



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

To: The Tuskegee University Community

From: John E. Page
Chair – Board of Trustees

Lily D. McNair, Ph.D.
President

Subject: Winter Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Date: January 30, 2019

The Tuskegee University Board of Trustees (“The Board”) held its winter meeting/retreat in Irvine, California, Jan. 24-26, 2019. Held at the Irvine Marriott Hotel, the winter meeting included Board members, President McNair and senior university leaders to discuss the state of the university and challenges facing higher education, and Tuskegee more specifically. The Board traditionally holds its winter meeting in major cities where there is large concentration of Tuskegee alumni and students. California is currently the third-largest feeder state in terms of undergraduate student enrollment. As such, the Board hosted more than 50 alumni, parents and friends for a special reception at Davio’s Northern Italian Steakhouse. The Board also visited the offices of Samsung Research America and the University of California, Irvine’s Applied Innovation Center (“The Cove”).

President McNair delivered her president’s report, and members of the President’s Cabinet who were present provided updates on financial operations, recruitment and retention activities, and residence halls improvements. The Board held its winter meeting on Saturday morning, and the following is a summation of the major discussions:

- President McNair updated the Board that SACSCOC reaffirmed the university’s accreditation for ten years until 2028.
- President McNair outlined plans to address the challenges related to student financial clearance, housing assignments, and course registration. The President’s Cabinet is to develop new deadlines and procedures to address the issues students traditionally encounter as part of the registration process.
- President McNair discussed plans to develop an enrollment model that focuses on improving the admission yield. The model would focus on targeting students in the following categories: (1) ROTC candidates; (2) transfer students, including community college students; (3) military veterans; and (4) online students.
- According to the report by Dr. Sharron Burnett, executive vice president and CFO, the university remains in fiscally sound health. The administration maintains this sound position by continuing to improve efficiencies, monitor expense management and reduce long-term debt.

- Executive searches are underway for a vice president for enrollment management and vice president for advancement and development. Both positions will be filled by the end of the 2018-19 academic year.
- Substantial investments in human capital and IT capabilities are being made to strengthen the fundraising and development division of the university. The university will be transitioning to a new donor database systems, and the university is searching to fill the following positions: (1) corporate and foundations manager; (2) data analytics and record manager; and (3) administrative assistant.

The Board approved the following actions:

- Approved the requested 2 percent increase in undergraduate and graduate tuition, room and board, and fees, to be effective with the start of the 2019-20 academic year.
- Approved the creation of an Asset Management Committee that will within two months' time: (1) oversee inventory of Tuskegee property assets; (2) develop proposed strategic vision relations property assets; and (3) think through a foundation structure that will give the Board appropriate control over foundation operations.