

# Board Book

March 19, 2026

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**

**Joint Finance & Budget and Audit Committees**  
| March 18, 2026, 2:00p | IHL Board Room

**Health Affairs Committee** | March 18, 2026, Immediately Following the Joint  
Finance & Budget and Audit Committees | IHL Board Room

**IHL Board Meeting** | March 19, 2026, 9:00a | IHL Board Room

**CALL TO ORDER** Trustee Gee Ogletree  
**INVOCATION** Trustee Dr. Ormella Cummings  
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**UNIVERSITY PRESENTATION** Dr. LouAnn Woodward, Vice Chancellor for  
Health Affairs and Dean of the School of Medicine  
University of Mississippi Medical Center

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

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**CONSENT AGENDAS** | Trustee Gee Ogletree

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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 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; Refund All or a Portion of the Outstanding (I) University of Mississippi Educational Building Corporation Revenue Bonds, Series 2015A (Campus Improvements Project), (II) University of Mississippi Educational Building Corporation Taxable Revenue Bonds, Series 2015B (Campus Improvements Project), (III) University of Mississippi Educational Building Corporation Revenue Bonds, Series 2015C (Campus Improvements Project), (IV) University of Mississippi Educational Building Corporation Taxable Revenue Bonds, Series 2015D (Campus Improvements Project), (V) University Of Mississippi Educational Building Corporation Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2016A (Facilities Refinancing Project), and (VI) University of Mississippi Educational Building Corporation Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2017 (Facilities Refinancing Project); and to Pay the Costs of the Issuance, Sale and Delivery of Said Bonds.....72

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**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
February 19, 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 February 19, 2026 meeting. At the above-named place the following members were present to wit: Ms. Amy Arrington, Mr. Don Clark, Jr., Dr. Ormella Cummings, Dr. Steven Cunningham, Mr. Jerry L. Griffith, Mr. Jimmy Heidelberg, Ms. Teresa Hubbard, Mr. Bruce Martin, Mr. Gee Ogletree, Mr. Hal Parker, Mr. Gregg Rader, and Mr. Charlie Stephenson. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Gee Ogletree, President. Trustee Martin introduced Father Patrick Perkins, from the Episcopal Church of the Mediator in Meridian, MS, who provided the invocation.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Griffith, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Board meeting held on January 22, 2026 and February 9, 2026.

**PRESENTATIONS**

- President Gee Ogletree presented the 2026 Karen Cummins Community Service Award to Governor Tate Reeves in recognition of his dedication and service to the communities and people of Mississippi over the past 23 years, as well as his acknowledgment and support of the role played by Mississippi's public universities in contributing to the state's growth and workforce participation. Accepting the award and plaque on his behalf is Mammie Maberry, director of constituent services for Governor Reeves. A copy of the resolution is included in the *February 19, 2026 Board Working File*.
- The Board received a presentation from Dr. Sarah Pingel, Vice President, of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS).

**CONSENT AGENDAS**

On motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Hubbard, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the following Consent Agendas.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

1. **UM** – Approved the modification of the following existing academic degree program.  
Rename  
Current program title: Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Biochemistry  
New program title: Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Biochemistry for Health Sciences

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CIP code, sequence: 26.0202, 5820

Total credit hours: 120

Effective date: August 2026

2. **UM** – Approved the modification of the following existing academic unit.

Reorganize

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

**FINANCE AND BUDGET**

3. **ASU** – Approved the request to enter a one-year extension to the current contract with Instructure, Inc. and to pay the annual contract amount of \$115,035.34. Instructure, Inc. provides Canvas Learning Management System cloud hosting services for students, including 24x7 technical support and Tier 1 user support. The term of the agreement is February 15, 2026 through February 14, 2027. The one-year renewal contract totals \$115,035.34, with payment due annually. Payment terms are Net 30. 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. **JSU** – Approved the request to enter a lease agreement with Dahill Office Technology Corporation/Xerox Corporation Public Sector Operations (Xerox) for the lease of 125 multifunctional copier devices. The term of the contract is April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2031. The total contract cost is \$1,235,697.60. A breakdown of costs is included in the *February 19, 2026 Board Working File*. 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. The agreement will be funded with 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.
5. **JSU** – Approved the request to amend the laundry room lease agreement with Caldwell and Gregory, LLC which includes installation and maintenance of commercial laundry units within the JSU residential hall, One University Place. The term of the lease is February 19, 2026 through February 19, 2028. 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. The contract will be funded by Auxiliary 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.
6. **MUW** – Granted retroactive approval of the 2023 Amendment 3 to the Barnes and Noble agreement which extended the contract for 3 additional years ending in 2027 and the 2025 increase in the student per credit hour charge from \$20 to \$20.50. The Board approved Amendment 4 to increase the fee from \$20.50 per credit hour to \$23 per credit hour. 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. The term of

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Amendment 3 is April 1, 2024 through Marcy 31, 2027. The Amendment does not alter the term of the contract. This is a revenue contract. The increase is expected to generate an annual commission of \$30,000. 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.

7. **UMMC** – Approved the request to enter a new Medical Office Building Lease (Lease) with NMFMG Holdings, LLC (NMFMG) to lease approximately 6,386 square feet of clinical space at 1397 Belk Boulevard, Oxford, Mississippi, for use as clinic and office space for UMMC Family Medicine services providers and staff. Pursuant to IHL Board Policy 707.03 Approval of Prepayment for Goods and Services, the Board approved the request to allow prepayment of rent on the first day of each month. The term of the agreement is sixty (60) months, from March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2031. 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. 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**

8. **JSU** – Approved the request to increase the project budget for GS 103-317, JOC - University Pointe Residence Hall Improvements, from \$2,400,659.20 to \$4,924,461.00 for an increase of \$2,523,801.80, to modify the scope of the project, to add SB 2468, Laws of 2024, as a funding source, and to proceed with the design phase under the previously appointed design professional, Vernell Barnes Architect, PLLC. University Pointe Residence Hall was built in 2002 with a bed capacity of 444 and has been closed. JSU intends to renovate the entire complex in phases as funding allows, starting with buildings at the front and progressing to the back beginning with buildings 100 and 200 identified as the highest priority. Funds are available from 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).
9. **ASU** – Approved the request to name the Biotechnology Building on its Lorman campus as the “Willie Simmons Biotechnology Building.” Mr. Simmons is entering his second term as Central District Transportation Commissioner, which covers 22 counties with a population of approximately one million people. 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. 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.
10. **JSU** – Approved the request to amend the service agreement with Trane U.S., Inc. (Trane) to correct a calculation discrepancy identified by the vendor. 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

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corresponding reductions to the annual service costs for each remaining year of the contract. The agreement 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. The term of the agreement is July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030. 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.

11. **UM** – Approved the request 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. The amendment modifies the scope of work for Lamar Hall to completely replace the existing building automation system controls throughout the building instead of the partial controls upgrade and overlay that was originally planned. 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. 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. The source of funds for this amendment will be internal replacement and renewal (R&R) 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.
12. **UM** – Approved the request to change the name of the recently completed Ole Miss Softball Complex to the “Alisa and Mark Bourne Stadium” in honor of their generous \$5 million donation. The Bournes have a long history of supporting Ole Miss Athletics and the university and Alisa is a longtime university employee. 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.
13. **USM** – Approved the Amendment to the Sublease Agreement between USM and Systems Analysis & Integration, Inc. d/b/a Systems Integrated (Systems Integrated), which provides for the sublease of portions of port facilities at the Port of Gulfport. Systems Integrated subleases approximately 3,059.74 Rentable Area square feet for a total monthly rental rate of \$10,825.77. The Amendment will extend the Term of the Sublease Agreement until February 28, 2029. 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. 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.
14. **USM** – Approved the exterior design of IHL 208-301, Renovation of Reed Green Coliseum. A copy of the renderings is available in the *February 19, 2026 Board Working File*.

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**LEGAL**

15. **MSU** – Approved the request to enter 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.
16. **MSU** – Approved the request to enter 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.
17. **MSU** – Approved the request 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 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.
18. **MSU** – Pending approval by the Office of the Attorney General, the Board approved the request to enter 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.

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**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
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 (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

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**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

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

**19. 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

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- 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

**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

20. **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

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21. **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
- 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

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- 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.)
- 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

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- 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 Pharmaceutics, 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
- 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

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- 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.)
- Sajjun 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

**REGULAR AGENDAS**

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Presented by Trustee Teresa Hubbard, Chair

On motion by Trustee Hubbard, seconded by Trustee Stephenson, 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 Cunningham, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #2. On motion by Trustee Hubbard, seconded by Trustee Rader, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #3.

1. **Mississippi College** – Approved the Stage 1 Application – declaration of intent/need to establish a new professional nursing program for Mississippi College. This is the first stage in a three-stage process for establishing a new registered nursing 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;

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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.

2. **UM** – Approved the request to add the following new center, as follows:  
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
3. **UM** – Approved the request to add new academic degree programs.
  - a. Bachelor of Science (BS) in Anthropology  
CIP code: 45.0201  
Total credit hours: 120  
Effective date: August 2026
  - b. Bachelor of Science (BS) in Sociology  
CIP code: 45.1101  
Total credit hours: 120  
Effective date: August 2026

**FINANCE AND BUDGET AGENDA**  
Presented by Trustee Charlie Stephenson, Chair

On motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Hubbard, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #1 as submitted on the Finance and Budget Agenda. On motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Cunningham, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #2. Trustees Arrington and Clark recused themselves from discussing or voting on item #3 on the Finance and Budget Regular

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Agenda by leaving the room before there was any discussion or vote regarding the same. With Trustees Arrington and Clark out of the room, on motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Griffith, with Trustees Arrington and Clark absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #3. Trustee Arrington returned to the room following the discussion and vote on item #3. Trustee Clark recused himself from discussing or voting on item #4 on the Finance and Budget Regular Agenda by remaining out of the room while there was any discussion or vote regarding the same. With Trustee Clark out of the room, on motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Hubbard, with Trustee Clark absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #4. Trustee Clark returned to the room following the discussion and vote on item #4.

1. **MSU** – Pursuant to 32 CFR Part 117 National Industrial Security Program Operating Manual (NISPOM dated 12/21/20), the Board approved the resolution temporarily excluding 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. Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed resolution for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. A copy of the resolution is available in the Board Office.
2. **SYSTEM** – Approved the request to amend the funding priorities required for the 2027 Legislative Budget Request (LBR). The amendment revises the proposed funding priority for Alcorn State University Agricultural Units to \$9,020,613.
3. **UM** – Pursuant to IHL Board Policy 906 Educational Building Corporations, the Board approved the request to issue tax-exempt and/or taxable bonds through the University of Mississippi Educational Building Corporation (UMEBC). The 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. The debt issuance will not exceed \$245 million. The loan term will not exceed 30 years. The Board approved paying for the capitalized interest, if necessary, the costs of issuance, sale and delivery of

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said bonds. The Board approved the financial advisor's report provided by Hilltop Securities and the appointment of the following professionals: Financial Advisor – Hilltop Securities; Bond Counsel – Butler Snow LLP; and 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. The total combined project funding is \$332,375,000: \$38,025,608 in private gifts; \$50,163,239 in currently appropriated state funding; \$10,801,003 in internal cash reserves; and \$233,385,150 in UMEBC bond proceeds. 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. The debt will be serviced with tuition revenue and the ability to service the debt is supported by the Financial Advisors report.

4. **UMMC** – Approved the request to enter a Lease agreement with Madison HMA, LLC (Madison HMA) in Canton, Mississippi for approximately 3,605 square feet of clinical and office space located in the Medical Office Building 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 Board Policy 707.03 Approval of Prepayment for Goods and Services, the Board approved the request to allow prepayment of rent on the first day of each month. The term of the lease shall be five (5) years, beginning on March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2031. 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. 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 Ogletree recused himself from discussing or voting on items #1 and #2 on the Real Estate 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 Rader, seconded by Trustee Parker, with Trustee Ogletree absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve items #1 and #2 as submitted on the Real Estate Agenda.

1. **MSU** – Approved the request to increase the project budget for IHL 205-360, Leo Seal Jr. Football Complex Addition, from \$3 million to \$11 million, for an increase of \$8 million. The budget increase is needed primarily to cover early procurement of materials and equipment with extended lead times. The project will expand and modernize the existing facility over three phases. Funds are available from Athletics Designated Funds.

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2. **MSU** – Approved the exterior design for IHL 205-360, Leo Seal Jr. Football Complex Addition. A copy of the renderings is available in the *February 19, 2026 Board Working File*.

**LEGAL AGENDA**

Presented by Trustee Jimmy Heidelberg, Chair

Trustee Ogletree recused himself from discussing or voting on item #1 on the Legal Regular Agenda by remaining out of the room while there was any discussion or vote regarding the same. With Trustee Ogletree out of the room, on motion by Trustee Heidelberg, seconded by Trustee Clark, with Trustee Ogletree absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #1 as submitted on the Legal Regular Agenda. Trustee Ogletree returned to the room following the discussion and vote on item #1. Trustee Clark recused himself from discussing or voting on item #2 on the Legal Regular Agenda by leaving the room before there was any discussion or vote regarding the same. With Trustee Clark out of the room, on motion by Trustee Heidelberg, seconded by Trustee Cummings, with Trustee Clark absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #2. Trustee Clark returned to the room following the discussion and vote on item #2. On motion by Trustee Heidelberg, seconded by Arrington, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to move item #3 to the Executive Session agenda for consideration.

1. **MSU** – Approved the request to enter 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.
2. **UM** – Approved the request to enter 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.

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3. **UMMC** – Settlement of Tort Claim Number 3726. **(THIS ITEM WAS MOVED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR CONSIDERATION.)**

**ADMINISTRATION/POLICY AGENDA**

Presented by Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr.

Item #1 was approved as shown below.

1. **SYSTEM** – Election of the current Vice President of the Board of Trustees for the term of beginning May 8, 2026. President Ogletree opened the floor for nominations for the office of Vice President of the Board.

Trustee Hubbard nominated Trustee Gregg Rader to serve as Vice President for the term of May 8, 2026, through May 7, 2027. President Ogletree announced the nominations are closed.

On motion by Trustee Heidelberg, seconded by Trustee Griffith, all Trustees legally present and participating voted in the affirmative, therefore, it was **RESOLVED**, that Trustee Gregg Rader was elected Vice President of the Board for the term of May 8, 2026, through May 7, 2027.

**INFORMATION AGENDAS**

Presented by Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

1. **UM** – Intent to offer the following existing degree program by distance learning:  
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

**FINANCE AND BUDGET**

2. **UMMC** – The Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services (ITS), as a 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 a new Worker Profile Management software used to support visibility into extended workforce information, candidate information, onboarding, assignment history, and reporting. 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. 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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**REAL ESTATE**

3. **SYSTEM** – The Board received the Real Estate items that were approved by the Board staff subsequent to the January 22, 2026 Board meeting in accordance with Board Policy 904 Board Approval. (See **Exhibit 1.**)

**LEGAL**

4. **SYSTEM** – The Board received a report of the payment of legal fees to outside counsel. (See **Exhibit 2.**)
5. **USM** – 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.

**ADMINISTRATION/POLICY**

6. **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 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

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- 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 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

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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.

**JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT  
Wednesday, February 18, 2026**

Committee members participated in the meeting in person or via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dr. Steven Cunningham at approximately 10:00 A.m. The following items were discussed.

1. The Committee discussed the process and status of the search for a president at Jackson State University. **No action was taken.**
2. Executive Session

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

In connection with the JSU presidential search, the Committee will transact business and discuss personnel matters relating to the job performance, character, and professional competence of a person holding a specific position at Jackson State University. The Committee will receive and discuss confidential legal advice from counsel concerning compliance with federal and state law regarding the search.

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

**During Executive Session, the following matters were discussed:**

The Committee transacted business and discussed personnel matters relating to the job performance, character, and professional competence of a person holding a specific position at Jackson State University. **No action was taken.**

The Committee received and discussed confidential legal advice from counsel concerning compliance with federal and state law regarding the search. **No action was taken.**

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
February 19, 2026**

On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Hubbard, with Trustee Rader absent and not voting and Trustees Griffith, Martin, Parker, and Stephenson participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to return to open session.

3. On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Arrington, with Trustee Rader absent and not voting and Trustees Griffith, Martin, Parker, and Stephenson participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to adjourn.

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

**HEALTH AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE REPORT  
Wednesday, February 18, 2026**

Committee members participated in the meeting in person or via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dr. Steven Cunningham at approximately 3:30 p.m. The following items were discussed.

1. The Committee discussed the monthly financial summary and received the quality clinical update. **No action was taken.**
2. Executive Session

On motion by Trustee Heidelberg, seconded by Trustee Ogletree, with Trustee Cummings absent and not voting and Trustees Arrington, Martin, Parker, and Stephenson participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to close the meeting to determine whether to declare an Executive Session. Trustee Arrington recused herself from discussing or voting on any items during executive session by disconnecting from Zoom. On motion by Trustee Ogletree, seconded by Trustee Stephenson, with Trustees Arrington and Cummings absent and not voting and Trustees Martin, Parker, and Stephenson participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously **to enter Executive Session** for the three reasons reported to the public and stated in these minutes.

The Committee will receive and discuss three items involve strategic business decisions of a public hospital, including decisions to open a new service line and the implementation of capital improvements. The three items also include discussions regarding the location, relocation or expansion of a business, medical service or an industry. The discussion of the three topics above in open session would be detrimental to IHL's legal interest.

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
February 19, 2026**

**During Executive Session, the following matters were discussed:**

The Committee discussed three strategic business decisions of a public hospital, including decisions to open a new service line and the implementation of capital improvements. **No action was taken.**

On motion by Trustee Ogletree, seconded by Trustee Hubbard, with Trustees Arrington and Cummings absent and not voting and Trustees Martin, Parker, and Stephenson participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to return to open session.

3. On motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Ogletree, with Trustees Arrington and Cummings absent and not voting and Trustees Martin, Parker, and Stephenson participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to adjourn.

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

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

- President Ogletree announced the next meeting will be March 18, 2026.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On motion by Trustee Hubbard, seconded by Trustee Cunningham, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to close the meeting to determine whether to declare an Executive Session. On motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Stephenson, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously **to enter Executive Session** for the four reasons reported to the public and stated in these minutes, as follows:

First, the Board will receive and discuss privileged legal advice regarding the settlement of litigation pending against the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Second, the Board will receive and discuss privileged legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding the Board's constitutional and statutory authority under federal and state law and prospective litigation.

Third, the Board will receive and discuss prospective strategic business decisions of University of Mississippi Medical Center as a public hospital, including, without limitation, implementation of capital improvements and applications for certificate of need with the State Department of Health.

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
February 19, 2026**

Fourth, the Board will receive and discuss a report and course of action on security plans regarding a cyber incident at University of Mississippi Medical Center.

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

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

On motion by Trustee Heidelberg, seconded by Trustee Stephenson, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the settlement of Tort Claim No. 3726, styled as Mary Case vs. University of Mississippi Medical Center, et al., as recommended by counsel.

The Board received and discussed a report and course of action on security plans regarding a cyber incident at University of Mississippi Medical Center. **No action was taken.**

The Board received and discussed privileged legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding the Board's constitutional and statutory authority under federal and state law and prospective litigation. **No action was taken.**

The Board received and discussed prospective strategic business decisions of University of Mississippi Medical Center as a public hospital, including, without limitation, implementation of capital improvements and applications for certificate of need with the State Department of Health. **No action was taken.**

**On motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Arrington, 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 Cummings, seconded by Trustee Arrington, 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  
February 19, 2026**

**EXHIBITS**

- Exhibit 1      Real Estate items that were approved by the IHL Board staff subsequent to the January 22, 2026 Board meeting.
- Exhibit 2      Report of the payment of legal fees to outside counsel.

# EXHIBIT 1

February 19, 2026

## **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

#### **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.

# EXHIBIT 1

February 19, 2026

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.

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.

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.

# EXHIBIT 1

February 19, 2026

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

## 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

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

# EXHIBIT 1

February 19, 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

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

General Contractor: Ethos Contracting Group, LLC

Phased Project Budget: \$15,941,362.00

Total Project Budget: \$44,141,362.00

# EXHIBIT 1

February 19, 2026

## 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, 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

# EXHIBIT 1

February 19, 2026

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

## 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.

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-

# EXHIBIT 1

February 19, 2026

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

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 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.

# EXHIBIT 1

February 19, 2026

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

### 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

# EXHIBIT 2

February 19, 2026

## 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**

# EXHIBIT 2

February 19, 2026

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, 12/31/25 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 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**

# EXHIBIT 2

February 19, 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 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.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 13,229.50**

# EXHIBIT 2

February 19, 2026

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**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING  
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ACADEMIC AFFAIRS  
MARCH 19, 2026

1. **MSU – 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, Mississippi State University requests approval for the modification of an existing academic degree program.

RENAMING

*Current program title:* Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Applied Science

***Proposed program title:* Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Professional Studies**

*CIP code, sequence:* 30.0000, 5887

*Total credit hours:* 120

*Effective date:* January 2026

*Rationale:* Renaming the general Bachelor of Applied Science degree to the Bachelor of Applied Science in Professional Studies directly supports the mission of the institution by fostering access, clarity, and student success. MSU is committed to providing innovative and flexible degree pathways that serve the needs of adult learners, transfer students, and those with applied associate degrees. By designating "Professional Studies" as the program's major, the degree name will more clearly communicate its purpose and outcomes to prospective students, employers, and community partners. This modification eliminates confusion with other BAS programs (such as BAS in Business Office Technology and BAS in Public Management) and ensures that students understand the unique value of the Professional Studies pathway. In doing so, it strengthens MSU’s mission to deliver student-centered, career-relevant education that bridges technical and applied learning with advanced professional skills.

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

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MARCH 19, 2026**

1. **ASU – REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH TRI-COUNTY EQUIPMENT SALES & SERVICE, INC.**

**Agenda Item Request:** Alcorn State University request approval to enter into a purchase agreement with Tri-County Equipment Sales & Service, Inc. for the purchase of four (4) 2025 Oxbo BH100 Bean/Pea Harvesters.

**Contractor’s Legal Name:** Tri-County Equipment Sales & Service, Inc.

**History of Contract:** Alcorn State University has no prior contractual relationship with Tri County Equipment Sales & Services, Inc.

**Specific Type of Contract:** This is a new purchase agreement.

**Purpose:** Alcorn State University is procuring four (4) bean/pea harvesters for the Agriculture Department through a competitive bidding process to support educational instruction and research activities in agricultural crop harvesting. The equipment must be single-row, tractor-pulled harvesters capable of efficiently harvesting legumes including peas, beans, and similar crops, with specifications including cutting systems, cleaning mechanisms, conveyance systems, and compatibility with standard agricultural tractors.

**Scope of Work:** Alcorn State University Agriculture Department requires the procurement and delivery of four (4) identical bean/pea harvesters to support educational and research activities. The contractor shall provide new, single-row, tractor-pulled crop harvesters designed for efficient harvesting of legumes, particularly Pinkeye-Purple Hull Peas and similar specialty row crops.

Each harvester must feature a cutting system for clean plant removal, fan-based cleaning system for debris removal, and conveyance system for moving crops to storage containers. Equipment shall be compatible with standard agricultural tractors (minimum 45 horsepower), suitable for road transport, and constructed with heavy-duty frames and replaceable wear components for routine maintenance.

**Term of Contract:** The term of this contract shall commence upon execution by both parties and shall continue until complete performance of all contractual obligations, including delivery, installation, and acceptance of all four (4) bean/pea harvesters.

**Contract Amount:** The total contract amount for the procurement of four bean/pea harvesters is \$262,000.00. This represents a unit price of \$65,500.00 for each of the four identical harvesters to be delivered to Alcorn State University's Agriculture Department. No additional costs or fees are anticipated beyond this contract amount.

**Funding Source for Contract:** The contract will be funded by federal funds under the U. S. Department of Education.

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**Termination Options:**

Termination for Convenience

ASU may, when the interests of ASU so require, terminate this agreement in whole or in part for convenience of ASU. Written notice of the same is required to be provided by ASU and shall allow no less than ten (10) days' notice prior to the effective date of termination.

Termination for Cause

Either party may terminate this agreement immediately upon issuance of written notice if the other party fails to perform the obligations to the other party under this agreement. The party issuing such a termination notice may allow 30 days within which the other party may attempt to cure the failure to fulfill its obligations, but such 30-day cure time is not required.

**Contractor Selection Process:** Alcorn State University conducted a competitive procurement process for the acquisition of four bean/pea harvesters through Invitation for Bid (IFB) #5558. The IFB was publicly advertised with a bid opening scheduled for October 20, 2025, at 2:00 PM CST at the University's Office of Purchasing in Lorman, Mississippi. Following the competitive bidding process, Tri-County Equipment Sales & Service Inc. of Crossville, Tennessee, was the responsive bidder, submitting a total bid of \$262,000.00 for four identical harvesters at \$65,500.00 per unit. The company's proposal included delivery of OXBO BH100 bean harvesters that met all specified technical requirements, including cutting systems, cleaning mechanisms, conveyance capabilities, and compatibility with standard agricultural equipment.

The award was made in accordance with the university's policy of selecting the lowest responsible bidder whose proposal substantially complied with all invitation requirements and technical specifications. The contractor demonstrated capability to fulfill all delivery, setup, and warranty obligations within the required timeframe, ensuring minimal disruption to the Agriculture Department's operational needs.

**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. **MSU- REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH SHINE EARLY LEARNING, INC.**

**Agenda Item Request:** Pursuant to Section 701.01(A) of the IHL Board Policies and Bylaws, Mississippi State University requests approval to enter into a new service agreement with **Shine Early Learning, Inc.** to provide services for Head Start programs to meet basic compliance standards, create positive outcomes for children and families, and provide training in accordance with the terms of a grant awarded to Mississippi State

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University by the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families (Office of Head Start). Pursuant to Section 707.03 of the IHL Board Policies and Bylaws, MSU is requesting approval to prepay for services provided under this agreement.

**Contractor's Legal Name:** Shine Early Learning, Inc.

**History of Contract:** MSU currently uses Shine's Head Start curriculum and services in Harrison County. This is a new agreement that allows continued access to these resources and services.

**Specific Type of Contract:** Service agreement.

**Purpose:** The purpose of the contract is to obtain services needed to operate Head Start locations in accordance with the terms of the grant awarded to MSU by the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families (Office of Head Start).

**Scope of Work:** Shine Early Learning Inc. provides a fully integrated and proprietary system for Head Start/Early Head Start operations, curriculum, compliance & leadership development. Shine's services under this agreement will focus on areas of impact with data-driven innovation and research, family engagement and health, comprehensive program and system management, business, administrative, and operations, and Early Childhood Education.

**Term of Contract:** The initial term of the agreement is March 20, 2026 through July 30, 2026. After the initial term the agreement will automatically renew for four additional one-year terms.

**Contract Amount:** The contract cost for the initial term is \$2,192,585.00 which includes a one-time Start-Up fee of \$200,000. Each renewal term fee shall be no less than the initial fee of \$1,992,585 increased by the percentage of the annual cost of living allowance increase that MSU receives from the Office of Head Start. Total contract cost is anticipated to be approximately \$11,235,000. Payments will be made as project milestones are reached, with an initial payment of \$1,562,341.25 made at the initiation of the agreement and monthly payments thereafter.

**Funding Source for Contract:** The contract will be funded by a grant awarded to Mississippi State University by the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families (Office of Head Start). MSU has confirmed that the agreement is in compliance with the terms of that grant and is otherwise legally permissible.

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**Termination Options:** MSU may terminate the service agreement if it receives a final, binding determination from the Office of Head Start that MSU has lost its Head Start grant. If MSU’s Head Start Funding is reduced by 50% or more, MSU and Shine shall negotiate an amended scope of services and fees. If agreement is not reached within thirty (30) days, MSU may elect to terminate the agreement.

**Contractor Selection Process:** MSU currently uses Shine's curriculum and services in Harrison County. Because changing products or vendors at this point would cause misalignment, disrupt program continuity, & pose compliance risks, the administration of the Mississippi State University Extension Head Start program elected to continue working with this vendor. The services were the subject of MSU Sole Source Purchase Notice No. 256-047.

**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. MSU-REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF BUDGET ESCALATION-MS STATE  
 CHEMICAL LABORATORY EDUCATION & GENERAL**

Mississippi State University (MSU) requests permission to escalate the educational & general budget of the Mississippi State Chemical Laboratory (MSCL) for FY 2026.

The escalation is requested to procure new equipment necessary for continued support of state regulatory programs and to improve MSCL's turnaround time.

Fund balance reserves \$1,045,201.71 will provide the source of funds.

<b>Mississippi State Chemical Laboratory General Budget Revision by Major Object</b>			
<b>Category</b>	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Increase/(Decrease)</b>	<b>Revised Budget</b>
<b>Salaries</b>	\$ 1,482,568.00	\$ -	\$ 1,482,568.00
<b>Wages</b>		\$ -	
<b>Fringe Benefits</b>	417,125.00	\$ -	\$ 417,125.00
<b>Total Salaries, Wages, and Fringe Benefits</b>	\$ 1,899,693.00	\$ -	1,899,693.00
<b>Travel and Subsistence</b>	12,500.00	\$ -	12,500.00
<b>Contractual Services</b>	128,000.00	\$ 125,000.00	253,000.00
<b>Commodities</b>	164,469.00	\$ 75,000.00	239,469.00

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Capital Outlay			
Non-Equipment			-
Equipment	161,316.00	\$ 550,000.00	711,316.00
<b>Total Capital Outlay</b>	<b>\$ 161,316.00</b>	<b>\$ 550,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 711,316.00</b>
Mandatory Transfers			
Debt Service		\$ -	-
Matching		\$ -	-
Other	39,000.00	\$ -	39,000.00
<b>Total Mandatory Transfers</b>	<b>\$ 39,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>39,000.00</b>
Non-Mandatory Transfers			
Auxiliary Support		\$ -	-
Building Projects		\$ -	-
Other		\$ -	-
<b>Total Non-Mandatory Transfers</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Increase in Fund Balance</b>			
<b>Total Uses of Funding</b>	<b>\$ 2,404,978.00</b>	<b>\$ 750,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,154,978.00</b>

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

**4. MUW– REQUEST FOR RETROACTIVE APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH KNIGHT COACH**

**Agenda Item Request:** Mississippi University for Women (MUW) requests retroactive approval for a 1-year agreement with **Knight Coach, Inc.** with effective dates of 8/15/2025 to 6/30/2026. This agreement will exceed \$250,000 by April 1, 2026.

**Contractor’s Legal Name:** Knight Coach, Inc.

**History of Contract:** Previously, MUW Athletics utilized Knight Coach on a trip by trip basis beginning in fiscal year 24. At the beginning of fiscal year 2026, an annual

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contract for travel services was determined to be the best option. To work with each sport's schedule, itineraries are coordinated with Knight Coach for each semester.

**Specific Type of Contract:** This is an agreement for charter bus services.

**Purpose:** This agreement allows Mississippi University for Women to have guaranteed charter bus services for the travel of athletic teams' sporting events.

**Scope of Work:** The agreement provides travel services to the Mississippi University for Women athletic teams. A schedule is created by the academic term with a quote.

**Term of Contract:** This contract for charter bus services started 08/15/2025 and will end 06/30/2026.

**Contract Amount:** The total contract amount is not to exceed \$500,000. MUW has expended \$82,540 since 8/15/2025 and expects to expend \$275,000 by June 30, 2026.

**Funding Source for Contract:** This contract is funded through Mississippi University for Women Athletic Department Funds.

**Termination Options:** Agreement may be terminated with or without cause upon thirty (30) days written notice.

**Contractor Selection Process:** Knight Coach has been used for trip by trip Athletic travel purposes starting in fiscal year 2024. It was assessed that it would be best to utilize an annual contract for the needs of Athletics moving forward. The annual contract started August 2025.

**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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**5. UM- REQUEST TO ESCALATE AUXILIARY ENTERPRISES BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026**

<b>University of Mississippi FY 2026 Auxiliary Enterprises by Major Object</b>			
<b>Category</b>	<b>Current FY 2026 Operating Budget</b>	<b>Revision/Escalation</b>	<b>Revised FY 2026 Operating Budget</b>
Salaries, Wages, and Fringe Benefits	\$ 75,663,065	\$ 1,680,963	\$ 77,344,028
Travel and Subsistence	11,952,136	5,530,000	17,482,136
Contractual Services	113,996,254	1,780,437	115,776,691
Commodities	33,182,539	1,889,350	35,071,889
Capital Outlay: Non-Equipment	-	-	-
Capital Outlay: Equipment	4,657,667	1,500	4,659,167
Mandatory Transfers	15,724,272	-	15,724,272
Non-Mandatory Transfers	12,229,158	-	12,229,158
Increase in Fund Balance	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 267,405,091</b>	<b>\$ 10,882,250</b>	<b>\$ 278,287,341</b>

The University of Mississippi (UM) requests approval to escalate its Auxiliary Enterprises budget for FY 2026. This escalation is requested to provide spending authority for additional revenues in Athletics and to cover costs associated with the 2025 College Football Playoff.

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

**6. UMMC- REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO AMEND A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH BOSTON SCIENTIFIC CORPORATION**

**Agenda Item Request:** The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) requests approval to amend a purchase agreement with **Boston Scientific Corporation** (Boston Scientific) to extend the term, to specify certain accessory purchases are included in the purchase of the cardiac rhythm management (CRM) device or system, and to update the rebate program opportunity criteria. The agreement is for the purchase of various consumable commodities and equipment for use during the implantation of CRM devices, such as pacemakers and defibrillators. UMMC also renews its request for approval to add or remove products under the agreement without seeking prior Board approval as long as it does not increase the approved expenditure level.

**Contractor’s Legal Name:** Boston Scientific Corporation

**History of Contract:** On August 17, 2023, the Board approved a three (3) year purchase agreement with Boston Scientific with an estimated total cost of \$9,300,000. The agreement will expire on August 31, 2026.

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

**Purpose:** The purpose of the amendment is to extend the term, to specify certain accessory purchases are included in the purchase of the cardiac rhythm management (CRM) device or system, and to update the rebate program opportunity criteria. The purpose of the agreement is for the purchase of various consumable commodities and equipment for use during the implantation of CRM devices, such as pacemakers and defibrillators.

**Scope of Work:** Under this amended agreement, Boston Scientific will provide commodities and equipment used during CRM procedures and pay UMMC a semi-annual rebate on purchases made under the agreement. Under the agreement, UMMC will purchase ninety percent (90%) of its total need for CRM products from Boston Scientific and one (1) other vendor, Medtronic USA, Inc. (Medtronic) that does not require a signed contract to extend pricing to UMMC. Additionally, Boston Scientific will provide quarterly market share rebates to UMMC.

**Term of Contract:** The term of the amended agreement is six (6) years from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2029. The original agreement was for a term of three (3) years. The amendment extends the term by three (3) years.

**Termination Options:** The amended agreement may be terminated as follows:

- by either party upon thirty (30) days' written notice;
- by Boston Scientific, if UMMC issues an RFP, requests a price refresh or takes any other action not contemplated by the agreement to lower its pricing; and
- by either party, in the instance of a force majeure event that continues for more than thirty (30) continual days.

**Contract Amount:** The total estimated cost of the amended agreement over the six (6) year term is \$16,600,000. The original estimated cost of the agreement was \$9,300,000. UMMC has included a twenty percent (20%) annual increase to allow for potential patient volume growth.

**Funding Source for Contract:** This contract will be funded by hospital patient revenue

**Contractor Selection Process:** UMMC is currently contracted with Boston Scientific.

**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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**7. UMMC- REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING LEASE WITH 5360, LLC**

**Agenda Item Request:** The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) requests approval to enter into a Medical Office Building Lease with **5360, LLC (5360)** for approximately 15,347 square feet of office space located in Jackson, Mississippi for use by the Center for Advancement of Youth (CAY) Clinic. CAY provides evidence-based behavioral, developmental, and emotional services for their patients. At this new clinic, CAY will integrate child psychiatry, child development, and physical/occupational/and speech therapies into one (1) location, as well as provide educational space for parent and family teaching and group therapy. Pursuant to IHL Policy 707.03 *Approval of Prepayment of Goods and Services*, UMMC also requests a waiver to allow for the prepayment of rent in advance each month.

**Contractor's Legal Name:** 5360, LLC

**History of Contract:** This is a new Medical Office Building Lease. In January, 2019, the Board approved UMMC's current lease for approximately 21,923 square feet of medical office space from Highland Bluff South located in Jackson, MS. The term of the lease was for five (5) years with the option to renew for an additional (5) years. UMMC did not exercise its option to renew the lease as it is no longer cost effective for clinical utilization and is currently leasing the space on a month-to-month basis.

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

**Purpose:** The purpose of this agreement is to lease approximately 15,347 square feet of medical office space in Jackson, MS for UMMC's CAY Clinic providers and staff.

**Scope of Work:** Under the lease, 5360 will provide:

- 15,347 square feet of medical office space;
- utilities, janitorial/housekeeping services, maintenance, waste disposal, real property insurance, landscaping, and Ad Valorum taxes;
- non-exclusive use of all common areas; and
- an improvement allowance up to \$600,000.

UMMC the lease, UMMC will provide:

- Medical waste removal service; and
- timely payment of rent.

**Term of Contract:** The term of the agreement is five (5) years, beginning on or about June 1, 2026 and will expire on or about May 31, 2031.

**Termination Options:** The lease may be terminated for the following:

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- by UMMC in the event 5360 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 5360 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;
- 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 \$1,575,000.00 over the five (5) year term. UMMC's initial base rent is \$18.50 per square foot with an annual increase of two-percent (2%), beginning in year 2.

**Funding Source for Contract:** The lease will be funded by patient review.

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**Contractor Selection Process:** UMMC has determined this location to be the best 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 INITIATIONS OF PROJECTS/APPOINTMENTS OF PROFESSIONALS**

**IHL PROJECTS .....**

**1. ASU – IHL 201-267 – SOCCER/TRACK FIELD RENOVATION**

**Project Request:** Alcorn State University requests approval to initiate the project, Soccer/Track Field Renovation, and to appoint Major Design Studio as the design professional.

**Proposed Design Professional:** Major Design Studio

**General Contractor:** TBD

**Selection Method:** The project budget is not anticipated to exceed \$3,000,000, so the university is not required to utilize the RFQ method for selecting the design professional.

**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:** Alcorn State University is seeking to initiate the project and appoint the design professional as required by Board Policy so that the selected professional can proceed with the design phase of the project.

**Project Scope:** The scope of the project includes total demolition of the existing track surface and existing grass field to prepare the field to receive new synthetic turf for soccer and a new track field surface that meets NCAA Regulations, plus all field events and field lighting. Bleachers will hold up to 200 spectators.

Alcorn State University is seeking to initiate the project and appoint the design professional in accordance with Board Policy §904(A), Board Approval, which requires each institution to bring all new projects to the Board for the approval of the project initiation and the appointment of a design professional, as required in Board Policy §902, Initiation of Construction Projects.

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**Project Initiation Date:** March 19, 2026

**Project Budget:**

		<i>Estimated</i>
Construction Cost:	\$	2,600,000.00
Architectural and Engineering Fees:		190,654.00
Misc. Project Costs:		79,346.00
Furniture & Equipment Costs:		0.00
Contingency:		130,000.00
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,000,000.00</b>

**Funding Source(s):** University Funds (\$3,000,000)

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

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

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

**2. DSU – GS 102-292 – STORM DAMAGE REPAIRS**

**Project Request:** Delta State University requests approval to increase the budget for the Storm Damage Repairs project from \$2,800,000 to \$4,918,186.67 for an increase in the amount of \$2,118,186.67. In addition, DSU requests to modify the funding source of the project from HB 603, Laws of 2023 funds to SB 2468, Laws of 2024 and Internal Funds received from previous insurance payouts.

**Current Project Phase:** Design Phase

**Design Professional:** Shafer Zahner Zahner, PLLC

**General Contractor:** TBD

**Insurance Coverage:** The design firm carries errors and omissions coverage in the amount of \$2,000,000 per claim and \$4,000,000 aggregate.

**Purpose/Justification:** The escalation in the project budget is required because Delta State has expanded the scope of work in order to repair a larger number of roofs on campus.

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**Project Scope:** The scope of work includes:

- a. Administrative Housing – replace full shingle roof
- b. Flight Instruction Building (Airport Office and Hangar) – replace full metal roof
- c. Flight Instruction Building (Airport Office and Hangar) – replace full metal roof
- d. Bailey Hall – replace shingle section of roof
- e. Bailey Hall – replace TPO section of roof
- f. Blansett Residence Hall – replace TPO roof section
- g. Blansett Residence Hall – misc. shingle repairs
- h. Bologna Performing Arts Center – replace standing seam roof section
- i. Bologna Performing Arts Center – replace TPO sections on lower roofs
- j. Bologna Performing Arts Center – replace TPO sections on upper roofs (Alternate)
- k. Broom Hall – misc. shingle repairs
- l. Brumby-Castle Residence Hall – misc. roof repairs
- m. Bryce Griffis Indoor Practice Facility – replace full metal roof
- n. Cassity Hall – recoat existing Mod. Bit. Roof
- o. Caylor/White/Walters Hall – replace full TPO roof
- p. Campus Fire Station – repair/replace various portions of roof (Alternate)
- q. Dave “Boo” Ferriss Field – replace full metal roof
- r. Faculty and Staff Apartments – replace full shingle roof
- s. Foundation Hall – replace full shingle roof
- t. Gibson-Gunn Commercial Aviation Building – replace full metal roof

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- u. Hugh Ellis Walker Alumni-Foundation House – replace full shingle roof
- v. Jobe Hall – replace full TPO roof
- w. Kethley Hall – misc. roof repairs
- x. Kent Wyatt Hall – replace full roof
- y. O.W. Reily Student Health Center – repair roof
- z. President’s House – replace full roof
- aa. Roberts - Laforge Library – repair broken skylights and vents
- bb. Smith Facilities Management Building – replace broken skylights
- cc. South Smith Facilities Management Complex, South Building – repair skylights
- dd. Whitfield Hall – replace full TPO roof
- ee. Wright Art Center – misc. roof repairs
- ff. Young-Mauldin Cafeteria – replace damaged skylight
- gg. Zeigel Hall – replace TPO roof section
- hh. Zeigel Hall – replace shingle section of roof

**Project Initiation Date:** June 20, 2024

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**Proposed Project Budget:**

	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Proposed Budget</b>	<b>Amount (+/-)</b>
Construction Costs	\$ 2,400,000.00	\$ 4,350,000.00	\$ 1,950,000.00
Architectural and Engineering Fees	\$ 157,988.50	\$ 275,213.22	\$ 117,224.72
Miscellaneous Project Costs	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 0.00
Furniture & Equipment Costs	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Contingency	\$ 192,011.50	\$ 242,973.45	\$ 50,961.95
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>\$ 2,800,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,918,186.67</b>	<b>\$ 2,118,186.67</b>

**Proposed Funding Source(s):** DSU internal funds (\$897,375.67); SB 2468, L'24 (\$4,020,808)

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

**APPROVAL OF OTHER REAL ESTATE REQUESTS**

**3. ASU –PRESIDENT’S HOUSE CARPORT ADDITION – APPROVAL OF EXTERIOR DESIGN**

**Agenda Request:** Alcorn State University requests approval of the exterior design of the President’s House Carport Addition project.

**Design Professional:** Waycaster Dungan Architecture and Engineering

**General Contractor:** Owen Holland & Sons, LLC

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

**Purpose:** Alcorn State University is seeking approval of the exterior rendering for the renovation of the President’s House Carport Addition project.

**Project Scope:** The scope of the project will include erecting a 24’ x 21 ‘ open carport addition on the west side of the property just outside of the existing garage. This

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structure will have electricity for surface light fixtures and gutters to match the home and garage.

**Funding Source(s):** ASU Foundation Funds

**Project Budget:** \$114,731.00

Alcorn 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.

**Rendering: Stand-Alone Carport at ASU President's House**



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1. **JSU – RETROACTIVE APPROVAL TO HIRE MAYO MALLETTE, PLLC AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

Jackson State University requests retroactive approval to enter into a contract with the law firm of Mayo Mallette, PLLC, as outside counsel, to provide services necessary for the review and revision of staff, faculty and student handbooks, as well as advising on personnel matters and employment law as needed. The term of the agreement began March 2, 2026 and will terminate June 30, 2027. Hourly rates are \$220 for attorneys and \$100 for paralegal services with a maximum amount payable under the term of the agreement of \$50,000. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$2 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$2 million. This request is pending approval by the Office of the Attorney General.

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

2. **MSU – APPROVAL TO HIRE COPELAND COOK TAYLOR & BUSH AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

Mississippi State University requests approval to enter into a contract with the law firm of Copeland Cook Taylor & Bush to perform services necessary in assisting the university with intellectual property matters including analysis of intellectual property, filing and prosecution of patent applications, trademark registration applications, copyright registration applications, preparation and negotiating agreements and other related intellectual property and commercialization issues. The term of the contract will be two years beginning April 17, 2026. The hourly rates will be \$250 for shareholder/of counsel attorneys, \$190 for associate attorneys and \$120 for paralegal services. To help manage per-project costs, the University may also 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 two-year term of the agreement is \$150,000. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$5,000,000 per claim with an annual aggregate of \$5,000,000. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

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

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3. **MSU – APPROVAL TO HIRE QUARLES AND BRADY, LLP AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

Mississippi State University requests approval to enter into a contract with the law firm of Quarles and Brady, LLP to perform services necessary in assisting the university with intellectual property matters. The term of the contract will be two years beginning March 17, 2026. The hourly rates will be \$400 attorneys and \$200 for paralegal services. To help manage per-project costs, the University may also 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 two-year term of the agreement is \$75,000. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$1,000,000 per claim with an annual aggregate of \$2,000,000. 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 WEATHERLY IP SOLUTIONS, LLC AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

Mississippi State University requests approval to enter into a contract with Weatherly IP Solutions, LLC, as outside counsel to provide services as necessary in assisting the university with intellectual property matters specifically relating to grass patents. The term of the contract will be two years beginning March 24, 2026. The hourly rate for attorney James Weatherly is \$520. To help manage per-project costs, the University may also 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. Flat fee filings for trademark filings will not exceed \$3,000 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 annual maximum amount payable under the two-year term of the agreement is \$25,000 per year. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$2 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.**

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APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL ACTION REQUEST

1. Sabbatical

**Mississippi State University**

- Anatoli Afanasjev; Professor of Physics & Astronomy; *from* salary of \$116,857.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$58,428.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 1, 2027, to May 15, 2027; professional development
- Gombojav Ariunbold; Associate Professor of Physics & Astronomy; *from* salary of \$82,669.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$41,334.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Henk F. Arnoldus; Professor of Physics & Astronomy; *from* salary of \$105,495.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$52,747.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Mitchell E. Berman; Professor of Psychology; *from* salary of \$155,788.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$77,894.00 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 1, 2027, to May 15, 2027; professional development
- Jacob M. Crook; Assistant Professor of Art; *from* salary of \$67,371.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$33,685.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 1, 2027, to May 15, 2027; professional development
- Hai Dinh Dang; Professor of Mathematics & Statistics; *from* salary of \$124,960.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$62,480.00 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Angus L. Dawe; Professor of Biological Sciences; *from* salary of \$184,275.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; *to* salary of \$69,103.13 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 1, 2027, to May 15, 2027; professional development
- Gary N. Ervin; Professor of Biological Sciences; *from* salary of \$120,751.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$60,375.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Melvin Fugate; Professor of Management & Information Systems; *from* salary of \$182,727.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$91,363.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 1, 2027, to May 15, 2027; professional development
- Rinat Gabitov; Associate Professor of Geosciences; *from* salary of \$83,555.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$41,777.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 1, 2027, to May 15, 2027; professional development

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- Masoud K. Ghartemani; Professor of Electrical & Computer Engineering; *from* salary of \$146,443.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$36,610.75 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Tonya S. Hays; Assistant Professor of Communication; *from* salary of \$68,365.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$34,182.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Terri N. Hernandez; Associate Professor of Communication; *from* salary of \$77,462.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$38,731.00 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 1, 2027, to May 15, 2027; professional development
- Todd R. Jones; Assistant Professor of Finance & Economics; *from* salary of \$120,489.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$60,244.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Sanna King; Assistant Professor of Sociology; *from* salary of \$78,678.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$39,339.00 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Robert J. Long; Professor of Art; *from* salary of \$88,552.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$44,276.00 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Julia A. Osman; Associate Professor of History; *from* salary of \$84,572.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$21,143.00 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 1, 2027, to May 15, 2027; professional development
- Frank C. Owens, IV; Associate Professor of Sustainable Bioproducts; *from* salary of \$97,339.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$48,669.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Michael R. Potter; Associate Professor of Political Science & Public Administration; *from* salary of \$88,460.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$44,230.00 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Lauren B. Priddy; Associate Professor of Ag & Bio Engineering; *from* salary of \$101,941.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$50,970.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Matthew W. Priddy; Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering; *from* salary of \$120,989.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$60,494.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development

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- Nicole E. Rader; Professor of Sociology; *from* salary of \$185,786.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; *to* salary of \$69,669.75 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 1, 2027, to May 15, 2027; professional development
- Holli H. Seitz; Associate Professor of Communication; *from* salary of \$81,299.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$40,649.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 1, 2027, to May 15, 2027; professional development
- Keun S. Seo; Associate Professor of Comparative Biomedical Sciences; *from* salary of \$137,889.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$68,944.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 1, 2027, to May 15, 2027; professional development
- Seungjae Shin; Professor of Healthcare Administration; *from* salary of \$153,142.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$76,571.00 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Vaidyanathan Sivaraman; Associate Professor of Mathematics & Statistics; *from* salary of \$85,112.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$42,556.00 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 1, 2027, to May 15, 2027; professional development
- Adam D. Skarke; Associate Professor of Geosciences; *from* salary of \$87,505.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$43,752.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Andrea D. Spain; Associate Professor of English; *from* salary of \$70,098.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$35,049.00 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development
- Marian L. Swindell; Professor of Division of Arts & Sciences; *from* salary of \$99,920.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$49,960.00 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 1, 2027, to May 15, 2027; professional development
- Wilburn R. Whittington; Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering; *from* salary of \$124,405.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$62,202.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to May 15, 2027; professional development
- Brian Williams; Assistant Professor of Geosciences; *from* salary of \$73,162.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of \$36,581.00 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development

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1. MSU – APPROVAL TO AWARD TWO HONORARY DEGREES

The university requests approval to bestow two honorary degrees at its May 2026 Commencement ceremonies. Supporting documents are on file at the Board Office.

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

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1. SYSTEM – REQUEST FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF PROPOSED NEW POLICY  
FINANCIAL LITERACY REPORT AND WAIVER OF SECOND READING

The concepts of Financial Literacy – defined as the ability to understand how financial skills, like budgeting, saving, managing debt, and investing, can be used to improve one’s financial well-being and stability – are covered in several ways at each of the IHL institutions including in first-year experience courses, workshops/seminars, co-curricular learning objectives fostered within specific programs, curriculum-based concepts covered in courses, student organization programming, financial coaching for wise use of financial aid, online content made available to students, counseling, and collaborations with external financial institutions. This new policy will require the universities to submit annual reports updating the board on their continued efforts to provide financial literacy education to undergraduate students.

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Financial literacy emphasizes practical knowledge and skills relevant to students' unique financial challenges, such as managing limited income, student loans, credit, and long-term planning. Each IHL institution shall ensure that financial literacy concepts are meaningfully covered and accessible to all undergraduate students.

Institutions have the flexibility to tailor approaches to their degree programs, campus culture, resources, and student needs, provided the coverage is practical, evidence-informed, and reaches a broad student population.

Annually, each institution shall submit a report outlining its financial literacy efforts.

(X/2026)

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board staff recommends final approval of proposed new policy and waiver of second reading.**

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FINANCE & BUDGET  
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1. **UMMC- REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ENTER A DISTRIBUTION SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH MEDLINE INDUSTRIES, LP AND VANDERBILT HEALTH PURCHASING COLLABORATIVE, LLC**

**Agenda Item Request:** The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) requests approval to enter into a new Distribution Services Agreement with **Medline Industries, LP**, (Medline) and **Vanderbilt Health Purchasing Collaborative, LLC (VHPC)**. The Distribution Services Agreement is for the purchase and distribution of medical/surgical products, as well as related hospital consumable supplies, capital equipment, and non-traditional medical-surgical goods, and special orders as needed. Under the Agreement, Medline will provide inventory management, Low Unit of Measure stock picking operations (LUM), and delivery services to UMMC hospitals and clinics. Additionally, UMMC requests permission to amend the agreement to add or remove specific services and locations provided by Medline under the agreement without seeking prior Board approval as long as adequate funds are available.

**Contractor's Legal Name: Medline Industries, LP, and Vanderbilt Health Purchasing Collaborative, LLC**

**History of Contract:** This is a new Distribution Services Agreement Medline and VHPC for medical/surgical product distribution. To the extent authorized by Mississippi law, the Distribution Services Agreement is subject to the terms of the Medical and Laboratory Distribution Agreement between Medline and VHPC (GPO Agreement). In February 2022, the Board approved a contract with Owens and Minor Distribution, Inc. (O&M) for medical/surgical product distribution. UMMC will provide written notice to O&M to terminate the agreement prior to the expiration date of February 28, 2027. UMMC is changing distribution partners at this time as the result of RFP 8070 for Distribution Services.

**Specific Type of Contract:** This is a new Distribution Services Agreement.

**Purpose:** The purpose of the agreement is for the purchase and distribution of medical/surgical products, as well as related hospital consumable supplies, capital equipment, and non-traditional medical-surgical goods, and special orders as needed.

**Scope of Work:** Under this agreement, Medline will:

- Provide storage and delivery of acute care/medical surgical products to UMMC facilities each week as agreed in the delivery schedule
- Deliver other products such as capital equipment, and non-traditional medical-surgical goods, and special orders as needed
- Provide a one-time rebate on total product sales in the first calendar year
- Provide an annual rebate based on the volume of Medline branded products UMMC purchases

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- Provide an annual rebate based on the growth in Medline branded products that UMMC purchases relative to the prior year
- Provide enhanced price assurances on Medline custom packs
- Provide UMMC with one hundred twenty (120) Supply Chain Optimization Consulting hours
- Incur financial penalties related to failure to meet agreed upon key performance indicators as assessed quarterly

**Term of Contract:** The term of this agreement is five (5) years and (6) six months. The agreement shall begin on the April 1, 2026, which is the effective date and agreement will remain in effect until 5 (five) years from the commencement of services, expected to be on or about October 1, 2026, for an expected end date of on or about September 30, 3031.

**Termination Options:** The agreement may be terminated as follows:

- by UMMC on 180 days written notice, after the first three years of the agreement;
- by UMMC if Medline or VHPC refuse or fail to perform any of the provisions of the agreement or timely satisfy the provisions thereof, if the other party does not cure their nonperformance within thirty (30) days of notice;
- immediately upon Medline's or VHPC's breach of any of the following ongoing representations and warranties that one of the entities, 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,
  - are not, nor have ever been included on the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons list;
  - are not, to the best of its knowledge, under investigation or otherwise aware of any circumstances which may result in a party being excluded from participation in the Federal Healthcare Programs or any state healthcare programs; and
  - if Medline or VHPC will receive any patients' personal health information, they represent and warrant that they will implement safeguards to ensure that the privacy and confidentiality of patients' personal health information is protected.
- by UMMC if Medline or VHPC is unable to provide services for a period of thirty consecutive days due to a force majeure event;
- in the event of a reduction in funds; and
- in the event of an adverse change in law and the parties cannot agree upon renegotiated terms within thirty (30) days.

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**Contract Amount:** The total estimated cost of the agreement over the Five (5) year and six (6) month year term is \$370,000,000. UMMC has included annual increases of ten percent (10%) for volume and three percent (3%) for possible inflation.

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

**Contractor Selection Process:** In January 2025, UMMC conducted Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 8070 for Distribution Services and three (3) bidders submitted proposals. After reviewing the proposals, a selection committee composed of representatives from UMMC's departments of supply chain and nursing, as well as hospital executive leadership found that all three (3) bidders met the scope of the RFP: Medline, Owens and Minor and Cardinal Health. Medline received the highest score based on organizational capabilities, service quality, implementation, and was the lowest cost bidder.

**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 FOR APPROVAL OF A STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY WITH UNITEDHEALTHCARE STUDENT RESOURCES**

**Agenda Item Request:** The Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning's Executive Office (IHL) requests approval of student health insurance policies for use by the system. The insurer will be **UnitedHealthcare Student Resources**.

**Contractor's Legal Name:** **United Healthcare Student Resources** ("UnitedHealthcare"). IHL's broker for this line of coverage is Holland Insurance.

**History of Contract:** This is a renewal of the current policy.

**Specific Type of Contract:** This is a contract for student health insurance.

**Purpose:** The purpose of the contract is to provide an insurance option for students to purchase directly, or for universities to purchase as a benefit for certain classes of student workers or employees. The goal of the system approach is to lower premium costs while maintaining health insurance coverage that meets Affordable Care Act and visa requirements. The system SHIP has been utilized primarily by Mississippi State, Ole Miss, and USM, although it is available to all system students. The recommended policy provides gold-level coverage with an in-network annual deductible of \$250. UnitedHealthcare is rated "A+" by A.M. Best Company.

**Scope of Work:** The insurer will provide student health insurance coverage and related services during the policy year in exchange for the payment of premiums

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by students or universities. Coverage will be available for students at all system universities as well as UMMC.

**Term of Contract:** The inception date of each policy may vary from university to university so as to have an effective date that coincides with the termination dates of each university's current policies. The most common policy inception date has been August 15<sup>th</sup>, so while dates may vary, a common term is expected to be August 15, 2026, to August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2027.

**Termination Options:** The insurance coverage requires receipt of premium payments and premiums can only be refunded in the situation where the insured enters the armed forces. There are not other termination options for either party, other than the termination date of the policy.

**Contract Amount:** For non-UMMC students, the premium will be \$2,790 per policy per year for a student, a student's spouse, or one child, which includes broker commission and all fees. The premium for the student and all children is \$5,580, and a family premium is \$8,370. If 3,200 participants are insured, the aggregate annual premium would be approximately \$7,852,800. The aggregate premium will vary based upon the number of participants. The premiums for UMMC students, for a UMMC student's spouse, and to add one UMMC student's child are \$4,996. The UMMC student premiums for the student and all children, or the family, are \$9,992 and \$14,988 respectively.

**Funding Source for Contract:** Students will directly pay the premium for their policy, except for some student workers. Universities may elect to pay or supplement the premium cost for certain classes of student workers, such as graduate assistants, as an employment benefit or part of its payment structure. Expenditures for student health insurance by universities are determined by each university.

**Contractor Selection Process:** IHL conducted a competitive RFP process which utilized a Student Health Insurance Committee to select Holland Insurance Company as our broker for a four-year term. Two brokers were assigned three markets. The quotes from UnitedHealthcare with Holland are the best and lowest quote.

**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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**3. MUW-REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO RENEW A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH BSN SPORTS**

**Agenda Item Request:** Mississippi University for Women (MUW) requests approval to enter the two-year renewal with **BSN Sports LLC** for July 2026- June 2028. The agreement states the parties may renew this agreement no later than ninety (90) days before the end of term.

**Contractor's Legal Name:** BSN Sports, LLC

**History of Contract:** BSN was chosen for this brand specific contract. This Exclusive Supplier Agreement began July 2025 as a one (1) year term with the option to renew for successive two(2) year terms. Athletic teams have ordered athletic apparel totaling \$118,416.with a projected \$150,000 of purchases each year. The current amendment is to extend the contract through June 2028 with the same apparel discounts and rebate offered.

**Specific Type of Contract:** This is a renewal of a purchasing agreement.

**Purpose:** The purpose of the agreement is to purchase Adidas uniforms and apparel for Mississippi University for Women athletic use.

**Scope of Work:** This agreement provides Adidas sports attire at a discounted rate to Mississippi University for Women Athletics Department. The agreement provides Premier Pricing, a 10% annual rebate, and a product signing bonus. The rebate is accrued on all purchases made by athletics and can be used for any products BSN offers, both athletic wear and equipment within the fiscal year purchased.

**Term of Contract:** The renewal of the agreement would start July 2026 and end June 2028. The current agreement, ending June 2026, allows the parties to renew the agreement in writing ninety (90) days before the first agreement term ends for the two (2) year term.

**Contract Amount:** The total cost of the contract is \$300,000. Year 1 \$150,000 and Year 2 \$150,000.

**Funding Source for Contract:** This contract is funded through general funds.

**Termination Options:** The agreement may be terminated for cause in writing with thirty (30) days notice.

**Contractor Selection Process:** A request for brand specific bids was initiated in January 2025. This was to ensure Mississippi University for Women's athletes have high quality gear that Adidas offers and consistency of apparel already in use along with the Adidas contract in place. MUW received three bids. While no significant difference in

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cost was found, it was determined that BSN Sports had a better stock and access to supplies resulting in better service to the athletic department.

**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. UM –REQUEST TO APPROVE BOND RESOLUTION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO ISSUE BONDS THROUGH THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI 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 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; REFUND ALL OR A PORTION OF THE OUTSTANDING (I) UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI EDUCATIONAL BUILDING CORPORATION REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2015A (CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT), (II) UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI EDUCATIONAL BUILDING CORPORATION TAXABLE REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2015B (CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT), (III) UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI EDUCATIONAL BUILDING CORPORATION REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2015C (CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT), (IV) UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI EDUCATIONAL BUILDING CORPORATION TAXABLE REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2015D (CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT), (V) UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI EDUCATIONAL BUILDING CORPORATION REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2016A (FACILITIES REFINANCING PROJECT), AND (VI) UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI EDUCATIONAL BUILDING CORPORATION REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2017 (FACILITIES REFINANCING PROJECT) (TOGETHER, THE “REFUNDED BONDS”); AND TO PAY THE COSTS OF THE ISSUANCE, SALE AND DELIVERY OF SAID BONDS.

**Agenda Item Request:** The University of Mississippi (UM) 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 \$338 million consisting of \$256 million in new money and \$82 million in potential refunding of currently outstanding debt. 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

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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 approval under Section 906 of the IHL Bylaws to refund all or a portion of outstanding UMEBC revenue bonds if independent analysis showing potential net present value (NPV) savings meets specific levels. These refundings would not exceed \$82 million.

**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 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.

The Board reviewed and approved the Financial Advisor's report for this bond issuance in February 2026.

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

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**Purpose:** The purpose is to initiate the Bond Process for up to \$338 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. Up to \$82 million of the \$338 million total is purposed for potentially refunding existing debt to lower debt service costs. The remaining \$256 million is new money for various projects. 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 \$338 million par value, fixed rate bonds. A maximum of \$256 million in proceeds from the bond issue will support the project funds, capitalized interest, cost of issuance and the underwriter's discount. A maximum of \$82 million in proceeds will support the potential refunding of currently outstanding debt. Based on the Financial Advisor's report dated December 17, 2025, the proposed debt amortization the new \$256 million will have an average annual debt payment of \$16,657,975 at an expected allin 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:** 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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1. **DSU – INTENT TO OFFER A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

Certificate program title: **Leading AI-Driven Transformation and Impact**

Responsible academic unit: Accountancy, Computer Information Systems, and Geospatial Information Technologies

Level: post-baccalaureate

Total credit hours: 12

CIP code: 52.0201

Effective date: May 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 January 16, 2026, ITS as the contracting agent for UMMC, entered into Order Form 530972 under the current Master Subscription Agreement with **Workday, Inc.** (Workday). Order Form 530972 is a Subscription Growth Acknowledgement order for additional licenses for Workday Student Service 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 530972 is for the true-up of additional, annual licenses for the Workday Student Service software used to manage and streamline administrative processes of the student experience such as student records, academic advising, registration and enrollment, financial aid, billing, and payments.

**Scope of Work:** Under Order Form 530972 Workday will provide the system and technical support as outlined.

**Term of Contract:** The term of Order Form 530972 is for the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026. The term of the Master Subscription Agreement will remain unchanged and will expire January 18, 2028.

**Contract Amount:** The total cost for Order Form 530972 is \$14,475. The total cost of the Master Subscription will now be \$27,573,704.60.

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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 101-328 – DORMITORY RENOVATIONS

Approval Request 1: Change Order #7

Board staff approved Change Order #7 in the amount of \$66,720.00 and eighteen (18) additional days as submitted by Paul Jackson & Son, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 10, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #7 includes the following: installation of 280 linear feet of 6" C900 pipe, casing and fittings, and thrust blocks for concurrently running project at Robinson Hall.

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

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Seven (7) total change orders in the amount of \$1,114,839.00.

Project Initiation Date: June 15, 2023

Design Professional: Burris / Wagnon Architects

General Contractor: Paul Jackson & Son, Inc.

Total Project Budget: \$7,280,000.00

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2. ASU-IHL 201-264 – MATT THOMAS JR. GARDEN APARTMENTS  
RENOVATIONS PHASE I

**Approval Request 1: Change Order #3**

Board staff approved Change Order #3 in the amount of \$13,150.00 and fourteen (14) additional days as submitted by Barnard & Sons Construction, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 16, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #3 includes the following: providing underground electrical service and panels to Buildings C and D.

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

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Three (3) total change orders in the amount of \$70,588.00.

Project Initiation Date: March 21, 2024

Design Professional: Canizaro Cawthon Davis, P.A.

General Contractor: Barnard & Sons Construction, LLC

Total Project Budget: \$2,750,000.00

**DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY**

1. DSU-GS 102-258B – WALTER SILLERS PHASE II

**Approval Request #1: Appointment of Commissioning Agent**

Board staff approved the appointment of SINERGI Integrated Building Sciences, LLC as the Commissioning Agent for the project.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 16, 2026

**Approval Request #2: Award of Construction Contract**

Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of \$4,191,500.00 to the apparent low bidder, Timbo's Construction, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 16, 2026

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Project Initiation Date: November 21, 2024  
Design Professional: CDFL Architects + Engineers, P.A.  
General Contractor: Timbo's Construction, Inc.  
Total Project Budget: \$5,344,974.90

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

**Approval Request: Waiver of Design Development Documents**

Board staff approved the waiver of Design Development Documents as submitted by Shafer Zahner Zahner, PLLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 16, 2026

Project Initiation Date: June 20, 2024  
Design Professional: Shafer Zahner Zahner, PLLC  
General Contractor: TBD  
Total Project Budget: \$2,800,000.00

**4. DSU-GS 102-295 – WARD HALL RENOVATIONS**

**Approval Request #1: Appointment of Commissioning Agent**

Board staff approved the appointment of SINERGI Integrated Building Sciences, LLC as the Commissioning Agent for the project.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 16, 2026

**Approval Request #2: Schematic Design Documents**

Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by ArchitectureSouth, P.A.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 9, 2026

Project Initiation Date: May 15, 2025  
Design Professional: ArchitectureSouth, P.A.  
General Contractor: TBD  
Total Project Budget: \$6,000,000.00

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JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

5. JSU-GS 103-319 – RESIDENCE HALL RENOVATION (MCALISTER WHITESIDE)

**Approval Request #1 (INTERIM): Budget Increase & Addition of Funding Source**

In accordance with Board Policy §904 (B) Board Approval, *Interim Chair Approval* was granted by Mr. Greg Rader, Chair of the Real Estate and Facilities Committee on February 11, 2026, to approve the budget increase from \$27,089,500.00 to \$27,602,500.63, for an increase of \$513,000.63. Revised funding for the project is SB 2971, Laws of 2021 (\$250,000.00), SB 3065, Laws of 2019 (\$500,000.00), HB 1816, Laws of 2024 (\$8,013,000.00) and HB 1131, Laws of 2025 (\$18,839,500.63).

Interim Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 11, 2026

**Approval Request #2: Award of Construction Contract**

Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of \$22,097,000.00 to the apparent low bidder, Fountain Construction Co., Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 19, 2026

Project Initiation Date: October 19, 2023

Design Professional: Foil Wyatt Architects & Planners

General Contractor: Fountain Construction Company, Inc.

Phased Project Budget: \$25,566,704.34

Total Project Budget: \$27,602,500.63

6. JSU-GS 103-322 APRA INFRASTRUCTURE WASTE COLLECTION & CONVEYANCE

**Approval Request: Change Order #2**

Board staff approved Change Order #2 in the amount of \$1,552,175.00 and ninety (90) additional days to the contract of Hemphill Construction Company, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 19, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #2 includes the following: proceeding with original Alternate C for removal and replacement of 900 linear feet of 8” sewer with 348 linear feet of CIPP lining, point repairs manhole restoration, curb and gutter roadway repairs and select backfill bedding. This Change Order also includes proceeding with original Alternate D for removal and replacement of an additional 799 linear feet of 8”

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sewer with point repairs, manhole lining restoration, curb and gutter roadway repairs, select backfill bedding and seeding/sodding. Proceeding with Alternates C and D are a result of additional ARPA funds being added to the project.

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

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Two (2) change orders for a total amount of \$1,709,896.00.

Project Initiation Date: October 17, 2024  
Design Professional: Pickering Firm, Inc.  
General Contractor: Hemphill Construction Company, Inc.  
Total Project Budget: \$6,784,069.80

**7. JSU-GS 103-343 JOC TB ELLIS ROOFING IMPROVEMENTS**

**Approval Request #1: Construction Documents**

Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by Vernell Barnes Architect, PLLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 20, 2026

**Approval Request #2: Award of Construction Contract**

Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of \$1,700,366.14 to the apparent low bidder, Alliant Construction.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 20, 2026

Project Initiation Date: February 18, 2021  
Design Professional: Vernell Barnes Architect, PLLC  
General Contractor: Alliant Construction  
Total Project Budget: \$3,000,000.00

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8. JSU-GS 103-344 JOC TB ELLIS INTERIOR RENOVATIONS

**Approval Request #1: Construction Documents**

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

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 20, 2026

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

9. MSU-IHL 205-328A NEW RESIDENCE HALL SITE AND FOUNDATION

**Approval Request: Change Order #6**

Board staff approved Change Order #6 in the amount of \$47,090.00 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Roy Anderson Corporation.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 2, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #6 includes the following: costs associated with replacing the bedding material for storm drainage trenches, from sand to stone.

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 \$1,834,481.09.

Project Initiation Date: October 25, 2022

Design Professional: Weir Boerner Allin Architecture

CMA: Hoar Program Management

General Contractor: Roy Anderson Corporation

Phased Project Budget: \$5,600,000.00

Total Project Budget: \$103,500,000.00

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

**Approval Request: Change Order #8**

Board staff approved Change Order #8 in the amount of \$103,854.00 and thirty (30) additional days to the contract of Roy Anderson Corporation.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 2, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #8 includes the following: costs associated with the scope revisions made to replace the storm shelter entry door, costs associated with replacing the bedding material for storm drain trenches, costs associated with performing Ground Penetrating Radar scanning and coring of mechanical, plumbing and electrical penetrations in concrete shear walls installed under the Site & Foundations package, and GFRC & limestone profile changes.

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: Eight (8) change orders for a total amount of \$1,834,481.09.

Project Initiation Date: October 25, 2022

Design Professional: Weir Boerner Allin Architecture

CMA: Hoar Program Management

General Contractor: Roy Anderson Corporation

Phased Project Budget: \$89,802,000.00

Total Project Budget: \$103,500,000.00

**11. MSU-IHL 205-336 SOUTH CAMPUS MECHANICAL PLANT, BID PACKAGE B**

**Approval Request: Change Order #5**

Board staff approved Change Order #5 in the *credit* amount of \$14,446.30 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of ECON Construction, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 5, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #5 includes the following: deduction from the contractor's scope of work due to moving work to the Dorman Hall project, installation of a junction box at the location of a 13Kv line, with concrete poured over the line, and installation of an underground drain and connection to an installed junction box.

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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 \$37,923.93.

Project Initiation Date: June 15, 2023

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

CMA: Innovative Construction Management

General Contractor: ECON Construction, Inc.

Phased Project Budget: \$1,863,378.93

Total Project Budget: \$35,000,000.00

**12. MSU-IHL 205-336 SOUTH CAMPUS MECHANICAL PLANT, BID PACKAGE L**

**Approval Request: Change Order #1**

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the *credit* amount of \$64,353.37 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of SGK Landscapes, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 5, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: deduction from the contractor's scope of work due to work being removed, removal of 2 zones of irrigation located on the south side of the ABE Building, removal of 4,100 square feet of landscape beds located on the south side of the ABE Building, removal of proposed plants and trees located on the south side of the ABE Building, removal of proposed sod located on the south side of the building.

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

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change order for a total *credit* amount of \$64,353.37.

Project Initiation Date: June 15, 2023

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

CMA: Innovative Construction Management

General Contractor: SGK Landscapes, Inc.

Phased Project Budget: \$317,872.63

Total Project Budget: \$35,000,000.00

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**13. MSU-IHL 205-359 WISE CENTER RENOVATION AND ADDITION – FARM ANIMAL HOSPITAL (Bid Package L)**

**Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract**

Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of \$293,350.00 to the apparent low bidder, Scott & Sons Construction & Mechanical Services, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 5, 2026

Project Initiation Date: October 17, 2024

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

**14. MSU-IHL 405-003B HOWELL HALL ADDITIONS AND RENOVATIONS**

**Approval Request: Change Order #3**

Board staff approved Change Order #3 in the amount of \$25,688.15 and thirty (30) additional days to the contract of West Brothers Construction.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 2, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #3 includes the following: demolition of CMU wall between Corridor 1100 and Drawing Lab 1110 and rebuilding wall with metal studs, insulation and finish gyp board, structural steel modifications, adding nutall oaks, tree protection fencing revisions, revisions to site concrete walls, and revisions to concrete pavers for fire lane accommodation, adding cane detection rail, steel beam, kickers and straps for joists, adding compressed air hose reels to Art Wood Shop and Print Making Studio, modifications to door hardware items, and a credit for the controls allowance.

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: Six (6) change orders for a total amount of \$611,104.59.

Project Initiation Date: August 19, 2021

Design Professional: Belinda Stewarts Architects and Wier Boerner Allin Architecture

General Contractor: West Brothers Construction

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Phased Project Budget: \$26,500,000.00

Total Project Budget: \$35,732,500.00

**UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI**

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

**Approval Request: Change Order #2**

Board staff approved Change Order #2 in the amount of \$461,374.94 and sixteen (16) additional days to the contract of Innovative Construction Management, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 17, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #2 includes the following: renovations to existing corridors, addition of storm drainage piping to storm detention center, foundation and structural steel changes to infill the west alley space between buildings and modifications to the structural steel for the mechanical room on the second floor.

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 \$1,581,871.83.

Project Initiation Date: June 16, 2022

Design Professional: McCarty Architects, P.A.

General Contractor: Innovative Construction Management, LLC

Phased Project Budget: \$37,798,235.65

Total Project Budget: \$39,275,000.00

**16. UM – IHL 207-468.1B ART, THEATRE & FILM DEPARTMENT FACILITIES  
(MUSIC HALL)**

**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, February 27, 2026

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Project Initiation Date: November 19, 2020  
Design Professional: Eley Guild Hardy Architects, P.A.  
General Contractor: TBD  
Phased Project Budget: \$16,500,000.00  
Total Project Budget: \$35,938,912.00

**UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER**

**17. UMMC-IHL 209-579 – UMMC COLONY PARK**

**Approval Request: Change Order #25**

Board staff approved Change Order #25 in the amount of \$84,370.04 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Codaray Construction, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 16, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #25 includes the following: moving card readers, adding power, data and blocking where required in nine (9) rooms, hiring a 3<sup>rd</sup> party to test the fire alarm systems, connecting fire pump to emergency power, changing the hardware on four (4) doors in the MOB from electrified trim to a passage function trim, adding a nurse call system in the PET CT control room, adding exit signs and fire pull station at the north egress door to the lobby, adding a fire pull station at the egress door on the south end of the ASC, and adding a starter circuit between the fire pump controllers and the generators.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to changes in requirements or recommendation of a governmental entity, errors and omissions in the plans and specifications, and user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Twenty-Five (25) change orders for a total amount of \$6,003,738.80.

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

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18. USM-IHL 214-024 – GULF PARK LANGUAGE & SPEECH THERAPY CENTER

**Approval Request: Change Order #1**

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the *credit* amount of \$17,517.00 and forty-eight (48) additional days to the contract of JW Puckett & Company, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 3, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: HVAC piping below grade separation, sanitary piping routing revision, deletion of acoustical partitions from the work, an increase in the size of the in-ground data conduit, locating the in-ground HVAC hot and cold water supply and return lines, addition of steel for elevator support, addition of exterior valves for hot and cold water HVAC supply and return lines, additional data cabling for exterior wall access control doors, millwork revisions for the DuBard classrooms, door hardware revisions, and a credit for the Building Automated Systems (BAS) allowance.

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

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change orders for a total *credit* amount of \$17,517.00.

Project Initiation Date: June 16, 2022

Design Professional: MP Design Group

General Contractor: JW Puckett & Company, Inc.

Total Project Budget: \$12,400,000.00

EDUCATION & RESEARCH CENTER

19. ERC – GS 111-078 IHL PLUMBING REPAIRS

**Approval Request: Schematic Design Documents**

Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by Boggan & Vaughn Architects.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, February 11, 2026

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Project Initiation Date: August 21, 2025  
Design Professional: Boggan & Vaughn Architects  
General Contractor: TBD  
Total Project Budget: \$100,000.00 (Design Fees Only)

**20. ERC – GS 111-079 IHL WINDOW REPAIRS**

**Approval Request: Change Order #1**

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of \$6,000.00 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of SPF Window Films, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 2, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: additional beads of silicone to 32 windows, frame to frame across the top joint.

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

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change order for a total amount of \$6,000.00.

Project Initiation Date: August 6, 2025  
Design Professional: Engineering Resource Group, Inc.  
General Contractor: SPF Window Films, LLC  
Total Project Budget: \$600,000.00

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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 2/19/26) from the funds of the IHL System Office. (This statement, in the amount of \$28,862.75, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 28,862.75**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mayo Mallette, PLLC (statement dated 11/13/25 from the funds of Jackson State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$88.00, represents services and expenses in connection with an immigration/labor certification matter.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 88.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Brunini, Grower, Grantham and Hewes, PLLC (statements dated 2/17/26 and 2/17/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$262.50 and \$612.50, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 875.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Copeland Cook Taylor & Bush, PA (statement dated 2/19/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$6,739.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 6,739.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 1/12/26, 1/26/26, 2/10/26, 2/10/26, 2/10/26 and 2/19/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$2,650.00, \$2,650.00, \$569.00, \$2,650.00 \$2,650.00 and \$160.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 11,329.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Lightfoot Franklin White, LLC (statement dated 2/16/26) from the funds of Mississippi Valley State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$360.50, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

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**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 360.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statement dated 2/17/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$10,110.50, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 10,110.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Kaplan Kirsch, LLP (statement dated 1/28/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$1,187.50, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,187.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Alexander Law, P.A. (statements dated 1/6/26, 1/6/26, 1/6/26, 1/6/26, and 1/6/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$1,140.50, \$306.00, \$420.50, \$411.50 and \$3,920.50, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 6,199.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 1/21/26, 1/21/26, 1/21/26, 1/21/26, 1/21/26, 1/21/26, 1/21/26, 1/22/26 and 1/28/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$4,687.50, \$136.00, \$13,799.60, \$738.10, \$586.40, \$182.50, \$2,858.50, \$7,712.44 and \$1,131.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 31,832.54**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Forman Watkins & Krutz, LLP (statements dated 12/22/25, 12/22/25 and 1/12/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$225.00, \$2,061.00 and \$6,076.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 8,362.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Gore, Kilpatrick & Dambrino, PLLC (statement dated 12/29/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (This statement, in the amount of \$140.00, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 140.00**

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Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Hogan Lovells, US, LLP (statements dated 10/31/25, 10/31/25 and 11/25/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$328.50, \$328.50 and \$219.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 876.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mayo Mallette, PLLC (statement dated 1/6/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (This statement, in the amount of \$805.00, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 805.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Page, Kruger & Holland, PA (statements dated 1/5/26, 1/5/26, 1/5/26, 1/5/26 and 1/6/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$880.80, \$719.00, \$141.00, \$80.00 and \$80.00, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,900.80**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Vernis & Bowling of Mississippi, PLLC (statements dated 11/25/25, 11/25/25, 11/25/25, 11/25/25, 11/25/25, 11/25/25, 12/23/25, 12/23/25 and 12/23/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$2,990.50, \$11,154.00, \$1,453.50, \$2,321.50, \$5,901.50, \$862.50, \$167.50, \$247.50 and \$892.20, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 25,990.70**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Walker & Ungo Immigration Law Firm (statements dated 12/23/25, 1/15/26, 1/15/26, 1/15/26, 1/16/26 and 1/16/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$3,000.00, \$500.00, \$2,000.00, \$2,000.00, \$2,000.00 and \$3,520.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 13,020.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Watkins & Eager, PLLC (statements dated 1/8/26, 1/9/26, 1/13/26, 1/13/26, 1/13/26, 1/13/26, 1/13/26, 1/13/26, 1/13/26, 1/13/26, 1/14/26, 1/20/26, 1/20/26 and 1/20/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$420.00, \$1,619.00, \$181.50, \$593.55, \$100.00, \$945.00, \$350.00, \$2,415.00, \$1,750.00, \$245.00, \$525.00, \$980.00 and \$280.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

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**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 10,404.05**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by the Wise Carter Child & Caraway, PA (statements dated 1/6/26 and 1/6/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$3,020.00 and \$325.00, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 3,345.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statement dated 1/9/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$7,976.20, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 7,976.20**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statement dated 2/2/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$24.01, represents services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 24.01**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Wise, Carter, Child & Caraway, PA (statements dated 9/10/25 and 11/10/25) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$247.50 and \$675.00, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 922.50**

**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 (statements dated 2/19/25, 2/19/25, 9/10/25, 12/11/25 and 1/9/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$1,393.50, \$2,985.50, \$157.50, \$94.50 and \$721.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 5,352.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 1/21/26 and 2/18/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the

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amounts of \$1,274.00 and \$675.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,949.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Conley Rose, P.C. (statement dated 2/4/26) 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 11/6/25, 2/9/26, 2/9/26, 2/9/26, 2/9/26 and 2/9/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$3,446.50, \$230.00, \$2,289.79, \$671.50, \$816.00 and \$963.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 8,417.29**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Stites & Harbison, PLLC (statements dated 1/23/26, 1/23/26, 1/23/26, 1/23/26, 1/23/26, 2/24/26 and 2/24/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$3,256.50, \$518.50, \$715.50, \$2,088.00, \$2,203.50, \$1,784.50 and \$357.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 10,923.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 12/29/25, 12/29/25, 1/21/26, 1/21/26, 1/21/26 and 1/21/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$255.50, \$20,638.00, \$511.00, \$1,794.00, \$65.00 and \$438.00, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 23,701.50**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Stites & Harbison, PLLC (statement dated 1/23/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (This statement, in the amount of \$684.00, represents services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 684.00**

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Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Workman Nydegger (statement dated 12/12/25) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (This statement, in the amount of \$1,995.00, represents services and expenses in connection with intellectual property patents.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,995.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 11/25/25, 11/25/25, 11/25/25, 11/25/25 11/25/25 and 2/18/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$7,461.00, \$4,084.00, \$817.50, \$270.00, \$337.50 and \$2,829.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 15,799.00**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mendelsohn Dunleavy, P.C. (statements dated 10/10/25, 10/10/25, 10/10/25, 10/10/25, 10/10/25, 10/10/25 and 12/8/25) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$210.00, \$210.00, \$210.00, \$245.00, \$720.00, \$400.00 and \$7,714.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

**TOTAL DUE.....\$ 9,709.00**

**2. UMMC – EMERGENCY APPROVAL TO HIRE McDONALD HOPKINS 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 Mississippi Medical Center’s emergency request to hire attorney Jim Griszczak of McDonald Hopkins, LLC as outside counsel to provide legal services related to a cyber incident. The term of the contract is one year effective February 19, 2026, unless terminated earlier by either party. Services are provided at the hourly rates of \$415 for lead attorney, Jim Griszczak, \$345 for associate attorneys, and \$190 for paralegal services, with a maximum amount payable of \$75,000 under the term of the agreement. UMMC is insured for cyber incident response and carries a deductible for legal services related to a covered incident of \$5,000. Therefore, UMMC will not be responsible for more than \$5,000 of the \$75,000 maximum amount payable under the agreement. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$5 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$5 million. This agreement is pending approval of 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 February 9, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and Mississippi Hardware Master Tenant, LLC for approximately 1,948 square feet of space in the MCITY Building in Vicksburg, MS in which to house the MSU Center for Entrepreneurship and Outreach. The term of the lease is one year beginning February 1, 2026 at a cost of \$1,000 per month or \$12,000 in total. Payment is due on the first working day of each month and will be funded by a grant awarded to MSU by the Small Business Administration. MSU has confirmed that the lease is in compliance with the terms of that grant and is otherwise legally permissible. 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 February 9, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and Anthony’s Rental, LLC for office space located at 805 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SW, Magee, MS in which to house 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 March 16, 2026. The total cost of the agreement is \$39,600 payable in 12 monthly installments of \$3,300 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 February 9, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and Itawamba Community College for office space located on the campus in which to house 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 March 1, 2026. The total cost of the agreement is \$56,658 payable in 12 monthly installments of \$4,721.50 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.
- d. **MSU** – On February 16, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and Pearl River Community College for space in property owned by Pearl River Community

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College and located at 206 Highway 11, North, Poplarville, 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 March 1, 2026. The total cost of the agreement is \$66,500 payable in 12 monthly installments of \$5,541.67 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.

- e. **MSU** – On February 24, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and the Starkville Oktibbeha Consolidated School District (SOCSD) for the provision of land on the MSU Campus in Starkville, MS for the construction of a new high school built by the SOCSD. MSU has previously participated in a partnership and Ground Lease with SOCSD, which was approved by the IHL Board in March 2017, providing land on which a partnership school facility was constructed. The parties now wish to add a high school to that facility. There is a 3-year construction term of the lease beginning and upon completion of the construction, the term of the lease will be 30 years. The lease will automatically renew for another 30 years unless the parties mutually agree to not exercise this renewal. 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.
- f. **ASU** – On February 24, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Short-Term Lease Agreement between Alcorn State University and Alcorn State University Foundation, Inc. for the President’s Home property located at 1000 ASU Drive, Lorman, MS for the purpose of allowing the Foundation to fund, plan, oversee and complete improvements to this property. Improvements will include electrical work, carport construction/renovation and landscaping. The term of the lease is February 16, 2026 through February 16, 2027. The Foundation has allocated up to \$250,000 to fund the project and will bear all costs of the improvements. All improvements made to and on the property will become the property of the University upon termination of the lease. 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. **USM** – On February 25, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the First Amendment to the Lease Agreement between the University of Southern Mississippi and Tech Boone, LLC for space on the first floor of the R.C. Cook University Union. The original lease received Commissioner approval in March 2024 and originally had a termination date of May 5, 2026. The parties mutually agree to amend the term of the lease to terminate on February 28, 2026 and to pro-rate the monthly rent for the number of days occupied during the final month.

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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.