UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OPEN SESSION MINUTES
May 3, 2024 | 9:30 a.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
UNC School of the Arts
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

TRUSTEES PRESENT
*Denotes voting Trustee

*Peter Juran, Chair
*Nia Franklin, Secretary
*Jonah Bokaer
*Jeffery Bullock
*Eric Flow
*Jerri Irby
Tom Kenan, *emeritus*
Sandi MacDonald, *ex officio*
*Graydon Pleasants
*David Neill
*Jack Sargeant, Student Body President
*John Wigodsky

David Broughton, Foundation Liaison to the BOT

TRUSTEES ABSENT
*Denotes voting Trustee

*Rhoda Griffis, Vice Chair
*Ches McDowell
*Kyle Petty
The Honorable Reid Wilson, *ex officio*

STAFF PRESENT
Brian Cole, Chancellor
Patrick Sims, Ex. Vice Chancellor and Provost
Jim DeCristo, VC and Chief of Staff
David Harrison, VC and General Counsel
Lissy Garrison, VC for Advancement
Amanda Balwah, AVC and University Secretary
Andy Paris, Faculty Council Chair
Laurel Donley, Vice Provost of Student Affairs
Kory Kelly, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Communications
Liza Vest, Business Manager, Thomas S. Kenan Institute for the Arts
Ginger Caston, Ex. Assistant to the Chief of Staff

Dave LaVack, Chair of Staff Council
Angela Mahoney, AVC and Chief Human Resources Officer
Michael Kelley, Dean of Design & Production
Rod Isom, Chief Audit Officer
Katherine Johnson, Director of Media Relations and Communications
Karen Beres, Vice Provost and Dean of Academic Affairs
Lynda Lotich, Associate Director of the Kenan Institute for the Arts
Marla Carpenter, Senior Communications Manager
B. Afeni McNeely Cobham, Associate Vice Chancellor and Vice Provost for EDIB
Saxton Rose, Dean of Music

CONVENE OPEN SESSION

Chair Peter Juran convened the May 3, 2024 meeting of the University of North Carolina School of the Arts Board of Trustees at 9:32 a.m. A quorum was confirmed. Chair Juran reminded all members of the Board of their duty under the State Government Ethics Act to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts as required by this act.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: David Neill moved to approve the open session minutes from the March 2024 meeting as presented. Eric Flow seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

REPORT FROM CHANCELLOR COLE

Chancellor Cole welcomed everyone to the final Board of Trustees meeting of the 2023-24 academic year. With Commencement only two weeks away, the excitement felt by many on campus is palpable.

He went on to highlight several performances and events that have taken place since the last Board of Trustees meeting:

- Spring Dance and UNCSA's partnership with the Dance Theatre of Harlem which emphasizes industry relevance, career preparedness, and industry partnerships
- UNCSA's Spring Opera *Lo Frate 'nnamorato*
- The Reynolda Quartet's performance at Reynolda House
- Screenings of 3rd and 4th year films
- D&P Portfolio Review

UNCSA's performance schedule for the 2024-25 academic year will be released over the summer.

Chancellor Cole announced that the design team for Phase Two of the Stevens Center renovation has now been publicly announced. Jenkins Peer Architects and Steinberg Hart will complete the comprehensive renovation of UNCSA's beloved performing arts center.

Chancellor Cole announced that John Langs will be the next Dean of the School of Drama. He comes to UNCSA from the ACT Contemporary Theatre in Seattle. Langs will be the first alum to serve as Dean of Drama. Chancellor Cole extended a heartfelt thank you to Dean Scott Zigler for his hard work and dedication to the School of Drama and wished him the very best in retirement.

Chancellor Cole went on to highlight student achievements over the past couple of months, including three high school students who will perform with the National Youth Orchestra based at Carnegie Hall, as well as multiple UNCSA students who have been awarded

Fulbright awards.

He reported that UNCSA's rankings amongst art programs throughout North America and the entire world remain in the top tier. UNCSA's art schools consistently rank amongst the best programs across the globe.

Chancellor Cole thanked all UNCSA faculty and staff who helped make the UNC Board of Governors (BOG) meeting on UNCSA's campus a great success. The BOG enjoyed their time at UNCSA and got to see a cross-section of the work we do here and the importance of the arts to our economy and society. He encouraged the Trustees to watch Chair Ramsey's remarks regarding UNCSA on PBS North Carolina.

In April, UNCSA had the most successful Days of Giving in UNCSA's history. He thanked the Trustees, UNCSA leadership, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends who helped set this record.

Chancellor Cole concluded his report by expressing his gratitude to Troy Kotsur, the first deaf actor to win an Academy Award.

REPORT FROM THE AUDIT, RISK, AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

John Wigodsky, Chair of the Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee, reported the following from their May 3rd meeting:

Enterprise Risk Management (ERM)

Jim DeCristo, Vice Chancellor for Economic Development and Chief of Staff provided an update on Enterprise Risk Management. Every two to three years the UNC System Office requests that all campuses update their list of top risk priorities and submit them with BOT approval by June. The top five ERM risks were presented and unanimously approved by the Committee.

MOTION: The Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee moves to submit the following risks as UNCSA's top five risks for 2025–2027 to the UNC System Office:

- **Scholarships**
- **Employee Compensation**
- **Performance Funding**
- **Student Health and Wellness**
- **Cyber Security**

The motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion of External Audits and Reviews

Melanie Nukols, Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance, provided an update on external audits. A FY23 Federal Compliance Audit was conducted by the Office of the State Auditor. The results of the audit disclosed no instances of noncompliance.

Discussion of Internal Audit (IA) Activity

Rod Isom, Chief Audit Officer, and Cory Billings, Audit Manager provided an update on Internal Audit's activity.

- Four projects from the current audit plan are currently in progress and on track.

- The top risks from IA's annual risk assessment and the updated internal audit plan for fiscal year 25 were presented. The audit plan was reviewed and approved by the Committee.

MOTION: The Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee moved to approve the FY25 Audit Plan as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION YEAR-END REPORT

Jack Sargeant, Student Body President, provided a summary of his year-end report that was included in the board materials.

A Production Evaluation Survey will be released in the fall. SGA partnered with Institutional Research to put the survey together. Students will be invited to complete the survey after each production so that feedback can be given to the deans to improve production processes and highlight what is going well.

SGA has been partnering with UNCSA's Administration regarding student hesitation and concern regarding the UNC Board of Governors Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion policy change. While messaging on campus may change, UNCSA's values will remain the same.

A town hall was held in March. The top concerns coming from students were work-study opportunities and space availability on campus. SGA leadership is meeting with Chancellor Cole, Provost Sims, and Vice Provost Donley to address these concerns.

SGA has helped coordinate art school surveys to give students opportunities to give the Deans feedback on what is going well and what can be improved. They are also releasing newsletters to keep all students informed about what is going on in their respective art schools.

Mr. Sargeant concluded his report with an announcement that he will be returning as Student Body President again next year.

FACULTY COUNCIL YEAR-END REPORT

Andy Paris, Chair of Faculty Council, thanked the Board of Trustees for allowing Faculty Council to have a presence at the Trustee meetings, and for the opportunity to bring the faculty context and point of view to their discussions.

He reported that Council elections have been held for the 2024-2025 academic year and the leadership elections will be held next week. This is the first cycle under new rules that were put in place last year allowing new faculty to serve a year earlier. He noted that this is a very positive change for a small campus like UNCSA. It also allows for a broadened pool of faculty serving on rank peer review, a more equitable distribution of responsibilities, and more voices.

Mr. Paris highlighted the sub-committee work faculty have been doing, including public art on campus.

He noted work on UNC System policies including Foundations of American Democracy, Faculty Workload, and DEI. Mr. Paris stressed the importance of shared governance and the ability of faculty to review and comment on policies before they go into effect.

STAFF COUNCIL YEAR-END REPORT

Staff Council Chair, Dave LaVack, provided his year-end report to the Trustees. He highlighted events that happened recently and throughout the year. The Board of Governors meeting went very well and he commended the staff for their hard work to highlight who we are and what we do at UNCSA.

Staff Council attendance has been up this year. Staff engagement and recognition have been priorities, and some activities have finally returned after going away during COVID-19. Mr. LaVack highlighted the Staff Professional Excellence Award, professional development opportunities, collaboration with the Quality Workplace Committee, the Standing Ovation Program, and opportunities for staff members to share concerns. He also noted challenges due to UNCSA's small size and the need for most employees to juggle multiple responsibilities and wear many hats.

He thanked Chancellor Cole and Vice Chancellor DeCristo for their productive and meaningful meetings and thanked the Board of Trustees for their unwavering support of UNCSA's committed staff.

Staff Council elections are underway and Mr. LaVack stated that he looks forward to working with the incoming chair, Victoria Nash, to continue the good work of UNCSA's Staff Council.

ADVANCEMENT DAYS OF GIVING UPDATE

Lissy Garrison, Vice Chancellor for Advancement, gave an update on UNCSA's 2024 Days of Giving. This was the best year yet! She thanked everyone for their support.

- 980 gifts in total
- $302,795 raised
- 18% increase in dollars raised since last year
- 31% increase in number gifts since last year

She commended the Foundation Board for 100% giving. The Board of Trustees followed close behind with 83% giving.

Ms. Garrison also reported that UNCSA's Advancement Office has raised $7M to date and expects to meet the $10M goal by the end of the FY.

Alumni gifts are growing under the direction of UNCSA's new Director of Alumni Engagement. The Advancement Office also plans to launch a new comprehensive alumni platform by the end of the year.

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

Graydon Pleasants moved that the board go into closed session to:

Prevent the premature disclosure of an honorary degree, scholarship, prize, or similar award;

Prevent the disclosure of privileged information under N.C.G.S. 143 318.11(a)(1): State employee personnel records, under The Privacy of State Employee Personnel Records Act, Article 7 of Chapter 126 of the North Carolina General Statutes; to

Consult with our attorney in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege; and

To consider and give instructions concerning the handling or settlement of:

Alloways-Ramsey, et al. v. Milley, et al., Forsyth County Superior Court case 21 CVS 5899; and,

Soderlund, et al. v. University of North Carolina School of the Arts and The University of North Carolina, North Carolina Industrial Commission case numbers TA-29599 - TA-29605;

David Neill seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

Chair Juran reported that the Board went into closed session to consider an honorary degree, to review the lawsuits named in the motion, and to discuss a personnel matter.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the May 3, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Amanda G. Balwah
Associate Vice Chancellor and Assistant Secretary of the Board of Trustees