTHA DIXON FOUNDATION DORMITORY

April 17, 2026

WHEREAS, Solon Dixon's deep love for Auburn University, natural resources, and young people led to his visionary 1978 gift of 5,350 acres, the Dixon family home, and funds to establish what is now the Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center—later expanded to its current size of 5,430 acres; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dixon sought to create a living classroom where learning extended beyond traditional instruction and into the field, allowing students to gain practical, hands-on experience in forestry, wildlife, and natural resources management; and

WHEREAS, The Center continues to fulfill this mission by serving as a place for applied teaching, research, and demonstration, enabling students and professionals to observe and experience the outcomes of sound land-management practices; and

WHEREAS, The Solon and Martha Dixon Foundation advances this legacy by supporting initiatives in higher education, natural resources, sustainable forestry, and human services, with a strong emphasis on projects that benefit communities throughout Alabama; and

WHEREAS, The Foundation's continued commitment strengthens opportunities for students, faculty, and natural resources professionals to learn, advance knowledge, and practice responsible stewardship of the land;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the dormitory at the Solon Dixon Education Lab be named the Solon and Martha Dixon Foundation Dormitory in recognition of their dedication and long-standing commitment to Auburn University.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

NAMING ROOM 3237 IN THE COLLEGE OF NURSING
AS THE DR. GREGG E. NEWSCHWANDER OFFICE

April 17, 2026

WHEREAS, Dr. Gregg Newschwander received his BSN from Rutgers University, his MS from the University of Colorado, and his Ph.D. from Marquette University; and

WHEREAS, He has served 40+ years in higher education as a clinician, faculty member, and administrator, and in 2009 was named dean of the School of Nursing at Auburn University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Newschwander and his wife, Colleen, married in 2013 and from their very first visit to campus, they felt proud to call Auburn home; and

WHEREAS, In 2015, recognizing the need to prepare students for leadership roles in professional practice and to ease the growing burden of debt faced by graduates, Dr. and Mrs. Newschwander established the Gregg E. and Colleen P. Newschwander Endowed Scholarship for Leaders in the Auburn University School of Nursing; and

WHEREAS, In 2023, the Gregg E. Newschwander Endowed Professorship was established by friends and alumni to honor Dr. Newschwander and his extraordinary tenure; and

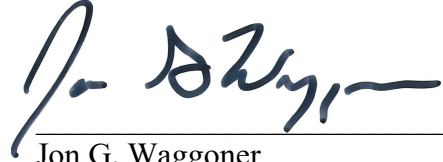
WHEREAS, Dr. Newschwander is the longest-serving dean in the college's history where he championed a period of significant growth in students, faculty, staff, and academic programs, including the expansion of the master's, DNP, and Ph.D. offerings. He also expanded outreach and study-abroad opportunities, promoted the Interprofessional Education Initiative, and strengthened support for research across the college; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Newschwander advanced new program development that led to the construction of the first facility designed exclusively for nursing education and the school's designation as a college in 2022;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that room 3237 in the College of Nursing be named the Dr. Gregg E. Newschwander Office in honor of his transformational leadership and dedication to the College of Nursing at Auburn University.

President *Pro Tempore* Sanford then indicated that with there being no further items for review, the meeting was recessed at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon G. Waggoner", written over a horizontal line.

Jon G. Waggoner
Secretary to the Board of Trustees