

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
September 18-19, 2025**

BE IT REMEMBERED, That the Mississippi Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning of the State of Mississippi met in a regular session at the Salon I & II, Jackson Ballroom at The Westin, 407 S. Congress Street, Jackson, Mississippi, at 8:30 a.m., and pursuant to notice in writing mailed by certified letter with return receipt requested on December 2, 2024, to each and every member of said Board said date being at least five days prior to this September 18-19, 2025 meeting. At the above-named place the following members were present to wit: Ms. Amy Arrington, Mr. Don Clark, Jr., Dr. Ormella Cummings, Dr. Steven Cunningham, Mr. Jerry L. Griffith, Mr. Jimmy Heidelberg, Ms. Teresa Hubbard, Mr. Bruce Martin (via Zoom), Mr. Gee Ogletree, Mr. Hal Parker, and Mr. Charlie Stephenson. Mr. Gregg Rader was absent. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Gee Ogletree, President, with Trustee Arrington providing the invocation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- President Ogletree noted that the Board enjoyed a wonderful meal last night at The Westin receiving a warm welcome from the Honorable John Horhn, Mayor of Jackson, and Mr. Joseph Simpson, a managing member of The Westin. President Ogletree thanked Dr. Joe Paul, President of The University of Southern Mississippi, for arranging the student group, The Spirit of Southern, to perform after dinner. The Spirit of Southern is the premier pop a cappella ensemble at The University of Southern Mississippi conducted by Dr. Jonathan Kilgore.
- President Ogletree spoke about the tragedy that occurred this past Monday with the death of Demartravion (Trey) Reed, a student at Delta State University. As the investigation into his death continues, President Ogletree stated, “our attention, our concern, and our prayers are with his family and the entire Delta State community of students, faculty, and staff.” He commended Dr. Dan Ennis, President of Delta State, for his leadership during this time, and Chief Michael Peeler of the Delta State University Police for his work on the investigation.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

- President Ogletree noted that Senator Nicole Boyd, Representative Donnie Scoggin, and several Legislative Budget Office staff plan to attend. All are welcome.
- Dr. Alfred Rankins, Jr., Commissioner of Higher Education, introduced a new staff person, Mr. John Harris, IHL Chief Audit Executive. President Ogletree welcomed him to the staff.

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APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Hubbard, with Trustee Rader absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Board meeting held on August 21, 2025.

CONSENT AGENDAS

On motion by Trustee Hubbard, seconded by Trustee Clark, with Trustee Rader absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the following Consent Agendas.

FINANCE AND BUDGET

1. **MVSU** – Approved the request to enter an Amendment to the software license and service agreement with Ellucian Company, LLC to extend Banner services to support the configuration and ongoing operation of critical modules, including Financial Aid, Advancement, Finance, Student, Human Resources, Workflow EDISmart, Employee, Faculty and Advisor Self-Service, and Solutions Manager. These services are essential to the University’s continued administrative and business operations. The term of the agreement is October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2030. The cost of this contract is \$1,651,376.00. The cost of the total agreement with the cost of the extension is \$3,481,161.00. A cost breakdown is included in the bound *September 18, 2025 Board Working File*. The contract will be funded by E&G and Title III funds. Title III funds may be appropriately utilized to support this contract, as these expenditures align with the program’s allowable costs and objectives. Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. The agreement is on file in the Board Office.

REAL ESTATE

1. **UM** – Approved the request to a contract with an Owner’s Representative (OR), Hoar Program Management, LLC, for IHL #207-416, New School of Accountancy (Jones Hall) project. The scope of the Owner’s Representative work includes all tasks listed in the AIA Doc C104-2024 Agreement. The project scope includes construction of a new +/- 172,000 square foot facility. The contract term is September 19, 2025, through two (2) months after substantial completion of the construction contract. Based on current design timeline and construction timeline estimate, the projected contract value is \$3,929,202.00. This will fluctuate with actual design and construction schedules and any time extensions granted during construction. The funding source for this contract is Internal R&R. Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. The agreement is on file in the Board Office.

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REGULAR AGENDAS

FINANCE AND BUDGET AGENDA

Presented by Trustee Charlie Stephenson, Chair

Trustee Ogletree recused himself from discussing or voting on item #1 on the Finance and Budget Agenda by leaving the room before there was any discussion or vote regarding the same. With Trustee Ogletree out of the room, on motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Griffith, with Trustees Ogletree and Rader absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #1 as submitted on the Finance and Budget Agenda.

1. **ASU** – Approved the request to amend the August 23, 2018, master SodexMagic, LLC. Agreement to modify meal plan rates and the term length of the agreement. The modifications in this Amendment #5 pertain solely to meal plan rate adjustments and the implementation of automatic pricing escalation mechanisms as detailed in the History of Contract section, while all other financial obligations and commission structures remain as established in the previous amendment. The term of the agreement was extended for an additional five (5) year period, which commenced September 1, 2023 and continued through August 31, 2028 (1st Renewal Term) and shall be subject to renewal for one (1) additional five (5) year term commencing September 1, 2028 and continuing through August 31, 2033 (2nd Renewal Term) upon approval by the IHL Board. The financial terms and contract amounts established in Amendment #4 dated June 6, 2023, remain unchanged. This includes the commission structure, investment commitments, and annual fund allocations as previously agreed upon. Specifically, the following amounts from the prior amendment continue to apply: 1) Commission rates for various sales categories (Retail and DCB Sales, Cash & Credit, Conferences, External Catering, Internal Catering, and Concessions), 2) SodexoMagic investment of Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000.00), and 3) Annual fund allocations totaling One Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$180,000.00), including Scholarship Fund, Presidential Catering Fund, Presidential Homecoming/Tailgate Fund, Athletic Catering Fund, SGA/Resident Life Catering Fund, and Band Summer Camp Fund. This agreement will be funded by Auxiliary funds from the sale of meal plans. Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. The agreement is on file in the Board Office.

REAL ESTATE AGENDA

Presented by Vice President Steven Cunningham

Trustee Ogletree recused himself from discussing or voting on item #1 on the Real Estate Agenda by remaining outside the room while there was a discussion and vote regarding the same. With Trustee Ogletree out of the room, on motion by Trustee Arrington, seconded by Trustee Cummings, with Trustees Ogletree and Rader absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to

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approve item #1 as submitted on the Real Estate Agenda. Trustee Ogletree returned to the room following the discussion and vote on item #1.

1. **USM** – Approved the request to enter a lease with York Mayfair Road, LLC for +/- 5700 square feet of commercial office space at 132 Mayfair Road, Hattiesburg, MS 39402 for use as office space for the operation of a Mississippi Early Childhood Inclusion Center (MECIC) Resource and Referral (R&R) office. The lease term is one (1) year, beginning on the effective date of October 1, 2025, and terminating on September 30, 2026, with options to renew for two (2) additional one-year terms. Lessee's notice to renew may be given any time prior to the expiration of the then current term. The annual rent payments would be \$72,000.00 for the initial term, and if renewals are exercised, \$74,160.00 in the first renewal term, and \$76,384.80 in the second renewal term. Rent will be due and payable in monthly installments on the first day of each month (\$6,000.00/month for the initial term, \$6,180.00/month first renewal term, and \$6,365.40/month for the second renewal term). Total lease payments if all renewals are exercised would be up to \$222,544.80. Pursuant to Board Policy 707.03 Approval of Prepayment for Goods or Services, the Board approved the request to prepay the monthly rent installment on the first day of each month in accordance with the terms of the lease. Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. The agreement is on file in the Board Office.

INFORMATION AGENDAS

Presented by Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr.

LEGAL

1. **SYSTEM** – The Board received a report of the payment of legal fees to outside counsel. (See Exhibit 1.)

ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

2. **SYSTEM** – The following items have been approved by the Commissioner on behalf of the Board and are available for review at the Board Office.
 - a. **MSU** – In accordance with Board Policy 1107 Enactment of Traffic Rules and Regulations, “the Board hereby delegates to the Commissioner of Higher Education the power to approve and authorize the enactment of such university traffic rules and regulations, which shall include university parking and traffic fines and fees, on behalf of the Board.” On August 5, 2025, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved MSU OP 95.501 Traffic and Parking Rules and Regulations. The IHL Director of Legal Affairs has reviewed and approved the documents.
 - b. **MSU** – On August 18, 2025, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and Missouth Properties, L.P. for approximately 9,000 square feet of space located at 2121 5th Street, Meridian, MS to provide space for a behavioral health clinic servicing the Meridian community and provide MSU students supervised clinical learning opportunities. The term of the lease is one-year effective August 1, 2025 at a cost of \$4,500 per month for a

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total cost of \$54,000. Payment is due on the first of each month. The IHL Associate Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Risk Management reviewed this item and found it compliant with Board Policy 707.01 Land, Property, and Service Contracts and Policy 707.03 Approval for Prepayment for Goods or Services. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.

- c. **USM** – On August 25, 2025, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Sublease Agreement between the University of Southern Mississippi and Systems Analysis & Integration, Inc. d/b/a Systems Integrated for approximately 3,059.74 square feet of space in the USM Roger F. Wicker Center for Ocean Enterprise at the Port of Gulfport. This sublease previously received Commissioner approval on July 8, 2025 between the university and “Systems Integrated.” However, the subtenant requests that its full legal name, Systems Analysis & Integration, Inc. d/b/a Systems Integrated, be used to match government contracting and security records, thus the second request for approval. USM is a tenant under an Amended and Restated Lease Agreement for Port Facilities with the MS Development Authority and the MS State Port Authority at Gulfport. Systems Integrated will sublease that rentable portion of this property for a term of six months (six full months plus the balance of the month in which the sublease becomes effective) at the rate of \$10,825.77 per month or approximately \$64,954.62 for the term of the agreement. The IHL Associate Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Risk Management reviewed this item and found it compliant with Board Policy 707.01 Land, Property, and Services Contracts. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.
3. **SYSTEM** – IHL Board Policy 102.03 Institutional Mission Statements requires each institution to develop a concise statement of its core mission for approval by the Board. Each core statement shall be based upon and consistent with the statement of institutional purpose and mission required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and the Board and System mission statements. The Board received the current mission statement for each institution. **(See Exhibit 2.)**

FIRST EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Trustee Heidelberg, seconded by Trustee Cummings, with Trustee Rader absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to close the meeting to determine whether to declare an Executive Session. On motion by Trustee Clark, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustee Rader absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously **to enter Executive Session** for the reasons reported to the public and stated in these minutes, as follows:

1. Receipt and discussion of privileged legal advice from the Board’s attorney regarding pending litigation filed against the Board and compliance with state and federal law related to House Bill 1193.

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2. Receipt and discussion of privileged legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding two financial transactions which are under Board review.
3. Receipt and discussion of privileged legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding the impact of pending personnel-related litigation on the new Jackson State University presidential search.
4. Discussion of a personnel matter involving the performance of a particular employee holding a specific position at Mississippi State University.

The discussion of these four topics in open session would be detrimental to IHL's legal interest.

During Executive Session, the following matters were discussed and/or voted upon:

The Board received and discussed privileged legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding pending litigation filed against the Board and compliance with state and federal law related to House Bill 1193. **No action was taken.**

The Board received and discussed privileged legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding two financial transactions submitted for the Board's review. **No action was taken.**

The Board received and discussed privileged legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding the impact of pending personnel-related litigation on the new Jackson State University presidential search. **No action was taken.**

On motion by Trustee Parker, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustee Rader absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to affirm the decision of Dr. Mark Keenum, President of Mississippi State University, to terminate the employment contract of Dr. Li Zhang, a tenured faculty member employed in the Richard A. Rula School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at MSU.

On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustee Rader absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to return to Open Session.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

President Ogletree asked if any additional items should be added to the agenda. Vice President Cunningham noted that on August 21, 2025, the IHL Board announced the beginning of the search process for a new president at Jackson State University. On September 2, 2025, IHL published an RFP seeking proposals from executive search firms. The deadline to submit proposals was September 12, 2025. On motion by Vice President Cunningham, seconded by Trustee Clark, with Trustee Rader absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to add the selection of a search firm as an additional item on the agenda.

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Commissioner Dr. Alfred Rankins, Jr., presented the item noting the IHL office received proposals from 11 executive search firms. Commissioner Rankins and select IHL Staff reviewed the proposals and recommend the firm called “AGB Search.” On motion by Vice President Cunningham, seconded by Trustee Cummings, with Trustee Rader absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to select AGB Search and authorize the Commissioner to enter an appropriate contract with AGB Search on behalf of the Board.

ANNOUNCEMENT

President Ogletree announced the next Board meeting will be on October 16, 2025.

The Board proceeded to the annual retreat discussions.

PRESENTATIONS

The Board received presentations from each of the institutional executive officers at the eight public universities. **No action was taken.**

The Board received a presentation from Mr. Todd Stern, Managing Director of U3 Advisors. **No action was taken.**

The Board received a presentation from Dr. Steven Holley, Executive Vice Chancellor, Chief Operating Officer, The University of Mississippi. **No action was taken.**

The Board received presentations from Dr. Mark Keenum, President of Mississippi State University; Dr. Glenn Boyce, Chancellor of The University of Mississippi; and Dr. Charles McClelland, Commissioner of the Southwestern Athletic Conference. **No action was taken.**

SECOND EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Trustee Griffith, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustees Martin and Rader absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to close the meeting to determine whether to declare an Executive Session. On motion by Trustee Cunningham, seconded by Trustee Cummings, with Trustees Martin and Rader absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously **to enter Executive Session** for the reasons reported to the public and stated in these minutes, as follows:

Discussion of the performance of the institutional executive officers at the eight public universities. This is a discussion of personnel matters related to the job performance, character, and professional competence of persons holding specific positions at each of the nine institutions.

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During Executive Session, the following matters were discussed and/or voted upon:

The Board discussed the performance of the institutional executive officers at the eight public universities. This is a discussion of personnel matters related to the job performance, character, and professional competence of persons holding specific positions at each of the nine institutions. **No action was taken.**

On motion by Trustee Heidelberg, seconded by Trustee Parker, with Trustees Martin and Rader absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to return to Open Session.

On motion by Trustee Parker, seconded by Trustee Cummings, with Trustees Martin and Rader absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to recess the meeting until 8:00 a.m. on September 19, 2025.

The meeting was reconvened in Salon I & II, Jackson Ballroom at The Westin, 407 S. Congress Street, Jackson, Mississippi, at approximately 8:00 a.m., on September 19, 2025. The following members were present to wit: Ms. Amy Arrington, Mr. Don Clark, Jr., Dr. Ormella Cummings, Dr. Steven Cunningham, Mr. Jerry L. Griffith, Mr. Jimmy Heidelberg, Ms. Teresa Hubbard, Mr. Bruce Martin (via Zoom), Mr. Gee Ogletree, Mr. Hal Parker (via Zoom), and Mr. Charlie Stephenson. Mr. Gregg Rader was absent.

PRESENTATIONS

The Board received a presentation from Mr. Bob Pierce, Vice President for Advancement at The University of Alabama. **No action was taken.**

The Board received a presentation from Dr. Sarah Pingel, Vice President at the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS). **No action was taken.**

THIRD EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Trustee Heidelberg, seconded by Trustee Clark, with Trustees Martin and Rader absent and not voting and Trustee Parker participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to close the meeting to determine whether to declare an Executive Session. On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Stephenson, with Trustees Martin and Rader absent and not voting and Trustee Parker participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously **to enter Executive Session** for the reason reported to the public and stated in these minutes, as follows:

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Receipt and discussion of confidential legal advice regarding compliance with state and federal law and discussion of litigation related to higher education funding. The discussion of this topic in open session would be detrimental to IHL's legal interest.

During Executive Session, the following matters were discussed and/or voted upon:

The Board received and discussed confidential legal advice regarding compliance with state and federal law and discussed litigation related to higher education funding. **No action was taken.**

On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustee Rader absent and not voting and Trustees Martin and Parker participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to return to Open Session.

President Ogletree acknowledged Trustee Stephenson who noted the receipt of the second report from NCHEMS concerning the distribution of state funds among universities. On motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Griffith, with Trustee Rader absent and not voting and Trustees Martin and Parker participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to consider the board giving direction to the staff concerning the general funding methodology, and that this be added as an additional item on today's agenda.

On motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustee Rader absent and not voting and Trustees Martin and Parker participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to direct the IHL staff to prepare a draft modification of the general funding allocation methodology, subject to the Board's review and approval, to achieve the appropriate financial goals, including but not limited to:

- 1) provide each university with base funding to support operations including considering the classification of the university,
- 2) account for enrollment growth or shrinkage,
- 3) incentivize meeting the Board's identified instruction, performance goals and metrics compared to regional peers, and
- 4) be effective as to the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026.

PRESENTATIONS

The Board received a presentation from Dr. Casey Prestwood, IHL Associate Commissioner for Academic and Student Affairs. **No action was taken.**

The Board received a presentation from Commissioner Dr. Alfred Rankins, Jr. **No action was taken.**

The Board received a presentation from Dr. Kelly Lucas, Vice President for Research at The University of Southern Mississippi. **No action was taken.**

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustees Martin, Parker, and Rader absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.



President, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning



Commissioner, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning

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EXHIBITS

- Exhibit 1 Report of the payment of legal fees to outside counsel.
- Exhibit 2 Receipt of the current mission statement for each institution.

EXHIBIT 1

SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

SYSTEM - REPORT OF PAYMENTS TO OUTSIDE COUNSEL

Legal fees approved for payment to outside counsel in relation to litigation and other matters:

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Armstrong Law, LLC (statement dated 4/7/25) from the funds of Jackson State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$2,960.00, represents services and expenses in connection with an immigration/labor certification matter.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 2,960.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 7/28/25, 7/30/25, 8/1/25, 8/1/25 and 8/1/25) from the funds of Jackson State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$3,710.0, \$3,210.00, \$2,163.22, \$90.24 and \$29.71, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with an immigration/labor certification matter.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 9,203.17

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Adams & Reese (statement dated 8/6/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$126.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 126.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Bradley Arant Boult Cummins LLP (statements dated 6/20/25, 6/20/25 and 7/17/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$787.50, \$45.05 and \$189.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,021.55

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Brunini, Grower, Grantham and Hewes, PLLC (statements dated 7/17/25 and 7/23/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$525.00 and \$9,975.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 10,500.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Copeland Cook Taylor & Bush, PA (statements dated 7/25/25 and 7/28/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$1,362.00 and \$8,855.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 10,217.00

EXHIBIT 1

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Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 7/14/25 and 8/1/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$6,150.00 and \$1,650.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 7,800.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Lightfoot Franklin White, LLC (statement dated 8/15/25) from the funds of Mississippi Valley State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$515.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 515.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Kaplan Kirsch (statement dated 8/13/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$3,990.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 3,990.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Lightfoot Franklin White, LLC (statement dated 8/15/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$206.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 206.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mayo Mallette, PLLC (statements dated 8/11/25 and 8/12/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$4,000.00 and \$875.00 respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 4,875.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 8/1/25 and 8/1/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$2,650.00 and \$3,765.00, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 6,415.00

EXHIBIT 1

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Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Alexander Law, P.A. (statements dated 7/14/25, 7/14/25, 7/14/25, 7/14/25 and 7/16/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$119.00, \$440.00, \$9,020.50, \$2,110.00 and \$754.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 12,443.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 7/15/25, 7/15/25, 7/15/25, 7/15/25, 7/17/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$409.50, \$34.50, \$3,222.60, \$130.00, and \$766.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 4,563.10

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Gore, Kilpatrick & Dambrino, PLLC (statements dated 6/25/25 and 6/25/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$1,060.00 and \$7,900.00, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 8,960.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mayo Mallette, PLLC (statements dated 7/4/25 and 7/7/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$80.00 and \$455.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 535.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Page, Kruger & Holland, PA (statements dated 7/1/25, 7/1/25, 7/1/25, 7/1/25 and 7/1/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$51.00, \$120.00, \$40.00, \$102.00 and \$60.00, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 373.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Steen, Dalehite & Pace, LLC (statements dated 6/30/25, 6/30/25 and 6/30/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$1,300.00, \$700.00 and \$180.00, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 2,180.00

EXHIBIT 1

SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Vernis & Bowling of Mississippi, PLLC (statements dated 6/28/25, 6/28/25, 6/28/25, 6/28/25, 6/28/25 and 6/28/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$757.50, \$871.16, \$3,228.00, \$809.26, \$200.00 and \$396.00, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 6,261.92

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Walker & Ungo Immigration Law Firm (statements dated 7/14/25 and 7/17/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$229.57 and \$263.62, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 493.19

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Watkins & Eager, PLLC (statements dated 6/30/25, 6/30/25 and 7/14/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$1,961.00, \$1,325.00 and \$9,593.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 12,879.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by the Wise, Carter, Child & Caraway, P.A. (statement dated 7/17/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (This statement, in the amount of \$280.00, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 280.00

Legal fees approved for payment to outside counsel in relation to patent and other intellectual property matters:

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Conley Rose, P.C. (statement dated 8/6/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$435.00, represents services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 435.00

EXHIBIT 1

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Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 7/16/25 and 7/16/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$1,237.50 and \$1,302.50, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 2,540.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Thomas|Horstemeyer (statements dated 6/28/24, 6/28/24, 6/28/24, 6/28/24, 6/28/24, 6/28/24, 6/28/24, 6/28/24, 6/28/24, 6/28/24, 7/31/24, 7/31/24, 7/31/24, 7/31/24, 7/31/24, 7/31/24, 7/31/24 and 7/31/24) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$985.00, \$985.00, \$100.00, \$650.00, \$1,530.01, \$998.00, \$1,012.00, \$469.00, \$6,433.00, \$5,120.00, \$980.00, \$586.00, \$1,715.00, \$515.00, \$1,755.00, \$1,387.50, \$238.90, \$3,087.82 and \$3,915.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 32,462.33

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Stites & Harbison, PLLC (statements dated 5/20/25, 6/12/25, 6/12/25, 6/13/25, 6/13/25, 7/7/25, 7/7/25, 7/7/25 and 7/7/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$736.00, \$1,344.00, \$432.00, \$64.00, \$47.50, \$448.00, \$3,332.00, \$384.00 and \$288.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 7,075.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 6/17/25 and 7/16/25) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$517.50 and \$3,374.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 3,891.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mendelsohn Dunleavy PC (statements dated 7/10/25, 7/10/25, 7/10/25, 7/10/25, 7/10/25, 7/10/25, 7/10/25, 7/10/25, 7/10/25, 8/15/25, 8/15/25, 8/15/25, 8/15/25, 8/15/25, 8/15/25, 8/15/25, 8/15/25, 8/15/25 and 8/15/25) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$240.00, \$170.00, \$170.00, \$170.00, \$1,295.00, \$2,910.00, \$2,100.00, \$280.00, \$105.00, \$175.00, \$140.00, \$2,428.00, \$2,440.00, \$945.00, \$6,002.50, \$775.00, \$2,790.00, \$3,697.50 and \$8,852.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 35,685.50

EXHIBIT 2

September 18, 2025

SYSTEM – UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENTS

IHL Board Policy 102.03 Institutional Mission Statements requires each institution to develop a concise statement of its core mission for approval by the Board. Each core statement shall be based upon and consistent with the statement of institutional purpose and mission required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and the Board and System mission statements. The core mission statement shall set forth clearly and concisely the major emphasis, scope, and character of the institution's instructional, research, and public service programs, and shall describe those characteristics and features that distinguish it from other institutions in the IHL system. The current mission statement for each institution is presented below for your information.

ALCORN STATE UNIVERSITY

Alcorn State University is a public historically Black, comprehensive land-grant institution of higher education that provides access and opportunity for diverse students to excel intellectually, build character, and overcome barriers. Alcorn is dedicated to ensuring students can become productive leaders who make meaningful contributions in the world. Enhancing its notable strengths in agriculture, education, and nursing, Alcorn State offers a range of undergraduate and graduate programs, including fine arts, business, humanities, social and behavioral sciences, and STEM.

The University accomplishes its mission through high standards of academic excellence, by engaging in scholarly research and discovery, and providing public service and outreach that address real-world challenges and the economic needs of the Southwest Mississippi River Region, the state of Mississippi, the nation, and the world. Alcorn strategically extends its resources and expertise through its Extension Programs, Vicksburg and Natchez sites as well as its distance learning programs.

Alcorn State University is committed to its strong tradition of instilling the ideals of leadership, service, and institutional pride amongst its students and alumni.

Approved August 19, 2021

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

The mission of Delta State University is to offer exceptional programs and opportunities that are current, innovative, and responsive to the diverse needs of those it serves. The University provides experiences that cultivate intellectual growth and individual enrichment to develop productive members of local, regional, and global communities.

Approved June 20, 2024

EXHIBIT 2

September 18, 2025

JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

The mission of Jackson State University, an HBCU and comprehensive urban research university, is to provide quality teaching, research and service at the baccalaureate, masters, specialist, and doctoral levels to diverse populations of students and communities using various modalities to ensure that they are technologically-advanced, ethical, global leaders who think critically and can address societal problems and compete effectively.

Approved June 18, 2020

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

Mississippi State University is a public research, land-grant university with a mission to provide access and opportunity to all sectors of Mississippi's diverse population, as well as other states and countries, and to offer excellent programs of teaching, research, and service.

Mississippi State University offers a comprehensive range of undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs across many disciplines.

The university embraces its role as a major contributor to the economic development of the state and beyond through targeted research and the transfer of ideas and technology to the public, supported by faculty, staff, student, and alumni relationships with industry, community organizations, and government entities.

Mississippi State University is committed to its tradition of instilling among its community ideals of citizenship, leadership, and service.

Building on its land-grant tradition, Mississippi State University strategically extends its resources and expertise for the benefit of Mississippi's citizens, the nation, and the world by offering access for working and place-bound learners through its on- and off-campus education and research sites, Extension, and distance education programs.

Approved March 20, 2025

MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN

Mississippi University for Women provides high quality undergraduate and graduate education for women and men in a variety of liberal arts and professional programs; while maintaining its historic commitment to academic and leadership development for women. Emphasizing a personalized learning experience, the University engages in a variety of instructional methodologies to provide educational opportunities in a welcoming environment. The institution promotes research, scholarship, and creativity to enhance student development and achievement as a platform for lifelong education and growth.

Approved May 15, 2025

EXHIBIT 2

September 18, 2025

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

Through personal connection, Mississippi Valley State University provides quality undergraduate and graduate programs to a diverse community of learners. MVSU's commitment to teaching, learning, research, and service enables students to achieve their academic and career goals and contributes to the betterment of the Mississippi Delta and beyond.

Approved October 17, 2024

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

As Mississippi's first comprehensive, public university and academic medical center, the University of Mississippi transforms lives, communities, and the world by providing opportunities for the people of Mississippi and beyond through excellence in learning, discovery, healthcare, and engagement.

The mission of the University of Mississippi is to create, evaluate, share, and apply knowledge in a free, open, and inclusive environment of intellectual inquiry.

Building upon a distinguished foundation in the liberal arts, the state's first comprehensive university serves the people of Mississippi and the world through a breadth of academic, research, professional, and service programs.

The University of Mississippi provides an academic experience that emphasizes critical thinking; promotes research and creative achievement to advance society; uses its expertise to engage and transform communities; challenges and inspires a diverse community of undergraduate, graduate, and professional students; offers enriching opportunities outside the classroom; supports lifelong learning; and develops a sense of global responsibility.

Approved November 16, 2017

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER

The mission of the University of Mississippi Medical Center is to improve the health and well-being of patients and the community through excellent training for health-care professionals, engagement in innovative research, and the delivery of state-of-the-art health care.

Approved November 16, 2017

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

The University of Southern Mississippi engages students at all levels in the exploration and creation of knowledge. Our hallmark is a fully engaged lifelong learning approach integrating inspired teaching, collaborative research, creative activity, and service to society. Southern Miss produces graduates who are ready for life; ready to succeed professionally and as responsible citizens in a pluralistic society.

Approved August 15, 2024