

# Board Book

February 19, 2026

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MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE  
INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING

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# Board Meeting Outline

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MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING

**MEETINGS SCHEDULE** JSU Board Search Committee | February 18, 2026, 10:00a | IHL Board Room  
Health Affairs Committee | February 18, 2026, 3:30p | IHL Board Room  
**IHL Board Meeting** | February 19, 2026, 9:00a | IHL Board Room

**CALL TO ORDER** Trustee Gee Ogletree  
**INVOCATION** Trustee Bruce Martin  
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University of Mississippi Medical Center

**NCHEMS PRESENTATION** Dr. Brian Prescott, President  
Dr. Sarah Pingel, Vice President  
NCHEMS

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
January 22, 2026**

**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 Board Office in Jackson, Mississippi, at 9:00 a.m., and pursuant to notice in writing mailed by certified letter with return receipt requested on November 24, 2025, to each and every member of said Board said date being at least five days prior to this January 22, 2026 meeting. At the above-named place the following members were present to wit: Ms. Amy Arrington, Mr. Don Clark, Jr., Dr. Steven Cunningham (Zoom), Mr. Jerry L. Griffith, Mr. Jimmy Heidelberg, Ms. Teresa Hubbard (Zoom), Mr. Bruce Martin, Mr. Gee Ogletree, Mr. Hal Parker, Mr. Gregg Rader, and Mr. Charlie Stephenson. Dr. Ormella Cummings was absent. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Gee Ogletree, President, with Trustee Heidelberg providing the invocation.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

President Ogletree welcomed the following Student Government Association officers: President Raegan Johnson, Jackson State University; Vice President Jakari Holland, Jackson State University; President Cameron Cummings, Mississippi State University; Vice President Karolina Heathcock, Mississippi State University; President Ethan Wilkins, Mississippi University for Women; President Jack Jones, The University of Mississippi; Vice President Walker Jacklin, The University of Mississippi; Chief of Staff Olivia Claire Wilford, The University of Mississippi; President Ana Ivy, The University of Mississippi Medical Center, President Leah Johnson, The University of Southern Mississippi; Chief of Staff Vivian Hale, The University of Southern Mississippi; and President McKenna Klamm, The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Park Campus.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Griffith, with Trustee Cummings absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Board meetings held on November 20, 2025 and December 18, 2025 and the Health Affairs Committee on December 18, 2025.

**PRESENTATIONS**

- The Board received a presentation about Mississippi University for Women from President Nora Miller.
- The Board received a presentation from Dr. Sarah Pingel, Vice President, of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS).

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**CONSENT AGENDAS**

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

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

1. **JSU** – Approved the modification of an existing academic degree programs, as follows:

Suspend

Program title: Master of Science (MS) in Hazardous Materials Management

CIP code, sequence: 15.0507, 4445

Total credit hours: 36

Effective date: January 2026

2. **MSU** – Approved the modifications of an existing academic unit, as follows:

Reorganize

Units involved in proposed reorganization: Division of Education and School of Health Professions

Location: Meridian

Organizational units to be moved from Division of Education to School of Health Professions:

PsyD in Combined Health Service Psychology

MSU-M Mental and Behavioral Health Clinic

As a result of reorganization, the following units will be housed in Division of Education:

Division of Education (Meridian)

Department of Counseling, Higher Ed, Ed Psych, and Foundations

Department of Kinesiology

Department of Music

Department of Teacher Education and Leadership

Department of Technology, Leadership, and Design

As a result of reorganization, the following units will be housed in the School of Health Professions:

School of Health Professions (Meridian)

Physician Assistant Studies Program

Healthcare Administration Program

Physical Therapy Program

Health Service Psychology Program

Effective date: January 2026

**FINANCE AND BUDGET**

3. **ASU** – Approved the request to renew its contract with Ellucian Company, LLC for enterprise resource planning and student information system services. The renewal operates under a Master Agreement between Ellucian and the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services (ITS), with ITS serving as contracting agent for the university. The term of the contract is February 1, 2026 through January 31, 2030. The

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five-year renewal contract totals \$1,477,215, with payments made annually in arrears. The contract will be funded by E &G funds. 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.

4. **DSU** – Approved the request to increase the total contract amount on the existing subcontract with DRAFT, LLC for the Agricultural Flight Operator Program because the total contract amount will exceed \$25,000 as a result of increased participation in the program. The subcontract establishes a per student rate of \$24,500, but it does not limit or predetermine the number of students who may participate. Two additional students have enrolled, which increases the total projected contract cost by an additional \$49,000. No amendment to the subcontract is required because the contractual pricing structure already contemplates a per student payment model without specifying a fixed quantity. The term of the contract is October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026. The total projected expense of the contract is projected to be \$294,000. The agreement will be funded by federal grant funds. 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.
5. **DSU** – Approved the request to amend the Beverage Sales and Sponsorship Agreement with Pepsico Beverage Sales, LLC to allow Pepsi to subcontract beverage vending and delivery services through Panola Vending. The amendment clarifies that Pepsi, through its subcontractor, will provide the University with commissions based on the actual cash collected from vending machines located at campus facilities. The original term remains unchanged—July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2030 (with renewal options). This Amendment is effective January 1, 2026. There is no change to the overall funding obligations. Commissions remain at 20% of vending revenue. 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.
6. **UMMC** – Approved the request to amend its confidential price agreement with Boston Scientific Corporation (Boston Scientific) to update the products and pricing on the agreement for the purchase of drug-eluting stents and balloon catheter products, and to extend the term. The agreement is for the purchase of coronary stent and balloon products used in interventional cardiology to secure discounted pricing from Boston. The Board also approved the request for the institution to add or remove products covered by the Agreement without seeking prior Board approval as long as it does not increase the approved expenditure level. The term of the amended agreement is forty-eight (48) months and twenty-five (25) days, from March 7, 2024, through March 31, 2028. The original agreement was for a term of thirty-six (36) months. The amendment extends the term by twelve (12) months and twenty-five (25) days. The estimated total cost of the amended agreement over the forty-eight (48) months and twenty-five (25) day term is \$4,000,000. The original cost of the agreement was \$2,500,000. The amendment will add \$1,500,000.00 to the agreement. The agreement will be funded by hospital patient revenue. 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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**REAL ESTATE**

7. **MSU** – Approved the initiation of IHL 205-362, Riley Campus Student Housing, and the appointment of Dale Partners Architects, P.A., as the design professional. This project will construct a facility to house students and provide commercial and/or academic space on the ground floor to support the Riley Campus in downtown Meridian, MS. The proposed site is directly southwest of the Riley Campus between 23rd Ave and 25th Ave. The total number of beds and/or units is to be determined, and the project may be completed in multiple phases. The proposed project budget for design fees only is \$1 million. Funds are available from University Designated Funds (\$1,000,000). A budget increase will be submitted for Board approval prior to proceeding with Construction Documents.
8. **UM** – Approved the initiation of IHL 207-525, University Building Demolition and New Parking, and the appointment of McCarty Architects, P.A. as the design professional. The project will consist of the following: 1.) Partial demolition of the Mall Parcel 2 building located at the Jackson Avenue Center and constructing a new parking lot in its location. 2.) Demolition of the Tad Smith Coliseum and constructing a new parking lot in its location. 3.) Demolition of Married Student Housing Buildings #108, #110, #130, #132, and #134, and relocating existing utilities on site to accommodate new P3 student housing. A demolition request for Tad Smith Coliseum is awaiting approval from Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Once approved, the demolition and removal from inventory will be submitted for Board approval. The project budget is \$16,213,000. Funds are available from Internal R&R (\$16,213,000).
9. **JSU** – Approved the request to increase the budget for GS 103-322, ARPA Water Collection & Conveyance, from \$4,994,512.07 to \$6,784,069.80 for an increase of \$1,789,557.73 to support additional alternates #3 and #4 necessary to complete the full project scope. This project will identify and address deficiencies in JSU’s wastewater system, reduce infiltration/inflow (I/I), mitigate potential system failures, and minimize the risk of sanitary sewer overflows or backups. Funds are available from SB3062, Laws of 2022 ARPA IHL (\$1,468,766.71); SB 3118, Laws of 2023 ARPA Statewide (\$2,293,024.36); and SB 3164 Laws of 2024 ARPA Statewide (\$2,864,557.73).
10. **MUW** – Approved the request to increase the budget for GS 104-217, Hogarth Student Center Renovation, from a preplan budget of \$300,000 to a preplan budget of \$370,862.28 for an increase of \$70,862.28 and to add HB 1730, Laws of 2020 (\$18,712.48), HB 1649, Laws of 2018 (\$22,517.28), and MUW Funds (\$29,632.52) as funding sources to allow for the increase. The project will include asbestos abatement, restoration of interior and exterior elements, interior reconfiguration, ADA improvements and major renovations of the mechanical, electrical, plumbing and life safety systems. Due to the building’s Mississippi Landmark status, coordination with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History will be required. Funds are available from HB 603, Laws of 2023 (\$300,000); HB 1730 Laws of 2020 (\$18,712.48); HB 1649, Laws of 2018 (\$22,517.28); and MUW Funds (\$29,632.52).
11. **UM** – Approved the request to increase the budget for IHL 207-393, Triplett Alumni Addition, from \$400,000.00 to \$2,958,000.00 for an increase of \$2,558,000.00. Changes to project scope are also included in this request. The project scope includes construction of a new four-story building that will contain assembly, office, and service spaces to serve

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both the alumni association and the university's orientation and welcome center. Based on preliminary concepts, demolition of the existing Triplett Alumni Center is required to make a suitable site. The University is coordinating with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and will seek Board approval for the removal of the existing building from inventory. Funds are available from Private Gifts (\$2,958,000).

12. **UM** – Approved the request to increase the budget for IHL 207-468, Art, Theatre, & Film Departments Facilities, from \$185,000.00 to \$35,938,912.00 for an increase of \$35,753,912.00 and to add UMEBC funds as funding sources for the project. Phase I of the project includes IHL 207-468.1A Scene Shop & Sound Stage, renovation of the former JCPenney space in the Jackson Avenue Center and IHL 207-468.1B Music Hall Recording Studio, expansion of the existing Music Hall. Funds are available from Internal R&R (\$27,500,000) and Donor Funds (\$8,438,912).
13. **UM** – Approved the request to increase the budget for IHL 207-490, Research Laboratory Masterplan and Design, from \$1,250,000.00 to \$30,250,000.00 for an increase of \$29,000,000.00 and to separate the project scope of Phase I into 3 smaller projects: IHL 207-490.1A RMP- Coulter Hall Lab Renovations; IHL 207-490.1B RMP- Faser Hall Mechanical System Renovation; and IHL 207-490.1C RMP – Thad Cochran Research Center (TCRC) Vivarium Renovations. The Lab Renovation project consists of renovating approximately 25,000 square feet of former teaching labs and support spaces on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th floors of Coulter Hall and converting them to new swing/shared laboratories. The Mechanical System Renovation consists of upgrading and replacing all outdated and faulty mechanical systems throughout Faser Hall and installing a new roof. The Vivarium Renovations will consist of renovating and updating portions of the existing vivarium space in the basement of TCRC to accommodate the wildlife vivarium currently housed in Shoemaker Hall and the Aquatics Vivarium housed in Faser Hall. Funds are available from Internal R&R (\$30,250,000).
14. **UM** – Approved the request to increase the budget for IHL 407-014, New School of Accountancy (Jones Hall), from \$7,100,000.00 to \$138,000,000.00 for an increase of \$130,900,000.00 and to add a new funding source. This project will construct a new +/- 172,000 square foot facility to provide large classroom auditoria, classrooms, graduate student spaces, computer rooms, administrative spaces, and support spaces and will be located on the east side of Grove Loop. Funds are available from HB 1353, Laws of 2022 (\$1,000,000); HB 603, Laws of 2023 (\$14,382,500); Internal R&R (\$92,617,500); and Donations (\$30,000,000).
15. **UMMC** – Approved the request to increase the budget for IHL 409-007, Fire Protection Central Core, from \$8,000,000.00 to \$14,500,000.00 for an increase of \$6,500,000.00 and to add FY 2026 Capital Funds as a funding source. The project entails retrofitting 11 floors of the existing hospital with a fire suppression system. Construction work shall be phased per floor to minimize disruption to patient care. It is also anticipated that the existing fire pump will be replaced as part of this project. Funds are available from HB 1353, Laws of 2022 (\$6,250,000); HB 603, Laws of 2023 (\$1,750,000); and FY 2026 Capital Funds (\$6,500,000).

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16. **MSU** – Approved the request to demolish and delete from inventory Building #030 located at 118 President’s Circle. Building #030 is a faculty house constructed in 1939 that is in the core of campus which has been designated for future development. The letter of approval has been received from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History stating Building #030 at 118 President’s Circle is not eligible for designation as a Mississippi Landmark and approval to demolish the building has been granted. All legal documentation is on file in the IHL Office of Real Estate and Facilities.
17. **UM** – Approved the request to demolish and remove E.F. Yerby Conference Center from inventory to provide a suitable site for the new School of Accountancy Building. The letter of approval has been received from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History stating E.F. Yerby Conference Center is not eligible for designation as a Mississippi Landmark and approval to demolish the building has been granted. All legal documentation is on file in the IHL Office of Real Estate and Facilities.
18. **UM** – Approved a Modification and Assignment of Lease Agreement between Barrett J. Clisby, Justin B. Clisby, and the University. The University entered into the Lease Agreement with Robert Hudson on April 1, 1998, for the leased premises of a 32.5’ x 45’ lot identified as Hanger Lot No. 6B at the University Airport. The Lease Agreement was subsequently assigned to High Hopes Investment LLC and then Barrett J. Clisby. The Board approved Barrett J. Clisby’s request to assign the Lease Agreement to Justin B. Clisby, as provided in Article VIII of the Lease Agreement, with Justin B. Clisby assuming and adopting the covenants, terms, and conditions in the Lease Agreement. The original lease terms need to be modified to bring the Lease Agreement into compliance with FAA Order 5190.6B. The Modification and Assignment of Lease Agreement changes the term and the rental fee escalation index to comply with FAA Order 5190.6B and also includes the “binding successor doctrine” provision. The term ends on March 31, 2075, unless sooner terminated pursuant to the terms of the Lease Agreement. Assignor shall be released and discharged from any and all obligations for performance under the terms of the Lease Agreement as of the effective date, and Assignee shall be responsible for all rent due on July 1, 2026, and each year thereafter. Assignor shall remain legally responsible for any claims that arose prior to the effective date. The contract amount begins at the rate of \$877.50. Rental fee is based on \$0.05 per square foot per month and is to be paid on or before April 1 of each lease year at the Office of Procurement Services, 164 Jeanette Phillips Drive, University of Mississippi, University, MS 38677. Concurrent with the beginning of each successive five-year period through the payment due on or before April 1, 2025, the rental fee shall be increased by 1½% of the previous annual rent, for a total of 7½% of the annual rental fee of the previous five-year period. Starting with the payment due in 2026 (for the period April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027) and for each subsequent year’s payment, payment shall be due July 1 and the annual rental fee shall be adjusted to an amount equal to the preceding year’s rental fee multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which shall be the Consumer Price Index (CPI) figure for May (or 2-months prior) of the adjustment year, and the denominator of which shall be the Consumer Price Index figure for May (or 2-months prior) of the preceding year. As used herein, the term “Consumer Price Index” shall mean the United States Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics’ Consumer Price Index Series CUURO000SA0, All Items, U.S. City Average,

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All Urban Consumers, Not Seasonally Adjusted (1982-84=100), also known as the CPI-U. For example, the rental fee due on or before July 1, 2026, would be determined using the following formula: (CPI-U for May 2026)/(CPI-U for May 2025) x the rental fee due in 2025. Continuation of this lease is conditioned upon Lessee performing all its duties herein stipulated and not being in default in any of the terms and conditions hereof. Should any default exist Lessee shall have a reasonable opportunity to cure any default. 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.

19. **UM** – Approved the request to enter an amended and restated lease agreement and amended and restated sublease agreement with the Ole Miss Athletics Foundation (OMAF). The term of the lease will run from the original date of May 1, 2003, to 2050 and will include a \$1 annual rent payment. The term of the sublease shall be co-terminus with the term of the Ground Lease (the “Term”) but is subject to earlier termination by successor Mississippi Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning (the “IHL Board”) based on the binding successor board doctrine, upon not less than sixty (60) day’s prior written notice from the successor IHL Board to the Sublessor. For and in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) cash in hand paid and an annual lease payment of One Dollar (\$1.00) due on or before the 1st day of May of each year during the term of this Lease, and in further consideration of the covenants and agreements herein contained, Lessor does hereby lease to Lessee, and Lessee does hereby lease from Lessor, subject to all existing easements of record, the real property consisting of 8.22 acres of land in Section 29, Township 8 South, Range 3 West in Lafayette County, Mississippi. 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.
20. **USM** – Approved a Lease Amendment to the Lease between USM and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) which provides for the sublease of portions of port facilities at the Port of Gulfport. The Lease Amendment will adjust the Operating Costs and Insurance Cost Allocation components of rent set forth in the Lease (Paragraph 1.04) due from NOAA to USM based upon the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This adjustment is provided for in the Lease and occurs on an annual basis (Paragraphs 2.09 and 2.10) and will result in an increase of the Operating Costs (currently \$168,798.14) and Insurance Cost Allocation (currently \$280,163.84) components of the rent by 2.942280%. This adjustment will be effective as of October 1, 2025, and increase the annual rent by \$13,209.72, which results in a total annual rent due by NOAA of \$1,472,416.56 payable in monthly installments of \$122,701.38. The Lease has a Term of 20 years with 15 years Firm (after 15 years NOAA may terminate the Lease with 365 days written notice). (USM/IHL has legislative authorization under 2022 HB1247 as amended by 2023 HB877 to lease/sublease portions of the property administered by the Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport for a term not to exceed 40 years. Lease payments from NOAA for the entire term would be up to \$32,431,591.30 exclusive of adjustments for operating costs and insurance allocation. 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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21. **USM** – Approved an Amendment to the Sublease Agreement between USM and Integer Technologies, LLC (Integer), which provides for the sublease of portions of port facilities at the Port of Gulfport. The Sublease Agreement provides approximately 2,499.62 square feet of space for Integer’s office and shop space needs for Integer’s ongoing operations and facilitate collaboration with USM, government agencies and other entities, in blue economy related fields and activities. The Amendment will extend the term of the existing Sublease Agreement, by changing the current Sublease Expiration Date from January 31, 2026 (the last day of the sixth month following the Effective Date) to July 31, 2027. The Sublease provides for a total monthly rental rate of \$11,456.50 currently, or approximately \$274,944.00 for the proposed Term as amended. The rent amount is subject to certain adjustments on an annual basis in accordance with CPI as well as maintenance and insurance costs incurred by USM. 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.

**LEGAL**

22. **MSU** – Granted retroactive approval of a contract with Gian Franco Borio as outside counsel to assist the University with services that will include confirming and updating the University’s legal registration in Italy, including its registered address and designated legal representative, and handling any required changes with the Rome Ministries. He will also assist with the formalization and registration of new academic premises, including preparing and filing resolutions, sworn translations, apostilles, and notices with Italian authorities. In addition, the firm will advise on property matters and employment and labor obligations as necessary to ensure compliance with Italian law. The term of the agreement is two years beginning November 21, 2025 through November 20, 2027. The rates are \$8,500: address/representative changes (all-inclusive) (flat fee); \$5,500: registering new academic premises (all-inclusive)(flat fee); and hourly rates in the amounts of \$300 (in-office) and \$600 (out-of-office). The maximum amount payable under the term of the agreement is \$50,000. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of € 2 million per year. This contract has been approved by the Attorney General of Mississippi.
23. **ASU** – Granted retroactive approval of an affiliation agreement between the University and the Alcorn State University Foundation, Inc. The term of the agreement is five years effective July 1, 2025. The affiliation agreement meets the requirements of Board Policy 301.0806 University Foundation/Affiliated Entity Activities. The Attorney General’s Office has reviewed the agreement and found same to be compliant with applicable law and Board Policy.
24. **UMMC** - Approved an affiliation agreement between the University and the Friends of Children’s Hospital. The term of the agreement is five years effective February 1, 2026. The affiliation agreement meets the requirements of Board Policy 301.0806 University Foundation/Affiliated Entity Activities. The Attorney General’s Office has reviewed the agreement and found same to be compliant with applicable law and Board Policy.

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**PERSONNEL REPORT**

25. **Employment**

**Alcorn State University**

Tracey Gregory; Dean, School of Education and Psychology; salary \$140,000 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; effective January 1, 2026

**REGULAR AGENDAS**

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Presented by Trustee Teresa Hubbard, Chair

On motion by Trustee Hubbard, seconded by Trustee Arrington, with Trustee Cummings absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #1 as submitted on the Academic Affairs Agenda. On motion by Trustee Hubbard, seconded by Trustee Arrington, with Trustee Cummings absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #2. On motion by Trustee Hubbard, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustee Cummings absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #3. On motion by Trustee Hubbard, seconded by Trustee Clark, with Trustee Cummings absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #4.

1. **SYSTEM** – Approved the proposed amendments to Board Policy 518 Adult Degree Completion Program for final approval. **(See Exhibit 1.)**
2. **SYSTEM** – Approved the following proposed new Board Policy for final approval:

**518 – CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING**

An IHL institution may integrate prior learning assessment (PLA) and competency-based education (CBE) into university coursework. PLA and CBE credits may apply toward academic degree requirements.

- a. PLA credit may include individualized student portfolios, evaluation of corporate and military training, program evaluations, challenge exams, and standardized exams. Credit earned through PLA may count as lower-division or upper-division credit. Credit earned through PLA shall not count toward the 25 percent residency requirement for the degree-awarding institution. The types of PLA accepted may be determined by the IHL institution.
- b. CBE credit may include demonstrated mastery of competencies embedded into a conventional curriculum comprised of courses (course/credit-based approach) and evaluation of student achievement solely on the demonstration of competencies (direct assessment). An institution may accept up to 25 percent of the degree requirements as CBE. This requirement may be waived for institutions that have gained SACSCOC approval to offer an entire program as direct assessment or a hybrid direct assessment competency-based educational program where at least 50 percent of the competency-based program is direct assessment. Credit earned through CBE may count as lower-division or upper-division credit. Credit earned through CBE may count toward the 25 percent residency requirement for the degree-awarding institution. The types of CBE accepted may be determined by the IHL institution.

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3. **MSU** – Approved the request to add the following new center:  
Center title: Research Business and Operations Center  
Center location: Starkville campus, Office of Research and Economic Development  
Scope: Limited Scope and Outreach  
Type: Type 1 (Academic, Teaching, or Research)  
Effective date: October 2025
4. **MSU** – Approved the request to add new academic degree programs, as follows:
  - a. Master of Applied Science (MAS) in Industrial Technology  
CIP code: 15.0612  
Total credit hours: 30  
Effective date: August 2026
  - b. Master of Science (MS) in One Health  
CIP code: 30.1501  
Total credit hours: 30  
Effective date: August 2026

**FINANCE AND BUDGET AGENDA**

Presented by Trustee Charlie Stephenson, Chair

Trustee Ogletree recused himself from discussing or voting on items #1 and #2 on the Finance and Budget Regular 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 Martin, with Trustees Cummings and Ogletree absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #1 on the Finance and Budget Regular Agenda. Trustee Clark recused himself from discussing or voting on items #2 - #5 on the Finance and Budget Regular Agenda by leaving the room before there was any discussion or vote regarding the same. With Trustees Clark and Ogletree out of the room, on motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Griffith, with Trustees Cummings and Ogletree absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #2. Trustee Ogletree returned to the room following the discussion and vote on items #1 and #2. With Trustee Clark remaining out of the room, on motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Rader, with Trustees Clark and Cummings absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve items #3 - #5.

1. **UMMC** – Approved the request to amend a reagent rental agreement with Beckman Coulter, Inc. (Beckman) to extend the term of the agreement, update instruments and service, and revise reagent discounts. The agreement provides for the rental and service of flow cytometry equipment, and purchase of reagents, used by UMMC's pathology and transplant departments for a variety of clinical applications such as leukemia/lymphoma panels, monitoring of HIV, leukemia and lymphoma therapies, and organ transplant cross matching. The Board also approved the request for the institution to amend the agreement as needed to revise terms related to volumes, commitments, and/or pricing due to a

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decrease in testing volumes, as well as to add or remove products under the agreement, without seeking prior Board approval as long as it does not increase the approved expenditure level. The term of the amended agreement is eighty-five (85) months. The original term of the agreement was sixty-one (61) months, beginning January 1, 2021. The term is being extended twenty-four months through January 31, 2028. The total estimated cost of the amended agreement remains \$2,825,000.00 over the eighty-five (85) month term. The agreement is funded by hospital patient revenue. 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.

2. **UMMC** – Approved the request to amend its Agreement with ABIOMED, Inc. (ABIOMED) to extend the term and update the agreement products and pricing. The agreement is for the purchase of Impella Circulatory Support Catheters and accessories. The Impella devices are used in high-risk coronary interventions, as well as myocardial infarction patients, as a means of emergency cardiac recovery. The Board also approved the request for the institution to add or remove products under the agreement without seeking prior Board approval as long as it does not increase the approved expenditure level. The amended term of the agreement is seven (7) years beginning April 1, 2021, through March 31, 2028. The original term of the agreement was three (3) years beginning April 1, 2021, and the first amendment extended the term by two (2) years. This second amendment extends the term by an additional two (2) years. The total estimated cost of the amended agreement over the seven (7) year term is \$10,465,000. The original estimated cost of the agreement was \$3,525,000. The first amendment added an additional \$3,600,000 to the agreement. The second amendment will add an additional \$3,340,000 to the agreement. The agreement will be funded by hospital patient revenue. 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.
3. **JSU** – Granted retroactive approval of a beverage sales and sponsorship agreement with Brown Bottling Group, Inc. (Brown Bottling) for exclusive pouring rights, vending services, sponsorship activation, and equipment services at all university-owned or operated facilities. The term of the contract is January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2035. Under this agreement, JSU estimates it will receive \$6,311,166 over the term of the agreement. The financial proposal under this agreement is included in the bound *January 22, 2026 Board Working File*. The contract will generate revenue for JSU and does not require institutional expenditures. It will support auxiliary operations and athletic sponsorship. 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.
4. **UMMC** – Approved the request to enter a Medical Office Building Lease with Madison HMA, LLC (Madison HMA), for 5,457 square feet of space located in the Medical Office Building located adjacent to UMMC Madison’s campus. The space will be used for clinic and office space for UMMC providers and staff and to support the primary care needs of patients in the surrounding areas. Pursuant to Board Policy 707.03 Approval of Prepayment for Goods and Services, the Board also approved the request for the institution to prepay the rent each month. The term of the agreement is five (5) years, beginning June

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1, 2026 through May 31, 2031. The estimated total cost of the lease is \$980,000 over the five (5) year term. UMMC's base rent is \$34.36 per square foot with an annual increase of two percent (2%) increase beginning in year 2. The agreement will be funded by patient revenue. 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.

5. **UMMC** – Approved the request to enter a Medical Office Building Lease with Madison HMA, LCC (Madison HMA), for approximately 6,169 square feet of clinical and office space located in the Medical Office Building located adjacent to UMMC's Madison campus. The space will be used for UMMC surgery providers and staff to support the care needs of patients in the surrounding areas. Pursuant to Board Policy 707.03 Approval of Prepayment for Goods and Services, the Board also approved the request for the institution to prepay the rent each month. The term of this lease agreement shall be for 5 years, from February 1, 2026 through January 31, 2031. The estimated total cost of the lease is \$1,135,000 over the five (5) year term. UMMC's initial base rent is \$33.69 per square foot with an annual increase of two-percent (2%) beginning in year 2. Additionally, UMMC will rent the existing furniture and equipment for \$879.00 per month. The agreement will be funded by patient revenue. 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 Trustee Gregg Rader, Chair

Trustee Clark recused himself from discussing or voting on items #1 - #4 on the Real Estate Regular Agenda by remaining outside of the room during the discussions and votes regarding the same. With Trustee Clark out of the room, on motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Martin, with Trustees Clark and Cummings absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #1 on the Real Estate Regular Agenda. On motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustees Clark and Cummings absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #2. On motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Griffith, with Trustees Clark and Cummings absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #3. Trustee Ogletree recused himself from discussing or voting on items #4 - #7 on the Real Estate Regular Agenda by leaving the room before there was any discussion or vote regarding the same. With Trustees Clark and Ogletree outside the room, on motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Arrington, with Trustees Clark, Cummings, and Ogletree absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #4. Trustee Clark returned to the room following the discussion and vote on items #1 - #4. With Trustee Ogletree remaining out of the room, on motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Clark, with Trustees Cummings and Ogletree absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard participating via Zoom, all

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Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve items #5 & #6. On motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Griffith, with Trustees Cummings and Ogletree absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #7. Trustee Ogletree returned to the room following the discussion and vote on item #7.

1. **JSU** – Granted retroactive approval to enter a professional consulting services agreement with Engineering Resource Group (ERG) to provide mechanical and energy engineering consulting services that support JSU’s infrastructure, preventive maintenance, energy efficiency, and compliance goals. The term of the lease is from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026 and may be renewed for two (2) consecutive one-year periods upon written agreement of the parties, for a total of three (3) years if all renewals are exercised. The total contract cost is \$450,000 and estimated that the annual contract amount shall not exceed \$150,000. The contract is funded from Education and General funds. 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.
2. **ASU** – Approved the request to increase the budget for GS 101-342B, JOC HVAC Improvements, HEERF, Robinson Hall, from \$3,995,186.03 to \$4,194,945.33 for an increase of \$199,759.30. The project scope includes replacing the three existing multizone air handling units, related supply duct, and all building exhaust fans. Funds are available from Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) Award #P425J200096 approved through the US. Department of Education.
3. **ASU** – Approved the request to increase the budget for GS 101-343B, JOC HVAC Improvements, HEERF, Burrus Hall, from \$5,521,600.00 to \$5,797,680.00 for an increase of \$276,080.00 and to modify the funding sources of the project to include university funds to accommodate the budget increase. The funding sources will now include HEERF and university funds. The project scope includes replacing the six existing multizone air handling units, one single zone air handling unit, related supply duct, and all building exhaust fans. Funds are available from Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) Award #P425J200096 approved through the US. Department of Education (\$3,916,544.04) and University Funds (\$1,881,135.96).
4. **ASU** – Approved the request to increase the budget for GS 101-341, JOC HVAC Improvements, HEERF, Math and Science Building, from \$5,311,718.74 to \$5,577,304.68 for an increase of \$265,585.94. The project scope includes selective replacement of the HVAC equipment and systems. Funds are available from Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) Award #P425J200096 approved through the US. Department of Education.
5. **ASU** – Approved the request to increase the budget for GS 101-344A, JOC HVAC Improvements, HEERF, Walter Washington, from \$1,175,066.80 to \$1,200,066.80 for an increase of \$25,000.00. The project scope includes replacing the existing R22 air cooled chiller, existing chilled water pump and all chilled water piping within the mechanical room. Funds are available from Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) Award #P425J200096 approved through the US. Department of Education.

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6. **ASU** – Approved the request to increase the budget for GS 101-344B, JOC HVAC Improvements, HEERF, Walter Washington, from \$5,594,615.04 to \$5,874,345.79 for an increase of \$279,730.75. The project scope includes replacing the six existing air handling units, variable air volume boxes, and all building exhaust fans. Funds are available from Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) Award #P425J200096 approved through the US. Department of Education.
7. **UM** – Approved the request to increase the budget for IHL 407-011, UM Early Learning and Evaluation Center, from \$32,775,000 to \$39,275,000 for an increase of \$6,500,000 and to modify the project scope to include renovating space within the South Oxford Center (SOC) for the Early Learning Center Dining and Kitchen as well as Infilling the new 2nd floor shell space with classrooms, offices, and lounge space. The project consists of the development of a comprehensive 54,000 gross square feet of state-of-the-art early learning and evaluation center where clinical and educational services are integrated for all children ages birth to 6 years old. The new center is being constructed at the south side of the University’s SOC and will utilize existing spaces within the SOC to serve additional needs for the center. Funds are available from SB 3002, Regular Session 2022 (\$10,000,000); Internal R&R (\$27,915,000); and US Department of Education Award #S215K230087 (\$1,360,000).

**INFORMATION AGENDAS**

Presented by Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

1. **MSU** – Intent to offer the following certificate program:  
Certificate program title: One Health  
Responsible academic unit: College of Veterinary Medicine  
Level: post-baccalaureate  
Total credit hours: 12  
CIP code: 30.1501  
Effective date: August 2026
2. **DSU** – Intent to offer the following degree program by distance learning  
Degree program title: Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Psychology  
Total credit hours: 120  
CIP Code, Sequence: 42.0101, 5094  
Cost to offer by distance learning: \$0  
Effective date: August 2026

**FINANCE AND BUDGET**

3. **UMMC** – On November 18, 2025, the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services (ITS) as the contracting agent for UMMC, entered Amendment 7 under the current Amended and Restated Master Customer Agreement with Experian Health, Inc. (Experian Health). Amendment 7 revises the pricing structure to a flat, monthly fee for multiple claims-based software subscriptions and adds multiple UMMC facilities to the

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Amended and Restated Master Customer Agreement. The term of Amendment 7 is November 18, 2025 to May 8, 2027. The amended term of the Amended and Restated Master Agreement shall be February 27, 2017 through May 8, 2027. The total estimated cost of the amended agreement over the term is \$4,992,883.69.

4. **UMMC** – On November 17, 2025, the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services (ITS) as the contracting agent for UMMC, entered Amendment 22 under the current Agreement with Optum to add one Epic LCD Part A for WPS Part A J5 Jurisdiction Many States Claims Manager Professional database license as well as add a new UMMC location under the Agreement. The term of the amended agreement is thirteen (13) years and six (6) months. The total cost for each amendment is as follows:

Amendment 17 is \$15,395.00	Amendment 20 is \$489,525.00
Amendment 18 is \$639,685.00	Amendment 21 is \$878,745.78
Amendment 19 is \$1,131,899.30	Amendment 22 is \$65,120.00

The total cost of the Master Services and License Agreement is \$11,878,031.23. This agreement is funded by general funds.

**REAL ESTATE**

5. **SYSTEM** – The Board received the Real Estate items that were approved by the Board staff subsequent to the November 20, 2025 Board meeting in accordance with Board Policy 904 Board Approval. (See Exhibit 2.)

**LEGAL**

6. **SYSTEM** – The Board received a report of the payment of legal fees to outside counsel. (See Exhibit 3.)
7. **IHL** - Pursuant to Board Policy 1102.04 Emergency Approval of Outside Counsel in Between Board Meetings, Trustee Jimmy Heidelberg, as Board Legal Committee Chair, approved on behalf of the Board the IHL System Office’s request to hire the law firm of Jones Walker, LLP as outside counsel to provide legal counsel related to federal tax and employment laws relevant to the contractual relationship between the University of Mississippi Medical Center and Healthier Mississippi People, LLC. The term of the contract is one year effective upon approval and signing. Services are provided at the following hourly rates: Lead attorney, Alex Glaser: \$500; and associate attorneys under the supervision of lead attorney: \$375. The maximum amount payable under the term of this agreement is \$40,000. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$50 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$100 million. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

**ADMINISTRATION/POLICY**

8. **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** – On November 24, 2025, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and Park Place Development, LLC for approximately 1,600 square feet of space to be used as a Resource and Referral center, which is operated by the University in accordance

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with the terms of a grant awarded to the University by the Mississippi Department of Human Services. This is a one-year lease effective January 1, 2026, with an option to extend for one additional year by agreement of all parties. The total cost of the first year is \$24,960 payable in twelve monthly installments of \$2,080 each, due on the first day 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.

- b. **MSU** – On December 3, 2025, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and Meridian Community College for suites 385 and 390 in the College Park Building located on the campus of Meridian Community College for a Resource and Referral Center operated by the University in accordance with the terms of a grant awarded to the University by the Mississippi Department of Human Services. The term of the lease is one year effective March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2027. The total cost of the lease is \$54,900 payable in 12 monthly installments of \$4,575 each with payments 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. **MSU** – On December 3, 2025, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and Bell Creek Hunting Club for 2,817.76 acres of the Wolf River Coastal Forest Research and Education Center operated by the MSU Forest and Wildlife Research Center. This is a revenue generating lease with a term of one year from June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026. Lessor will pay the university \$31,760.92 for this one-year term. 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. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.
- d. **MSU** – On December 3, 2025, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and Hobo Hunting Club for 960.22 acres of the Wolf River Coastal Forest Research and Education Center operated by the MSU Forest and Wildlife Research Center. This is a revenue generating lease with a term of one year from June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026. Lessor will pay the university \$10,687.25 for this one-year term. 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. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.
- e. **MSU** – On December 3, 2025, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and Affordmaxx Storage Solutions, LLC for approximately 1,600 square feet of space located at 114 W. Washington Street in Houston, MS for a Resource and Referral Center operated by

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the University in accordance with the terms of a grant awarded to the University by the Mississippi Department of Human Services. The term of the lease is one year effective March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2027. The total cost of the lease is \$34,200 payable in 12 monthly installments of \$2,850 each with payments 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.

- f. **MSU** – On December 3, 2025, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and John Rob Hunting Club for 2,563.94 acres of the Wolf River Coastal Forest Research and Education Center operated by the MSU Forest and Wildlife Research Center. This is a revenue generating lease with a term of one year from June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026. Lessor will pay the university \$29,793.02 for this one-year term. 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. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.
- g. **MSU** – On December 3, 2025, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and Wolf River Outdoor Club for 3,213.23 acres of the Wolf River Coastal Forest Research and Education Center operated by the MSU Forest and Wildlife Research Center. This is a revenue generating lease with a term of one year from June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026. Lessor will pay the University \$36,895.30 for this one-year term. 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. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.
- h. **MSU** – On December 3, 2025, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and Wolf Creek Recreation Club for 729.25 acres of the Wolf River Coastal Forest Research and Education Center operated by the Mississippi State University Forest and Wildlife Research Center. This is a revenue generating lease with a term of one year from June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026. Lessor will pay the University \$6,862.25 for this one-year term. 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. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.
- i. **MSU** – On December 19, 2025, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and Gulfport School District for approximately 4000 square feet of space located at 1715 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Gulfport, MS for a MS LIFT Resource and Referral Center operated by the University in accordance with the terms of a grant awarded to the University by the Mississippi Department of Human Services. The term of the lease is one year effective January 1, 2026, with an option for two additional one-year renewals by mutual agreement of the parties. The total cost of this one-year agreement is

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\$22,800 payable in 12 monthly installments of \$1,900 each with payments 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.

- j. **MVSU** – On December 3, 2025, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Oracle Database licensing contract renewal with Mythics, Inc. Mississippi Valley State University’s original agreement with Mythics had a term of three years from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2021. A new agreement was approved by the Board on November 18, 2021 with a term of three years effective December 1, 2021 through November 30, 2024. The total cost of the previous 3-year agreement was \$358,166.54. Mississippi Valley State University then sought and received Commissioner approval to renew that agreement for a period of 10 months effective December 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025, at a total cost of \$74,757.00, which was less than 110% of the original contract cost. Mississippi Valley State University now seeks retroactive approval to renew that agreement for an additional nine (9) months at a total cost of \$74,999.99, less than 110% of the original contract approved by the Board. The term of this agreement is (9) months effective October 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. 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. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.
- k. **UM** – On November 24, 2025, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between the University of Mississippi and Holmes Community College, Grenada Campus for 9,897 square feet of classroom space and 652 square feet of dedicated office space in which to operate UM’s Grenada Campus during FY 2026 and 2027. The term of the lease is 18 months beginning January 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 at a total cost of \$27,000 payable in three installments of \$9,000 each due on January 1, 2026, July 1, 2026, and January 1, 2027. 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.
- l. **UM** – On December 15, 2025, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Access Easement Agreement between the University of Mississippi and PRG – Oxford Properties, LLC for pedestrian and vehicular ingress and egress over and across Rebel Drive from Jackson Avenue to Student Union Drive and west on Ridge Loop along the site being leased by PRG – Oxford Properties for the development of a new student housing facility. This easement is necessary for the financing of the project. 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. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.

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**PERSONNEL ACTION REPORT**

9. **Sabbatical**

**Mississippi State University**

FROM: Stacy H. Haynes; Professor of Sociology; *from* salary of \$110,268.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G & Designated Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$55,134.00 for sabbatical period; E&G & Designated Funds; effective January 1, 2026, to May 15, 2026; professional development

*[Originally approved by IHL Board March 20, 2025]*

CORRECTED: Stacy H. Haynes; Professor of Sociology; *from* salary of \$110,268.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G & Designated Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$55,134.00 for sabbatical period; E&G & Designated Funds; effective January 1, 2026, to May 15, 2026; and January 1, 2027, to May 15, 2027; professional development

**REAL ESTATE  
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

Committee members participated in the meeting in person or via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gregg Rader at approximately 2:00 p.m. The following items were discussed.

1. The Committee discussed various real estate issues. **No action was taken.**
2. On motion by Trustee Clark, seconded by Trustee Griffith, with Trustees Cummings and Hubbard absent and not voting and with Trustees Arrington, Cunningham, and Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to adjourn.

The following Committee members were present: Mr. Gregg Rader (Chair), Ms. Amy Arrington (via Zoom), Mr. Don Clark, Jr., Dr. Steven Cunningham (via Zoom), Mr. Jerry L. Griffith, Mr. Jimmy Heidelberg, Mr. Bruce Martin (via Zoom), Mr. Gee Ogletree, Mr. Hal Parker, and Mr. Charlie Stephenson. Dr. Ormella Cummings and Ms. Teresa Hubbard were absent.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Commissioner Dr. Rankins informed the Board that on December 10, 2025 IHL staff presented testimony to the Joint House and Senate Universities and Colleges Committee to present requested data to inform their work leading into the 2026 Legislative Session. Dr. Rankins and the institutional executive officers provided testimony on January 21, 2026 to both the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittee regarding our funding request for the upcoming fiscal year.
- President Ogletree announced the next meeting will be February 18, 2026.

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
January 22, 2026**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Arrington, with Trustee Cummings absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard 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 Griffith, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustee Cummings absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard 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:

There are six items on the Executive Session agenda, as follows.

Items one through four, the Board will discuss personnel matters involving the performance of particular employees holding specific positions at Delta State University, the Mississippi University for Women, Mississippi State University, and the University of Mississippi.

Item five, the Board will receive and discuss confidential legal advice from our attorney regarding specific litigation or other proceedings pending against or related to IHL. The discussion of these items in open session would be detrimental to IHL's legal issues.

Item six, the Board will discuss a report, development and course of action regarding security personnel and plans at Alcorn State University.

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

On motion by Trustee Clark, seconded by Trustee Martin, with Trustee Cummings absent and not voting and with Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the following: That Dr. Daniel Ennis, President of Delta State University, be given a new four-year employment contract as President of Delta State University. The new contract shall contain the same terms and clauses as found in Dr. Ennis' current employment contract with the exception of the following: 1) The new four-year contract shall have a start date of July 1, 2026, and an end date of June 30, 2030. 2) The contract will include a state salary of \$315,000 per year to be paid pro rata. 3) The Commissioner will request a salary supplement of \$40,000 per year provided by the Delta State University Foundation, Inc. to be paid pro rata. 4) The Relocation Clause of the contract will be removed as it is no longer relevant. 5) The dates of the standard Multiyear Clause shall be adjusted to reflect the start and end dates addressed above. The Multiyear Clause will continue to reflect that Dr. Ennis would be paid an amount equal to no more than two years of state salary (\$630,000) in the event the Board terminated the contract without cause.

The Board discussed personnel matters involving the performance of particular employees holding specific positions at the Mississippi University for Women, Mississippi State University, and the University of Mississippi. **No action was taken.**

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
January 22, 2026**

The Board received and discussed privileged legal advice from the Board’s attorney regarding pending litigation or other proceedings pending against or related to IHL. The discussion of these items in open session would be detrimental to IHL’s legal issues. **No action was taken.**

The Board received and discussed a report, development and course of action regarding security personnel and plans at Alcorn State University. **No action was taken.**

**On motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Parker, with Trustee Cummings absent and not voting and Trustees Cunningham and Hubbard participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to return to Open Session.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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President, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning

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Commissioner, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
January 22, 2026**

**EXHIBITS**

- Exhibit 1 Proposed amendments to Board Policy 518 Adult Degree Completion Program for final reading.
- Exhibit 2 Real Estate items that were approved by the IHL Board staff subsequent to the November 20, 2025 Board meeting.
- Exhibit 3 Report of the payment of legal fees to outside counsel.

# EXHIBIT 1

January 22, 2026

## 1. SYSTEM – REQUEST APPROVAL OF FINAL READING FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO BOARD POLICY 518 ADULT DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM

**Rationale for changes:** The systemwide re-engagement initiative for adult learners with some college but no degree, Complete 2 Compete, has ended. Individual institutions would like to retain the components of the initiative that were created by Board Policy so that they can administer their own re-engagement initiatives for adult learners with some college but no degree.

### **518 519 - ADULT DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM**

#### A. General Policy

~~The Complete 2 Compete (C2C) Initiative statewide program~~ Adult Degree Completion Program was developed to encourage Mississippi adults who have completed some college, but earned no degree, to return to college and finish what they started. ~~The Adult Degree Completion Program~~ This program provides adult learners with a flexible path to a bachelor's degree and is one option for returning students to obtain degree completion ~~through the C2C Initiative~~. The Adult Degree Completion Program is intended to serve adult learners who have earned at least 90 credit hours but have not completed a baccalaureate degree and have not attended a postsecondary institution in the past twenty-four months based on last date of attendance. The curriculum may be individualized for each adult learner based on coursework completed and career goals. IHL institutions may exercise discretion regarding the hours earned and the length of non-enrollment in a postsecondary institution while maintaining the original intent of this degree program to help students, who have stopped out, earn degrees.

#### 1) Adult Degree Completion Program

Each IHL institution may offer the Adult Degree Completion Program ~~as an emphasis under an existing baccalaureate program or as a new baccalaureate program called University Studies~~. An IHL institution may choose to list discipline-specific concentrations for the programs under the Adult Degree Completion Program on the adult learner's final transcript.

A student may not be enrolled in the Adult Degree Completion Program and another baccalaureate degree program simultaneously. Admission to the Adult Degree Completion Program does not provide for admission to other baccalaureate degree programs at the IHL institutions; however, an institution may choose to allow a

# EXHIBIT 1

January 22, 2026

transfer path from the Adult Degree Completion Program to another baccalaureate degree program within their institution.

## 2) Admission to Adult Degree Completion Program

A student is eligible for admission to the Adult Degree Completion Program if he/she has earned at least 90 credit hours but has not completed a baccalaureate degree and has not attended a postsecondary institution in the past twenty-four months based on last date of attendance. IHL institutions may exercise discretion regarding the hours earned and the length of non-enrollment in a postsecondary institution while maintaining the original intent of this degree program to help students, who have stopped out, earn degrees.

All earned credit for college-level academic credit-bearing work that was earned before admission into the ~~C2C Initiative~~ Adult Degree Completion Program may be accepted to satisfy the Adult Degree Completion Program's degree requirements. Transfer coursework for which a student earned a grade of "D" may be accepted to satisfy the Adult Degree Completion Program degree requirements. All failing grades (e.g., "F" grades) received before admission to the Adult Degree Completion Program may be disregarded but should count in credit hours attempted to determine financial aid eligibility. Additional requirements may be established by the admitting institution.

## 3) Institutional Policies

a. Adult learners returning to postsecondary education ~~through the C2C Initiative~~ may choose the Adult Degree Completion Program and only the requirements set forth in this policy may apply. For the Adult Degree Completion Program, additional degree requirements, catalog year requirements, and academic residency requirements may be waived by an institution.

b. An adult returning to postsecondary education ~~through the C2C Initiative~~ may choose a baccalaureate degree program other than the Adult Degree Completion Program, and institutional policies and degree requirements will apply. Institutional readmission policies will apply to adult learners who choose a baccalaureate program other than the Adult Degree Completion Program.

## 4) Minimum Adult Degree Completion Program Requirements

a. The minimum number of hours required in the Adult Degree Completion Program is 120 credit hours. Credits earned through prior learning assessment,

# EXHIBIT 1

January 22, 2026

competency-based education, or regionally accredited Career Technical programs may be included as part of the 120 hours.

- b. A program grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 must be earned. This may be the only GPA requirement that an adult learner in the Adult Degree Completion Program must satisfy to meet graduation requirements from an IHL institution. Only the credit hours required for the degree will be used to calculate the program GPA.
- c. Of the 120 credit hours required for the Adult Degree Completion Program, minimum requirements are as follows:

General Education Core Curriculum	30 credit hours
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*(IHL Policy 512 Core Curriculum)*

Credit in residence at the awarding institution	30 credit hours
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Upper-Division Credit	30 credit hours
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## 5) Financial Holds

Adult learners with previous financial holds returning through the ~~C2C Initiative~~ Adult Degree Completion Program must establish a repayment plan with the admitting institution prior to enrolling and registering for classes.

## 6) Tuition and Fees

Tuition and fees for enrollment in courses will be assessed according to the established tuition and fee schedule at each IHL institution.

## 7) Delivery Format

The format (e.g., online, accelerated, hybrid, face-to-face) of the courses offered in the Adult Degree Completion Program may be determined by the admitting institution.

## 8) Repeated Courses

Grades of “F” earned while enrolled in the Adult Degree Completion Program may be repeated to earn a grade that satisfies the Adult Degree Completion Program

# EXHIBIT 1

January 22, 2026

degree requirements. The highest grade may stand as the official grade, and in that case, only the highest grade earned may be calculated in the Adult Degree Completion Program GPA.

## 9) ~~Prior Learning Assessment and Competency-Based Education~~

~~The Adult Degree Completion Program may integrate prior learning assessment (PLA) and competency-based education (CBE) into university coursework. PLA and CBE credits may apply toward the Adult Degree Completion Program degree requirements.~~

~~a. PLA credit may include individualized student portfolios, evaluation of corporate and military training, program evaluations, challenge exams, and standardized exams. Credit earned through PLA may count as lower division or upper division credit. Credit earned through PLA shall not count toward the 25 percent residency requirement for the degree-awarding institution. The types of PLA accepted may be determined by the IHL institution.~~

~~b. CBE credit may include demonstrated mastery of competencies embedded into a conventional curriculum comprised of courses (course/credit-based approach) and evaluation of student achievement solely on the demonstration of competencies (direct assessment). In the Adult Degree Completion Program, an institution may accept up to 25 percent of the degree requirements as CBE. This requirement may be waived for institutions that have gained SACSCOC approval to offer an entire program as direct assessment or a hybrid direct assessment competency-based educational program where at least 50 percent of the competency-based program is direct assessment. Credit earned through CBE may count as lower division or upper division credit. Credit earned through CBE may count toward the 25 percent residency requirement for the degree-awarding institution. The types of CBE accepted may be determined by the IHL institution.~~

(BT Minutes, 8/2017; 10/2021; X/2025)

# EXHIBIT 2

January 22, 2026

## SYSTEM: REAL ESTATE ITEMS APPROVED SUBSEQUENT TO THE NOVEMBER 20, 2025, BOARD MEETING SUBMISSION DEADLINE

**NOTE: THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD'S REAL ESTATE AND FACILITIES STAFF IN ACCORDANCE WITH BOARD POLICY §904(A) BOARD APPROVAL.**

**Change Order Approval Note: No change orders approved by Board staff, as reflected within any of the following informational agenda items, increase the Board approved total project budget. The total project budget as approved by the Board provides for a contingency fund, which allows for an increase in the construction budget of between five and ten percent. Any increase in the total project budget caused by a change order, would require Board approval and could not be approved by Board staff until the budget increase is approved by the Board.**

## ALCORN STATE UNIVERSITY

### 1. ASU-GS 101-328 – DORMITORY RENOVATIONS

#### **Approval Request 1: Change Order #5**

Board staff approved Change Order #5 in the amount of \$21,104.00 and twelve (12) additional days as submitted by Paul Jackson & Sons, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 11, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #5 includes the following: providing material, labor supervision, overhead and profit to replace damaged conduit found concealed in the existing slab; providing a credit to the owner for removing Alternate 1 from the scope of work; provide materials, labor, overhead and profit to include Alternate 2 in the scope of work; including Alternate 3 in the scope of work; including Alternate 4 in the scope of work; providing materials, labor, overhead and profit to install EDF to the first floor.

Justification: This change order was necessary due to Errors and Omissions and Latent Job Site Conditions.

#### **Approval Request 2: Change Order #6**

Board Staff approved Change Order #6 in the amount of \$7,140.00 and five (5) additional days as submitted by Paul Jackson & Sons, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 11, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #6 includes the following: removing existing graffiti from interior brick and staining the exterior brick to match the new exterior brick.

Justification: This change order was necessary due to User/Owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Six (6) total change orders in the amount of \$1,048,119.00.

Project Initiation Date: June 15, 2023

Design Professional: Burris/Wagnon Architects

General Contractor: Paul Jackson & Sons, Inc.

Total Project Budget: \$7,280,000.00

# EXHIBIT 2

January 22, 2026

## 2. ASU-GS 101-334 – ARPA WASTE COLLECTION & CONVEYANCE

### **Approval Request 1: Change Order #1**

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of \$25,821.37 and two hundred ten (210) additional days as submitted by Hemphill Construction Company, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, December 17, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: furnishing and installation of three (3) 40 hp VFD's, addition of main line point repair in the street between Dumas Dormitory and the Alumni House, replacement of 400 linear feet of 4" service line in the front and side of Lanier Dormitory, and a credit for under-runs due to being unable to located work items shown in the plans.

Justification: This change order was necessary due to Latent Job Site Conditions and User/Owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Six (6) total change orders in the amount of \$1,048,119.00.

Project Initiation Date: August 17, 2023

Design Professional: Pickering Firm

General Contractor: Hemphill Construction Company, Inc.

Total Project Budget: \$1,075,000.00

## 3. ASU-GS 101-340 – HVAC IMPROVEMENTS HEERF DAVID WHITNEY COMPLEX

### **Approval Request 1: Change Order #2**

Board staff approved Change Order #2 in the amount of \$5,272.00 and one hundred thirty-five (135) additional days as submitted by Brown and Root Industrial Services, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, December 17, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #2 includes the following: additional threadolets for controls devices.

Justification: This change order was necessary due to Latent Job Site Conditions.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Two (2) change orders in the amount of \$32,362.00.

Project Initiation Date: August 17, 2023

Design Professional: Dewberry Engineers, Inc.

General Contractor: Brown and Root Industrial Services, LLC

Total Project Budget: \$2,044,960.98

## 4. ASU-GS 101-341 – HVAC IMPROVEMENTS HEERF MATH & SCIENCE

### **Approval Request 1: Change Order #1**

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of \$32,423.00 and zero (0) additional days as submitted by Brown & Root Industrial Services, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 11, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: increasing the size of VFD's and pumps for additional pressure.

Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions.

# EXHIBIT 2

January 22, 2026

## **Approval Request 2: Change Order #2**

Board staff approved Change Order #2 in the amount of \$82,738.00 and zero (0) additional days as submitted by Brown & Root Industrial Services, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 11, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #2 includes the following: fence screen wall installation at the Pump House; slope change at the chiller/pump pad to 5:1.

Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions.

## **Approval Request 3: Change Order #3 (Credit)**

Board staff approved Change Order #3 credit in the amount of \$30,000.00 and zero (0) additional days as submitted by Brown and Root Industrial Services, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, December 17, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #3 includes the following: a credit in the amount of \$30,000.00 due to the removal of water softener, which is no longer required, from the scope of work.

Justification: This change order was necessary due to Owner/User requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Three (3) change orders for a total amount of \$85,161.00.

Project Initiation Date: August 17, 2023

Design Professional: Engineering Resource Group, Inc.

General Contractor: Brown & Root Industrial Services, LLC

Total Project Budget: \$5,311,718.74

## 5. **ASU-GS 101-342B – HVAC IMPROVEMENTS HEERF ROBINSON HALL PKG B**

### **Approval Request: Change Order #4**

Board staff approved Change Order #4 in the amount of \$3,304.00 and fourteen (14) additional days as submitted by Paul Jackson & Son, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, December 17, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #4 includes the following: additional electrical work to demo and rerun feeder conduits to FCW2, FCW3, repull wire and terminate.

Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Four (4) change orders for a total amount of \$53,687.00.

Project Initiation Date: August 17, 2023

Design Professional: Dewberry Engineers, Inc.

General Contractor: Paul Jackson & Sons, Inc.

Total Project Budget: \$3,995,186.03

## 6. **ASU-GS 101-343B – HVAC IMPROVEMENTS HEERF BURRUS HALL, PKG B**

### **Approval Request: Change Order #3**

Board staff approved Change Order #3 in the amount of \$106,432.00 and one-hundred sixty-four (164) additional days as submitted by Paul Jackson & Son, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 11, 2025

# EXHIBIT 2

January 22, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #3 includes the following: patch and paint 150 holes where duct was removed; relocation of water lines on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors on the west side of Burrus Hall.

Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions, and changes in requirements as recommended by governmental agencies.

**Approval Request: Change Order #4**

Board staff approved Change Order #4 in the amount of \$9,982.00 and fourteen (14) additional days as submitted by Paul Jackson and Son, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, December 17, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #4 includes the following: providing pumps for condensate drains; replacing existing cast iron vent stack at the mechanical room in the west wing.

Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions and user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Four (4) change orders for a total amount of \$68,709.00.

Project Initiation Date: August 17, 2023

Design Professional: Dewberry Engineers, Inc.

General Contractor: Paul Jackson & Son, Inc.

Total Project Budget: \$5,521,600.00

7. **ASU-GS 201-264 – MATT THOMAS JR. GARDEN APARTMENTS  
RENOVATIONS PHASE I**

**Approval Request: Change Order #1**

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of \$51,290.00 and twenty-one (21) additional days as submitted by Barnard & Sons Construction, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 11, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: mold remediation, including removal of doors, millwork, HVAC, furr-downs, tubs, sinks and miscellaneous items.

Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions.

**Approval Request: Change Order #2**

Board staff approved Change Order #2 in the amount of \$6,148.00 and seven (7) additional days as submitted by Barnard & Sons Construction, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, December 17, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #2 includes the following: locating and isolating existing domestic water supply lines serving Building C & D; removal and replacement of 8 valve boxes with new lead-free ball valves and valve boxes; and extended general conditions to the contract.

Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Two (2) change orders for a total amount of \$57,438.00.

Project Initiation Date: March 21, 2024

Design Professional: Canizaro Cathwon Davis

General Contractor: Barnard & Sons Construction, LLC

# EXHIBIT 2

January 22, 2026

Total Project Budget: \$2,750,000.00

## DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

### 8. **DSU-GS 102-258B – WALTER SILLERS PHASE II**

#### **Approval Request #1: Construction Documents (Re-Bid)**

Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by Cook Douglass Farr & Lemons

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 10, 2025

#### **Approval Request #2: Advertise (Re-Bid)**

Board staff approved request to re-advertise for receipt of bids.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 10, 2025

### 9. **DSU-GS 102-271 – NURSING SCHOOL EXPANSION AND RENOVATION**

#### **Approval Request: Change Order #9**

Board staff approved Change Order #9 in the amount of \$21,675.87 and seventy-six (76) additional days as submitted by Richard Womack Construction, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, December 8, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: a credit for using the previously deleted nursing station for the reception desk, addition and fabrication of a custom floor access hatch, installation of dual and single roller window shades at all exterior windows in the existing building, installation of a ceiling access panel in the faculty kitchen, and installation of one can light and outlet.

Justification: This change order was necessary due to user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Nine (9) total change orders in the amount of \$670,847.33.

Project Initiation Date: February 18, 2021

Design Professional: Eley Guild Hardy Architects

General Contractor: Richard Womack Construction, LLC

Total Project Budget: \$12,735,962.93

## JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

### 10. **JSU-GS 103-315 – CAMPUS MECHANICAL IMPROVEMENTS PHASE III**

#### **Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract**

Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of \$6,158,800.00 to the apparent low bidder, Fountain Construction Company, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, December 8, 2025

Project Initiation Date: April 14, 2022

Design Professional: Engineering Resource Group

General Contractor: Fountain Construction Company, Inc.

Total Project Budget: \$7,323,911.18

# EXHIBIT 2

January 22, 2026

## 11. JSU- GS 103-343 – JOC T.B. ELLIS ROOFING IMPROVEMENTS

### **Approval Request: Initiation**

Board staff approved Initiation of the JOC T.B. Ellis Roofing Improvements and appointment of Vernell Barnes Architect as the design professional.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 20, 2025

Project Initiation Date: November 20, 2025

Design Professional: Vernell Barnes Architect

General Contractor: TBD

Total Project Budget: \$3,000,000.00

## 12. JSU- GS 103-344 – JOC T.B. ELLIS INTERIOR RENOVATIONS

### **Approval Request: Initiation**

Board staff approved Initiation of the JOC T.B. Ellis Interior Renovations and appointment of Eley Guild Hardy Architects as the design professional.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 20, 2025

Project Initiation Date: November 20, 2025

Design Professional: Eley Guild Hardy Architects

General Contractor: TBD

Total Project Budget: \$3,000,000.00

## MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

## 13. MSU-IHL 205-320C – PATTERSON ENGINEERING IDEE LAB PHASE 3

### **Approval Request: Schematic Design Documents (Design Fees Only)**

Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by CDFL Architects + Engineers, P.A.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, December 17, 2025

Project Initiation Date: August 18, 2022

Design Professional: CDFL Architects + Engineers, P.A.

General Contractor: TBD

Total Project Budget: \$5,000,000.00

## 14. MSU-IHL 205-336 SOUTH CAMPUS MECHANICAL PLANT, BID PACKAGE N

### **Approval Request: Change Order #5**

Board staff approved Change Order #5 in the amount of \$92,330.89 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Upchurch Plumbing, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 7, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #5 includes the following: cost of time and materials for repairs made to the primary electrical service damaged during excavation for the hydronic piping between the ABE Building and the Duff Center.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions.

# EXHIBIT 2

January 22, 2026

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Five (5) change orders for a total amount of \$595,769.53.

Project Initiation Date: June 15, 2023

Design Professional: Eley Guild Hardy Architects, P.A.

CMA: Innovative Construction Management

General Contractor: Upchurch Plumbing, LLC

Phased Project Budget: \$15,424,969.53

Total Project Budget: \$35,000,000.00

## 15. **MSU-IHL 205-337 – ULYSSES S. GRANT PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY**

### **Approval Request: Schematic Design Documents**

Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by MP Design Group + Mathes Brierre Architects (Joint Venture)

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 24, 2025

Project Initiation Date: April 20, 2023

Design Professional: MP Design Group + Mathes Brierre Architects (Joint Venture)

General Contractor: TBD

Total Project Budget: \$26,000,000.00

## 16. **MSU-IHL 205-359B – WISE CENTER – NANCY FAIR LINK LEMINITIS RESEARCH CENTER**

### **Approval Request: Design Development Documents**

Board staff approved the Design Development Documents as submitted by Eley Guild Hardy Architects.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 25, 2025

Project Initiation Date: October 17, 2024

Design Professional: Eley Guild Hardy Architects

CMA: Andercorp, LLC

General Contractor: TBD

Phased Project Budget: \$13,000,000.00

Total Project Budget: \$36,000,000.00

## 17. **MSU-IHL 205-359C – WISE CENTER-FARM ANIMAL HOSPITAL - EARLY SITE PACKAGE**

### **Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract**

Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of \$1,121,400.00 to the apparent low bidder Byrum Construction, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 25, 2025

Project Initiation Date: October 17, 2024

Design Professional: Eley Guild Hardy Architects, P.A.

CMA: AnderCorp, LLC

General Contractor: Byrum Construction, Inc.

Phased Project Budget: \$1,333,221.00

Total Project Budget: \$36,000,000.00

# EXHIBIT 2

January 22, 2026

18. **MSU-IHL 205-360 – LEO SEAL JR. FOOTBALL COMPLEX RENOVATION & ADDITION**

**Approval Request: Commissioning Agent**

Board staff approved appointment of Sinergi Consulting, LLC as the Commissioning Agent for the project.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 14, 2025

Project Initiation Date: November 21, 2024

Design Professional: CDFL Architects + Engineers, P.A.

General Contractor: TBD

Total Project Budget: \$3,000,000.00 (Design Fees Only)

19. **MSU-IHL 205-368 – GRIFFIS HALL INTERIOR REFINISH**

**Approval Request: Initiation**

Board staff approved Initiation of Griffis Hall Interior Refinish and appointment of Shafer Zahner Zahner as the design professional.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 7, 2026

Project Initiation Date: January 7, 2026

Design Professional: Shafer Zahner Zahner

General Contractor: TBD

Total Project Budget: \$5,000,000.00

20. **MSU-IHL 213-145 – AQUATIC FOOD RESEARCH FACILITY**

**Approval Request: Change Order #1**

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of \$745,757.26 and one hundred thirty-five (135) additional days to the contract of Drace Construction Corporation.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 17, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: time for the building pad settlement period, upgrading the storefront system, re-routing new sanitary sewer main, installation of a generator, installation of rubber flooring in the lab corridor, a credit for the HVAC controls allowance, and adding items which were value-engineered out of the project following receipt of bids. Since the original bids and award, MSU has increased the project budget following receipt of additional grants and funds. Therefore, MSU determined to add those items back into the scope of work.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions and user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change order for a total amount of \$745,757.26.

Project Initiation Date: November 19, 2020

Design Professional: McCarty Architects, P.A.

General Contractor: Drace Construction Corporation

Total Project Budget: \$9,000,000.00

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## 21. MSU-IHL 405-003B – HOWELL HALL ADDITIONS & RENOVATIONS

### **Approval Request: Change Order #1**

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of \$81,308.48 and five (5) additional days to the contract of West Brothers Construction, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 24, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: additional asbestos abatement discovered during demolition and associated plaster ceiling removal to access abatement items, and replacement of the west-most sewer manhole in lieu of refurbishing and providing a 48” pre-cast manhole.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions.

### **Approval Request: Change Order #2**

Board staff approved Change Order #2 in the amount of \$270,698.15 and forty-seven (47) additional days to the contract of West Brothers Construction, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 7, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #2 includes the following: historic oak tree root scan, pruning, soil injection and root barrier sheathing/piling, reconfigure to remove Office 1085 including MEP and furniture revisions, add door 1083 and revised storefront doors 1000A, 1000B, 1001A, 1100C, 1200B & 2178A, reduced door height and storefront elevations modified to reflect door height, fire protection revisions for kiln shop and remove dry pipe from the Addition, electrical for welders and projector locations added, added PT, wood blocking and wrap barrier for roofing details and rough-in for projection screen controls, curb removal, revisions to concrete sidewalk thickness and ADA parking bank grade revisions, provide 4” conduit for AT&T near water tower, additional mullion in vertical sloped glazing and additional flashing/blocking, added block wall repair per found conditions, interior slabs with turn down for additional slab demo, added north side storm drain HDPE, reconfigure mechanical room to add additional egress door.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions and user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Two (2) change orders for a total amount of \$352,006.63.

Project Initiation Date: November 19, 2020

Design Professional: Belinda Stewart Architects + Wier Boerner Allin Architects

General Contractor: West Brothers Construction, Inc.

Phased Project Budget: \$26,500,000.00

Total Project Budget: \$35,732,500.00

## 22. MSU-IHL 413-003 – DORMAN HALL RENOVATIONS PHASE I

### **Approval Request: Change Order #4**

Board staff approved Change Order #4 in the amount of \$90,420.76 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Codaray Construction, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 17, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #4 includes the following: addition of fire

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dampers in the basement, new HVAC grilles in the perimeter offices and new valves necessary for connections of chilled water lines.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to errors and omissions in the plans and specifications, latent job site conditions, and user/owner requested modification.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Four (4) change orders for a total amount of \$1,777,529.93.

Project Initiation Date: February 18, 2021

Design Professional: JH&H Architects

General Contractor: Codaray Construction, LLC

Phased Project Budget: \$28,200,000.00

Total Project Budget: \$44,141,362.00

## 23. **TIMBER SALE 2025 TW40 41 43 66, JOHN W. STARR MEMORIAL FOREST PAY-AS-CUT SALE**

**Real Estate Chair Approval:** Mississippi State University requests approval to conduct a timber sale on Mississippi State University's John W. Starr Memorial Forest, Oktibbeha County, Mississippi. This lump-sum sale will be conducted on 92.1 acres consisting of mainly pine sawtimber.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 4, 2025

Approval Authority: Approved by the Chair of Real Estate, Trustee Gregg Rader, as part of Board Policy 905(A) Real Estate Management for Timber Sales less than \$500,000.

## MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN

### 24. **MUW-IHL 104-215 – JONES HALL RENOVATION**

**Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract**

Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of \$8,637,680.00 to the apparent low bidder, Ethos Contracting Group, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 17, 2025

Project Initiation Date: March 21, 2024

Design Professional: Shafer Zahner Zahner

General Contractor: Ethos Contracting Group, LLC

Total Project Budget: \$10,078,925.00

## MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

### 25. **MVSU-GS 106-258 – ACADEMIC SKILLS BUILDING RENOVATIONS**

**Approval Request: Change Order #3**

Board staff approved Change Order #3 in the amount of \$261,261.88 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Thrash Commercial Contractors, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 10, 2025

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Change Order Description: Change Order #2 includes the following: omitting two (2) new boilers inside the Academic Skills Building and adding two (2) larger boilers to serve the building; additional floor leveling which was required following demolition of some walls.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions and user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Three (3) change orders for a total amount of \$293,850.72.

Project Initiation Date: October 15, 2015

Design Professional: Architecture South, P.A.

General Contractor: Thrash Commercial Contractors, Inc.

Total Project Budget: \$8,939,632.82

## UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

### 26. UM-IHL 207-473.4 BID PACKAGE P – OLE MISS SOFTBALL COMPLEX ADDITION & RENOVATION

#### **Approval Request: Change Order #3**

Board staff approved Change Order #3 in the amount of \$11,849.66 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Tull Brothers, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, December 17, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #3 includes the following: adding two (2) ticket window units with pass-through and speaker-through equipment.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Three (3) change orders for a total amount of \$34,116.22.

Project Initiation Date: October 21, 2021

Design Professional: McCarty Architects, P.A.

CMA: Innovative Construction Management, LLC

General Contractor: Tull Brothers, Inc.

Phased Project Budget: \$19,092,659.04

Total Project Budget: \$32,250,000.00

### 27. UM-IHL 207-473.4 BID PACKAGE X – OLE MISS SOFTBALL COMPLEX ADDITION & RENOVATION

#### **Approval Request: Change Order #8**

Board staff approved Change Order #8 in the amount of \$22,045.02 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Advance Electric Company, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 19, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #8 includes the following: providing power to motorized window shades at the Media Lounge, Conference Room, and Head Coach Office, providing power to lighted wall sign in the lobby, and providing power to lighted wall sign at Champions Corridor and conference room.

# EXHIBIT 2

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Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Eight (8) change orders for a total amount of \$231,695.62.

Project Initiation Date: October 21, 2021

Design Professional: McCarty Architects, P.A.

CMA: Innovative Construction Management, LLC

General Contractor: Advance Electric Company, Inc.

Phased Project Budget: \$19,092,659.04

Total Project Budget: \$32,250,000.00

## 28. **UM-IHL 207-473.4 BID PACKAGE X – OLE MISS SOFTBALL COMPLEX ADDITION & RENOVATION**

### **Approval Request: Change Order #9**

Board staff approved Change Order #9 in the amount of \$3,456.45 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Advance Electric Company, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, December 17, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #9 includes the following: adding power to serve the speak-through equipment at the new ticketing window and relocation of existing fire alarm device to make way for the ticket window.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Nine (9) change orders for a total amount of \$235,152.07.

Project Initiation Date: October 21, 2021

Design Professional: McCarty Architects, P.A.

CMA: Innovative Construction Management, LLC

General Contractor: Advance Electric Company, Inc.

Phased Project Budget: \$19,092,659.04

Total Project Budget: \$32,250,000.00

## 29. **UM-IHL 207-502, BID PACKAGE H (ELECTRICAL) – NEW PARKING STRUCTURE**

### **Approval Request: Change Order #2**

Board staff approved time-only Change Order #2 in the amount of \$9,421.50 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Advance Electric Company, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, December 8, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #2 includes the following: installation of lightning protection on CCTV poles and recertify the whole system on the existing parking garage.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Six (6) total change orders in the amount of \$240,830.81.

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Project Initiation Date: January 31, 2023  
Design Professional: Eley Guild Hardy Architects, P.A.  
CMA: Innovative Construction Management, LLC (ICM)  
General Contractor: Advance Electric Company, Inc.  
Total Project Budget: \$56,000,000.00

30. **UM- IHL 407-008.2 NW MECHANICAL PLANT (ELEC. PH II) 13KV ELEC. DIST. IMPROVEMENTS – PART B**

**Approval Request: Schematic Design Documents**

Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by Atwell & Gent, P.A.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 10, 2025

Project Initiation Date: January 6, 2023

Design Professional: Atwell & Gent, P.A.

General Contractor: N/A

Phased Project Budget: \$1,785,000.00

Total Project Budget: \$25,200,000.00

31. **UM-IHL 407-003 – PHASE II UPGRADE HVAC CONTROLS – NATURAL PRODUCTS & FASER**

**Approval Request: Change Order #5 (Time Only)**

Board staff approved time-only Change Order #5 in the amount of \$0.00 and eighty-eight (88) additional days to the contract of Upchurch Services, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 19, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #2 includes the following: additional time of eighty-eight (88) days due to the inability of the contractor to work in the space due to sensitive research in the Natural Products Vivarium.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions and user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Five (5) change orders for a total amount of \$150,962.48.

Project Initiation Date: February 17,2022

Design Professional: DBES, LLC

General Contractor: Upchurch Services, LLC

Total Project Budget: \$5,300,000.00

32. **UM-IHL 407-011 – EARLY LEARNING AND EVALUATION CENTER**

**Approval Request: Change Order #1**

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of \$1,035,363.16 and twenty-eight (28) additional days to the contract of Innovative Construction Management (ICM).

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 25, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: removal of over eighty (80) deep foundations, asphalt parking, shoring, undercutting and replacement of soils, and a credit for previously planned rammed aggregate piers.

# EXHIBIT 2

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Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change order for a total amount of \$1,035,363.16.

Project Initiation Date: June 16, 2022

Design Professional: McCarty Architects, P.A.

General Contractor: Innovative Construction Management (ICM)

Phased Project Budget: \$25,038,688.99

Total Project Budget: \$32,775,000.00

## UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER

### 33. UMMC-IHL 209-579B.3 – COLONY PARK NORTH LANDSCAPING AND IRRIGATION

#### **Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract**

Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of \$655,000.00 to the apparent low bidder, Gulf Breeze Landscaping, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, December 8, 2025

Project Initiation Date: April 20, 2023

Design Professional: CDFL Architects + Engineers, P.A.

General Contractor: Gulf Breeze Landscaping, LLC

Phased Project Budget: \$3,089,966.13

Total Project Budget: \$5,897,737.00

### 34. UMMC-IHL 209-579B.3 – COLONY PARK NORTH LANDSCAPING AND IRRIGATION

#### **Approval Request: Change Order #1**

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of \$33,500.00 and ten (10) additional days to the contract of Gulf Breeze Landscaping, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, December 8, 2025

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: additional herbicide, clearing, and bed preparation for the building area and parking islands.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change order for a total amount of \$33,500.00.

Project Initiation Date: April 20, 2023

Design Professional: CDFL Architects + Engineers, P.A.

General Contractor: Gulf Breeze Landscaping, LLC

Phased Project Budget: \$3,089,966.13

Total Project Budget: \$5,897,737.00

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## 35. UMMC-IHL 209-587 – MIND CENTER GERIATRIC CLINIC

### **Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract**

Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of \$9,631,000.00 to the apparent low-bidder Fountain Construction Company.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 25, 2025

Project Initiation Date: April 18, 2024

Design Professional: Foil Wyatt Architects & Planners, PLLC

General Contractor: Fountain Construction Company

Total Project Budget: \$10,900,000.00

## 36. UMMC-IHL 409-006 – SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

### **Approval Request: Award of Construction Contracts**

Board staff approved the Award of Contracts in the amounts listed below. The project is managed by a Construction Management Advisor (CMA), with each phase being bid and awarded as follows:

Approval Status & Date: Approved, November 14, 2025

Project Initiation Date: August 17, 2023

Design Professional: Eley Guild Hardy Architects, P.A.

CMA: Innovative Construction Management (ICM)

Total Project Budget: \$40,000,000.00

General Contractor: Fondren Construction, LLC (Package A)

Phased Project Budget: \$2,489,159.31

General Contractor: Abbey Bridges Construction Company, LLC (Package B)

Phased Project Budget: \$4,295,144.14

General Contractor: Bush Masonry, LLC (Package C)

Phased Project Budget: \$2,460,435.16

General Contractor: Slay Steel, Inc. (Package D)

Phased Project Budget: \$3,473,854.71

General Contractor: McNeil Cabinet and Millwork, Inc. (Package E)

Phased Project Budget: \$746,967.78

General Contractor: Independent Roofing Systems, Inc. (Package F)

Phased Project Budget: \$425,966.82

General Contractor: Capital Glass Company, Inc. (Package G)

Phased Project Budget: \$1,262,241.39

General Contractor: BlueWater Architectural Products, LLC (Package H)

Phased Project Budget: \$453,488.08

General Contractor: Southern Drywall, LLC (Package I)

Phased Project Budget: \$4,068,936.71

General Contractor: Byrd & Cook (Package J)

Phased Project Budget: \$580,400.76

General Contractor: J.E. Stevens Construction Group, LLC (Package K)

Phased Project Budget: \$663,745.29

General Contractor: Fireline, Inc. (Package L)

Phased Project Budget: \$466,147.56

General Contractor: Upchurch Plumbing, LLC (Package M)

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Phased Project Budget: \$7,617,596.27

General Contractor: Shivers Construction, LLC (Package N)

Phased Project Budget: \$4,297,242.19

## UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

### 37. USM- IHL 208-301 REED-GREEN COLISEUM RENOVATION

#### **Approval Request: Design Development Documents**

Board staff approved the Design Development Documents as submitted by Weir Boerner Allin Architecture, LLC. Future Board submissions will include modifications to the exterior rendering, as well as approval of design modifications from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, December 16, 2025

Project Initiation Date: January 20, 2022

Design Professional: Weir Boerner Allin Architecture, LLC

CMA: Codaray Construction, LLC

General Contractor: TBD

Total Project Budget: \$43,170,506.50

### 38. USM – GS 114-033 EXECUTIVE EDUCATION CENTER

#### **Approval Request #1: Construction Documents**

Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by Eley Guild Hardy Architects, P.A.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 7, 2026

#### **Approval Request #2: Advertise**

Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 7, 2026

# EXHIBIT 3

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## 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 Reed Smith, LLP (statement dated 11/10/25) from the funds of the IHL System Office. (This statement, in the amount of \$32,361.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 32,361.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 8/28/25, 8/28/25, 9/25/25 and 10/28/25) from the funds of Jackson State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$67.50, \$651.00, \$67.50 and \$705.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with an immigration/labor certification matter.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,491.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Brunini, Grower, Grantham and Hewes, PLLC (statements dated 8/14/25, 11/19/25, 11/19/25, 12/11/25 and 12/16/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$350.00, \$175.00, \$5,075.00, \$175.00 and \$4,462.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 10,237.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statement dated 10/14/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$1,725.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,725.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Copeland Cook Taylor & Bush, PA (statement dated 11/24/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$391.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 391.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 9/2/25, 11/1/25, 11/11/25, 11/11/25, 11/18/25 and 12/11/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$150.00, \$2,650.00, \$11,485.00, \$11,485.00, \$585.00 and \$2,650.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 29,005.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by The Winfield Law Firm, P.A. (statement dated 12/15/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$3,275.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 3,275.00**

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Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Lightfoot Franklin White, LLC (statement dated 11/18/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$3,296.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 3,296.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Lightfoot Franklin White, LLC (statements dated 12/11/25) from the funds of Mississippi Valley State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$2,008.50, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 2,008.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Kaplan Kirsch (statements dated 11/20/25 and 12/8/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$570.00 and \$665.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,235.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Lightfoot Franklin White, LLC (statements dated 11/18/25 and 12/11/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$11,693.40 and \$5,613.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 17,306.90**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mayo Mallette, PLLC (statements dated 11/7/25, 11/7/25, 12/10/25, 12/10/25 and 12/10/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$1,675.00, \$275.00, \$275.00, \$700.00 and \$200.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 3,125.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 10/27/25, 11/1/25, 11/3/25, 11/18/25 and 12/1/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$2,650.00, \$2,650.00, \$8,150.00, \$2,650.00 and \$29.83, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 16,129.83**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Alexander Law, P.A. (statements dated 10/6/25, 10/6/25, 10/6/25, 10/6/25, 10/6/26, 11/5/25, 11/5/25, 11/5/25, 11/5/25, 12/5/25, 12/5/25, 12/5/25 and 12/5/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$340.00, \$1,104.00, \$760.50, \$3,042.50, \$3,274.50, \$7,061.00, \$1,259.00, \$336.00, \$251.00, \$13,221.00, \$15.00, \$293.00 and \$49.00, respectively represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 31,006.50**



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Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Hogan Lovells, US, LLP (statements dated 8/27/25, 9/17/25, 10/31/25, 10/31/25, 11/25/25, 11/25/25 and 11/25/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$9,417.00, \$1,752.00, \$11,059.50, \$22,995.00, \$6,022.50, \$3,723.00 and \$2,299.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 57,268.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mayo Mallette, PLLC (statements dated 9/10/25, 10/6/25 and 11/10/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$6,440.67, \$12,277.91, \$1,875.00 and \$690.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 21,283.58**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Page, Kruger & Holland, PA (statements dated 10/2/25, 10/2/25, 10/2/25, 10/2/25, 10/2/25, 10/2/25, 10/2/25, 10/2/25, 11/3/25, 11/3/25, 11/3/25, 11/3/25, 11/26/25, 11/26/25, 11/26/25, 12/1/25, 12/1/25, 12/1/25 and 12/1/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$3,182.50, \$34.00, \$60.00, \$120.00, \$1,038.00, \$85.00, \$760.00, \$2,820.20, \$80.00, \$20.00, \$100.00 and \$121.80, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 8,421.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Steen, Dalehite & Pace, LLC (statements dated 8/31/25, 8/31/25, 8/31/25, 9/10/25, 9/19/25 and 10/21/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$920.00, \$276.00, \$147.50, \$1,533.00, \$4,647.00 and \$50.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 7,573.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Vernis & Bowling of Mississippi, PLLC (statements dated 9/23/25, 9/23/25, 9/23/25, 9/23/25, 9/23/25, 9/23/25, 9/23/25, 10/24/25, 10/24/25, 10/24/25 and 10/24/25,) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$453.00, \$4,836.50, \$282.00, \$4,708.50, \$3,904.01, \$845.00, \$741.57, \$3,844.50, \$258.43, \$1,901.30, \$1,572.31 and \$4,769.80, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 28,116.92**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by the Walker & Ungo Immigration Law Firm (statements dated 9/5/25, 9/5/25, 9/10/25, 9/12/25, 9/15/25, 10/6/25, 10/13/25, 10/22/25, 10/23/25, 10/31/25, 11/7/25, 11/18/25 and 12/2/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$3,000.00, \$3,000.00, \$2,000.00, \$252.59, \$3,000.00, \$2,000.00, \$4,500.00, \$2,000.00, \$2,000.00, \$3,000.00, \$2,366.46, \$3,000.00 and \$2,000.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 32,119.05**

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January 22, 2026

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Watkins & Eager, PLLC (statements dated 6/5/25, 9/16/25, 10/3/25, 10/3/25, 10/6/25, 10/6/25, 10/6/25, 10/6/25, 10/6/25, 10/9/25, 10/21/25, 11/4/25, 11/6/25, 11/6/25, 11/6/25, 11/6/25, 11/10/25, 11/10/25, 11/10/25, 11/13/25, 11/14/25, 12/3/25, 12/2/25, 12/4/25, 12/4/25, 12/5/25 and 12/8/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$951.00, \$1,715.00, \$4,095.00, \$14,772.85, \$4,867.50, \$175.85, \$8,274.75, \$1,944.50, \$525.00, \$12,019.23 and \$16,604.15, \$3,206.50, \$1,700.50, \$1,750.00, \$315.00, \$9,453.00, \$363.00, \$30.00, \$3,815.00, \$435.00, \$1,244.90, \$3,885.00, \$15,260.00, \$2,100.00, \$700.00, \$140.00, and \$8,901.00, respectively represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 11,924.73**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Wise Carter Child & Caraway, PA (statements dated 9/23/25, 10/1/25, 10/17/25, 10/17/25, 11/24/25, 12/15/25 and 12/15/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$1,610.00, \$350.00, \$2,205.00, \$7,140.00, \$1,356.50, \$1,062.72 and \$315.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 14,039.22**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Bryan, Nelson, Schroeder, Castigliola & Banahan, PLLC (statement dated 11/4/25) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$429.00, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 429.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Copeland Cook Taylor & Bush, PA (statements dated 10/10/25 and 11/12/25) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$720.00 and \$408.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,128.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Richard & Thomas, PLLC (statement dated 11/11/25) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$1,027.00, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,027.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 10/27/25, 11/1/25, 11/3/25 and 11/3/25) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$2,650.00, \$2,650.00, \$8,150.00 and \$2,650.00, represents services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 16,100.00**

# EXHIBIT 3

January 22, 2026

## 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 Butler|Snow (statements dated 8/28/25, 8/28/25, 9/25/25 and 10/28/25) from the funds of Jackson State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$67.50, \$651.00, \$67.50 and \$705.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patent or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,491.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statement dated 10/14/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$103.50, represents services and expenses in connection with a patents or intellectual property matter.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 103.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Conley Rose, P.C. (statements dated 11/5/25 and 12/3/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$290.00 and \$665.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 955.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mendelsohn Dunleavy, P.C. (statements dated 9/11/25, 9/11/25, 9/11/25, 11/6/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25 and 12/8/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$1,888.50, \$434.50, \$616.00, \$79.00, \$3,686.00, \$1,518.50, \$474.00, \$568.00 and \$711.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 9,975.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Stites & Harbison, PLLC (statements dated 11/13/25, 12/12/25, 12/12/25, 12/12/25 and 12/12/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$705.00, \$3,736.00, \$484.50, \$215.50 and \$998.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 6,139.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 11/25/25, 11/25/25 and 11/25/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$435.00, \$65.00 and \$730.00, represent services and expenses in connection with a patent or intellectual property matter.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,230.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Thomas|Horstemeyer (statements dated 3/31/25, 3/31/25, 3/31/25, 3/31/25, 3/31/25, 10/31/25, 10/31/25, 10/31/25, 10/31/25, 10/31/25, 10/31/25 and 10/31/25) from the funds of the University of

# EXHIBIT 3

January 22, 2026

Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$1,020.00, \$608.00, \$7,573.45, \$2,109.54, \$4,025.00, \$250.00, \$720.00, \$721.00, \$313.00, \$344.00, \$945.00, \$2,310.16, \$970.06 and \$220.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 22,129.21**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Stites & Harbison, PLLC (statements dated 8/26/25, 8/28/25, 8/28/25, 9/22/25, 9/22/25, 9/22/25, 9/22/25, 9/22/25, 9/22/25, 9/29/25, 10/10/25, 10/10/25, 10/10/25, 10/10/25, 10/10/25, 10/10/25, 10/10/25, 10/10/25, 10/17/25, 10/17/25, 10/17/25, 10/17/25, 11/12/25, 11/12/25, 11/12/25, 11/12/25, 11/12/25, 11/12/25, 11/12/25, 11/14/25, 12/15/25 and 12/15/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$1,634.00, \$1,900.00, \$5,700.00, \$1,786.00, \$1,824.00, \$722.00, \$2,964.00, \$342.00, \$342.00, \$980.00, \$108.00, \$507.00, \$674.00, \$2,578.00, \$522.00, \$1,477.00, \$543.00, \$740.00, \$2,446.00, \$1,606.00, \$1,216.00, \$466.00, \$3,382.00, \$3,174.00, \$1,048.00, \$943.00, \$577.00, \$523.00, \$557.00, \$3,116.00, \$228.00 and \$760.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 45,385.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Workman Nydegger (statements dated 7/17/24, 6/11/25, 9/5/25, 9/10/25, 9/10/25, 9/10/25, 9/10/25, 9/10/25, 9/10/25, 9/10/25, 9/10/25, 10/6/25, 10/6/25, 10/6/25, 11/12/25, 11/12/25, 11/12/25, 11/12/25, 11/12/25, 12/12/25 and 12/12/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$3,952.50, \$1,055.00, \$700.00, \$906.09, \$906.09, \$906.09, \$906.09, \$906.09, \$1,355.01, \$404.00, \$8,379.94, \$2,200.00, \$200.00, \$150.00, \$154.00, \$1,820.33, \$408.00, \$604.00, \$250.00, \$254.00 and \$200.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with intellectual property patents.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 26,617.23**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 6/16/25, 6/16/25, 10/28/25, 10/28/25, 11/25/25, 11/25/25, 11/25/25, 11/25/25 and 11/25/25) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$3,754.50, \$1,467.50, \$310.50, \$1,968.00, \$7,461.00, \$4,084.00, \$817.50, \$270.00 and \$337.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 20,470.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mendelsohn Dunleavy, P.C. (statements dated 11/6/25, 11/6/25, 11/6/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25 and 12/8/25) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$210.00, \$1,800.00, \$560.00, \$1,490.00, \$1,013.00, \$250.00, \$400.00, \$210.00, \$8,020.00, \$4,500.00, \$140.00 and \$1,730.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 20,323.00**

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
February 9, 2026**

**BE IT REMEMBERED**, That the Mississippi Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning of the State of Mississippi met in a special called meeting via Zoom at 12:00 p.m. on February 9, 2026, and pursuant to notice, to each and every member of said Board. The following members participated via Zoom: Ms. Amy Arrington, Mr. Don Clark, Dr. Ormella Cummings, Dr. Steven Cunningham, Mr. Jimmy Heidelberg, Ms. Teresa Hubbard, Mr. Gee Ogletree, Mr. Gregg Rader, and Mr. Charlie Stephenson. Mr. Jerry L. Griffith, Mr. Bruce Martin, and Mr. Hal Parker, were absent. The meeting was called to order by President Gee Ogletree.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

President Ogletree took a moment to speak about the challenges that were presented by last month's Winter Storm Fern. Snow, ice, power outages, and blocked roads were just a few of the obstacles that stood before some of our universities, including Ole Miss, Mississippi Valley, and Delta State. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, he expressed thanks and appreciation not only for the leadership of these universities but also for the staff, especially the facilities teams and ground crews, who have worked tirelessly to address the damage from the storm and get the universities back up and running. Their dedication is appreciated. President Ogletree encouraged everyone to donate to the disaster relief fund at all three universities.

**To comply with Miss. Code Ann. §25-41-5, as amended, all votes taken during this Zoom meeting were recorded by name in a rollcall.** As reflected in the official meeting notice, the meeting was held to consider a contract for the cost of removing trees at the University of Mississippi damaged by the recent winter storms.

**FINANCE AND BUDGET AGENDA**

Presented by Trustee Charlie Stephenson, Chair

On motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Hubbard, with Trustees Griffith, Martin, and Parker absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #1 as submitted on the Finance and Budget Agenda.

1. **UM** – Approved the request to amend an existing contract with Looks Great Services of MS, Inc. (LGS) for emergency debris removal services in the wake of the devastating impacts from Winter Storm Fern– including but not limited to – fallen trees, limbs, and various other types of vegetative and non-vegetative debris. This includes the trimming and cutting of trees and other plants, as well as hauling tons of debris to dump sites. The original contract capped the costs for the services at \$1,999,999, which is the Board's pre-approved threshold for the University. The need for emergency services from LGS is ongoing and will exceed this threshold for contracts. The original 90-day contract term began January 31, 2026, while the work began on January 29, 2026. The cost of the addendum to the original contract caps any expenses associated with the services at \$10,000,000 so work can continue without delay and

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
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February 9, 2026**

interruption. The University will initially pay for the services with Internal R&R and will seek reimbursement from other funding sources including, but not limited to, FEMA, MEMA, and insurance. 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.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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President, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning

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Commissioner, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
CONSENT AGENDA  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS  
FEBRUARY 19, 2026**

**1. UM – MODIFICATION OF AN EXISTING ACADEMIC DEGREE PROGRAM**

*Board Policy 503 states: “As part of its broad constitutional authority to govern the universities, the Board shall exercise its authority to modify programs offered by the universities generally or at various units of the universities.”*

In accordance with Board policy 503, the University of Mississippi requests approval for the modification of an existing academic degree program.

**RENAMING**

*Current program title:* Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Biochemistry

*New program title:* Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Biochemistry for Health Sciences

*CIP code, sequence:* 26.0202, 5820

*Total credit hours:* 120

*Effective date:* August 2026

*Rationale:* This degree program provides students with strong biomedical foundation while placing a focus on the broader pre-health pathway for students wishing to pursue a career in health professions. It provides a broader general education foundation than the Bachelor of Science degree, allowing students the flexibility to combine their biochemistry studies with a minor in another field (or a double major). The name change will more clearly communicate the program’s relevance to a broader pre-health pathway while preserving its strong biochemical foundations.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board staff recommends approval of this item.**

**2. UM – MODIFICATION OF EXISTING ACADEMIC UNITS**

In accordance with Board policies 503 and 504, the University of Mississippi requests approval to modify an existing academic unit.

**REORGANIZING**

*Unit involved in proposed reorganization:* **Center for Health and Sports Performance**

*Current location of unit:* School of Applied Sciences

*Proposed location of unit:* Office of Research and Economic Development

*Effective date:* July 2026

*Cost of implementation:* \$0

*Total number of faculty/total number of faculty displaced:* 2/0

*Total number of staff/total number of staff displaced:* 0/0

*Rationale:* The Center for Health and Sports Performance (CHSP) was originally housed under the Department of Nutrition and Hospitality Management and as the scope of work expanded to other units, was moved under the School of Applied Sciences where it is currently housed. The past three years, the work of the CHSP has expanded to units in the College of Liberal Arts, including all the ROTC programs, and will be collaborating with the School of Pharmacy in the upcoming year as a partner with their sports pharmacy program. Because of this expansion, moving the CHSP under the Office of Research and Economic Development allows for more streamlined management, increases collaborative opportunities, and aligns with other centers and institutes on campus.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board staff recommends approval of this item.**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
CONSENT AGENDA  
FINANCE & BUDGET  
FEBRUARY 19, 2026**

1. **ASU – REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION  
PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH INSTRUCTURE, INC.**

**Agenda Item Request:** Alcorn State University requests approval to enter into a one-year extension to the current contract with **Instructure, Inc.** and authorization to pay the annual contract amount of \$115,035.34.

**Contractor’s Legal Name:** **Instructure, Inc.**

**History of Contract:** The original Master Services Provider Agreement was executed between Instructure, Inc. and the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services (ITS) on behalf of Alcorn State University for Canvas Learning Management System services. The initial contract period ran from February 15, 2018 to February 14, 2023 at a cost of \$532,006.54. ITS authorized a renewal from February 15, 2024 to February 14, 2026 at a cost of \$218,057.53. The university now seeks approval for an additional renewal from February 15, 2026 to February 14, 2027 at a cost of \$115,035.34. The total cumulative contract value including the proposed renewal would be \$865,099.41. All renewals operate under the existing Master Agreement framework with ITS serving as contracting agent.

**Specific Type of Contract:** This is an amendment/modification to a service agreement. Purpose: The purpose of the agreement is to provide Canvas Learning Management System cloud-based hosting services for students, including 24x7 technical support and Tier 1 user support services. The contract ensures continuous access to the university's primary learning management platform, which supports online course delivery, student engagement, academic assessment, and institutional teaching and learning operations.

**Scope of Work:** Instructure, Inc. shall provide Canvas Learning Management System cloud hosting services for students, including 24x7 technical support and Tier 1 user support. Services include platform hosting with 99.9% uptime availability, regular system updates, data security protocols, user training, and ongoing technical consultation. The contractor will ensure secure platform access, provide help desk services via phone, email, and online ticketing, and deliver system monitoring and performance optimization.

**Term of Contract:** Start Date: 02/15/2026 End Date: 02/14/2027

**Contract Amount:** The one-year renewal contract totals \$115,035.34, with payment due annually. Payment terms are Net 30.

**Funding Source for Contract:** The contract will be funded by E & G funds.

**Termination Options:**

- Termination Upon Mutual Agreement: A Purchase Order/Statement of Work may be terminated in whole or in part upon the mutual written agreement of the parties

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- Termination For Cause: If either party fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the Agreement, the non-defaulting party may terminate the Agreement upon the giving of thirty (30) calendar days written notice unless the breach is cured within said thirty (30) day period
- Termination Due To Bankruptcy: Alcorn State University may terminate the Agreement in whole or in part without the assessment of an penalties upon ten (10) calendar days written notice to Licensor or Licensor becomes the subject of bankruptcy, reorganization, liquidation or receivership proceedings, whether voluntary or involuntary
- Termination Other Than For Cause: Alcorn State University may terminate the Agreement as to itself only, in whole or in part and without the assessment of penalties, for any reason by giving thirty (30) calendar days written notice specifying the effective date thereof to Instructure
- Termination of Master Agreement: Alcorn State University may terminate the Agreement in whole or in part without the assessment of any penalties after giving thirty (30) calendar days written notice specifying the effective date thereof to Licensor in the event
- Licensor sells its company to another company without the prior written approval of ASU
- There are excessive instabilities in the Software, which are defined as complete inaccessibility of Software occurring for a consecutive twenty-four (24) hour period for more than two (2) separate times every calendar month or if the uptime annual availability percentage drops below 95%.
- In the event Alcorn State University terminates this Agreement, Licensor shall receive just and equitable compensation for Services rendered by Licensor and accepted by ASU prior to the termination and Licensor shall refund any and all applicable unexpended prorate annual ASP fees previously paid by Licensee.

**Contractor Selection Process:** The University made use of the Request for Proposals No. 3692 for services of a contractor to host and maintain an Application Service Provider solution for a Learning Management System (LMS).

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. Board staff recommends approval of this item.

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CONSENT AGENDA  
FINANCE & BUDGET  
FEBRUARY 19, 2026**

**2. JSU- REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH DAHILL OFFICE TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION/XEROX CORPORATION PUBLIC SECTOR OPERATIONS**

**Agenda Item Request:** Jackson State University (JSU) requests approval to enter into a lease agreement with **DAHILL OFFICE TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION/Xerox Corporation Public Sector Operations (Xerox)** for the lease of 125 multifunctional copier devices.

**Contractor's Legal Name:** Xerox Corporation

**History of Contract:** This is a new lease agreement. The existing lease agreement with Xerox Business Solutions is set to expire on March 31, 2026. Approval was not needed from the Department of Information Technology Services because the items are listed on the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) negotiated contract list.

**Specific Type of Contract:** Lease Agreement

**Purpose:** JSU seeks approval to enter into the DFA negotiated state contract (contract number 8200080311) with DAHILL OFFICE TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION/Xerox Corporation Public Sector Operations for the rental of printer/copier equipment. JSU will utilize the Generic Rental Agreement for use by Mississippi Departments and Vendors (revised February 2017) for the lease of 125 multifunctional copier devices. The use of the state contract will allow the university to update its current multifunctional equipment and services. This procurement will support departments at JSU by enabling them to continue delivering education services effectively and efficiently. This acquisition is aimed at reducing our costs for multifunctional equipment, while also improving customer service and vendor communication. The state contract only allows for the rental or purchase of copier/printer equipment with Dahill/Xerox. JSU will enter into a separate agreement with Xerox Corporation for the supplies and maintenance services of the leased equipment (ie. Xerox Secure Access, HID card readers, Xerox Device Agent (XDA), Fleet Management Portal, on-site maintenance, toner, supplies, and services.).

**Scope of Work:** The scope of work includes providing 125 multifunctional copying, printing, and scanning devices to all JSU campuses which include Xerox Secure Access, HID card readers. All multifunctional devices are equipped with network printing, copying, color scanning, server fax, 4 paper trays, a 2/3-hole punch, and a staple function.

**Term of Contract:** Start Date: April 1, 2026 End Date: March 31, 2031.

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**Termination Options:** The contract may be terminated under the following conditions:

- Termination for Convenience;
- Upon default of a term by either party and failure to cure within thirty (30) days;  
or
- Failure of Legislative Appropriation;

**Contract Amount:** The total contract cost is \$1,235,697.60 and is broken down as outlined below.

<u>Fiscal Year Cost</u>	
2026	\$247,139.52
2027	\$247,139.52
2028	\$247,139.52
2029	\$247,139.52
2030	\$247,139.52
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,235,697.60</b>

This rate includes 125 multifunctional devices, Xerox Secure Access, a HID card reader, XDA, Fleet Management Portal, server-fax kits for RightFax integration, on-site maintenance, toner, supplies, and services.

**Funding Source for Contract:** Education and General Funds

**Contractor Selection Process:** JSU established a Campus-wide Copier Committee to evaluate current and future requirements. Several copier companies on the DFA negotiated contract list were contacted and invited to submit a proposal to JSU’s Division of Information Technology. They included RJ Young, Advantage Business Systems, Dahill Office Technology Corporation/Xerox Corporation Public Sector Operations, and Middle South Computer. Two vendors responded to the Request for Quotes. After considering which company offered the best technical solution, usability, customer service, and cost, the committee unanimously voted to keep the incumbent company, based on the proposed updated technical solution, customer service, and contract cost.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. Board staff recommends approval of this item.

3. **JSU– REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO AMEND THE LAUNDRY ROOM LEASE AGREEMENT WITH CALDWELL AND GREGORY, LLC**

**Agenda Item Request:** Jackson State University (JSU) requests approval to enter into a laundry room lease agreement with **Caldwell and Gregory, LLC**.

**Contractor’s Legal Name:** Caldwell and Gregory, LLC

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**History of Contract:** This agreement includes new machines, new rates and a new term. Due to multiple dorm closures, the addition of a new dorm site, and the need to upgrade washer and dryer equipment, the parties agreed to enter into an additional agreement. The total expenditure for the existence and the additional agreement requires board approval.

**Specific Type of Contract:** This is a service and maintenance Lease Agreement.

**Purpose:** This Caldwell & Gregory laundry room lease agreement shall include the installation and maintenance of commercial laundry units within the JSU residential hall, One University Place. These commercial laundry units were not included in, nor a part of, the recent laundry room lease agreement between the parties approved by the IHL Board at its October 2025 Board meeting because the needs of said residential hall had not been fully assessed.

The term of the amendment to the lease shall be for 24-months to commence on the date of installation with a total cost of \$133,920.00.

**Scope of Work:** This agreement provides that Caldwell & Gregory, LLC shall install, maintain and service washing, drying, and laundry equipment located on the premises at One University Place. Caldwell & Gregory agrees to service the equipment and maintain all equipment in good condition at Caldwell & Gregory's expense during the term of the agreement.

**Term of Contract:** Start Date: 2/19/2026 End Date: 2/19/2028

**Contract Amount:** The cost related to this amendment is \$133,920.00. The October 2025 agreement included a contract cost of \$191,808.00. The total contract cost shall be \$325,728.00.

**Funding Source for Contract:** The contract will be funded by Auxiliary funds.

**Termination Options:**

- For Convenience;
- Breach of Contract;
- Failure to comply with E-verify Regulations;
- Failure of Legislature to Appropriate;
- Force Majeure; and
- Conflict of Interest.

**Contractor Selection Process:** JSU has enjoyed a great working relationship with Caldwell & Gregory, LLC for many years as it relates to laundry equipment needs and services. Due

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to the number of well-established years and the number of units already housed on the campus, continued collaboration ensures consistent, high-quality laundry services while minimizing downtime through reliable maintenance. As such, JSU decided to maintain its contractual relationship with Caldwell & Gregory.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. Board staff recommends approval of this item.

4. **MUW-REQUEST FOR RETROACTIVE APPROVAL FOR AMENDMENT 3, AN INCREASE IN FEES, AND APPROVAL TO AMEND A BOOKSTORE MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH BARNES & NOBLE COLLEGE BOOKSELLERS, LLC**

**Agenda Item Request:** Mississippi University for Women (MUW) requests retroactive approval of the 2023 Amendment 3 which extended the contract for 3 additional years ending in 2027, the 2025 increase in the student per credit hour charge from \$20 to \$20.50 and approval of Amendment 4 to amend the agreement with **Barnes & Noble** to increase the fee from \$20.50 per credit hour to \$23 per credit hour.

**Contractor's Legal Name:** Barnes & Noble College Booksellers, LLC

**History of Contract:** MUW has contracted with **Barnes & Noble** since March of 2013. In June 2022, the Board approved an amendment to allow the offering of the First Day Complete (FDC) program at \$20 per credit hour to students participating and to extend the contract to March 31, 2024. The university extended the contract with the 2023 Amendment 3 from April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2027 and increased the credit hour rate in 2025 without board approval.

**Specific Type of Contract:** Bookstore management services outsourcing agreement, revenue generating.

**Purpose:** To get retroactive approval of Amendment 3 and the 2025 increase per credit hour and to amend agreement to increase the fee from \$20.50 per credit hour to \$23 per credit hour for participating students with Amendment 4 beginning Fall 2026.

**Scope of Work:** Barnes and Noble will provide required textbooks and access to course materials on the first day of class at \$23 per credit hour to students participating in the FDC program.

**Term of Contract:** Effective date of Amendment 3 is April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2027. Amendment does not alter the term of the contract.

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**Contract Amount:** Revenue Contract- The increase is expected to generate an annual commission of \$30,000.

**Funding Source for Contract:** Revenue contract with commissions based on sales.

**Termination Options:** Either party may terminate this agreement at any time by giving 120 days written notice to the other party.

**Contractor Selection Process:** Barnes and Noble was selected in 2013 through the RFP process. A committee representative of the campus made the selection.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. Board staff recommends approval of this item.

5. **UMMC- REQUEST TO ENTER INTO A MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING LEASE WITH NMFMG HOLDINGS, LLC**

**Agenda Item Request:** The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) requests approval to enter into a new Medical Office Building Lease (Lease) with **NMFMG Holdings, LLC (NMFMG)** to lease approximately 6,386 square feet of clinical space in Oxford, Mississippi, for use as clinic and office space for UMMC Family Medicine services providers and staff. Pursuant to Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) policy 707.03 *Approval of Prepayment for Goods and Services*, UMMC also requests a waiver to allow prepayment of the rent in advance on a monthly basis.

**Contractor's Legal Name:** NMFMG Holdings, LLC

**History of Contract:** This is a new Medical Office Building lease that will allow UMMC to provide family medicine services in Oxford, MS. The location and clinic layout are well suited to meet the needs of the practice and its patients.

**Specific Type of Contract:** This is a new Medical Office Building Lease.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this agreement is to lease approximately 6.386 square feet of clinic and office space located at 1397 Belk Boulevard, Oxford, MS 38655 for UMMC Family Medicine services providers and staff.

**Scope of Work:** Under the Lease, NMFMG will:

- lease 6,386 square feet of clinic space to UMMC;
- be responsible for taxes and insurance; and
- provide all maintenance required to keep the building and premises in good order, condition, and repair.

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Under the Lease, UMMC will:

- pay all utility cost, janitorial and housekeeping services, and waste management, including medical waste disposal, directly to the respective service providers.

**Term of Contract:** The term of the agreement is sixty (60) months, from March 1, 2026, February 28, 2031.

**Termination Options:** Termination options include:

- by either party upon 365-day notice to the other party;
- by UMMC in the event NMFMG causes any utility service interruption lasting longer than thirty (30) consecutive days;
- by UMMC in the event of a partial destruction of the premises and NMFMG does not elect to make repairs or if the repairs cannot be made timely;
- by either party in the event of a total destruction of the building;
- automatically if the whole of the premises or building or so much thereof as to render the balance unusable by UMMC shall be taken under power of eminent domain, condemnation or by deed in lieu of foreclosure or otherwise;
- by UMMC in the event of a partial taking under power of eminent domain, by giving NMFMG written notice within 30 days after UMMC's receipt of written notice of such partial taking;
- by either party in the event the other party commits an act of default under the Sublease, by giving the defaulting party at least ten (10) days' prior written notice;
- by either party in the event any legislation, regulation or government policy is passed or adopted, the effect of which would cause either party to be in violation of such laws due to the existence of any provision of this Lease, and the parties fail to agree upon modified terms within 90 days;
- by UMMC immediately upon NMFMG's breach of any of the following ongoing representations and warranties that it, its officers, directors and employees:
  - are not currently excluded, debarred, or otherwise ineligible to participate in any federal health care programs or any state healthcare programs;
  - have not been convicted of a criminal offense related to the provision of healthcare items or services and have not been excluded, debarred, or otherwise declared ineligible to participate in the Federal Healthcare Programs or any state healthcare programs; and
  - are not under investigation or otherwise aware of any circumstances which may result in the party being excluded from participation in the Federal Healthcare Programs or any state healthcare programs;
- in the event of a reduction in funds; and
- by either party in the event of an adverse change in law and the parties fail to agree upon modified terms within 60 days.

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**Contract Amount:** The estimated cost of the Lease is \$1,100,000 over the sixty (60) month term. UMMC's base rent will be \$17,561.50 per month (\$210,738.00 annually), with a two percent (2%) increase beginning in year 2.

**Funding Source for Contract:** The agreement will be funded by patient revenue.

**Contractor Selection Process:** The location and clinic footprint are well suited to meet the needs of the practice and its patients.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. Board staff recommends approval of this item.

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**Note:** Project numbers beginning with the prefix "GS" designate projects that the Bureau of Building provides management oversight for and are funded partially or wholly with state Bureau of Building bond revenues. Project numbers beginning with the prefix "IHL" designate projects that are funded from university self-generated sources including but not limited to donations, fees, and grants.

**APPROVAL OF BUDGET INCREASES AND/OR CHANGES OF SCOPE/FUNDING SOURCE(S)**

**BUREAU OF BUILDING PROJECTS .....**

**1. JSU – GS 103-317 – JOC - UNIVERSITY POINTE RESIDENCE HALL IMPROVEMENTS**

**Project Request:** Jackson State University requests approval to increase the budget for the University Pointe Residence Hall Improvements project from \$2,400,659.20 to \$4,924,461.00 for an increase in the amount of \$2,523,801.80. In addition, JSU requests approval to modify the scope of the project and to add SB 2468, Laws of 2024 as a funding source to the project to allow for the budget increase. JSU further requests to proceed with the design phase under the previously appointed design professional, Vernell Barnes Architect, PLLC.

**Current Project Phase:** Design Phase

**Design Professional:** Vernell Barnes Architect, PLLC

**General Contractor:** TBD

**Insurance Coverage:** The design firm carries errors and omissions coverage in the amount of \$1,000,000 per claim and \$2,000,000 aggregate.

**Purpose/Justification:** The purpose of this request is to modify the approved project scope and increase the project budget to allow JSU to address critical infrastructure, mechanical, fire and life safety deficiencies at University Pointe through a phased implementation strategy, with buildings 100 and 200 identified as the highest priority. Approval of this item will allow the University to proceed with completion of the design phase and subsequent project implementation in accordance with Board Policy 902 and 904 while maintaining flexibility to sequence renovations in a manner that maximizes funding availability and enhances student safety.

**Project Scope:** University Pointe Residence Hall, built in 2002 with a bed capacity of 444, experienced closures of Buildings 500 and 600 due to infrastructure, mechanical,

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and fire and life safety deficiencies, which later expanded to the entire complex under an emergency declaration in January 2024. Following further assessment, the project scope has been revised to establish a phased renovation approach that prioritizes buildings 100 and 200 while allowing flexibility to address other buildings based on funding availability, construction sequencing, and student safety considerations.

Renovations across all phases may include building envelope improvements; interior renovations; mechanical, electrical, and plumbing system upgrades; and fire and life safety system enhancements, as required to meet current codes and operational standards. JSU intends to renovate the entire complex in phases as funding allows, starting with buildings at the front and progressing to the back.

Phase 1 will include Buildings 100 and 200 with targeted occupancy in Fall 2026 and will bring 72 beds back online. Phase 2 will include Buildings 300, 400, and 1000, while Phase 3, running concurrently, will address interior demolition of Buildings 500, 600, 700, 800, and 900, with Phase 3A completing interior build-out if funding permits. While this phasing plan represents the University’s current approach, adjustments to sequencing and timing may be made based on funding availability and projected completion schedules

**Project Initiation Date:** August 17, 2023

**Proposed Project Budget:**

	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Proposed Budget</b>	<b>Amount (+/-)</b>
Construction Costs	\$ 1,781,280.00	\$ 3,403,000.00	\$ 1,621,720.00
Architectural and Engineering Fees	\$ 160,315.20	\$ 408,360.00	\$ 248,044.80
Miscellaneous Project Costs	\$ 370,000.00	\$ 370,000.00	\$ 0.00
Furniture & Equipment Costs			
Contingency	\$ 89,064.00	\$ 743,101.00	\$ 654,037.00
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$ 2,400,659.20</b>	<b>\$ 4,924,461.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,523,801.80</b>

**Proposed Funding Source(s):** SB 2001, 1st Extraordinary Session Laws of 2025 – Reauthorization of SB 3002, Laws of 2023 (\$743,166.60); SB 2468 Laws of 2024 (4,181,294.40)

**Staff Recommendation:** Board staff recommends approval of this item.

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**APPROVAL OF OTHER REAL ESTATE REQUESTS**

**2. ASU – NAMING OF THE BIOTECHNOLOGY BUILDING AS THE “WILLIE SIMMONS BIOTECHNOLOGY BUILDING”**

**Agenda Request:** Alcorn State University requests approval to name the Biotechnology Building on its Lorman campus as the “Willie Simmons Biotechnology Building.”

**Purpose:** ASU is seeking to name the Biotechnology Building on its Lorman Campus in honor of Willie Simmons.

**Willie Simmons Bio:** Willie Simmons is entering his second term as Central District Transportation Commissioner, which covers 22 counties with a population of approximately one million people. At the first meeting of 2024, the Mississippi Transportation Commission named Commissioner Willie Simmons, Central Transportation District, as chairman.

During his first term as Transportation Commissioner, the Central District saw the completion and start of projects such as the completion of the Highway 49 project; I-20 Bridge Replacement project and the start of the State Route 19 project. Work will also begin on Phase 2 of the Greenville Bypass and the US 61/State Route 553 project has been completed.

Prior to being elected as Commissioner, Simmons served as a Mississippi State Senator for more than 26 years. For the last 8 years, he served as Chairman of the Senate Highways and Transportation Committee. Under his leadership in the Senate, over \$5B was spent throughout the state on the construction and upgrade of federal and state roads, county and municipal streets and bridges; also, millions of dollars on public transit, ports railroads, airports, and other infrastructure support systems. He played an integral role on projects such as the repair of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge in Jackson; the upgrade and repair of Highway 8 in Cleveland; the Highway 82 Bypass in Leland among many others. He also served as Chairman of the Corrections Committee and Vice Chairman of the Public Health and Welfare Committee.

Simmons served as Deputy Commissioner of Corrections prior to joining the Mississippi State Senate. Before that time, he served as a combat veteran of the Vietnam War. He is a graduate of Alcorn State University and received an M.S. Degree and Ed.S. Degree from Delta State University. He is married to Rose Sibley Simmons, and they have four children and ten grandchildren.

**.Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.**

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**3. JSU - APPROVAL TO AMENDED AN AGREEMENT WITH TRANE U.S., INC.**

**Agenda Item Request:** Jackson State University (JSU) requests approval to amend the service agreement with Trane U.S., Inc. (Trane) to correct a calculation discrepancy identified by the vendor. The resulting correction reduced the quarterly service invoice by approximately \$525 for FY 2025–2026 and produced corresponding reductions to the annual service costs for each remaining year of the contract.

**Contractor’s Legal Name:** Trane U.S., Inc.

**Specific Type of Contract:** This is an amendment to a service agreement.

**History of Contract:** The service agreement with Trane was reviewed and approved by the IHL Board of Trustees on June 19, 2025. The contract was executed with a contractual start date of July 1, 2025. This is an amendment to the approved IHL agreement.

**Purpose:** This Amendment will correct the total amount of the contract from \$5,426,920.00 to \$5,415,381.00, a reduction of \$11,539 over the life of the contract. Following a recent internal assessment conducted by Trane, the company identified a calculation discrepancy. The resulting correction reduced the quarterly service invoice by approximately \$525 for FY 2025–2026 and produced corresponding reductions to the annual service costs for each remaining year of the contract. All other terms remain unchanged.

**Scope of Work:** The IHL approved agreement includes a scope of work which authorizes Trane to provide comprehensive preventive maintenance, routine inspections, emergency repairs, and performance optimization for all HVAC systems in JSU’s non-residential buildings, ensuring compliance with industry standards.

**Term of Contract:** Start Date: July 1, 2025 - End Date: June 30, 2030.

**Termination Options:** This amendment does not include termination provisions. The previous IHL approved agreement may be terminated for the following reasons:

- Termination for Convenience with sixty (60) days' written notice;
- Termination for Default or Breach of Contract with sixty (60) days written notice, if breach is not cured within ten (10) days of receipt of written notice;
- Failure of Legislature Appropriation; and
- Force Majeure.

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**Contract Amount:** The amended total contract cost is \$5,415,381.00.

**Funding Source:** E&G Funds

**Staff Recommendation:** Legal Staff has reviewed this item for compliance with applicable law and found it to be acceptable. Board staff recommends approval of this item.

**4. UM - APPROVAL TO INCREASE BUDGET ON ENERGY SAVINGS PERFORMANCE CONTRACT (ESPC) PHASE 5 – PRIORITY SCOPE ITEMS FROM THE INVESTMENT GRADE AUDIT WITH TRANE U.S., INC.**

**Agenda Item Request:** The University of Mississippi (UM) requests approval to increase the budget for the ESPC Phase 5 project from \$11,526,585 to \$12,234,675 for an increase in the amount of \$708,090.

**Contractor's Legal Name:** Trane U.S., Inc.

**Specific Type of Contract:** Energy Savings Performance Contract

**History of Contract:** In November 2021, pursuant to the requirements of Mississippi Code 31-7-14, UM issued Request for Proposals (RFP) #679 to seek proposals from qualified energy services providers interested in developing a multi-phase energy savings performance contract (ESPC) program with UM at the Oxford campus. In January 2022, Trane was selected as the most qualified energy services provider and immediately mobilized to investigate energy savings opportunities across campus. A Phase 1 ESPC project, in the amount of \$6,174,316, to upgrade HVAC controls in three campus buildings was approved by the Board in October 2022 and completed construction in June 2023. A Phase 2 project, in the amount of \$10,310,118, to upgrade lighting and lighting controls in 97 campus buildings was approved by the Board in February 2023 and completed construction in January 2025. A Phase 3 project, in the amount of \$3,553,850, to purchase energy efficient equipment in support of project #207-498 was approved by the Board in August 2023. A Phase 4 project, in the amount of \$349,335, to upgrade and replace the house lighting in the Gertrude Ford Center, was approved by the Board in April 2024 and is now complete. This Phase 5 project, in the original amount of \$11,526,585, to complete several high-priority scopes identified in the investment grade audit, was approved by the Board in March 2025 and is currently under construction. This request seeks Board approval to increase the Phase 5 contract amount by \$708,090 to \$12,234,675, due to changes in the scope of work at Lamar Hall.

**Purpose:** The increase is requested due to a change in scope at Lamar Hall to completely replace the building automation system (BAS) controls as opposed to the

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partial controls upgrade and overlay that was originally in the contract. This change in scope and price does not result in any additional guaranteed energy savings over the life of the project, but it does result in additional capital cost avoidance savings of \$708,090 since this work would have been required within the next 12 months due to failures of the existing system.

**Scope of Work:** The proposed amendment modifies the scope of work for Lamar Hall to completely replace the existing BAS controls throughout the building instead of the partial controls upgrade and overlay that was originally planned. The existing BAS controls in Lamar Hall employ several wireless components that were originally put in place as a cost-savings measure due to the concrete construction design of the building. This wireless system has had numerous operational issues since its original installation and never really functioned properly, but until recently, the malfunctions were more of a nuisance with relatively minor impacts to building occupants. Within the last year, however, the system has begun to fail more frequently, with more significant impacts to building occupants, and we made the determination that a full system replacement is warranted.

**Term of Contract:** The construction period and guaranteed energy savings performance period for the contract remain unchanged. The construction period will be 18 months from the execution date of the contract, with a subsequent guaranteed energy savings performance period of 19 years.

**Termination Options:** The termination options under the contract remain unchanged. Either party may terminate the agreement without cause upon 10-day written notice for: (1) lack of funding appropriation, (2) force majeure, (3) changes in law, (4) damage to equipment or premises, (5) concealed or unknown conditions, (6) asbestos and hazardous materials, (7) irreconcilable claims for equitable adjustment, or (8) for UM's convenience. UM may also terminate upon 30 days' notice due to lack of funding.

**Contract Amount:** The amended total project budget will increase from \$11,526,585 to \$12,234,675, for a total increase of \$708,090. The construction cost will increase by \$708,090 to \$10,749,497 while the cost for annual measurement & verification and ongoing energy management support will remain unchanged.

**Funding Source:** The source of funds for this amendment will be internal replacement and renewal (R&R) funds.

**Staff Recommendation:** Legal Staff has reviewed this item for compliance with applicable law and found it to be acceptable. Board staff recommends approval of this item.

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**5. UM – NAMING OF THE RECENTLY COMPLETED OLE MISS SOFTBALL COMPLEX AS THE “ALISA AND MARK BOURNE STADIUM”**

**Agenda Request:** The University of Mississippi requests approval to change the name of the recently completed Ole Miss Softball Complex to the “Alisa and Mark Bourne Stadium.”

**Purpose:** To name the Ole Miss Softball Complex the “Alisa and Mark Bourne Stadium” in honor of a generous \$5M donation by Alisa and Mark Bourne. The Bournes have a long history of supporting Ole Miss Athletics and The University of Mississippi and Alisa is a longtime employee of UM.

**Alisa and Mark Bourne Bio:** Mark and Alisa Bourne are longtime Oxford, Mississippi, residents whose love for Ole Miss grew organically after relocating to North Mississippi from the Mississippi Gulf Coast in 2002. Though neither attended the University of Mississippi, their first visit to campus sparked a deep admiration for UM. They have been devoted Rebel fans ever since, attending countless athletic events over the past two decades.

Mark, a native of Metairie, Louisiana, is a financial adviser with Edward Jones Investments. His professional journey has spanned retail, entrepreneurship, and business ownership before ultimately leading him to a career in financial services. Alisa, a New Orleans native, built a career in education as a teacher and high school counselor before joining the Ole Miss staff in 2018 as an administrator in the Office of Outreach and Continuing Education.

Together, the Bournes are proud parents of Ole Miss alumnus Christian Malley ('09), a finance graduate and principal in Edward Jones' home office in St. Louis. Christian and his wife, Ashley, are the parents of two daughters, Harper and Harlow.

**Staff Recommendation:** Board staff recommends approval of this item.

**6. USM - APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A SUBLEASE AMENDMENT WITH SYSTEMS ANALYSIS & INTERGRATION, INC. DBA SYSTEMS INTEGRATED**

**Agenda Item Request:** The University of Southern Mississippi (USM) requests Board approval of an Amendment to the Sublease Agreement between USM and Systems Analysis & Integration, Inc. DBA Systems Integrated (Systems Integrated), which provides for the sublease of portions of port facilities at the Port of Gulfport.

**Sublandlord Legal Name:** University of Southern Mississippi

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**Subtenant Legal Name:** Systems Analysis & Integration, Inc. DBA Systems Integrated

**Specific Type of Contract:** This is an Amendment to a Sublease Agreement.

**History of Lease :** USM and Integer entered into a Sublease Agreement with an Effective Date of September 1, 2025. The initial Sublease Agreement was approved by the IHL Commissioner in accordance with IHL Board Policy 707.01 on August 25, 2025.

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Sublease Agreement is to provide shop space, covered area, and laydown area space for Systems Integrated's ongoing operations and facilitate collaboration with USM, government agencies and other entities, in blue economy related fields and activities. The Amendment will extend the term of the existing Sublease Agreement, by changing the current Sublease Expiration Date from February 28, 2026, to February 28, 2029.

**Scope of Work:** Systems Integrated subleases approximately 3,059.74 Rentable Area square feet for a total monthly rental rate of \$10,825.77.

**Term of the Sublease Agreement:** The Amendment will extend the Term of the Sublease Agreement until February 28, 2029.

**Termination Options:** In the event of any default beyond any applicable cure period, or if the sublease premises suffers a substantial casualty loss, this Agreement may be terminated.

**Sublease Amount:** The Sublease provides for a total monthly rental rate of \$10,825.77 currently, or approximately \$454,682.34 for the proposed Term as amended. The rent amount is subject to certain adjustments on an annual basis in accordance with CPI as well as maintenance and insurance costs incurred by USM.

**Staff Recommendation:** Legal Staff has reviewed this item for compliance with applicable law and found it to be acceptable. Board staff recommends approval of this item.

**7. USM – IHL 208-301 – RENOVATION OF REED GREEN COLISEUM – APPROVAL OF EXTERIOR DESIGN**

**Agenda Request:** The University of Southern Mississippi requests approval of the exterior design of the renovation of Reed Green Coliseum.

**Design Professional:** Weir Boerner Allin Architecture, PLLC

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**General Contractor:** TBD

**Construction Manager Advisor (CMA):** Codaray Construction, Inc.

**Insurance Coverage:** The design firm carries errors and omissions coverage in the amount of \$1,000,000 per claim and \$2,000,000 aggregate.

**Purpose:** The University of Southern Mississippi is seeking approval of the exterior rendering for the renovation of Reed Green Coliseum.

**Project Scope:** The University of Southern Mississippi is currently working on a project to renovate Reed Green Coliseum. The scope includes approximately 33,000 square feet of building additions, comprising of a New Coliseum Entrance at Fourth Street (approximately 10,000 square feet), New Training Facility (approximately 20,000 square feet), restroom renovations, loading dock expansion, arena improvements, and facility improvements, and site improvements.

**Funding Source(s):** Institutional Funds, City of Hattiesburg Tourism Tax, and Southern Mississippi Educational Building Corporation (SMEBC) Bond proceeds

**Project Budget:** \$43,170,506.50

The University of Southern Mississippi is acting in accordance with Board Policy §904(A), Board Approval, which requires the Board to approve the exterior design of the major buildings that have aesthetic impact on the overall campus, regardless of the cost of the project.

**Staff Recommendation:** Board staff recommends approval of this item.

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**Rendering 1: Reed Green Coliseum Renovation – Overall North Elevation**



**Rendering 2: Reed Green Coliseum Renovation – North Elevation**



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**Rendering 3: Reed Green Coliseum Renovation – Overall South Elevation**



**Rendering 4: Reed Green Coliseum Renovation – South Elevation**



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1. **MSU – APPROVAL TO HIRE BRADLEY ARANT BOULT CUMMINGS, LLP AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

Mississippi State University requests approval to enter into a contract with the law firm of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, LLP, as outside counsel, to provide services necessary in assisting the University with intellectual property matters. The term of the contract is two years effective February 28, 2026. The blended hourly rate for attorneys is \$315 and \$95 per hour for paralegal services. To help manage per-project costs, the university may pay the firm on a flat-rate basis to prepare and file patent applications. Flat-rate filings for provisional patent applications will not exceed \$5,000 per filing, and non-provisional applications will not exceed \$15,000 per filing. These rates will be negotiated on a case-by-case basis, and the most cost-efficient “rate-basis” for the university will be determined and agreed upon. The maximum amount payable under the term of the agreement is \$75,000. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$75 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$150 million. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board Staff recommends approval of this item.**

2. **MSU – APPROVAL TO HIRE BRUNINI GRANTHAM GROWER AND HEWES, PLLC AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

Mississippi State University requests approval to enter into a contract with the law firm of Brunini Grantham Grower and Hewes, PLLC to perform services necessary in assisting the university with general construction, architectural and real property-related matters. The term of the contract will be two years beginning March 19, 2026. The blended hourly rate for attorneys is \$350 per hour. Other hourly rates shall be \$125 for paralegal services performed by Marena Gray, a paralegal specializing in construction, and \$100 for all other paralegal services. The annual maximum amount payable under the 2-year term of the agreement is \$75,000 per year. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$15 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$30 million. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board Staff recommends approval of this item.**

3. **MSU – APPROVAL TO RENEW A CONTRACT WITH JONES WALKER, LLP AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

Mississippi State University requests approval to renew a contract with the law firm of Jones Walker, LLP to perform services necessary in assisting and advising the University on legal issues concerning the review of strategic financing options, tax-exempt bond

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arbitrage, and rebate compliance and the use of bond-financed building and other matters relating to bond issues. The term of the renewal will be two years beginning March 19, 2026. The hourly rates are \$165 for Special Counsel, \$225 for Partners, and \$60 for paralegal services. The annual maximum amount payable under the 2-year term of the agreement is \$100,000 per year. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$50 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$100 million. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board staff recommends approval of this item.**

**4. MSU – APPROVAL TO HIRE SUN SOVEREIGN LLC d/b/a WARE|IMMIGRATION AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

Mississippi State University requests approval to enter into a contract with Sun Sovereign, LLC d/b/a Ware|Immigration as outside counsel to provide services as necessary in preparing labor certification documents on behalf of the university for its employees who seek permanent residence status and related immigration matters. The term of the contract will be two years beginning March 21, 2026. Rates are set out in the fee schedule below. The annual maximum amount payable under the two-year term of the agreement is \$50,000 per year. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$3 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$3 million. This request is pending approval by the Office of the Attorney General.

**Schedule of Legal Fees for Academia**

Please note that the Firm charges an administrative fee of \$150 at the beginning of each case matter to cover copies, postage, and FedEx fees incurred during the Firm’s representation.

**Nonimmigrant Petitions and Processes**

H-1B petition	\$2750*
H-1B withdrawal	\$200
H-4 EAD	\$750
*Additional legal fee of up to \$2500 may apply for substantive requests for evidence	
TN petition or border/consulate processing	\$2750
E-3 petition or consular processing	\$2750
O-1 petition	\$8000
O-1 extension or amendment petition (firm handled original)	\$4000

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O-1 additional rush fee if case needs to be filed w/in 60 days	\$2000
J-1 waiver (IGA or hardship)	\$9000
J-1 waiver (Conrad)	\$9000
J-1 waiver (no objection)	\$2000*

\*Additional legal fee of \$2000 if sponsor views are requested

I-539 Fee for Dependents	\$1000
DS-160 Prep	\$1500* \$750/dependent

\*Does not include administrative processing

**Permanent Residence Process with Labor Certification: Faculty**

Special Handling labor certification	\$3000
If position must be readvertised	\$3500
Additional fee if audited	\$1500-\$2500
Immigrant petition (I-140)	\$2500-\$3000

**Permanent Residence Process with Labor Certification: Non-Faculty**

Labor certification	\$6500
Additional fee if audited	\$1500-2500
Additional fee if subject to supervised recruitment	\$3000
Immigrant petition	\$2500

**Permanent Residence Process: Extraordinary Ability/Outstanding Professors and Researchers and National Interest Waiver**

Outside Professors Immigrant petition	\$8000
Extraordinary Ability	\$10,000
National Interest Waiver	\$10,000
EA, OP/OR, or NIW RFE or NOID: case by case determination up to	\$2500

**Adjustment of Status (any Employment-Based Permanent Residence Matter)**

Adjustment of status (AOS) and related applications

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(I-765, I-131, etc.), principal	\$2500
“Standalone” AOS and related applications, principal	\$3000
Adjustment of status and related applications, spouse, if together with principal application and I-140	\$1500
Adjustment of status of each child, concurrent with I-140	\$1000
“Standalone” adjustment of status, spouse (not concurrent with I-140)	\$2000
“Standalone” adjustment of status, child	\$2000
I-485 J (standalone cases)	\$1500

**Employment Authorization and Advance Parole Renewal**

Employment Authorization Renewal per individual	\$ 750
Advance Parole Renewal per individual	\$ 750

**Marriage Based Permanent Residence**

Principal Applicant	\$4000
Each child, if any	\$2500

**Other Services**

AR-11 Change of Address	\$ 150
Interview rescheduling	\$ 150
Biometrics rescheduling per person	\$ 150
Advisory Opinion	\$1500
Expedite requests	\$ 500-750
Auto Revalidation Letter	\$ 200
Interview preparation	\$ 500
Interview attendance in New Orleans or Seattle	\$ 500
Interview attendance outside New Orleans or Seattle	\$1500

+ travel expenses

**General Legal Advice and Unusual Matters Which Fall Outside This Fee Schedule**

**Such matters will be billed at our hourly rates:**

Partners and Of Counsel	per hour billed	\$450
Associate Attorneys	per hour billed	\$300
Paralegals	per hour billed	\$150

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Pending approval of the Attorney General, Board staff recommends approval of this item.**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
CONSENT AGENDA  
PERSONNEL  
FEBRUARY 19, 2026**

**APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL ACTION REQUEST**

**1. Employment**

**Mississippi State University**

- Vergie M. Bash; *rehired retiree*; Academic Records Assistant, Dean of Business; salary \$26,469.78 per annum, pro rata; Designated Funds; 12-month contract; effective November 15, 2025
- David William Brand; *rehired retiree*; Senior Research Associate, Plant and Soil Sciences; salary \$32,430.00 per annum, pro rata; Designated Funds; 12-month contract; effective July 16, 2025
- David Layne Campbell; *rehired retiree*; Lecturer, ITIDCCL; salary \$30,121.74 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; effective August 16, 2025
- Robbie Janice Denson; *rehired retiree*; Teacher Intern Supervisor, Office of Clinical/Field-Based Instruction; salary \$23,476.77 per annum, pro rata; Designated Funds; 12-month contract; effective January 01, 2026
- Todd M Hall; *rehired retiree*; Network Architect, Information Tech Infrastructure; salary \$41,995.20 per annum, pro rata; Designated Funds; 12-month contract; effective September 22, 2025
- Sherman Wessel Jack; *rehired retiree*; Visiting Instructor, CVM Academic Affairs; salary \$36,576.93 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; effective June 30, 2025
- Cathy L. Lammons; *rehired retiree*; Special Projects Coordinator, MS State University Foundation; salary \$52,000.00 per annum, pro rata; Restricted Funds; 12-month contract; effective October 6, 2025
- Christopher D. McDaniel; *rehired retiree*; Lecturer, Poultry Science; salary \$28,000.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; effective August 16, 2025
- Tony Carnail Minor; *rehired retiree*; Campus Transit Bus Operator, Curriculum, Transportation; salary \$23,493.60 per annum, pro rata; Designated Funds; 12-month contract; effective November 01, 2025
- Anita C. Phillips; *rehired retiree*; Business Manager III, CVM Office of the Dean; salary \$40,165 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; effective November 4, 2025
- Mohsen Razzaghi; *rehired retiree*; Visiting Professor, Mathematics & Statistics; salary \$86,831.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; effective October 16, 2025
- Jeffrey Rupp; *rehired retiree*; Lecturer, Management & Information Systems; salary \$27,000.00 per annum, pro rata; Designated Funds; 9-month contract; effective June 04, 2025
- Roy D Seale; *rehired retiree*; Senior Research Associate, FWRC-Sustainable Bioproducts; salary \$31,200.00 per annum, pro rata; Restricted Funds; 12-month contract; effective October 10, 2025

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**Mississippi Valley State University**

- Jacqueline Gibson Preastly; Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs; salary \$121,620 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; effective January 5, 2026

2. **Change of Status**

**Alcorn State University**

- Sandra Barnes; *from* Acting Dean, School of Education & Psychology and Associate Provost of Undergraduate Education and Student Success; salary \$170,692 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; *to* Associate Provost of Undergraduate Education and Student Success; salary \$144,200 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; effective January 1, 2026
- Renardo Murray; *from* Associate Dean/Associate Professor/Interim Chair, Fine Arts; salary \$112,538 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; *to* Acting Dean, College of Arts and Sciences/Associate Professor/Interim Chair, Fine Arts; salary \$150,758 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; effective January 1, 2026

3. **Sabbatical**

**Mississippi University for Women**

- Travis Hagey; Associate Professor of Biology; salary \$57,036 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 13, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Dorothy Berglund; Department Chair and Professor of Family Science; salary \$76,995 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 10.5-month contract; no change in salary for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 13, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Valentin Bogdan; Professor of Music; salary \$61,132 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 11, 2027 to May 10, 2027; professional development

**University of Mississippi**

- Gay Marie Barnard; Associate Professor of Pharmacy Administration, Research Associate Professor in the Research Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Associate Professor of Public Health; salary \$156,000 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 19, 2027 to May 8, 2027; professional development
- Robert Barnard; Professor of Philosophy, salary \$93,667 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 19, 2027 to May 8, 2027, professional development

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- Sarah Bilsky; Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology, salary \$86,330 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Josh Bloomekatz; Associate Professor of Biology, salary \$91,999 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Luca Bombelli; Professor of Physics and Astronomy, salary \$126,500 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Lauren Bone Noble; Assistant Professor of Movement for the Actor, salary \$66,936 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development (Contingent on being awarded tenure by July 1.)
- John Steve Brewer; Professor of Biology, salary \$116,395 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 19, 2027 to May 8, 2027; professional development
- Richard Buchholz; Professor of Biology and Director of the Center for Biodiversity and Conservation Research; salary \$107,170 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 19, 2027 to May 8, 2027; professional development
- Lei Cao; Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering; salary \$155,782 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 19, 2027 to May 8, 2027; professional development
- Weixing Mark Chen; Chair and Professor of Public Policy Leadership; salary \$161,791 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Cindy Choi; Interim Chair and Associate Professor of Nutrition and Hospitality Management; salary \$95,122 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 19, 2027 to May 8, 2027; professional development
- Simone Delorme; Associate Professor of Anthropology and McMullan Associate Professor of Southern Studies; salary \$81,232 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 19, 2027 to May 8, 2027; professional development
- Adam Estes; Professor of Music; *from* salary \$84,765 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary \$42,382.50 per annum, pro rata for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to May 8, 2027; professional development
- Lauren Ferry; Assistant Professor of Political Science; salary \$76,282 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development (Contingent on being awarded tenure by July 1.)

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- Carolyn Freiwald; Professor of Anthropology; salary \$94,265 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Selim Giray; Associate Professor of Music and Director of Orchestral Studies; salary \$75,865 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 19, 2027 to May 8, 2027; professional development
- Md Sakib Hasan; Assistant Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering; salary \$115,960 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development (Contingent on being awarded tenure by July 1.)
- Jody Holland; Associate Professor of Public Policy Leadership; salary \$82,717 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 19, 2027 to May 8, 2027; professional development
- Toshikazu Ikuta; Associate Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders; salary \$99,503 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 19, 2027 to May 8, 2027; professional development
- Byunghyun Jang; Professor of Computer and Information Science; salary \$128,978 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Seongbong Jo; Associate Professor of Pharmaceuticals, Research Associate Professor in the Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences; salary \$146,130 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 19, 2027 to May 8, 2027; professional development
- Jonathan Klingler; Associate Professor of Political Science; salary \$81,321 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 19, 2027 to May 8, 2027; professional development
- Fei Lan; Associate Professor of Religion; salary \$75,155 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Marc Lerner; Associate Professor of History; *from* salary \$89,481 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary \$44,740.50 per annum, pro rata for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to May 8, 2027; professional development
- John Lobur; Professor of Classics; salary \$93,701 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Martial Longla; Associate Professor of Mathematics; salary \$88,365 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development

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- Joel Mobley; Professor of Physics and Astronomy and Undergraduate Program Coordinator; Senior Scientist I at the National Center for Physical Acoustics; salary \$106,500 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 19, 2027 to May 8, 2027; professional development
- Daniel Riche; Professor of Pharmacy Practice, Research Professor in the National Center for Natural Products Research and in the Research Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences; salary \$151,487 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Laura Sheppardson; Associate Chair and Associate Professor of Mathematics; salary \$90,542 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 19, 2027 to May 8, 2027; professional development
- James Taylor; Associate Professor of Nutrition and Hospitality Management; salary \$89,424 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Don Unger; Associate Professor of Writing and Rhetoric; salary \$74,121 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development
- D'Andre Walker; Associate Professor of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies; salary \$96,188 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Wen Wu; Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering; salary \$108,101 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 19, 2027 to May 8, 2027, professional development (Contingent on being awarded tenure by July 1.)
- Saijun Zhang; Associate Professor of Social Work; salary \$95,696 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary during sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 20, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development

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1. **MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE – APPROVAL OF STAGE I APPLICATION –  
DECLARATION OF INTENT/NEED TO ESTABLISH A NEW NURSING DEGREE**

In accordance with Mississippi Code (1991 Supp. § 37-129-1, et seq. (a) and (b) which *“empowers the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning to establish rules and regulations and promulgate uniform standards for accreditation of schools of nursing,”* approval is requested for Stage I Application- declaration of intent/need to establish a new degree program, the professional Doctor of Nursing Practice, at Mississippi College.

Mississippi College has completed the first stage in a three-stage process for establishing a new degree program, the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP). A completed application for Stage I has been submitted which declares their intent and provides supportive evidence of the need for the establishment of the DNP degree program at Mississippi College School of Nursing. The DNP degree will be a DNP Nurse Educator (for nurse educators who are looking to advance their careers in teaching and education) and DNP Executive Leadership (for nurses who want to lead at the organizational level rather than direct patient care focus). The application includes support from the University President, Provost and Executive Vice President, and the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of Mississippi College; the establishment of a local advisory committee; evidence of obtaining professional advice from qualified nurse educators; substantive evidence of need for establishment of a new degree program; current institutional catalog, philosophy/mission and goals of the institution; vision and purpose for establishing a new nursing degree program; evidence of full institutional accreditation; educational, physical and fiscal resources (budget); sources for potential students; nursing programs offerings in the state; data on potential faculty; availability of supporting academic courses; and a tentative timeline for development and implementation of the nursing program.

Notice of Mississippi College’s intent/need to establish a new professional nursing program was posted on the IHL website for thirty days, providing an avenue for public comments. Nursing deans and directors were given an opportunity to provide feedback regarding the proposed DNP degree program.

Approval of Stage I allows Mississippi College to progress to Stage II - Qualify for Initial Accreditation. Stage II includes development of curriculum, submission of reports, and a site visit by IHL. Following the site visit, a recommendation is provided to the Board of Trustees regarding Stage II, which allows the School of Nursing permission to admit students to the new degree program. Stage III- Qualify for Full Accreditation occurs during the final semester of the first graduating class, in conjunction with the national accrediting body.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board staff recommends approval of this item.**

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2. **UM – REQUEST TO ADD A NEW CENTER**

In accordance with Board policy 502 and the approved Academic Guidelines for establishing and modifying institutes and centers, the University of Mississippi requests approval for the creation of a new center.

*Center title:* **Center on Collegiate Gambling**

*Center location:* William Magee Institute for Student Wellbeing; Division of Student Affairs

*Scope:* Extensive Scope and Outreach

*Type:* Type 1 (Academic, Teaching, or Research)

*Effective date:* April 2026

*Total number of current faculty/ Total number of new faculty:* 5/1

*Total number of current staff/ Total number of new staff:* 1/3

*Anticipated annual cost:* \$700,000

*Funding source:* Institutional support, external grants, private donations

*Purpose:* Gambling among college students and gambling on collegiate sports are becoming increasingly prevalent behaviors with consequences for health, wellbeing, and achievement among young people before, during, and after college. The rapid growth of legalized sports betting and online gambling has heightened risks for college students and student athletes in Mississippi and nationwide. Despite these emerging challenges, there is no national research center in the U.S. dedicated solely to the study of collegiate gambling. The Center on Collegiate Gambling (CCG) will fill this gap by becoming the first research center in the country focused exclusively on understanding, preventing, and mitigating gambling-related harms in student and young adult populations.

The CCG will generate high-quality, interdisciplinary research; inform institutional and state policy; and advance prevention and treatment strategies related to gambling. Establishing the center within the William Magee Institute for Student Wellbeing (WMI) at the University of Mississippi allows for a natural extension of the WMI's mission to promote student mental health and address addictive behaviors among students. The CCG will also position the University of Mississippi and the state of Mississippi as leaders in healthy and responsible gambling behavior.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board staff recommends approval of this item.**

3. **UM – REQUEST TO ADD NEW ACADEMIC DEGREE PROGRAMS**

Board Policy 502: New Academic Programs and Units states: “Requests to establish new degree programs, colleges, schools, departments, institutes, and centers will be considered by the Board on a schedule and in accordance with guidelines and procedures to be

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*determined by the Commissioner after consultation with the Institutional Executive Officers.”*

In accordance with Board Policy 502, the University of Mississippi requests approval to establish new academic degree programs.

**A. Bachelor of Science (BS) in Anthropology**

*CIP code: 45.0201*

*Total credit hours: 120*

*Effective date: August 2026*

*Incremental, five-year cost of implementation: \$0*

*Potential new, five-year revenue: \$592,956*

*Unit where academic program will be housed: Department of Sociology & Anthropology*

*Number of students expected to enroll in first five years: 30*

*Number of students expected to graduate in first five years: 5*

*Program description:* The Bachelor of Science in Anthropology provides students with a strong foundation in the scientific study of humanity, emphasizing empirical research, laboratory methods, and quantitative analysis. The program complements the university’s existing BA in Anthropology by strengthening students' technical, analytical, and methodological competencies across archaeology, biological anthropology, and cultural anthropology. Graduates are prepared for professional work and advanced study in fields such as archaeology, forensics, bioanthropology, and applied fields such as environmental or health sciences, public health, and user experience research.

*Institution(s) offering similar program(s):* No other IHL institutions offer a BS in Anthropology; Common in SEC and other R1 institutions

*National and state supply and demand:* While the state of Mississippi's direct employment numbers for archaeologists/anthropologists are relatively small (consistent with many states), archaeology and cultural heritage work in Mississippi is driven by federal and state compliance, environmental impact assessments, public history initiatives, and museum/heritage institutions. This creates real demand for graduates with strong technical and interpretive skills with ties to local project areas.

Applied cultural anthropology and bioanthropology roles are often embedded in broader program units serving the state of Mississippi (public health, urban planning, community engagement). The market demand is not always labeled "anthropologist" but shows up in grant-funded program staffing, outreach, public programming, and growing private sector cultural liaison roles.

MS Projected Growth 2022-2032 (Mississippi Department of Employment Security)

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Anthropologists and Archeologists: 12%  
Anthropology and Archeology Teachers, Postsecondary: 33.3%  
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations: 7.2%  
Social Science Research Assistants: 17.5%  
Community and Social Service Occupations: 10.6%  
Healthcare Support Occupations: 17.5%  
Forensic Science Technicians: 10.4%

**B. Bachelor of Science (BS) in Sociology**

*CIP code:* 45.1101

*Total credit hours:* 120

*Effective date:* August 2026

*Incremental, five-year cost of implementation:* \$0

*Potential new, five-year revenue:* \$432,952

*Unit where academic program will be housed:* Department of Sociology & Anthropology

*Number of students expected to enroll in first five years:* 20

*Number of students expected to graduate in first five years:* 5

*Program description:* Sociology is the scientific study of human social life. The B.S. in sociology provides students with the basic tools of sociological analysis including social research methods (both quantitative and qualitative) and theory, but with a greater emphasis on computational social science and quantitative analysis. The program complements the university's existing BA in Sociology by strengthening students' technical, analytical, and methodological competencies. Graduates are prepared for professional work and advanced study in fields such as data science, medicine, population health, and applied fields such as environmental or health sciences, public health, user experience research, and applied statistics.

*Institution(s) offering similar program(s):* MSU offers a BS in Applied Sociology; USM offers a BS in Sociology

*National and state supply and demand:* Given the additional methods training provided by the BS degree in Sociology, students will qualify for job openings in research and data analysis. Increasingly firms are seeking out individuals who are not just technically proficient but also have critical thinking and evaluation skills. A BS in Sociology provides a clear applied component to the technical skill seen in a Bachelor of Science degree. In terms of immediate employment following the completion of their four-year degree, BS graduates will be better positioned for jobs in epidemiology (33% projected growth), community health, social service managers and other health care support occupations, all jobs with around 15% projected growth in the state of Mississippi in the next 10 years. Social and Human service assistants as well as any type of applied research job such as analysts in research, sales, marketing, or fundraising will be jobs immediately within their occupational purview. There

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is an increased push for consulting firms to hire individuals with social science expertise as data-driven solutions need to be accompanied by an understanding of people, systems, and analysis.

MS Projected Growth for Sociology Related Careers in 2022-2032

(Mississippi Department of Employment Security)

- Sociology Teachers, Postsecondary (7.1 %)
- Social and Community Service Managers (16%)
- Social and Human Service Assistants (14.7%)
- Epidemiology (33%)
- Community Health Workers (17.6%)
- Community and Social Service Specialists (13%)
- Health Educators (5%)
- Urban and Regional Planners (11.3%)
- Computer and Information Research Scientists (23.2%)
- Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors (9.7%)
- Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors (12.1 %)

The BS positions students to pursue a range of interests, including an entryway into the burgeoning field of AI, which is increasingly becoming a priority in hiring and expansion. The quantitative data analysis training that our B.S graduates will receive result in a myriad of different avenues in a range of industries such as policy analysis, consulting, and data science.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board staff recommends approval of these items.**

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FINANCE & BUDGET  
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1. **MSU – REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION FOR A TEMPORARY EXCLUSION OF A KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL REGARDING ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED CONTRACT INFORMATION UNDER THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL SECURITY PROGRAM**

**Agenda Item Request:** Pursuant to 32 CFR Part 117 National Industrial Security Program Operating Manual (NISPOM dated 12/21/2020), Mississippi State University request the Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) Board of Trustees acknowledge and affirm the temporary exclusion of the Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development from access to classified contract information. This Vice President position is responsible for the National Industrial Security Program (NISP) and requires access to classified contract information to direct the administration of the program. Therefore, the person filling the position must have a security clearance at the same level of the entity (MSU). If the individual does not possess classified access eligibility they must be excluded until their personal clearance level is established.

Upon affirmation of the temporary exclusion, MSU will be in adherence to 32 CFR Part 177.9(g) and protect its Facility Security Clearance (FCL). Having the FCL designation makes MSU eligible for classified contracts from the Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, NASA and other agencies under NISP. The NISP was established by Executive Order in 1993 for the protection of classified information. Title 32 of the United States Code Part 117 The NISPOM Rule prescribes the requirements, restrictions and other safeguards to prevent unauthorized disclosure of classified information.

The affirmation follows below.

**Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning**

**Affirm Exclusion Resolution for Key Management Personnel**

I, Dr. Alfred Rankins, Jr., do hereby certify that I am Commissioner, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL), a State Agency organized and existing under the laws of the State of Mississippi, and that the following is a true and correct copy of an affirmation adopted by the Board of Trustees.

**WHEREAS**, 32 CFR Part 117.7(c) defines other Key Management Personnel (KMP) as any officials who have direct or indirect authority to influence or decide issues affecting the management or operations of the contractor or issues affecting classified contract performance. As a result, the Vice President for Research and Economic Development meets the requirements for eligibility for access to classified information established for a contractor facility security clearance and is considered essential KMP;

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**WHEREAS**, Dr. Scott Willard, has been named the Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development at Mississippi State University and his eligibility determination is pending; and

**WHEREAS**, 32 CFR Part 117.9(g)(4) requires the governing board of a contractor to affirm the temporary exclusion of KMP while in the process of an eligibility determination;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT AFFIRMED** that Dr. Scott Willard, the Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development at Mississippi State University, is hereby excluded from access to classified information. Pending a final determination of eligibility for access to classified information by the U.S. Government, Dr. Scott Willard will not require, will not have, and can be effectively and formally excluded from access to all classified information disclosed to the entity.

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Dr. Alfred Rankins, Jr., Commissioner  
Mississippi Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. Board staff recommends approval of this item.**

2. **SYSTEM-REQUEST TO AMEND FISCAL YEAR 2027 PROPOSED FUNDING PRIORITIES**

Proposed funding priorities are required for the 2027 Legislative Budget Request (LBR). Proposed funding priority for Alcorn State University Agricultural Units revised to \$9,020,613.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Based on Board Policy 701.03, Budget and Planning Priorities, the Commissioner, after consultation with the Institutional Executive Officers, shall prepare and submit an annual statement of system planning and budget priorities for consideration and approval by the Board. Board staff recommends approval of this item.**

3. **UM – REQUEST TO (1) INITIATE THE BOND PROCESS FOR \$245 MILLION FOR U.M. EDUCATIONAL BUILDING CORPORATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING THE COST OF CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES WHICH WILL INCLUDE, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, ENLARGEMENT, IMPROVEMENT, OR EQUIPPING OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS, LAND, AND FACILITIES ON THE MAIN CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI LOCATED IN OR NEAR UNIVERSITY, MISSISSIPPI AND OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI, INCLUDING THE DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL OF EXISTING STRUCTURES**

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**AND THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, EQUIPPING, AND LANDSCAPING OF NEW FACILITIES, INCLUDING APPROPRIATE EXTERNAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS SUCH AS PARKING, UTILITIES, STREETS AND DRIVES, FUNDING CAPITALIZED INTEREST, IF NECESSARY, AND TO PAY THE COSTS OF THE ISSUANCE, SALE AND DELIVERY OF SAID BONDS, (2) REVIEW THE FINANCIAL ADVISOR’S REPORT, AND (3) APPROVE BOND COUNSEL, FINANCIAL ADVISOR AND SENIOR UNDERWRITER**

**Agenda Item Request:** The University of Mississippi requests approval under Section 906 of the IHL Bylaws to issue taxexempt and/or taxable bonds through the University of Mississippi Educational Building Corporation (UMEBC). Debt issuance not to exceed \$245 million. The loan term will not exceed 30 years. Funds will be used to finance building renovations, new construction and select demolition work for various infrastructure, renovation and new construction projects to enhance existing campus buildings and provide new academic space. Projects may include, but not be limited to, a new School of Accountancy building, renovations and new construction for a new early learning and evaluation center, multiple infrastructure projects (mechanical plants, road work, plumbing, etc.), the renovations and new construction for new music and theater arts facilities, the renovation of various research labs and other improvements to support the research master plan, and the renovation of other academic buildings.

Combined project funding = \$332,375,000:

\$38,025,608 in private gifts  
\$50,163,239 in currently appropriated state funding  
\$10,801,003 in internal cash reserves  
\$233,385,150 in UMEBC bond proceeds

UM also requests the Board review and approve the financial advisor’s report provided by Hilltop Securities.

Following are the professionals:

- Financial Advisor – Hilltop Securities
- Bond Counsel – Butler Snow LLP
- Senior Underwriters – Raymond James & Associates, Inc.

Bond counsel will be compensated at \$1.90 per \$1,000 dollars for the first \$25,000,00 of bonds issued and \$1.15 per \$1,000 dollars of bonds issued over and above \$25,00,000.

**History:** The Board previously approved this resolution in February 2024 allowing the issuance of taxexempt and/or taxable bonds through the University of Mississippi Educational Building Corporation (UMEBC), not to exceed \$245 million. At that time, UM was planning to use a portion of the proceeds to fund a new student housing facility. Due to a number of factors, including failed bid processes due to excessive costs, the

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student housing project was moved into a public private partnership model, which the Board has approved and construction is underway. This resolution is for the same maximum amount and the proceeds will be used for some of the same projects and several new projects as determined; mainly the new School of Accountancy building.

**Specific Type of Contract:** Longterm, fixed rate bonds.

**Purpose:** To initiate the Bond Process for \$245 Million for U.M. Educational Building Corporation for the purpose of financing building renovations, new construction and select demolition work for various infrastructure, renovation and new construction projects to enhance existing campus buildings and provide new academic buildings/space. Projects may include, but not be limited to, a new School of Accountancy building, renovations and new construction for a new early learning and evaluation center, multiple infrastructure projects (mechanical plants, road work, plumbing, etc.), the renovations and new construction for new music and theater arts facilities, the renovation of various research labs and other improvements to support the research master plan, and the renovation of other academic buildings.

**Scope of Work:** The bond issue includes funds for demolition, construction, and renovation of a variety of essential campus projects listed above. Hilltop Securities is the Financial Advisor. Bond Counsel is Butler Snow, LLP, and the Senior Underwriter is Raymond James & Associates, Inc.

**Term of Contract:** Longterm bonds will be issued with maturities up to 30 years.

**Termination Options:** The bond issue documents contain redemption provisions which can be used in case of market changes.

**Contract Amount:** UM expects to issue up to a maximum of \$245 million par value, fixed rate bonds. Proceeds from the bond issue will support the project funds, capitalized interest, cost of issuance and the underwriter's discount. Based on the Financial Advisor's report dated December 17, 2025, the proposed debt amortization will have an average annual debt payment of \$16,657,975 at an expected all in true interest cost of 4.76 percent.

**Funding Source for Contract:** The debt will be serviced with tuition revenue and the ability to service the debt is supported by the Financial Advisors report.

**Contractor Selection Process:** Underwriters, financial advisor and bond counsel were selected based on past experience and the firms' unsolicited proposals.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Board staff recommends approval of this item.

4. UMMC- REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING LEASE WITH MADISON HMA, LLC

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**Agenda Item Request:** The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) requests to enter into a Lease agreement with **Madison HMA, LLC** (Madison HMA) in Canton, Mississippi. The lease will be for approximately 3,605 square feet of clinical and office space located in the Medical Office Building located adjacent to UMMC's Madison campus, and will be used for UMMC rehabilitation services providers and staff to support the care needs of patients in the surrounding areas. *Pursuant to IHL Policy 707.03 Approval of Prepayment of Goods and Services, UMMC also requests a waiver to allow for the prepayment of the monthly rent in advance each month.*

**History of Contract:** This is a new Medical Office Building lease. UMMC currently leases clinic space in other suites within the building. The location and clinic footprint are well suited to meet the needs of the practice and its patients, particularly given the close proximity to UMMC Madison, which provides convenient access to any rehabilitation services patients may require.

**Specific Type of Contract:** This is a new Medical Office Building lease.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this lease agreement is to lease approximately 3,605 square feet of office space in the Medical Office Building located on UMMC's Madison campus, for UMMC rehabilitation providers and staff.

**Scope of Work:** Under the lease agreement, Madison HMA will provide:

- 3,605 square feet of medical office space;
- utilities, janitorial/housekeeping services, maintenance, real property insurance, medical waste disposal, landscaping and Ad Valorem taxes; and
- non-exclusive use of all common areas.

**Term of Contract:** The term of the lease shall be five (5) years, beginning on March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2031.

**Termination Options:**

- by UMMC in the event Madison HMA causes any utility service interruption lasting longer than 30 consecutive days;
- by either party upon no less than 365-day written notice to the other party;
- by either party in the event of total destruction of the building;
- by either party in the event of a partial destruction of the premises and Madison HMA does not elect to make repairs or if the repairs cannot be made timely.
- automatically if the whole of the premises or building is rendered unusable by UMMC shall be taken under the power of eminent domain, condemnation or by deed in lieu of foreclosure or otherwise;
- by either party in the event of a partial taking under power of eminent domain, by giving the other party written notice within 30 days after receipt of notice of partial taking;

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- by either party in the event of a reduction in funds of UMMC;
- by either party in the event the other party commits an act of default under the lease by giving the defaulting party at least ten (10) days prior written notice;
- by either party in the event any legislation, regulation or government policy is passed or adopted, the effect of which would cause either party to be in violation of such laws due to the existence of any provision of the lease, and the parties fail to agree upon modified terms within 90 days;
- by either party immediately upon breach of any of the following ongoing representations and warranties that it:
  - is not currently excluded, debarred, or otherwise ineligible to participate in any federal health care programs or any state healthcare programs;
  - has not been convicted of a criminal offense related to the provision of healthcare items or services and have not been excluded, debarred, or otherwise declared ineligible to participate in the Federal Healthcare Programs or any state healthcare programs; and
  - is not under investigation or otherwise aware of any circumstances which may result in the party being excluded from participating in the Federal Healthcare Programs or any state healthcare programs.
- by either party in the event of an adverse change in IHL policy that causes this lease to not be in compliance with IHL policy, and the parties fail to agree upon modified terms within 90 days;
- by either party upon written notice in the event any provision of the lease is held to be invalid; and
- by either party in the event of an adverse change in law and the parties fail to agree upon modified terms within 60 days.

**Contract Amount:** The estimated total cost of the lease is \$675,000 over the five (5) year term. UMMC's initial base rent is \$34.36 per square feet with an annual increase of two-percent (2%) beginning in year 2.

**Funding Source for Contract:** The agreement will be funded by patient revenue.           

**Contractor Selection Process:** Madison HMA, LLC is the lessor of all of the clinic and office space in the Medical Office Building adjacent to UMMC Madison. UMMC has determined this location to be the optimum location for its operations for both patient care and educational training.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. Board staff recommends approval of this item.

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**Note:** Project numbers beginning with the prefix "GS" designate projects that the Bureau of Building provides management oversight for and are funded partially or wholly with state Bureau of Building bond revenues. Project numbers beginning with the prefix "IHL" designate projects that are funded from university self-generated sources including but not limited to donations, fees, and grants.

APPROVAL OF BUDGET INCREASES AND/OR CHANGES OF SCOPE/FUNDING SOURCE(S)

**IHL PROJECTS** .....

**1. MSU – IHL 205-360 – LEO SEAL JR. FOOTBALL COMPLEX ADDITION**

**Project Request:** Mississippi State University requests approval to increase the budget for the Leo Seal Jr., Football Complex Addition project from \$3,000,000 to \$11,000,000 for an increase in the amount of \$8,000,000.

**Current Project Phase:** Design Phase

**Design Professional:** CDFL Architects + Engineers, PA

**General Contractor:** Brasfield & Gorrie, LLC (Construction Manager At Risk)

**Insurance Coverage:** The design firm carries errors and omissions coverage in the amount of \$2,000,000 per claim and \$2,000,000 aggregate.

**Purpose/Justification:** The budget increase is needed primarily to cover early procurement of materials and equipment with extended lead times.

**Project Scope:** The Leo Seal Jr. Complex Building opened in 2013 and is the home of Mississippi State’s Football Program. Currently the Leo Seal Jr. Football Complex is an all-encompassing football training and office facility spanning over 80,000 square feet. The purpose of the project is to expand and modernize the existing facility over three phases.

Phase A: Includes utility relocations and realignment of the natural grass practice fields to make way for the new indoor practice facility.

Phase B: Includes the construction of the new indoor practice facility, a sports science wing, connections to the existing building, and selective renovations.

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Phase C: Includes select interior renovations and improvements to student athlete and staff spaces.

**Project Initiation Date:** November 21, 2024

**Proposed Project Budget:**

	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Proposed Budget</b>	<b>Amount (+/-)</b>
Construction Costs	\$ 0.00	\$ 7,500,000.00	\$ 7,500,000.00
Architectural and Engineering Fees	\$ 3,000,000.00	\$ 3,000,000.00	\$ 0.00
Miscellaneous Project Costs	\$ 0.00	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 125,000.00
Furniture & Equipment Costs	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Contingency	\$ 0.00	\$ 375,000.00	\$ 375,000.00
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$ 3,000,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 11,000,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 8,000,000.00</b>

**Proposed Funding Source(s):** Athletics Designated Funds

**Staff Recommendation:** Board staff recommends approval of this item.

**APPROVAL OF OTHER REAL ESTATE REQUESTS**

**2. MSU – IHL 205-360 – LEO SEAL JR. FOOTBALL COMPLEX ADDITION AND RENOVATION – EXTERIOR DESIGN APPROVAL**

**Agenda Request:** Mississippi State University requests approval of the exterior design of the Leo Seal Jr., Football Complex Addition and Renovation

**Design Professional:** CDFL Architects + Engineers, PA

**General Contractor:** Brasfield & Gorrie, LLC (Construction Manager at Risk)

**Insurance Coverage:** The design firm carries errors and omissions coverage in the amount of \$2,000,000 per claim and \$2,000,000 aggregate.

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**Purpose:** Mississippi State University requests approval of exterior design for the project.

**Project Scope:** The Leo Seal Jr. Complex Building opened in 2013 and is the home of Mississippi State's Football Program. Currently the Leo Seal Jr. Football Complex is an all-encompassing football training and office facility spanning over 80,000 square feet. The purpose of the project is to expand and modernize the existing facility over three phases.

Phase A: Includes utility relocations and realignment of the natural grass practice fields to make way for the new indoor practice facility.

Phase B: Includes the construction of the new indoor practice facility, a sports science wing, connections to the existing building, and selective renovations.

Phase C: Includes select interior renovations and improvements to student athlete and staff spaces.

**Funding Source(s):** Athletics Designated Funds

**Proposed Project Budget:** \$11,000,000.00

Mississippi State University is acting in accordance with Board Policy §904(A), Board Approval, which requires the Board to approve the exterior design of the major buildings that have aesthetic impact on the overall campus, regardless of the cost of the project.

**Staff Recommendation:** Board staff recommends approval of this item.

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Rendering 1: Leo Seal Jr., Football Complex Addition and Renovation



Rendering 2: Leo Seal Jr., Football Complex Addition and Renovation



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Rendering 3: Leo Seal Jr., Football Complex Addition and Renovation



*State*

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY | LEO SEAL JR. FOOTBALL COMPLEX ADDITION & RENOVATION  
RMC SUBMISSION • PR 205-300 • DECEMBER 3, 2025

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1. **MSU – APPROVAL TO HIRE ADAMS AND REESE, LLP AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

Mississippi State University requests approval to enter into a contract with the law firm of Adams and Reese, LLP, as outside counsel, to provide services necessary in assisting the University with oil, gas and mineral rights. The term of the contract is one year effective February 1, 2026. The hourly rate for attorneys is \$420 and the maximum amount payable under the term of the agreement is \$30,000. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$1 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$2 million. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board Staff recommends approval of this item.**

2. **UM – APPROVAL TO HIRE BUTLER SNOW LLP AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

The University of Mississippi requests approval to enter into a contract for legal services with Butler Snow LLP as Bond Counsel to the University of Mississippi Educational Building Corporation (“EBC”) to perform services including: preparing necessary bond documents; reviewing documents with respect to the tax exempt status of tax-exempt bonds; coordinating tasks and the delivery of documents from other key parties involved in the transaction; dealing with rating agencies as necessary; coordinating the closing; and providing the standard Bond Counsel opinion with respect to the tax exempt status of the tax-exempt EBC Bonds and enforceability of the bond documents. The term of the agreement is one-year effective February 19, 2026 with an option to renew for one additional year by mutual agreement of all parties. Bond Counsel fee is based upon numerous factors, including but not limited to the size of the financing, the complexity of the transaction, and the schedule for closing. The fee will be \$1.15 per \$1,000 of bonds issued. This is based on consummation of financing in the current proposed manner and is subject to adjustment in the event of material modifications to the financing structure. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$100 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$200 million. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board Staff recommends approval of this item.**

3. **UMMC – APPROVAL TO SETTLE TORT CLAIM**

The University of Mississippi Medical Center is seeking board approval for settlement of tort claim number 3726.

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1. **SYSTEM – DISCUSSION OF ELECTION OF A VICE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE TERM BEGINNING MAY 8, 2026**

Pursuant to Board Policy 301.02 Election of Officers, a new Vice President of the Board shall be elected to take office on May 8, 2026 unless the Board chooses to postpone the election. Applicable Board policies regarding the terms of officers and the election of officers are shown below.

**301.01 OFFICERS OF THE BOARD**

A. **PRESIDENT:**

There shall be a president elected by the Board from its membership. A class of Trustees shall consist of those Trustees who take office on the same date, or those whose terms as trustees end on the same date. A member of a class may serve more than one term, if elected. The length of a term shall be one year. The president of the Board may not immediately succeed himself/herself as president after having served a full term. The president of the Board shall preside at all meetings of the Board; he or she shall be an ex officio member of all standing and special committees; he or she shall, with the Commissioner, execute such instruments and contracts as may be ordered by the Board; he or she shall perform such duties as usually pertain to this office and such other duties as may be assigned by the Board; and he or she shall be governed in his action by the usual parliamentary procedure. When the presiding officer has voted and the result is a tie, he cannot vote again to break the tie.

B. **VICE PRESIDENT:**

There shall be a vice president elected by the Board from its membership. A vice president shall serve until completion of the term of the president that the vice president will succeed. The vice president shall preside at meetings of the Board in the absence or disability of the president.

The vice president of the Board shall automatically succeed to the office of president after having served a term as vice president.

The vice president shall become president upon the resignation, removal, death or incapacity of the president.

**301.02 ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The Board of Trustees shall elect its officers at the meeting of the Board held three months before new officers are to take office, unless no meeting is held during that month. However, the Board may vote, if it so chooses, to hold the election of officers at another meeting of the Board.

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1. UM – INTENT TO OFFER AN EXISTING DEGREE PROGRAM BY DISTANCE LEARNING

*Board Policy 509 states: “All distance learning courses and programs shall be in accord with Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Principles of Accreditation and Council of Regional Accrediting Commissions Interregional Guidelines for the Evaluation of Distance Education.*

*Unless otherwise provided, all Board and university policies, standards, and guidelines for on and off campus instruction apply to distance learning.”*

In accordance with Board policy, the University of Mississippi submits the intent to offer already approved degree programs by distance learning to the Board for information.

*Degree program title: **Master of Science (MS) in Exercise Science***

*Total credit hours: 31*

*CIP code, sequence: 31.0505, 4431*

*Cost to offer by distance learning: \$0*

*Effective date: August 2026*

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Board staff recommends these items be accepted as information.

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1. UMMC – MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES (ITS), AS A CONTRACTING AGENT FOR UMMC, ENTERED INTO AN ORDER FORM TO THE AGREEMENT WITH WORKDAY, INC.

**Agenda Item Request:** On December 5, 2025, ITS as the contracting agent for UMMC, entered into Order Form 519814 under the current Master Subscription Agreement with **Workday, Inc.** (Workday). Order Form 519814 is a 25-month subscription order for Worker Profile Management software.

**Contractor's Legal Name:** Workday, Inc.

**Specific Type of Contract:** This order form is to the current Master Subscription Agreement.

**Purpose:** The purpose of Order Form 519814 is for the new Worker Profile Management software used to support visibility into extended workforce information, candidate information, onboarding, assignment history, and reporting.

**Scope of Work:** Under Order Form 519814 Workday will provide the system and technical support as outlined.

**Term of Contract:** The term of Order Form 519814 is for the period December 5, 2025 through January 18, 2028. The term of the Master Subscription Agreement will remain unchanged and will expire January 18, 2028.

**Contract Amount:** The total cost for Order Form 519814 is \$159,105. The total cost of the Master Subscription will now be \$27,563,948.60.

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**SYSTEM: REAL ESTATE ITEMS APPROVED SUBSEQUENT TO THE  
JANUARY 22, 2026, BOARD MEETING SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

**NOTE: THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD'S REAL ESTATE AND FACILITIES STAFF IN ACCORDANCE WITH BOARD POLICY §904(A) BOARD APPROVAL:**

**Change Order Approval Note: No change orders approved by Board staff, as reflected within any of the following informational agenda items, increase the Board approved total project budget. The total project budget as approved by the Board provides for a contingency fund, which allows for an increase in the construction budget of between five and ten percent. Any increase in the total project budget caused by a change order, would require Board approval and could not be approved by Board staff until the budget increase is approved by the Board.**

**ALCORN STATE UNIVERSITY**

**1. ASU-GS 101-332 MATH & SCIENCE BUILDING RENOVATIONS**

**Approval Request #1: Construction Documents**

Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by Allred Stolarski Architects, P.A.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 15, 2026

**Approval Request #2: Advertise**

Board staff approved request to re-advertise for receipt of bids.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 15, 2026

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**2. ASU-GS 101-333 WHITNEY COMPLEX RENOVATION & EXPANSION**

**Approval Request #1: Construction Documents**

Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by CDFL Architects + Engineers, P.A.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 15, 2026

**Approval Request #2: Advertise**

Board staff approved request to re-advertise for receipt of bids.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 15, 2026

**3. ASU-GS 101-341 – HVAC IMPROVEMENTS HEERF MATH & SCIENCE**

**Approval Request 1: Change Order #4**

Board staff approved Change Order #4 in the amount of \$21,894.00 and thirty (30) additional days as submitted by Brown & Root Industrial Services, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 2, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #4 includes the following: Raise primary power to transformer, including new primary wire and connections to pad mounted transformer to accommodate a raised equipment pad.

Justification: This change order was necessary due to User/Owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Four (4) total change orders in the amount of \$107,055.00.

Project Initiation Date: August 17, 2023

Design Professional: Engineering Resource Group, Inc.

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General Contractor: Brown & Root Industrial Services, LLC  
Total Project Budget: \$5,577,304.68

**4. ASU-GS 101-344B – JOC HVAC IMPROVEMENTS HEERF – WALTER WASHINGTON**

**Approval Request 1: Change Order #2**

Board staff approved Change Order #2 in the amount of \$6,078.00 and zero (0) additional days as submitted by Brown & Root Industrial Services, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 2, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #2 includes the following: Infilling of existing openings in mechanical room gyp board walls.

Justification: This change order was necessary due to Latent Job Site Conditions and User/Owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Two (2) total change orders in the amount of \$99,080.00.

Project Initiation Date: August 17, 2023

Design Professional: Dewberry Engineers, Inc.

General Contractor: Brown & Root Industrial Services, LLC

Total Project Budget: \$5,874,345.79

**DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY**

**5. DSU-GS 102-280 – APRA INFRASTRUCTURE - WATER COLLECTION & CONVEYANCE**

**Approval Request: Change Order #3**

Board staff approved Change Order #3 in the amount of \$36,964.40 and one hundred twenty-seven (127) additional days to the contract of Don M. Barron Contractor, Inc.

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Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 5, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #3 includes the following: installation of a new manhole, installation of sewer mainline with invert deeper than 7', re-routing water line cross-bore through gravity sewer mainline, abandoning a portion of existing gravity sewer mainline, replacing 10" sewer mainline through pipe burst methods, reconnection of service following pipe burst, and a credit for the removal of remaining quantities not being utilized.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions, and user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Three (3) change orders for a total amount of \$37,779.23.

Project Initiation Date: March 21, 2024

Design Professional: W.L. Burle Engineers, P.A.

General Contractor: Don M. Barron Contractor, Inc.

Total Project Budget: \$1,925,000.00

**6. DSU-GS 102-292A – HAIL DAMAGE REPAIRS**

**Approval Request: Schematic Design Documents**

Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by Shafer Zahner Zahner, PLLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 4, 2026

Project Initiation Date: June 20, 2024

Design Professional: Shafer Zahner Zahner, PLLC

General Contractor: TBD

Total Project Budget: \$2,800,000.00

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MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

7. MSU-IHL 205-328B NEW RESIDENCE HALL (AZALEA)

**Approval Request: Change Order #7**

Board staff approved Change Order #7 in the amount of \$205,892.00 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Roy Anderson Corporation.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 4, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #7 includes the following: furnishing and installation of additional expansion joint material, primary feeder extension, sewer line repairs, furnishing and installation of interior wood trim at aluminum-clad windows, an additional layer of drywall in Classroom 156, furnishing and installation of additional thru-wall and sheet metal flashing at storefront openings, repairs to the masonry site wall, modifications to the structural steel and framing at the attic level, replacement of Door 150 due to hardware revisions, and hardware prep for Door 183 for modified door hardware.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to errors and omissions in plans and specifications, and user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Seven (7) change orders for a total amount of \$1,683,537.09.

Project Initiation Date: October 25, 2022

Design Professional: Weir Boerner Allin Architecture

General Contractor: Roy Anderson Corporation

Phased Project Budget: \$89,802,000.00

Total Project Budget: \$103,500,000.00

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**8. MSU – IHL 205-359A WISE CENTER – FARM ANIMAL HOSPITAL (BID PACKAGE L)**

**Approval Request #1: Construction Documents**

Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by Eley Guild Hardy Architects, P.A. for Bid Package L.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 8, 2026

**Approval Request #2: Advertise**

Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 8, 2026

**9. MSU – IHL 205-359B WISE CENTER – NANCY FAIR LINK LAMINITIS RESEARCH CENTER**

**Approval Request #1: Construction Documents**

Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by Eley Guild Hardy Architects, P.A.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 15, 2026

**Approval Request #2: Advertise**

Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 15, 2026

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**10. MSU-IHL 405-002 JIM AND TOM DUFF CENTER**

**Approval Request: Change Order #13**

Board staff approved Change Order #13 in the amount of \$13,670.90 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of AnderCorp, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 20, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #13 includes the following: providing automatic door operators at openings 3055, 3000.1, 3011 and 3005, a credit for reconciliation of omitted work from ASI 15 which was not captured in previous change orders, and a credit for the contractor's share of third-party re-inspections.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Thirteen (13) change orders for a total amount of \$1,431,688.60.

Project Initiation Date: March 1, 2019

Design Professional: Dale Partners Architects, P.A.

General Contractor: AnderCorp, LLC

Total Project Budget: \$65,000,000.00

**11. MSU-IHL 413-003B – DORMAN HALL RENOVATIONS PHASE II**

**Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract**

Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of \$13,438,850.00 to the apparent low bidder, Ethos Contracting Group, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 4, 2026

Project Initiation Date: February 18, 2021

Design Professional: JH&H Architects

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General Contractor: Ethos Contracting Group, LLC  
Phased Project Budget: \$15,941,362.00  
Total Project Budget: \$44,141,362.00

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

12. MVSU-GS 106-275 – ARPA INFRASTRUCTURE – WATER COLLECTION & CONVEYANCE

**Approval Request: Change Order #3 (Time-Only)**

Board staff approved Change Order #3 in the amount of \$0.00 and one hundred eighty-one (181) additional days to the contract of Don M. Barron Contractor, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 12, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #3 includes the following: the addition of one hundred eight-one (181) days to the contract time due to the contractor needing sufficient time to address deficiencies which were discovered during the course of the ongoing project.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to user/owner requested modifications.

**Approval Request: Change Order #4 (Credit)**

Board staff approved Change Order #4 in the credit amount of \$32,792.17 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Don M. Barron Contractor, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 16, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #4 includes the following: reduction of both labor and materials originally planned in the base bid, Alternates 1, 2 and 3 which were not needed, cleaning CCTV scope of gravity sewer mains, repairing cleanouts, cleaning the wet well at Pump Station 1, grates for grinder station channel at Pump Station 1, cured-in-place pipe liner (8”) with cleaning, additional 8” sewer line repair, lateral point repair,

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structural manhole repair, rehabilitating existing 4' diameter manhole via liner, and removing existing ductile iron suction pumps in Pump Station 1.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Four (4) change orders for a total credit amount of \$76,484.68.

Project Initiation Date: August 15, 2024

Design Professional: W.L. Burle Engineers, P.A.

General Contractor: Don M. Barron Contractor, Inc.

Total Project Budget: \$1,991,993.23

## UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

### 13. UM – IHL 207-468.1A ART, THEATRE & FILM DEPARTMENT FACILITIES (JAC SCENE SHOP & SOUND STAGE)

**Approval Request: Schematic Design Documents**

Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by Eley Guild Hardy Architects, P.A.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 27, 2026

Project Initiation Date: November 19, 2020

Design Professional: Eley Guild Hardy Architects, P.A.

General Contractor: TBD

Phased Project Budget: \$19,000,000.00

Total Project Budget: \$35,938,912.00

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**14. UM – IHL 207-507 GILLOM SPORTS CENTER IMPROVEMENTS**

**Approval Request: Schematic Design Documents**

Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by PryorMorrow PC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 22, 2026

Project Initiation Date: August 15, 2024

Design Professional: PryorMorrow PC

General Contractor: TBD

Total Project Budget: \$5,000,000.00

**15. UM – IHL 407-008.2 NW MECHANICAL PLANT (ELEC. PHASE II) – 13KV ELEC. DIST. IMPROVEMENTS PART B**

**Approval Request #1: Construction Documents**

Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by Atwell and Gent, P.A.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 9, 2026

**Approval Request #2: Advertise**

Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 9, 2026

**16. UM – IHL 407-014.1 NEW SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY (JONES HALL), PHASE I (YERBY ASBESTOS ABATEMENT)**

**Approval Request #1: Construction Documents**

Board staff approved Phase I Construction Documents as submitted by JH&H Architects Planners Interiors, P.A.

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Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 22, 2026

**Approval Request #2: Advertise**

Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 22, 2026

**UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER**

**17. UMMC-IHL 209-576 – MISSISSIPPI CENTER FOR MEDICALLY FRAGILE CHILDREN**

**Approval Request: Change Order #4**

Board staff approved Change Order #4 in the amount of \$177,637.01 and twenty-nine (29) additional days to the contract of Mid-State Construction Company, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 12, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #4 includes the following: revisions to millwork in patient rooms, placement of the generator platform and crane to set the generator, fire-rated ceiling in the storage room per MS Department of Health requirements, replacing dining room storefronts with sheetrock and hollow metal frames until fire-rated wood doors can be delivered, additional CCTV locations throughout building, addition of wall protections at patient headwalls, light additions at the resident wings and fire lane changes.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to recommendations by governmental agencies, errors and omissions in the plans and specifications, and user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Four (4) change orders for a total amount of \$742,819.11.

Project Initiation Date: April 25, 2019

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Design Professional: Eley / Barkley / Dale, a Joint Venture  
General Contractor: Mid State Construction Company, Inc.  
Total Project Budget: \$15,900,000.00

**18. UMMC-IHL 209-579 – UMMC COLONY PARK**

**Approval Request: Change Order #23**

Board staff approved Change Order #23 in the amount of \$361,533.57 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Codaray Construction, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 16, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #23 includes the following: a credit for paint for sound booths, additional millwork infill panels behind spandrel glass, removing walls cabinets, refinish and paint walls in the ophthalmology exam rooms, adding fifteen (15) return air grilles in public lobbies, adding power and Unistrut support for ceiling-mounted light, additional booster pump and expansion tank, wall sink in the first floor soiled room, two (2) 3-way bypass controls valves to AHU 2 & 4, adding a sink in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor soiled room, adding nine (9) additional bollards around the oxygen yard, adding ACT ceilings in three rooms and a light in the storage room, adding a fan to provide cross ventilation in the Oxygen yard, and adding a water heater, pump, recirculating piping and insulation to the non-potable water system.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to errors and omissions in the plans and specifications, and user/owner requested modifications.

**Approval Request: Change Order 24**

Board staff approved Change Order #24 in the amount of \$225,341.20 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Codaray Construction, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 16, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #24 includes the following: semi-recessed PPE dispensers in the ASC, widening of doors between cast room and imaging area, adding a booster pump room, a credit for previously-planned pump, additional power and data on

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the first floor of the MOB, an additional hot water recirculating pump in the ASC, and removing two (2) overhead cabinets for refrigerators.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to errors and omissions in the plans and specifications, and user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Twenty-Four (24) change orders for a total amount of \$6,055,561.23.

Project Initiation Date: June 16, 2022

Design Professional: CDFL Architects & Engineers, P.A.

General Contractor: Codaray Construction, LLC

Total Project Budget: \$107,910,527.00

## UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

### 19. USM-GS 114-033 EXECUTIVE EDUCATION CENTER JOC (PHASE I)

**Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract**

Board staff approved the Phase I Award of Contract in the amount of \$281,000.00 to Paul Jackson & Son, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 15, 2026

Project Initiation Date: April 18, 2024

Design Professional: Eley Guild Hardy Architects, P.A.

General Contractor: Paul Jackson & Son, Inc.

Phased Project Budget: \$320,340.00

Total Project Budget: \$4,800,000.00

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**20. USM – IHL 208-301.1A REED GREEN COLISEUM RENOVATION (UTILITY RELOCATION)**

**Approval Request #1: Construction Documents**

Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by Weir Boerner Allin Architecture, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 28, 2026

**Approval Request #2: Advertise**

Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, January 28, 2026

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**1. 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 Jones Walker (statement dated 1/29/26) from the funds of the IHL System Office. (This statement, in the amount of \$1,500.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,500.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statement dated 12/18/25) from the funds of Alcorn State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$24.10, represents services and expenses in connection with an immigration/labor certification matter.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 24.10**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Walker Immigration (statements dated 1/15/26 and 1/15/26) from the funds of Delta State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$3,765.00 and \$3,000.00, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 6,765.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 1/2/26 and 1/2/26) from the funds of Jackson State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$54.28 and \$60.01, represent services and expenses in connection with an immigration/labor certification matter.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 114.29**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Brunini, Grower, Grantham and Hewes, PLLC (statements dated 1/12/26 and 1/13/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$2,975.00 and \$350.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 3,325.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Copeland Cook Taylor & Bush, PA (statements dated 1/13/26 and 1/21/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$138.00 and \$9,177.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 9,315.00**

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Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statement dated 1/12/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$3,150.00, represents services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 3,150.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Lightfoot Franklin White LLC (statement dated 1/16/26) from the funds of Mississippi Valley State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$1,081.50, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,081.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Lightfoot Franklin White LLC (statement dated 1/16/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$1,081.50, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,081.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mayo Mallette, PLLC (statement dated 1/14/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$915.34, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 915.34**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 12/31/25, 1/2/26 and 1/2/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$539.00, \$2,650.00 and \$5,150.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 8,339.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statement dated 12/18/25) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$15,552.75, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 15,552.75**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 12/31/25, 1/12/26 and 1/15/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These

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statements, in the amounts of \$539.00, \$2,805.00 and \$10,000.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 13,344.00**

**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 Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP (statement dated 12/11/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$94.50, represents services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 94.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statement dated 12/23/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$1,351.00, represents services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,351.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Conley Rose, P.C. (statement dated 1/6/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$2,500.00, represents services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 2,500.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mendelsohn Dunleavy, P.C. (statements dated 1/8/26, 1/8/26, 1/8/26, 1/8/26, 1/8/26 and 1/8/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$656.00, \$125.00, \$2,240.50, \$2,436.50, \$197.50 and \$158.00, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 5,813.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Stites & Harbison, PLLC (statements dated 7/21/25, 7/21/25, 7/21/25, 7/21/25, 7/21/25 and 12/12/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$38.00, \$5,425.50, \$3,358.00, \$234.00, \$76.00 and \$4,098.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

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**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 13,229.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Weatherly IP Solutions, LLC (statement dated 6/26/25) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$1,630.00, represents services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,630.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 12/17/25, 12/17/25, 12/17/25 and 12/22/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$474.50, \$923.00, \$912.50 and \$4,116.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 6,426.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 12/22/25 and 12/23/25) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$602.00 and \$1,660.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 2,262.00**

**2. USM – EMERGENCY APPROVAL TO HIRE STARNES DAVIS FLORIE LLP AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

Pursuant to IHL Board Policy 1102.04, Trustee Jimmy Heidelberg, as Board Legal Committee Chair, on behalf of the Board, approved the University of Southern Mississippi’s emergency request to hire Starnes Davis Florie, LLP as outside counsel to assist, advise and represent the university in various legal matters arising out of and related to NCAA investigations, general legal advice for collegiate athletics, and litigation related to these areas. The term of the agreement is effective upon approval through June 30, 2027. The hourly rates will be \$445 for senior partners, \$395 for partners, a discounted partner rate of \$369 for Daniel Feig, \$280 for associate attorneys, and \$180 for paralegal services. The maximum amount payable under the term of this agreement is \$75,000. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$10 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$10 million. This request is pending approval by the Office of the Attorney General.

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**1. SYSTEM – COMMISSIONER’S NOTICE OF APPROVAL**

The following items have been approved by the Commissioner on behalf of the Board and are available for review in the Board Office.

- a. **MSU** – On January 28, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Permanent Easement between Mississippi State University and the Mississippi Transportation Commission c/o Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) to allow MDOT to perform a bridge replacement project on MS Highway 53 over the Wolf River Relief. The Mississippi Transportation Commission will pay \$1,850 to the University in exchange for the permanent easement. 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. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.
- b. **UM** – On January 15, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between the University of Mississippi and Mississippi Veterans Affairs (MSVA) for MSVA’s use of office space located on UM’s Tupelo campus at 1918 Briar Ridge Road in Tupelo, MS. The University of Mississippi is charging no fee for this use. The value is proximal access for UM-Tupelo staff and students, eligible dependents, and veterans from the community to federal and state veteran’s benefits counsel, document preparation and other services. The Mississippi Veterans Affairs previously used this space for two years from 2023 to 2025. This is a new agreement effective October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2027. 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. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.
- c. **UM** – On January 15, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between the University of Mississippi and the University of Mississippi Research Foundation at Insight Park for 155 square feet of office space on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Innovation Hub, specifically Suite 256, for use by the university’s School of Education’s World Class Teach Program (WCTP). The term of the lease is five years (60 months) effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030. The total cost of the lease is \$15,000 payable in installments of \$3,000 each. The first payment was due on the commencement date of the lease and each payment thereafter is due annually on July 1, 2026 through July 1, 2029. 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.
- d. **UM** – On January 15, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between the University of Mississippi and the University of Mississippi Research Foundation at Insight Park for 1300 square feet of office space on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Innovation Hub, specifically Suite 282, for use by the

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University's William Magee Institute for Student Wellbeing. The term of the lease is four years effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029. The total cost of the lease is \$96,000 payable in installments of \$24,000 each. The first payment was due on January 1, 2025 and each payment thereafter is due annually on July 1, 2026 through July 1, 2028. 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.

- e. **UM** – On January 15, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between the University of Mississippi and the University of Mississippi Research Foundation at Insight Park for two offices, including a kitchen and conference room, for use by the School of Education – Principal Corp. The term of the lease is five years effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030. The total cost of the lease is \$85,000 payable in installments of \$17,000 each. The first payment was due on the commencement date of the lease, and each payment thereafter is due annually on July 1, 2026 through July 1, 2029. 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.
- f. **USM** – On January 7, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Revocable Pipeline Easement between the University of Southern Mississippi and Delta Mississippi Gas Company, LLC. The purpose of the easement is to facilitate the installation, repair and maintenance of natural gas pipeline facilities and meters for the provision of natural gas supply and service to buildings and facilities at the Gulf Coast Research Lab, Halstead campus. The term of the easement is indeterminate until revoked. 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. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.