

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
Wednesday, September 17, 2025**

In Open Session

Call to Order: Regent Nathan Smith, Chair, called the regular meeting of the Board of Regents to order at 9:04 AM on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, and requested Tammy Knochelmann, Secretary to the Board of Regents, to call the roll.

Roll Call:

Present: Shea Conley, Cori Henderson, Ashley Himes, Collin Jarrell, Greg Mecher, Nathan Smith, Sandra Spataro, Kara Williams, Brad Zapp

Absent: Regent Grooms

Ms. Knochelmann confirmed that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes:

Regent Williams moved to approve the minutes from the June 11 2025 Board of Regents meeting. Regent Jarrell seconded the motion. **The motion carried**

Regent Williams moved to approve the minutes from the Board of Regents Retreat held on July 22-23, 2025. Regent Spataro seconded the motion. **The motion carried**

Welcome

Chair Smith welcomed the following new Regents: Victoria Grooms, Collin Jarrell, Greg Mecher, and Debra Wulfeck.

Oath of Office

Chair Smith administered the oath of office to newly appointed Regent Greg Mecher, who affirmed his commitment to uphold the stipulations of the oath and to faithfully execute, to the best of his ability, the duties of Regent of Northern Kentucky University in accordance with the law. Chair Smith also reported that he had previously administered the oath of office to newly appointed Regent Victoria Grooms during the Board Dinner.

Regent Emeritus Recognition

Chair Smith reported that the Regent Emeritus Standing Committee had unanimously recommended that Mr. Rich Boehne be awarded the distinction of Regent Emeritus. He noted that this honorary title is reserved for former Board members whose service and dedication have significantly advanced the mission of Northern Kentucky University.

Chair Smith then read the following statement of recognition:

"I am pleased to share today that we have a unanimous recommendation from the Regent Emeritus Standing Committee that Mr. Rich Boehne be awarded the distinction of Regent Emeritus, a title reserved for former Board members whose service and dedication have significantly advanced the mission of Northern Kentucky University. Rich, a 1981 alumnus of NKU, has significantly impacted the university through his dedicated service on the Board of Regents, providing strategic leadership during pivotal moments in NKU's history. Beyond his

board responsibilities, Rich's philanthropic efforts, including substantial donations to support first-generation students and the establishment of the LIFT Scholars Program, have left a lasting legacy on the institution. His commitment to education and community development exemplifies the values NKU upholds. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Rich for his unwavering dedication and service to NKU."

Chair Smith called for a motion to approve the awarding of Regent Emeritus status to Mr. Rich Boehne.

Regent Kara Williams moved to award Regent Emeritus status to Mr. Rich Boehne. Regent Debbie Wulfeck seconded the motion. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Confirmation of Board Committee Appointments:

Chair Smith confirmed the following new committee appointments for the 2025-26 term, effective September 15, 2025:

- Regent Victoria Grooms to the Student Success and Academic Affairs Committee.
- Regent Greg Mecher to the Audit Risk and Compliance Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee.

Committee Meeting Summaries:

Regent Nathan Smith, Chair of the Executive Committee, presented a summary of the meeting held on September 16, 2025.

Regent Brad Zapp, Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee, presented a summary of the meeting held on September 15, 2025.

Regent Ashley Himes, Chair of the Student Success and Academic Affairs Committee, presented a summary of the meeting held on September 16, 2025.

President's Report:

Thank you, Chair Smith. I want to begin by offering a warm welcome to our newest regents—Victoria Grooms and Greg Mecher. We are eager to utilize your experiences and expertise to continue to improve NKU today and build for an even better future. For Greg, this is the second time that he has served on the Board of Regents. Greg first served as a student regent in 1998-99 and we are happy to welcome him home to continue to serve his alma mater.

Two years ago this week, I was selected as president—what a whirlwind these years have been. When we look at the positive changes we have led together, it's remarkable what we've accomplished. As an institution, we are markedly healthier than we were in 2023.

As is my tradition, I'll provide updates and context for the presidential priorities I'm leading and then conclude with a mission moment video. You'll recall that my five priorities are driving strategic enrollment management, improving our finances, leading the modernization of infrastructure and policies, strengthening our campus community, and bolstering NKU's regional engagement.

First, I am delighted to provide a variety of strategic enrollment management updates. Over the last couple of years, the SEM task force has created a multi-year plan and set of recommendations that are producing results. For example, we've seen positive results from the direct admit program and the simpler 3 states/1 rate tuition structure. Our first-time full-time student enrollments are higher than last year's—when we increased our first year class by a

whopping 17%. This enrollment number is the most critical one financially as their enrollments endure the longest and with the greatest auxiliary utilization. Additionally, we've seen increased enrollments in our Chase College of Law and our online undergraduate enrollments as well.

However, as has been the case nationally, adult learner enrollments have slowed a bit—at this moment in our first seven-week term, our graduate student enrollments are suppressed, yet we anticipate more enrollments in our subsequent five- and seven-week terms. We also have fewer transfer students this fall, year over year. Additionally, our international student enrollment numbers have decreased like other universities across the country. Put simply, this has been the choppiest enrollment season I've experienced; however, all-in-all we are within under 1% of our enrollment projections. I am amazed by the hard work of our team in recruiting students, packaging financial aid, advising and more as we've processed thousands of students in the last few months, especially those students who arrived later than typical to join us. As evidence of that, we registered 870 students in the last seven days before school started! I offer all of my colleagues our sincere thanks for their incredible work in planning and executing to perform as well as we have.

Without question, the headwinds in higher education are formidable—the combination of external contextual factors inside and outside of the higher education industry have resulted in significant noise and turbulence this year. The competition within higher education is intense. Flagship and Research I institutions in this region and state have demonstrated an appetite for enrollment growth to generate revenue and their acceptance rates are higher than ours; yet we know that NKU is better equipped to serve these students and, as a result, I predict that we will likely see increased transfer students to NKU in the upcoming months and years. We will be ready for them and ensure that they succeed here at NKU.

Community college enrollments have also risen steadily since 2020. Regional community colleges are up 9-13%. Why? As we've said before, a number of Americans question the value of a four year education, despite the clear evidence that higher education is financially and socially valuable. Moreover, there has been a national narrative pushing trade and technical schools, which have their place and role to play in our economy. Of course, many community college students transfer to complete four-year degrees here at NKU, making their educational paths even more affordable. I'm really pleased with how our faculty in Informatics and Business have worked with Gateway faculty and leaders to ensure smooth and efficient transfer pathways from Gateway to NKU. We need to align each program to ensure our transfer students' success here. I am delighted with the health of our community college partnerships and relationships and our P-12 superintendents and principals.

And just as one academic term's recruitment ends, another begins. The NKU undergraduate application is open for Spring 2026 and Fall 2026. I encourage the board, faculty and staff to share our message of student success and return on investment to friends and families with high school seniors, transfer students looking to return home, and adults interested in furthering their education. With the new Welcome Center now in the heart of campus and a completely redesigned visit experience, we want the region and surrounding states to know who we are and why NKU is the best option for them. Students get more than they pay for at NKU.

Second, since the \$24 million deficit, we have been focused on strengthening our finances. As you know, we have balanced our budget. You'll hear more details from our CFO Chris Calvert in a few moments but two important highlights are that we far outperformed last year's budget by nearly \$8 million. And the primary ways we've improved have been our focus on enrollment management and emphasizing the increase of our net tuition revenue. In FY 26, we have increased our net tuition revenue over \$10 million over last year. A balanced budget, positive

cash flow for the first time in five years, and a commitment to maintain a balanced budget and employee raises going forward? These are major achievements worthy of celebration. However, given the fluctuations in state funding and some choppiness in enrollments, our FY 26 budget will be tight. This will require teamwork and cost containment.

Third, we are committed to modernizing our infrastructure. As you all know, we are months into our ERP integration project and our HR/finance portion will be completed and ready by July 1, 2026. Thanks to every person who has led and served on this process. Additionally, we are midway through our new website project. I am excited about the opportunity to better communicate with our students as well as prospective students and families.

Fourth, we are working to improve and strengthen our campus community culture. The cabinet has drafted various policies to modernize our policies, as well as codify our current practices. When completed, these policies will provide employees and managers with clear guidance and tools to reflect best practices. We are currently engaged in gathering feedback and input about these 10 policies as a part of the shared governance process.

In addition, because we know that campus morale has been strained in part because of a lack of raises, we've provided across the board raises and given bonuses to our colleagues with the lowest salaries. As we build planning assumptions for our FY 27 budget, I am committed to annual raises of 3%. We will offer merit raises and set aside some funds to address compression and equity issues in our colleagues' salaries.

Fifth, we have prioritized key roles that we will play as it relates to being regionally engaged in Northern Kentucky. We are currently building a new collaboration of NKU, the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, and OneNKY Alliance. NKU will host a new civic leadership program for mid-career residents of Northern Kentucky. Starting in January, we will launch this leadership education and mentoring program that will equip participants to serve and lead in our community. This program has a new name, LaunchNKY and it will be a center for civic leadership at NKU. This program will feature our own leadership faculty across numerous disciplines and connect participants with mentors and service opportunities in our region upon completion. It's a perfect next step for Leadership Northern Kentucky graduates. The program's website, application process, and executive director will be announced at the Chamber gala on September 25. This program will be funded externally.

In addition to LaunchNKY, we are exploring new opportunities to build assets at NKU for greater P-12 academic enrichment and support structures. We hosted a week-long summer camp for River City school students this summer and intend to plan a longer camp for them to continue with us next summer.

Additionally, NKU was selected by CPE to provide training for the Kentucky Department for Community Based Services. DCBS is the Kentucky agency that provides on-the-ground family support and child and adult protection for our communities. NKU's Institute for Health Innovation received a \$2 million annually renewable contract to provide on-going work force training for all support and protection personnel across 17 counties in the northern portion of Kentucky. The IHI is currently in the process of hiring 18 full-time employees to implement this program.

We have also been engaged with our elected officials in Kentucky and nationally. As you know, we worked hard to be in compliance with HB4. Thanks to everyone who has collaborated toward that end. Our next deadline to meet relates to HB 424 and we have begun to engage the board with the details of our three faculty review processes—annual reviews, reappointment promotion

and tenure processes, and the post tenure review process—with administration’s recommendation that these review processes surpass the expectations of HB 424. Our deadline to complete this task is January 1, 2026, so the board will need to take action in the November board meeting.

As you know, the long session of the General Assembly will begin in January and we have been preparing for months. Among our priorities, we will stress the importance of increasing our institution’s base budget to achieve equilibrium with the other institutions in the state. While we are young, we have grown quickly and our per pupil funding numbers are too low and need an adjustment. In addition to requesting an equity adjustment, we will request inflationary increases to our base along with various capital investments in NKU.

Some of you may have seen that Eric Gentry, Jenny Sand, and I recently traveled to Washington, DC to meet with all members of Kentucky’s delegation. Just as it is important to work closely with our state-level officials, we are eager to work more closely with those on the federal level.

Additionally, we are eager to engage with you—we will convene here to share more information and answer questions in my presidential town hall meeting events. Our next town hall is scheduled for September 23 from 9-10:30 in this room. Mary Paula Schuh will share details about our \$300 million worth of capital projects that are planned for the next few years. This campus is undergoing significant renovation, thanks to the state’s investment in us. We will also share other updates, such as the ten policies we’ve drafted and put out for comment for 45 days. And as always, we’ll have time for your questions and ideas.

Four weeks into the academic year, I am excited about the bustle of activity on campus. I receive compliments regularly from students about our faculty and staff and how they provide superior attention and service to our students. When we carefully answer student questions, students persist. When we nurture our students’ ambitions, they persist. When we attend their shows and games, students persist. When we work to connect our students to the best opportunities and internships, they persist. This university’s community is strong in its support of our students’ persistence and success. Each action and each relationship helps our students to realize their graduation. And our students’ successes are triumphs for them, their families, our region, and for us. Our students’ stories are compelling, and to give you some examples of them and why we work, listen to the voices of three of our thousands of first-generation students in our Mission Moment video. Thank you very much.

University Reports:

Chris Calvert, Vice President of Administration & Finance and Chief Financial Officer, provided updates on Interim FY25 Year-End and Net Tuition Revenue.

Ryan Padgett, Chief Strategic Enrollment Management Officer, provided an update on enrollment, and then, along with Rebecca Hamm, Assistant Vice Provost for Student Success, provided an update on the First-Year Student Success Hub (FYSSH).

Presidential Reports:

B-1) Facilities Management Report (Vice President for Administration & Finance/CFO Chris Calvert).

- a. Herrmann Science Center Expansion
- b. Landrum Academic Center Renovation
- c. Commonwealth Center for Biomedical Excellence
- d. Fine Arts Floor Heaving/Corbett & HVAC (AP)

- e. Nunn Hall Floor Heaving/Restrooms and HVAC Renewal (AP)
- f. Fine Arts Freight Elevator Modernization (AP)
- g. Kentucky Hall Transformer and Water Heater (AP)
- h. Campbell Hall Return Air System Upgrade (AP)
- i. Student Union Roof Restoration (AP)
- j. Underground Water Valves (AP)
- k. University Center Replace Switchgear (AP)
- l. Regents Hall Generator and Switchgear Replacement (AP)
- m. Renew/Renovate Steely Library Phase I (AP)
- n. University Center Miscellaneous Renovations (AP)
- o. Replace Road and Sidewalk Lighting (AP)
- p. Truist Arena Controls Upgrade (AP)
- q. Albright Health Center Hot Water System Replacement (AP)
- r. University Drive Garage Restoration (AP)
- s. Arena Garage Restoration (AP)
- t. Civic Center Renovation (AP)
- u. Ceramics Building Façade Restoration (AP)
- v. Maintenance Building Façade Restoration (AP)
- w. Campus Fire Alarm Panel Replacement (AP)
- x. Administrative Center Plumbing Infrastructure (AP)
- y. Steely Library HVAC Replacement (AP)
- z. Regents Hall HVAC and Lighting Replacement (AP)
- aa. Student Union Lutron Lighting System Replacement (AP)
- bb. Griffin Hall Lighting System Replacement (AP)
- cc. Tennis Court Reconstruction
- dd. Mathematics-Education-Psychology Center Elevators Modernization (AP)
- ee. Power Plant Upgrades (AP)
- ff. Northern Terrace Kitchens and HVAC System Replacement (AP)
- gg. University Suites Flooring Replacement (AP)
- hh. Mathematics-Education-Psychology Center Miscellaneous Space Upgrades (AP)
- ii. Regents Hall Restroom Renovation (AP)
- jj. Replace Campus Security Cameras (AP)
- kk. 16 Clearview and Norse Neighborhood

B-2) Research/Grants/Contracts Report (March 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025 for Fiscal Year 25) (Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Diana McGill).

During the March 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025 time period, 26 grants were awarded. The total amount of money awarded was \$1,260,826. For the fiscal year 2025, the cumulative total number of grants awarded is 94 totaling \$15,798,467.

B-3) Fundraising Report (July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025) (Vice President for University Advancement Eric Gentry).

The Fundraising Report summarized fundraising resources committed from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, totaling \$6,487,283 in support of the university.

B-4) Fundraising Report (July 1, 2025, through July 31, 2025) (Vice President for University Advancement Eric Gentry).

The Fundraising Report summarized fundraising fundraising resources committed from July 1, 2025, through July 31, 2025, totaling \$318,220 in support of the university.

B-5) Policies Report (Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel Grant Garber)

The Policies Report summarized all policies that were approved at the executive-level after proceeding through the campus vetting process. The President and other university administrators determined that approval of these policies by the Board of Regents was not needed per the criteria established in Presidential Recommendation C-7 of the January 2015 regular meeting.

Consent Agenda Items:

Regent Debbie Wulfeck moved to approve the Presidential Recommendations as listed; C 1-11. Regent Shea Conley seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

C-1) Academic Affairs Personnel Actions:

1. Administrative Appointments:

Douglas Hume, professor, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Philosophy and director of assessment, accreditation, curriculum, and general education, Undergraduate Academic Affairs, effective August 1, 2025.

2. Faculty Appointments:

Mary Belwood Garves, assistant teaching professor, Department of Management, Haile College of Business, effective July 28, 2025; **Jeri Gatch**, assistant teaching professor, School of the Arts, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 11, 2025; **Madeline Gervase**, clinical assistant professor, School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services, effective July 07, 2025; **Amanda Holthaus**, assistant teaching professor, School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services, effective August 11, 2025; **Shauna Kinnard**, assistant teaching professor, School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services, effective August 11, 2025; **Nicholas Meszaros**, assistant professor, Department of Physics, Geology, and Engineering Technology, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 11, 2025; **Sydni Morris**, assistant teaching professor, Department of Teacher Preparation and Educational Studies, College of Education, effective August 11, 2025; **Charles Myers III**, clinical associate professor, School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services, effective July 14, 2025; **Rolanda Pace**, clinical assistant professor, School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services, effective August 11, 2025; **Kelly Rickels**, assistant teaching professor and director of business experiences, Center for Student Excellence, Haile College of Business, effective June 2, 2025; **Julia Sebastian**, assistant teaching professor, School of the Arts, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 11, 2025; **John Wagner**, assistant teaching professor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 11, 2025; **Justin Walsh**, associate teaching professor, School of the Arts, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 11, 2025; **Leslie Webb**, assistant teaching professor, School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services, effective August 01, 2025.

2. Transitions:

Nana Arthur-Mensah, from associate professor and interim chair to associate professor, Department of Political Science, Criminal Justice, and Organizational Leadership, College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 1, 2025; **Holly Attar**, from associate teaching professor to teaching professor, School of the Arts, College of Arts

and Sciences, effective July 1, 2025; **Laura Boesken**, from assistant teaching professor to assistant professor, School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services, effective August 11, 2025; **Nancy Bowers**, from associate teaching professor to teaching professor, Department of English, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 11, 2025; **Andrea Brooks**, from pedagogy and assessment librarian to head of education and outreach services, W. Frank Steely Library, effective July 1, 2025; **Lynn Crane**, from assistant teaching professor to associate teaching professor, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 1, 2025; **Jessica Edwards**, from visiting assistant teaching professor to assistant professor in the Department of Teacher Preparation and Educational Studies, College of Education, effective August 11, 2025; **Teressa Elliott**, from interim associate dean and professor to associate dean and professor, Haile College of Business, effective July 1, 2025; **Melissa England**, from department head for collections and discovery services to teaching and learning librarian, W. Frank Steely Library, effective June 2, 2025; **Hailley Fargo**, from interim associate dean and head of education and outreach services to associate dean, W. Frank Steely Library, effective July 1, 2025; **Heleen Giesbers**, from assistant teaching professor to associate teaching professor, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 11, 2025; **Mary Lee Glore**, from assistant teaching professor to associate teaching professor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 11, 2025; **Rebecca Hamm**, from assistant dean, Informatics Student Success and Advising Center, College of Informatics, to assistant vice provost for student success, Undergraduate Academic Affairs, effective August 4, 2025; **Brad McCombs**, from associate professor and interim associate dean to associate professor, School of the Arts; and Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 1, 2025; **Danielle McDonald**, from professor, Department of Political Science, Criminal Justice, and Organizational Leadership and associate dean, College of Arts and Sciences to professor, Department of Political Science, Criminal Justice, and Organizational Leadership and vice provost of faculty affairs, instructional excellence, and online programs, effective July 7, 2025; **Alexis Miller**, from associate professor to associate professor and chair, Department of Political Science, Criminal Justice, and Organizational Leadership, College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 1, 2025; **Makoto Nakamura**, from associate teaching professor to teaching professor, Department of World Languages and Literatures, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 11, 2025; **Hardik Patel**, from assistant teaching professor to associate teaching professor, Department of Accounting, Economics, and Finance, Haile College of Business, effective August 11, 2025; **LeShauna Persley**, from assistant teaching professor to associate teaching professor, Center for Student Excellence, Haile College of Business, effective July 1, 2025; **Amy Racke**, from associate teaching professor, Department of Biological Sciences and assistant dean, College of Arts and Sciences to teaching professor, Department of Biological Sciences and assistant dean, College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 1, 2025; **Kim Roush**, from assistant teaching professor to associate teaching professor, Department of Marketing, Sports Business and Construction Management, Haile College of Business, effective August 11, 2025; **Betty Russell**, from assistant

teaching professor to associate teaching professor, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 11, 2025; **Brad Sarchet**, from assistant teaching professor to associate teaching professor, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 11, 2025; **Christa Speights**, from assistant teaching professor to associate teaching professor, Department of Physics, Geology, and Engineering Technology, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 11, 2025; **Katy Tucker**, from cataloging and metadata librarian to interim department head for collections and discovery services in the W. Frank Steely Library, effective June 2, 2025; **Lindsey Walters**, from professor and interim chair to professor and chair, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 1, 2025.

3. **Part-time Tenure:**

Perilou Goddard, professor, Department of Psychological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 11, 2025.

4. **Departures:**

Nick Brummer, associate professor of practice, School of Media and Communication, College of Informatics, effective May 31, 2025; **Margaret Mack**, clinical assistant professor, School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services, effective August 15, 2025; **Anne Sahingoz**, assistant professor, School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services, effective July 31, 2025; **Rachael Schmitz**, assistant professor, School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services, effective July 02, 2025; **Judith Tenhundfeld**, clinical professor, School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services, effective July 15, 2025; **Brandelyn Tosolt**, professor, Department of Educational Leadership and Advanced Studies, College of Education, effective August 15, 2025.

5. **Phased Retirement:**

Carol Ryan, associate professor, School of Kinesiology, Counseling, and Rehabilitative Sciences, College of Health and Human Services, beginning fall of 2025 and ending spring of 2027.

6. **Temporary Faculty Appointments:**

Reuben Bullard, CINSAM, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Kristina Bielewicz**, CINSAM, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Amber Carter**, CINSAM, College of Arts and Sciences, Fiscal Year; **Kristi Brock**, English, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Lindsey Caldwell-Thomas**, English, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Natalie Williams**, English, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **James O'Bannon**, English, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Iliana Rosales Figueroa**, World Languages and Literatures, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Sandra Bazzani Arrone**, World Languages and Literatures, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Kevin Eagles**, History, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Lynda Mercer**, Interdisciplinary Studies, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Kathleen Quinn**, Interdisciplinary Studies, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Chrystal Culbertson**, Mathematics and Statistics, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Julie Reizner**, Physics, Geology, Engineering Technology, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Becca Ewing**, Physics, Geology, Engineering Technology, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Jason Farkas**, Political Science, Criminal Justice & Organizational Leadership, College of Arts and Sciences,

Academic Year; **Jake Cowan**, Political Science, Criminal Justice & Organizational Leadership, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Michael Simonton**, Sociology, Anthropology, & Philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Robert Brice**, Sociology, Anthropology, & Philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Sevil Suleymani**, Sociology, Anthropology, & Philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Randel Plowman**, School of the Arts, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Josie Roebuck**, School of the Arts, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Jeffrey Martell**, School of the Arts, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Joy Burdette**, School of the Arts, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **John Zappa**, School of the Arts, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Lou Setzer**, School of the Arts, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Krista Weiss**, School of the Arts, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Genevieve Perrino**, School of the Arts, College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Year; **Chad Greenfield**, Accounting, Economics, and Finance, Haile College of Business, Academic Year; **Danna Abu-Rashed**, Accounting, Economics, and Finance, Haile College of Business, Academic Year; **Dawn Parks**, Management, Haile College of Business, Fiscal Year; **Joan Adkins**, Management, Haile College of Business, Academic Year; **Michelle Ann Miller**, School of Kinesiology, Counseling, and Rehabilitative Sciences, College of Health and Human Services, Academic Year; **Paige Yeager-Faust**, School of Kinesiology, Counseling, and Rehabilitative Sciences, College of Health and Human Services, Academic Year; **Dawn Deem**, School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services, Academic Year; **Megan Renee Taylor**, School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services, Academic Year; **Leighann Rehtin**, Educational Leadership and Advanced Studies, College of Education, Academic Year; **Brandi Neal**, School of Computing and Analytics, College of Informatics, Academic Year; **Stephen Ralescu**, School of Computing and Analytics, College of Informatics, Academic Year; **Anthony Burk**, School of Computing and Analytics, College of Informatics, Academic Year; **Evan Athanasakes**, School of Media and Communication, College of Informatics, Academic Year; **Samuel New**, School of Media and Communication, College of Informatics, Academic Year; **Aaron Zlatkin**, School of Media and Communication, College of Informatics, Academic Year; **Melissa Napier**, American English Language Program, Center for Global Engagement and International Affairs, Academic Year.

C-2) Non-Academic Personnel Actions:

The following categories of non-academic personnel actions, which occurred between May 2, 2025, and August 7, 2025, received approval by the Board of Regents:

Activations/Rehires; Reassignments, Reclassifications, Title/Status Changes, Promotions; Transfers; Contract/Temporary/Student to Regular & Regular to Contract; Departures; Retirements; Administrative/Executive.

C-3) Faculty Emeritus Status:

Faculty Emeritus status for the following individual received Board of Regents approval:

Irene Encarnación, teaching professor, Department of World Languages and Literatures, College of Arts and Sciences, effective June 1, 2025.

C-4) Organizational Chart Updates:

The Board of Regents approved the organizational chart, which reflects all NKU Administrative updates through September 17, 2025.

C-5) Major Gifts Acceptance:

The Board of Regents accepted contributions totaling **\$734,810.57** received by the NKU Foundation Inc. for the benefit of Northern Kentucky University during the period May 1, 2025, through July 31, 2025.

C-6) Naming Recommendations:

The Board of Regents approved the following naming actions:

1. The naming of a scholarship for students attending Northern Kentucky University. "Spataro Family Scholarship"
2. The naming of a fund to provide flexible, as-needed financial assistance awards to undergraduate students enrolled in the School of the Arts (SOTA) who are experiencing financial challenges that may impact their ability to remain enrolled and progress toward degree completion. "Ally Davis Memorial Student Support Fund"
3. The naming of a scholarship that will provide essential last-dollar-in scholarships to help adult and transfer students overcome financial barriers and achieve their academic and career goals. "Republic Bank Adult and Transfer Student Scholarship"
4. The naming of a scholarship that will support a student majoring in the construction management program. Preference will be given to students based on financial need and/or demonstration of leadership and sophomore or greater standing. "Spirit of Construction Scholarship"
5. The naming of a fund that will provide support for students majoring in theatre, dance, fine arts, arts, and design. Preference will go to students showing high merit and financial need. "Maggie Murphy Creative Producing Award"
6. The naming of a fund that will provide program support for a global health informatics exchange program between India and the United States. "International HealthCyber Scholars Fund"

C-7) Bucks for Brains:

The Board of Regents accepted contributions totaling **\$75,000.00** to be submitted to the state of Kentucky for matching funds through the Bucks for Brains program.

C-8) Duke Easement:

The Board of Regents approved and authorized administration to grant permanent easements to Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc., to accommodate a major pipeline replacement project in northern Kentucky.

C-9) Posthumous Degree:

The Board of Regents approved that Zach Hart receive a posthumous Associate Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from the College of Arts and Sciences.

C-10) Posthumous Degree:

The Board of Regents approved that Dusten K. Fowee receive a posthumous Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Information Technology with a focus on Cybersecurity from the College of Informatics.

C-11) Civic Center Lease:

The Board of Regents approved a lease of the Civic Center to the Commonwealth of Kentucky, for use as a state medical examiner's office and a state police crime laboratory, and authorized initiation of the construction phase of the Civic Center renovation project.

Following the consent agenda, Chair Smith called for discussion items. Being none, he moved for the meeting to adjourn. Regent Cori Henderson seconded the motion. **The motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Signature On File
Tammy Knochelmann
Secretary to the Board of Regents

Signature On File
Ashley Himes
Secretary of the Board of Regents

I, Ashley Himes, Secretary of the Board of Regents of Northern Kentucky University, certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 17, 2025, and that such matters are still in force and effect.

Approved by Board of Regents on November 19, 2025/TKK