

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA
Atlanta, Georgia
April 16, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, in the Student Activities and Recreation Center at Gordon State College, 419 College Drive, Barnesville, Georgia, and simultaneously accessible by BOR Webcast. Board Chair Harold Reynolds called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. Present in addition to Board Chair Reynolds, were Vice Chair T. Dallas Smith; Regents Doug Aldridge; Tom Bradbury; Richard T. Evans; W. Allen Gudenrath; Samuel D. Holmes; James M. Hull; Cade Joiner; Patrick C. Jones; C. Everett Kennedy, III; Sarah-Elizabeth Langford; Jose R. Perez; Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; and Mathews D. Swift. Chancellor Sonny Perdue was also present. Regents Erin Hames; Bárbara Rivera Holmes; and Lowery Houston May participated remotely. Regent James K. Syfan, III was excused.

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

Lamar County High School ROTC presented the colors.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mary Monroe Smith, Student Government Association President at Gordon State College, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SAFETY BRIEFING

Ben Scott, Gordon State College Chief of Police, gave the safety briefing.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a proper motion and variously seconded, the Regents present voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 13, March 12 – 13, and March 14, 2024, Board meetings.

PRESIDENTIAL PRESENTATION AND CAMPUS SPOTLIGHT: “GORDON STATE COLLEGE: FORWARD INTO THE FUTURE”

President Donald J. Green of Gordon State College (“GSC”) led the Campus Spotlight, “Gordon State College: Forward into the Future.” President Green began the presentation by sharing background information on GSC. He shared that in the 1830s, a group of area farmers came together to solve a need which was to educate their children and prepare them for opportunities in a growing nation. Dr. Green continued by saying that in 1852 the school that would become Gordon State College was officially chartered. He also shared that in 1890 GSC incorporated the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps which led to its designation as a military school of the United States Army. Also Dr. Green stated that cadets came from across the United States and South and Central America to attend. He said that for 82 years GSC’s students were a vital part of the country’s military efforts. Dr. Green reported that in 1972 GSC joined the University System of Georgia as a two-year college, the military program ended, and Kindergarten through the twelfth grade was separated from the institution. He continued by saying that as the labor market’s demands grew so did GSC. Dr. Green elaborated by stating that GSC’s highly respected nursing program soon became vital to the region’s healthcare system. He also stated that in 2010 when

Georgia needed baccalaureate prepared nurses and teachers, GSC widened its purpose to become a bachelor's degree granting institution. Dr. Green continued by saying that GSC retains its purpose of providing education and economic development for central Georgia, which serves a fourteen-county region, reaching from McDonough, Griffin, and Macon. He also noted that GSC is adapting its curriculum to meet the needs of the regional workforce with bachelor's degrees in a variety of disciplines like management, health sciences, biology, and criminal justice, including providing career and transfer programs to allow students to achieve both an affordable education and livelihood. Dr. Green reported that GSC provides one of the top ranked nursing programs in Georgia and has the largest paraprofessional teacher program in the state. He added that in the future that there will be additional workforce development programs in health, business, and technology, thereby continuing GSC's 172 years of educating students from all walks of life to pursue fulfilling and productive careers.

To continue the campus spotlight, other members of GSC's faculty and students shared their experiences and accomplishments at GSC. Dr. Joseph Jones, Professor and former Dean of Education, discussed the Teacher's Program at GSC. He shared that as of the beginning of this year that there were approximately two hundred vacancies in certain districts of Georgia that were seeking teachers. Dr. Jones continued by saying that there is a great need for teachers across the state and GSC's teacher's program fulfills that need. Ms. Kacy Cox, Student – Paraprofessional Teacher's Program, shared that she is a senior and nontraditional student. She stated that as nontraditional student, navigating the higher education environment often feels like an uphill battle, however, the teacher's program at GSC embodies the essence of accessibility and support. Next, Dr. Jessica Traylor, Professor, Human Services Internship Coordinator, gave an overview of GSC's human services program. Dr. Traylor stated that this program is focused on personal empowerment and committed to helping people. Next, Ms. Valerie Presley, Student – Human Services major, shared that in addition to being enrolled in the human services program that she is doing her internship at the Lamar County Health Department. Ms. Presley continued to share that the health department has been awarded a grant titled "Healthy Brain Initiative" and that she has been named Healthy Brain Initiative Strategist. Dr. Victor Vilchiz, Dean of Nursing, Health, and Natural Science, highlighted GSC's Nursing Program. Dr. Vilchiz noted that GSC will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its nursing program's first graduating class. He continued by saying that since 1974, GSC has provided central Georgia with over 3,000 well prepared, board ready nurses. Afterwards, Ms. Mercedes Preston, Student – Nursing major, shared her experience as a nursing student at GSC. She stated that after months of researching what school to attend she decided on GSC. Ms. Preston stated that GSC appealed to her because it is known for having one of the best nursing programs in Georgia, the institution offers affordable tuition, as well as online and night classes. These experiences and accomplishments support the concept of GSC's spotlight – "Forward into the Future;" as Dr. Green stated, "Highlanders Forward" is more than a rallying cry, it is students moving forward to a bright future with an affordable, high-quality education that prepares them for lifelong success.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: FINANCE AND BUSINESS OPERATIONS – TUITION, FEES, AND ALLOCATIONS

The Committee on Finance and Business Operations met as a committee of the whole at approximately 10:02 a.m. to consider recommendations on tuition, fees, and allocations. During its meeting led by Committee Chair Doug Aldridge, upon motions properly made and seconded,

the Board members present unanimously approved the following items:

APPROVAL ITEMS

1. Upon a motion by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., and seconded by Regent Cade Joiner, the Committee approved the Fiscal Year 2025 Undergraduate, Graduate, and eTuition Tuition Rates.
2. Upon a motion by Regent C. Everett Kennedy, III, and seconded by Regent James M. Hull, the Committee approved the Fiscal Year 2025 Mandatory Fees.
3. Upon a motion by Regent Jose R. Perez, and seconded by Regent Richard T. Evans, the Committee approved the Revisions to Board of Regents Policy Manual, Section 7.3.4.2 Waiver of Mandatory Fees.
4. Upon a motion by Board Vice Chair T. Dallas Smith, and seconded by Regent Mathews D. Swift, the Committee approved the Fiscal Year 2025 Elective Fees and Special Charges.
5. Upon a motion by Regent C. Everett Kennedy, III, and seconded by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr., the Committee approved the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Allocations.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, and upon a motion properly made and variously seconded, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:20 a.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

The Committee on Academic Affairs met as a committee of the whole at approximately 10:20 a.m. During its meeting led by Board Chair Harold Reynolds, upon motions properly made and seconded, the Board members present unanimously approved the following items:

ACTION ITEMS

1. Upon a motion by Regent Richard T. Evans, and seconded by Regent W. Allen Gudenrath, the Committee approved the establishment of a Bachelor of Business Administration with a Major in General Business at East Georgia State College.
2. Upon a motion by Regent Tom Bradbury, and seconded by Regent Samuel D. Holmes, the Committee approved the establishment of a Master of Professional Accountancy at the University of Georgia.
3. Upon a motion properly made, and seconded by Regent Jose R. Perez, the Committee approved the establishment of a Doctor of Philosophy with a major in Neuroscience and Neurotechnology at the Georgia Institute of Technology.
4. Upon a motion by Regent James M. Hull, and seconded by Regent Jose R. Perez, the Committee approved the termination of the Master of Arts with a major in History;

Bachelor of Arts with a major in Mathematics; a Bachelor of Science in Education with a major in Health, Physical Education; and a Bachelor of Science with a major in Exercise Science at Columbus State University.

5. Upon a motion by Regent Jose R. Perez, and variously seconded, the Committee approved the termination of the Bachelor of Science in Public Health with a major in Health Education and Promotion, and Specialist in Education with a major in Educational Leadership at Georgia Southern University.
6. Upon a motion by Regent Samuel D. Holmes, and variously seconded, the Committee approved the termination of the Bachelor of Science with a major in Mathematics Education at Kennesaw State University.
7. Upon a motion by Regent Samuel D. Holmes, and seconded by Regent Jose R. Perez, the Committee reaffirmed a revised Mission Statement at Kennesaw State University.

CONSENT ITEMS

8. The Committee approved the establishment of the Ark Professorship at the University of Georgia.
9. The Committee approved the establishment of the Sara and Dan Boyd Professorship at the University of Georgia.
10. The Committee approved the establishment of the W. Richard and Emily Acree Professor endowed position at the University of Georgia.
11. The Committee approved the Karen W. and Daniel J. King Distinguished Professor of Advertising at the University of Georgia.
12. The Committee approved the Robert R. Nesbit, Jr., MD and Charles H. Wray, MD Chair in Surgery at Augusta University.
13. The Committee approved the Kellett Distinguished Chair of Allied Health Sciences at Augusta University.
14. The Committee approved the William S. Hagler, MD Distinguished Chair in Ophthalmology at Augusta University.
15. The Committee approved the Norman J. Radow Endowed Dean's Chair of Humanities and Social Sciences at Kennesaw State University.
16. The Committee approved the Georgia Mining Association Early Career Professorship at the Georgia Institute of Technology.
17. The Committee approved the appointment of several named faculty positions at Augusta University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Kennesaw State University, Middle Georgia

State University, and University of Georgia.

18. The Committee approved the extension of University System of Georgia test optional waiver for admissions into the majority of USG schools through academic year 2025 - 2026, effective April 16, 2024. The institutions for which SAT/ACT scores will continue to be required are University of Georgia, Georgia Institute of Technology, and Georgia College and State University.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, and upon a motion properly made and variously seconded, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:33 a.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: ORGANIZATION AND LAW

The Committee on Organization and Law met as a committee of the whole at approximately 10:34 a.m. During its meeting led by Committee Chair Samuel D. Holmes, upon motions properly made and seconded, the Board members present unanimously approved the following items:

APPROVAL ITEMS:

1. Upon a motion by Regent W. Allen Gudenrath, and variously seconded, the Committee approved the awarding of an Honorary Doctor of Human Letters degree by Georgia College and State University to Dr. Lisa D. Cook.
2. Upon a motion by Regent Jose R. Perez, and seconded by Regent James M. Hull, the Committee approved a mutual aid agreement between the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) Police Department and Georgia State University.

EXECUTIVE SESSION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

The Organization and Law Committee met in executive session during the full Board's executive session to discuss personnel matters and student records. 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 properly made and variously seconded, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:37 a.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: INTERNAL AUDIT, RISK AND COMPLIANCE

The Committee on Internal Audit, Risk and Compliance met as a committee of the whole at approximately 10:38 a.m. During its meeting led by Committee Vice Chair Mathews D. Swift the following information items were presented to the Board.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. The Committee received an information item on the Results of the Systemwide Backup and Recovery Audit Engagement.

2. The Committee received an information item on the Results of the Programs Serving Minors Audit Engagement.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, and upon a motion made by Regent Jose R. Perez and seconded by Regent James M. Hull, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:48 a.m.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION – REGENT C. THOMAS HOPKINS, JR.

Board Chair Harold Reynolds recognized former Regent C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr. for his thirteen years of service as a member of the Board of Regents. Also, former Regent Hopkins was commended for being a valuable member of the Board, his commitment, and contributions to the University System of Georgia as well as to the State as a whole. Additionally, the Board honored former Regent Hopkins with a proposed Board Resolution. Upon a motion by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. and seconded by Regent Jose R. Perez, the Board members present voted unanimously to approve the Resolution honoring former Regent C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr. which was then presented to him by Board Chair Reynolds, as well as a proclamation from the Governor. A copy of the Resolution is attached hereto.

RECESS

Following the Special Recognition of former Regent Hopkins, the Board adjourned for lunch.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: FINANCE AND BUSINESS OPERATIONS

The Committee on Finance and Business Operations met as a committee of the whole at approximately 12:17 p.m. During its meeting led by Committee Chair Doug Aldridge an information item was presented, and the Board members present unanimously approved the following approval item:

INFORMATION ITEM

1. The Committee received an information item on the USG Capital Liability Management Plan.

APPROVAL ITEM

2. Upon a motion by Regent James M. Hull, and seconded by Regent Samuel D. Holmes, the Committee approved the request for Multi-Year Leasing Contract Value Authority.

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 Mathews D. Swift, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 12:38 p.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 12:39 p.m. During its meeting led by Committee Chair Richard T. Evans an information item was presented, and the Board members present unanimously approved the following approval items:

INFORMATION ITEM

1. Sandra Lynn Neuse, Vice Chancellor for Real Estate and Facilities, informed the Committee about the University of Georgia's interest in exploring a Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contract.

CONSENT ITEMS

2. The Committee authorized project number BR-30-2409, Boggs Building Roof Replacement, for the Georgia Institute of Technology.
3. The Committee authorized project number BR-30-2408, Human Resources Building Renovation, for the Georgia Institute of Technology.
4. The Committee authorized project number BR-50-2402, Clarkston Parking Lot Improvements, for Georgia State University.
5. The Committee authorized project number BR-50-2403, 55 Park Place Restroom Renovations, for Georgia State University.
6. The Committee authorized project number BR-90-2403, Student Competition Teams Building, Marietta Campus, for Kennesaw State University.
7. The Committee authorized project number BR-90-2404, Chastain Pointe Building 100 Renovations, for Kennesaw State University.
8. The Committee authorized project number BR-69-2401, Theodore A. Wright Stadium Turf Replacement, for Savannah State University.
9. The Committee authorized amendments to a rental agreement for office space at 260 14th Street NW, Atlanta, for the Georgia Institute of Technology.
10. The Committee authorized an amendment to a rental agreement for the Coastal Georgia Center located at 305 Fahm Street in Savannah for Savannah State University.
11. The Committee authorized an amendment to a rental agreement for 608 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington, District of Columbia, for the University of Georgia.

APPROVAL ITEMS

12. Upon a motion by Regent Patrick C. Jones and seconded by Regent Sarah-Elizabeth Langford, the Committee approved the removal of the Stillwell name from the existing baseball stadium and approved the naming of Mickey Dunn Baseball Stadium for Kennesaw State University.
13. Upon a motion by Regent Sarah-Elizabeth Langford and seconded by Regent C. Everett Kennedy, III, the Committee approved the naming of Portia Holmes Shields Early Learning Center for Albany State University.

14. Upon a motion by Regent Doug Aldridge and seconded by Regent Jose R. Perez, the Committee approved the naming of Gate #2 at Georgia State University's Convocation Center as Damir J. Kunovac Gate.
15. Upon a motion by Regent Cade Joiner, and seconded by Regent Lowery Houston May, the Committee approved the naming of David E. Ralston Hall at the University of North Georgia's Blue Ridge campus.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, and upon a motion made by Committee Vice Chair James M. Hull and seconded by Regent Jose R. Perez, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 12:51 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORT

The report of the Executive and Compensation Committee is attached hereto.

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Chancellor Sonny Perdue gave his monthly report. He began by saying that former Regent C. Thomas Hopkins, Jr. had been appropriately honored. Chancellor Perdue also expressed his appreciation of former Regent Hopkins for his thirteen years of work and dedication to the Board and USG. He added that former Regent Hopkins pushed campuses to become smoke and tobacco free, and that it was his work that made the emergency drug naloxone available to campus safety departments to save lives in suspected cases of opioid overdoses. Chancellor Perdue continued his report by saying that it had been a wonderful visit to Gordon State College (GSC), and thanked President Green, his students, faculty, and staff for their hospitality.

Chancellor Perdue continued his report by saying that the legislative session recently ended, and USG is grateful to Governor Kemp and the General Assembly for their support. He continued by saying that USG had a good session with the amended Fiscal Year 2024 and full Fiscal Year 2025 budgets as well as appropriations for several capital projects including the new medical school at the University of Georgia and the dental school expansion for Augusta University.

Chancellor Perdue continued by discussing testing requirements. He said that he appreciates the Board's willingness to continue to work with the System on the test optional waiver. Chancellor Perdue also mentioned that quality, quantity, and competition are the System's driving factors, along with helping students to graduate successfully and enter the workforce. He also said with the state funding formula we need to drive enrollment to sustain our financial health and that USG is competing with colleges and universities across the South and across the nation for Georgia students who he wants to stay in their home state. Chancellor Perdue went on to say that USG wants to make decisions based on good data; so, the System continues to collect and analyze the data and looking at facts regarding that matter. He reported that for now, USG has provided assurance to students and families that the same testing waiver for twenty-three of USG's institutions will continue for the 2025-26 academic year. Chancellor Perdue also noted that in the future USG is considering adding R2 research universities to the "test required" list.

Chancellor Perdue continued by reporting on recent highlights involving USG institutions, including announcing the winners of the Chancellor's Cup. First, he announced that Valdosta State

University was the overall winner of the inaugural Regents Cup Debate Series, which launched recently with great success. Chancellor Perdue also mentioned the outstanding individual student winners participating in this activity which are as follows: the University of Georgia – Ansley Warnock as individual debate champion; Valdosta State University – Raegin Jones as individual runner-up; the Georgia Institute of Technology – Andrew Dowdy as an individual semi-finalist; and the University of West Georgia – Willow Roark also as an individual semi-finalist.

Other highlights that Chancellor Perdue mentioned included East Georgia State College winning its first women’s basketball conference championship, and the USG and the Georgia National Guard recognition as one of only six winners of the 2023 Army Community Partnership Awards. He continued by sharing that Dalton State College President John Fuchko went to Washington D.C. to represent the System at the award’s ceremony.

Before presenting the Chancellor’s Cup to the presidents of the respective winning institution, Chancellor Perdue announced that Spring enrollment is more than 360,00, a 4.8% increase over last Spring, which is approximately 15,000 students. He continued by saying that the increase represents a 15-year high, surpassing the previous spring enrollment peak of 317,023 in Spring 2021. Then, Chancellor Perdue announced the winning institutions for an increase in Spring enrollment as follows: Dalton State College, for the state colleges sector, repeat winner, with an increase of 10.6%, trophy received by President Fuchko; Georgia Southwestern State University, for the state universities sector, with an increase of 13.6%, trophy received by President Weaver; the University of West Georgia, for the comprehensive universities sector, a three time winner, with an increase of 11.4%, trophy received by President Kelly; and the Georgia Institute of Technology, for the research universities sector, with an increase of 9.6%, trophy received by President Cabrera. Finally, Chancellor Perdue honored Mike Coverson, USG Chief of Police, upon his retirement after 32 years of service to the State of Georgia.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Upon a motion by Board Vice Chair T. Dallas Smith and seconded by Regent Richard T. Evans, the Board members present voted unanimously to appoint Christopher A. McGraw, Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs and Secretary to the Board of Regents, to serve for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2024, on the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia’s Board of Trustees.

Regent Cade Joiner gave an update on the 2024 USG Foundation Gala. He announced that the 20th annual Board of Regents Gala will be held on September 12, 2024, at Trilith Studios, which is the evening of the Board meeting. Regent Joiner also announced that a couple of VIPs, Dan Cathy, and Jeff Foxworthy, will be in attendance. He continued by saying that the event will be a sit-down dinner.

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 May 14, 2024, at the Board’s offices in Atlanta.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board Chair Harold Reynolds called for an executive session at approximately 1:36 p.m. With a motion properly made and variously seconded, the Regents 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 Harold Reynolds reconvened the Board meeting in its regular session at approximately 2:02 p.m. and announced that the Board took no actions during the executive session.

Upon a motion by Regent Neil L. Pruitt, Jr. and seconded by Regent Doug Aldridge, the Board members present voted unanimously to waive Board Policy 8.2.3, Employment of Relatives, temporarily for the months of April and May 2024 to allow the employment of Brett Weaver at Georgia Southwestern State University.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, and upon a motion properly made by Board Vice Chair T. Dallas Smith and seconded by Regent Doug Aldridge, the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:06 p.m.



Harold Reynolds
Chairman, Board of Regents
University System of Georgia



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

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE AND COMPENSATION

The Committee on Executive and Compensation of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia met on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, in the Multi-Use Room # 103 (SARC) at Gordon State College, 419 College Drive, Barnesville, Georgia. Committee Chair Harold Reynolds called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. Present, in addition to Committee Chair Reynolds, were Committee Vice Chair T. Dallas Smith; Regents C. Everett Kennedy, III; Samuel D. Holmes; and Neil L. Pruitt, Jr.; and Erin Hames participated remotely. Also present were Regents Doug Aldridge; Tom Bradbury; Richard T. Evans; W. Allen Gudenrath; James M. Hull; Cade Joiner; Patrick C. Jones; and Mathews D. Swift; and Lowery Houston May attended remotely. Chancellor Sonny Perdue was also present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

With a motion made by Committee Vice Chair T. Dallas Smith and seconded by Regent C. Everett Kennedy, III, the Regents present voted unanimously for the Executive and Compensation Committee to go into executive session at 9:06 a.m. 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.

RECONVENE

Following executive session, Board Chair Harold Reynolds reconvened the Board meeting in its regular session at approximately 9:24 a.m. and announced that the Board took no actions during the executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, and upon a motion made by Committee Vice Chair T. Dallas Smith and seconded by Regent C. Everett Kennedy, III, the Regents who were present voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:25 a.m.



**A RESOLUTION OF
THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA**

WHEREAS, C. Thomas Hopkins Jr., M.D., was originally appointed by Governor Sonny Perdue as a member of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia in 2010 and reappointed by Governor Nathan Deal in 2018; and

WHEREAS, Regent Hopkins dedicated his time, talent and service to the Board of Regents, the State of Georgia and the cause of public higher education as a member of the Board for 13 years; and

WHEREAS, Regent Hopkins in 2017 served as chairman of the Board of Regents, and over his distinguished tenure provided leadership on issues critical to student and institutional success; and

WHEREAS, this included hiring new presidents and helping create new and stronger institutions through the process of consolidation, better supporting the institutions' surrounding communities by strategically aligning degree offerings with institutional talents and regional needs; and

WHEREAS, during Regent Hopkins' time with the Board, he also provided medical expertise and guidance that made campuses healthier and safer, including his work to make the emergency drug naloxone available to campus safety departments to save lives in suspected cases of opioid overdoses and helping enact a policy to make all University System of Georgia properties tobacco- and smoke-free; and

WHEREAS, Regent Hopkins served on the Board's Graduate Medical Education Committee, providing keen insight and support as the university system successfully furthered efforts to create new residency programs at teaching hospitals in Georgia; and

WHEREAS, during his 13 years of service, Regent Hopkins provided sage advice to many colleagues, to a vast number of institution presidents and to countless university system employees and students; and

WHEREAS, this thoughtful guidance, wit and wisdom will be greatly missed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia hereby congratulates and thanks former Regent C. Thomas Hopkins Jr. for 13 years of dedicated service and generosity to the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia and for the significant accomplishments in public higher education he helped this state and system achieve.

Adopted this 16th day of April, 2024.