The Tuskegee University Board of Trustees ("The Board") held its fall meeting October 16, 2021. The fall meeting was conducted virtually due to the ongoing global pandemic. Committees of the Board met and received reports from the university administration on October 15.

In addition to remarks delivered by Chairwoman Clayton, the annual meeting included the president’s report, reports from committee chairs, and other major board actions. During the fall meeting, the Board officially adopted the university’s five-year strategic plan, “Embracing the Legacy, Transforming the Future.” Additional information regarding the strategic plan will be shared with university stakeholders in the near future.

The following is a summary of the major discussions and/or actions taken:

1. President Morris delivered the president’s report and provided updates on the university’s fall enrollment, executive leadership searches, faculty and student accomplishments, and other initiatives.
2. President Morris informed the board of the major gifts and grants received over the past several months, including a $250,000 gift from the Regions Foundation to support student scholarships, $750,000 from the Andrew Mellon Foundation to fund historic preservation education, and $2 million from the Department of Defense to support the Center of Excellence in Aerospace Education Research and Innovation.
3. In the 2022 US News and World Report Rankings, Tuskegee maintained its #4 ranking among all HBCUs and improved its standing by moving three spots to #20 among Regional Universities in the South.
4. The Finance Subcommittee on Investments received updates on the performance of the university’s endowment portfolio from its investment advisors, Prime Buchholz. The endowment continues to outperform its benchmark and has a current value of $172 million as of September 30, 2021.
5. The Board approved the recommendation of the Finance Committee to adopt the FY 2021-2022 operating budget of $138 million.

6. The Board approved the following recommendations from the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee:
   a. $1.4 million to cover the shortfall associated with the Commons E and G renovations.
   b. $1.3 million to fund improvements to the University Chapel.
   c. $2.0 million to fund renovation of Campbell Hall.

7. The Board approved the recommendation of the Educational Policies and Honors committee to award emeritus status to Raj Sehgal, Professor of Architecture.

8. The Board approved the recommendation of the Audit and Enterprise Risk Management committee to accept the 2020-2021 audit prepared by the accounting firm Warren Averett, LLC.