



Board Book

May 21, 2026

MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE
INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING

Board Meeting Outline

MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING

MEETINGS SCHEDULE	Finance & Budget Committees May 20, 2026, 2:00p Gold Room, 2nd Floor of Dr. Clinton Bristow, Jr. Dining Facility
	Health Affairs Committee May 20, 2026, Immediately Following the Finance & Budget Committee Gold Room, 2nd Floor of Dr. Clinton Bristow, Jr. Dining Facility
	IHL Board Meeting May 21, 2026, 9:00 a.m. Gold Room, 2nd Floor of Dr. Clinton Bristow, Jr. Dining Facility

CALL TO ORDER	Trustee Dr. Steven Cunningham
INVOCATION	Trustee Amy Arrington
INTRODUCTIONS	

MINUTES	
April 16, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes	6

UNIVERSITY PRESENTATION	President Dr. Tracy Cook Alcorn State University
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NCHEMS PRESENTATION	Dr. Brian Prescott, President Dr. Sarah Pingel, Vice President NCHEMS
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CONSENT AGENDAS	President Dr. Steven Cunningham
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ACADEMIC AFFAIRS	
1. DSU – Request for Modifications to Existing Academic Units <u>Reorganize</u> Unit titles: School of Management, Marketing, and Business Administration and School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Science	67

FINANCE	
1. DSU – Request for Approval to Enter a Laundry Room Lease Agreement with Caldwell & Gregory, LLC.....	68
2. MUW – Request for Approval to Renew an Agreement with Instructure, LLC (Canvas)	69

REAL ESTATE

Approval of Initiations of Projects/Appointments of Professionals

IHL Projects

1. MSU – IHL 205-369 – Davis Wade Stadium – Sound System Upgrade, Design Professional – TBD, and Approval to Utilize the Design-Build Delivery Method.....71
2. UM – IHL 207-527 – Jackson Avenue Center West Renovation, Design Professional – Allen & Hoshall, PLLC73

Approval of Budget Increases and/or Changes of Scope/Funding source(s)

Bureau of Building Projects

3. ASU – GS 101-338 – ARPA – Water Transmission and Distribution, Design Professional – Pickering Firm74
4. DSU – GS 102 -292 – Storm Damage Repairs, Design Professional – Shafer Zahner Zahner, PLLC75
5. ERC – GS 111-077 – IHL Parking Lots and Street Repairs, Design Professional – Smithers Engineers + Consultants77

IHL Projects

6. ASU – IHL 201-264 – Matt Thomas Jr. Garden Apartments, Design Professional – Canizaro, Cawthorn, and Davis Architects79

Approval of Other Real Estate Requests

7. UM – Approval of a Space Lease Agreement with Northwest Community College for the UM Desoto Regional Campus81
8. USM Gulf Coast Research Lab – Demolish and Delete from Inventory Building #23 Fisheries Lab Building in Ocean Springs, MS.....82
9. USM - Gulf Park – Demolish and Delete from Inventory Building #989 and 989(A) at 119 Beach Park Place, Long Beach, MS83
10. USM – Demolish and Delete from Inventory Building #235 at 3403 Morningside Drive, Hattiesburg, MS83
11. USM – Demolish and Delete from Inventory Building #870 Alpha Tau Omega House at 3601 Morningside Drive – Hattiesburg, MS.....84
12. USM – Demolish and Delete from Inventory Building #896 Residential House at 509 North 36th Ave., Hattiesburg, MS85

LEGAL

1. ASU – Approval to Hire the Blair Law Firm as Outside Counsel.....86
2. IHL – Approval to Renew Contract with Reed Smith, LLP as Outside Counsel.....86
3. UM – Approval to Renew Contract with Bond Schoeneck & King, PLLC as Outside Counsel86
4. UM – Approval to Renew Contract with Brunini, Grantham, Grower & Hewes, PLLC as Outside Counsel.....87
5. UM – Approval to Renew Contract with Kaplan Kirsch, LLP as Outside Counsel.....87
6. UM – Approval to Renew Contract with Lightfoot Franklin White, LLC as Outside88
7. UM – Approval to Renew Contract with Mayo Mallette, PLLC as Outside Counsel.....88
8. UM – Approval to Renew Contract with Sun Sovereign, LLC d/b/a WareImmigration as Outside Counsel.....88

9. UM – Approval to Renew Contract with Thomas Horstemeyer LLP as Outside Counsel.....	91
--	----

PERSONNEL

1. Employment (MSU).....	96
2. Change of Status (MSU, USM)	96

ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. SYSTEM – Individuals to Serve on the Mississippi University Research Authority (MURA) in Accordance with the Mississippi University Research Authority Act	97
---	----

REGULAR AGENDAS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS | Trustee Teresa Hubbard

1. STATE – 2026 Approval of Accreditation of Mississippi Nursing Degree Programs	98
2. MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE – Approval of Stage II – Qualify for Initial Accreditation of a New Professional Nursing Degree (Permission to Admit Students).....	100
3. MSU – Request to Add a New Academic Unit: Department of Organizational Leadership and Professional Studies.....	101
4. SYSTEM – Request to Add New Academic Degree Programs	
a. MSU – Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Statistics	102
b. MSU – Bachelor of Science (BS) in Statistics.....	103
c. MSU – Bachelor of Science (BS) in Tourism and Destination Development.....	103
d. UMMC – Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Cancer Biology and Therapeutics.....	104

FINANCE & BUDGET | Trustee Charlie Stephenson

1. SYSTEM – Request for Approval to Renew Property Insurance with Affiliated FM Insurance Company	106
2. SYSTEM – Request for Approval to Purchase Cyber Insurance with Homeland and Indian Harbor Insurance Companies	108

LEGAL | Trustee Jimmy Heidelberg

1. UM – Approval to Renew Contract with Butler Snow LLP as Outside Counsel.....	111
---	-----

ADMINISTRATION/POLICY | Commissioner Dr. Alfred Rankins, Jr.

1. SYSTEM – Approval of Committee Appointments by President Dr. Steven Cunningham	112
2. SYSTEM – Approval to Reappoint Trustee Teresa Hubbard to the Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board.....	112

INFORMATION AGENDAS | Commissioner Dr. Alfred Rankins, Jr.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

1. UMMC – Intent to Modify Certificate Programs Delete Molecular Medicine	114
---	-----

2. DSU – Intent to Offer an Existing Programs by Distance Learning: Bachelor of Science (BS) in Speech and Hearing Sciences114

REAL ESTATE

1. SYSTEM – Real Estate Items Approved Subsequent to the April 16, 2026 Board Meeting

- Jackson State University115
- Mississippi State University117
- Mississippi Valley State University118
- University of Mississippi119
- University of Southern Mississippi.....120

LEGAL

1. SYSTEM – Report of Payments to Outside Counsel122

ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. SYSTEM – Commissioner’s Notification of Approval.....126

PERSONNEL

1. Sabbatical (USM).....129

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS IF NECESSARY

OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

EXECUTIVE SESSION IF DETERMINED NECESSARY

ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

April 16, 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 April 16, 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 (via Zoom), 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 Stephenson introduced his brother-in-law, Mr. David White, a leader in the First Presbyterian Church in Meridian, MS, who provided the invocation.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Hubbard, with Trustee Parker absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Board meeting held on March 12, 2026, March 19, 2026 and March 19-20, 2026.

PRESENTATIONS

- The Board received a presentation about the University of Southern Mississippi from President Dr. Joe Paul.
- The Board received a presentation from the Student Government Association Officers from all eight public universities regarding each organization's objectives and achievements over the past year. The following officers presented: President Avantavis T. Carter, Alcorn State University; President Hayden Kirkhart, Delta State University; President Raegan Johnson, Jackson State University; President Cameron Cummings, Mississippi State University; President Ethan Wilkins, Mississippi University for Women; President Jouri Thornton, Mississippi Valley State University; President Jack Jones, The University of Mississippi; President Ana Ivy, The University of Mississippi Medical Center, President Leah Johnson, The University of Southern Mississippi; and President McKenna Klamm, The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Park Campus. Other SGA Officers attending were President-Elect Antoine Johnson, Jr. and 1st Vice President-Elect Chrisshun Armstrong from Alcorn State University; President Elect Jakari Holland and Vice President-Elect Janiyah Taylor from Jackson State University; President-Elect Zander Hall from Mississippi University for Women; President-Elect Jamison Ware and Vice President-Elect Jeriah King from Mississippi Valley State University; President-Elect Olivia Claire Williford, Vice President Walker Jacklin, and Vice President-Elect Trey McKean from the University of Mississippi; President-Elect Lauren Cooper from The University of Mississippi Medical Center; President-Elect Damola Aikulola and Chief of

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

April 16, 2026

Staff Garrett Grantham from the University of Southern Mississippi; and President-Elect Kaleb Favaloro from The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Park Campus.

- 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 Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Cunningham, with Trustees Martin and Parker absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the following Consent Agendas.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

1. **SYSTEM** – Approved the modifications of existing academic degree programs, as follows:

Rename

- a. **UMMC** – Current program title: Master of Science (MS) in Population Health Science
Proposed program title: Master of Science (MS) in Population Health
CIP code, sequence: 51.2208, 4595
Total credit hours: 33
Effective date: May 2026
- b. **USM** – Current program title: Master of Art in Teaching (MAT) in Secondary Teacher Education (Alternate Route)
Proposed program title: Master of Art in Teaching (MAT) in Secondary Education
CIP code, sequence: 13.1205, 4485
Total credit hours: 33
Effective date: August 2026
- c. **USM** – Current program title: Education Specialist (EdS) in Education
Proposed program title: Education Specialist (EdS) in Educational Administration P-12
Current CIP code, sequence: 13.0101, 3053
New CIP code, sequence: 13.0401, 3053
Total credit hours: 33
Effective date: August 2026
- d. **USM** – Current program title: Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Nursing Leadership
Proposed program title: Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Nursing
Current CIP code, sequence: 51.3802, 1175
New CIP code, sequence: 51.3808, 1175
Total credit hours: 48-60
Effective date: August 2026

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

April 16, 2026

Consolidate

- e. **USM** – Current program titles: Bachelor of Science (BS) in Geography and Bachelor of Science (BS) in Geology
Proposed program title: Bachelor of Science (BS) in Environmental Geosciences
Current CIP codes, sequences: 45.0701, 5639; 40.0601, 5625
New CIP code, sequence: 30.4101
Total credit hours: 120
Effective date: August 2026

Suspend

- f. **MUW** – Current program titles: Bachelor of Science (BS) in Interdisciplinary Studies
CIP code, sequence: 30.9999, 5805
Total credit hours: 124
Effective date: July 2026

Delete

- g. **MUW** – Current program titles: Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Interdisciplinary Studies
CIP code, sequence: 30.9999, 5804
Total credit hours: 124
Effective date: July 2026
 - h. **MUW** – Current program titles: Bachelor of Science (BS) in Physical Sciences
CIP code, sequence: 40.0101, 5328
Total credit hours: 124
Effective date: July 2026
 - i. **MUW** – Current program titles: Bachelor of University Studies
CIP code, sequence: 24.0102, 5875
Total credit hours: 120
Effective date: July 2026
 - j. **USM** – Program title: Master of Education (MEd) in Educational Administration and Supervision
CIP code, sequence: 13.0401, 4332
Total credit hours: 34
Effective date: August 2025
 - k. **USM** – Program title: Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Theatre
CIP code, sequence: 50.0501, 4399
Total credit hours: 72
Effective date: August 2025
2. **SYSTEM** – Approved the modifications of existing academic units, as follows:

Rename

- a. **JSU** – Current unit: Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education
Proposed Title: Department of Curriculum and Instruction
Unit Location: College of Education and Human Development
Effective date: August 2026

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

- b. **UM** – Current unit: Department of Health, Exercise Science, and Recreation Management
Proposed Title: Department of Kinesiology and Sport
Unit Location: School of Applied Sciences
Effective date: August 2026
- c. **UM** – Current unit: Department of Political Science
Proposed Title: Ray Mabus Department of Political Science
Unit Location: College of Liberal Arts
Effective date: July 2026

3. **SYSTEM** – Approved the following degrees to be conferred in Spring 2026 provided each candidate has met all requirements for the degree.

Inst.	Degree to be Conferred	Number	Subtotal	Total
Alcorn State University				
<i>Undergraduate</i>				
	Associate of Science in Nursing	61		
	Bachelor of Arts	57		
	Bachelor of Arts in Music	1		
	Bachelor of Business Administration	17		
	Bachelor of Science	163		
	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	46		
	Bachelor of Social Work	12		
<i>Graduate</i>				
	Master of Arts in History	2		
	Master of Business Administration	8		
	Master of Liberal Arts	5		
	Master of Science in Agriculture	15		
	Master of Science in Applied Science and Technology	8		
	Master of Science in Biology	6		
	Master of Science in Biotechnology	1		
	Master of Science in Computer and Information Science	2		
	Master of Science in Secondary Education	28		
	Master of Science in Nursing	11		
	Master of Science in Workforce Education Leadership	9		
	STEM MBA	6		
	Specialist in Education	1		
	Doctor of Nursing Practice	5		
Total Undergraduate Degrees			357	
Total Graduate Degrees			107	
Total Degrees				464

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

Inst.	Degree to be Conferred	Number	Subtotal	Total
Delta State University				
	<i>Undergraduate</i>			
	Bachelor of Applied Science	11		
	Bachelor of Arts	19		
	Bachelor of Business Administration	64		
	Bachelor of Commercial Aviation	39		
	Bachelor of Fine Arts	5		
	Bachelor of Music	1		
	Bachelor of Science in Education	26		
	Bachelor of Science	63		
	Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies	4		
	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	12		
	Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and Criminology	12		
	Bachelor of Social Work	18		
	Bachelor of University Studies	2		
	<i>Graduate</i>			
	Master of Applied Science	3		
	Master of Art in Liberal Studies	8		
	Master of Arts in Teaching	9		
	Master of Business Administration	33		
	Master of Commercial Aviation	5		
	Master of Education	16		
	Master of Fine Arts	2		
	Master of Professional Accountancy	1		
	Master of Science in Sport and Human Performance	13		
	Master of Science in Nursing	14		
	Master of Science in Criminal Justice and Criminology	8		
	Specialist in Education	27		
	Doctor of Education	6		
	Doctor of Nursing Practice	6		
	<i>Total Undergraduate Degrees</i>		276	
	<i>Total Graduate Degrees</i>		151	
	<i>Total Degrees</i>			427
Jackson State University				
	<i>Undergraduate</i>			
	Bachelor of Arts	54		
	Bachelor of Business Administration	100		
	Bachelor of Music	6		
	Bachelor of Music Education	4		
	Bachelor of Science in Education	22		
	Bachelor of Science	389		

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

Inst.	Degree to be Conferred	Number	Subtotal	Total
	Bachelor of Social Work	27		
	Bachelor of University Studies (C2C)	3		
	<i>Graduate</i>			
	Master of Arts	12		
	Master of Arts in Teaching	14		
	Master of Business Administration	8		
	Master of Music Education	4		
	Master of Public Health	4		
	Master of Public Policy and Administration	2		
	Master of Science	38		
	Master of Science in Education	15		
	Master of Social Work	62		
	Specialist in Education	32		
	Doctor of Education	1		
	Doctor of Philosophy	22		
	Doctor of Public Health	5		
	<i>Total Undergraduate Degrees</i>		605	
	<i>Total Graduate Degrees</i>		219	
	<i>Total Degrees</i>			824
Mississippi State University				
	<i>Undergraduate</i>			
	Bachelor of Accountancy	117		
	Bachelor of Applied Science	56		
	Bachelor of Architecture	55		
	Bachelor of Arts	238		
	Bachelor of Business Administration	504		
	Bachelor of Fine Arts	28		
	Bachelor of Landscape Architecture	10		
	Bachelor of Music	2		
	Bachelor of Music Education	7		
	Bachelor of Science	2,036		
	Bachelor of Social Work	9		
	Bachelor of University Studies	33		
	<i>Graduate</i>			
	Master of Agribusiness Management	4		
	Master of Agriculture	7		
	Master of Applied Data Science	3		
	Master of Applied Science	4		
	Master of Arts	16		
	Master of Arts in Teaching	27		
	Master of Arts in Teaching Secondary	10		
	Master of Arts in Teaching Special Education	8		
	Master of Business Administration	116		
	Master of Engineering	2		

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

Inst.	Degree to be Conferred	Number	Subtotal	Total
	Master of Fine Arts	3		
	Master of Landscape Architecture	6		
	Master of Music Education	1		
	Master of Physician Assistant Studies	25		
	Master of Professional Accountancy	39		
	Master of Public Policy and Administration	9		
	Master of Science	268		
	Master of Science in Instructional Technology	6		
	Master of Science Information Systems	12		
	Master of Taxation	2		
	Specialist in Education	19		
	Doctor of Education	13		
	Doctor of Philosophy	74		
	Doctor of Veterinary Medicine	116		
	Total Undergraduate Degrees		3,095	
	Total Graduate Degrees		790	
	Total Degrees			3,885
Mississippi University for Women				
	Undergraduate			
	Associate of Science in Nursing	53		
	Bachelor of Applied Science	12		
	Bachelor of Arts	8		
	Bachelor of Business Administration	40		
	Bachelor of Fine Arts	7		
	Bachelor of Professional Studies	9		
	Bachelor of Science	84		
	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	68		
	Graduate			
	Master of Arts in Teaching	1		
	Master of Business Administration	8		
	Master of Education	2		
	Master of Fine Arts	6		
	Master of Public Health	9		
	Master of Science	19		
	Doctor of Nursing Practice	4		
	Total Undergraduate Degrees		281	
	Total Graduate Degrees		49	
	Total Degrees			330
Mississippi Valley State University				
	Undergraduate			
	Bachelor of Arts	33		
	Bachelor of Science	82		
	Bachelor of Social Work	6		

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

Inst.	Degree to be Conferred	Number	Subtotal	Total
	<i>Graduate</i>			
	Master of Arts	3		
	Master of Arts in Teaching	1		
	Master of Business Administration	7		
	Master of Science	13		
	Master of Social Work	7		
	<i>Total Undergraduate Degrees</i>		121	
	<i>Total Graduate Degrees</i>		31	
	<i>Total Degrees</i>			152
University of Mississippi				
	<i>Undergraduate</i>			
	Bachelor of Accountancy	270		
	Bachelor of Arts	772		
	Bachelor of Arts in Education	196		
	Bachelor of Arts in Journalism	67		
	Bachelor of Arts in Sport and Recreation Administration	23		
	Bachelor of Business Administration	774		
	Bachelor of Fine Arts	19		
	Bachelor of Multi-Disciplinary Studies	112		
	Bachelor of Music	20		
	Bachelor of Science	167		
	Bachelor of Science (IMC)	399		
	Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering	36		
	Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering	28		
	Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering	43		
	Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering	2		
	Bachelor of Science in Computer Science	55		
	Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice	116		
	Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering	10		
	Bachelor of Science in Engineering	7		
	Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science	98		
	Bachelor of Science in Geological Engineering	9		
	Bachelor of Science in Geology	2		
	Bachelor of Science in Law Studies	49		
	Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering	65		
	Bachelor of Science in Public Health	27		
	Bachelor of Social Work	12		
	Bachelor of University Studies	14		
	<i>Graduate</i>			
	Master of Accountancy	24		
	Master of Accountancy and Data Analytics	50		
	Master of Arts	77		
	Master of Business Administration	20		

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

Inst.	Degree to be Conferred	Number	Subtotal	Total
	Master of Criminal Justice	6		
	Master of Education	72		
	Master of Fine Arts	4		
	Master of Laws	7		
	Master of Music	8		
	Master of Public Health	27		
	Master of Science	166		
	Master of Science in Criminal Justice	8		
	Master of Science in Exercise Science	1		
	Master of Science in Social Work	14		
	Master of Taxation	2		
	Master of Taxation and Data Analytics	14		
	Specialist in Education	26		
	Doctor of Pharmacy	68		
	Doctor of Philosophy	60		
	Juris Doctor	136		
	Total Undergraduate Degrees		3,392	
	Total Graduate Degrees		828	
	Total Degrees			4,220
University of Mississippi Medical Center				
	Undergraduate			
	Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene	21		
	Bachelor of Science in Health Informatics and Information Management	4		
	Bachelor of Science in Health Systems Administration	9		
	Bachelor of Science in Histotechnology	1		
	Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Science	6		
	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	179		
	Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Sciences	39		
	Graduate			
	Master of Health Systems Administration	10		
	Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences	60		
	Master of Science in Biostatistics and Data Science	2		
	Master of Science in Clinical Investigation	3		
	Master of Science in Magnetic Resonance Imaging	4		
	Master of Science in Nuclear Medicine Technology	5		
	Master of Science in Nursing	100		
	Master of Science in Population Health Science	4		
	Doctor of Dental Medicine	41		
	Doctor of Health Administration	3		

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

Inst.	Degree to be Conferred	Number	Subtotal	Total
	Doctor of Medicine	160		
	Doctor of Nursing Practice	18		
	Doctor of Occupational Therapy	35		
	Doctor of Philosophy	15		
	Doctor of Physical Therapy	49		
	<i>Total Undergraduate Degrees</i>		259	
	<i>Total Graduate Degrees</i>		509	
	<i>Total Degrees</i>			768
University of Southern Mississippi				
	<i>Undergraduate</i>			
	Bachelor of Applied Science	42		
	Bachelor of Arts	165		
	Bachelor of Fine Arts	31		
	Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies	18		
	Bachelor of Liberal Studies	54		
	Bachelor of Music	6		
	Bachelor of Music Education	17		
	Bachelor of Science	799		
	Bachelor of Science in Business Administration	234		
	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	96		
	Bachelor of Social Work	33		
	Bachelor of University Studies	8		
	<i>Graduate</i>			
	Master of Arts	25		
	Master of Arts in Teaching	20		
	Master of Arts in Teaching of Languages	7		
	Master of Business Administration	34		
	Master of Education	21		
	Master of Fine Arts	4		
	Master of Library and Information Science	47		
	Master of Music	16		
	Master of Music Education	4		
	Master of Professional Accountancy	10		
	Master of Public Health	11		
	Master of Science	147		
	Master of Science in Athletic Training	10		
	Master of Social Work	54		
	Specialist in Education	2		
	Doctor of Audiology	5		
	Doctor of Education	8		
	Doctor of Musical Arts	12		
	Doctor of Philosophy	57		
	<i>Total Undergraduate Degrees</i>		1,503	

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

<i>Total Graduate Degrees</i>	494	
<i>Total Degrees</i>		1,997
<i>System Total Undergraduate Degrees</i>	9,889	
<i>System Total Graduate Degrees</i>	3,178	
<i>System Total Degrees</i>		13,067

***Note: System Total for spring 2026 represents an increase of 312 from spring 2025's total of 12,755.**

FINANCE AND BUDGET

4. **ASU** – Approved the request to enter a purchase agreement with Business Communications, Inc. to facilitate the acquisition and installation of the suggested equipment to extend the existing surveillance network. The Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services Express Products Option for Public Safety Video and Communication (PSVC) Systems EPL 4599 was utilized by the University. For the purchase of body-worn cameras, dashboard cameras, license plate readers, two-way radio systems, surveillance units, software, equipment, and associated support services, the PSVC EPL offers a flexible procurement process. The University used the 100% Cost Solicitation technique to choose Business Communications after requesting bids from every vendor in the categories of license plate readers, security cameras, and access control systems. The term of the contract is April 16, 2026 through April 16, 2027. The contract amount is \$402,730.51. The contract will be funded using Designated 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. **IHL** – Approved the request to amend the existing agreement with GC Logistics LLC for comprehensive landscaping and lawn maintenance of the Education and Research Center campus detailed in the RFP 2025.0113. The initial term of the agreement was May 1, 2025, through April 30, 2026, with the option to renew, providing both parties agree, not to exceed five years. This amendment renews the term through April 30, 2027. The amendment renews this agreement for an additional year with options to renew annually, pending satisfactory service, through April 30, 2030. This amendment increases the monthly amount to \$5,530.51 of which MCCB will reimburse \$300.00 monthly. Board staff request approval of up to \$350,000 for the full five years, pending additional renewals. The contract will be paid with 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.
6. **UMMC** – Approved the request to enter a Transportation, Parking and Valet Services agreement with Groome Transportation of Texas, LLC (Groome) for the provision of daily Transportation, Valet and Parking Services. Under this agreement, Groome will provide transportation services for employees and students parking at Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium; shuttle service to and from Colony Park North and South and the Jackson Medical Mall; shuttle cart service for patients and guests needing transportation to the hospitals; and charter service for UMMC events, Medical Center functions, and special trips. In addition, Groome will manage all public parking operations within the parking garages on UMMC's main campus and provide all required valet services on the main

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

April 16, 2026

campus. The term of the contract is five (5) years from May 1, 2026, through April 30, 2031. The total estimated cost of the agreement over the five (5) year term is \$16,625,000. Beginning in year two (2), UMMC has included a twenty percent (20%) annual increases for volume and price changes. The contract will be funded by UMMC 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.

7. **UMMC** – Approved the request to enter a Product Schedule (#1025448) with the Roche Diagnostics Corporation (Roche) to provide for the lease of a new Cobas 5800 laboratory analyzer used in infectious disease testing, the continued lease of the Cobas 6800 analyzer, the purchasing of reagents and supplies needed for diagnostic testing, service for leased and owned instruments, and training. The redundancy in analyzers from the new lease of the Cobas 6800 will ensure that there is no lapse in patient care due to analyzer downtime, and will open up additional testing not currently offered. The Board also approved the request for the institution to add or remove products under the agreement and to amend the agreement to add or change locations without seeking prior Board approval as long as it does not increase the approved expenditure level. The product schedule is for a term of five (5) years, which is expected to begin on or around May 1, 2026 through on or around April 30, 2031. The total estimated cost of the agreement over the five (5) year term is \$7,900,000. The total includes a ten percent (10%) annual increase for cpi increases and potential volume growth. The agreement will be funded by hospital patient revenue. Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. The agreement is on file in the Board Office.
8. **MSU** – Approved the request to enter an agreement with Software House International to purchase computing equipment. The quotes for purchase are valid until April 17, 2026. MSU currently has an approved CP-1 from Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services (MDITS) to allow MSU to purchase up to \$8,000,000 in computing equipment. At its meeting on April 16, 2026, MDITS will consider MSU’s request to increase the CP-1 to cover the total cost of purchasing 2 GPU and 2 CPU Racks. To address the uncertainty created by needing an increased CP-1 exemption, MSU currently has 2 quotes from SHI. In the event that the MDITS does not approve MSU’s request to increase the CP-1, the Board approved the request to execute the first purchase order for 2 GPU Racks and 1 CPU Rack. The total cost of this purchase is \$6,286,796.39 in addition to any price increase that is incurred prior to shipping. As reflected in the quote, the price is subject to change prior to shipment. The price will increase if the manufacturer list prices increase, however, the supplier has agreed that the margin charged by the supplier will not increase. In the event that MDITS does approve MSU’s request to increase the CP-1, the Board approved the request to execute the second purchase order for 2 GPU Racks and 2 CPU Racks. The total cost of this purchase is \$9,573,279.84 in addition to any price increase that is incurred prior to shipping. As reflected in the quote, the price is subject to change prior to shipment. The price will increase if the manufacturer list prices increase, however, the supplier has agreed that the margin charged by the supplier will not increase. These purchases will be paid for using federal funds from NOAA and USDA. MSU has reviewed the applicable federal grants and has confirmed that the use of federal funds for this purchase is consistent with the terms of the grant. Legal Staff has reviewed the

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

April 16, 2026

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

9. **MSU** – Approved the request to appoint Innovative Construction Management, LLC (ICM) as the Construction Manager Adviser (CMa) for IHL 205-337, Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library project. MSU used the Request for Proposals (RFP) method for selection of the CMa. Due to federal funding regulations, MSU chose to use the CMa instead of a Construction Manager at Risk. MSU anticipates multiple phases for the project which may include a site preparation phase, a building phase and an exhibit phase so utilizing a CMa will provide continuity in project management, supervision and coordination. The project will design and construct a facility to house the Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library. The new library will not only be home to the existing Grant collection but will incorporate a museum with exhibit space, conference and educational space, and office facilities. The project is federally funded and will be administered in accordance with National Archives and Records Administration guidelines. The proposed project budget is \$26 million. Funds are available from Federal Funding Appropriation (\$26,000,000).
10. **MUW** – Approved the request to demolish and delete from inventory Building #51 Residence House located at 1423 5th Avenue, Columbus, MS. The property was built in the 1950's and has now been vacant for approximately one year. MUW has determined the continued repairs, and maintenance would not be cost effective for the university. The letter of approval has been received from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, stating Building #51 is not eligible for designation as a Mississippi Landmark and approval to demolition the building has been granted. All legal documentation will be kept on file in the IHL Office of Real Estate and Facilities.
11. **UM** – Approved the request to demolish and delete from inventory the C.M. “Tad” Smith Coliseum. Demolition of the Coliseum is needed to construct a new parking lot in its location. The University received a Mississippi Landmark permit issued by the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History on March 17, 2026, for the demolition of C.M. “Tad” Smith Coliseum.
12. **UM** – Approved the exterior design of the new Sigma Alpha Epsilon house. The existing house will be demolished to make way for a new three-story house. A copy of the rendering is included in the bound *April 16, 2026 Board Working File*.

LEGAL

13. **ASU** – Approved the request to enter a contract with the law firm of Blair, Bondurant & Patterson as outside counsel to perform services necessary in assisting the university with various issues in the area of oil, gas, and other mineral rights. The term of the contract will be one year beginning April 17, 2026. The hourly rate for attorneys is \$350 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 \$2 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$2 million. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

April 16, 2026

14. **MSU** – Approved the request to enter a contract with the law firm of Conley Rose, P.C. as outside counsel to perform services necessary in assisting the university with intellectual property and patent application matters. The term of the contract will be two years beginning May 1, 2026. The hourly rates will be \$325 for attorneys and \$175 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 \$200,000. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$10 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$10 million. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.
15. **MSU** – Approved the request to enter a contract with the law firm of Mendelsohn Dunleavy, P.A. as outside counsel to perform services necessary in assisting the university with intellectual property and patent application matters. The term of the contract will be two years beginning May 1, 2026. The hourly rates will be \$415 for attorneys Kevin Dunleavy, Steve Mendelsohn and Garth Dahlen, \$365 for attorneys Tu Phan-Kerr and Curtis Altman, \$260 for US Patent Agent Kristina Sanchez, and \$115 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 \$200,000. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$1 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$3 million. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

PERSONNEL REPORT

16. **Employment**

Mississippi State University

- Sheree Sollberger Bouchillon; *rehired retiree*; *Business Coordinator* of Dean of Engineering; salary \$31,200.00 per annum, pro rata; Restricted Funds; 12-month contract; effective February 09, 2026

17. **Sabbatical**

University of Southern Mississippi

- Matthew Casey; Associate Professor of History; salary of \$101,662 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 17, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development.

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

April 16, 2026

- Sara Jordan; Professor of Psychology; salary of \$110,187 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 17, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development.
- Xiaodong Zhang; Professor of Marine Science; salary of \$148,518 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; no change in salary for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 17, 2026 to December 31, 2026; professional development.
- Karen Kozlowski; Associate Professor of Psychology; salary of \$66,220 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 4, 2027 to May 14, 2027; professional development.
- Chao Meng; Associate Professor of Marketing; salary of \$120,168 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 4, 2027 to May 14, 2027; professional development.

ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

18. **ASU** – Approved the request to bestow one honorary degree at its May 2026 Commencement ceremonies. Support documents are on file at the Board Office.
19. **MUW** – Approved the request to bestow one honorary degree at its May 2026 Commencement ceremonies. Support documents are on file at the Board Office.

REGULAR AGENDAS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Presented by Trustee Teresa Hubbard, Chair

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

1. **USM** – Approved the request to add the following new institute:
Center title: The Institute of Strategic Leadership and Innovation
Center location: Gulf Park campus
Scope: Limited Scope and Outreach
Type: Type 1 (Academic, Teaching, or Research)
Effective date: March 2026
2. **USM** – Approved the request to add the following new academic degree program:
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA) in Entrepreneurship
CIP code: 52.0701
Total credit hours: 120
Effective date: August 2026

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

April 16, 2026

FINANCE AND BUDGET AGENDA

Presented by Trustee Charlie Stephenson, Chair

On motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Cummings, with Trustee Parker absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #1 as submitted on the Finance and Budget Regular Agenda. On motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Cummings, with Trustee Parker absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve items #2 - #4. On motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Griffith, with Trustee Parker absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #5. Trustee Ogletree recused himself from discussing or voting on items #6 - #13 on the Finance and Budget Regular Agenda before there was any discussion or vote regarding the same. With Trustee Ogletree out of the meeting, on motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Arrington, with Trustees Ogletree and Parker absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #6. Trustees Arrington and Clark recused themselves from discussing or voting on items #7 - #13 on the Finance and Budget Regular Agenda before there was any discussion or vote regarding the same. With Trustees Arrington, Clark, and Ogletree out of the meeting, on motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustees Arrington, Clark, Ogletree and Parker absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve items #7 - #13. Trustees Arrington, Clark, and Ogletree returned to the meeting following the discussion and votes on items #6 - #13, respectively.

1. **SYSTEM** – Approved the overview of the FY 2027 appropriations from the Legislature and the final allocation of Education & General Support appropriations to the eight universities along with Legislative earmarks, subsidiary programs, agricultural units, and the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (**See Composite Exhibit 1.**) Allocation of Education and General Support Budgets are based on the following Legislative directives to provide salary increases for faculty, employer PERS contributions, and health insurance premium increases:

- a. SB 3053, 2026 Regular Session, Section 49, “Of the funds appropriated in Section 2 of this act, Twelve Million Thirteen Thousand Eight Hundred Forty-eight Dollars (\$12,013,848.00), or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be derived out of any money in the State Treasury to the credit of the Education Enhancement Fund and deposited pursuant to Sections 27-65-75 and 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of 1972. These funds are provided for the equivalent of a Two Thousand Dollar (\$2,000.00) salary increase for all professors and adjunct professors at the eight (8) universities, at the discretion of the Institutional Executive Officer.”
- b. SB 3231, 2024 Regular Session, Section 1(c)(1), “From and after the effective date of this act, the increase in the employer's contribution rate scheduled to take effect on July 1, 2024, is rescinded and shall not take effect; however, on July 1 of each year from 2024 through 2028, the employer's contribution rate shall be increased by one-half percent (1/2%).”

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

April 16, 2026

- c. Item 4, State and School Health Insurance Management Board Meeting, August 27, 2025, “Benefit Changes for 2026,” a motion was approved to increase insurance rates by 6.5% for all plans effective January 1, 2026.
2. **SYSTEM** – Approved the proposed increases in resident tuition rates at all institutions, except Alcorn State University, Delta State University, Mississippi University for Women, and Mississippi Valley State University; the proposed increases in non-resident tuition rates for all institutions, except for Delta State University and Mississippi Valley State University; the proposed decrease in non-resident tuition rate for international students at Alcorn State University; the proposed resident tuition rates for certain professional schools at Mississippi State University, the University of Mississippi, the University of Mississippi Medical Center, and the University of Southern Mississippi; and the proposed non-resident tuition rates for certain professional schools at Alcorn State University, Mississippi State University, Mississippi University for Women, the University of Mississippi, the University of Mississippi Medical Center, and the University of Southern Mississippi effective FY 2027. **(See Composite Exhibit 2.)** The Board approved proposed increases in double occupancy room rates for all institutions except for Alcorn State University and Mississippi Valley State University and a decrease for Jackson State University, effective FY 2027. **(See Exhibit 3.)** The Board approved the proposed increases to board rates for all institutions, except Alcorn State University and Mississippi Valley State University, effective FY 2027. **(See Exhibit 4.)** The Board waived the requirement of a thirty-day review of the tuition, room, and board rates as required by Board Policy 702.04 Approval Process, subsection C Consideration of Requests.
3. **JSU** – Approved the request to increase the Capital Improvement fee per semester applicable to all students (resident, non-resident, on-line and on any campus) from \$52.50 to \$60.00 to provide a stable base of support for capital projects. The fee will be assessed at an hourly rate of \$5.00 for undergraduate students and at an hourly rate of \$6.67 for graduate students and will be capped at \$60.00 per term. The fee will be assessed for all academic terms starting after August 1, 2026. Based on current enrollment, JSU projects this fee to generate approximately \$780, 000 of revenue annually, all of which will be recorded in the plant fund and used strictly to address facility repair needs on campus. A list of the planned uses for the capital improvement revenue is included in the bound *April 16, 2026 Board Working File*. As defined by Board Policy 702 Tuition, Fees, and Other Student Charges, tuition can include student activity fees, capital improvement fees, and technology fees. The Board waived the requirement of a thirty-day review of the tuition, room, and board rates as required by Board Policy 702.04 Approval Process, subsection C Consideration of Requests. **(See Exhibit 5.)**
4. **MUW** – Approved a \$12.50 per semester hour Student Technology Fee applicable to all students (resident, non-resident, on-line, and on any campus) to provide a stable base of support for technology that directly affects the student body academic learning. This fee will be assessed for all academic terms with classes starting after August 1, 2026. The fee would be assessed per credit hour up to full-time status each semester. Based on current enrollment, the proposed fee is projected to generate \$550,000 annually, all of which will be recorded in a Technology Fee Account. A list of the planned uses for the Student Technology Fee revenue is included in the bound *April 16, 2026 Board Working File*. As

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

defined by Board Policy 702 Tuition, Fees, and Other Student Charges, tuition can include student activity fees, capital improvement fees, and technology fees. The Board waived the requirement of a thirty-day review of the tuition, room, and board rates as required by Board Policy 702.04 Approval Process, subsection C Consideration of Requests. (See Exhibit 5.)

5. **SYSTEM** – Approved the request that any FY 2027 salary increases should be based on one or more of the following: 1) two thousand (\$2,0000) salary increase for all professors and adjunct professors, 2) meritorious performance, 3) market adjustments, and 4) faculty/staff promotions. Salary increase decisions may be made at the discretion of the Commissioner (for the Executive Office) or the Institutional Executive Officer (for the campuses). These salary guidelines will apply to all Executive Office and university employees regardless of funding source or types of increases awarded.
6. **UMMC** – Approved the request to amend the Housekeeping Management and Services Agreement with HHS Environmental Services, LLC (HHS). The amendment is to extend the term by one (1) year and make revisions to Exhibits A and D. The agreement is for the provision and management of environmental (housekeeping) services for UMMC facilities in Jackson, Madison County, Grenada, and Holmes County, including clinical and non-clinical areas. The Board also approved the request for the institution to amend the agreement as needed to make changes that may affect contract pricing without seeking prior Board approval as long as it does not increase the approved expenditure level. Such changes include, but are not limited to, adding or removing areas to be cleaned by HHS and adjusting the monthly contract price due to additional or unforeseen costs incurred by HHS, expansion of services requested by UMMC, or a three percent (3%) change in UMMC’s annual average facility statistics. This agreement is for an amended term of six (6) years, from May 1, 2021, through April 30, 2027. The original term was five (5) years, ending on April 30, 2026. Amendment 6 adds one (1) year to the Agreement. The total estimated cost of the amended agreement over the six (6) year term is \$113,575,000. The increased amount is \$15,000,000. The original estimated cost for the five (5) year term was \$98,575,000. This contract will be funded by hospital patient revenue. Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. The agreement is on file in the Board Office.
7. **ASU** – Approved a Bond Resolution and supporting documents for the purpose of refunding all or a portion of the Corporation’s outstanding Series 2016 Bond proceeds which were used to advance refund the Series 2009A Bonds (Student Housing Bonds) in the maximum par amount of \$33,985,000. The total net present value savings are estimated to be approximately 3% of the refunded bonds. The supporting documents include: IHL Amending Resolution, Ground Lease, Lease Agreement, Preliminary Official Statement, and Continuing Disclosure Agreement. The following are the professionals: Financial Advisor – Hilltop Securities, Bond Counsel – Butler Snow, and Senior Managing Underwriter – Raymond James & Associates, Inc. The refunding bonds will mature on September 1, 2039. ASU, through the ASU Educational Building Corporation, expects to issue up to a maximum of \$33,985,000 par value of fixed-rate bonds. Proceeds from the bond issue will support the refunding transaction, costs of issuance, and the underwriter's

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

April 16, 2026

- discount. 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.
8. **DSU** – Approved a Bond Resolution and supporting documents for the purpose of refunding all or a portion of the Corporation’s outstanding Series 2016 Bonds which were used to advance refund the Series 2003 bonds and to finance the purchase of a student housing facility that was leased by DSU from Stateman Housing LLC in the maximum par amount of \$9,015,000. The total net present value savings are estimated to be approximately 3% of the refunded bonds. The supporting documents include: IHL Amending Resolution, Ground Lease, Lease Agreement, and Preliminary Official Statement. The following are the professionals: Financial Advisor – Hilltop Securities, Bond Counsel – Butler Snow, and Senior Managing Underwriter – Raymond James & Associates, Inc. and such other underwriters as are named in the Bond Purchase Agreement. The proposed refunding bonds will mature on December 1, 2038. DSU, through the DSU Educational Building Corporation, expects to issue up to a maximum of \$9,015,000 par value of fixed-rate bonds. Proceeds from the bond issue will support the refunding transaction, costs of issuance, and the underwriter's discount. Based on the Financial Advisor's report dated April 2, 2026, the proposed refunding debt amortization will have an estimated net present value savings of approximately \$268,000. Funds are available from operating revenues from the student housing facilities and various campus facilities. 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.
 9. **JSU** – Approved a Bond Resolution and supporting documents for the purpose of refunding all or a portion of the Corporation’s outstanding Series 2017A Bonds in the maximum par amount of \$22,190,000. Taxable Series 2017A6 Bond proceeds were used to advance refund the Series 2010A-1 bonds. The Series 2010A-1 bonds were issued to advance refund the Series 2002 Bond (Student Recreation Center Project) and the Series 2004-A bond (Campus Facilities Project). The total net present value savings are estimated to be approximately 3% of the refunded bonds. The supporting documents include: IHL Amending Resolution, Ground Lease, Lease Agreement, Preliminary Official Statement, and Continuing Disclosure Agreement. The following are the professionals: Financial Advisor – Hilltop Securities, Bond Counsel – Jones Walker, and Underwriter – Raymond James & Associates, Inc. The refunding bonds will mature on March 1, 2034. JSU, through the JSU Educational Building Corporation, expects to issue up to a maximum of \$22,190,000 par value of fixed-rate bonds. Proceeds from the bond issue will support the proposed refunding transaction, costs of issuance, and the underwriter's discount. Based on the Financial Advisor's report dated April 2, 2026, the proposed refunding debt amortization will have an estimated net present value savings of approximately \$660,000. Funds are available from operating revenues from the student recreation center and various campus facilities. 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.
 10. **MSU** – Approved a Bond Resolution and Supporting Documents for the purpose of refunding all or a portion of the Corporation’s outstanding Series 2014B, 2015, 2017 and 2017A Bonds in the maximum par amount of \$175,255,000. Series 2017A Bond proceeds

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

were used to advance refund the Series 2011 and 2013 bonds. Series 2017 Bonds were issued to finance Dudy Noble Baseball Stadium and to current refund the 2007A Bonds (Colvard Student Union improvements) and advance refund the Series 2009A-1 (new residence hall) and 2009A-2 Bonds (current refunding of Series 1998 Bonds). Series 2015 Bonds were issued to finance the Dogwood and Deavenport Residence Halls project. Series 2014B taxable Bonds were issued to finance the Old Main Academic Classroom building and the Fresh Foods dining facility. The total net present value savings is estimated to be approximately 3% of the refunded bonds. The supporting documents include: IHL Amending Resolution, Ground Lease, Lease Agreement, Preliminary Official Statement, and Continuing Disclosure Agreement. The following are the professionals: Financial Advisor – Hilltop Securities, Bond Counsel – Jones Walker, and Underwriters – Wells Fargo Bank National Association, Raymond James & Associates, Inc., and/or Stephens Inc. The refunding bonds will mature on November 1, 2044. MSU, through the MSU Educational Building Corporation, expects to issue up to a maximum of \$175,255,000 par value of fixed-rate bonds. Proceeds from the bond issue will support the refunding transaction, costs of issuance, and the underwriters' discount. Based on the Financial Advisor's report dated April 2, 2026, the proposed refunding debt amortization will have an estimated net present value savings of approximately \$5,197,657. Funds are available from various revenue streams including athletic revenues, residence hall rental revenues, and capital improvement fees will be used as funding sources. 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. **MVSU** – Approved a Bond Resolution and Supporting Documents for the purpose of refunding of all or a portion of the Corporation's outstanding Series 2015 Bonds in the maximum par amount of \$13,050,000. Series 2015 Bond proceeds which were used to refund the series 2007 bonds. The Series 2007 bond was issued to finance two new residence halls and make improvements and renovations to an existing residence hall project and to refund the Series 2000 Bonds. The total net present value savings is estimated to be approximately 3% of the refunded bonds. The supporting documents include: IHL Amending Resolution, Ground Lease, Lease Agreement, Preliminary Official Statement, and Continuing Disclosure Agreement. The following are the professionals: Financial Advisor – Hilltop Securities, Bond Counsel – Jackson Walker, and Senior Manager Underwriter – Raymond James & Associates, Inc. The refunding bonds will mature on April 1, 2037. MVSU, through the MVSU Educational Building Corporation, expects to issue up to a maximum of \$13,050,000 par value of fixed-rate bonds. Proceeds from the bond issue will support refunding transaction, costs of issuance, and the underwriter's discount. Funds are available from rental revenues from the residence halls. 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. **UMMC** – Approved the request to issue through the Medical Center Educational Building Corporation (MCEBC) revenue bonds in one or more tax-exempt or taxable series to refund all or a portion of the outstanding Revenue Bonds, Series 2017A Revenue Bonds, Series 2019 Revenue Bonds and Series 2023B Taxable Revenue Bonds (the "Prior Bonds"). The Board approved the payment of costs of issuance, sale and delivery of the bonds and

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

April 16, 2026

approval of necessary bond documents and the financial advisor's report. The Board also approved the following professionals: Financial Advisor – Hilltop Securities, Bond Counsel – Butler Snow LLP (in accordance with the terms of the contractual agreement for legal services approved by the Office of Attorney General, and Senior Underwriter – Raymond James & Associates, Inc. The Board approved the bond resolution and the request to waive the requirement found in Board Policy 906 which mandates approval of the resolution granting permission for issuance of bonds at a subsequent meeting. The term of the new bonds will closely match the term of the existing debt which is being refinanced. MCEBC expects to issue up to \$161,375,000 million par value in fixed rate bonds for the purposes set forth above. Funds are available from patient revenues. 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.

13. **USM** – Approved of a Bond Resolution and Supporting Documents to affirm and reapprove the resolution and supporting documents passed by this Board on November 20, 2025, for the purpose of increasing the maximum principal amount of bonds authorized to \$152,500,000 from a previously authorized amount of not to exceed \$62,500,000 to be issued through the S. M. Educational Building Corporation to finance up to \$35,000,000 for the construction, renovation, equipping, and landscaping of the Reed Green Coliseum and other Athletic Facility improvements and/or the refunding of up to \$117,500,000 of all or a portion of the Corporation's outstanding Series 2013 Bonds, and Series 2015A Bonds, Series 2016 Bonds, and Series 2017 Bonds. The University, through the Corporation, intends to combine the new money bonds and refunding bonds into a single debt issuance transaction; however, the Bond Resolution does allow for the refunding bonds to be issued separately at a different date than the new money bonds for Reed Green Coliseum. The total NPV savings must equal or exceed 3% of the refunded bonds to pursue the refunding transaction. The total maximum par amount for combined funding is \$152,500,000. The New Money, max par amount is \$35,000,000 and includes Reed Green Coliseum & other related athletic improvements (IHL #208-301). The refund, max par amount is \$117,500,000 and includes the following. Series 2013 Bond proceeds were used to construct the Century Park South Residence Hall project and to refund the Series 1997A Bonds (original proceeds used for a Dormitory project). Series 2015A Bond proceeds were used to advance refund for savings the Series 2006B Bonds (original proceeds used for the Village Residence Hall project) and Series 2007 Bonds (original proceeds used for the M.M. Roberts Stadium athletics project). Series 2016 Bond proceeds were used for (1) the advance refunding and defeasance of the S.M. Educational Building Corporation Revenue Bonds, Series 2009 (Campus Facilities Improvements Project), issued in the original principal amount of \$49,900,000; and (2) acquiring from the University of Southern Mississippi Real Estate Foundation, Inc. that certain parking facility financed with the Certificates of Participation (University of Southern Mississippi Parking Facilities Construction Project), Series 2009, issued in the original principal amount of \$15,520,000 and the advance refunding and defeasance of all of the outstanding 2009 COPs. Series 2017 Bond proceeds were used for refunding of the S.M. Educational Building Corporation Revenue Bonds, Series 2013 (Residence Hall Construction and Refunding Project), issued on June 4, 2013, in the original principal amount of \$51,875,000, maturing on and after

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

March 1, 2023. The Board ratified and approved the following documents: IHL Resolution, Ground Lease, Lease Agreement, Preliminary Official Statement, and Continuing Disclosure Agreement. The following are the professionals: Financial Advisor – Hilltop Securities, Bond Counsel – Butler Snow LLP, and Underwriters – Raymond James & Associates, Inc., and Wells Fargo Bank National Association. The bonds will have a maximum maturity of 30 years for the new money construction and renovation projects. The refunding bonds will maintain their existing maturities and are expected to produce annual debt service savings. USM through the S. M. Educational Building Corporation expects to issue up to a maximum of \$152,500,000 par value, fixed rate bonds. Proceeds from the bond issue will support the refunding transaction, construction and renovation costs for Reed Green Coliseum and other related athletic improvements, capitalized interest, if any, costs of issuance, and the underwriter's discount. Based on the Financial Advisor's report dated March 19, 2026, the proposed refunding debt amortization for Series 2016 and Series 2017 will have an estimated net present value savings of \$5,724,482. Funds are available from various athletic revenues, sales and hotel tax revenues, rental revenues from the residence halls, and parking decal revenues. Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. The agreement is on file in the Board Office.

INFORMATION AGENDAS

Presented by Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

1. **USM** – Intent to modify the following certificate programs:

Offer

- a. Certificate program title: Health Services Administration
Responsible academic unit: College of Nursing and Health Professions, School of Health Professions
Level: post-baccalaureate
Total credit hours: 12
CIP code: 51.2211
Effective date: August 2026
- b. Certificate program title: Population Health Practice
Responsible academic unit: College of Nursing and Health Professions, School of Health Professions
Level: post-baccalaureate
Total credit hours: 12
CIP code: 51.2207
Effective date: August 2026

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

April 16, 2026

Delete

- c. Certificate program title: Instructional Technology
Responsible academic unit: College of Business and Economic Development,
School of Leadership
Level: post-baccalaureate
Total credit hours: 12
CIP code: 13.0501, 8049
Effective date: August 2026
 - d. Certificate program title: Business Essentials
Responsible academic unit: College of Business and Economic Development,
School of Finance
Level: post-baccalaureate
Total credit hours: 12
CIP code: 52.0101, 8096
Effective date: August 2026
2. **SYSTEM** – Intent to offer the following existing degree programs by distance learning:
- a. **DSU** – Degree program title: Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Business Administration
CIP code, sequence: 52.0201, 5895
Total credit hours: 121
Cost to offer by distance learning: \$0 (cost is offset by online course fee)
Effective date: June 2026
 - b. **DSU** – Degree program title: Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) in Management
CIP code, sequence: 52.0201, 5048
Total credit hours: 120
Cost to offer by distance learning: \$0 (cost is offset by online course fee)
Effective date: June 2026
 - c. **DSU** – Degree program title: Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) in Marketing
CIP code, sequence: 52.1401, 5051
Total credit hours: 120
Cost to offer by distance learning: \$0 (cost is offset by online course fee)
Effective date: June 2026
 - d. **DSU** – Degree program title: Bachelor of Science in Education (BSEd) in Elementary Education
CIP code, sequence: 13.1202, 5055
Total credit hours: 120
Cost to offer by distance learning: \$0 (cost is offset by online course fee)
Effective date: June 2026

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

April 16, 2026

- e. **USM** – Degree program title: Bachelor of Science (BS) in Computer Science
CIP code, sequence: 11.0101, 5552
Total credit hours: 120
Cost to offer by distance learning: \$0 (cost is offset by online course fee)
Effective date: August 2026
- f. **USM** – Degree program title: Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Educational Administration P-12
CIP code, sequence: 13.0401, 1067
Total credit hours: 66
Cost to offer by distance learning: \$0 (cost is offset by online course fee)
Effective date: August 2026

REAL ESTATE

- 3. **SYSTEM** – The Board received the Real Estate items that were approved by the Board staff subsequent to the March 19, 2026 Board meeting in accordance with Board Policy 904 Board Approval. **(See Exhibit 6.)**

LEGAL

- 4. **SYSTEM** – The Board received a report of the payment of legal fees to outside counsel. **(See Exhibit 7.)**

ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

- 5. **SYSTEM** – 2026 Spring Commencement Schedule

Alcorn State University

Time/Date: 9:00 a.m., Saturday, May 9, 2026
Location: Davey L. Whitney Health, Physical Education and Recreation Complex
Speaker: Ms. Pelicia E. Hall, Executive Vice President and Chief Regulatory Officer, ViaPath technologies

Time/Date: 1:00 p.m., Saturday, May 9, 2026
Location: Davey L. Whitney Health, Physical Education and Recreation Complex
Speaker: Ms. Pelicia E. Hall, Executive Vice President and Chief Regulatory Officer, ViaPath technologies

Delta State University

Graduate (College of Business and Aviation, College of Education, Arts, and Humanities, and College of Nursing, Health, and Sciences)

Time/Date: 4:00 p.m., Thursday, May 7, 2026
Location: Bologna Performing Arts Center

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

Undergraduate (College of Business and Aviation)

Time/Date: 9:00 a.m., Friday, May 8, 2026
Location: Bologna Performing Arts Center

Undergraduate (College of Education, Arts, and Humanities)

Time/Date: 11:00 a.m., Friday, May 8, 2026
Location: Bologna Performing Arts Center

Undergraduate (College of Nursing, Health, and Sciences)

Time/Date: 2:00 p.m., Friday, May 8, 2026
Location: Bologna Performing Arts Center

Jackson State University

Graduates

Time/Date: 9:00 a.m., Friday, May 1, 2026
Location: Lee E. Williams Athletics and Assembly Center

Undergraduate (College of Liberal Arts, College of Education & Human Development)

Time/Date: 9:00 a.m., Saturday, May 2, 2026
Location: Lee E. Williams Athletics and Assembly Center

Undergraduate (College of Science, Engineering & Technology; College of Health Sciences; College of Business)

Time/Date: 2:00 p.m., Saturday, May 2, 2026
Location: Lee E. Williams Athletics and Assembly Center

Mississippi State University

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) Commencement

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, May 12, 2026
Location: Humphrey Coliseum

Doctoral Graduation and Hooding Ceremony (Ph.D. and Ed.D.)

Time/Date: 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 12, 2026
Location: Bettersworth Auditorium, Lee Hall

Meridian Campus

Time/Date: 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 13, 2026
Location: MSU Riley Center
Speaker: Dr. Mark E. Keenum, President, Mississippi State University

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

Starkville Campus

College of Arts and Sciences, College of Integrative Studies

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., Thursday, May 14, 2026
Location: Humphrey Coliseum
Speaker: Dr. Mark E. Keenum, President, Mississippi State University

ACCESS Program, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, College of Education

Time/Date: 2:30 p.m., Thursday, May 14, 2026
Location: Humphrey Coliseum
Speaker: Dr. Mark E. Keenum, President, Mississippi State University

College of Architecture, Art and Design; College of Business

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., Friday, May 15, 2026
Location: Humphrey Coliseum
Speaker: Dr. Mark E. Keenum, President, Mississippi State University

Academic Affairs, Bagley College of Engineering, College of Forest Resources, College of Professional and Continuing Studies, College of Veterinary Medicine

Time/Date: 2:30 p.m., Friday, May 15, 2026
Location: Humphrey Coliseum
Speaker: Dr. Mark E. Keenum, President, Mississippi State University

Mississippi University for Women

School of Education, College of Nursing and Health Sciences (ASN, BSN and DNP)

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m., Friday, May 8, 2026
Location: Rent Auditorium, Whitfield Hall

College of Arts & Sciences, College of Business & Professional Studies, and College of Nursing and Health Sciences (Non-Nursing Majors)

Time/Date: 2:30 p.m., Friday, May 8, 2026
Location: Rent Auditorium, Whitfield Hall

Mississippi Valley State University

Time/Date: 8:00 a.m., Saturday, May 9, 2026
Location: R.W. Harrison Sports Complex
Speaker: Dr. Toks Omishakin, 4th Secretary of Transportation for the state of California, Former Director of the California Department of Transportation, Former Deputy Commissioner for the Tennessee Department of Transportation, and MVSU Alum

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

University of Mississippi

Time/Date: 9:00 a.m., Saturday, May 9, 2026
Location: The Grove
Speaker: Brett Young, Ole Miss Alum and Country Music Recording Artist

University of Mississippi Medical Center

Time/Date: 10:00 a.m., Friday, May 22, 2026
Location: Mississippi Coliseum

The University of Southern Mississippi

Graduate Students – All Colleges

Time/Date: 5:00 p.m., Thursday, May 14, 2026
Location: Bernard Reed Green Coliseum, Hattiesburg, MS

Undergraduates – College of Arts and Sciences

Time/Date: 9:00 a.m., Friday, May 15, 2026
Location: Bernard Reed Green Coliseum, Hattiesburg, MS

*Undergraduates – College of Business and Economic Development
College of Education and Human Sciences
College of Nursing and Health Professions*

Time/Date: 2:00 p.m., Friday, May 15, 2026
Location: Bernard Reed Green Coliseum, Hattiesburg, MS

Gulf Coast Campus

Graduates and Undergraduates – All Colleges

Time/Date: 2:00 p.m., Saturday, May 16, 2026
Location: Mississippi Coast Coliseum, Biloxi, MS

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 March 10, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Access and Maintenance Easement Agreement between Mississippi State University and the City of Starkville, Mississippi to allow the City to construct and maintain a multiuse path through MSU property at Garrard Road, Oktibbeha County, MS. This agreement conveys a permanent and perpetual non-exclusive easement on, over and across and rights to use the curb cuts, roadways, access areas, driveways, aisles, parking areas, walkways and sidewalks now and hereafter located on the subject property for the purpose of construction and maintenance of the multiuse path. The IHL Associate Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Risk Management reviewed this item and found

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

April 16, 2026

- 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. **MSU** – On March 10, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and Edward D. Gregory for office space located at 3211 Old Mobile Avenue in Pascagoula, Mississippi 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 two years effective March 1, 2026. The total cost of the agreement is \$67,200 payable in 24 monthly installments of \$2,800 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 March 17, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Public Trust Tidelands Lease between Mississippi State University and the State of Mississippi, by and through the Secretary of State, Public Lands Division, to allow the University to construct approximately 74 riprap breakwaters in Biloxi Bay around Keesler Air Force Base, the VA Medical Center, and other nearby properties, encompassing approximately 1.35 miles of shoreline and 0.25 miles of marsh. The term of the lease is 20 years effective January 1, 2026. The Secretary of State has deemed this a rent exempt lease because the project is beneficial for the water bottoms and shoreline. The cost of the project will be paid with grant funds, specifically the National Coastal Resilience Fund awarded to MSU. MSU has confirmed that the use of these grant funds for this project is in compliance with the terms of the grant and legally permissible. According to MSU, “MSU started working on living shorelines in 2015 and is recognized as one of the most prominent living shorelines teams across the world. We routinely assist with research, designs, and construction of living shoreline projects. Due to our recognition as living shoreline experts, we were awarded a National Coastal Resilience Fund award (pooled funding through NOAA and Department of Defense that is managed by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation) to construct and monitor this living shoreline project.” The IHL Associate Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Risk Management reviewed this item and found it compliant with Board Policy 707.01 Land, Property, and Service Contracts. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.

PERSONNEL

7. Sabbatical

Mississippi State University

FROM: 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 [Originally approved by IHL Board March 19, 2026]

CORRECTED: This item was rescinded.

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- President Ogletree announced the next Board meeting will be May 21, 2026 hosted by Alcorn State University.
- President Ogletree passed the gavel to President-Elect Dr. Steven Cunningham who will begin his term on May 8, 2026. Trustee Cunningham presented President Ogletree with a plaque commemorating his year of service as Board President.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

The Board will discuss four topics in executive session, the discussion of which in open session would be detrimental to IHL's legal interest. The first topic is a discussion on the development of cyber-security plans and the prospective strategic business decisions of a public hospital. The Board will receive and discuss confidential legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding legal liability for this topic.

For the second topic, the Board will receive and discuss confidential legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding a personnel matter involving the performance of a particular employee at Mississippi State University and related litigation.

For the third topic, the Board will discuss a personnel matter involving the performance of a particular employee holding a specific position at the Mississippi University for Women.

For the fourth topic, in connection with the JSU presidential search, the Board will transact business and discuss personnel matters relating to the job performance, character, and professional competence of persons holding and applying for a specific position at Jackson State University. The Board will also receive and discuss confidential legal advice from our counsel concerning compliance with federal and state law regarding the search.

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

The Board discussed the development of cyber-security plans and the prospective strategic business decisions of a public hospital and received and discussed confidential legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding legal liability for this topic. **No action was taken.**

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING**

April 16, 2026

On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Clark, with Trustees Martin and Parker absent and not voting, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to appoint Dr. Scott Tollison, Provost at the Mississippi University for Women, as the Interim President at the Mississippi University for Women at a state salary of \$300,000 effective July 1, 2026.

The Board received and discussed confidential legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding a personnel matter involving the performance of a particular employee at Mississippi State University and related litigation. **No action was taken.**

In connection with the JSU presidential search, the Board conducted business, received confidential legal advice, and discussed personnel matters relating to the job performance, character, and professional competence of a person holding and applying for a specific position at Jackson State University.

President Ogletree welcomed the following members of the Search Advisory Constituency:

- Dr. Nicholas J. Hill—Dean, College of Business, Jackson State University (via Zoom)
- Dr. Candice L. Jackson—Secretary, Jackson State University Faculty Senate, and Associate Professor, Department of English, Foreign Languages, and Speech Communications, Jackson State University
- Dr. Deidre L. Wheaton—Associate Dean, College of Education and Human Development
- Brigadier General (Ret.) Robert Crear—Advisory Board, Jackson State University Development Foundation
- Patrease Edwards—President, Jackson State University National Alumni Association

On motion by Trustee Griffith, seconded by Trustee Cunningham, with Trustees Cummings, Martin and Rader participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to appoint Dr. Denise Jones Gregory as President of Jackson State University at a state salary of \$460,000 per year plus a foundation salary supplement of \$5,000 per year, that Dr. Gregory be given a 4-year employment contract with a start date of May 1, 2026, and that such employment contract include a provision allowing for reimbursement of actual moving expenses, in an amount up to \$15,000, in order to move into required university housing.

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

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion by Trustee Heidelberg, seconded by Trustee Arrington, with Trustees Cummings, Martin, and Rader participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

President, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning

Commissioner, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
April 16, 2026**

EXHIBITS

Composite

Exhibit 1 FY 2027 Appropriations and Appropriation Allocation.

Composite

Exhibit 2

Proposed increases in resident tuition rates at all institutions, except Alcorn State University, Delta State University, Mississippi University for Women, and Mississippi Valley State University; the proposed increases in non-resident tuition rates for all institutions, except for Delta State University and Mississippi Valley State University; the proposed decrease in non-resident tuition rate for international students at Alcorn State University; the proposed resident tuition rates for certain professional schools at Mississippi State University, the University of Mississippi, the University of Mississippi Medical Center, and the University of Southern Mississippi; and the proposed non-resident tuition rates for certain professional schools at Alcorn State University, Mississippi State University, Mississippi University for Women, the University of Mississippi, the University of Mississippi Medical Center, and the University of Southern Mississippi, effective FY 2027.

Exhibit 3

Proposed increases in double occupancy room rates for all institutions except for Alcorn State University and Mississippi Valley State University and a decrease for Jackson State University effective FY 2027.

Exhibit 4

Proposed increases to board rates for all institutions, except Alcorn State University and Mississippi Valley State University effective FY 2027.

Exhibit 5

Proposed Capital Improvement Fee for Jackson State University effective FY2027 and the Student Technology Fee for Mississippi University for Women effective FY 2027.

Exhibit 6

Real Estate items that were approved by the IHL Board staff subsequent to the March 19, 2026 Board meeting.

Exhibit 7

Report of the payment of legal fees to outside counsel.

COMPOSITE EXHIBIT 1

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Education & General Campus Funds - Legislative Line Items

	FY2026	FY2027	Difference	Percent
ASU	\$1,831,775	\$2,324,729	\$492,954	26.9%
DSU	1,407,433	1,928,338	520,905	37.0%
JSU	1,287,433	2,563,015	1,275,582	99.1%
MSU	3,166,822	6,010,201	2,843,379	89.8%
MUW	206,822	791,252	584,430	282.6%
MVSU	52,433	408,173	355,740	678.5%
UM	1,182,805	4,732,582	3,549,777	300.1%
USM	2,802,433	5,193,514	2,391,081	85.3%
Total	11,937,956	23,951,804	12,013,848	100.6%

COMPOSITE EXHIBIT 1

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Education & General Campus Funds – Unrestricted Lump Sum

	FY2026	FY2027	Difference	Percent
ASU	\$24,346,447	\$24,492,834	\$146,387	0.6%
DSU	24,190,597	24,336,047	145,450	0.6%
JSU	46,030,540	46,307,306	276,766	0.6%
MSU	111,660,000	112,331,376	671,376	0.6%
MUW	19,371,402	19,487,876	116,474	0.6%
MVSU	16,682,408	16,782,714	100,306	0.6%
UM	100,840,389	101,446,709	606,320	0.6%
USM	96,822,789	97,404,953	582,164	0.6%
Total	439,944,572	442,589,815	2,645,243	0.6%

COMPOSITE EXHIBIT 1

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Education & General Campus Funds – Combined Allocation

	FY2026	FY2027	Difference	Percent
ASU	\$26,178,222	\$26,817,563	\$639,341	2.4%
DSU	25,598,030	26,264,385	666,355	2.6%
JSU	47,317,973	48,870,321	1,552,348	3.3%
MSU	114,826,822	118,341,577	3,514,755	3.1%
MUW	19,578,224	20,279,128	700,904	3.6%
MVSU	16,734,841	17,190,887	456,046	2.7%
UM	102,023,194	106,179,291	4,156,097	4.1%
USM	99,625,222	102,598,467	2,973,245	3.0%
Total	451,882,528	466,541,619	14,659,091	3.2%

COMPOSITE EXHIBIT 1

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Separately Budgeted Units

	FY2026	FY2027	Change	Percent
Student Financial Aid (1)	\$50,255,243	\$52,361,364	\$2,106,121	4.2%
University Medical Center	198,994,713	202,779,557	3,784,844	1.9%
UMMC - ARPA Funds (2)	-	-	-	N/A
UMMC - Opioid Settlement Fund (S.F.)	-	5,000,000	5,000,000	N/A
UMMC - Capital Expense Funds (3)	-	5,000,000	5,000,000	N/A
Subtotal - UMMC	198,994,713	212,779,557	13,784,844	6.9%

(1) Overseen by the Postsecondary Financial Assistance Board

(2) Does not include reappropriations: FY 2026 for School of Nursing of \$40M and for Adolescent Psy Prg. of \$1,652,000;
FY 2027 for School of Nursing of \$7,621,815.

(3) Does not include reappropriations for the Asylum Hill Project of \$2,135,647 in FY 2026 and \$1,356,003 in FY 2027 and
for MS Rare Disease Funds of \$79,566 in FY2027.

COMPOSITE EXHIBIT 1

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Agricultural Programs

	FY2026	FY2027	Change	Percent
ASU - Agricultural Units	\$8,222,984	\$8,598,509	\$375,525	4.6%
MSU - Agricultural & Forestry Experiment St	25,893,567	27,402,806	1,509,239	5.8%
MSU - Mississippi Cooperative Extension	34,623,050	35,756,970	1,133,920	3.3%
MSU - Forest & Wildlife Research Center	6,712,007	7,043,866	331,859	4.9%
MSU - College of Veterinary Medicine	21,316,652	22,419,171	1,102,519	5.2%

COMPOSITE EXHIBIT 1

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Subsidiary Programs

Inst.	Subsidiary	FY2026	FY2027	Change	Percent
Board	Executive Office	\$7,781,502	\$7,827,553	\$46,051	0.6%
JSU	Urban Research Center	549,502	553,605	4,103	0.7%
MSU	Advanced Vehicular Studies	4,885,370	4,956,141	70,771	1.4%
MSU	State Chemical Laboratory	1,901,409	1,913,635	12,226	0.6%
MSU	Water Resources Research Institute	353,177	354,278	1,101	0.3%
MSU	Stennis Institute	795,448	800,829	5,381	0.7%
UM	Law Research Institute	917,441	922,966	5,525	0.6%
UM	Mineral Resources Institute	406,152	412,472	6,320	1.6%
UM	Research Inst. of Pharmaceutical Sciences	5,395,752	5,357,651	(38,101)	-0.7%
UM	Supercomputer	661,217	662,749	1,532	0.2%
UM	Small Business Center	361,756	364,613	2,857	0.8%
UM	Center for Manufacturing Excellence	3,246,169	3,279,201	33,032	1.0%
UM	State Court Education Program	2,078,985	2,085,496	6,511	0.3%
USM	Mississippi Polymer Institute	923,749	929,961	6,212	0.7%
USM	Gulf Coast Research Laboratory	8,764,446	8,858,549	94,103	1.1%
USM	Stennis Center	364,982	366,474	1,492	0.4%
(Non-IHL)	Volunteer Commission	1,108,493	1,111,961	3,468	0.3%
	Total	\$40,495,550	\$40,758,134	\$262,584	0.6%

COMPOSITE EXHIBIT 2

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Resident Tuition Request –Not Including Mandatory Fees

Institution	Approved FY 2026	Requested FY 2027	Difference	Percent Change
ASU	\$ 8,105	\$ 8,105	\$ -	0.0%
DSU	8,435	8,435	-	0.0%
JSU	9,210	9,408	198	2.1%
MSU	10,454	10,845	391	3.7%
MUW	8,647	8,647	-	0.0%
MVSU	7,492	7,492	-	0.0%
UM	9,990	10,278	288	2.9%
USM	10,284	10,684	400	3.9%
SYSTEM AVERAGE	<hr/> 9,077	<hr/> 9,237	<hr/> 160	<hr/> 1.8%
UMMC	\$ 10,580	\$ 10,897	\$ 317	3.0%

COMPOSITE EXHIBIT 2

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Non-Resident Tuition Request – Not Including Mandatory Fees

Institution	Approved FY 2026	Requested FY 2027	Difference	Percent Change
ASU (Does not include International Students)	\$ 8,105	\$ 9,105	\$ 1,000	12.3%
ASU (International Students)	9,305	9,105	(200)	-2.1%
DSU (Does not include International Students)	8,435	8,435	-	0.0%
DSU (International Students)	9,466	9,466	-	0.0%
JSU	13,210	13,408	198	1.5%
MSU	28,586	29,836	1,250	4.4%
MUW	8,647	9,647	1,000	11.6%
MVSU	7,492	7,492	-	0.0%
UM	30,150	31,068	918	3.0%
USM	12,284	12,684	400	3.3%
SYSTEM AVERAGE	13,568	14,025	457	3.4%
UMMC	\$ 31,213	\$ 32,149	\$ 936	3.0%

COMPOSITE EXHIBIT 2

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Resident Tuition Request – Professional Schools

	Approved FY 2026	Requested FY 2027	Difference	Percent Change
ASU				
Graduate	\$ 8,840	\$ 8,840	\$ -	0.0%
Doctor of Nursing Practice	9,092	9,092	-	0.0%
MSU				
Veterinary Medicine	29,753	30,362	609	2.0%
Master of Physician Assistant	32,970	32,970	-	0.0%
Master of Science in Nursing	40,685	41,906	1,221	3.0%
MUW				
MBA (36 hour program)	8,900	8,900	-	0.0%
RN to BSN (3 semesters: Fall, Spring & Summer)	8,780	8,780	-	0.0%
USM				
Certified Reg. Nurse Anesthesia (3 semesters: Fall, Spring & Summer)	28,954	30,082	1,128	3.9%
*Physician Assistant Studies		833	833	NEW
<i>*per credit hour rates</i>				

COMPOSITE EXHIBIT 2

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Resident Tuition Request – Professional Schools (cont.)

UM-OXFORD	Approved FY 2026	Requested FY 2027	Difference	Percent Change
School of Law (JD)	\$ 20,180	\$ 20,970	\$ 790	3.9%
Masters of Laws Program Air & Space Law and Online Certificate in Air & Space Law	25,122	25,410	288	1.1%
MBA and PMBA (resident & non-resident)	19,080	19,368	288	1.5%
School of Pharmacy: Pre-Pharm, EE1, EE2, & EE3	9,990	10,278	288	2.9%
School of Pharmacy: P1 & P2	26,748	27,036	288	1.1%
School of Pharmacy: P3 & P4	28,740	29,028	288	1.0%
Master of Accountancy Programs	11,754	12,042	288	2.5%
*Other Online Degree Programs of Study	555	571	16	2.9%
*Online M. Ed & Ed. S. in Educational Leadership	324	334	10	3.1%
*Online BBA in General Business	451	464	14	3.0%
*M.S. in Dietary Supplements and Medical Cannabis	675	695	20	3.0%

**per credit hour rates*

COMPOSITE EXHIBIT 2

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Resident Tuition Request – Professional Schools (cont.)

University of Mississippi Medical Center	Approved FY 2026	Requested FY 2027	Difference	Percent Change
<i>Undergraduate Program (12 hours/semester)</i>				
SON, SHRP, SOD DH	\$ 10,580	\$ 10,897	\$ 317	3.0%
BSN Accel ³ (15 hours/semester)*	13,225	13,622	397	3.0%
<i>Graduate (9 hours/semester)</i>				
SON, SHRP, SGSHS, SOPH	10,419	10,732	313	3.0%
SHRP - HIIM ⁵	10,419	10,419	-	0.0%
SGSHS Biomed Science ⁴ (12 hours/ semester)*	13,893	14,310	417	3.0%
<i>Doctorate (13.5 hours/semester)</i>				
SHRP - DHA	18,912	19,479	567	3.0%
<i>Professional</i>				
SHRP - DPT & OTD	24,205	24,931	726	3.0%
SGSHS-AuD ¹ (3 semesters)	24,205	24,205	-	0.0%
SOM - MD	36,770	37,873	1,103	3.0%
SOD - DMD	36,770	37,873	1,103	3.0%
SON - CRNA ² (3 semesters Fall, Spring, Summer)	29,000	29,870	870	3.0%

*UMMC sets maximum number of hours per semesters follows: undergraduate programs 12 hours (BSN Accelerated 15 hours fall and spring semester, 12 hours summer semester); graduate programs 9 hours (SGSHS MS Biomedical Sciences 12 hours fall and spring semester); DHA 13.5 hours

¹ SGHS-AuD: Doctor of Audiology rate is for three semesters. Year 1 students are charged for 2 semesters (fall & spring). Year 2 & 3 students are charged for 3 semesters (summer, fall, & spring). Year 4 students will be charged hourly.

² SON-CRNA: new program set to begin enrollment in FY27, 3 semesters 3 year program.

³ SON - BSN Accelerated program is a 1 year program with the fall and spring program of study set at 18 hours and the summer semester set at 12). Requested FY26 reflects the change for fall and spring semester increase cap to 15 from 12 hours.

⁴ SGSHS Biomed Science Requested FY26 reflects the change for fall and spring semester increase cap to 12 from 9 hours.

⁵ SHRP HIIM - not requesting an increase in FY27

COMPOSITE EXHIBIT 2

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Non-Resident Tuition Request – Professional Schools

	Approved FY 2026	Requested FY 2027	Difference	Percent Change
ASU				
Graduate	\$ 8,840	\$ 9,840	\$ 1,000	11.3%
Doctor of Nursing Practice	9,092	10,092	1,000	11.0%
MSU				
Veterinary Medicine	52,493	53,569	1,076	2.0%
Master of Physician Assistant	59,220	59,220	-	0.0%
Master of Science in Nursing	67,624	69,647	2,023	3.0%
MUW				
MBA (36 hour program)	8,900	9,900	1,000	11.2%
RN to BSN (3 semesters: Fall, Spring & Summer)	8,780	9,780	1,000	11.4%
USM				
Certified Reg. Nurse Anesthesia (3 semesters: Fall, Spring & Summer)	34,954	36,082	1,128	3.2%
*Physician Assistant Studies		833	833	NEW
<i>*per credit hour rates</i>				

COMPOSITE EXHIBIT 2

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Non-Resident Tuition Request – Professional Schools (cont.)

	Approved FY 2026	Requested FY 2027	Difference	Percent Change
UM - OXFORD				
School of Law (JD)	\$ 27,180	\$ 28,100	\$ 920	3.4%
Masters of Laws Program Air & Space Law and Online Certificate in Air & Space Law	25,122	25,410	288	1.1%
MBA	42,210	43,128	918	2.2%
School of Pharmacy: Pre-Pharm, EE1, EE2, & EE3	30,150	31,068	918	3.0%
School of Pharmacy: P1 & P2	30,250	31,176	926	3.1%
School of Pharmacy: P3 & P4	32,242	33,168	926	2.9%
Master of Accountancy Programs	31,914	32,832	918	2.9%
*Other Online Degree Programs of Study	555	571	16	2.9%
*Online M. Ed & Ed. S. in Educational Leadership	324	334	10	3.1%
*Online BBA in General Business	584	602	18	3.1%
*M.S. in Dietary Supplements and Medical Cannabis	675	695	20	3.0%
<i>*per credit hour rates</i>				

COMPOSITE EXHIBIT 2

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Non-Resident Tuition Request – Professional Schools (cont.)

University of Mississippi Medical Center	Approved FY 2026	Requested FY 2027	Difference	Percent Change
<i>Undergraduate Program (12 hours/semester)</i>				
SON, SHRP, SOD DH	\$ 31,213	\$ 32,149	\$ 936	3.0%
BSN Accel ³ (15 hours/semester)*	39,030	40,201	1,171	3.0%
<i>Graduate (9 hours/semester)</i>				
SON, SHRP, SGSHS, SOPH	30,768	31,690	922	3.0%
SHRP - HIIM ⁵	30,768	30,768	-	0.0%
SGSHS Biomed Science ⁴ (12 hours/ semester)*	41,024	42,255	1,231	3.0%
<i>Doctorate (13.5 hours/semester)</i>				
SHRP - DHA	48,334	49,784	1,450	3.0%
<i>Professional</i>				
SHRP - DPT & OTD	37,073	38,185	1,112	3.0%
SGSHS-AuD ¹ (3 semesters)	37,073	37,073	-	0.0%
SOM - MD	73,540	75,746	2,206	3.0%
SOD - DMD	73,540	75,746	2,206	3.0%
SON - CRNA ² (3 semesters Fall, Spring, Summer)	72,500	74,675	2,175	3.0%

*UMMC sets maximum number of hours per semesters follows: undergraduate programs 12 hours (BSN Accelerated 15 hours fall and spring semester, 12 hours summer semester); graduate programs 9 hours (SGSHS MS Biomedical Sciences 12 hours fall and spring semester); DHA 13.5 hours

¹ SGHS-AuD: Doctor of Audiology rate is for three semesters. Year 1 students are charged for 2 semesters (fall & spring). Year 2 & 3 students are charged for 3 semesters (summer, fall, & spring). Year 4 students will be charged hourly.

² SON-CRNA: new program set to begin enrollment in FY27, 3 semesters 3 year program.

³ SON - BSN Accelerated program is a 1 year program with the fall and spring program of study set at 18 hours and the summer semester set at 12). Requested FY26 reflects the change for fall and spring semester increase cap to 15 from 12 hours.

⁴ SGSHS Biomed Science Requested FY26 reflects the change for fall and spring semester increase cap to 12 from 9 hours.

⁵ SHRP HIIM - not requesting an increase in FY27

EXHIBIT 3

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Student Room Rate Request Double Occupancy Average

Institution	Approved FY 2026	Requested FY 2027	Difference	Percent Change
ASU	\$ 6,436	\$ 6,436	\$ -	0.0%
DSU	4,625	4,833	208	4.5%
JSU	9,722	6,778	(2,944)	-30.3%
MSU	8,210	8,529	320	3.9%
MUW	4,855	5,079	224	4.6%
MVSU	4,686	4,686	-	0.0%
UM	7,100	7,490	390	5.5%
USM	6,500	6,732	232	3.6%
AVERAGE	6,517	6,320	(196)	-3.0%



EXHIBIT 4

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Student Board Rate Request Most Expensive Meal Plan

Institution	Approved FY 2026 Rates	Requested FY 2027 Rates	Difference	Percent Change
ASU	\$ 4,693	\$ 4,693	\$ -	0.0%
DSU	4,434	4,656	222	5.0%
JSU	5,222	5,484	262	5.0%
MSU	5,058	5,210	152	3.0%
MUW	4,000	4,200	200	5.0%
MVSU	3,907	3,907	-	0.0%
UM	4,692	4,880	188	4.0%
USM	4,550	4,750	200	4.4%
Average	4,570	4,723	153	3.3%



EXHIBIT 5

April 16, 2026

FY 2027 Student Activity Fee, Capital Improvement Fee, Technology Fee Request and Student Health and Wellness Fee

Institution	Approved FY 2026				Requested FY 2027			
	Student Activity Fee	Capital Improvements Fee	Technology Fee	Health and Wellness Fee	Student Activity Fee	Capital Improvements Fee	Technology Fee	Health and Wellness Fee
ASU ⁽¹⁾	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 480	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 480	\$ -
DSU	50	120	-	-	50	120	-	-
JSU	170	105	-	150	170	120	-	150
MSU	50	100	-	-	50	100	-	-
MUW ⁽³⁾	-	100	-	-	-	100	300	-
MVSU	100	100	-	-	100	100	-	-
UM ⁽²⁾	60	100	-	-	60	100	-	-
UMMC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
USM	40	70	-	-	40	70	-	-

(1) ASU Technology Fee charged \$20 per credit hour up to full-time 12 hours/semester; full-time max reflected above.

(2) UM Student Activity Fee charged \$2 per credit hour for the Fall and Spring semesters only (average 15 hours).

(3) MUW Proposing Technology Fee charged \$12.5 per credit hour up to full-time 12 hours/semester; full-time max reflected above.

* Fees are Annualized (Spring and Fall Semester)

EXHIBIT 6

April 16, 2026

SYSTEM: REAL ESTATE ITEMS APPROVED SUBSEQUENT TO THE MARCH 19, 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.

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

1. **DSU-GS 102-298 BROOM HALL WINDOWS & DOORS**

Approval Request #1: Schematic Design Documents

Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by Burris/Wagnon Architects, P.A.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 12, 2026

Approval Request #2: Waiver of Design Development Documents

Board staff approved the waiver of Design Development Documents as submitted by Burris/Wagnon Architects, P.A.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 12, 2026

Project Initiation Date: June 20, 2024

Design Professional: Burris/Wagnon Architects, P.A.

General Contractor: TBD

Total Project Budget: \$1,409,799.80

JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

2. **JSU-GS 103-317 DORMITORY REPAIRS (VARIOUS) – BUILDING 100 & 200 UNIVERSITY POINTE**

Approval Request #1: Construction Documents

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

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 16, 2026

EXHIBIT 6

April 16, 2026

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

Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract

Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of \$2,485,714.94 to Alliant Construction. The contractor was selected under DFA's Job Order Contracting method of procurement.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 16, 2026

Project Initiation Date: November 20, 2025

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

General Contractor: Alliant Construction

Total Project Budget: \$3,000,000.00

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

4. MSU-IHL 205-332 ARTESIA ROAD EXTENDED

Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract

Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of \$1,535,627.41 to the apparent low bidder, Cook & Son, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 17, 2026

Project Initiation Date: May 18, 2023

Design Professional: Garver, LLC

5. MSU-IHL 205-359A WISE CENTER – FARM ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Approval Request #1: Construction Documents

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

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 11, 2026

Approval Request #2: Advertise

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

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 11, 2026

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

Approval Request: Change Order #1

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the *credit* amount of \$169,562.04 and fourteen (14) additional days to the contract of Byrum Construction, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, April 2, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: a credit to Alternate #2 for 12" condensation lines at the Farm Animal Hospital, relocation of 6" water line in conflict with junction box JB-01, including required fittings, pipe and materials, relocation of approximately 500 linear feet of 10" water line in conflict with the proposed storm drain, relocation and rerouting of existing 12" water line at the Laminitis area, and a credit for Alternate #2 for 12" condensation lines at the Laminitis Center.

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

EXHIBIT 6

April 16, 2026

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change order for a total *credit* amount of \$169,562.04.

Project Initiation Date: October 17, 2024

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

CMA: AnderCorp, LLC

General Contractor: Byrum Construction, Inc.

Phased Project Budget: \$1,333,221.00

Total Project Budget: \$36,000,000.00

7. **MSU-IHL 205-359D WISE CENTER – FARM ANIMAL HOSPITAL EQUINE ENTRANCE**

Approval Request: Change Order #1

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of \$778.75 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of M&P Construction, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 23, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: a credit for installation of Nyloplast drain basins in lieu of concrete, and installation of 6” drain line at the south canopy an additional 50’ to the existing grinder pump.

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

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change order for a total amount of \$778.75.

Project Initiation Date: October 17, 2024

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

CMA: AnderCorp, LLC

General Contractor: M&P Construction, LLC

Phased Project Budget: \$2,266,367.00

Total Project Budget: \$36,000,000.00

MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN

8. **MUW-GS 104-221 MCDEVITT BACKUP ELECTRICAL SYSTEM**

Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract

Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of \$1,195,000.00 to the apparent low bidder, Shivers Construction Co., LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 10, 2026

Project Initiation Date: October 17, 2024

Design Professional: Dewberry Engineers, Inc.

EXHIBIT 6

April 16, 2026

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

9. MVSU-GS 106-258 ACADEMIC SKILLS BUILDING RENOVATION PHASES II & III

Approval Request: Change Order #4

Board staff approved Change Order #4 in the amount of \$139,848.22 and thirty-five (35) additional days to the contract of Thrash Commercial Contractors, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 20, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #4 includes the following: a credit for labor and material for omitting two (2) 4" boxes and 6"x6" boxes on the AV detail, installation of handrails in the auditorium and in-line exhaust fans, replacement of parts for AHU-2 to make it function properly, changing out boiler piping controls, adding cut-in outlets and tying adjacent power for speakers in classroom, the audio system in the auditorium and replacement of parts for AHU-1.

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: Four (4) change orders for a total amount of \$433,698.94.

Project Initiation Date: October 15, 2015

Design Professional: ArchitectureSouth, P.A.

General Contractor: Thrash Commercial Contractors, Inc.

Total Project Budget: \$8,939,632.82

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

10. UM-IHL 207-525.1 UNIVERSITY BUILDING DEMOLITION & NEW PARKING – MARRIED STUDENT HOUSING DEMO

Approval Request #1: Construction Documents

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

Approval Status & Date: Approved, April 1, 2026

Approval Request #2: Advertise

Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, April 1, 2026

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

Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract

Board staff approved the Part B Award of Contract in the amount of \$1,017,400.00 to the apparent lowest responsive bidder, Advanced Electric Company, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 27, 2026

Project Initiation Date: January 6, 2023

Design Professional: Atwell & Gent, P.A.

General Contractor: Advanced Electric Company, Inc.

EXHIBIT 6

April 16, 2026

Phased Project Budget: \$1,785,000.00

Total Project Budget: \$25,200,000.00

12. UM-IHL 407-014 NEW SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY (JONES HALL)

Approval Request: Appointment of Commissioning Agent

Board staff approved the appointment of Commissioning & Green Building Solutions, Inc. as the Commissioning Agent for the project.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 23, 2026

13. UM-IHL 407-014.1 NEW SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY (JONES HALL) – YERBY HALL ABATEMENT

Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract

Board staff approved the Phase I Award of Contract in the amount of \$118,000.00 to the apparent low bidder, Snyder Environmental & Construction, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 12, 2026

Project Initiation Date: March 17, 2016

Design Professional: JH&H Architects Planners Interiors, P.A.

General Contractor: Snyder Environmental & Construction, LLC

Phased Project Budget: \$231,631.00

Total Project Budget: \$138,000,000.00

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER

14. UMMC-IHL 209-576 MISSISSIPPI CENTER FOR MEDICALLY FRAGILE CHILDREN

Approval Request: Change Order #5

Board staff approved Change Order #5 in the amount of \$290,626.85 and three hundred fourteen (314) additional days to the contract of Mid-State Construction of Mississippi, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 25, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #5 includes the following: demolition of the existing twenty (20) resident room doors, and installation of new door frames and 4' x 7' doors, removal and installation of all ADA door openers, light switches, and associated devices.

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

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Five (5) change orders for a total amount of \$1,033,445.96.

Project Initiation Date: April 25, 2019

Design Professional: Eley Barkley Dale, a Joint Venture

General Contractor: Mid-State Construction of Mississippi, LLC

Total Project Budget: \$15,900,000.00

EXHIBIT 6

April 16, 2026

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

15. USM-IHL 208-301.1A REED GREEN COLISEUM RENOVATION – UTILITY RELOCATION

Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract

Board staff approved the Phase IA Award of Contract in the amount of \$223,337.00 to the apparent low bidder, Gulf Coast Solutions, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 12, 2026

Project Initiation Date: January 20, 2022

Design Professional: Wier Boerner Allin Architecture, PLLC

CMA: Codaray Construction, LLC

General Contractor: Gulf Coast Solutions, LLC

Phased Project Budget: \$256,232.33

Total Project Budget: \$43,170,506.50

16. USM-IHL 208-301.1B REED GREEN COLISEUM RENOVATION – DOME PAINTING

Approval Request #1: Construction Documents

Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by Wier Boerner Allin Architecture, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 30, 2026

Approval Request #2: Advertise

Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 30, 2026

EDUCATION & RESEARCH CENTER

17. ERC – GS 111-074 ERC FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

Approval Request: Change Order #1

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of \$42,392.09 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of McInnis Systems, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, March 11, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: installation of access controls to two (2) existing doors and add access to two (2) new doors, replacing the existing 24-circuit emergency panel in the IHL Basement with a 42-circuit emergency panel, and route emergency power to access control panel and the recirculating pump.

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 \$42,392.09.

Project Initiation Date: January 9, 2025

Design Professional: Schultz & Wynne, P.A.

General Contractor: McInnis Systems, Inc.

Total Project Budget: \$500,000.00

EXHIBIT 7

April 16, 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 Brunini, Grower, Grantham and Hewes, PLLC (statements dated 3/17/26 and 3/18/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$1,400.00 and \$175.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,575.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statement dated 3/6/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$547.00, represents services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 547.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC (statement dated 3/11/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$2,127.50, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 2,127.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Brunini (statement dated 2/17/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$262.50, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 262.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Lightfoot Franklin White, LLC (statements dated 2/16/26 and 3/17/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$21,696.50 and \$29,593.25, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 51,289.75

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mayo Mallette, PLLC (statements dated 2/10/26, 3/5/26 and 3/5/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$175.00, \$800.00 and \$900.00, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,875.00

EXHIBIT 7

April 16, 2026

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 1/12/26, 2/2/26, 2/2/26, 2/10/26, 3/9/26, 3/10/26, 3/10/26, 3/10/26, 3/13/26, 3/13/26, 3/16/26, 3/16/26 and 3/27/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$539.00, \$2,650.00, \$2,155.00, \$547.00, \$2,650.00, \$2,650.00, \$2,650.00, \$1,700.00, \$8,150.00, \$3,495.00, \$8,150.00, \$3,495.00 and \$2,650.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 41,481.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Alexander Law, P.A. (statements dated 2/10/26, 2/10/26, 2/10/26, 2/10/26, 2/24/26, 3/5/26, 3/5/26, 3/5/26 and 3/5/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$3,065.00, \$1,891.50, \$835.50, \$665.00, \$443.75, \$749.00, \$2,411.50, \$1,825.00 and \$802.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 12,688.75

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 1/21/26, 2/10/26, 2/12/26, 2/12/26, 2/12/26, 2/16/26, 2/16/26, 2/16/26, 2/16/26, 2/27/26, 2/27/26, 2/27/26, 3/6/26, 3/6/26, 3/10/26, 3/12/26, 3/12/26, 3/12/26, 3/12/26 and 3/12/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$60.00, \$1,569.50, \$73.00, \$1,462.10, \$2,336.00, \$2,810.70, \$24,097.10, \$187.00, \$11,073.40, \$10,705.60, \$8,058.40, \$4,143.10, \$255.50, \$2,664.50, \$3,176.10, \$438.00, \$7,592.00, \$3,745.90, \$4,484.90 and \$760.30, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 89,693.10

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Currie Johnson & Myers, P.A. (statements dated 2/6/26, 2/6/26, 2/6/26, 2/6/26, 2/6/26 and 3/9/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$9,943.20, \$220.00, \$397.00, \$1,562.20, \$115.50 and \$320.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 12,557.90

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Forman Watkins & Krutz, LLP (statement dated 2/9/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (This statement, in the amount of \$5,706.00, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 5,706.00

EXHIBIT 7

April 16, 2026

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Gore, Kilpatrick & Dambrino, PLLC (statements dated 1/28/26 and 2/25/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$4,898.55 and \$80.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 4,978.55

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Hall, Render, Killian, Heath & Lyman (statements dated 2/18/26 and 2/18/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$433.19 and \$24.85, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 458.04

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mayo Mallette, PLLC (statements dated 2/9/26 and 2/9/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$306.00 and \$1,155.00, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,461.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Page, Kruger & Holland, PA (statements dated 2/2/26, 2/2/26, 2/2/26, 2/4/26, 2/4/26, 3/2/26, 3/2/26, 3/2/26, 3/2/26 and 3/2/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$100.00, \$100.00, \$160.00, \$34.00, \$140.90, \$280.00, \$85.00, \$121.00, \$440.00 and \$80.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,540.90

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Steen, Dalehite & Pace, LLC (statements dated 12/31/25, 1/14/26, 2/20/26 and 3/4/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$2,964.00, \$2,218.50, \$50.00 and \$191.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 5,423.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Vernis & Bowling of Mississippi, PLLC (statements dated 1/22/26, 1/22/26, 1/22/26, 1/30/26, 1/30/26, 1/30/26, 1/30/26, 1/30/26, 1/30/26, 2/20/26, 2/20/26, 2/20/26, 2/20/26, 2/20/26, 2/20/26, 2/20/26 and 2/20/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$2,031.47, \$247.50, \$941.95, \$142.50, \$210.00, \$1,675.00, \$328.51, \$1,318.76, \$3,252.50, \$576.16, \$142.50, \$2,975.82, \$196.50, \$250.00, \$785.00, \$4,215.03 and \$300.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 19,589.20

EXHIBIT 7

April 16, 2026

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Watkins & Eager, PLLC (statements dated 2/9/26, 2/9/26, 2/9/26, 2/9/26, 2/9/26, 2/9/26, 2/9/26, 2/9/26, 2/9/26, 2/11/26, 2/11/26, 2/12/26, 3/6/26, 3/11/26, 3/12/26, 3/12/26, 3/12/26, 3/12/26, 3/12/26, 3/12/26 and 3/12/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$33.00, \$40.00, \$80.00, \$560.00, \$595.00, \$47.00, \$280.00, \$350.00 \$525.00, \$12,670.00, \$2,415.00, \$4,095.00, \$2,625.00, \$4,130.00, \$70.00, \$140.00, \$350.00, \$111.96, \$350.00 and \$2,660.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 32,126.96

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by the Wise, Carter, Child & Caraway, PA (statements dated 2/2/26 and 2/2/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$525.00, \$1,809.95, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 2,334.95

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Starnes Davis Florie, LLP (statement dated 2/28/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$9,261.90, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 9,261.90

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 2/23/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$252.00, represents services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 252.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mendelsohn Dunleavy, P.C. (statements dated 7/10/25, 3/9/26, 3/9/26, 3/9/26 and 3/9/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$79.00, \$242.90, \$355.50, \$400.00 and \$987.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 2,064.90

EXHIBIT 7

April 16, 2026

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Stites & Harbison, PLLC (statements dated 3/17/26 and 3/17/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$875.50 and \$2,615.00, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 3,490.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 2/18/26, 2/18/26 and 2/18/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$1,606.00, \$255.50 and \$430.00, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 2,291.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Thomas Horstemeyer, LLP (statements dated) 12/31/25, 12/31/25, 12/31/25, 12/31/25, 12/31/25, 12/31/25, 12/31/25, 12/31/25, 1/30/26, 1/30/26, 1/30/26, 1/30/26, 1/30/26 and 1/30/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$960.00, \$960.00, \$960.00, \$1,620.00, \$1,024.00, \$566.51, \$1,226.00, \$1,089.40, \$960.00, \$1,020.00, \$1,483.92, \$1,389.17, \$150.00 and \$1,409.41, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 14,818.41

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Stites & Harbison, PLLC (statements dated 1/23/26, 2/24/26, 2/24/26, 2/24/26, 2/24/26 and 3/17/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$190.00, \$266.00, \$706.00, \$2,394.00, \$646.00 and \$684.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 4,886.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Workman Nydegger (statements dated 1/14/26, 1/14/26, 1/14/26, 1/14/26, 2/11/26, 2/11/26, 2/11/26, 2/11/26, 2/11/26, 2/11/26 and 2/11/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of \$200.63, \$2,150.00, \$1,140.00, \$657.02, \$7,532.13, \$200.00, \$3,450.00, \$8,679.71, \$1,516.59, \$131.00 and \$1,138.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with intellectual property patents.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 26,795.08

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mendelsohn Dunleavy, P.C. (statements dated 11/4/24, 11/4/24, 12/8/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25, 12/8/25, 1/8/26, 1/8/26, 1/8/26, 1/8/26, 3/9/26, 3/9/26, 3/9/26, 3/9/26 and 3/9/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of

EXHIBIT 7

April 16, 2026

\$420.00, \$350.00, \$1,490.00, \$1,013.00, \$250.00, \$400.00, \$210.00, \$8,020.00, \$4,500.00, \$140.00, \$1,730.00, \$300.00, \$175.00, \$70.00, \$1,060.00, \$2,745.00, \$210.00, \$948.00, \$4,622.50 and \$4,885.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 32,538.50

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
MAY 21, 2026**

1. DSU – MODIFICATION OF EXISTING ACADEMIC UNITS

In accordance with Board policies 503 and 504, Delta State University submits a request to modify existing academic units.

REORGANIZING

A. *Unit titles:* School of Management, Marketing, and Business Administration and School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Effective date: August 2026

Cost of implementation: \$0

Rationale: The proposed move of the BA in Digital Media from the School of Management, Marketing, and Business Administration to the School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences reflects a stronger academic and curricular alignment for program leadership, faculty collaboration, and student support. Although the program maintains valuable interdisciplinary connections with marketing and business, its primary curricular foundation centers on visual design, digital storytelling, media production, communication theory, and applied artistic practice. These areas align more directly with the expertise of both the Art and Communications faculty housed within the School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences. This move preserves strategic partnerships with business and marketing through cross-listed coursework and collaborative initiatives while ensuring that program coordination and academic oversight are situated within the disciplines most closely connected to the program's core learning outcomes.

As a result of the reorganization, the following degree programs will be housed in the School of Management, Marketing, and Business Administration:

Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Business Administration
Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Business Administration
Business Management Certificate (post-baccalaureate)
Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) in General Business
Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) in Healthcare Administration
Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) in Management
Management Certificate (post-baccalaureate)
Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) in Marketing

As a result of the reorganization, the following programs will be housed in the School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences:

Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Arts Entrepreneurship
Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Arts Entrepreneurship
Criminal Justice Certificate (pre-baccalaureate)
Bachelor of Science in Justice and Criminology (BSJC)
Master of Science in Justice and Criminology (MSJC)
Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Digital Media
Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Humanities and Social Sciences
Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies (BSIS) in Interdisciplinary Studies
Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS)
Bachelor of University Studies (BUS)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
FINANCE & BUDGET
MAY 21, 2026**

1. **DSU – REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A LAUNDRY ROOM LEASE AGREEMENT WITH CALDWELL & GREGORY, LLC**

Agenda Item Request: Delta State University requests approval to enter into a laundry room lease agreement with **Caldwell & Gregory, LLC** to provide laundry services and equipment for campus housing.

Contractor's Legal Name: Caldwell & Gregory, LLC

History of Contract: The Board previously approved a laundry room lease agreement with Caldwell & Gregory, Inc. in 2007 to provide laundry services and equipment for campus housing. The original agreement commenced August 20, 2007, for a term of seven (7) years and included renewal provisions based on continued satisfactory performance. Following the initial renewal, the agreement extended through 2021. In April 2019, the parties executed an amendment to upgrade laundry equipment to new commercial units, revise the pricing structure to a per-machine monthly rate, and extend the contract term for an additional five (5) years until August 2026.

Specific Type of Contract: This is a new lease agreement for laundry services and equipment.

Purpose: The purpose of this agreement is to provide students residing in university housing with access to commercial laundry facilities through the installation, maintenance, and servicing of laundry equipment.

Scope of Work: Caldwell & Gregory, LLC will install commercial laundry equipment, including washers and dryers, in designated campus facilities and will maintain, service, and repair all equipment at its expense. It will also replace or upgrade equipment as necessary to ensure proper operation. DSU will provide space for the equipment within campus housing facilities, furnish utilities including electricity, gas, water, and ventilation and ensure adequate security and routine housekeeping for the laundry areas.

Term of Contract: The contract will commence on August 20, 2026, or upon the date of installation, whichever occurs later, and will continue for a period of sixty (60) months from the commencement date. The agreement may be renewed under the same terms and conditions upon mutual written agreement of both parties.

Contract Amount: The University will pay \$54.00 per machine per month, subject to a 2% annual increase.

Billing will occur semi-annually in December and June for upcoming service periods, with payment due within thirty (30) days of invoice.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
FINANCE & BUDGET
MAY 21, 2026**

Based on the current machine count and pricing structure, the estimated total value of the contract is approximately \$293,383.00 over the initial sixty (60) month term, with a potential additional \$324,321 for a subsequent sixty (60) month renewal period, inclusive of the 2% annual price increase.

Funding Source for Contract: The contract will be funded through auxiliary funds associated with student housing operations.

Termination Options: The agreement may be terminated for cause if either party fails to meet contractual obligations after written notice and a cure period of up to thirty (30) days.

Additionally, the University may terminate the agreement if service performance is unsatisfactory and not remedied within specified timeframes. Pursuant to the University's standard Contract Terms and Conditions Addendum, the agreement is subject to the availability of funds and may be terminated if funding is not appropriated.

Contractor Selection Process: The University selected Caldwell & Gregory LLC based on its existing service performance with the University, experience in providing laundry services for higher education institutions, and its ability to provide comprehensive installation, maintenance, and service of equipment without disruption to student housing operations.

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. **MUW – REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO RENEW AN AGREEMENT WITH INSTRUCTURE, LLC**

Agenda Item Request: Mississippi University for Women (MUW) requests approval to renew an agreement with **Instructure, Inc.** (CANVAS) as the university's official Learning Management System.

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

History of Contract: On behalf of MUW, the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services (MS ITS) entered into a contract with Instructure in 2015 based off of the Request for Proposals Number 3692(RFP 3692). The initial contract period was for three years beginning August 18, 2015, for use of Instructure's Canvas SaaS Cloud Learning Management System and Services in the amount of \$249,866.01. Amendment #1 was executed by MS ITS on May 18, 2018, and accepted by the IHL Board in August 2018, to extend the contract until August 17, 2023 for an additional cost

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
FINANCE & BUDGET
MAY 21, 2026**

of \$430,118.01. Amendment #2 was executed by MS ITS on April 11, 2023, to extend the contract until August 17, 2026, for an additional cost of \$299,896.82 and accepted by the IHL Board at the May 2023 meeting.

Specific Type of Contract: This is a renewal of a software subscription agreement.

Purpose: Instructure (Canvas) is utilized as MUW's official Learning Management System.

Scope of Work: This agreement provides students and faculty with the University's Learning Management System for academic services.

Term of Contract: Amendment #3 extends the contract for one year, starting August 18, 2026, and ending on August 17, 2027.

Contract Amount: The total contract cost of Amendment #3 is \$88,808.68, bringing the aggregate total to \$1,068,689.52.

Funding Source for Contract: E&G funds

Termination Options: MUW may terminate upon mutual, written agreement of the parties; if either party fails to comply with the terms of the agreement, the non-defaulting party may terminate the agreement with 30 days written notice unless the breach is cured with the 30 days; MUW may terminate the agreement if Instructure, Inc becomes the subject of bankruptcy, reorganization, liquidation or receivership proceedings, whether voluntary or involuntary, or MUW may terminate if Instructure sells the company to another company without prior written approval of MUW; or there are excessive instabilities in the software.

Contractor Selection Process: The campus Technology Task Force (TTF) reviewed CANVAS in spring of 2015 to verify it would meet the needs of MUW. Over 70% of new students each year come to MUW as transfer students. The bulk of these students are from Mississippi community colleges which utilize CANVAS as their LMS. In addition, the K-12 system in Mississippi also uses CANVAS. The continuation of CANVAS would ease the transition for students entering MUW as a transfer or new freshmen. MUW worked with MS ITS to purchase off of RFP 3692, a competitive agreement.

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.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026**

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. MSU – IHL 205-369 – DAVIS WADE STADIUM – SOUND SYSTEM UPGRADES – APPROVAL TO USE DESIGN – BUILD DELIVERY METHOD

Project Request: Mississippi State University requests approval to initiate #205-369 Davis Wade Stadium – Sound System Upgrades and to utilize the Design-Build (DB) delivery method for the project in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 31-7-13.1. This request is based on the specialized nature of the work, the need for integrated system performance, and project schedule constraints.

Design Professional: TBD

General Contractor: TBD

Purpose: The existing seating bowl sound system at Davis Wade Stadium is housed in the south end zone video board enclosure has reached the end of its effective service life and no longer meets current performance expectations for a modern SEC athletic venue. The system experiences limitations in speech intelligibility, uneven audio coverage, and reduced reliability.

Upgrading the sound system will ensure compliance with current audio performance standards, improve speech intelligibility and coverage, enhance the overall fan experience, and provide a reliable platform for emergency notifications and future technology integration.

Project Scope: The proposed project involves the replacement and integration of a performance-based audio system within an existing stadium environment. Such systems require highly coordinated design, engineering, and installation to achieve critical outcomes including speech intelligibility, full seating bowl coverage, and system reliability. The Design-Build method provides a single point of responsibility for both design and construction, ensuring accountability for system performance and reducing risks associated with fragmented delivery.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026**

Due to the complexity of existing conditions—including structural mounting requirements, existing infrastructure, and ongoing stadium operations—the Design-Build approach allows for real-time coordination between design and construction teams. This reduces the likelihood of conflicts, change orders, and delays that are more common under traditional Design-Bid-Build delivery.

The project schedule is also a significant factor. Construction activities must be carefully coordinated around the football season and other scheduled events, resulting in a limited execution window. Design-Build allows for phased implementation and early procurement of long-lead equipment, improving schedule certainty and increasing the likelihood of completion within required time constraints.

Additionally, the Design-Build method enables the University to establish performance-based criteria rather than prescriptive specifications. This encourages qualified teams with expertise in sports venue audio systems to propose innovative, cost-effective solutions that meet or exceed project requirements.

For all these reasons, the design-build method of construction satisfies the public interest better than the traditional design-bid-build method for this project.

Project Initiation Date: May 21, 2026

Project Budget:

	<i>Estimated</i>
Design Build Construction Cost:	\$ 4,500,000.00
Architectural and Engineering Fees:	0.00
Misc. Project Costs:	0.00
Furniture & Equipment Costs:	0.00
Contingency:	<u>500,000.00</u>
Total Project Budget	\$ 5,000,000.00

Funding Source(s): Internal Athletic Funds (\$5,000,000)

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026**

2. UM – IHL 207-527 – JACKSON AVENUE CENTER (JAC) WEST RENOVATION

Project Request: The University of Mississippi requests approval to initiate the project and appoint Allen & Hoshall, PLLC as the design professional for the project.

Design Professional: Allen & Hoshall, PLLC

General Contractor: TBD

Selection Method: The project budget exceeds \$3M therefore, it is required that the university use the RFQ method for selection of the design professional. UM publicly advertised for RFQ submissions and received qualification submittals from five firms. Three of the teams interviewed with the five-member RFQ Selection Committee.

Insurance Coverage: The design firm carries errors and omissions coverage in the amount of \$5,000,000 per claim and \$5,000,000 aggregate.

Purpose: The University of Mississippi 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 University intends to renovate approximately 30,000 SF of the former Malco Building at the Jackson Avenue Center. The renovation will accommodate university classrooms, student spaces, and a permanent home for Ole Miss Esports.

Project Initiation Date: May 21, 2026

Project Budget:

	<i>Estimated</i>
Design Build Construction Cost:	\$ 4,150,000.00
Architectural and Engineering Fees:	322,876.00
Misc. Project Costs:	114,079.00
Furniture & Equipment Costs:	1,500,000.00
Contingency:	<u>913,045.00</u>
Total Project Budget	\$ 7,000,000.00

Funding Source(s): Internal R&R (\$7,000,000)

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026

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

BUREAU OF BUILDING PROJECTS

3. ASU – GS 101-338 – ARPA - WATER TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION

Project Request: Alcorn State University requests approval to increase the budget for the ARPA – Water Transmission and Distribution project from \$8,172,204.45 to \$8,600,912.75 for an increase in the amount of \$428,708.30.

Current Project Phase: Construction Phase

Design Professional: Pickering Firm

General Contractor: Hemphill Construction Co., Inc.

Insurance Coverage: The design firm carries errors and omissions coverage in the amount of \$3,000,000 per claim and \$3,000,000 aggregate.

Purpose/Justification: Alcorn State University is seeking to increase the project budget due to change orders for additional scope of work for locating utilities on campus.

Project Scope: This project will replace approximately 30,000 linear feet of eight-inch pipe, install fire hydrants, valves, appurtenances, and service connections to the existing buildings to improve their water distribution system. As noted above, distribution main replacement will be concentrated in the "Old District" and central area of campus and extend outward toward other facilities to the extent practical. The proposed length of distribution main replaced represents approximately half of the total length of distribution main understood to be in place on campus. Thus, priority shall be given to those segments of the distribution system with the greatest period of time in service.

Project Initiation Date: August 17, 2023

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
 CONSENT AGENDA
 REAL ESTATE
 MAY 21, 2026**

Proposed Project Budget:

	Current Budget	Proposed Budget	Amount (+/-)
Construction Costs	\$ 7,607,388.00	\$ 7,607,388.00	\$ 0.00
Architectural and Engineering Fees	\$ 533,969.28	\$ 533,969.28	\$ 0.00
Miscellaneous Project Costs	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Furniture & Equipment Costs	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Contingency	\$ 30,847.17	\$ 459,555.47	\$ 428,708.30
Total Project Budget	\$ 8,172,204.45	\$ 8,600,912.75	\$ 428,708.30

Proposed Funding Source(s): Federal ARPA Funds (\$8,600,912.75)

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

4. 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 \$4,918,183.67 to \$6,713,485.13 for an increase in the amount of \$1,795,302.13.

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.

Project Scope: The scope of work includes:

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026

- Zeigel Hall - replace TPO roof section
- Blansett Hall - replace TPO roof section
- Young Mauldin Dine Hall - replace damaged skylight
- Whitfield Hall - replace full TPO roof
- Cassity Hall - recoat existing Mod. Bit. Roof
- BPAC - replace standing seam roof section
- BPAC - replace TPO sections on lower roofs
- BPAC - replace TPO sections on upper roofs (Alternate)
- Job Hall - replace full TPO roof
- Caylor/White/Walters Hall - replace full TPO roof
- Gibson-Gunn - replace full metal roof
- H.C. Smith, Sr. Facilities Management - replace broken skylights
- Campus Fire Station - repair/replace various portions of roof (Alternate)
- O.W. Reily Student Health Center- repair roof
- Laforge Library- repair broken skylights and vents
- Bailey Hall - replace shingle section of roof
- Bailey Hall - replace TPO section of roof
- Alumni-Foundation House - replace full shingle roof
- Zeigel Hall - replace shingle section of roof
- Faculty Staff Apartments - replace full shingle roof
- Foundation Hall - replace full shingle roof
- Administrative Housing - replace full shingle roof
- Kethley Hall - misc. roof repairs
- Wright Arts Center - misc. roof repairs
- Broom Hall - misc. shingle repairs
- Brumby-Castle Residence Hall - misc. roof repairs
- Blansett Hall - misc. shingle repairs
- Kent Wyatt Hall - replace full roof
- President's House - replace full roof
- Bryce Griffis Indoor Practice Facility - replace full metal roof
- Farris Field - replace full metal roof
- Airport Office & Hangar - replace full metal roof
- Airport Hangar Building - replace full metal roof
- South Facilities Building - repair skylights

Project Initiation Date: June 20, 2024

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
 CONSENT AGENDA
 REAL ESTATE
 MAY 21, 2026**

Proposed Project Budget:

	Current Budget	Proposed Budget	Amount (+/-)
Construction Costs	\$ 4,350,000.00	\$ 5,970,000.00	\$ 1,620,000.00
Architectural and Engineering Fees	\$ 275,213.22	\$ 370,042.72	\$ 94,829.50
Miscellaneous Project Costs	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 0.00
Furniture & Equipment Costs	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Contingency	\$ 242,973.45	\$ 323,443.08	\$ 80,472.63
Total Project Budget	\$ 4,918,186.67	\$ 6,713,485.80	\$ 1,795,302.13

Proposed Funding Source(s): DSU internal funds (\$897,375.67); SB 2468, L'24 (\$4,020,808); DSU internal funds (\$1,795,302.13)

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

5. ERC – GS 111-077 – IHL PARKING LOTS AND STREET REPAIRS

Project Request: The Education and Research Center requests approval to increase the budget for IHL Parking Lots and Street Repairs project from a preplan budget of \$132,000.00 to \$3,500,000.00 for an increase in the amount of \$3,368,000.00. In addition, ERC requests to clarify the scope of the project to include Phase A and Phase B and the funding sources of the project.

Current Project Phase: Design Phase

Design Professional: Smithers Engineers + Consultants

General Contractor: TBD

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

Purpose/Justification: The Education and Research Center is seeking to increase the project budget after preliminary preplan work was done on the project. The budget increase reflects the most recent cost estimates for the project.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026**

Project Scope: In April of 2025, Smithers completed a road assessment of the ERC Campus. The purpose of the assessment was to determine the existing asphalt pavement condition on the loop road at the Education and Research Center. Multiple issues of varying degrees of concern, some of which require immediate attention, were observed during the assessment. These issues include, but are not limited to, a sinkhole on the Northside of the loop road, a potential water leak South of the sinkhole, drainage issues at storm structures that have caused pavement movement, damaged curb and gutter, erosion of slopes adjacent to damaged/displaced pavement and curb and gutter, multiple areas of pavement in need of full depth repair, and general asphalt surface areas in need of maintenance. Not addressing these issues could lead to major failure of the road system causing potential closure of state office buildings on site.

Based on the findings from Smithers Engineers road assessment, Phase A of the project will address critical issues with parking lots A, B, and C on the south side of the Tower Building at the Education and Research Center as well as the street infrastructure failures around the loop road on the north and south sides of campus at that were identified as part of the initial road assessment. This phase will also include additional landscaping, the complete replacement of all outdated street signs, and the addition of campus wayfinding signage to assist visitors of the new Alyce G. Clarke Center for Medically Fragile Children. Phase A will have a project budget of \$3,200,000.

Phase B of the project will address the Education and Research Center access entrance road at the intersection of Eastover Drive and Eastwood Drive and continue to the west loop road that runs in front of the Alyce G. Clarke Center for Medically Fragile Children property. This phase will also include any additional areas of the loop road that were not addressed in Phase A that may need attention based on the conditions at the time. Phase B will have a design fee only budget of \$300,000.

Project Initiation Date: August 21, 2025

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
 CONSENT AGENDA
 REAL ESTATE
 MAY 21, 2026**

Proposed Project Budget:

	Current Budget	Proposed Budget	Amount (+/-)
Construction Costs	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,500,000.00	\$ 2,500,000.00
Architectural and Engineering Fees	\$ 132,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 368,000.00
Miscellaneous Project Costs	\$ 0.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
Furniture & Equipment Costs	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Contingency	\$ 0.00	\$ 400,000.00	\$ 400,000.00
Total Project Budget	\$ 132,000.00	\$ 3,500,000.00	\$ 3,368,000.00

Proposed Funding Source(s): HB 1614, Laws of 2023 (\$37,006.95); IHL Internal Capital Funds (\$206,544.57); HB 603, Laws of 2023 (\$94,994.05); SB 3053, Laws of 2026 (\$3,161,454.43)

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

IHL PROJECTS

6. ASU – IHL 201-264 – MATT THOMAS JR. GARDEN APARTMENTS

Project Request: Alcorn State University requests approval to increase the budget for the Matt Thomas Jr. Garden Apartments project from \$2,750,000 to \$3,257,824 for an increase in the amount of \$507,824.

Current Project Phase: Design Phase

Design Professional: Canizaro, Cawthorn, and Davis Architects

General Contractor: Barnard and Sons Construction

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

Purpose/Justification: The purpose of this request is to modify the approved project scope and increase the project budget due to additional scope of work derived from

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
 CONSENT AGENDA
 REAL ESTATE
 MAY 21, 2026**

multiple change orders regarding plumbing and sewer system issues identified during the ongoing renovation project. These existing sewer and plumbing lines are original to the facility and date back over 50 years. This is a request for a project budget increase of \$507,824.00.

Project Scope: This building is currently being renovated by the installation of a new roof of 3 (three) residential building and the interior renovation of all 16 units within these buildings including electrical, plumbing and mechanical systems. The original scope was to reuse existing plumbing lines and water lines contained within the buildings; however, it has been determined that these lines are beyond repair in some instances and will cause further damage if not replaced.

History: Matt Thomas Jr Apartments was constructed in 1972. This construction project is the first major improvement project for this complex since being constructed 54 years ago. In this project we have found the need to upgrade all the mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems due to failures within said systems.

Project Initiation Date: March 21, 2024

Proposed Project Budget:

	Current Budget	Proposed Budget	Amount (+/-)
Construction Costs	\$ 2,226,650.00	\$ 2,226,650.00	\$ 0.00
Architectural and Engineering Fees	\$ 370,328.00	\$ 370,328.00	\$ 0.00
Miscellaneous Project Costs	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Furniture & Equipment Costs	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Contingency	\$ 153,022.00	\$ 660,846.00	\$ 507,824.00
Total Project Budget	\$ 2,750,000.00	\$ 3,257,824.00	\$ 507,824.00

Proposed Funding Source(s): University Funds (\$3,257,824)

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026

APPROVAL OF OTHER REAL ESTATE REQUESTS

7. UM – APPROVAL OF A SPACE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH NORTHWEST COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR THE UM – DESOTO REGIONAL CAMPUS

Agenda Item Request: The University of Mississippi (UM) requests approval to enter into a lease with Northwest Community College to continue to house the University's UM-DeSoto Regional Campus operations.

Lessor Legal Name: Northwest Mississippi Community College

Lessee Legal Name: University of Mississippi

Specific Type of Contract: This is a space lease agreement.

History: The UM-DeSoto campus has resided on the NWCC Southaven campus for a number of years.

Purpose: This space lease agreement will be for the lessor's satellite campus located in Southaven, Mississippi, known as the "DeSoto Center" and located at 5197 W.E. Ross Parkway, Southaven, MS 38671.

The lease includes dedicated space of 17,962 square feet as follows: 13,329 square feet for classrooms and 4,873 square feet for offices, including two new faculty office spaces. The University of Mississippi will be allowed to re-purpose Room 240 with cubicles or partitions. The lease also includes 20,098 square feet of shared instructional space between the two institutions, and 55,633 square feet of common shared space. UM will be billed on a semi-annual basis as follows:

- July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, at an annual amount of \$406,000;
- July 1, 2027, to June 30, 2028, at an annual amount of \$418,000; and
- July 1, 2028, to June 30, 2029, at an annual amount of \$431,000.

Term of Space Lease Agreement: The primary term of this lease is thirty-six (36) months, commencing on July 1, 2026, and ending on June 30, 2029.

Termination Options: The Lessee shall notify the Lessor at least thirty (30) days in advance of any reduction in space or termination of the Lease necessitated by the discontinuance or decrease in Federal and/or State funds. The Lease shall be terminated with thirty (30) days notice in the event space becomes available to the University in any State-owned building. Either party may terminate for breach. The parties may terminate upon mutual agreement.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026**

Lease Amount: The total cost associated with the space lease is \$1,255,000 over the thirty-six (36) month period commencing July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2029.

Funding Source for Space Lease: E&G Funds

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

8. USM – GCRL – DEMOLISH AND DELETE FROM INVENTORY – BUILDING #23 FISHERIES LAB BUILDING – OCEAN SPRINGS, MS

Agenda Request: The University of Southern Mississippi requests approval to demolish and delete from inventory Building #23 Fisheries Lab Building located in Ocean Springs, MS.

Justification: USM has submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH), stating that the building does not contribute to the campus' character-defining elements/is noncontributing. MDAH has approved the demolition of the building. The building does not conform to the campus's architectural style and poses a health, safety, and welfare risk.

The letter of approval has been received from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH), stating Building #23 Fisheries Lab Building is not eligible for designation as a Mississippi Landmark and approval to demolish the building has been granted. All legal documentation will be kept on file in the Office of Real Estate and Facilities. The University of Southern Mississippi is acting in accordance with Board Policy §919 Prerequisites for Building Modification or Demolition, which requires Board approval prior to building modification or demolition.

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026

9. USM – GULF PARK – DEMOLISH AND DELETE FROM INVENTORY – BUILDING #989 AND #989(A) – 119 BEACH PARK PLACE - LONG BEACH, MS

Agenda Request: The University of Southern Mississippi requests approval to demolish and delete from inventory Building #989 and #989(A) located at 119 Beach Park Place in Long Beach, MS.

Justification: USM has submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH), stating that the building does not contribute to the campus' character-defining elements/is noncontributing. MDAH has approved the demolition of the building. The building does not conform to the campus's architectural style and poses a health, safety, and welfare risk.

The letter of approval has been received from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH), stating Building #989 and Building #989(A) located at 119 Beach Park Place are not eligible for designation as a Mississippi Landmark and approval to demolish the building has been granted. All legal documentation will be kept on file in the Office of Real Estate and Facilities. The University of Southern Mississippi is acting in accordance with Board Policy §919 Prerequisites for Building Modification or Demolition, which requires Board approval prior to building modification or demolition.

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

10. USM – DEMOLISH AND DELETE FROM INVENTORY – BUILDING #235 – 3403 MORNINGSIDE DRIVE - HATTIESBURG, MS

Agenda Request: The University of Southern Mississippi requests approval to demolish and delete from inventory Building #235 located at 3403 Morningside Drive in Hattiesburg, MS.

Justification: USM has submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH), stating that the building does not contribute to the campus' character-defining elements/is noncontributing. MDAH has approved the demolition of the building. The building does not conform to the campus's architectural style and poses a health, safety, and welfare risk.

The letter of approval has been received from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH), stating Building #235 located at 3403 Morningside Drive is not eligible for designation as a Mississippi Landmark and approval to demolish the building has been granted. All legal documentation will be kept on file in the Office

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026**

of Real Estate and Facilities. The University of Southern Mississippi is acting in accordance with Board Policy §919 Prerequisites for Building Modification or Demolition, which requires Board approval prior to building modification or demolition.

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

**11. USM – DEMOLISH AND DELETE FROM INVENTORY – BUILDING #870 –
ALPHA TAU OMEGA (ATO) HOUSE - 3601 MORNINGSIDE DRIVE -
HATTIESBURG, MS**

Agenda Request: The University of Southern Mississippi requests approval to demolish and delete from inventory Building #870 located at 3601 Morningside Drive in Hattiesburg, MS.

Justification: USM has submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH), stating that the building does not contribute to the campus' character-defining elements/is noncontributing. MDAH has approved the demolition of the building. The building does not conform to the campus's architectural style and poses a health, safety, and welfare risk.

The letter of approval has been received from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH), stating Building #870 located at 3601 Morningside Drive is not eligible for designation as a Mississippi Landmark and approval to demolish the building has been granted. All legal documentation will be kept on file in the Office of Real Estate and Facilities. The University of Southern Mississippi is acting in accordance with Board Policy §919 Prerequisites for Building Modification or Demolition, which requires Board approval prior to building modification or demolition.

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026**

**12. USM – DEMOLISH AND DELETE FROM INVENTORY – BUILDING #896 –
RESIDENTIAL HOUSE - 509 NORTH 36th AVE. - HATTIESBURG, MS**

Agenda Request: The University of Southern Mississippi requests approval to demolish and delete from inventory Building #896 located at 509 North 36th Ave. in Hattiesburg, MS.

Justification: USM has submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH), stating that the building does not contribute to the campus' character-defining elements/is noncontributing. MDAH has approved the demolition of the building. The building does not conform to the campus's architectural style and poses a health, safety, and welfare risk.

The letter of approval has been received from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH), stating Building #896 located at 509 North 36th Ave. is not eligible for designation as a Mississippi Landmark and approval to demolish the building has been granted. All legal documentation will be kept on file in the Office of Real Estate and Facilities. The University of Southern Mississippi is acting in accordance with Board Policy §919 Prerequisites for Building Modification or Demolition, which requires Board approval prior to building modification or demolition.

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
LEGAL
MAY 21, 2026**

1. **ASU – APPROVAL TO HIRE BLAIR LAW FIRM AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

Alcorn State University requests approval to enter into a contract with the Blair Law Firm as outside counsel to perform services necessary in assisting the university with various issues in the area of oil, gas, and other mineral rights. The Board approved a contract with the law firm Blair, Bondurant & Patterson in April. That firm subsequently dissolved and attorney William Blair established this successor firm. The university now seeks approval to contract with this successor firm to ensure continuity of specialized legal counsel in this practice area. The term of the new contract will be one year effective May 22, 2026. The hourly rate for attorney William Blair is \$350 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 \$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 by the Attorney General, Board Staff recommends approval of this item.

2. **IHL – APPROVAL TO RENEW CONTRACT WITH REED SMITH, LLP AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

The IHL System Office requests approval to renew its contract for legal services with the law firm of Reed Smith, LLP, for the provision of legal advice and counsel in connection with an ongoing Public Private Partnership (“P3”) involving the University of Mississippi. The term of the agreement is one year effective May 1, 2026. The hourly rates are \$1,010 for Michael A. Kostiew, \$850 for Alison Andronic, \$660 for associate attorneys and \$445 for paralegal services. The maximum amount payable under the term of the agreement is \$50,000. During the term of this agreement, the firm will carry professional liability insurance coverage in an amount of \$1 million per claim and \$2 million annual aggregate, at a minimum. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board Staff recommends approval of this item.

3. **UM – APPROVAL TO RENEW CONTRACT WITH BOND SCHOENECK & KING, PLLC AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

The University of Mississippi requests approval to renew its contract for professional legal services with the law firm Bond Schoeneck & King, PLLC as outside counsel for the provision of legal advice and counsel on Title IX related matters and other legal matters as assigned. The term of the agreement is three years effective July 1, 2026. The hourly rates are \$370 for partners, \$250 for associate attorneys, and \$200 for paralegal services. The maximum amount payable under the term of the agreement is \$75,000

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
LEGAL
MAY 21, 2026

annually. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$10 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$10 million. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board Staff recommends approval of this item.

4. **UM – APPROVAL TO RENEW CONTRACT WITH BRUNINI, GRANTHAM, GROWER & HEWES, PLLC AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

The University of Mississippi requests approval to renew its contract for professional legal services with the law firm of Brunini, Grantham, Grower & Hewes, PLLC for the provision of legal advice and counsel on general construction matters, including but not limited to legal and regulatory issues related to construction management advisor and construction manager at risk project delivery methods, contract preparation, negotiations, litigation, internal reviews, bid protests, dispute resolution, claim preparation/evaluation, and other construction matters as assigned. The term of the agreement is three years effective July 1, 2026. The hourly rates are \$400 for partners, \$275 for associate attorneys, and \$125 for paralegal services. The maximum amount payable under the term of the agreement is \$75,000 annually. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$15 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$30 million. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board Staff recommends approval of this item.

5. **UM – APPROVAL TO RENEW CONTRACT WITH KAPLAN KIRSCH, LLP AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

The University of Mississippi requests approval to renew its contract for professional legal services with the law firm of Kaplan Kirsch, LLP as outside counsel for the provision of legal advice and counsel on FAA legal and regulatory issues and other legal matters as assigned. The term of the agreement is three years effective July 1, 2026. The blended hourly rate is \$515 for all attorneys and \$150 for paralegal services. The maximum amount payable under the term of the agreement is \$75,000 annually. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$5 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$5 million. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board Staff recommends approval of this item.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
LEGAL
MAY 21, 2026**

6. **UM – APPROVAL TO RENEW CONTRACT WITH LIGHTFOOT FRANKLIN WHITE, LLC AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

The University of Mississippi requests approval to renew its contract for professional legal services with the law firm of Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC as outside counsel for the provision of legal advice and counsel on athletics-related matters and other matters as assigned. The term of the agreement is three years effective July 1, 2026. The hourly rates are \$515 for senior partners, \$465 for junior partners, \$255 for NCAA specialist, and \$250 for tech support. The maximum amount payable under the term of the agreement is \$200,000 annually. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$15 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$30 million. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board Staff recommends approval of this item.

7. **UM – APPROVAL TO RENEW CONTRACT WITH MAYO MALLETTE, PLLC AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

The University of Mississippi requests approval to renew its contract for professional legal services with the law firm of Mayo Mallette, PLLC as outside counsel to assist the University on real estate, compliance, internal investigations, employment, and other legal matters, as assigned. The term of the agreement is three years effective July 1, 2026. The hourly rates are \$250 for partners, \$200 for associate attorneys, and \$100 for paralegal services. The maximum amount payable under the term of this agreement is \$100,000 annually. 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.

8. **UM – APPROVAL TO RENEW CONTRACT WITH SUN SOVEREIGN, LLC D/B/A WARE IMMIGRATION AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

The University of Mississippi requests permission to renew its contract for professional legal services with Sun Sovereign, LLC d/b/a Ware Immigration, as outside counsel to provide legal advice and counsel on immigration matters, including but not limited to the preparation of labor certification applications on behalf of the University for its employees who seek permanent residence status. The term of the agreement is three years effective July 1, 2026. The costs for these services are set out in the fee schedule below. The maximum amount payable under the term of this agreement is \$100,000 annually. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$3 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$3 million. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
 CONSENT AGENDA
 LEGAL
 MAY 21, 2026**

SCHEDULE OF LEGAL FEES

Nonimmigrant Petitions and Processes

H-1B petition	\$2500*
H-1B extension or amendment petitions (if firm handled original petition)	\$2500*
H-1B withdrawal	\$200
H-4 EAD	\$750

*additional legal fee of up to \$2,500 may apply for substantive requests for evidence

TN petition or border/consulate processing	\$2500
TN extension petition (if firm handled original)	\$2500

E-3 petition or consular processing	\$2500
E-3 extension petition (if firm handled original)	\$2500

O-1 petition	\$8000
O-1 extension or amendment petition (if 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)	\$8000
J-1 waiver (Conrad)	\$8000
J-1 waiver (no objection)	\$2000

I-539 Fee for Dependents	\$1000
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Permanent Residence Process with Labor Certification: Faculty

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

Permanent Residence Process with Labor Certification: Non-Faculty

Labor certification	\$6000
Additional fee if audited	\$1500-2500
Additional fee if subject to supervised recruitment	\$3000
Immigrant petition	\$2500

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
 CONSENT AGENDA
 LEGAL
 MAY 21, 2026**

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

Immigrant petition	\$8000
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

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	\$500
Expedite requests	\$500-750
Auto Revalidation Letter	\$200

Administrative Fee (Copies, Postage, FedEx, etc.)	\$150
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General Legal Advice and Unusual Matters Which Fall Outside This Fee Schedule

Such matters will be billed at our hourly rates:

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
 CONSENT AGENDA
 LEGAL
 MAY 21, 2026**

Of Counsel	per hour billed	\$450
Partners	per hour billed	\$350
Associate Attorneys	per hour billed	\$250
Paralegals	per hour billed	\$150

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

9. **UM – APPROVAL TO RENEW CONTRACT WITH THOMAS | HORSTEMEYER LLP AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

The University of Mississippi requests approval to renew its contract for professional legal services with the law firm of Thomas | Horstemeyer LLP for the provision of legal advice and counsel on intellectual property (IP) matters (including patent prosecution), trademarks, IP litigation, IP licensing, copyrights, transactions, and the applications, filings, and submissions specified in Appendix A attached to the contract. The term of the agreement is three years effective July 1, 2026. The hourly rates for attorneys range from \$270 to \$580, \$195 to \$500 for patent agents, and \$125 to \$300 for paralegal services. T|H will also handle certain transactional IP matters for a flat fee based on category of services, at an additional savings to the University. That fee schedule is set out below and in Appendix A attached to the contract for legal services. The maximum amount payable under the term of the agreement is \$250,000 annually. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$5 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$5 million. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

Fee Schedule (Appendix A)

<p>Category 3</p> <p>\$1500</p>	<p>Includes, where applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preparing, filing and reporting response to restriction requirement with group election and detailed traversal
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**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
 CONSENT AGENDA
 LEGAL
 MAY 21, 2026**

Response to Office Action/Appeal Brief	
The Parties will mutually agree upon the billing category of a response to office action or appeal brief before work on response or brief is authorized.	
Category 1 \$1500	Includes, where applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • review and analysis of less complex office actions and cited publications • developing strategy for response • preparing, filing, and reporting response or appeal brief
Category 2 \$2500	Includes, where applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • review and analysis of more complex office actions and cited publications • developing strategy for response • preparing, filing and reporting response or appeal brief
Category 3 \$3500	Includes, where applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • review and analysis of most complex office actions and cited publications • developing strategy for response • preparing, filing and reporting response or appeal brief
Category 4 \$4500	Includes, where applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • review and analysis of most complex office actions and cited publications • developing strategy for response • preparing, filing and reporting response or appeal brief: • developing strategy for evidentiary declaration under 131 or 132 • consultation with declarant • gathering evidence; preparing declaration • sending declaration out for signature by declarant • filing and reporting declaration

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
 CONSENT AGENDA
 LEGAL
 MAY 21, 2026**

<p>Filing Notice of Appeal</p> <p>\$100</p>	<p>Includes, where applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preparing, filing and reporting notice of appeal • review and analysis of office action and cited publications
Additional Filings or Reports	
<p>Continuation or Divisional Patent Application</p> <p>\$1000</p>	<p>Includes, where applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preparation of transmittal papers and application including priority claim • filing of and reporting filed application • preliminary amendment with new or restricted claims
<p>National Phase Patent Application (simple/complex)</p> <p>\$400 or \$1000</p>	<p>Includes, where applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preparation of transmittal papers and application including priority claim • filing of and reporting filed application • filing with existing claims (simple) • preliminary amendment with amended or added claims (complex)
<p>Continuation-in-part Patent Application</p> <p>See Categories for U.S. Utility or PCT Patent Application</p>	<p>Category of continuation-in-part application will be agreed at the time the application is authorized based on the goals for the application. The scope and quality of the application are the primary factors distinguishing the categories.</p>
<p>Request for Continued Examination</p> <p>\$150</p>	<p>Includes, where applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preparation, filing and reporting request for continued examination

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
 CONSENT AGENDA
 LEGAL
 MAY 21, 2026**

<p>Patent Assignment Preparation and Recording</p> <p>\$250</p>	<p>Includes, where applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preparation of assignment and recordation cover sheet • filing assignment for recordation • reporting filing and recordation of assignment
<p>Information Disclosure Statement (simple/complex)</p> <p>\$250/\$600</p>	<p>Includes, where applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preparation of list of publications and applications to be cited from relevant sources • preparation of transmittal papers • filing and reporting filed statement
<p>Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Payment</p> <p>\$500</p>	<p>Includes, where applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • review and reporting of notice of allowance • attention to extensive allowance checklist, including, for example, identifying need to file a continuation or divisional • monitoring of issue fee payment due date • preparation and filing of issue fee transmittal • review of patent application for errors
<p>Report Office Action/other Reporting letters/Formality Response</p> <p>\$150</p>	<p>Includes, where applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reporting office action by email and monitoring of due date • preliminary review and analysis of office action • telephone conference with the University regarding preliminary analysis • other reporting letters for assignments, publication, etc.
<p>Report/Payment of Maintenance Fee/Annuity Fee</p> <p>\$100</p>	<p>Includes, where applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reporting of maintenance fee due date to client • confirmation of maintenance fee instructions • instruction/confirmation of maintenance fee payment

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
 CONSENT AGENDA
 LEGAL
 MAY 21, 2026**

<p>Review/Correction of Patent Term Adjustment</p> <p>\$150</p>	<p>Includes, where applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preliminary review and analysis of patent term calculation • telephone conference with the University regarding patent time
Additional Attorney Analysis	
<p>Detailed inventorship analysis</p> <p>Not to exceed \$2500</p>	<p>The Parties will mutually agree upon the cost of inventorship analysis before authorization to begin work based on the information for the application. The scope and quality of the analysis are the primary factors distinguishing the cost.</p>
<p>Assignee analysis</p> <p>Not to exceed \$2000</p>	<p>The Parties will mutually agree upon the cost of assignee analysis before authorization to begin work based on the information for the application. The scope and quality of the analysis are the primary factors distinguishing the cost.</p>
<p>Prior art search or patentability analysis</p> <p>Not to exceed \$2500</p>	<p>The Parties will mutually agree upon the cost of search or patentability analysis before authorization to begin work based on the goals for the application. The scope and quality of the search and/or analysis are the primary factors distinguishing the cost.</p> <p>Fees for a third party search firm, if applicable, are separate and will be mutually agreed to before authorization to begin the search.</p>

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
PERSONNEL
MAY 21, 2026

APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL ACTION REQUEST

1. Employment

Mississippi State University

Margaret B. Sherrer; *rehired retiree*; Financial Aid Counselor, Financial Aid and Scholarships, salary of \$20,800.00 per annum, pro-rata; Designated Funds; 12-month contract; effective February 19, 2026

2. Change of Status

Mississippi State University

Colleen Stouffer; *rehired retiree*; Lecturer, Sociology; *from* salary of \$22,380 per annum, pro-rata; *to* salary \$22,497.30 per annum, pro-rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; effective January 1, 2026

University of Southern Mississippi

Jeff Hinton; *from* Associate Provost for Gulf Coast and Lifelong Learning Success; salary \$180,000 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; and \$24,000 per annum, pro rata; USM Foundation Funds; 12-month contract; *to* Interim Dean, College of Education and Human Sciences; salary \$225,000 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; effective July 1, 2026

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
ADMINISTRATION/POLICY
May 21, 2026

1. SYSTEM – APPROVAL OF INDIVIDUALS TO SERVE ON THE MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY RESEARCH AUTHORITY (MURA) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY RESEARCH AUTHORITY ACT

By virtue of MS Code 37-147-1, board action is required to update the membership of the Mississippi University Research Authority. MURA issues state-level conflict-of-interest waivers to allow university faculty to commercialize research and create companies related to university projects. By statute, the vice president of the IHL Board serves on the Mississippi University Research Authority. Trustee Mr. Gregg Rader’s term as vice president of the IHL Board began May 8, 2026 and he will serve on MURA. Also, a personnel change at Mississippi State University requires the appointment of Dr. Scott Willard, Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development, to MURA.

By virtue of the Act, the following are MURA members:

Vice President of the Board of Trustees – Mr. Gregg Rader.

Executive Director of the Mississippi Development Authority – Bill Cork or his designee

Ex Officio Commissioner of Higher Education – Dr. Alfred Rankins, Jr.

By virtue of the Act, the following are to be appointed by the IHL Board from among the research officers of the eight institutions and the University of Mississippi Medical Center as MURA members:

Dr. Kelly Lucas, Vice President for Research
University of Southern Mississippi

Dr. Scott Willard, Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development
Mississippi State University

Dr. Almesha Campbell, Vice President of Research and Economic Development
Jackson State University

Dr. John Higginbotham, Vice Chancellor of Research and Economic Development
University of Mississippi

Dr. Caroline Compretta, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research
University of Mississippi Medical Center

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
MAY 21, 2026**

1. **STATE- 2026 APPROVAL OF ACCREDITATION OF MISSISSIPPI NURSING DEGREE PROGRAMS**

Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. §37-129-1, based on the evaluation of annual reports documenting compliance with the state nursing accreditation standards, Board approval is requested for the accreditation of Mississippi Nursing Degree Programs as indicated below.

SCHOOL OF NURSING	PROGRAM TYPE	ACCREDITATION STATUS
Alcorn State University	ASN	Continuing Accreditation
	BSN	Continuing Accreditation
	MSN	Continuing Accreditation
	DNP	Continuing Accreditation
Belhaven University	BSN	Continuing Accreditation
Blue Mountain Christian University	BSN	Continuing Accreditation
Coahoma Community College	ADN	Continuing Accreditation
Copiah-Lincoln Community College	ADN	Continuing Accreditation
Delta State University	BSN	Continuing Accreditation
	MSN	Continuing Accreditation
	DNP	Continuing Accreditation
East Central Community College	ADN	Continuing Accreditation
East Mississippi Community College	ADN	Continuing Accreditation
Hinds Community College	ADN	Continuing Accreditation
Holmes Community College	ADN	Continuing Accreditation
Itawamba Community College	ADN	Continuing Accreditation
Jones County Junior College	ADN	Continuing Accreditation with Conditions¹
Meridian Community College	ADN	Continuing Accreditation with Conditions²
Mississippi College	BSN	Continuing Accreditation

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
MAY 21, 2026**

	MSN	Continuing Accreditation
Mississippi Delta Community College	ADN	Continuing Accreditation
Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College	ADN	Continuing Accreditation
Mississippi State University Meridian	MSN	Initial Accreditation (Approved February 15, 2024)
Mississippi University for Women	ASN	Continuing Accreditation
	BSN	Continuing Accreditation
	MSN	Continuing Accreditation
	DNP	Continuing Accreditation
Northeast Mississippi Community College	ADN	Continuing Accreditation
Northwest Mississippi Community College	ADN	Continuing Accreditation
Pearl River Community College	ADN	Continuing Accreditation
Southwest Mississippi Community College	ADN	Continuing Accreditation
University of Mississippi Medical Center	BSN	Continuing Accreditation
	MSN	Continuing Accreditation
	DNP	Continuing Accreditation
University of Southern Mississippi	BSN	Continuing Accreditation
	DNP	Continuing Accreditation with Conditions³
William Carey University	BSN	Continuing Accreditation
	MSN	Continuing Accreditation

¹**Jones County Junior College**

- **REASON:** ADN Program non-compliant with IHL Standard IV. Curriculum. 2. State Specific Requirement. b. Degree Completion Rates: The program is expected to achieve the completion rate that is specified by the national accreditation body accrediting the program. The program will report on-time degree completion in the Annual Nursing Report.
- **CONDITION:** must satisfactorily address the area(s) of concern/deficiency through the evaluation of the performance improvement plan submitted 06/24/2025 and continued development of performance improvement strategies by 06/30/2026.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
MAY 21, 2026**

²Meridian Community College

- **REASON:** ADN Program non-compliant with IHL Standard V. Outcomes. 2. State Specific Requirement. a. Undergraduate & Prelicensure student-to-faculty ratios must be: No more than 10 to 1 for clinical laboratory courses that require direct supervision.
- **CONDITION:** must satisfactorily address the area(s) of concern/deficiency through the development of a performance improvement plan by 06/30/2026.

³University of Southern Mississippi

- **REASON:** DNP/PGC Program non-compliant with IHL Standard V. Outcomes. 2. State Specific Requirement. c. Certification Pass Rates: 1. Annual nurse practitioner certification exam pass rates for all test takers (1st and repeat) will be 80 percent or above over a three-year period.
- **CONDITION:** must satisfactorily address the area(s) of concern/deficiency through the evaluation of the performance improvement plan submitted 07/07/2025 and continued development of performance improvement strategies by 06/30/2026.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

2. MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE – APPROVAL OF STAGE II – QUALIFY FOR INITIAL ACCREDITATION OF A NEW PROFESSIONAL NURSING PROFESSIONAL DEGREE (PERMISSION TO ADMIT STUDENTS)

In accordance with Mississippi Code §37-129-1, the IHL Board of Trustees serves as the regulatory authority for accreditation of Schools of Nursing in the state of Mississippi. The Office of Academic and Student Affairs Nursing Education oversees the development, implementation, and evaluation of new and existing schools of nursing (community college, public, and private) in the state. In accordance with the Mississippi Code, approval is requested for the Stage II Application - qualify for initial accreditation of a new professional nursing degree program (permission to admit students) for Mississippi College.

Mississippi College completed the first stage in the process of establishing a new professional nursing degree, which was approved by the Board on February 19, 2026, for a new Doctor of Nursing practice (DNP) degree. Mississippi College has completed the second stage in the process and submitted a completed application and supporting evidence to qualify the program for initial accreditation and allow admission of students.

The second stage includes verification of a qualified nursing education program director, qualified nursing faculty and staff, and developing the philosophy, mission, goals, expected program outcomes, curriculum, approved budget, organizational chart, admission, promotion, and graduation policies, systematic plan for evaluation, adequate support services, approved clinical affiliation agreements, and fiscal, physical, technological and learning resources. Mississippi College submitted the Stage II application with a self-study report and supporting documents on February 23, 2026, that provided evidence of meeting the requirements for Stage II. A state site visit team composed of representatives from the Accreditation Review and Evaluation Committee of the Mississippi Council of Deans and Directors of Schools of Nursing and Director of Nursing Education made a three day visit to review the graduate program on October 20-22, 2025, and the Director of Nursing Education made a follow-up onsite visit on

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
MAY 21, 2026**

March 26, 2026, to validate progress, the application for initial accreditation, and all materials pertaining to the proposed nursing program. It was determined that the criteria for Stage II have been satisfactorily met.

A recommendation of approval of Stage II allows the school to admit students and to progress to the last stage, which is qualifying for full accreditation. Stage III requires that a site visit be scheduled with Board staff during the last semester of the first graduating class and in conjunction with the initial national nursing accreditation site visit.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

3. **MSU – REQUESTS TO ADD A NEW ACADEMIC UNIT**

In accordance with Board policies 503 and 504, Mississippi State University submits a request to create a new academic unit.

Proposed unit title: **Department of Organizational Leadership and Professional Studies**

Unit location: College of Professional and Continuing Studies

Effective date: July 2026

Five-year cost of implementation: \$650,000

Total number of faculty/new faculty: 5/1

Total number of staff/new staff: 0/0

Degree programs to be offered within the proposed unit:

Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Organizational Leadership

Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Professional Studies

Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Public Management

Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Business Office Technology

Bachelor of University Studies (BUS)

Master of Applied Sciences (MAS) in Organizational Leadership

Applied Leadership Certificate (post-baccalaureate)

Engage VR Certificate (post-baccalaureate)

Reason for Request: The proposed new academic unit will provide focused leadership and strategic direction for rapidly growing leadership and workforce development initiatives that serve our state and region's economic development needs. Currently, organizational leadership programs, workforce development initiatives, and industry partnerships within the College of Professional and Continuing Studies lack dedicated departmental structure and leadership. These programs have experienced significant growth and require dedicated administrative oversight to maximize their impact and sustainability.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
MAY 21, 2026

4. **SYSTEM – REQUEST TO ADD NEW ACADEMIC DEGREE PROGRAMS**

Board Policy 502: New Academic Programs and Units states: “*Requests to establish new degree programs, colleges, schools, departments, institutes, and centers will be considered by the Board on a schedule and in accordance with guidelines and procedures to be determined by the Commissioner after consultation with the Institutional Executive Officers.*”

In accordance with Board Policy 502, Mississippi State University and the University of Mississippi Medical Center request approval to establish new academic degree programs.

A. MSU – Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Statistics

CIP code: 27.0501

Total credit hours: 121

Effective date: August 2026

Incremental, five-year cost of implementation: \$117,000

Potential new, five-year revenue: \$2,718,040

Unit where academic program will be housed: College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Number of students expected to enroll in first five years: 90

Number of students expected to graduate in first five years: 42

Program description: This new degree program will provide students with a strong foundation in statistics including statistical theory, data analysis methods, and methods to manage, interpret, and effectively communicate insights from complex data. Students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree typically do so because of their strong interest in the arts, humanities, and social sciences. The primary aim of the proposed BA program is to strengthen their quantitative skills in ways that align with current job market demands while allowing them to continue pursuing their interests in the arts, humanities, social sciences, and other liberal-arts disciplines.

Institution(s) offering similar program(s): Jackson State University has a BS in Statistics

National and state supply and demand: Graduates will find strong employment opportunities in Mississippi, the Southeast region, and nationwide across sectors such as healthcare, finance, government, and technology. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for statisticians is projected to grow by 9% from 2024 to 2034, faster than average. This increase represents about 2,700 new positions nationwide, reflecting the continuing expansion of data-driven decision-making in business, healthcare, technology, and government sectors. A new graduate from this program can anticipate in the U.S. a starting salary from \$65,000 to \$90,000.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
MAY 21, 2026**

B. MSU – Bachelor of Science (BS) in Statistics

CIP code: 27.0501

Total credit hours: 121

Effective date: August 2026

Incremental, five-year cost of implementation: \$117,000

Potential new, five-year revenue: \$2,718,040

Unit where academic program will be housed: College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Number of students expected to enroll in first five years: 90

Number of students expected to graduate in first five years: 42

Program description: This new degree program will provide students with a strong foundation in statistics including statistical theory, data analysis methods, and methods to manage, interpret, and effectively communicate insights from complex data. Students pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree are able to master a wide range of science courses (such as diving deep into biology, chemistry, physics) while learning statistical methods. The proposed BS program will equip students with the analytical and problem-solving skills necessary for data-driven decision-making.

Institution(s) offering similar program(s): Jackson State University has a BS in Statistics

National and state supply and demand: Graduates will find strong employment opportunities in Mississippi, the Southeast region, and nationwide across sectors such as healthcare, finance, government, and technology. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for statisticians is projected to grow by 9% from 2024 to 2034, faster than average. This increase represents about 2,700 new positions nationwide, reflecting the continuing expansion of data-driven decision-making in business, healthcare, technology, and government sectors. A new graduate from this program can anticipate in the U.S. a starting salary from \$65,000 to \$90,000.

C. MSU – Bachelor of Science (BS) in Tourism and Destination Development

CIP code: 52.1906

Total credit hours: 120

Effective date: August 2026

Incremental, five-year cost of implementation: \$1,940,000

Potential new, five-year revenue: \$7,426,675

Unit where academic program will be housed: College of Integrative Studies

Number of students expected to enroll in first five years: 150

Number of students expected to graduate in first five years: 55

Program description: This is an interdisciplinary degree program designed to develop future leaders in the tourism and service sector industries. Integrating expertise from multiple

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
MAY 21, 2026**

colleges, the program offers a broad understanding of visitor experience design, culture, destination operations, and tourism development. Students will gain essential skills relevant to the tourism industry including visitor management, community tourism development, venue management, and digital marketing, with a unique focus on attracting, engaging, and meeting the needs of travelers while building community economies.

In 2024, a statewide needs assessment was conducted for Mississippi's tourism industry, which revealed a consistent and urgent demand for talent with specialized, industry-relevant skills. Stakeholders identified digital marketing and development, funding and resource development, market content creation, community and economic development, and event and venue management as the highest value competencies needed for organizational success. Survey respondents also emphasized the critical importance of foundational professional skills, citing customer service, communication, teamwork, marketing and sales, and problem solving as essential for workforce readiness. These findings align directly with an analysis of current tourism-related job postings, which most frequently require proficiency in customer service, communication, sales, and management.

Institution(s) offering similar program(s): University of Southern Mississippi has a BS and a BSBA in Hospitality and Tourism Management, both fall under the 52.09 CIP category which focuses on hospitality, administration/management services. The proposed program for MSU falls under 52.19 category which has a focus on specialized sales, merchandising, and market operations.

National and state supply and demand: Tourism is one of Mississippi's largest economic engines, supporting 133,880 jobs and generating \$17.5 billion in 2023. Labor-market data show strong demand for graduates with tourism-related skills. Lightcast reports that in 2024 Marriott International ranked seventh in statewide job postings and that in November 2024 more than 1,900 jobs from 364 employers required the types of skills taught in the Tourism and Destination Development program. These positions carried a median advertised salary of \$62,000, and nearly half required a bachelor's degree. High-demand roles include marketing managers, food service managers, market research analysts, advertising and sales agents, lodging managers, and meeting and convention planners. This evidence demonstrates a strong job outlook and a clear need for graduates prepared for leadership careers in tourism and destination development.

D. UMMC – Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Cancer Biology and Therapeutics

CIP code: 26.0911

Total credit hours: 60

Effective date: May 2026

Incremental, five-year cost of implementation: \$0 (currently exists as a track within a program)

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
MAY 21, 2026**

Unit where academic program will be housed: School of Graduate Studies in Health Sciences

Number of students expected to enroll in first five years: 14

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

Program description: Cancer Biology and Therapeutics currently exists as a track within the Biology PhD program, and UMMC seeks to make it a stand-alone degree program. This program prepares independent and productive biomedical research scientists through coursework, laboratory research, didactic instruction, laboratory practicums, and involvement in active research projects.

According to the U.S. Cancer Statistics, a combined cancer registry database collected by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) National Program of Cancer Registries and the National Cancer Institute's Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) program, 1,851,238 new cancer cases were reported in 2022, and 613,349 people died of cancer in 2023. In Mississippi, 17,194 new cases and 6,255 deaths were reported, placing the state in the highest percentile of cancer-related deaths in the country. Thus, there is a growing need for a better understanding of the factors contributing to these elevated rates, such as cancer genetics and epigenetics, cancer cell behavior and fate, tumor-body interactions, cancer biomarkers, and the development of new, innovative, and direct therapeutics. About 8,900 openings for medical scientists are projected each year, on average, over the decade. Many of those openings are expected to result from the need to replace workers who transfer to different occupations or exit the labor force, such as to retire. The PhD in Cancer Biology and Therapeutics aims to train medical scientists to address these issues to lower the rate of cancer-related deaths in the state of Mississippi.

Institution(s) offering similar program(s): None

National and state supply and demand: Nationally, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that employment of medical scientists is expected to grow 11 % from 2023 to 2033, which is significantly faster than the average growth rate for all occupations. About 8,900 openings for medical scientists are projected each year, on average, over the decade. Many of those openings are expected to result from the need to replace workers who transfer to different occupations or exit the labor force, such as to retire. In 2024, the median pay for a medical scientist with a doctoral or professional degree was \$100,590.00 per year, which is an hourly rate of \$48.36 per hour.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board staff recommends approval of these items.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
FINANCE & BUDGET
MAY 21, 2026**

1. **SYSTEM-REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO RENEW PROPERTY INSURANCE WITH AFFILIATED FM INSURANCE COMPANY**

Agenda Item Request: The Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning’s Executive Office (IHL) requests approval to renew its property insurance coverage with **Affiliated FM Insurance Company (FM)**. Additionally, the wind and flood coverage for the gulf coast (referred to as a Difference in Conditions or “DIC” policies) includes a number of insurers which share the risk.

Contractor’s Legal Name: Affiliated FM Insurance Company. FM will provide the property coverage for the system, except for the gulf coast wind and flood coverage. That coverage is provided through a difference in conditions wind and storm surge policy of which the coverage is shared between multiple insurers. Gulf Coast DIC policies are quoted for USM and MSU. Those companies include **London (Underwriters at Lloyds London)** and some or all of the following: **Westchester Surplus Lines Insurance Company, Lexington Insurance Company (AIG), Core (Starstone Specialty Insurance Company), Rivington (Great Lakes Insurance SE), SRU (Princeton Excess & Surplus Lines Insurance Company), WRB (W. R. Berkley Corporation), and Velocity Insurance Group.** Between the submission of this agenda item and the Board meeting, the companies in this DIC policy list may change if doing so lowers the premium. Historically, a couple of insurer participants change and reduce the premium cost between agenda item submission and the board meeting. The terrorism coverage is provided through **London**.

History of Contract: In 2009, the Board approved a system-wide approach to insuring the system’s property. FM has provided the primary property coverage for this program since the program’s inception.

The total insured value for the system is \$15,472,752,389, a year-over-year increase of 5%. The FM rate is flat with improved coverage, including the reduction of the freeze loss per university deductible from \$2.25m to \$1m. The wind and flood deductible is decreasing from 3% to 2%. The rate for the USM and MSU DIC coverages decreased 17% and 7%, respectively. There will be one FM “all risk” system policy, two DIC coastal wind and flood policies (one for USM and one for MSU), and a stand-alone terrorism policy. The FM premium rate is approximately .07365 per \$100 of insured values. This submission will include any lower rate from FM if the same can be further negotiated before the board meeting.

The FM policy for all insureds shares limits of \$750 million, which is above the 500-year event risk probability based upon actuarial data provided by our broker. Terrorism coverage will be provided as a stand-alone policy through Lloyds of London. FM deductibles are as follow: \$1,000,000 per occurrence for “all risk” losses, including fire; \$1,000,000 per occurrence per university for water damage, including freeze losses; and 2% per the value of a building, with a \$1,000,000 minimum, for wind and hail. The USM DIC Wind and Flood policies have a 3% building value deductible

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
FINANCE & BUDGET
MAY 21, 2026**

for Named Windstorm damage, with a minimum deductible of \$100,000. Other wind and hail for coastal properties is covered with a \$100,000 deductible. MSU's DIC policy has a deductible of 3% of the building's value, with a \$100,000 minimum.

Properties in flood zones are excluded from the FM policy for the first \$500,000 of flood damage, as has been the case in past years to prevent duplication of coverage, because flood insurance is maintained by the Department of Finance and Administration as part of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

FM provides inspection services by engineers for their insureds.

Specific Type of Contract: This is a policy of property insurance coverage.

Purpose: The purpose of the contract is to insure the system's properties in the most cost effective manner while meeting each university's individual coverage needs.

Scope of Work: The insurer will provide property insurance coverage during the policy year in exchange for the payment of premiums by the universities and IHL.

Term of Contract: This will be a one-year insurance policy running from May 31, 2026, to May 31, 2027.

Termination Options: IHL may cancel the FM policy at its convenience at any time. Upon cancellation by IHL, the insurer will return unearned premium at 90% of the pro-rata basis. The insurer may cancel the FM policy by providing a 60-day written notice, except that 10 days of advance written notice is required in the event of nonpayment of premium. If terminated by the insurer, the pro-rata basis of any unearned premium is returned. Cancellation by the insurer for the wind coverage requires a 90-day notice, or 10 days for non-payment of premium.

Contract Amount: The FM premium is approximately \$11,165,536 for 2026-2027. Premium amounts may increase or decrease through the term of the policy as universities add or decrease their insured values. The DIC coverage will be approximately \$1,575,500 (USM's being \$1,400,000 and MSU's being approximately \$175,500). The terrorism policy will be \$158,162. Together, the aggregate premiums total \$12,899,198. Premium amounts include any applicable taxes and fees.

Funding Source for Contract: Each university and the Board Office pays its respective share of the premium which is billed and paid directly between the broker and the insured. USM and MSU will pay their respective DIC premiums.

Contractor Selection Process: IHL's approved Broker, Arthur J. Gallagher (Gallagher), was selected through a competitive RFP process. Gallagher solicited quotes for IHL,

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
FINANCE & BUDGET
MAY 21, 2026**

including a shared and layered alternative option. The FM, DIC, and terrorism quotes are recommended for approval, as this option is the lowest cost.

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

2. **SYSTEM-REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO PURCHASE
CYBER INSURANCE WITH HOMELAND AND INDIAN HARBOR INSURANCE
COMPANIES**

Agenda Item Request: The Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning’s Executive Office (“IHL”) requests approval to purchase cyber liability and incident response insurance coverage with **Homeland Insurance Company of New York (“Homeland” or “Resilience”)** and **Indian Harbor Insurance Company (“Indian Harbor”)**. Homeland is distributed by Ocrea Risk Services which does business as Resilience.

Contractor’s Legal Name: **Homeland Insurance Company of New York** and **Indian Harbor Insurance Company**. Homeland provides the primary coverage and coverage form. Indian Harbor provides the excess coverage. Homeland and Indian Harbor have A.M. Best Ratings of A+ XV. Our broker is Alliant Insurance Services.

History of Contract: IHL has purchased cyber insurance for the system since the 2017-2018 policy year.

Specific Type of Contract: This is a policy of insurance coverage. Cyber liability insurance will cover various cyber-related losses, including third party liability, first party loss, costs related to investigation and mitigation, and costs related to providing legally required notifications to persons potentially affected by a cyber incident. The purchase includes cyber security services and access to panel contractors through Resilience.

The primary policy with Homeland shares \$10,000,000 in limits with universities having sublimits. The University of Mississippi Medical Center, the University of Mississippi, Mississippi State University, and The University of Southern Mississippi have \$4,000,000 sublimits and the other universities, as well as the Board Office, have \$2,000,000 in limits. Business interruption coverage goes to the full primary limits. The incident response coverage includes forensics, legal, public relations, notifications, and credit monitoring services, as well as a network of service providers available through Resilience. The deductible is \$100,000 per occurrence.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
FINANCE & BUDGET
MAY 21, 2026**

UMMC's excess policy provides UMMC a dedicated additional \$10m in limits, bringing their total available coverage limits to \$14m. The other universities have multiple options to purchase excess limits if they decide as a group to do so.

Purpose: The purpose of the contract is to protect the IHL system from cyber liability risks and response costs through transferring some of that risk to an insurer. The breach response coverage also provides expert assistance and access to a network of contractors with pre-negotiated rates.

Scope of Work: The insurer will provide coverage during the policy year in exchange for the payment of premiums.

Term of Contract: The contract is a one-year insurance policy beginning May 26, 2026, and terminating May 26, 2027.

Termination Options: IHL may cancel the policy with a 60-day notice. The insurer may cancel the policy by providing a 60-day written notice, except that only 10 days of advance written notice is required in the event of nonpayment of premium. Upon cancellation by either party, the insurer will return premium on a pro rata basis.

Contract Amount: The cost for the Homeland primary policy will be approximately \$446,853, inclusive of fees and surplus lines taxes, for the one-year policy. Of this amount, \$120,000 is for cyber risk management services. The \$10m excess policy for UMMC is \$401,188. An excess option for the rest of the system costs \$102,075 for \$3m in shared excess limits or \$144,788 for \$5m in shared excess limits. If the non-UMMC entities do not buy an excess policy, the aggregate total will be \$848,041. If the non-UMMC entities purchase excess coverage, the total aggregate cost will be \$950,116 or \$992,829, depending upon which limits are purchased.

Funding Source for Contract: The IHL Self-Insured Tort Plan pays the premium and allocates an appropriate premium share to each insured participant. The share for each participant, other than UMMC, is built into the annual assessment of the Tort Plan, and the Tort Plan invoices UMMC for its share.

Contractor Selection Process: IHL conducted an RFP process in 2026. Six brokers were assigned 23 markets. Multiple competitive quotes were received and evaluated from 29 options from 11 insurers. The recommended option is the best and lowest in terms of premium, coverage limits, and services. The Alliant quotes with Homeland and Indian Harbor were the only quotes with excess limit options to increase limits over the primary \$10m. The quote also provided the opportunity for UMMC to purchase dedicated excess limits of \$10m over the system shared primary policy limits of \$10m. Security services from Resilience provide additional value.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
FINANCE & BUDGET
MAY 21, 2026**

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.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
LEGAL
MAY 21, 2026**

1. **UM – APPROVAL TO RENEW CONTRACT WITH BUTLER SNOW LLP AS
OUTSIDE COUNSEL**

The University of Mississippi requests approval to renew its contract for professional legal services with the law firm of Butler Snow LLP as outside counsel for the provision of legal advice and counsel on intellectual property (including patent prosecution), commercialization, construction, business, taxation, regulatory matters, and other legal matters as assigned. The term of the agreement is three years effective July 1, 2026. The blended hourly rate will be \$365 for all attorneys (including patent work) and \$140 for paralegal services. The maximum amount payable under the term of the agreement is \$350,000 annually. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$70 million per claim with an annual aggregate of \$140 million. This request has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board Staff recommends approval of this item.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
ADMINISTRATION/POLICY
May 21, 2026**

1. SYSTEM – APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS BY PRESIDENT DR. STEVEN CUNNINGHAM

In accordance with Board Policy 301.03 Board Committees, which requires Board approval of any proposed Board committees, President Dr. Steven Cunningham submits the following committees and committee chairs for Board approval.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Academic Affairs Committee – Teresa Hubbard, Chair
Audit Committee – Jerry Griffith, Chair
Finance Committee – Charlie Stephenson, Chair
Health Affairs Committee – Jerry Griffith, Chair
Legal Committee – Jimmy Heidelberg, Chair
Real Estate Committee – Gregg Rader, Chair

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Legislative Relations Committee – Gregg Rader, Chair
Mississippi University for Women Board Search Committee – Teresa Hubbard, Chair

Note: The President is an Ex-Officio member of all committees. All trustees are members of the standing committees and the Legislative Relations and MUW Board Search ad hoc committees.

2. SYSTEM – APPROVAL TO REAPPOINT TRUSTEE TERESA HUBBARD TO THE MISSISSIPPI POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

One IHL Board member and one public university representative serves on the Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board. The purpose is to make manifest the belief that the continued growth and development of Mississippi requires that all Mississippi youth be assured ample opportunity for the fullest development of their abilities and to recognize that this opportunity will not fully materialize unless the State of Mississippi moves to encourage and financially assist our young people in their efforts. (§ 37-106-1 et seq.) The Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board administers all state-supported student financial aid programs, including grant programs like the Mississippi Resident Tuition Assistance Grant (MTAG) (§ 37-106-29); and the Mississippi Eminent Scholars Grant (MESG) (§ 37-106-31). The membership term is four years.

By virtue of the statute change in 2014, the Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board became a nine-member board. The IHL Board was authorized to appoint one trustee from the IHL Board, one institutional representative, and the Director of the Postsecondary Board who is also the Director of Financial Aid.

On May 15, 2025, the Board appointed Trustee Teresa Hubbard to complete Trustee Dr. Steven Cunningham's term as the trustee representative for the term ending June 30, 2026

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
ADMINISTRATION/POLICY
May 21, 2026**

and reappointed Dr. Mark Keenum, President of Mississippi State University, as the institutional representative with the term July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2029. By virtue of her position as the Director of Financial Aid, Dr. Jennifer Rogers is the Director of the Postsecondary Board.

Board approval is requested to reappoint Trustee Teresa Hubbard to serve on the Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board for the four-year term of July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2030.

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
MAY 21, 2026**

1. **UMMC – INTENT TO MODIFY A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

DELETING

Certificate program title: **Molecular Medicine**

Level: post-baccalaureate

Total credit hours: 11

CIP code: 26.0202, 8101

Effective date: May 2026

2. **DSU – INTENT TO OFFER AN EXISTING DEGREE PROGRAM BY DISTANCE LEARNING**

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

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

In accordance with Board policy, Delta State University submits the intent to offer an already approved degree program by distance learning to the Board for information.

Degree program title: **Bachelor of Science (BS) in Speech and Hearing Sciences**

CIP code, sequence: 51.0204, 5072

Total credit hours: 120

Cost to offer by distance learning: \$0 (cost is offset by online course fee)

Effective date: June 2026

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026

**SYSTEM: REAL ESTATE ITEMS APPROVED SUBSEQUENT TO THE APRIL 16, 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.

JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

1. JSU-GS 103-308 – DINING HALL EXPANSION

Approval Request #1 (INTERIM): 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 April 8, 2026, to approve the budget increase from \$17,875,000.00 to \$21,700,000.00 for an increase of \$3,825,000.00 to be funded through Senate Bill 2971, Laws of 2021, House Bill 1353, Laws of 2022, Senate Bill 3065, Laws of 2019, Senate Bill 2189, Laws of 2026 and JSU Auxiliary Funds. Senate Bill 2189, Laws of 2026 is a new funding source added to the project.

Interim Approval Status & Date: Approved, April 8, 2026

Approval Request #2: Award of Construction Contract

Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of \$19,015,000.00 to Codaray Construction, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, April 23, 2026

Project Initiation Date: April 21, 2022

Design Professional: Durrell Design Group

General Contractor: Codaray Construction, LLC

Total Project Budget: \$21,700,000.00

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026

2. JSU-GS 103-317 DORMITORY REPAIRS (VARIOUS) – BUILDING 100 & 200 UNIVERSITY POINTE

Approval Request #1: Advertise

Board staff approved the request to advertise for receipt of bids.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, April 23, 2026

3. JSU-GS 103-343 JOC TB ELLIS ROOFING IMPROVEMENTS

Approval Request: Change Order #1

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of \$39,450.28 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Alliant Construction.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, April 23, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: a *credit* for material substitution of KDAT lumber for standard pressure treated lumber due to extended material lead times, and the implementation of Davis-Bacon wage rates and certified payroll processing requirements to the contract, based on federal funding for the project.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to changes in requirements or recommendations by governmental agencies and user/owner requested modifications.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change order for a total amount of \$39,450.28.

Project Initiation Date: November 20, 2025

Design Professional: Vernell Barnes Architect, PLLC

General Contractor: Alliant Construction

Total Project Budget: \$3,000,000.00

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

4. MSU-IHL 205-368 GRIFFIS HALL INTERIOR REFINISH

Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract

Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of \$1,734,000.00 to the apparent low bidder, Traxler Construction, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, April 6, 2026

Project Initiation Date: January 7, 2026

Design Professional: Shafer Zahner Zahner, PLLC

General Contractor: Traxler Construction, LLC

Total Project Budget: \$2,309,000.00

5. MSU-IHL 405-003B CAAD - HOWELL HALL ADDITIONS & RENOVATION

Approval Request: Change Order #4

Board staff approved Change Order #4 in the amount of \$297,181.93 and seventy-one (71) additional days to the contract of West Brothers Construction, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, April 27, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #4 includes the following: plumbing, electrical and landscape revisions associated with relocating a chiller, additional and revised electrical equipment throughout, partial removal of digital room signage, relocation of BCS shop and associated site/drainage work, addition of overflow roof drains to the South Addition, and revisions to the layout of the sidewalk and steps to the east.

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: Four (4) change orders for a total amount of \$674,876.71.

Project Initiation Date: August 19, 2021

Design Professional: Belinda Stewart Architects, P.A. + Wier Boerner Allin Architecture, PLLC

General Contractor: West Brothers Construction, Inc.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026

Phased Project Budget: \$27,000,000.00

Total Project Budget: \$35,732,500.00

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

6. MVSU-GS 106-275 WATER COLLECTION & CONVEYANCE (ARPA)

Approval Request 1: Change Order #5

Board staff approved Change Order #5 in the amount of \$19,718.20 and thirty (30) additional days to the contract of Don M. Barron Contractor, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, May 7, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #5 includes the following: removal and replacement of Pump #2 at Pump Station 1.

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

Approval Request 2: Change Order #6

Board staff approved Change Order #6 in the credit amount of \$8,240.00 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Don M. Barron Contractor, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, May 7, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #6 includes the following: reconciliation of material quantities for sewer line repair and rehabilitation of the existing 4' diameter manhole. Original Schedule of Values quantities were estimated, and actual quantities were less than the original estimates.

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

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Six (6) change orders for a total credit amount of \$65,006.48.

Project Initiation Date: August 15, 2024

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

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026**

General Contractor: Don M. Barron Contractor, Inc.
Total Project Budget: \$1,991,993.23

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

7. UM-IHL 407-011 UM EARLY LEARNING AND EVALUATION CENTER

Approval Request: Change Order #3

Board staff approved Change Order #3 in the amount of \$1,351,924.27 and forty-eight (48) additional days to the contract of Innovative Construction Management, LLC (ICM).

Approval Status & Date: Approved, May 4, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #3 includes the following: revising underground plumbing and adding pipe and insulation which was not on the original as-built drawings, and infilling alley spaces between the new and existing buildings for the first and second floor addition, as well as a new entry with exterior stairs.

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 \$2,848,662.37.

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

8. UM-IHL 407-014 NEW SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY (JONES HALL)

Approval Request #1: Construction Documents

Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by JH&H Architects Planners Interiors, P.A.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, April 10, 2026

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026**

Approval Request #2: Advertise

Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, April 10, 2026

9. UM-IHL 407-014.1 NEW SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY (JONES HALL) – YERBY HALL ABATEMENT

Approval Request: Change Order #1

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of \$11,499.41 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Snyder Environmental & Construction, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, May 1, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: purchase and installation of a logo windscreen on the perimeter construction fencing.

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 \$11,499.41.

Project Initiation Date: March 17, 2016

Design Professional: JH&H Architects Planners Interiors, P.A.

General Contractor: Snyder Environmental & Construction, LLC

Phased Project Budget: \$231,631.00

Total Project Budget: \$138,000,000.00

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

10. USM-GS 114-033 EXECUTIVE EDUCATION CENTER (JOC)

Approval Request: Change Order #1

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of \$2,940,000.00 and three hundred five (305) additional days to the contract of Paul Jackson & Son, Inc. Change Order 1

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
MAY 21, 2026**

reflects the total renovation to the space, following interior demolition, rather than a typical change order.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, May 1, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: interior renovations to create flexible meeting and training spaces for the building.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to user/owner requested modifications. This project is procured under DFA's Job Order Contracting method of procurement. Under this type of contract, final prices are based on a recognized cost index/unit pricing. Because of this, there is no contractor markup for change orders. The cost for change orders would be the same as if it were a new project. Because of this, the original bid for the demolition is considered the "Original Contract Amount," while the cost of the interior renovations would be considered the "Change Order 1 Amount." The total budget for the project remains unchanged, as the demolition and interior renovation are all part of the scope of the project.

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change order for a total amount of \$2,940,000.00

Project Initiation Date: April 18, 2024

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

General Contractor: Paul Jackson & Son, Inc.

Total Project Budget: \$4,800,000.00

11. USM - IHL 208-397 ARTS DISTRICT PATHWAY

Approval Request: Initiation

Board staff approved Initiation of the Arts District Pathway and appointment of Neel-Schaffer, Inc. as the design professional.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, April 20, 2026

Project Initiation Date: April 20, 2026

Design Professional: Neel-Schaffer, Inc.

General Contractor: TBD

Total Project Budget: \$2,016,900.00

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
LEGAL
MAY 21, 2026

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 (statements dated 3/16/26 and 4/7/26) from the funds of the IHL System Office. (These statements, in the amounts of \$3,440.00 and \$4,384.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 7,824.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Walker Immigration (statement dated 3/27/26) from the funds of Delta State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$2,000.00, represents services and expenses in connection with an immigration/labor certification matter.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 2,000.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Brunini, Grower, Grantham and Hewes, PLLC (statement dated 4/22/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$262.50, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 262.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statement dated 4/27/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$2,299.50, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 2,299.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Copeland Cook Taylor & Bush, PA (statement dated 3/19/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of \$14,270.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 14,270.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 3/26/26, 3/26/26, 3/26/26, 4/1/26 and 4/1/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$563.00, \$531.00, \$541.00, \$280.00 and \$360.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 2,275.00

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
 INFORMATION AGENDA
 LEGAL
 MAY 21, 2026**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Bond, Schoeneck & King (statement dated 4/7/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$370.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 370.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 12/16/25, 3/31/26 and 4/30/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$25,000.00, \$5,183.00 and \$2,190.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 32,373.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mayo Mallette, PLLC (statement dated 4/8/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$75.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 75.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 4/1/26, 4/7/26, 4/7/26, 4/8/26, 4/9/26, 4/17/26, 4/17/26 and 4/21/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$1,500.00, \$2,650.00, \$3,925.00, \$527.00, \$1,850.00, \$2,650.00, \$3,925.00 and \$547.00, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 17,574.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 4/1/26, 4/7/26 and 5/4/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$200.00, \$6,075.00 and \$6,575.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 12,850.00

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

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 3/31/26 and 4/27/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of \$547.50 and \$1,350.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,898.00

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
LEGAL
MAY 21, 2026**

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statement dated 3/25/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of \$1,116.00, represents services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 1,116.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mendelsohn Dunleavy, P.C. (statements dated 4/7/26, 4/7/26, 4/7/26, 4/7/26, 4/7/26 and 4/7/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of \$3,000.00, \$5,900.00, \$490.00, \$164.00, \$890.00 and \$760.00, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE.....\$ 11,204.00

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
ADMINISTRATION/POLICY
May 21, 2026

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. **DSU** – On April 1, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Commercial Lease Agreement between the Delta State University (lessee) and the City of Moorehead, Mississippi (lessor) for office space located at 1001 West Delta Avenue, Moorehead, Mississippi for use as incubator office space to support the University’s BRIDGE Grant program staff and activities. The term of the lease is twelve (12) months effective April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2027. There are ten (10) office spaces available at a cost of \$500 each per month. The total monthly rent due will be calculated by the number of spaces actively occupied by the university as of the first day of each month. Payment is required in advance on the first day of each month. The maximum potential cost of the lease term is \$60,000. 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. **DSU** – On April 1, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Commercial Lease Agreement between Delta State University (lessee) and We2Gether Creating Change (lessor) for office space to support the University’s BRIDGE Grant program staff and activities. The term of the lease is six (6) months effective April 1, 2026, through September 30, 2026. There are three (3) office spaces available at a cost of \$500 each per month. The total monthly rent due will be calculated by the number of spaces actively occupied by the university as of the first day of each month. Payment is required in advance on the first day of each month. The maximum potential cost of the lease term is \$9,000. 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 April 6, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and Boutwell Rental, LLC for space located at 6068 US Highway 49 in Hattiesburg, Mississippi for a MS LIFT Resource and Referral Network Center operated by the University in accordance with the terms of a grant awarded to MSU by the Mississippi Department of Human Services. The term of the lease is one-year effective June 1, 2026, at a cost of \$4,500 per month or \$54,000 annually. Payment is due on the first of each month. The IHL Associate Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Risk Management reviewed this item and found it compliant with Board Policy 707.01 Land, Property, and Service Contracts and Policy 707.03 Approval for Prepayment for Goods or Services. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.
- d. **MSU** – On April 13, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and 55 Place Paddock, LLC for approximately 2,674 square feet of space located at 838/840 Foley Street, Jackson, MS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
ADMINISTRATION/POLICY
May 21, 2026

for a Resource and Referral Center operated by the University in accordance with the terms of a grant awarded to the University by the Mississippi Department of Human Services. The term of the lease is one year effective May 15, 2026 with an option to renew for two additional one-year terms by agreement of all parties at the same cost as the initial one-year term. The total cost of the one-year agreement is \$25,403.04 payable in 12 monthly installments of \$2,116.92 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 April 13, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and Hudspeth Properties, LLC for approximately 2300 square feet pf space located at 3214 North Church Avenue in Louisville, MS for a Resource and Referral Center operated by the University in accordance with the terms of a grant awarded to the University by the Mississippi Department of Human Services. The term of the lease is two years effective June 1, 2026. The total cost of the agreement is \$71,000 payable in 24 monthly installments of \$2,750 each with payments due on the first of each month and a one-time renovation fee of \$2,500 due with the first month’s rent. 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. **UM** – On April 17, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Termination Agreement between the IHL/UM and Gamma Iota of Pi Kappa Alpha House Corporation, a new Lease Agreement between IHL/UM and West Range Oxford LLC and St. Anthony Club of Mississippi. Gamma Iota (PKA) currently hold a lease with the university for the fraternity house lot #408 on the UM Oxford campus effective October 1, 2002 to September 30, 2044. Following the suspension of its chapter, Gamma Iota entered into a Sublease Agreement with St. Anthony Club for use of the residential facility by the Delta Psi fraternity. That sublease has a term of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027. Gamma Iota, the local house corporation for PKA, wishes to transfer that original lease between itself and the university to its national real estate entity, West Range Oxford, LLC. The new lease between the university and West Range Oxford, LLC will have the same term ending September 30, 2044. The termination of the original lease will automatically terminate the current sublease between Gamma Iota and St. Anthony Club. Following the termination of the original lease with Gamma Iota and execution of the new lease with West Range Oxford, West Range (PKA) requests consent to enter into a new sublease with St. Anthony Club for Delta Psi’s continues use of the residential facility. That sublease will have the same term ending June 30, 2027. An annual lease payment of \$50 is due from West Range Oxford on or before the first day of July. Base rent payable by St. Anthony Club to West Range Oxford under the new sublease will be \$21,130 per month until June 30, 2026, and \$22,185 per month through the termination of the agreement on June 30,

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
ADMINISTRATION/POLICY
May 21, 2026

2027. The IHL Associate Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Risk Management reviewed this item and found it compliant with Board Policy 707.01 Land, Property, and Service Contracts. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.
- g. **USM** – On April 6, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Sublease Agreement between the University of Southern Mississippi and Hyperion Technology Group, Inc. for approximately 650 square feet of space in the USM Roger F. Wicker Center for Ocean Enterprise. Hyperion will pay the university \$3,198.83 per month or \$38,385.96 for the one-year term. The IHL Associate Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Risk Management reviewed this item and found it compliant with Board Policy 707.01 Land, Property, and Service Contracts. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
PERSONNEL
May 21, 2026

PERSONNEL ACTION REPORT

1. Sabbatical

University of Southern Mississippi

FROM: Karen Kozlowski, Associate Professor of Psychology, salary of \$66,220 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 4, 2027 to May 14, 2027; professional development.

[originally approved by IHL Board April 16, 2026]

CORRECTED: Karen Kozlowski, Associate Professor of Sociology, salary of \$66,220 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; no change in salary for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective January 4, 2027 to May 14, 2027; professional development.