



**East Carolina University | Board of Trustees
Budget, Finance, and Infrastructure /Main Campus Student Center 249 |
September 26, 2024
Highlights**

The Budget, Finance, and Infrastructure Committee met on September 26, 2024.

Minutes were approved from the April 11, 2024, meetings.

Ms. Coleman provided highlights on the operational metrics for fiscal year 2024. Overall, ECU had a strong financial year. Ms. Coleman provided highlights on the operational metrics for July and August of fiscal year 2025.

Ms. Coleman presented the 2024 all funds budget compared to actual and previous year actual.

Ms. Coleman presented a request to approve the Housing Application Fee increase. Details were provided in Board materials and item was approved as part the consent agenda.

Mr. Bill Bagnell presented a request for Designer Approval for Special Health Needs Dental Clinic and Design Approval for New Regional Outpatient Behavioral Health Facility. Details were provided in Board materials and items were approved as part the consent agenda.

The committee heard the presentation about the Isley Indoor Performance Center funded by the Pirate Club, and following that presentation, the project and the elevations were approved. The project elevations were approved by the full board through the consent agenda this morning.

Other informational items were provided in materials.

This concludes my report.

Athletics and Advancement
September 26, 2024
Committee Report

The Athletics and Advancement Committee had a full meeting yesterday.

Director of Athletics Jon Gilbert provided an update from the athletics department, reporting that all performance metrics are positive. The Annual/Impact Fund currently stands at \$6.7 million. Gilbert recognized Lance and Heath Clark of Bill Clark Homes as the largest donors in ECU Athletics history, contributing significantly to both traditional athletics and the NIL space. He also highlighted the success of the Pirates Unite Campaign, which has raised \$40 million over two years, including 109 major gifts, 95 of which are the largest one-time gifts from individual donors.

Gilbert announced that the Isley Indoor Performance Facility, a 7-story, 200,000-square-foot facility costing \$24.5 million, is now fully funded through private donations. More than 450 donors contributed to the project, and Chancellor Rogers expressed pride in the donors' trust, translating into meaningful investments in student-athletes. Additional updates included that the baseball facility project is \$2 million short of its funding goal, with a week of fundraising challenges planned to help close the gap. Renovations at the Harold Varner Golf facility are complete, and LED lights have been installed at the soccer, lacrosse, and softball fields. Plans are also underway to replace artificial turf at the baseball and softball stadiums. Football season ticket sales reached 15,100, and student attendance is averaging nearly 11,000 per game.

We were running low on time, so Vice Chancellor for University Advancement Christopher Dyba provided a brief update, reviewing key operational metrics and fundraising efforts. Scholarships, particularly the Chancellor's Scholarship initiative, remain the top priority for University Advancement. Dyba noted that increased endowment support has channeled more funds back to campus, contributing to enrollment growth.

Dr. Michael Waldrum, Dean of the Brody School of Medicine and CEO of ECU Health, updated the committee on the new Center for Medical Education Building as well as those spaces that are available for naming. With \$265 million allocated through the state budget, the 7-story, 200,000-square-foot facility will include a parking deck and central utilities plant. Construction is set to begin in early 2025 and is expected to be completed by August 2027. The facility will support Brody's goal of increasing class sizes to produce more physicians for North Carolina. More than 190 naming opportunities were identified in the naming menu that was approved this morning through the consent agenda. Now, fundraising can begin.

In closed session, our committee approved three naming proposals for the Rand Family, the Cole Family, and the Caswell Center Foundation, all three included on the consent agenda this morning.

Mr. Chairman, I do have one motion for the board.

I move the board approve the Isley Indoor Performance Center project as presented in board materials.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report.

IN CLOSED SESSION

Motion for Trustees Award for Distinction

I move the board approve the nominations of Mr. Bob Greczyn and Bob & Frances Cain to receive the Trustees Award for Distinction at the November 22 board meeting, as presented in board materials.

Report of the Committee on Strategy and Innovation for September 26, 2024

The Committee on Strategy and Innovation met on September 26, 2024. Committee members present were Tom Furr, Scott Shook, Fielding Miller, Van Isley, Jeffrey Roberts, Carl Rogers, Anderson Ward, and Vanessa Workman. The committee approved the minutes from April 11, 2024 and received an update on ECU health Integration from Dr. Mike Waldrum, Dean of Brody School of Medicine and CEO, ECU Health.

Dr. Waldrum advised the committee on the status of integration efforts by the Joint Operating Agreement. To date, the following integrations have taken place - integration of management structure including philanthropy and data information systems, integration of strategic planning such as shared services and branding, and research related integration to include clinical and financial. Operational costs were reduced by the physical integration of four Greenville based specialties previously existing in duplicate locations. Two additional clinic integrations are planned for winter. ECU Health's managed care contracting enabled the leveraging of expertise and existing capability within the health system and brought increased value to BSOM. Brody is ranked as the 4th highest value in medical education, according to the AAMC, with the average debt of a Brody graduate just under \$94,000. Additionally, ECU Health has been recognized in multiple ways including, patient experience. ECU Health Medical Center was recognized as the top hospital in the country for patient experience in a ranking based on an analysis of over 30 million online patient reviews from hospitals across the country.

Dr. Waldrum provided a philanthropy update on behalf of the ECU Health Foundation. After joining forces, the ECU Medical and Health Sciences Foundation and ECU Health merged to develop a unified strategic framework with an updated purpose statement, core beliefs, and governance structure. Additionally, back-end operations were coordinated with ECU's University Advancement. The ECU Health Foundation launched the Our Future Endowment, used in perpetuity to support ECU's Schools and Colleges of the Health Sciences and ECU Health clinician recruitment and retention. The fundraising goal is \$20 million and to date, \$12.3 million has been raised.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report.

Report of the Audit, Risk Management, Compliance, and Ethics Committee for September 26, 2024

Operational Metrics Review

The committee reviewed the operational metrics related to Internal Audit and Compliance for fiscal year 2024 and fiscal year 2025 through August.

Action Items

The committee had one action item. We approved two changes to the fiscal year 2025 annual audit plan as presented by Chief Audit Officer Wayne Poole.

Informational Items

Enterprise Risk Management – Mr. Chris Rowland

Mr. Rowland briefed the committee on some of the steps the University is taking to mitigate two top risks – workforce challenges and financial stability.

Policy Manual Update – Mr. Wayne Poole

Mr. Poole updated the committee on the progress towards moving Board-approved directives into the *University Policy Manual*, as directed by this Board earlier this year. Several policies have been updated and moved, and others are in progress, consistent with our request and with the UNC Policy Manual. Mr. Poole briefed us that the new policy vetting process is being followed and confirmed that it allows for an open comment period to allow all members of the campus community to opine on new or revised policies and regulations.

Internal Audit Reporting Requirements – Mr. Wayne Poole

Mr. Poole briefed the committee on the Internal Audit annual report for fiscal year 2024 and the Internal Audit strategic plan. Mr. Poole also briefed the committee on several other annual requirements, including the audit-related certifications for the UNC System Office and the annual Assessment of Internal Audit that has been submitted to the North Carolina Council of Internal Auditing.

Recent Internal Audits – Mr. Wayne Poole

Mr. Poole advised that since our last meeting, Internal Audit has closed 16 engagements. He briefed the committee on two of the audits, related to IT Controls in the College of Engineering and Technology, and ECU Transit.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report.

Report of the University Affairs Committee for September 26, 2024

The University Affairs Committee met in regular session with trustees Fussell, Roberts, Rogers, Furr, Ward, Segrave, Smith and Workman in attendance.

The Committee approved the minutes of the April 11, 2024 meeting of the University Affairs Committee. There were several questions related to the operational metrics in our materials and discussion was had specifically around the Fall 2024 enrollment metrics.

The Committee heard two informational items. First, Provost Coger and Vice Chancellor Frye shared the components of ECU's Student Success agenda and this year's short-term priorities aligned with emphasizing student success as a key recruitment and retention strategy. Then, Provost Coger and Chief Innovation and Engagement Officer Paynter led a discussion showcasing the AI landscape at ECU, including a faculty and student guest panel who shared their firsthand experiences and insights into using AI as students, professors and professionals in their research and careers.

In closed session, the committee approved the tenure recommendation for Dr. Tanya Christ in the College of Education. Dr. Christ is also the Spangler Distinguished Professor for Early Childhood Literacy. This item was approved through the consent agenda for the board this morning.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report.