



## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

To: The Tuskegee University Community

From: Norma Clayton,  
Chair of the Board

Charlotte Morris, Ph.D.  
Interim President

Date: February 10, 2021

Subject: Winter meeting of the Board of Trustees

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The Tuskegee University Board of Trustees (“Board”) held its winter meeting/retreat virtually January 23, 2021. Traditionally, the Board uses its winter meeting/retreat as an opportunity to discuss the state of the university as well as to address challenges affecting higher education. This focus of this year’s meeting/retreat was the development of the university’s new five-year strategic plan.

Interim President Morris provided updates on the HBCU Capital Financing Debt Relief Act included in the omnibus spending bill passed by the U.S. Congress in December 2020. The legislation, which was drafted by Congresswoman Alma Adams of North Carolina, cancels over \$1.3 billion in debt held by HBCUs. Given that the HBCU Capital Financing Program is the university’s largest provider of long-term debt, this legislation will provide significant financial benefits to the university. As of June 30, 2020, the university held approximately \$117 million with the program.

The Co-Chairs of the Strategic Planning Committee, Kellei Samuels, Ph.D., and Clayton Yates, Ph.D., provided updates to the Board on the goals of the process, timeline for development and results of the environmental assessment completed by consulting firm, Strategic Consulting Partners (SCP). Consultants from SCP led a review of the university’s mission and vision statements as well as facilitated discussions on the focus areas to be addressed in the strategic plan.