MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA
Athens, Georgia
October 6-7, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met on Tuesday, October 6, and Wednesday, October 7, 2026, in the University of Georgia Center for Continuing Education and Hotel, Mahler Hall at the University of Georgia, 1197 South Lumpkin Street, Athens, Georgia, and simultaneously accessible by BOR Webcast. Board Chair David B. Dove called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. on October 6, 2026. Present on both days, in addition to Board Chair Dove were Board Vice Chair Deep J. Shah; Regents Tom Bradbury; Chris Cannon; Richard T. Evans; Erin Hames; Samuel D. Holmes; James M. Hull; Cade Joiner; Patrick C. Jones; C. Everett Kennedy, III; Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; Harold Reynolds; T. Dallas Smith; Haynes Maier Studstill; Mathews D. Swift. Regents Lowery Houston May and James K. Syfan, III participated online. Also, Chancellor Sonny Perdue was present on both days.

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

The University of Georgia ROTC presented the colors.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trey Wilson, Student Government Association President at the University of Georgia, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SAFETY BRIEFING

Jeffrey L. Clark, the University of Georgia Chief of Police, gave the safety briefing.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Board Vice Chair Deep J. Shah and seconded by Regent Samuel D. Holmes, the Board members present voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 16 and October 1, 2026 Board meetings.

PRESIDENTIAL PRESENTATION AND CAMPUS SPOTLIGHT: "GEORGIA ON MY MIND: STUDENT SUCCESS IN FOCUS"

President Jere W. Morehead of the University of Georgia (UGA), led the Presidential Presentation and Campus Spotlight: "Georgia on My Mind: Student Success Focus." President Morehead began by sharing that the last time UGA hosted USG's Board meeting was in 2019. He then gave an overview of the changes that UGA's campus has experienced in the last seven years. President Morehead shared that UGA has added three new schools and colleges, UGA's Honors College, the School of Medicine, and the Victoria Kay Ivester School of Nursing. President Morehead continued by saying with the support of USG, the institution has added or renovated 2.3 million square feet of residential, instructional, and research spaces, including two new residence halls, two new STEM buildings, and several athletic facilities. He added that since 2019 UGA has won another eleven national championships and fifteen combined Southeastern Conference (SEC), regular season and tournament championships, cementing UGA's reputation as a powerhouse in both academics and athletics. President Morehead stated that UGA has embraced its role as a

leader in academic innovation.

Next, President Morehead announced that the following faculty, staff members, and students will provide presentations and experiences in their respective roles and fields of study at UGA: Hayes Perry, fourth-year student, majoring in Journalism and Sociology; JJ Poole, third-year student, majoring in Finance and Economics; Dr. Michelle Cook, Vice President for Student Affairs; Dr. Audrey Haynes, Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor of Political Science and Director of the Applied Politics Program, School of Public and International Affairs; Aidan Cope, fourth-year student, majoring in Genetics; Bradley Smith, fourth-year student, majoring in Supply Chain Management and Real Estate; Dr. Kyle Tschepikow, Senior Executive Director for Development and Alumni Relations; and Laila Carter, third-year Student, majoring in Journalism and seeking a Masters Degree in Public Relations.. The University of Georgia has a resounding history and an ongoing legacy that focuses on student success.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

The Committee on Academic Affairs met as a committee of the whole at approximately 2:12 p.m. During its meeting led by Committee Chair Harold Reynolds, and unless otherwise noted, upon motions properly made and seconded, the Regents present unanimously approved the following items:

ACTION ITEMS

1. Upon a motion made by Regent Erin Hames and seconded by Regent Richard T. Evans, the Committee approved the establishment of a Doctor of Public Administration at Savannah State University, effective fall 2027.

2. Upon a motion made by Regent Samuel D. Holmes and seconded by Regent Erin Hames, the Committee approved the establishment of a Doctor of Social Work at Georgia State University, effective fall 2027.

3. Upon a motion made by Regent Erin Hames and seconded by Regent Richard T. Evans, the Committee approved the establishment of a Doctor of Optometry at Georgia Southern University, effective fall 2029.

4. Upon a motion made by Regent Erin Hames and seconded by Regent Richard T. Evans, the Committee approved the establishment of a Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence at the Georgia Institute of Technology, effective summer 2027.

5. Upon a motion made by Regent Richard T. Evans and seconded by Regent Erin Hames, the Committee approved the naming of the Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Hal and Julia Moore Institute for the Study of the American Military Experience at Columbus State University, effective immediately.

6. Upon a motion made by Regent Richard T. Evans and seconded by Regent Erin Hames, the Committee approved the expansion of the approved TCSG USG Course Transfer Chart to include an additional two courses and corresponding paired lab courses from the Technical College System of Georgia.

CONSENT ITEM

7. The Committee approved several named faculty positions at Augusta University, the Georgia Institute of Technology, and the University of Georgia.

NOTIFICATION ITEM

8. Bachelor of Science in Nursing progresses at the University of Georgia:

On May 15, 2025, the Board of Regents voted to "suspend Board Policy 3.6 Academic Program Review; approve a new nursing school at the University of Georgia to award traditional and graduate nursing degrees; have the USG System Office staff work closely with UGA to develop a comprehensive academic plan, expeditious timeline, and allocation of required new/additional financial resources for both the operational and capital needs to establish such a nursing school to alleviate the nursing crisis in Georgia; and to have this plan, in conjunction with a system-wide nursing and branding plan, be presented to the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting as an information item."

As an update on this vote, the USG System Office has reviewed and approved the University of Georgia's plan for a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Leveraging existing institutional strengths across foundational health sciences, the program expands state nursing education capacity, improves retention of pre-health UGA students who previously transferred elsewhere, and offers strong clinical training backed by formal partnerships with major regional healthcare systems like Northeast Georgia Health System, Piedmont Athens Regional, St. Mary's, and PruittHealth. Ultimately, it delivers high value to both students and the state by combining rigorous, evidence-based academic preparation with robust clinical placement pipelines to immediately improve population health and meet critical workforce demands.

DISCUSSION ITEM

9. Colleges of Education:

There was a discussion of the changes made to college curricula in the last four years to ensure Colleges of Education are preparing quality K-12 educators, particularly in Math and English. This discussion began with opening remarks from Regent Hames, followed by presentations from three Education Deans, representing the University of Georgia, the University of West Georgia, and Georgia Southern University.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, and upon a motion made by Regent T. Dallas Smith and seconded by Regent Haynes Maier Studstill, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 3:23 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: ORGANIZATION AND LAW

The Committee on Organization and Law met as a committee of the whole at approximately 3:24 p.m. During its meeting led by Committee Chair Haynes Maier Studstill, unless otherwise noted, upon motions properly made and seconded, the Regents present unanimously approved the following item:

APPROVAL ITEM
Upon a motion by Board Chair David B. Dove and variously seconded, the Committee approved a mutual aid agreement between Albany State University and the City of Albany Police Department.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
The Organization and Law Committee met in executive session during the full Board's executive session to discuss student and personnel matters. Minutes regarding this executive session are in the full Board minutes, and an affidavit regarding the executive session is on file with the Office of the Secretary to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business to come before the Committee, and upon a motion made by Regent Erin Hames and variously seconded, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 3:26 p.m.

RECESS
On Tuesday, October 6, 2026, the Board recessed for the day at approximately 3:26 p.m.

RECONVENE
On Wednesday, October 7, 2027, Board Chair David B. Dove called the meeting back into session at 9:01 a.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE
David Nelson, Student Government Association Vice President at the University of Georgia, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SAFETY BRIEFING
Jeffrey L. Clark, the University of Georgia Chief of Police, gave the safety briefing.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: HEALTHCARE – "TRANSFORMING PUBLIC HEALTH: THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP"
The Committee on Healthcare met as a committee of the whole at approximately 9:06 a.m. During its meeting led by Board Vice Chair Deep J. Shah an information item was presented to the Board.

INFORMATION ITEM
President Jere W. Morehead of the University of Georgia (UGA), led a presentation highlighting UGA's role in transforming public health through the power of partnership. Following President Morehead's presentation, Dr. Jonathan Murrow, Cardiologist and Associate Dean for Research, School of Medicine, Dr. Ashley Galanti, Alumna, CEO of AMG Detection, and Dr. Lisa Renzi-Hammond, Associate Dean of Outreach and Co-Director of the Cognitive Aging Research and Education (CARE) Center, College of Public Health continued by sharing their personal commitment, research and collaboration with UGA to enhance healthcare outcomes.

ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business to come before the Committee, and upon a motion made by

Regent Richard T. Evans and seconded by Regent Haynes Maier Studstill, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:38 a.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: REAL ESTATE AND FACILITIES

The Committee on Real Estate and Facilities met as a committee of the whole at approximately 9:39 a.m. During its meeting led by Committee Vice Chair Mathews D. Swift, unless otherwise noted, upon motions properly made and seconded, the Regents present unanimously approved the following items:

CONSENT ITEMS

1. The Committee authorized the execution of an amendment to a sub-rental agreement for office space at 1700 North Moore Street in Arlington, Virginia, for the Georgia Institute of Technology.

2. The Committee authorized the execution of a ground lease and rental agreement for project number PPV-10-2501, Creswell Hall Renovation, for the University of Georgia.

3. The Committee approved the naming of the Performing Arts Center at the University of Georgia as the "Charles and Lynne Knapp Performing Arts Center."

4. The Committee approved the naming of the new space science and robotics facility at Columbus State University as the "Jack and JoRhee Pezold Center for Emergent Technology."

5. The Committee authorized project number BR-30-2701, Make-Up Air Unit Renovations, Marcus Nanotechnology Building, for the Georgia Institute of Technology.

6. The Committee approved a modification to the budget for project number BR-50-2504, 100 Edgewood Avenue Infrastructure and Frontage Improvements, for Georgia State University.

7. The Committee approved a modification to the budget for project number J-446, Skiles Critical Infrastructure Renewal and Upgrade, for the Georgia Institute of Technology.

APPROVAL ITEMS

8. Upon a motion by Regent Richard T. Evans and seconded by Regent T. Dallas Smith the Committee authorized project number BR-69-2701, New Athletic Performance Facility, and approved the naming of the facility as the "Winston and Alma Pittman Field House," for Savannah State University.

9. Upon a motion by Regent Harold Reynolds and seconded by Regent Richard T. Evans, the Committee authorized the execution of a ground lease of approximately 2.65 acres of property at 292 Tenth Street, Atlanta, to the Georgia Tech Foundation, for the Georgia Institute of Technology.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, and upon a motion made by Regent Richard T. Evans and seconded by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., the Regents who were present voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:47 a.m.

PRELIMINARY FALL ENROLLMENT AND FY 2026 DEGREES CONFERRED

Dr. Angela Bell, Vice Chancellor of Research and Policy Analysis, provided a Preliminary Fall Enrollment and Fiscal Year 2026 Degrees Conferred update. During her presentation, Dr. Bell noted that the System's overall preliminary enrollment for Fall 2026 is over 392,000 students, an increase of about 2.6% over Fall 2025 enrollment. She shared that both undergraduate and graduate preliminary enrollment are up over last fall. Also, Dr. Bell presented the preliminary enrollment by institution sector as follows: research universities are up 2.2% over last year; comprehensive universities are up 2.7%; state universities are up 3.1%; and state colleges are up 3.2%. She also reported that the number of degrees conferred in fiscal year 2026 was 86,660, an increase of 5.3% from last year and a record high for the system.

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Chancellor Sonny Perdue gave his monthly report. He began by thanking President Jere Morehead and the team at the University of Georgia (UGA) for hosting the Board meeting, emphasizing that the UGA team were good hosts and that they made it look easy. Chancellor Perdue also thanked UGA's leadership, staff, faculty, and students for making it a great visit. He also expressed that there is no place like Athens, Georgia and UGA's campus. Chancellor Perdue continued by sharing some historical background about UGA. He noted that UGA is a cornerstone of the state of Georgia's history and is a part of the foundation of American public higher education. He also shared that UGA is the nation's first public university and is more than 240 years old, which is almost as old as the country itself. Chancellor Perdue added that UGA started with the first graduating class of just ten students, and now it stands proudly among the top twenty public schools in the nation. He continued by saying that the demand for a UGA degree has never been higher. Chancellor Perdue stated that there are approximately 44,000 students on campus, and more than 80% of UGA's undergraduates come from the state of Georgia. He also discussed that being admitted into the institution is not easy, sharing that over 51,000 students applied to UGA for the available 6,250 freshman seats. Chancellor Perdue continued by saying that the students that are accepted at UGA thrive; for example, 93% of the Class of 2025 were either working or in graduate school within six months of graduating.

Chancellor Perdue continued his report by sharing highlights throughout the System as follows: according to U.S. News and World Report, the University of Georgia (UGA) has ranked number nineteen among the nation's top public universities, marking its eleventh consecutive year in the top twenty, ranked number twenty-one among the best-value schools for in-state students in the United States, and ranked number fifty-two among all universities, public and private, nationwide; the Georgia Institute of Technology rose to number six among the nation's public universities, up from number nine last year, ranked number four for internships and co-ops among national universities, and ranked number fourteen for Best Undergraduate Teaching among national universities; Georgia State University ranked number one for Undergraduate Teaching for the seventh consecutive year, ranked number three among for the Most Innovative public universities, which is its twelfth year in the top five, and ranked number two for First-Year Experiences among

national universities; Georgia College & State University ranked number four for Top Public Schools among regional universities in the South, ranked number one for Best Value school in Georgia among public regional universities, based on both affordability and quality, up from the number two place for last year, and ranked number two for Best Undergraduate Teaching in the region; Fort Valley State University was recognized as Georgia's number one public Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) for the ninth consecutive year, ranked number eleven for Social Mobility among National Liberal Arts Colleges, ranked number twenty-two for Top Public Schools among National Liberal Arts Colleges, and ranked number twenty-nine among HBCUs nationally; Kennesaw State University ranked number one for undergraduate engineering program in Georgia among institutions that do not award a PhD; Savannah State University was ranked the number one HBCU College of Business in Georgia; Dalton State College was named one of the nation's "Great Colleges to Work For" by the Chronicle of Higher Education for the third consecutive year; the University of North Georgia ranked number twenty-nine for Best Colleges for Veterans among regional universities in the South, and ranked number twenty-five among Top Public Universities in the South, according to U.S. News; and Georgia Southwestern University ranked number forty-nine among Top Public Universities in the South, placing it in the top fifty, and ranked number thirty-seven among Top Performers on Social Mobility, which is a rise of twenty-five spots. Chancellor Perdue expressed USG's pride and gratitude to all its institutions for their hard work toward student success.

Also, Chancellor Perdue gave an update regarding University System Office staffing. He announced that Thomas A. Fanning is named as the next chancellor for the Board of Regents of University System of Georgia. Chancellor Perdue stated that he could not be more confident in that choice for the future of the USG system and the state. He continued by discussing the distinctive leadership roles that Mr. Fanning held during his tenure at the Southern Company. Chancellor Perdue added that the utility sector sets a high standard for leadership development and succession planning, and that Mr. Fanning brings an exact strategic discipline to USG.

Additionally, Chancellor Perdue recognized the retirement of Kim Gore, Human Resources Data Services Manager, Shared Services Center, as of October 1, 2026. He shared that Ms. Gore served the State of Georgia for thirty-three years, which includes eighteen with USG. Chancellor Perdue continued by saying that she was instrumental in transforming USG's Share Services Center, played a pivotal role in the System's consolidation efforts and ensured that time-sensitive initiatives succeeded. Chancellor Perdue expressed to Ms. Gore that USG is grateful for her dedicated service and that the System wishes her the best in retirement.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Upon a motion made by Regent Samuel D. Holmes and variously seconded, the Board members present voted unanimously to approve the proposed Board meeting dates for 2027, including the amendment of moving Tuesday, October 12, 2027, meeting date to Tuesday, October 5, 2027.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Secretary to the Board Christopher McGraw announced that there were no timely petitions or

communications for the Board to consider and that the next Board of Regents meeting will be held on November 17, 2026, at the Board's offices in Atlanta.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board Chair David B. Dove called for an executive session at approximately 10:24 a.m. With a motion made by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. and variously seconded, the Board members present voted unanimously to go into executive session. An affidavit regarding this executive session is on file with the Office of the Secretary to the Board.

RECONVENE

Following executive session, Board Chair David B. Dove reconvened the Board meeting in its regular session at approximately 10:53 a.m. and announced that no action was taken in executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, and upon a motion by Regent Erin Hames and seconded by Regent Cade Joiner, the Regents present voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:54 a.m.

David B. Dove
Chairman, Board of Regents
University System of Georgia

Christopher A. McGraw
Secretary, Board of Regents
University System of Georgia