

Lincoln University Board of Trustees
REGULAR MEETING
Saturday, September 21, 2019

MINUTES

The Lincoln University Board of Trustees held a Regular Meeting on Saturday, September 21, 2019 in the International Cultural Center Board Room on the main campus. Chairlady Theresa R. Braswell called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM Eastern. Trustee Rev. Dr. Frances E. Paul, Board Secretary led the group in prayer and called roll.

Trustees present: Chairlady Theresa R. Braswell; Brenda A. Allen, President; Mr. Robert A. Allen; Robert L. Archie, Esq; Ms. Elisabeth Bellevue; Mr. Gerald Bruce (Dial-in); Mr. Mack A. Cauthen; Mr. Dimitrius M. Hutcherson; Mr. James W. Jordan; Mr. Henry Lancaster; Ms. Kimberly A. Lloyd; Mr. Noe Ortega (Dial-in); Rev. Dr. Frances E. Paul; Mr. Kenneth A. Poole; Ms. Sandra F. Simmons; Dr. Deborah C. Thomas; Mr. Joseph V. Williams, Jr.; and Faculty Representative, Professor Sophia Sotilleo. ***A quorum was satisfied.***

Trustees excused: Honorable Harry Lewis; Mr. Kevin E. Vaughan

Trustees absent: Ms. Stephanie Mays Boyd

MINUTES

Chairlady Braswell presented the draft meeting minutes from the Annual Board Meeting held April 13, 2019 and the Special Board Meeting held July 20, 2019 to the Board for approval. The Board unanimously approved the draft minutes from both meetings.

PRESENTATION

Ms. Tiffany Lee, Assistant Provost for Institutional Effectiveness, Research and Planning presented an update of the *Strategic Plan 2018 – 2023 Themes, Objectives, and Indicators* using data from the Strategic Performance Indicators Dashboard, the Strategic Indicators and Measurements Report, and the Strategic Councils and Committees. She indicated that next steps for the department include developing an interactive strategic plan dashboard.

Ms. Lee provided data that support Strategic Themes as follows:

- Strategic Theme 1: Build a Culture that Supports Student Success
 - Increase retention and graduation rates
 - Lower student loan debt

- Strategic Theme 2: Enhance Academic Quality & Achieve Operational Excellence
 - Increase Admissions criteria and selectivity, graduate and professional education, faculty diversity (women & international), faculty with terminal degrees, and research productivity
 - Enhance faculty and staff personal and professional development
- Strategic Theme 3: Develop Strategic Partnerships to Leverage Resources & Assets
 - Increase co-curricular learning and engagement opportunities
 - Improve financial health
 - Increase contracts, gifts, and grants
- Strategic Theme IV: Strategically Align Resources to Support Institutional Priorities
 - Diversity revenue sources through entrepreneurial activity, fundraising, and philanthropic support
 - Increase alumni giving
- Strategic Theme V: Tell the Lincoln Story
 - Provide greater coherence for the Lincoln University brand
 - Develop strategies for educating and engaging Lincoln students and alumni in telling the story

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

Chairlady Braswell read aloud the Conflict of Interest statement from the Bylaws of the Lincoln University Board of Trustees.

CHAIRLADY'S REPORT

Chairlady Braswell presented a plaque to Ms. Sophia Sotilleo, in recognition of her service as faculty representative to the Board for 2017-2019.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Allen presented the Quarterly Report to the Board. Dr. Kimberly Taylor-Benns supported Dr. Allen on the enrollment portion of the report. The update indicated that Lincoln is on trend with a predicted 5-6% decrease in higher education enrollment overall and that the graduate campus has more room for growth than the main campus. Dr. Allen also discussed the status of Cheyney, advocating for Lincoln with the state, the allocation of appropriations to the state-related Universities, the State of the University, and the University's reaccreditation with Middle States, noting that Middle States requested to use Lincoln's self-study document

as a training mode for other schools. President Allen provided that US News and World Report ranks Lincoln among the top 20 among all HBCUs and that Moody's recently upgraded the University's credit rating. Dr. Allen provided that the University is making investments in staff training and development, reward and recognition, and faculty scholarship and teaching. Upgrades to technology and facilities, the Master Planning process, and activities for corporate and foundation support, were additional topics of discussion.

The Board accepted the President's Report as information.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Charles Gradowski, Vice President for Finance and Administration, presented the Finance Report through February 28, 2019.

The Board accepted the Financial Report as information.

STANDING COMMITTEES

TRUSTEES, DEGREES, AND NOMINATIONS

Trustee Sandra Simmons, Chair of the Trustees, Degrees and Nominations Committee reviewed the minutes from the August 26, 2019 meeting and presented the following resolution for approval.

APPOINTMENT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE MS. ELISABETH BELLEVUE

RES615_092119

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 2D of the Lincoln University By-Laws (Adopted November 20, 1999) provides that one of the eighteen University Trustees shall be a student representative who shall serve for a term of one year; and

WHEREAS, By Resolution dated February 19, 2000, the Board of Trustees approved the Student Government Association (SGA) process of determining the student representative to the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the process approved provides, pursuant to the Constitution of the SGA, that the SGA President will be the student representative to the Board of Trustees; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that, ***Ms. Elisabeth Bellevue*** is hereby appointed Student Representative to the Board of Trustees in his capacity as President of the SGA, for a term expiring June, 2020.

A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the resolution.

The motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Simmons presented the following resolutions, collectively, for Trustee re-nominations and reappointments to the Board.

**RE-NOMINATION OF ALUMNI TRUSTEE
MR. ROBERT A. ALLEN '80**

RES616_092119

WHEREAS, in September 2015, *Mr. Robert A. Allen '80* was appointed to a four-year term as an Alumni Trustee on the Lincoln University Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the term of service expires September 2019; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Allen is eligible to serve a second term as Alumni Trustee on the Lincoln University Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the Nominations Committee of the Alumni Association of Lincoln University has duly notified the Board of Trustees of the election of Mr. Allen to serve a second four-year term on the Lincoln University Board of Trustees as an Alumni Trustee; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln University Board of Trustees Committee on Trustees, Degrees and Nominations re-nominated Mr. Allen to serve as an Alumni Trustee for a second four-year term; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Lincoln University Board of Trustees hereby approves the re-nomination of *Mr. Robert A. Allen '80* to serve a second four-year term as an Alumni Trustee, expiring September 30, 2023.

**RE-NOMINATION OF ALUMNI TRUSTEE
REVEREND DR. FRANCES E. PAUL '79**

RES617_092119

WHEREAS, In September 2015, *Reverend Dr. Frances E. Paul '79* was appointed to a four-year term as an Alumni Trustee on the Lincoln University Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the term of service expires September 2019; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Paul is eligible to serve a second term as Alumni Trustee on the Lincoln University Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the Nominations Committee of the Alumni Association of Lincoln University has duly notified the Board of Trustees of the election of Rev. Dr. Paul to serve a second four-year term on the Lincoln University Board of Trustees as an Alumni Trustee; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln University Board of Trustees Committee on Trustees, Degrees and Nominations re-nominated Rev. Dr. Paul to serve as an Alumni Trustee for a second four-year term; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Lincoln University Board of Trustees hereby approves the re-nomination of *Reverend Dr. Frances E. Paul, '79* to serve a second four-year term as an Alumni Trustee, expiring September 30, 2023.

**RE-APPOINTMENT OF UNIVERSITY TRUSTEE
MR. DIMITRIUS M. HUTCHERSON**

RES618_092119

WHEREAS, In September 2015, *Mr. Dimitrius M. Hutcherson* was appointed to a four-year term as a University Trustee on the Lincoln University Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, The term of service expires September 2019; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hutcherson is eligible to serve a second term as University Trustee on the Lincoln University Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, The Lincoln University Board of Trustees Committee on Trustees, Degrees and Nominations has nominated Mr. Hutcherson to serve a second term as University Trustee on the Lincoln University Board of Trustees; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Lincoln University Board of Trustees approves the nomination of *Mr. Dimitrius M. Hutcherson* to serve a second four-year term as a University Trustee, expiring September 30, 2023.

**RE-APPOINTMENT OF UNIVERSITY TRUSTEE
DR. DEBORAH C. THOMAS '76**

RES619_092119

WHEREAS, In September 2015, *Dr. Deborah C. Thomas '76* was appointed to a four-year term as a University Trustee on the Lincoln University Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, The term of service expires September 2019; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas is eligible to serve a second term as University Trustee on the Lincoln University Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, The Lincoln University Board of Trustees Committee on Trustees, Degrees and Nominations has nominated Dr. Thomas to serve a second term as University Trustee on the Lincoln University Board of Trustees; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Lincoln University Board of Trustees approves the nomination of *Dr. Deborah C. Thomas '76* to serve a second four-year term as a University Trustee, expiring September, 2023.

A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the resolutions to re-nominate Alumni Trustees, Mr. Robert A. Allen '80 and Rev. Dr. Frances E. Paul '79, and to reappoint University Trustees Mr. Dimitrius M. Hutcherson and Dr. Deborah C. Thomas '76 to the Lincoln University Board of Trustees.

The motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Simmons presented an additional resolution to the Board for approval.

**RE-NOMINATION TO THE BOARD OF THE BARNES
FOUNDATION SHELDON M. BONOVIKZ, ESQUIRE**

RES620_092119

WHEREAS, The Lincoln University Board of Trustees has the responsibility for nominating candidates to five of the fifteen Trustee positions on the Board of The Barnes Foundation, and

WHEREAS, On April 16, 2005, the Lincoln University Board of Trustees approved the nomination of ***Sheldon M. Bonovitz, Esquire***, for a five-year term on the Board of The Barnes Foundation; and

WHEREAS, On November 21, 2009, The Lincoln University Board of Trustees approved the re-nomination of Sheldon M. Bonovitz, Esquire, for a second five-year term on the Board of The Barnes Foundation; and

WHEREAS, On September 20, 2014, the Lincoln University Board of Trustees approved the re-nomination of Sheldon M. Bonovitz, Esquire, for a third five-year term on the Board of The Barnes Foundation; and

WHEREAS, The Lincoln University Committee on Trustees, Degrees and Nominations has put forth the re-nomination of Sheldon M. Bonovitz, Esquire, for a fourth five-year term on the Board of The Barnes Foundation; and

WHEREAS, as stipulated in Article II, Section 2(H) of the Lincoln University By-Laws, said nominees are not currently voting members of any Board of Trustees or Directors for which the Lincoln University Board of Trustees has nominating and/or appointment authority; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Lincoln University Board of Trustees approves the re-nomination of ***Sheldon M. Bonovitz, Esquire***, to the Board of The Barnes Foundation.

A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the resolution.

The motion passed unanimously.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT / EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Rev. Dr. Frances E. Paul reviewed the minutes from the August 26, 2019 meeting and presented the following resolution for approval.

**CREATING AN ENDOWED FUND - \$25,000
MINIMUM REQUIREMENT**

RES621_092119

RESOLVED, that the minimum amount required to create an endowed fund is \$25,000 payable over a five-year period. Endowed fund accounts not containing a balance of this minimum amount at the expiration of the five-year period will be distributed as temporarily restricted funds based on the donor-defined criteria established for the endowed fund; and further

RESOLVED, that notice of this new minimum requirement for the creation of an endowed fund shall be published in all generally circulated University publications to all alumni and to the general public of potential donors; and further

RESOLVED: that the \$25,000 minimum requirement is effective immediately upon adoption by Resolution by the Lincoln University Board of Trustees; and further

RESOLVED, that the Lincoln University Board of Trustees, hereby approves the establishment of a \$25,000 minimum threshold to create an endowed fund at the institution.

A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the resolution.

Motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairs for the remaining committees of the Board provided oral reports: Audit, Business Affairs, Educational Policy and Academic Affairs, Investment, and Student Affairs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Simmons announced that the University received notification that Lincoln's nomination of Mr. Frank Giordano did not receive the approval of the Barnes Foundation Board and added that Lincoln's Trustees have the opportunity to propose additional nominations. Chairlady Braswell provided that the deadline to submit nominations to the Board of the Barnes Foundation is September 30, 2019.

Chairlady Braswell relayed the reappointment of Commonwealth Trustee Kimberly Lloyd to the Lincoln University Board of Trustees.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairlady Braswell convened an executive session at 11:30 AM to discuss personnel and legal matters as well as items from the Buildings and Property and Evaluations Committees. The public session reconvened at 1:20 PM after four consecutive 30-minute executive sessions.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairlady Braswell adjourned the meeting at 1:25 PM.