Board Book

October 15, 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 Committee | October 15, 2026, 9:00a | IHL Board Room
Health Affairs Committee | October 15, 2026, Immediately Following the Finance Committee | IHL Board Room
Real Estate Committee | October 15, 2026, 1:00p | IHL Board Room
IHL Board Meeting | October 15, 2026, Immediately Following the Real Estate Committee | IHL Board Room

CALL TO ORDER — Trustee Dr. Steven Cunningham
INVOCATION — Trustee Teresa Hubbard
INTRODUCTIONS

MINUTES

September 17, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.....6

CONSENT AGENDAS | President Dr. Steven Cunningham

FINANCE

1. MSU – Request for Approval to Enter a Contractual Services Agreement with EBSCO Information Services LLC 34
2. MUW – Request for Approval to Enter a Lease with Neshoba County General Hospital.....35
3. UMMC – Request for Approval to Enter a Medical Office Building Lease Agreement with Downer Clinic, LLC 37
4. UMMC – Request for Approval to Enter a Lease Agreement with OBE, LLC d/b/a Cups an Espresso Café.....39
5. UMMC – Request for Approval of Budget Escalation for the On-Campus Budget 41

REAL ESTATE

Approval of Initiations of Projects/Appointments of Professionals

IHL Projects

1. UM – IHL 207-530, SOC-UMMC Health Related Professions Renovations, Design Professional – McCarty Architects, PA 44
2. UM – IHL 207-532, Conner-Holman Stone Corrections, Design Professional – Eley Guild Hardy Architect, PA.....45

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

Bureau of Building Projects
3. DSU – GS 102-295, Ward Hall Renovations, Design Professional – ArchitectureSouth, PA.....47
4. MUW – GS 104-216, Old Pohl Gymnasium Renovation, Design Professional – Belinda Stewart Architects, PA.....48

IHL Projects
5. MSU – IHL 205-320, Patterson Engineering IDEE Lab, Design Professional – CDFL Architects + Engineers.....50
6. UM – IHL 407-015, NW Mechanical Plant (Phase III), Design Professional – Eley Guild Hardy Architects, PA.....51

Approval of Other Real Estate Requests
7. JSU – Approval to Grant a Historic Preservation Easement to the State of Mississippi – Mississippi Department of Archives and History to the JSU Property Known as the Z.T. Hubert Building.....53
8. JSU – Approval to Grant a Historic Preservation Easement to the State of Mississippi – Mississippi Department of Archives and History to the JSU Property Known as Mt. Olive Cemetery.....54
9. MSU – Approval of the Exterior Design for College View Phase II – P3 Project.....55
10. MSU – Approval of a Space Lease Agreement with Mississippi State University Research & Technology Corporation.....58
11. UM – Approval of the Exterior Design for IHL 207-468, Art, Theatre, & Film Department Facilities (Music Hall).....60
12. UM – Approval of the Exterior Design for IHL 207-468, Art, Theatre, & Film Department Facilities (Scene Shop & Sound Stage).....62
13. USM – Approval of a Space Lease Agreement with Chromis Fiberoptics, Inc. d/b/a Chromis Technologies.....66
14. USM – Approval of a Space Lease Agreement with Liberty Alliance, Inc.....67

LEGAL
1. JSU – Approval to Renew a Contract with Armstrong Law, LLC as Outside Counsel.....69
2. JSU – Approval to Renew a Contract with Sun Sovereign, LLC d/b/a Ware | Immigration as Outside Counsel.....72
3. UM – Approval of Mr. Jack Jones as Legislative Liaison.....75

PERSONNEL
1. Employment (MSU).....76

REGULAR AGENDAS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS | Trustee Teresa Hubbard
1. UMMC – Request to Add a New Academic Degree Program: Master of Physician Assistant Studies 77

FINANCE | Trustee Charlie Stephenson
1. MSU – Request to Enter a Purchase Agreement with FEI Company 79
2. UMMC – Request to Enter a Secondary Vendor Agreement with Cardinal Health 110, LLC and Cardinal Health 112, LLC. 80

REAL ESTATE | Trustee Gregg Rader

Approval of Other Real Estate Requests
1. SYSTEM OFFICE – Annual Approval of Capital Facilities Needs Request – System Bond Plan for the 2027 Legislative Session 82

LEGAL | Trustee Jimmy Heidelberg
1. JSU – Retroactive Approval to Renew a Contract with Butler Snow LLP as Outside Counsel 83
2. UMMC – Approval to Settle Tort Claim #3560 83

INFORMATION AGENDAS | Commissioner Dr. Alfred Rankins, Jr.

FINANCE
1. UMMC – Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services, as Contracting Agent for UMMC Entered an Amendment to the Agreement with Toshiba America Business Solutions, Inc. 84

REAL ESTATE
1. SYSTEM – Real Estate Items Approved Subsequent to the September 17, 2026 Board Meeting
   - Alcorn State University 85
   - Delta State University 86
   - Jackson State University 87
   - Mississippi State University 88
   - Mississippi University for Women 90
   - University of Mississippi 90
   - University of Mississippi Medical Center 92
   - University of Southern Mississippi 94

LEGAL
1. SYSTEM – Report of Payments to Outside Counsel 95

ADMINISTRATION/POLICY
1. SYSTEM – Commissioner's Notice of Approval 99

PERSONNEL
1. Sabbatical (MSU).....101

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
September 17, 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 in the Conference Center at the Longleaf Plantation in Purvis, Mississippi, at 8:30 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 September 17, 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 (via Zoom), 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. Steven Cunningham, President, with Trustee Jerry Griffith providing the invocation.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Stephenson, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of the Board meeting held on August 20, 2026.

CONSENT AGENDAS

On motion by Trustee Stephenson, seconded by Trustee Cummings, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the following Consent Agendas.

FINANCE

1. **MVSU** – Approved the request to enter a grounds maintenance and landscape management services agreement with Rotolo Consultants, Inc. The term of the contract is three years starting on October 1, 2026 and ending on September 30, 2030 with the option to renew for two additional one-year periods. The total annual contract amount is $1,945,667.97 for the three year term plus the two optional years. A breakdown of costs is included in the September 17, 2026 Board Book. The contract will be funded by E&G funds. Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. The agreement is on file in the Board Office.
2. **MVSU** – Approved the request for retroactive approval to enter a Beverage Sales and Sponsorship Agreement with PepsiCo Beverage Sales, LLC to provide comprehensive and exclusive beverage services to the MVSU campus. The term of the contract is ten years from June 1, 2026 through May 31, 2036. This is a revenue generating agreement with a total guaranteed monetary support of $590,00 for the ten-year term, $90,000 of total additional in-kind non-monetary support. The agreement also includes cash rebates, vending commissions, and equipment/service support. These amounts depend on actual sales volume and usage, so they are not fixed contract amounts. Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. The agreement is on file in the Board Office.

3. **UM** – Approved the request to enter an exclusive aviation fuel contract with Avfuel Corporation for the purchase and resale of fuel by the University-Oxford Airport (Airport). The term of the contract is five years beginning October 21, 2026 and ending on October 20, 2031. This contract is a commodity contract involving the purchase and resale of aviation fuel. The price per gallon will be calculated weekly based on various factors set out in the contract. The refuel trucks will be leased the following rates: Jet trucks at a monthly rental rate of $450 and Avgas truck at a monthly rental rate of $250. A breakdown of costs is included in the September 17, 2026 Board Book. The contract will be funded with 21 account – Airport Auxiliary funds. Legal Staff has reviewed the proposed agreement for compliance with applicable law and finds the same to be acceptable. The agreement is on file in the Board Office.

REAL ESTATE

4. **ASU** – Approved the request to increase the budget for IHL 201-256, ASU Bicycle Path Improvements, from $1,661,384.93 to $1,805,449.23 for an increase of $144,064.30. The increase is necessary to stay aligned with the current cost estimate provided by the design professional. The project includes the development and construction improvements on an existing one-mile walking and bicycle path including lighting and trail entrances. Funds are available from University Funds ($420,961.79) and Federal Transportation Alternative Grant Funds ($1,384,487.44).
5. **USM** – Approved the request to increase the budget for GS 114-033, Executive Education Center (JOC), from $4,800,000 to $5,150,000 for an increase of $350,000 and to modify the funding source to include internal funds as a funding source for the project. The project scope remains unchanged which is to create spaces to house USM's Executive Education Center and related facilities. Funds are available from HB 603, Laws of 2023 ($4,800,000) and University Funds ($350,000).

PERSONNEL REPORT

6. ***Employment***

Mississippi Valley State University
Patricia Hoffman-Miller; Dean of Graduate Studies/Chair of Education; salary $119,000 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; effective October 1, 2026

REGULAR AGENDAS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Presented by Trustee Teresa Hubbard, Chair

On motion by Trustee Hubbard, seconded by Trustee Rader, with Trustees Hubbard and 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 Cummings, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #2.

1. **STATE** – Approved for first reading substantive changes to the Mississippi Nursing Degree Programs Accreditation Standards based on input from the Mississippi Council of Deans and Directors of Schools of Nursing according to national nursing trends and contemporary nursing practice/education. If approved, the proposed policy will be filed with the Office of the Secretary of State in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act. Here is a summary of the revisions.

   STANDARD II. Faculty and Staff
   New Criterion added:
   2. State Specific Requirements. i. The program is responsible for oversight of preceptors (e.g. mentors, guides, coaches) to maintain a preceptor to student ratio that is ideal to ensure quality clinical practicum experience(s) for the student(s) to meet course objectives.

   STANDARD IV. Curriculum
   2. State Specific Requirements. c. Prelicensure Program Simulation Clinical Hours: A prelicensure program may use a 1:1 ratio of simulation hours to direct clinical care hours as a substitute for direct patient care clinical experiences. A program that uses simulation as a substitute for direct patient care clinical experiences shall adhere to the following:
   1. 25% or less of ~~traditional~~ direct patient care clinical hours substituted with simulation clinical hours in each individual clinical course ~~does not require approval~~.
   2. 26% up to 50% of ~~traditional~~ direct patient care clinical hours substituted with simulation clinical hours in each individual clinical course ~~requires approval~~ if the simulation center is accredited by the Society for Simulation in Healthcare.
   3. No more than 50% of ~~traditional~~ direct patient care clinical hours can be substituted with simulation clinical hours in each individual clinical course.

2. **SYSTEM** – Approved the proposed amendments to Board Policy 521 Applied Baccalaureate Degree for final reading. **(See Exhibit 1.)**

REAL ESTATE AGENDA

Presented by Trustee Gregg Rader, Chair

On motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #1 as submitted on the Real Estate Agenda.

1. **SYSTEM** – Approved the request to repeal Board Policy 909 Design Professional Selection without replacing the policy number and without renumbering the policy section. This would be for final approval of the proposed amendment and to waive the requirement for a second reading of the revisions as required by Board Policy 201.0302 Procedures for Changing Board Policies and Adopting New Policies. MS Code 73-13-45(1)(a) requires that any public construction contract that is awarded on work that exceeds $100,000 must have a registered professional engineer or architect that prepares the plans, specifications and estimates for the said project. MS Code 73-13-45(1)(b) allows the state or any of its political subdivisions to engage in construction of public buildings involving the practice of engineering and architecture and using the political subdivisions' workforces without the supervision of a licensed professional engineer or architect, provided that the total cost

of the public building does not exceed $150,000. All universities have been following the requirements of Code Section 73-13-45. Board Policy 909 should be repealed because it contains language inconsistent with state law and is unnecessary as all universities are required to follow state law.

~~**909 DESIGN PROFESSIONAL SELECTION**~~

~~All new construction and repair and renovation projects with budgets in excess of $250,000 or more undertaken by the institutions must have plans and specifications drawn for the purpose of advertising and for the receipt of bids. Plans and specifications are to be drawn by a professional architect or engineer unless otherwise recommended by the Board's Real Estate and Facilities staff and approved by the Board.~~

LEGAL AGENDA

Presented by Trustee Jimmy Heidelberg, Chair

On motion by Trustee Heidelberg, seconded by Trustee Ogletree, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve item #1 as submitted on the Legal Regular Agenda.

1. **SYSTEM** – Approved for final reading proposed amendments to Board Policy 1102.02 Payment of Outside Counsel as shown below. The Board waived the requirement for a second reading of the revisions as required by Board Policy 201.0302 Procedures for Changing Board Policies and Adopting New Policies.

1102.02 PAYMENT OF OUTSIDE COUNSEL

A. **Submission of Invoice**. Following receipt and approval of an invoice by the University, the invoice~~, with approval noted,~~ should be forwarded to the ~~Attorney General's Universities Division~~ IHL Office of Legal Affairs and Risk Management with a cover letter reflecting that the invoice has been reviewed for accuracy, reasonableness, and compliance with the legal services agreement, and approved by the University. The Office of Legal Affairs and Risk Management will submit the invoice and cover letter to the Attorney General's Office for review and payment approval.

B. **Approval of Invoice**. ~~The invoice will be reviewed and compared to the contract authorizing the services and fees.~~ Upon approval by the Attorney General's Office, the Office of Legal Affairs and Risk Management will notify the University of approval to pay.~~, the invoice will be forwarded to the Attorney General's Universities Division. The Attorney General's Universities Division will forward an approval letter to the University.~~

C. **Alternative Submission Methods.** The Commissioner may grant written permission for a University to use an alternative method for the submission of invoices to the Attorney General's Office which substantially complies with this policy.

~~C.~~D. **Report to the Board.** The ~~Attorney General's Universities Division~~ Office of Legal Affairs and Risk Management will report the approved outside counsel fees and expenses to the IHL Board of Trustees at the next regularly scheduled meeting, ~~through the Legal Committee, the outside counsel fees and expenses approved during~~ the previous month.

D. E. **Commissioner Approved Increase.** The Board hereby authorizes the Commissioner, on the Board's behalf, to approve an increase in the Board approved maximum amount budgeted for payment to outside counsel, by up to 25%, not to exceed a total contract amount of $250,000.00, and subject to

approval by the Attorney General's Office, in the event the original Board approved maximum amount for payment is subsequently determined by the Commissioner to be insufficient to complete legal representation. Any increase in the maximum amount budgeted for payment which would exceed 25% of the amount already approved by the Board or cause the total contract amount to exceed $250,000.00 requires Board approval.

INFORMATION AGENDAS

Presented by Commissioner Dr. Alfred Rankins, Jr.

REAL ESTATE

1. **SYSTEM** – The Board received the Real Estate items that were approved by the Board staff subsequent to the August 20, 2026 Board meeting in accordance with Board Policy 904 Board Approval. **(See Exhibit 2.)**

LEGAL

2. **SYSTEM** – The Board received a report of the payment of legal fees to outside counsel. **(See Exhibit 3.)**

ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

3. **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 August 7, 2026 Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Station (MAFES) / Mississippi State University and the U.S. Agricultural Research Services (ARS) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). MSU's MAFES and the Delta Research and Extension Center in Washington County has leased approximately 4,776 square feet of greenhouse space since September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2021, with one additional five-year extension that will expire August 31, 2026. This is a new one-year lease with the option to renew for three additional one-year terms with the final term ending August 31, 2030, at a cost of $1 per annum. The IHL Associate Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Risk Management reviewed this item and found it compliant with Board Policy 707.01 Land, Property, and Service Contracts. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.
    b. **UM** – On August 7, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Easement Agreement between the University of Mississippi and Jerry A. Morrison, the owner of property adjoining university-owned Greenfield Farm, which the University is developing as a retreat-style writer's residency. The purpose of the easement is to allow UM to construct and access a driveway on the adjoining property owner's land that meets minimum emergency vehicle access width to UM's property. There is no consideration involved in this agreement, but the university obtained an appraisal which valued the permanent easement at $7,000. 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. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.

c. **UM** – On August 24, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Right-of-Way Easement Agreement between the University and 4 County Electric Power Association to allow 4 County EPA to install electrical facilities (equipment) on the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Station North Farm property located in Oktibbeha County. 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.

d. **USM** – On August 7, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Amendment to Sublease Agreement between the University of Southern Mississippi and Saronic Technologies, Inc. This amendment will increase the existing 1,996.36 square feet of space being leased in the USM Roger F. Wicker Center for Ocean Enterprises to 3,290.65 square feet. This amendment also increases the monthly base rent from $7,319.99 to $12,065.73. All other provisions of the original sublease remain unchanged. The IHL Associate Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Risk Management reviewed this item and found it compliant with Board Policy 707.01 Land, Property, and Service Contracts. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.

e. **USM** – On August 7, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between the University of Southern Mississippi and The Nature Conservancy for approximately 332 square feet of space in the Oceanography Building at the USM Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, specifically Rooms 144, 147, 148, and 148A. The term of the agreement is three years effective August 15, 2026. Lessee will pay the University base rent in the amount of $1,660 per month for the three-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.

f. **SYSTEM** – In accordance with Board Policy 401.0102 Delegation of Authority and 801.09 Resignations, each institution must submit quarterly employment reports to the IHL Executive Office. Two distinct presentations are to be submitted: 1) Summary of Hires and 2) Summary of Separations. In accordance with Miss. Code §37-101-7, as amended, the Board delegates to the Commissioner the authority to approve the quarterly reports of employment. On August 25, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the submitted report for FY 2024 Q1 submissions which cover the employment period beginning July 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2023. IHL financial staff have reviewed and approved the institutions' submissions. A copy of the report will be maintained in the IHL Department of Finance.

g. **SYSTEM** – In accordance with Board Policy 401.0102 Delegation of Authority and 801.09 Resignations, each institution must submit quarterly employment reports to the IHL Executive Office. Two distinct presentations are to be submitted: 1) Summary of Hires and 2) Summary of Separations. In accordance with Miss. Code §37-101-7, as amended, the Board delegates to the Commissioner the

authority to approve the quarterly reports of employment. On August 25, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the submitted report for FY 2024 Q2 submissions which cover the employment period beginning October 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023. IHL financial staff have reviewed and approved the institutions' submissions. A copy of the report will be maintained in the IHL Department of Finance.

h. **SYSTEM** – In accordance with Board Policy 401.0102 Delegation of Authority and 801.09 Resignations, each institution must submit quarterly employment reports to the IHL Executive Office. Two distinct presentations are to be submitted: 1) Summary of Hires and 2) Summary of Separations. In accordance with Miss. Code §37-101-7, as amended, the Board delegates to the Commissioner the authority to approve the quarterly reports of employment. On August 25, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the submitted report for FY 2024 Q3 submissions which cover the employment period beginning January 1, 2024 and ending March 31, 2024. IHL financial staff have reviewed and approved the institutions' submissions. A copy of the report will be maintained in the IHL Department of Finance.

i. **SYSTEM** – In accordance with Board Policy 401.0102 Delegation of Authority and 801.09 Resignations, each institution must submit quarterly employment reports to the IHL Executive Office. Two distinct presentations are to be submitted: 1) Summary of Hires and 2) Summary of Separations. In accordance with Miss. Code §37-101-7, as amended, the Board delegates to the Commissioner the authority to approve the quarterly reports of employment. On August 25, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the submitted report for FY 2024 Q4 submissions which cover the employment period beginning April 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2024. IHL financial staff have reviewed and approved the institutions' submissions. A copy of the report will be maintained in the IHL Department of Finance.

JOINT ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Committee members participated in the meeting in person or via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Charlie Stephenson, Chair of the Finance Committee, at approximately 2:00 p.m. The following items were discussed.

1. The Committee received the nursing workforce report. **No action was taken.**
2. Executive Session
   On motion by Trustee Griffith, seconded by Trustee Ogletree, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to close the meeting to determine whether to declare an Executive Session. On motion by Trustee Ogletree, seconded by Trustee Rader, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and

participating voted unanimously **to enter Executive Session** for the reason reported to the public and stated in these minutes, as follows:

There is one topic for discussion in executive session, the discussion of which in open session would be detrimental to IHL's legal interest. This topic was a discussion of the prospective leasing of land by the Mississippi University for Women along with the receipt and discussion of confidential legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding the lease.

During Executive Session, the following matters were discussed:

The Committee discussed the proposed lease and received and discussed confidential legal advice from the Board's attorney involving the proposed lease of land by the Mississippi University for Women. **No action was taken.**

On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Clark, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to return to open session.

3. On motion by Trustee Clark, seconded by Trustee Parker, with Trustee Hubbard absent and not voting and Trustee Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to adjourn.

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Committee members participated in the meeting in person or via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Charlie Stephenson at approximately 3:00 p.m. The following items were discussed.

1. The Committee received a presentation on the Performance Funding Framework. **No action was taken.**
2. Executive Session

   On motion by Trustee Ogletree, seconded by Trustee Cunningham, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to close the meeting to determine whether to declare an Executive Session. On motion by Trustee Heidelberg, seconded by Trustee Ogletree, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously **to enter Executive Session** for the reasons reported to the public and stated in these minutes, as follows:

   There are eight topics for discussion in executive session, the discussion of which in open session would be detrimental to IHL's legal interest. These eight topics pertain to the job performance of a specific employees – one at the Alcorn State University, one at Delta State University, one at Jackson State University, one at Mississippi State University, one at the Mississippi University for Women, one at Mississippi Valley State University, one

at The University of Mississippi, and one at the University of Southern Mississippi. The Board will also receive and discuss confidential legal advice regarding these personnel issues.

During Executive Session, the following matters were discussed:

The Committee received and discussed confidential information pertaining to the job performance of a specific employees – one at the Alcorn State University, one at Delta State University, one at Jackson State University, one at Mississippi State University, one at the Mississippi University for Women, one at Mississippi Valley State University, one at The University of Mississippi, and one at the University of Southern Mississippi. **No action was taken.**

On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Clark, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to return to open session.

3. On motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Committee members legally present and participating voted unanimously to adjourn.

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

ANNOUNCEMENT

President Cunningham announced the next Board meeting will be October 15, 2026.

FIRST EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Trustee Ogletree, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to close the meeting to determine whether to declare an Executive Session. On motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Arrington, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously **to enter Executive Session** for the reasons reported to the public and stated in these minutes.

There are nine topics for discussion in executive session, the discussion of which in open session would be detrimental to IHL's legal interest.

Topic one is the receipt and discussion of confidential legal advice from the Board's attorneys involving a cyber security incident at the IHL Board Office.

Topics two through eight are personnel matters involving the performance of particular employees – one at the Alcorn State University, one at Delta State University, one at Jackson State University, one at Mississippi State University, one at the Mississippi University for Women, one at Mississippi Valley State University, one at The University of Mississippi, and one at the University of Southern Mississippi. The Board will also receive and discuss confidential legal advice regarding these personnel issues.

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

The Board received and discussed confidential legal advice from the Board's attorneys involving a cyber security incident at the IHL Board Office. **No action was taken.**

On motion by Trustee Rader, seconded by Trustee Ogletree, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the request for Dr. Denise Jones Gregory to serve on the Board of Directors for the Mississippi Children's Museum.

A motion was made by Trustee Ogletree, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, to amend all institutional executive officer contracts which contain an National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) compliance clause by substituting with the following NCAA compliance clause language with all other terms in the contracts remaining unchanged:

> Employee has an affirmative obligation to cooperate fully in the infractions process and the process of the designated enforcement entity (if applicable), including investigation and adjudication of a case. An individual found in violation of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) regulations is subject to disciplinary or corrective action as set forth in the NCAA infractions process or the designated enforcement entity, including suspension without pay or termination of employment.

All trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to approve the amended motion.

On motion by Trustee Arrington, seconded by Trustee Cummings, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to grant Dr. Glenn Boyce, Chancellor of the University of Mississippi, a new four-year employment contract. The contract shall contain the same terms and clauses as found in Dr. Boyce's current employment contract with the following exceptions. The contract shall have a start date of October 1, 2026, and an ending date of September 30, 2030. The contract will include a state salary of $562,500 in contract year one and $550,000 in contract years two, three, and four and the University of Mississippi Foundation salary supplement will remain at $450,000 per year, each to be paid pro rata. The dates and salary of the standard multi-year clause shall be adjusted accordingly. The standard National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Clause shall be amended to reflect the new language referenced above. In light of the Board's desire to retain Dr. Boyce as Chancellor of the University of Mississippi, that such contract will include a retention provision which provides that if Dr. Boyce remains employed as Chancellor on the following milestone dates, he may receive a retention payment, such amount to be determined by the University of Mississippi Foundation Board, up to a maximum amount indicated below. The

retention payment will be provided in full to the University by the Foundation and then paid by the University in a lump sum to Dr. Boyce within sixty days after the milestone date.

- June 30, 2027, a retention payment up to a maximum of $275,000
- June 30, 2028, a retention payment up to a maximum of $275,000
- June 30, 2029, a retention payment up to a maximum of $300,000
- June 30, 2030, a retention payment up to a maximum of $300,000

On motion by Trustee Parker, seconded by Trustee Heidelberg, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to grant Dr. Mark Keenum a new four-year employment contract as President of Mississippi State University, containing the same terms and clauses as found in his current employment contract with the following exceptions. The contract shall have a start date of October 1, 2026, and an ending date of September 30, 2030. The contract will include a state salary of $562,500 in contract year one and $550,000 in contract years two, three, and four and a Mississippi State University Foundation salary supplement will remain at $450,000 per year, each to be paid pro rata. The dates and salary of the standard multi-year clause shall be adjusted accordingly. The standard National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Clause shall be amended to reflect the new language referenced above. In light of the Board's desire to retain Dr. Keenum as President of Mississippi State University, the contract will include a retention provision which provides that if Dr. Keenum remains employed as President through the following milestone dates, he may receive a retention payment, such amount to be determined by the Mississippi State University Foundation Board, up to a maximum amount indicated below. The retention payment will be provided in full to the University by the Foundation and then paid by the University in a lump sum to Dr. Keenum within sixty days after the milestone date.

- June 30, 2027, a retention payment up to a maximum of $475,000
- June 30, 2028, a retention payment up to a maximum of $275,000
- June 30, 2029, a retention payment up to a maximum of $300,000
- June 30, 2030, a retention payment up to a maximum of $300,000

The Board discussed privileged legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding involving the performance of a particular employee at the Mississippi University for Women. **No action was taken.**

On motion by Trustee Ogletree, seconded by Trustee Stephenson, with Trustees Hubbard and Martin participating via Zoom, all Trustees legally present and participating voted unanimously to return to Open Session.

Trustee Teresa Hubbard was previously appointed the chair of the Mississippi University for Women Board Search Committee. The Board announced the following members of the committee

1. Amy Arrington,
2. Dr. Steven Cunningham,
3. Jerry Griffith,
4. Charlie Stephenson, and
5. Gregg Rader.

The committee will conduct a national search with the assistance of a higher education search firm. A formal request for proposal will be issued for the selection of a search firm. The target date for selection of a new president is early in the spring semester of 2027.

The Board proceeded to the annual retreat discussions.

PRESENTATIONS

The Board received presentations from Mr. John Harris, Chief Audit Executive; Mr. Brad Rowland, Association Commissioner for Real Estate and Facilities at the Board Office; Dr. Alfred Rankins, Commissioner of Higher Education; Dr. Portia Granger, Associate Director of Sports Counseling and Performance at the University of Southern Mississippi; and Dr. Julie Jordan, Senior Adviser for Artificial Intelligence and Date Governance at Mississippi State University. **No action was taken.**

SECOND EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

There are two topics for discussion in executive session, the discussion of which in open session would be detrimental to IHL's legal interest.

Topic one is the receipt and discussion of privileged legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding pending litigation filed against the Board and compliance with state and federal law related to House Bill 1193.

Topic two is the receipt and discussion of privileged legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding compliance with specific state laws.

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

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

The Board received and discussed privileged legal advice from the Board's attorney regarding compliance with specific state laws. **No action was taken.**

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion by Trustee Heidelberg, seconded by Trustee Cummings, with Trustee Rader absent and not voting and Trustees Hubbard and Martin 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

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1 Proposed amendments to Board Policy 521 Applied Baccalaureate Degree for final reading.

Exhibit 2 Real Estate items that were approved by the IHL Board staff subsequent to the August 20, 2026 Board meeting.

Exhibit 3 Report of the payment of legal fees to outside counsel.

EXHIBIT 1

September 17, 2026

Approved of the proposed amendments to the following policy for final reading.

521 APPLIED BACCALAUREATE DEGREE

The applied baccalaureate degree is specifically intended to serve the needs of adults who have completed a technical associate degree program, such as an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) or an Associate of Applied Technology (AAT) from a community college accredited by The Commission on Colleges and Universities ~~SACSCOC accredited community college~~ in the state of Mississippi or comparable ~~regionally~~ accredited community college from another state. The applied baccalaureate degree is an accelerated pathway designed to assist adult learners who need additional education to advance their careers. Building upon the AAS, AAT, or other technical associate degree program, the applied baccalaureate degree prepares adult learners to assume leadership roles and make a greater contribution in the workplace.

The AAS and AAT degrees offered in Mississippi follow the 30/45/60 stackable credential model. At 30 hours, a career certificate is awarded. At 45 hours, a technical certificate is awarded. At 60 hours, an AAS or AAT degree is awarded. The AAS or AAT degree requires 15 credit hours of general education core courses. The general education core courses earned as part of the AAS or AAT may be accepted as satisfying half of the general education requirements for the applied baccalaureate degree. Provided the general education component of this degree program complies with ~~SACSCOC~~ The Commission on Colleges and Universities, an IHL institution may exercise flexibility in determining the remaining general education core requirements for the applied baccalaureate degree based on specific needs of adult learners in the workplace.

Applicants who have earned technical credits but have not earned a technical associate degree program may be considered for admission into an applied baccalaureate degree program at the discretion of the admitting institution. An IHL institution may award credit for technical expertise using prior learning assessment (PLA) and competency-based education (CBE) as outlined in Policy 518.

The minimum number of hours required in the applied baccalaureate degree is 120 credit hours, which may include 60 hours of credit with a 2.0 GPA earned as part of the AAS or AAT degree. Credits earned through prior learning assessment and competency-based education may be included as part of the 120 hours. Credits may be earned online, using blended formats, or through courses taught in the evenings or weekends in order to accommodate working adult learners. Of the 120 credit hours, 30 shall be completed in residence at the degree-awarding institution and 30 shall be upper-division credit.

Each IHL institution may offer an applied baccalaureate degree as a new baccalaureate degree. In cases where applied baccalaureate degrees already exist, they may be redesigned to meet the criteria set forth in this policy. An IHL institution may choose to offer more than one applied baccalaureate degree.

EXHIBIT 2

September 17, 2026

SYSTEM: REAL ESTATE ITEMS APPROVED SUBSEQUENT TO THE AUGUST 20, 2026, BOARD MEETING SUBMISSION DEADLINE

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

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

ALCORN STATE UNIVERSITY

1. **ASU-IHL 201-278 J.D. BOYD LIBRARY RENOVATIONS**
   Approval Request: Schematic Design Documents
   Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by Waycaster-Dungan Architects & Engineers, PLLC.
   Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 26, 2026

2. **ASU-IHL 201-279 TENNIS COURTS RENOVATION**
   Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract
   Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of $1,173,050.00 to Pinnacle Construction Group, LLC.
   Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 3, 2026
   Project Initiation Date: June 15, 2023
   Design Professional: Major Design Studio, PLLC
   General Contractor: Pinnacle Construction Group, LLC
   Total Project Budget: $1,313,822.50

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

3. **DSU-GS 102-266B CAMPUS HVAC IMPROVEMENTS PH II**
   Approval Request: Change Order #2
   Board staff approved Change Order #2 in the amount of $64,485.60 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of S.M. Lawrence Company, Inc.
   Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 27, 2026
   Change Order Description: Change Order #2 includes the following: furnishing and installation of forty-seven (47) VAV heating 3-way control valves and furnishing and installation of new supply and return grilles for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd floor corridors in Ewing Hall.

Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to user/owner requested modifications.
Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Two (2) change orders for a total amount of $467,985.60.
Project Initiation Date: January 19, 2023
Design Professional: Engineering Resource Group, Inc.
General Contractor: S.M. Lawrence Company, Inc.
Total Project Budget: $2,900,000.00

JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

4. **JSU-GS 103-319 MCALLISTER WHITESIDE RESIDENCE HALL RENOVATION – PHASE III**
Approval Request: Change Order #1
Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of $156,170.88 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Fountain Construction Co., Inc.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 19, 2026
Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: removal and disposal of caulking on four (4) doors found to contain asbestos material, replacement of three (3) inoperable fire hydrants near the project site, and replacement of the existing electrical transformer with a new 750 KVA transformer.
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 $156,170.88.
Project Initiation Date: October 19, 2023
Design Professional: Foil Wyatt Architects and Planners, PLLC
General Contractor: Fountain Construction Co., Inc.
Phased Project Budget: $25,566,704.34
Total Project Budget: $27,602,500.63

5. **JSU-GS 103-343 JOC T.B. ELLIS ROOFING IMPROVEMENTS**
Approval Request: Change Order #2
Board staff approved Change Order #2 in the amount of $11,479.33 and forty-three (43) additional days to the contract of Alliant Construction.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 18, 2026
Change Order Description: Change Order #2 includes the following: raising and re-securing the existing metal wall panels on the west façade of the mechanical room penthouse and removing existing sealant/caulk at three existing exterior duct enclosures and roof curbs at the penthouses.
Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to latent job site conditions.
Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Two (2) change orders for a total amount of $50,929.61.

Project Initiation Date: November 20, 2025
Design Professional: Vernell Barnes Architect, PLLC
General Contractor: Alliant Construction
Total Project Budget: $3,000,000.00

6. **JSU-GS 103-344 JOC T.B. ELLIS INTERIOR RENOVATIONS**
Approval Request: Change Order #1
Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of $109,457.65 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Alliant Construction.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 18, 2026
Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: incorporating Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements and Build America Buy America compliance and provisions into the construction contract, due to federal funding of the project.
Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to changes in requirements and/or recommendations by governmental agencies.
Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change order for a total amount of $109,457.65.
Project Initiation Date: November 20, 2025
Design Professional: EGH Architects, P.A.
General Contractor: Alliant Construction
Total Project Budget: $3,000,000.00

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

7. **MSU-IHL 205-363 ROSENBAUM BUILDING RENOVATIONS & ADDITION**
Approval Request #1: Schematic Design Documents
Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by LPK Architects, P.A.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 31, 2026
Approval Request #2: Waiver of Design Development Documents
Board staff approved the waiver of Design Development Documents and proceeding with Construction Documents.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 31, 2026

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

8. **UM-IHL 207-489 OLE MISS GOLF COMPLEX**
Approval Request: Design Development Documents
Board staff approved the Design Development Documents as submitted by JBHM Architects, P.A.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 12, 2026

EXHIBIT 2

September 17, 2026

9. **UM-IHL 207-507 GILLOM SPORTS CENTER IMPROVEMENTS**
   Approval Request #1: Construction Documents
   Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by PryorMorrow PC.
   Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 17, 2026
   Approval Request #2: Advertise
   Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.
   Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 17, 2026

10. **UM-IHL 207-498.1 NW MECHANICAL PLANT PH III (PIPING)**
    Approval Request #1: Schematic Design Documents
    Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by Eley Guild Hardy Architects, P.A and waiving Design Development Documents.
    Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 20, 2026
    Approval Request #2: Construction Documents
    Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by Eley Guild Hardy Architects, P.A.
    Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 21, 2026
    Approval Request #3: Advertise
    Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.
    Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 21, 2026

11. **UM-IHL 407-008.2 NW MECHANICAL PLANT (ELECTRICAL PHASE II) – 13KV ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION IMPROVEMENTS – PART B**
    Approval Request: Change Order #1
    Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of $303,774.52 and forty-two (42) additional days to the contract of Advance Electric Co., Inc.
    Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 14, 2026
    Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: re-routing of the electrical path due to a future roundabout being constructed in the originally designed path and changing the riser configuration at Pole 108 to be compatible with the remaining distribution improvements.
    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 $303,774.52.
    Project Initiation Date: June 16, 2022
    Design Professional: Atwell & Gent, P.A.
    General Contractor: Advance Electric Co., Inc.
    Phased Project Budget: $1,473,678.90
    Total Project Budget: $25,200,000.00

12. **UM-IHL 407-013 WRITERS CABIN AND COMMUNITY**
    Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract
    Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of $9,391,000.00 to the apparent low bidder, Roberts Builders, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 26, 2026
Project Initiation Date: January 16, 2022
Design Professional: Marlon Blackwell Architects, P.A.
General Contractor: Roberts Builders, Inc.
Total Project Budget: $12,000,000.00

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER

13. **UMMC-IHL 209-557 MEDCOM PES RENOVATIONS**
Approval Request: Change Order #4
Board staff approved Change Order #4 in the amount of $94,589.80 and forty-eight (48) additional days to the contract of Fountain Construction Co., Inc.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 14, 2026
Change Order Description: Change Order #4 includes the following: supply and installation of a 12-strand fiber run to UMMC Room 5, omitting a wall and ceiling work in Storage 230, handrails and bumpers in the corridor, installation of owner provided specialties, tie-in of the medical gas in the sub-basement, adding a fire pull at the nurse station, replacing outlet with emergency power, installation of full-height corner guards in Corridor 108, patching holes in the floor in PES evaluation rooms, installation of Exam 49 signage, replacing nine (9) receptacles in the PES suite with tamper-proof outlets, adding power, data and nurse call for TV in Exam 15, installation of HPDE plastic spacers behind the Ergotron Console units, relocation of an existing camera and new cameras in Processing 120, replacement of anti-ligature handles on eight exam room doors, adding anti-ligature soap and towel dispenser in Corridor 108, installation of heavy-duty door lite frames at Seclusion Room 118 and 119, and installation of curtain tracks at Holding and data in Storage Room 301.
Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to errors and omissions in the plans and specifications, latent job site conditions and user/owner requested modifications.
Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Four (4) change orders for a total amount of $332,861.94.
Project Initiation Date: June 16, 2016
Design Professional: Canizaro Cawthon Davis, P.A.
General Contractor: Fountain Construction Co., Inc.
Total Project Budget: $6,700,000.00

14. **UMMC-IHL 209-576 MS CENTER FOR MEDICALLY FRAGILE CHILDREN**
Approval Request: Change Order #6
Board staff approved Change Order #6 in the *credit* amount of $4,996.75 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Mid State Construction of Mississippi, LLC.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 14, 2026
Change Order Description: Change Order #4 includes the following: *credit* for the contractor's contingency balance in the project, addition of drains in resident rooms,

additional thresholds at resident rooms, refinished floors at the new floor drain and drop chains for shower curtains.
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 amount of $1,028,449.21.
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

15. **UMMC-IHL 209-590 BATSON 2ND AND 4TH FLOOR FINISHES**
Approval Request #1: Construction Documents
Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by Burris/Wagnon Architects, P.A.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 10, 2026
Approval Request #2: Advertise
Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 10, 2026

16. **UMMC-IHL 409-006.2 SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY – BID PACKAGE A (SITE IMPROVEMENTS)**
Approval Request #1: Change Order #1
Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of $86,003.60 and nineteen (19) additional days to the contract of Fondren Construction, LLC.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 10, 2026
Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: adding steel bracing at the existing Dental School, adding lintels and additional GPR at existing columns for demolition, demolition of the existing canopy and gas line relocation.
Change Order Justification: This change order was necessary due to errors and omissions in the plans and specifications, latent job site conditions and user/owner requested modifications.
Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change order for a total amount of $86,003.60.
Project Initiation Date: August 17, 2023
Design Professional: EGH Architects, P.A.
CMA: Innovative Construction Management, LLC
General Contractor: Fondren Construction, LLC
Package A Project Budget: $2,489,159.31
Total Project Budget: $40,000,000.00

EXHIBIT 2

September 17, 2026

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

17. **USM-IHL 208-301 REED GREEN COLISEUM RENOVATION**
Approval Request: Award of Construction Contracts
Board staff approved the Award of Contracts in the amounts listed below. The project is managed by a Construction Management Advisor (CMA), with each package being bid and awarded separately.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 11, 2025
Project Initiation Date: January 20, 2022
Design Professional: Wier Boerner Allin Architecture, LLC
CMA: Codaray Construction, LLC
Total Project Budget: $43,170,506.50
General Contractor: MitchCo Construction, Inc. (Package 3 – General Works)
Package 3 Award: $19,074,200.00
General Contractor: Daley Industrial Services, LLC (Package 4 – Electrical)
Package 4 Award: $3,262,433.00
General Contractor: Pat L. McKenzie, Inc. (Package 5 – HVAC/Plumbing)
Package 5 Award: $5,900,000.00
General Contractor: Southern Fire Sprinkler, Inc. (Package 6 – Fire Protection)
Package 6 Award: $324,000.00
General Contractor: MitchCo Construction, Inc. (Package 7 – Overbuilds and Seating)
Package 7 Award: $6,200,900.00

18. **USM-IHL 201-398 E-SPORTS ARENA AT THE HUB**
Approval Request: Schematic Design Documents
Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by CDFL Architects + Engineers, P.A.
Approval Status & Date: Approved, August 27, 2026

EXHIBIT 3

September 17, 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 Brunini, Grower, Grantham and Hewes, PLLC (statements dated 7/23/26, 8/11/26 and 8/19/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of $612.50, $87.50 and $175.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 875.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Copeland, Cook, Taylor & Bush, PA (statements dated 7/14/26 and 8/10/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of $3,235.00 and $2,420.40, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 5,655.40

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 8/3/26, 8/18/26, 8/28/26 and 8/28/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of $29.41, $5,495.00, $543.00 and $551.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 6,618.41

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 7/29/26, 8/13/26, 8/26/26 and 8/26/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $8,885.50, $5,621.00, $5,037.00 and $11,935.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 31,479.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Kaplan Kirsch (statement dated 8/17/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of $4,120.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 4,120.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Lightfoot Franklin White, LLC (statement dated 8/17/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of $9,424.50, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 9,424.50

EXHIBIT 3

September 17, 2026

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mayo Mallette, PLLC (statements dated 8/7/26 and 8/13/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $3,147.00 and $250.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 3,397.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 5/12/26, 5/28/26, 6/11/26, 6/18/26, 6/18/26, 6/19/26, 6/26/26, 6/26/26, 7/10/26, 7/10/26, 7/14/26, 7/23/26, 7/23/26, 7/24/26 and 7/27/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $5,150.00, $8,150.00, $6,150.00, $8,150.00, $1,000.00, $2,650.00, $5,150.00, $5,150.00, $2,650.00, $2,650.00, $2,650.00, $2,650.00, $2,650.00, $3,513.02 and $2,650.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 60,963.02

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Alexander Law, P.A. (statements dated 7/6/26, 7/6/26, 7/6/26, 7/6/26 and 7/6/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $1,461.50, $4,421.50, $4,320.00, $460.00 and $715.00, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 11,378.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 6/12/26, 7/15/26, 7/15/26, 7/15/26, and 7/16/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $2,440.00, $1,022.00, $620.50, $139.50 and $547.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 4,769.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Currie Johnson & Myers, P.A. (statement dated 7/17/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (This statement, in the amount of $7,023.99, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 7,023.99

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Forman Watkins & Krutz, LLP (statements dated 6/8/26 and 7/22/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $3,972.50 and $2,840.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 6,813.00

EXHIBIT 3

September 17, 2026

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Gore, Kilpatrick & Dambrino, PLLC (statements dated 6/25/26, 6/25/26 and 6/25/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $1,5660.00, $320.00 and $3,827.50, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 5,707.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Hogan Lovells, US, LLP (statement dated 6/11/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (This statement, in the amount of $2,518.50, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 2,518.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mayo Mallette, PLLC (statements dated 6/5/26, 6/12/26 and 7/7/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $1,506.30, $2,160.00 and $6,350.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 10,016.30

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Page, Kruger & Holland, PA (statements dated 7/1/26, 7/1/26 and 7/1/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $1,468.75, $1,201.90 and $40.00, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 2,710.65

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Steen, Dalehite & Pace, LLC (statements dated 6/30/26 and 6/30/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $7,364.50 and $1,966.00, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 9,330.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Vernis & Bowling of Mississippi, PLLC (statements dated 6/15/26, 6/19/26, 6/19/26, 6/19/26, 6/19/26, 6/19/26, 6/22/26, 7/20/26, 7/20/26, 7/20/26, 7/20/26 and 7/20/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $24,430.54, $620.00, $1,069.50, $140.00, $225.00, $1,590.00, $31,589.07, $9,069.00, $11,401.79, $805.00, $1,170.00 and $215.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 82,324.90

EXHIBIT 3

September 17, 2026

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Watkins & Eager, PLLC (statements dated 7/2/26, 7/9/26, 7/15/26, 7/15/26 and 7/15/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $2,735.00, $1,750.00, $2,165.00, $1,518.00 and $1,320.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 9,488.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by the Wise, Carter, Child & Caraway, P.A. (statement dated 7/10/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (This statement, in the amount of $70.00, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 70.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Scott J. Schwartz (statement dated 7/23/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of $4,485.00, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 4,485.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Starnes Davis Florie LLP (statement dated 7/31/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of $13,880.86, represents services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 13,880.86

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 8/12/26, 8/18/26, 8/26/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $2,190.00, $4,654.43, $2,000.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 8,844.43

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

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, LLP (statements dated 7/20/26 and 7/20/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of $157.50 and $63.00, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 220.50

EXHIBIT 3

September 17, 2026

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Conley Rose, P.C. (statement dated 8/6/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of $603.00, represents services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 603.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mendelsohn Dunleavy, P.C. (statements dated 8/7/26, 8/7/26, 8/7/26, 8/7/26, 8/7/26, 8/7/26, 8/7/26, 8/7/26 and 8/7/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of $41.50, $41.50, $41.50, $373.50, $207.50, $226.00, $1,275.00, $622.50 and $41.50, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 2,870.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Stites & Harbison, PLLC (statement dated 7/21/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of $813.00, represents services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 813.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 7/29/26 and 7/29/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $766.50 and $109.50, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 876.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Stites & Harbison, PLLC (statements dated 5/13/26, 5/13/26, 6/8/26, 6/8/26, 6/8/26, 6/8/26, 6/11/26, 6/11/26 and 7/21/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $1,140.00, $2,014.00, $8,285.00, $3,712.00, $2,112.00, $114.00, $4,112.00, $798.00 and $228.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 22,515.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Workman Nydegger (statements dated 6/12/26, 6/12/26, 6/12/26, 6/12/26, 6/12/26 and 6/12/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. (These statements, in the amounts of $2,750.00, $370.00, $491.09, $1,250.00, $154.00 and $1,516.00, represent services and expenses in connection with intellectual property patents.)

TOTAL DUE……$ 6,531.09

EXHIBIT 3

September 17, 2026

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 7/29/26, 7/29/26 and 7/29/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $1,211.00, $861.00 and $1,138.00, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 3,210.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mendelsohn Dunleavy, P.C. (statements dated 7/8/26, 7/8/26, 7/8/26 and 7/8/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $350.00, $735.00, $1,601.00 and $245.00, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 2,931.00

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
FINANCE
October 15, 2026

1. MSU – REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH EBSCO INFORMATION SERVICES LLC

Agenda Item Request: Pursuant to Section 707.01(A) of the IHL Board Policies and Bylaws Mississippi State University (MSU) requests approval to enter into a service agreement with **EBSO Information Services LLC** for electronic access to journals and standing order subscriptions. MSU also requests permission to prepay the expected amounts for subscriptions pursuant to Section 707.03 of the IHL Board Policies and Bylaws.

Contractor's Legal Name: EBSCO Information Services LLC

History of Contract: EBSCO has been the MSU Libraries' primary agent since 1982. This new agreement provides continued access to EBSCO materials for a five-year term.

Specific Type of Contract: Service Agreement

Purpose: The purpose of the agreement is to secure the services of EBSCO as a serials subscription agency offering discovery and management solutions for print and electronic resources for MSU libraries, students, faculty, and staff.

Scope of Work: EBSCO will consolidate the processing of more than 10,000 individual and package subscriptions from multiple publishers and provide access to MSU users.

Term of Contract: January 1, 2027 to December 31, 2031

Termination Options: Either party may terminate the agreement with 30 days' notice, provided all contracted services are paid in full. MSU may terminate the agreement for cause after giving EBSCO written notice of its performance deficiencies and allowing a 75-day cure period.

Contract Amount:

The amount paid to EBSCO through the service charge is dependent on the amount of

subscription business transacted through them. The base service charge is 1.50% of subscription costs with additional service charges for specific electronic packages and available discounts for pre-payment.

Total contract cost will vary depending on the specific journals chosen by MSU. The estimated costs per year are:

Year 1- 2027 - $1,909,497

Year 2 - 2028 - $1,990,949

Year 3 - 2029 - $2,075,912

Year 4 - 2030 - $2,164,540

Year 5 -2031- $2,256,993

Total estimated cost over five years is anticipated to be $10,397,891.

Funding Source for Contract:

Subscription costs and service charges will be paid from general funds.

Contractor Selection Process:

EBSCO was chosen as the primary subscription agent for MSU based on its ability to

handle the size of the MSU Library account, its location in Birmingham, Alabama, the services offered for managing journal subscriptions, and its low service charges.

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 ENTER INTO A LEASE WITH NESHOBA COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL

Agenda Item Request: Mississippi University for Women (MUW) requests Board approval to enter into a lease with **Neshoba County General Hospital** to lease and make improvements to approximately 12,250 square feet of instructional space located in Philadelphia, Mississippi.

Contractor's Legal Name: Neshoba County General Hospital

History of Contract: This is a new lease for instructional and office space to expand the Bachelors of Science in Nursing (BSN). In 2022, the Mississippi Legislature appropriated $2.5 million to MUW for the expansion of its nursing program. In 2025 and 2026, the Legislature appropriated a total of $6 million to Neshoba County General Hospital to develop a nursing school program with MUW. Approximately $2.47 million, of the original $2.5 million from 2022 was reappropriated to MUW in 2026 for the nursing program expansion.

Additionally, a donor has pledged $2 million in scholarships for the program in Neshoba County.

Specific Type of Contract: This is an instructional and office space lease.

Purpose: The purpose of the agreement is to lease approximately 12,250 square feet of space to expand MUW's nursing program. MUW will offer a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing modeled after the Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing offered on the main campus in Columbus, Mississippi. This program will provide a degree option not currently offered in the area. This BSN program has a Rural Regional Focus and will be centrally located between 11 hospitals, all within a 45-mile radius. The next closest BSN program to Neshoba County General Hospital is 80 miles away at UMMC, and MUW's main campus is 82 miles away.

Scope of Work: Under the agreement, Neshoba County General Hospital will:

- complete improvements to the leased premises according to specifications agreed upon by the parties for MUW's School of Nursing;
- lease 12,250 square feet of instructional and office space to MUW;
- provide janitorial/housekeeping services, maintenance, security, IT support, card key access, and real property insurance; and
- allow MUW non-exclusive use of all common areas.

Term of Contract: Term of the contract is ten (10) years, beginning upon substantial completion of the renovation project and execution of the Commencement Date Certificate, approximately July 1, 2027, and ending approximately, June 30, 2037.

Contract Amount: The cost of the Lease with the tenant property improvements is estimated at $1.8 million over the 10-year term. This estimated rate is based on base rent of $7.50 per square foot for the first two years for the 12,250 square feet with a 2% or CPI adjustment up to 3% thereafter, whichever is greater, to not exceed 3% and an initial property improvement payment of $773,918. MUW will pay $773,918 within ten (10) days of the effective date of the lease for the MUW specified tenant property improvements. The payment is to reimburse Neshoba County General Hospital for the prorated portion of the renovated leased space, to meet the needs of a state-of-the-art nursing instructional space. MUW's rent will be $7,656 per month in year one and two, payable on the last day of each calendar month during the first Lease Year.

Beginning with the third Lease Year and thereafter during the Term, the Rent will increase by an amount equal to the greater of 2% or the annual increase in the consumer price index (all items, all urban consumers) during the preceding 12-month period (the "CPI Rate") not to exceed 3%.

Funding Source for Contract: Funds appropriated by the Mississippi Legislature for the expansion of the nursing program at MUW.

Termination Options: MUW shall have the right to terminate the lease agreement if Neshoba County General Hospital fails to substantially complete the tenant improvements by December 31, 2027. MUW shall have the right to terminate this Agreement in its entirety effective at the end of any Lease Year with at least ninety (90) days' prior written notice. MUW has the option to terminate in the event of material uncured breach by Lessor, substantial destruction of the premises, eminent domain or condemnation, or utility service interruption lasting more than thirty (30) days. MUW shall have the right to terminate or reduce the space leased due to availability of federal or state funds with ninety (90) days' notice. MUW shall have the right to terminate the agreement with thirty (30) days' notice in the event space becomes available to MUW in any state-owned building.

Contractor Selection Process: Neshoba County General Hospital, located in Philadelphia, Mississippi, is centrally located between eleven (11) hospitals, all within a forty-five (45)-mile radius. In 2025 and 2026, the Mississippi Legislature appropriated a total of $6 million to Neshoba County General Hospital for a nursing school program with MUW.

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

3. **UMMC- REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING LEASE AGREEMENT WITH DOWNER CLINIC, LLC**

Agenda Item Request: The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) requests approval to enter into a Medical Office Building Lease with **Downer Clinic, LLC (Downer Clinic)** for approximately 4,050 square feet of clinical/office space located in Lexington, MS, for use as a primary care outpatient clinic. Pursuant to Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) Policy 707.03, *Approval of Prepayment of Goods and Services, UMMC also requests a waiver to allow prepayment of the monthly rent in advance.*

Contractor's Legal Name: **Downer Clinic, LLC**

History of Contract: This is a new Medical Office Building lease. UMMC previously entered into a two (2) year Medical Office Building lease with Downer Clinic that was approved under delegated authority. The estimated total cost of the current lease is $96,000.

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

Purpose: The purpose of the agreement is to lease approximately 4,050 square feet of medical office space located at in Lexington, MS, for use as a primary care outpatient clinic.

Scope of Work: Under the agreement, Downer Clinic will:

- lease 4,050 square feet of clinic space to UMMC;
- provide all maintenance; and
- pay all operating cost related to the Building and the Premises.

Under the agreement, UMMC will:

- pay all utilities directly to the utility provider;
- provide janitorial services; and
- provide waste management, including disposal of trash and medical waste removal.

Term of Contract: The term of the agreement is five (5) years, beginning on November 1, 2026, and ending on October 31, 2031.

Termination Options: The agreement may be terminated as follows:

- by UMMC in the event Downer Clinic causes any utility service interruption lasting longer than 30 consecutive days;
- by either party upon no less than 365-day written notice to the other party;
- by either party in the event of total destruction of the building;
- by either party in the event of a partial destruction of the premises and Downer Clinic does not elect to make repairs or if the repairs cannot be made timely;
- automatically if the whole of the premises or building is rendered unusable by UMMC, shall be taken under the power of eminent domain, condemnation, or by deed in lieu of foreclosure or otherwise;
- by either party in the event of a partial taking under power of eminent domain, by giving the other party written notice within 30 days after receipt of notice of partial taking;
- by either party in the event of a reduction in funds of UMMC;
- by either party in the event the other party commits an act of default under the lease by giving the defaulting party at least ten (10) days prior written notice;
- by either party in the event any legislation, regulation or government policy is passed or adopted, the effect of which would cause either party to be in violation of such laws due to the existence of any provision of the lease, and the parties fail to agree upon modified terms within 90 days;
- by either party immediately upon breach of any of the following ongoing representations and warranties that it:
    - is not currently excluded, debarred, or otherwise ineligible to participate in any federal health care programs or any state healthcare programs;
    - has not been convicted of a criminal offense related to the provision of healthcare items or services and have not been excluded, debarred, or

otherwise declared ineligible to participate in the Federal Healthcare Programs or any state healthcare programs; and
    - is not under investigation or otherwise aware of any circumstances which may result in the party being excluded from participating in the Federal Healthcare Programs or any state healthcare programs.
- by either party in the event of an adverse change in IHL policy that causes this lease to not be in compliance with IHL policy, and the parties fail to agree upon modified terms within 90 days;
- by either party upon written notice in the event any provision of the lease is held to be invalid; and
- by either party in the event of an adverse change in law and the parties fail to agree upon modified terms within 60 days.

Contract Amount: The estimated total cost of the lease is $275,000 over the five (5) year term. UMMC's initial base rent is $12.09 per square foot, with an annual increase of two percent (2%) after year one (1).

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

Contractor Selection Process: UMMC has determined this location to be the most optimum location for its operations for both patient care and educational training.

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

4. UMMC- REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH OBE, LLC DBA CUPS AN ESPRESSO CAFE

Agenda Item Request: The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) requests approval to enter into a new Lease Agreement with **OBE, LLC d/b/a Cups an Espresso Café (Cups)** for the purpose of providing coffee services to patients, staff, and visitors at University Hospital, the Kathy and Joe F. Sanderson Tower at Children's of Mississippi (Sanderson Tower), and Colony Park North. Upon approval of the new Lease Agreement by the Board, UMMC will terminate the existing agreement with Cups and enter into the new agreement for the expanded locations and services.

Contractor's Legal Name: OBE, LLC d/b/a Cups an Espresso Café

History of Contract: On November 18, 2021, the Board approved the current agreement with Cups, which does not include the coffee shop located at Colony Park North. The current agreement encompasses the Cups locations at University Hospital and Sanderson Tower and is effective for a five (5) year term beginning January 19, 2022, and expiring

January 18, 2027. The agreement is projected to generate approximately $333,000 in revenue over the five (5) year term.

Specific Type of Contract: This is a new revenue Lease Agreement.

Purpose: The purpose of this Agreement is to lease space to Cups in University Hospital, Sanderson Tower, and Colony Park North for coffee services to patients, staff, and visitors.

Scope of Work: Under this agreement, UMMC will:

- lease the kiosk and coffee areas in the University Hospital, Sanderson Tower, and Colony Park North;
- provide use of some of UMMC's equipment currently located in the coffee shop areas;
- provide utilities to serve the premises;
- provide Cups with standard signage for the coffee shop areas; and
- provide maintenance of all building systems and structural components of the building.

Cups agrees to:

- use the leased space only as described in the agreement;
- provide any additional furniture or equipment not currently located in the coffee shop areas;
- abide by all rules and regulations of the building and UMMC campus;
- supply all necessary insurance for employees and operations as required;
- provide standard broom-cleaning for all leased areas;
- not commit any waste or allow any damage to the leased premises, and be responsible for any damage to the leased premises, reasonable wear and tear excepted.

Term of Contract: The term of the agreement is five (5) years, commencing November 19, 2026, and ending on November 18, 2031.

Termination Options: The agreement may be terminated as follows:

- by either party upon 120 days' written notice;
- by either party in the event of any forfeiture or breach on the part of the other party;
- by UMMC if Cups fails to timely cure grounds of default; and
- by either party if the building is totally or substantially destroyed.

Contract Amount: The Lease Agreement is estimated to earn approximately $510,000 over the five (5) year term. Rent is $3,850 for the University Hospital location, $1,925 for the Sanderson Tower location, and $1,752 for the Colony Park North location. Cups will

also pay $1,800 per year per location for use of UMMC's point of sale badge swipe system.

Funding Source for Contract: Not applicable.

Contractor Selection Process: Contractor was selected through competitive procurement and RFP process for coffee services across different parts of UMMC campuses.

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

5. UMMC- REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF BUDGET ESCALATION

The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) requests permission to escalate its **On-Campus Budget** for FY 2027.

The escalation is requested to increase budgetary spending authority for expenditures related to the transfer of Greenwood Leflore Hospital to UMMC. The additional spending will be funded from patient care revenue.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
FINANCE
October 15, 2026

University of Mississippi FY 2027 On-Campus Budget by Major Object			
Category	Original FY 2027 Operating Budget	Revision/ Escalation	Revised FY 2027 Operating Budget
Total Salaries, Wages, and Fringe Bene	$ 1,232,743,122	$ 20,803,977	$ 1,253,547,099
Travel and Subsistence	5,366,871	-	5,366,871
Contractual Services	485,203,305	16,026,300	501,229,605
Commodities	606,111,805	12,124,335	618,236,140
Capital Outlay: Non-Equipment	48,462,815	-	48,462,815
Capital Outlay: Equipment	47,000,000	-	47,000,000
Mandatory Transfers	153,916,568	-	153,916,568
Non-Mandatory Transfers	(971,171)	-	(971,171)
Total Uses of Funding	**$ 2,577,833,315**	**$ 48,954,612**	**$ 2,626,787,927**

University of Mississippi FY 2027 On-Campus Budget by Functional Category			
Category	Original FY 2027 Operating Budget	Revision/ Escalation	Revised FY 2027 Operating Budget
Total Instruction	$ 266,362,805	$ -	$ 266,362,805
Research	86,799,306	-	86,799,306
Public Service	-	-	-
Academic Support	69,730,149	-	69,730,149
Student Services	1,844,654	-	1,844,654
Institutional Support	239,321,818	-	239,321,818
Operation and Maintenance	69,258,790	-	69,258,790
Inpatient Nursing Service	432,953,499	9,052,607	442,006,106
Professional Service	1,145,947,468	14,772,094	1,160,719,562
Ambulatory Service	190,310,088	8,526,978	198,837,066
Patient and General Support	67,938,815	5,306,631	73,245,446
Operational Service	7,365,923	11,296,302	18,662,225
Total Uses of Funding	**$ 2,577,833,315**	**$ 48,954,612**	**$ 2,626,787,927**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
FINANCE
October 15, 2026

University of Mississippi FY 2027 On-Campus Budget by Revenue Source			
Category	Original FY 2027 Operating Budget	Revision/ Escalation	Revised FY 2027 Operating Budget
Total Student Fees	$ 53,069,690	$ -	$ 53,069,690
Governmental Appropriations	215,401,372	-	215,401,372
Grants and Contracts	106,935,523	-	106,935,523
Sales and Services	1,917,632,893	48,954,612	1,966,587,505
Other	284,793,837	-	284,793,837
Total Uses of Funding	**$ 2,577,833,315**	**$ 48,954,612**	**$ 2,626,787,927**

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
OCTOBER 15, 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. UM – IHL 207-530 – SOC – UMMC HEALTH RELATED PROFESSIONS RENOVATIONS

   Project Request: The University of Mississippi requests approval to initiate the project, SOC-UMMC Health Related Professions Renovations and appoint McCarty Architects, PA., as the design professional for the project.

   Design Professional: McCarty Architects, PA

   General Contractor: TBD

   Selection Method: The project budget exceeds $5M 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 seven (7) firms. Four (4) of the teams interviewed with the six (6) member RFQ Selection Committee.

   Insurance Coverage: McCarty Architects, PA carries errors and omissions coverage in the amount of $2,000,000 per claim and $4,000,000 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 of Mississippi intends to renovate approximately 41,800 square feet of space within the South Oxford Center (SOC) to provide new academic space for UMMC Health Related Professions Departments and Programs. Department/program spaces will include various simulation labs, classrooms, and student spaces tailored to each specialty. A phased renovation approach will be utilized to help minimize disruption to existing facility functions.

   Project Initiation Date: October 15, 2026

Project Budget:

		Estimated
Construction Cost:	$	10,126,180.00
Architectural and Engineering Fees:		1,146,663.00
Misc. Project Costs:		877,062.00
Furniture & Equipment Costs:		3,670,176.00
Contingency:		3,179,919.00
Total Project Budget	**$**	**19,000,000.00**

Funding Source(s): Internal R&R ($19,000,000)

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

2. UM – IHL 207-532 – CONNER-HOLMAN STONE CORRECTIONS

Project Request: The University of Mississippi requests approval to initiate the project, Conner-Holman Stone Corrections and appoint Eley Guild Hardy Architects, PA, as the design professional for the project.

Design Professional: Eley Guild Hardy Architects, PA

General Contractor: TBD

Selection Method: The project budget is anticipated to exceed $5M therefore it is required that the university use the RFQ method for the selection of the design professional. However, the University declared an emergency with DFA on September 29, 2026, for this project as multiple cast stone failures at Conner and Holman Halls have generated increasing concern regarding the condition and potential safety hazard posed by other projecting cast units on these buildings. The university needs to immediately select a design professional as time is of the essence, and no other firm can match the expertise of the current cast stone inspection team of EGH. The intimate knowledge gained through the façade assessment qualify EGH Architects, PA, and their supporting consultant, Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., as the best team to design the permanent repairs. In accordance with Agency Declaration of Emergency, the University is requesting to proceed forward with the selection of EGH without process so that a full repair project may proceed as soon as possible. The University will solicit multiple prequalified quotes on the repair work.

Insurance Coverage: Eley Guild Hardy, PA carries errors and omissions coverage in the amount of $2,000,000 per claim and $4,000,000 aggregate.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
OCTOBER 15, 2026

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: Multiple cast stone failures at Conner and Holman Halls prompted concern regarding the condition and potential safety hazard posed by other projecting cast units on these buildings. The university engaged EGH Architects, PA, to assist in evaluating the safety of remaining stones. EGH commissioned nationally recognized building enclosure engineers, Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., to perform a condition assessment of all projecting cast elements on Conner and Holman Halls and identify any conditions that are of concern. Immediate recommendations included "make safe" work to shore up entry door stones and remove lose stones while the full repair work is in design. "Make safe" work is scheduled to start in September 2026. The project will consist of wholesale repair and replacement of compromised cast stone and concrete elements at Conner and Holman Halls. Stone correction design will be based on the façade assessment of selected cast stone and concrete elements conducted by EGH Architects, PA, and Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.

Stone Failure History:

- April 22, 2025 - A piece of the cast stone cornice fell from the south end of the Arrival Pavilion between Conner and Holman Halls. Watson Structural Engineers conducted an emergency visual structural evaluation on April 24, 2025. Resulting report cited corrosion of the steel reinforcement due to water intrusion into the cast stone. EGH Architects, PA, and Watson Structural Engineers coordinated repair of the fallen stone and additional investigation, including x-ray inspection. Panzone & Company, Inc. completed resulting emergency repairs in October 2025.

- November 10, 2025 – A piece of the cast stone ledge fell from the north side of the Bridge between Conner and Holman Halls.

Project Initiation Date: October 15, 2026

Project Budget:

		Estimated
Construction Cost:	$	4,451,010.00
Architectural and Engineering Fees:		539,277.00
Misc. Project Costs:		74,880.00
Furniture & Equipment Costs:		0.00
Contingency:		934,833.00
Total Project Budget	**$**	**6,000,000.00**

Funding Source(s): Internal R&R ($6,000,000)

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

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

BUREAU OF BUILDING PROJECTS . . . . . .

3. DSU – GS 102-295 – WARD HALL RENOVATIONS

Project Request: Delta State University requests approval to increase the budget for the Ward Hall Renovation project from $500,000 to $11,500,434.41 for an increase in the amount of $11,000,434.41. In addition, DSU requests to clarify the funding sources for the project.

Current Project Phase: Design Phase

Design Professional: ArchitectureSouth, PA

General Contractor: TBD

Insurance Coverage: ArchitectureSouth, PA carries errors and omissions coverage in the amount of $1,000,000 per claim and $2,000,000 aggregate.

Purpose/Justification: The purpose of this request is to increase the project budget and clarify the project funding sources so that DSU can proceed forward in the design phase of the project.

Project Scope: The scope of the project includes an extensive interior renovation of all three floors of Ward Hall including new mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems. It will remain a residence hall with the renovation updating the floorplan to an apartment style layout. The renovation also includes ADA improvements for the exterior and interior (i.e. an elevator) and revitalization of the first-floor common area.

Project Initiation Date: May 15, 2025

Proposed Project Budget:

	Current Budget	Proposed Budget	Amount (+/-)
Construction Costs	$ 0.00	$ 9,511,981.00	$ 9,511,981.00
Architectural and Engineering Fees	$ 500,000.00	$ 689,721.34	$ 189,721.34
Miscellaneous Project Costs	$ 0.00	$ 266,816.00	$ 266,816.00
Furniture & Equipment Costs	$ 0.00	$ 250,000.00	$ 250,000.00
Contingency	$ 0.00	$ 781,916.08	$ 781,916.08
Total Project Budget	**$ 500,000.00**	**$ 11,500,434.41**	**$ 11,000,434.41**

Proposed Funding Source(s): SB 3006, L'24 ($6,000,000), SB 2189, L'26 ($4,880,000), HB 603, L'23 ($562,786.14), SB 3065, L'19 ($57,648.27)

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

4. MUW – GS 104-216 – OLD POHL GYMNASIUM RENOVATION

Project Request: Mississippi University for Women requests approval to increase the budget for the Old Pohl Gymnasium Renovation project from $333,359.93 to $11,833,359.93 for an increase in the amount of $11,500,000.00. In addition, MUW requests to clarify the funding sources for the project to include the addition of SB 2189, Laws of 2026 as a funding source.

Current Project Phase: Design Phase

Design Professional: Belinda Stewart Architects, PA

General Contractor: TBD

Insurance Coverage: Belinda Stewart Architects, PA 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 to move from the design phase to the construction phase including the advertisement and receipt of bids.

MUW received the balance of funding needed for the project during the 2026 Legislative Session.

Project Scope: The project will include renovation of Old Pohl as an academic space. The project will include asbestos abatement, restoration of interior and exterior elements, interior reconfiguration, ADA improvements and major renovations of the mechanical, electrical, plumbing and life safety systems. Due to the building's Mississippi Landmark status, coordination with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History will be required.

Project Initiation Date: February 22025

Proposed Project Budget:

	Current Budget	Proposed Budget	Amount (+/-)
Construction Costs	$ 0.00	$ 10,339,543.60	$ 10,339,543.60
Architectural and Engineering Fees	$ 333,359.93	$ 788,066.09	$ 454,472.16
Miscellaneous Project Costs	$ 0.00	$ 61,200.00	$ 61,200.00
Furniture & Equipment Costs	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Contingency	$ 0.00	$ 644,550.24	$ 584,784.24
Total Project Budget	**$ 333,359.93**	**$ 11,833,359.93**	**$ 11,500,000.00**

Proposed Funding Source(s): HB 603, L'23 ($300,000); HB 1353, L'22 ($33,359.93); SB 2189, L'26 ($11,500,000)

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item

IHL PROJECTS . . . . . .

5. MSU – IHL 205-320– PATTERSON ENGINEERING IDEE LAB

Project Request: Mississippi State University requests approval to increase the budget for the Patterson Engineering IDEE Lab project from $5,000,000 to $10,000,000 for an increase in the amount of $5,000,000 to address construction cost escalation and an expansion of the planned renovation scope within Patterson Engineering Laboratories.

Current Project Phase: Design Phase

Design Professional: CDFL Architects + Engineers

General Contractor: TBD

Insurance Coverage: CDFL Architects + Engineers carries errors and omissions coverage in the amount of $1,000,000 per claim and $2,000,000 aggregate.

Purpose/Justification: Mississippi State University is requesting an increase in the project budget to address construction cost escalation and an expansion of the planned renovation scope within Patterson Engineering Laboratories. The project was initiated in August 2022 with a total project budget of $5,000,000. Since project initiation, non-residential construction costs have increased approximately 18 percent. The initial project focused on Mechanical Engineering areas, which account for approximately 45 percent of the assigned space in Patterson Engineering Laboratories. The revised scope may expand into Aerospace Engineering areas, which account for approximately 55 percent of the assigned space. The existing $5,000,000 project budget is substantially committed to completed and currently planned renovations. Previous renovation work totaled approximately $2.5 million, and the next planned renovations are estimated at approximately $2.5 million, effectively utilizing the existing project authorization. Additional renovations, including potential improvements within Aerospace Engineering areas, are currently estimated to require up to an additional $5,000,000. The proposed budget increase will allow MSU to continue the modernization of Patterson Engineering Laboratories as programming, design, cost estimates, and funding are confirmed.

Project Scope: The project consists of renovations and improvements to Patterson Engineering Laboratories, including instructional and research laboratories, student study and collaboration spaces, offices and support areas, and associated architectural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, fire protection, technology, accessibility, and life-safety improvements. The original work focused primarily on areas occupied by

Mechanical Engineering. The revised scope may include additional areas occupied by Aerospace Engineering and associated shared and public spaces.

Project Initiation Date: August 2022

Proposed Project Budget:

	Current Budget	Proposed Budget	Amount (+/-)
Construction Costs	$ 4,250,000.00	$ 8,500,000.00	$ 4,250,000.00
Architectural and Engineering Fees	$ 250,000.00	$ 500,000.00	$ 250,000.00
Miscellaneous Project Costs	$ 250,000.00	$ 500,000.00	$ 250,000.00
Furniture & Equipment Costs	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Contingency	$ 250,000.00	$ 500,000.00	$ 250,000.00
Total Project Budget	**$ 5,000,000.00**	**$ 10,000,000.00**	**$ 5,000,000.00**

Proposed Funding Source(s): University Designated Funds ($10,000,000)

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

6. UM – IHL 407-015– NW MECHANICAL PLANT (MECHANICAL PHASE III)

Project Request: The University of Mississippi requests approval to increase the budget for the NW Mechanical Plant (Mechanical Phase III) project from $31,400,000 to $33,400,000 for an increase in the amount of $2,000,000 to utilize remaining project contingency. In addition, UM is requesting to modify the funding sources of the project.

Current Project Phase: Design Phase

Design Professional: Eley Guild Hardy Architects (EGH), PA

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 University of Mississippi requests to increase the project budget from $31,400,000 to $33,400,000 to allow flexibility to award additional piping connections as alternates. This agenda item will also adjust funding sources to reflect actual state funding used for the initial phase of work and update from internal funds to UMEBC financing.

Project Scope: Original project scope is constructing a new mechanical plant in the northwest quadrant of campus to support chilled water (CHW) and heating hot water (HHW) demand in that region of campus and provide additional capacity to support new facilities for Housing and Academics. The new mechanical plant also provides greater system redundancy, geographic and utility source diversity, greater flexibility to transfer load across the loop, and eliminates low-pressure zones within the loop. Initial installation includes two (2) 1,500-ton chillers and four (4) 6,000 MBH boilers with room to double the new plant capacity for future loads if needed.

The original design anticipated connection to existing campus chilled water loop for housing at former Kincannon Hall site and current Stockard-Martin Halls. A modest amount of piping was included in the building scope to install piping in the adjacent parking lot for future connections. The requested additional piping scope will allow the completed mechanical plant to connect further into the existing campus chilled water (CHW) loop and make vital new connections to the existing campus heating hot water (HHW) loop.

Project Initiation Date: January 2023 (Interim)

Proposed Project Budget:

	Current Budget	Proposed Budget	Amount (+/-)
Construction Costs	$ 22,855,233.04	$ 29,314,121.04	$ 6,458,888.00
Architectural and Engineering Fees	$ 1,599,743.96	$ 2,036,017.04	$ 436,273.08
Miscellaneous Project Costs	$ 353,047.00	$ 402,847.92	$ 49,800.92
Furniture & Equipment Costs	$ 12,889.00	$ 12,889.00	$ 0.00
Contingency	$ 6,579,087.00	$ 1,634,125.00	$ (4,944,962.00)
Total Project Budget	**$ 31,400,000.00**	**$ 33,400,000.00**	**$ 2,000,000.00**

Proposed Funding Source(s): SB2468, L'24 ($7,117,044.71) / UMEBC Bond Financing ($26,282,955.29)

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

APPROVAL OF OTHER REAL ESTATE REQUESTS

7. JSU – APPROVAL TO GRANT A HISTORIC PRESERVATION EASEMENT TO THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI – MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY TO THE JSU PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE Z.T.HUBERT BUILDING

Agenda Item Request: Jackson State University (JSU) requests approval to grant a Historic Preservation Easement to the State of Mississippi - Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) pursuant to the requirements of the National Park Service's Historic Preservation Fund. The MDAH shall have the right to enter onto the subject property, known as the Z. T. Hubert Building, for the purpose of making periodic inspections of said property to ensure compliance with this easement.

Purpose: The National Park Service Historically Black Colleges and Universities Grant (hereinafter referred to as "HBCU Grant") requires a preservation easement, also known as a covenant or preservation agreement, on the entire property to protect the grant-assisted work. These National Park Service HBCU grant funds in the amount of $198,564.00 were used for a roof replacement and gutter repairs to the Z. T. Hubert Building.

History: JSU applied for and was determined eligible for an award under the HBCU Grant-in-aid program administered by the National Park Service pursuant to withdrawals from the Historic Preservation Fund, (hereinafter referred to as the "HPF") authorized by the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior.

An easement is required for HPF assistance of this nature. This conservation easement is granted as a condition of the eligibility of JSU for the HBCU Grant-in-Aid from the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior appropriated from the HPF.

In consideration of the sum of $198,564.00 received in grant-in-aid financial assistance from the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior, JSU, the Grantor, shall grant to MDAH, the Grantee, a conservation easement to the JSU Z. T. Hubert Building for the purpose of assuring preservation of the property.

MDAH is authorized to accept preservation easements to protect property significant in national, state, local, and tribal history and culture under the provisions of Title 39, Chapter 5 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended.

In accordance with the program requirements, JSU desires to grant to the MDAH, and MDAH desires to accept a preservation easement. MDAH shall have the right to enter onto the subject property upon reasonable notice for the purpose of making periodic inspections of said property to ensure compliance with this easement.

Term: This conservation easement is granted for a period of approximately ten (10) years commencing on October 31, 2026, and shall expire October 31, 2036.

Termination Options: None

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

8. **JSU – APPROVAL TO GRANT A HISTORIC PRESERVATION EASEMENT TO THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI – MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY TO THE JSU PROPERTY KNOWN AS MT. OLIVE CEMETERY**

Agenda Item Request: Jackson State University (JSU) requests approval to grant a Historic Preservation Easement to The State of Mississippi - Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) pursuant to the requirements of the National Park Service's Historic Preservation Fund. The MDAH shall have the right to enter onto the subject property known as the Mt. Olive Cemetery, for the purpose of making periodic inspections of said property to ensure compliance with this easement.

Purpose: The National Park Service Historically Black Colleges and Universities Grant (hereinafter referred to as "HBCU Grant") requires a preservation easement, also known as a covenant or preservation agreement, on the entire property to protect the grant-assisted work. The National Park Service HBCU grant funds in the amount of $500,000.00 were used for the repair and restoration of 46 mausoleums, and improvements to the Mt. Olive Cemetery, a property designated as a historic site, which is owned by JSU and located on its main campus.

History: JSU applied for and was determined eligible for an award under the HBCU Grant-in-aid program administered by the National Park Service pursuant to withdrawals from the Historic Preservation Fund, (hereinafter referred to as the "HPF") authorized by the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior.

An easement is required for HPF assistance of this nature. This conservation easement is granted as a condition of the eligibility of JSU for the HBCU Grant-in-Aid from the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior appropriated from the HPF.

In consideration of the sum of $500,000.00 received in grant-in-aid financial assistance from the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior, JSU, the Grantor shall grant to MDAH, the Grantee, a conservation easement to the Mount Olive Cemetery for the purpose of assuring preservation of the property.

MDAH is authorized to accept preservation easements to protect property significant in national, state, local, and tribal history and culture under the provisions of Title 39, Chapter 5 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended.

In accordance with the program requirements, JSU desires to grant to the MDAH, and MDAH desires to accept a preservation easement. MDAH shall have the right to enter onto the subject property upon reasonable notice for the purpose of making periodic inspections of said property to ensure compliance with this easement.

Term: This conservation easement is granted for a period of approximately fifteen (15) years commencing on October 31, 2026, and shall expire October 31, 2041.

Termination Options: None

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

9. MSU – COLLEGE VIEW PHASE II – P3 PROJECT – APPROVAL OF EXTERIOR DESIGN

Agenda Request: Mississippi State University requests approval of exterior design for the College View Phase II P3 project.

P3 Contractor: Greystar

Purpose: Mississippi State University requests exterior approval of the exterior design for the College View Phase II project. This project is delivered via a public-private partnership (P3) with Greystar, who is responsible for design, construction, financing, and operation. Phase I of the development was completed in 2019.

Project Scope: Phase II of the College View development with Greystar includes design and construction of a 255,492 square foot, 4-story, apartment-style student housing project that includes 560 new beds. Phase II will be constructed on the same

site as Phase I, and just to the northeast of the existing 656 student housing beds that were completed in 2019.

History: Phase I of the College View development with Greystar was completed in 2019 and included 656 student housing beds.

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

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

Rendering 1: View of College View Phase II from the North

Rendering 2: View of College View Phase II from the North

Rendering 3: Aerial View of College View – Phase II is the north portion of the complex

10. MSU – APPROVAL OF A SPACE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION (RTC)

Agenda Item Request: Pursuant to Section 707.01(A) of the IHL Board Policies and Bylaws, Mississippi State University (MSU) requests approval to enter into a new lease agreement with the Mississippi State University Research & Technology Corporation (RTC) for space at 301 Main Street in Starkville, Mississippi.

Lessor Legal Name: Mississippi State University Research & Technology Corporation (RTC)

Lessee Legal Name: Mississippi State University of Agriculture and Applied Sciences

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

History: MSU's National Strategic Planning & Analysis Center (NSPARC) currently leases office space from RTC. The current lease began on November 1, 2022, and expires on October 31, 2027. MSU is seeking to enter into a new 10-year lease agreement to allow NSCPARC to secure the space for its long-term use.

Purpose: The purpose of the lease agreement is to allow NSPARC to secure the space it currently occupies for long-term use, planning, and certainty of costs. The new lease provides 9,385 square feet of office space to be used by NSPARC.

MSU's current lease provides NSPARC with 5,287 square feet at $16 per square foot annually and an additional 4,098 square feet at $18 per square foot annually. The new lease will supersede and replace the existing lease and will maintain rent at its current pricing through October 2027. Beginning in November 2027, rent will increase to $18 per square foot annually for the entire leased area. Beginning in year five (5) of the lease, rent will increase to $18.90 per square foot annually.

Term of Space Lease Agreement: The ten-year lease term will begin upon the date of the last signature of the Agreement.

Termination Options: MSU may terminate the lease agreement upon one year's notice of termination to RTC.

- MSU may terminate the lease agreement if space becomes available in any state-owned building.

- MSU may reduce rent if necessitated by a discontinuous or decrease in federal or state funds upon thirty (30) days' written notice to RTC, with space being reduced proportional to the reduction in rent.
- If either party is in default and has not cured the default within the applicable cure period, the non-defaulting party will have the right to terminate the lease agreement.
- Should the leased premises be totally or substantially destroyed by fire, the elements or otherwise, so as to render it untenable, either party will have the option to cancel the remaining portion of the lease term upon forty-five (45) days' written notice.

Lease Amount*:* Beginning on the first day of the calendar month during the Term of this Agreement until October 31, 2027, Lessee shall pay Lessor a monthly rent of $13,196.33, for 5,287 square feet at $16 per square foot annually and 4,098 square feet at $18 per square foot annually.

- Beginning on November 1, 2027, until October 31, 2032, Lessee shall pay Lessor a monthly rent of $14,077.50, for 9,385 square feet at $18.00 per square foot annually.
- Beginning on November 1, 2032, until October 31, 2036, Lessee shall pay Lessor a monthly rent of $14,781.38, for 9,385 square feet at $18.90 per square foot annually.

Funding Source for Space Lease: Revenue generating lease agreement

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

11. UM – IHL 207-468 – ART, THEATRE, & FILM DEPARTMENT FACILITIES (MUSIC HALL) – APPROVAL OF EXTERIOR DESIGN

Agenda Request: The University of Mississippi requests approval of exterior design for the Art, Theatre, & Film Department Facilities (Music Hall) project.

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

Purpose: The University of Mississippi requests exterior design approval of the Music Hall Recording Studio.

Project Scope: The condition of facilities occupied by the Art, Theatre, & Film Departments are declining, the spaces are spread throughout Campus in several buildings, and the needs of the programs are growing at a steady pace. The previously approved Master Plan effort developed a comprehensive and cohesive plan for these Departments and recommended the following Phase 1 Projects: IHL 207-468.1A Scene Shop & Sound Stage and IHL 207-468.1B Music Hall Recording Studio.

The scope of work for IHL 207-468.1A Scene Shop & Sound Stage includes renovation of the former JCPenney space in the Jackson Avenue Center (JAC). The renovation will create new spaces for a scene shop, rehearsal studio/sound stage, rehearsal viewing area, dressing rooms, offices, conferencing areas, storage, and loading dock area. The remaining space will be renovated for university multi-purpose use. The renovation will also include upgrades to the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire systems within the existing building.

The scope of work for IHL 207-468.1B Music Hall Recording Studio includes expansion of the existing Music Hall. The new addition will house a rehearsal space, lobby/waiting area, recording/sound booth, storage, offices, mechanical/electrical/data area, and other support spaces

Project Budget: $35,938,912

Funding Source(s): UMEBC Bonds ($27,500,000); Donor Funds ($8,438,912)

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

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

Rendering 1: Music Hall Recording Studio

Rendering 2: Music Hall Recording Studio

Rendering 3: Music Hall Recording Studio

12. UM – IHL 207-468 – ART, THEATRE, & FILM DEPARTMENT FACILITIES (SCENE SHOP & SOUND STAGE) – APPROVAL OF EXTERIOR DESIGN

Agenda Request: The University of Mississippi requests approval of exterior design for the Art, Theatre, & Film Department Facilities (Scene Shop & Sound Stage) project.

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

Purpose: The University of Mississippi requests exterior design approval of the Music Hall Recording Studio.

Project Scope: The condition of facilities occupied by the Art, Theatre, & Film Departments are declining, the spaces are spread throughout Campus in several buildings, and the needs of the programs are growing at a steady pace. The previously approved Master Plan effort developed a comprehensive and cohesive plan for these Departments and recommended the following Phase 1 Projects: IHL 207-468.1A Scene Shop & Sound Stage and IHL 207-468.1B Music Hall Recording Studio.

The scope of work for IHL 207-468.1A Scene Shop & Sound Stage includes renovation of the former JCPenney space in the Jackson Avenue Center (JAC). The renovation will create new spaces for a scene shop, rehearsal studio/sound stage, rehearsal viewing area, dressing rooms, offices, conferencing areas, storage, and loading dock area. The remaining space will be renovated for university multi-purpose use. The renovation will also include upgrades to the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire systems within the existing building.

The scope of work for IHL 207-468.1B Music Hall Recording Studio includes expansion of the existing Music Hall. The new addition will house a rehearsal space, lobby/waiting area, recording/sound booth, storage, offices, mechanical/electrical/data area, and other support spaces.

Project Budget: $35,938,912

Funding Source(s): UMEBC Bonds ($27,500,000); Donor Funds ($8,438,912)

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

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

Rendering 1: Scene Shop & Sound Stage (Theatre Arts)

Rendering 2: Scene Shop & Sound Stage (Multi-Purpose Center)

Rendering 3: Scene Shop & Sound Stage (Theatre Arts)

Rendering 4: Scene Shop & Sound Stage

13. USM – APPROVAL OF A SPACE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH CHROMIS FIBEROPTICS, INC.

Agenda Item Request: The University of Southern Mississippi requests authorization to enter into a Lease Agreement with Chromis Fiberoptics, Inc.

Lessor Legal Name: University of Southern Mississippi

Lessee Legal Name: Chromis Fiberoptics, Inc. d/b/a Chromis Technologies

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

History: This is a renewal lease of an existing lease that expires October 31, 2026.

Purpose: The purpose of this lease is to provide income for USM and to lease space in USM's Accelerator building to Chromis which is a compatible business with USM's other tenants.

The University shall lease to Chromis approximately 5,647 square feet of laboratory, office and other space, identified as Space Nos. 130, 133, 134, 141, 143, 144, 162, 163, 164, 165, and 166 in the Accelerator, and the Wombat Warehouse at the Accelerator facility.

Term of Space Lease Agreement: The Lease Agreement is effective as of November 1, 2026, for a one-year initial term with four (4) one-year renewal terms.

Termination Options: Either party may terminate upon 180 days notice prior to the expiration of the initial term or any renewal term. USM and Company have a right to terminate the lease upon damage rendering the leased premises untenantable; breach of compliance with the Mississippi Employment Protection Act, Section 71-11-1, et seq of the Mississippi Code Annotated (Supp 2008); or an Event of Default by the other party.

Lease Amount: The annual rent is $141,935.00. The total rent for the current term and available renewal terms, if any, is $709,675.

Funding Source for Space Lease: Revenue generating lease agreement

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

14. USM – APPROVAL OF A SPACE SUBLEASE AGREEMENT WITH LIBERTY ALLIANCE, INC.

Agenda Item Request: The University of Southern Mississippi (USM) requests Board approval to enter into a Sublease Agreement between USM and Liberty Alliance, Inc., which provides for the sublease of portions of port facilities at the Port of Gulfport.

Sublandlord Legal Name: University of Southern Mississippi

Subtenant Legal Name: Liberty Alliance, Inc.

Specific Type of Contract: This is a new sublease agreement.

Purpose: The purpose of the Sublease Agreement is to provide office, lab, and covered area workspaces for Liberty Alliance's ongoing operations and facilitate collaboration with USM, government agencies and other entities, in blue economy related fields and activities.

Liberty Alliance will sublease approximately 12,708 Rentable Area square feet for a total monthly rental rate of $55,496.79.

Term of Space Sublease Agreement: The term of the sublease is approximately twelve (12) months. (The sublease will be effective for twelve (12) complete months, plus the balance of the month in which the sublease becomes effective).

Termination Options: Either party may terminate upon 180 days notice prior to the expiration of the initial term or any renewal term. USM and Company have a right to terminate the lease upon damage rendering the leased premises untenantable; breach of compliance with the Mississippi Employment Protection Act, Section 71-11-1, et seq of the Mississippi Code Annotated (Supp 2008); or an Event of Default by the other party.

Sublease Amount: The sublease provides for a total monthly rental rate of $55,496.79 currently, or approximately $665,961.51 for the proposed term.

The rent amount is subject to certain adjustments on an annual basis in accordance with CPI as well as maintenance and insurance costs incurred by USM. The total monthly rent includes allocations for maintenance and insurance costs incurred by USM. Therefore, costs associated with maintenance, custodial service, insurance and utilities are offset by rents paid by Subtenant. In accordance with the Lease between USM and the Port of Gulfport, USM will share a portion of the sublease revenue attributable to a portion of the sublease premises with the Port.

Funding Source for Space Sublease: Revenue generating sublease agreement

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
LEGAL
OCTOBER 15, 2026

1. JSU – APPROVAL TO RENEW CONTRACT WITH ARMSTRONG LAW, LLC AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL

Jackson State University requests approval to renew a contract for professional legal services with Armstrong Law, LLC to perform services necessary in preparing labor certification applications, immigration applications and petitions, and provide other immigration related services on behalf of the university for its employees who seek temporary or permanent residence status. The term of the agreement is one year effective November 1, 2026 through October 31, 2027. The rates are set out in the fee schedule below. The maximum amount payable under the term of the agreement is $50,000. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of $1 million per claim with an annual aggregate of $1 million. This request is pending approval by the Office of the Attorney General.

Summary of Legal Fees - Jackson State University
Effective August 25, 2026

Type of Immigration Processing	Attorney's Fees[1]
Permanent resident status ("green card"/immigrant) processing – labor certification required[2]	
"Special handling" labor certification for faculty (teaching positions only) – using original recruitment	$3,000.00
"Special handling" labor certification for faculty (teaching positions only) – re-recruitment[3]	$3,500.00
"Basic recruitment" labor certification for non-teaching positions	$6,000.00
Audit response (if required by US Department of Labor)	$1,500.00
Immigrant petition for alien worker (I-140) – for employee	$2,800.00
Response to Request for Evidence or Notice of Intent to Deny (case by case basis up to)	$2,500.00
Application to adjust status (I-485) and related applications if applicable (I-765, I-131) for employee	$2,500.00

[1] Exclusive of all required US Citizenship and Immigration Services filing fees and costs of recruitment (if required); all additional work, including assistance in ad placement, renewal applications for employment authorization or advance parole during the period the application for adjustment of status is pending, preparation for and attendance at interviews with immigration officers, or appeals of any denials of any immigration petition or application filed, will be billed at normal hourly rates (currently $350 an hour).

[2] Regulations require employer to pay all costs relating to labor certification, including all costs of recruitment.

[3] Re-recruitment may be required if original ads do not meet US Department of Labor requirements or if labor certification is not filed within 18 months of date of offer letter.

Application to adjust status (I-485) and related applications if applicable (I-765, I-131) for each dependent of employee (if filing concurrently)	$1,500.00
"Standalone" Application to adjust status (I-485) and related applications if applicable (I-765, I-131) for employee	$3,000.00
"Standalone" Application to adjust status (I-485) and related applications if applicable (I-765, I-131) for each dependent of employee	$2,000.00
I-485 Supplement J (standalone)	$1,500.00
Preparation for and attendance at USCIS interview	$2,500.00
Application to renew employment authorization and/or advance parole (per application)	$ 750.00
Type of Immigration Processing	**Attorney's Fees**
Permanent resident status ("green card"/immigrant) processing – "Outstanding professors and researchers" (labor certification not required)[4]	
Immigrant petition for alien worker (I-140) – for employee	$7,000.00
Response to Request for Evidence or Notice of Intent to Deny (case by case basis up to)	$2,500.00
Application to adjust status (I-485) and related applications if applicable (I-765, I-131) for employee	$2,500.00
Application to adjust status (I-485) and related applications if applicable (I-765, I-131) for each dependent of employee (if filing concurrently)	$1,500.00
"Standalone" Application to adjust status (I-485) and related applications if applicable (I-765, I-131) for employee	$3,000.00
"Standalone" Application to adjust status (I-485) and related applications if applicable (I-765, I-131) for each dependent of employee	$2,000.00
I-485 Supplement J (standalone)	$1,500.00
Preparation for and attendance at USCIS interview	$2,500.00
Application to renew employment authorization and/or advance parole (per application)	$ 750.00
Type of Immigration Processing	**Attorney's Fees**

[4] Employee may pay fees and costs because labor certification is not required for this process.

Permanent resident status ("green card"/immigrant) processing – "extraordinary ability" or "National Interest Waiver" (labor certification not required)[5]	
Immigrant petition for alien worker (I-140) – for employee	$6,000.00
Response to Request for Evidence or Notice of Intent to Deny (case by case basis up to)	$2,500.00
Application to adjust status (I-485) and related applications if applicable (I-765, I-131) for employee	$2,500.00
Application to adjust status (I-485) and related applications if applicable (I-765, I-131) for each dependent of employee (if filing concurrently)	$1,500.00
"Standalone" Application to adjust status (I-485) and related applications if applicable (I-765, I-131) for employee	$3,000.00
"Standalone" Application to adjust status (I-485) and related applications if applicable (I-765, I-131) for each dependent of employee	$2,000.00
I-485 Supplement J (standalone)	$1,500.00
Preparation for and attendance at USCIS interview	$2,500.00
Application to renew employment authorization and/or advance parole (per application)	$ 750.00
Temporary status (nonimmigrant) processing	
H-1B "specialty occupation" petition [6]	$3,000.00
H-1B/LCA Withdrawal	$ 500.00
E-3 petition or consular processing	$2,500.00
O-1 "extraordinary ability" petition (initial filing)	$8,000.00
O-1 "extraordinary ability" petition (extension)	$4,000.00
O-1 additional rush fee if case must be filed within 60 days	$2,000.00
Canadian TN "NAFTA professional" petition (initial and subsequent filings, including consular processing)	$2,750.00
Mexican TN "NAFTA professional" petition (initial and subsequent filings, DOES NOT INCLUDE consular processing)	$2,750.00
Consular Processing for nonimmigrant visa	$1,500.00
Response to Request for Evidence or Notice of Intent to Deny (case by case basis up to)	$2,500.00

[5] Employee may pay fees and costs because labor certification is not required for this process.
[6] Regulations require employer to pay all costs relating to H-1B filing, including attorney's fees and filing fees (however, employee may pay "premium processing request" filing fee if desired).

Application for Waiver of J-1 Foreign Residence Requirement (based upon state Conrad 30 program, Interested Government Agency, or Extreme Hardship)	$7,500.00
Application to extend or change nonimmigrant status (for dependents of employee who are in the US in another nonimmigrant status) when filed with I-129 Petition for primary	$ 750.00
Application for employment authorization of H-4 spouse (if qualified) when filed with I-539 Application and I-129 Petition	$ 1,000.00
Additional Routine Services	
AR-11	$150.00
Rescheduling (biometrics appointment, interview appointment)	$150.00
Requests to Expedite	$500.00

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Pending approval by the Attorney General, Board Staff recommends approval of this item.

2. JSU – APPROVAL TO RENEW CONTRACT WITH SUN SOVEREIGN, LLC d/b/a WARE|IMMIGRATION AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL

Jackson State University requests approval to renew a contract for professional legal services with Sun Sovereign, LLC d/b/a Ware|Immigration, as outside counsel, to perform services necessary in preparing labor certification applications, immigration applications and petitions, and provide other immigration related services on behalf of the University for its employees who seek temporary or permanent residence status. The term of the agreement is one year effective November 1, 2026 through October 31, 2027. The rates are set out in the fee schedule below. The maximum amount payable under the term of the agreement is $50,000. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of $3 million per claim with an annual aggregate of $3 million. This request is pending approval by the Office of the Attorney General.

Schedule of Legal Fees for Academia

Please note that a flat administrative fee of $150 will be added to all matters for copies, postage and courier services.

Non-immigrant Petitions and Processes

H-1B petition	$2,750[7]
H-1B withdrawal	$200
H-4 EAD (Employee may pay)	$750

[7] Additional legal fee of up to $2,500 may apply for substantive requests for evidence.

TN petition or border/consulate processing	$2,750
E-3 petition or consular processing	$2,750
O-1 petition	$8,000
O-1 extension or amendment petition (firm handled original)	$4,000
O-1 additional rush fee if case needs to be filed w/in 60 days	$2,000
J-1 waiver (IGA or hardship)	$9,000
J-1 waiver (Conrad)	$9,000
J-1 waiver (no objection)	$2,000[1]
I-539 Fee for Dependents (Employee may pay)	$1,000
DS-160 Prep	$1,500 +[2] $750 / dependent

Permanent Residence Process with Labor Certification: Faculty

Special Handling labor certification	$3,500
If position must be readvertised	$3,500
Additional fee if audited	
Immigrant petition (I-140)	$2,500 - $3,000

Permanent Residence Process with Labor Certification: Non-Faculty

Labor certification	$6,500
Additional fee if audited	$1,500 - $2,500
Additional fee if subject to supervised recruitment	$3,000
Immigrant petition	$2,500

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

Outstanding Professors Immigrant petition	$8,000
Extraordinary Ability	$10,000
National Interest Waiver	$10,000
EA, OP/OR, or NIW RFE or NOID: case by case determination up to	$2,500

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

Adjustment of status (AOS) and related applications	$2,500

[1] Additional legal fee of $2,000 if sponsor views are requested.
[2] Does not include administrative proceeding.

(I-765, I-131, etc.), principal	
"Standalone" AOS and related applications, principal	$3,000
Adjustment of status and related applications, spouse, if together with principal application and I-140	$1,500
Adjustment of status of each child, concurrent with I-140	$1,000
"Standalone" adjustment of status, spouse (not concurrent with I-140)	$2,000
"Standalone" adjustment of status, child	$2,000
I-485 J (standalone cases)	$1,500

Employment Authorization and Advance Parole Renewal

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

Marriage Based Permanent Residence

Principal Applicant	$4,000
Each child, if any	$2,500

Other Services

AR-11 Change of Address	$150
Interview rescheduling	$150
Biometrics rescheduling per person	$150
Advisory Opinion	$1,500
Expedite requests	$500 - $750
Auto Revalidation Letter	$200
Interview preparation	$500
Interview attendance in New Orleans or Seattle	$500
Interview attendance outside New Orleans or Seattle	$1,500 + travel expenses

General Legal Advice and Unusual Matters Which Fall Outside This Fee Schedule
Such matters will be billed at our hourly rates:

WI Partners	$450
Associate Attorneys	$300
Paralegals	$150

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Pending approval by the Attorney General, Board Staff recommends approval of this item.

3. UM – APPROVAL OF MR. JACK JONES AS LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

The University of Mississippi requests approval of Mr. Jack Jones as Legislative Liaison.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board Staff recommends approval of this item.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
CONSENT AGENDA
PERSONNEL
OCTOBER 15, 2026

APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL ACTION REQUEST

1. Employment

Mississippi State University

- Matthew E. Capella; *rehired retiree;* Program & Grant Dev Specialist, CVM ORGS; salary of $40,000.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; effective August 26, 2026
- Patrick J. English; *rehired retiree;* Research Technician, Delta Research & Extension Center; salary of $20,550.00 per annum, pro rata; Restricted Funds; 12-month contract; effective July 01, 2026
- David Owen Howell; *rehired retiree;* MAFES Engineer, MAFES Administration; salary of $59,207.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; effective August 10, 2026
- Sherman Wessel Jack; *rehired retiree;* Visiting Instructor, CVM Academic Affairs; salary of $36,576.93.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; effective July 16, 2026
- Angela Leigh McCarty; *rehired retiree;* Teacher Intern Supervisor, Office of Clinical/Field-Based Instruction; salary of $23,148.75.00 per annum, pro rata; Designated Funds; 12-month contract; effective August 16, 2026
- Donald R. Parish; *rehired retiree;* Research Technician, FWRC-Sustainable Bioproducts; salary of $22,880.00 per annum, pro rata; Restricted Funds; 12-month contract; effective July 16, 2026
- Vera L Self; *rehired retiree*; Administrative Assistant I, Research & Technology Corporation; salary of $21,840.00 per annum, pro rata; Designated Funds; 12-month contract; effective August 20, 2026
- Jennifer Thompson Vickers; *rehired retiree;* Director, Partnership School/Education Liaison, Dean of Education; salary of $45,000.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 12-month contract; effective August 10, 2026

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
OCTOBER 15, 2026

1. UMMC – REQUEST TO ADD A NEW ACADEMIC DEGREE PROGRAM

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, the University of Mississippi Medical Center requests approval to establish a new academic degree program.

Master of Physician Assistant Studies
CIP code: 51.0912
Total credit hours: 160
Effective date: May 2029
Incremental, five-year cost of implementation: $8,349,075
Potential new, five-year revenue: $10,410,939
Unit where academic program will be housed: School of Medicine
Number of students expected to enroll in first five years: 150
Number of students expected to graduate in first five years: 90

Program description: This degree program is a three-year, graduate-level, cohort-based professional degree designed to prepare students for collaborative medical practice with physicians across a broad range of clinical settings. The curriculum integrates intensive didactic instruction with supervised clinical practice experiences in primary care and specialty disciplines actively practiced at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC). This program aligns directly with the tripartite mission of education, clinical care, and research at UMMC. The program will pursue accreditation through the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA). A SACSCOC prospectus will be submitted prior to implementation, but no SACSCOC visit for substantive change will be necessary.

Establishing a physician assistant educational program positions UMMC as a leader in preparing a workforce capable of adapting to these changes while maintaining a strong commitment to patient-centered care. Graduates will be able to strengthen physician-led care teams, expand access to services across the state, support rural and underserved communities, and ensure that UMMC continues to lead in educating the health care professionals essential to Mississippi's future.

Institution(s) offering similar program(s): Mississippi State University, University of Southern Mississippi, and Mississippi Christian University

Program demand: Mississippi faces persistent shortages of primary care and specialty providers, particularly in rural and underserved areas. Highly skilled and trained physician assistants are in high demand statewide and nationally, and graduates are expected to have strong employment opportunities. This is a program of interest to the students UMMC has worked with in Mississippi rural high school outreach program for the past four years. There is interest in this type of program because it allows for direct patient care with appropriate oversight, it provides for professional autonomy without 10-12 years of graduate training, and it brings marketable health care skills to their hometown with a decent salary. For physicians in underserved areas, it brings highly skilled clinicians to the workforce who can integrate into the team providing healthcare in a shorter timeframe while maintaining rigorous training standards.

Nationally, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that employment of physician assistants is expected to grow 21% from 2025 to 2035, which is significantly faster than the average growth rate for all occupations, adding approximately 35,700 new positions nationwide and supporting the need for additional educational programs that prepare qualified physician assistant graduates.

Average wages: Graduates will be prepared for employment in hospitals, clinics, physician practices, community health centers and specialty settings across Mississippi, the region and the nation. According to the 2025 occupational employment and wage statistics profiles for the bureau of labor statistics, the most likely practice areas are in physician offices, hospitals, and outpatient care centers. Currently, Mississippi has a low concentration of physician assistants in the state; however, this trend is expected to improve with specialized and targeted training. According to the U.S. BLS, the national median pay in 2025 was $136k with a median pay of $106k in Mississippi.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
FINANCE
October 15, 2026

1. MSU– REQUEST TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH FEI COMPANY

Agenda Item Request: Pursuant to Section 701.01(A) of the IHL Board Policies and Bylaws, Mississippi State University (MSU) requests approval to enter into an agreement with **FEI Company** for the acquisition of a Thermo Scientific Spectra 200 transmission electron microscope and a Thermo Scientific Helios 5 Hydra CX DualBeam system, together with related accessories, installation, training, warranty, and two-year preferred service agreement coverage. Pursuant to Section 707.03 of the IHL Board Policies and Bylaws, MSU is requesting approval of payment terms that include invoicing of ninety percent (90%) of the purchase price upon shipment or deemed shipment and ten percent (10%) upon acceptance.

Contractor's Legal Name: FEI Company

History of Contract: This is a new agreement for MSU.

Specific Type of Contract: Purchase Agreement

Purpose: The purpose of the contract is to acquire advanced electron microscopy instrumentation for the Institute for Imaging and Analytical Technologies of MSU, including a Spectra 200 FEG Scanning Transmission Electron Microscope and a Helios 5 Hydra CX Plasma Focused Ion Beam DualBeam system. The equipment will support advanced imaging, analytical characterization, tomography, sample preparation, and related research capabilities for MSU.

Scope of Work: The agreement provides for the purchase, delivery, installation, warranty support, training, and related service coverage for a bundled package consisting of the Thermo Scientific Spectra 200 and Helios 5 Hydra CX systems. The package includes core instruments, software, analytical and imaging accessories, site preparation support, training days, installation labor and materials, warranty labor and materials, and two years of preferred service agreement coverage after the applicable warranty periods.

Term of Contract: This is a one-time purchase of equipment, with warranty coverage as provided in the agreement and two years of preferred service agreement coverage beginning at the end of the applicable warranty period.

Contract Amount: The total contract amount is $5,186,011. The quoted list price total is $11,745,479, less total discounts of $6,559,468, resulting in a discounted grand total of $5,186,011. Taxes and tariffs are not included.

Funding Source for Contract: Funding will be provided by MSU through sources available to the Institute for Imaging and Analytical Technologies through a US Department of

Education Grant. MSU has confirmed that the agreement is in compliance with the terms of these funding sources and is otherwise legally permissible.

Termination Options: Orders in process may be canceled only with FEI Company's written consent and upon payment of applicable cancellation charges as set forth in the agreement. The preferred service agreement provisions include termination rights as stated in the service terms and conditions.

Contractor Selection Process: The Institute for Imaging and Analytical Technologies identified the need for specialized advanced microscopy instrumentation and selected FEI Company, part of Thermo Fisher Scientific, as the provider of the proposed bundled solution. The quotation identifies FEI Company as the contracting entity and includes the Spectra 200 and Helios 5 Hydra CX systems, related accessories, installation, training, warranty, and service coverage. The quoted package reflects a significant discount from list pricing and includes terms negotiated for MSU's acquisition of the equipment.

MSU will not execute the agreement until all required approvals are received. The quotation is valid through October 30, 2026, and the proposed payment structure requires shipment-based invoicing and acceptance-based final payment.

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. UMMC– REQUEST TO ENTER INTO A SECONDARY VENDOR AGREEMENT WITH CARDINAL HEALTH 110, LLC AND CARDINAL HEALTH 112, LLC

Agenda Item Request: The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) requests approval to enter a new Secondary Vendor Agreement with **Cardinal Health 110, LLC and Cardinal Health 112, LLC** (Cardinal Health) for secondary wholesale pharmacy distribution services. Additionally, UMMC requests permission to amend the agreement to add or remove delivery locations under the agreement without seeking prior Board approval as long as adequate funds are available.

Contractor's Legal Name: Cardinal Health 110, LLC and Cardinal Health 112, LLC

History of Contract: UMMC and Cardinal Health first entered into a Secondary Vendor Agreement effective July 1, 2023, for Cardinal Health to provide secondary wholesale pharmacy distribution services to supplement UMMC's primary wholesale pharmacy distribution services agreement with Morris and Dickson, LLC. The current contract is set to expire on October 31, 2026, and this new agreement between the parties will ensure UMMC has the secondary vendor agreement needed for maintaining pharmacy distribution services at UMMC facilities through June 30, 2030.

Specific Type of Contract: This is a new Secondary Vendor Agreement.

Purpose: The purpose of the agreement is to provide for secondary pharmaceutical wholesale distribution services. Such distributors are essential to providers in that they supply drugs at discounted rates (wholesale), ensure a constant supply of pharmaceutical products that are not achieved through the primary wholesaler, and eliminate the need for providers to warehouse large quantities of pharmaceutical products.

Scope of Work: Under the agreement as a secondary wholesaler, Cardinal Health will:

- warehouse pharmaceuticals as necessary; specifically, those with access challenges
- provide for the addition of drugs to its inventory as needed or required by UMMC;
- provide deliveries on a schedule that meets UMMC's needs;
- provide a method for electronic ordering and payment; and
- provide reports to UMMC that will assist UMMC in analyzing and adjusting, as necessary, its pharmaceutical purchases.

Term of Contract: The term of the agreement is three (3) years and eight (8) months, from November 1, 2026, through June 30, 2030.

Termination Options: The termination options include the following:

- by either party, upon a material breach of the other party and a sixty (60) day cure period;
- by Cardinal Health immediately upon providing notice to UMMC, upon UMMC's payment default or credit considerations deemed relevant to Cardinal Health;
- by either party, upon thirty (30) days' written notice to the other party with or without cause; and
- by Cardinal Health immediately, upon UMMC's breach of the own use limitation;

Contract Amount: The total estimated cost over the three (3) year and eight (8) month term is $10,000,000. The estimated cost is based on historical utilization in drug costs based upon the previous agreement along with anticipated forecasts for national supply challenges.

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

Contractor Selection Process: Cardinal Health is an approved vendor contracted with Vizient, Inc., one of UMMC's group purchasing organizations (GPO) pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. 31-7-13(m)(x).

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
REAL ESTATE
OCTOBER 15, 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 OTHER REAL ESTATE REQUESTS

1. SYSTEM OFFICE – APPROVAL OF THE CAPITAL FACILITIES NEEDS REQEST – SYSTEM BOND PLAN FOR THE 2027 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Request: Board approval is requested for the capital facilities bond plan of proposed funding for the 2027 Legislative Session. Each university prepared a list of top five capital needs that was submitted to Board staff. The needs are reflected in the bond plan, and funding is proposed based on evaluation of these priorities in comparison to the overall system needs as well as the priority of needs established by the Gordian report.

The proposed bond plan is for the 2027 Legislative Session. The bond plan reflects the amount of funding received in the 2024 – 2026 Legislative Sessions. This is the final year of the 4-year bond plan established during the 2024-2027 time period.

IHL is seeking approval of the bond plan for the 2027 Session in accordance with Board Policy §903(B), Legislative Funding Requests, which requires the preparation and submittal of an annual request for capital improvements and repair and renovation for approval by the Board prior to its submission to the Legislature.

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
REGULAR AGENDA
LEGAL
OCTOBER 15, 2026

1. JSU – RETROACTIVE APPROVAL TO RENEW CONTRACT BUTLER SNOW LLP AS OUTSIDE COUNSEL

Jackson State University requests retroactive approval to renew a contract for professional legal services with Butler Snow, LLP to perform services necessary in the area of intellectual property matters, specifically in the area of patents, analysis of intellectual property, prosecution of patent applications, trademark registration applications, copyright registration applications, preparing and negotiating agreements, and other related intellectual property and commercialization issues. The term of the agreement is one year effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. The blended hourly rate for all attorneys is $380 and $145 for paralegal services. The maximum amount payable under the term of the agreement is $50,000. This firm carries professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of $5 million per claim with an annual aggregate of $5 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. UMMC – APPROVAL TO SETTLE TORT CLAIM

The University of Mississippi Medical Center requests Board approval for settlement of tort claim number 3560.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
FINANCE
October 15, 2026

1. UMMC-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES (ITS), AS A CONTRACTING AGENT FOR UMMC, ENTERED INTO AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH TOSHIBA AMERICA BUISNESS SOLUTIONS, INC.

Agenda Item Request: On August 20, 2026, ITS as the contracting agent for UMMC, entered into Amendment 3 under the current Lease Agreement with **Toshiba America**

Business Solutions, Inc. (Toshiba). Amendment 3 extends the term of the current Lease Agreement for an additional five (5) years, updates the total maximum cost under the agreement and revises the notice provision.

Contractor's Legal Name: Toshiba America Business Solutions, Inc.

Specific Type of Contract: This is an amendment to the current lease agreement.

Purpose: The purpose of Amendment 3 is to extend the term of the current lease agreement and update the total maximum cost under the agreement.

Scope of Work: Toshiba will provide the equipment and maintenance under the agreement.

Term of Contract: The term of Amendment 3 is for the period August 10, 2026 through August 9, 2031. The total lease term is fifteen (15) years and shall be August 10, 2016 through August 9, 2031.

Contract Amount: The total cost for Amendment 3 is $7,470,560.00. The total cost of the amended Lease Agreement will now be $20,376,947.30.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
REAL ESTATE
OCTOBER 15, 2026

SYSTEM: REAL ESTATE ITEMS APPROVED SUBSEQUENT TO THE SEPTEMBER 20, 2026, BOARD MEETING SUBMISSION DEADLINE

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

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

ALCORN STATE UNIVERSITY

1. ASU-IHL 201-067 SOCCER / TRACK FIELD RENOVATION

   Approval Request: Schematic Design Documents

   Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by Major Design Studio, PLLC.

   Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 15, 2026

2. ASU-IHL 201-278 J.D. BOYD LIBRARY RENOVATIONS

   Approval Request #1: Construction Documents

   Board staff approved Construction Documents as submitted by Waycaster-Dungan Architect & Engineers, PLLC.

   Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 11, 2026

   Approval Request #2: Advertise

   Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.

   Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 11, 2026

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

3. DSU-GS 102-258B SILLERS COLISEUM RENOVATION (PH II)

Approval Request: Change Order #1

Board staff approved Change Order #1 in the amount of $126,811.47 and sixty (60) additional days to the contract of Timbo's Construction, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 21, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #1 includes the following: a credit for the HVAC controls allowance, additional soffit in the Margaret Wade Room, demolition and replacement of ceilings in the Home Women's restroom and showers, providing and installation of lighting in the Home Women's restroom and showers, demolition of water piping in conflict with the proposed steel structure, installation of steel wall clips along the exterior wall and second level slab, and installation of code-compliant exhaust systems in the restrooms and showers.

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

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: One (1) change order for a total amount of $126,811.47.

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

4. DSU-GS 102-266B CAMPUS HVAC REPAIRS PHASE II

Approval Request: Change Order #3

Board staff approved Change Order #3 in the amount of $501,600.00 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of S.M. Lawrence Company, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 22, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #3 includes the following: converting existing campus DDC controllers to BACNet panels across multiple buildings on campus and upgrading the existing Insight Workstation database to new Desigo format for controls.

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

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Three (3) change orders for a total amount of $969,585.60.

Project Initiation Date: January 19, 2023
Design Professional: Engineering Resource Group, Inc.
General Contractor: S.M. Lawrence Company, Inc.
Total Project Budget: $2,900,000.00

5. DSU-GS 102-295 WARD HALL RENOVATION

Approval Request: Design Development Documents

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

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 21, 2026

JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

6. JSU-GS 103-319 MCALLISTER-WHITESIDE RESIDENCE HALL RENOVATIONS

Approval Request: Change Order #2

Board staff approved Change Order #2 in the amount of $261,322.72 and ninety (90) additional days to the contract of Fountain Construction Co., Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 21, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #2 includes the following: revised drawings and work on the first floor, due to an unidentified 2' thick concrete mat foundation, including revised plumbing and wall partitions.

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

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Two (2) change orders for a total amount of $448,267.60.

Project Initiation Date: October 19, 2023

Design Professional: Foil Wyatt Architects & Planners, PLLC
General Contractor: Fountain Construction Co., Inc.
Phased Project Budget: $25,566,704.34
Total Project Budget: $27,602,500.63

7. JSU-GS 103-344 T.B. ELLIS INTERIOR RENOVATIONS

Approval Request: Change Order #2

Board staff approved Change Order #2 in the amount of $36,483.97 and nineteen (19) additional days to the contract of Alliant Construction.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 21, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #2 includes the following: additional asbestos abatement not previously identified and re-insulation of existing piping following abatement, and additional fire alarm devices, conduit, wiring, supports, and anchors to complete the fire alarm system.

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

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Two (2) change orders for a total amount of $145,941.62.

Project Initiation Date: November 20, 2025
Design Professional: EGH Architects, P.A.
General Contractor: Alliant Construction
Total Project Budget: $3,000,000.00

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

8. MSU-IHL 205-320C PATTERSON ENGINEERING IDEE LAB PHASE III

Approval Request #1: Construction Documents

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

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 10, 2026

Approval Request #2: Advertise

Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 10, 2026

9. MSU-IHL 205-337A ULYSSES S. GRANT PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY (SITE CLEARING PACKAGE)

Approval Request: Award of Construction Contract

Board staff approved the Award of Contract in the amount of $224,425.00 to the apparent low bidder, Byrum Construction, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 10, 2026

Project Initiation Date: April 20, 2023
Design Professional: M.P. Design Group & Mathes Brierre, a Joint Venture
CMA: Innovative Construction Management, LLC
General Contractor: Byrum Construction, Inc.
Phased Project Budget: $400,000.00
Total Project Budget: $26,000,000.00

10. MSU – IHL 205-337 ULYSSES S. GRANT PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

Approval Request: Appointment of Commissioning Agent

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

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 3, 2026

Project Initiation Date: April 20, 2023
Design Professional: MP Design Group + Mathes Brierre Architects, a Joint Venture
General Contractor: TBD
Total Project Budget: $26,000,000.00

11. MSU-IHL 413-003 DORMAN HALL RENOVATIONS, PHASE I

Approval Request: Change Order #5

Board staff approved Change Order #5 in the *credit* amount of $19,333.02 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Codaray Construction, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 3, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #5 includes the following: the addition of 6/10 stone for the parking lot, family restroom/stairwell walls, basement ductwork changes, repairs to damaged floor basement, demolition of existing wood framing and insulation, fire alarm and power to duct detectors and fire/smoke dampers, a credit for the elimination of asphalt, a credit for removing the remaining rubber base from floors 1-4, a credit for MSU utilities allowance, and a credit for elevator recertification.

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

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Five (5) change orders for a total amount of $1,758,196.91.

Project Initiation Date: October 25, 2022
Design Professional: JH&H Architects Planners Interiors, P.A.
General Contractor: Codaray Construction, LLC
Phased Project Budget: $27,735,009.82
Total Project Budget: $44,141,362.00

MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN

12. MUW – GS 104-223 BOILER REPLACEMENT

Approval Request: Schematic Design Documents

Board staff approved the Schematic Design Documents as submitted by Dewberry Engineers, Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 10, 2026

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

13. UM – IHL 207-490.1A RMP – COULTER HALL LAB RENOVATIONS

Approval Request: Schematic Design Documents

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

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 21, 2026

14. UM – IHL 207-468.1B ART, THEATRE & FILM DEPARTMENTS (MUSIC HALL)

Approval Request: Design Development Documents

Board staff approved the Design Development Documents as submitted by EGH Architects, P.A.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 11, 2026

15. UM-IHL 207-489 OLE MISS GOLF COMPLEX

Approval Request #1: Construction Documents

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

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 11, 2026

Approval Request #2: Advertise

Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 11, 2026

16. UM-IHL 207-525.3 UNIVERSITY BUILDING DEMOLITION & NEW PARKING (JAC MALL PARCEL 2 DEMO)

Approval Request #1: Construction Documents

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

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 24, 2026

Approval Request #2: Advertise

Board staff approved request to advertise for receipt of bids.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 24, 2026

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

Approval Request: Change Order #4

Board staff approved Change Order #4 in the amount of $3,863,248.21 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Innovative Construction Management, LLC.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 11, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #4 includes the following: revising the retreat room doors, adding wall protection, and complete infill of the 2nd floor, west alley, north stair MEP, and interior finishes. The Board approved a budget increase at its January 2026 meeting for the purposes of the 2nd floor infill and build-out.

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

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Four (4) change orders for a total amount of $6,711,900.58.

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

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER

18. UMMC-IHL 209-580C RENOVATION FOR ADOLESCENT PSYCH

Approval Request: Change Order #3

Board staff approved Change Order #3 in the *credit* amount of $150,391.70 and zero (0) additional days to the contract of Fountain Construction Co., Inc.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 18, 2026

Change Order Description: Change Order #3 includes the following: reconciliation of project allowances, including access controls, HVAC controls, surveillance system, signage, and window treatments.

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

Total Project Change Orders and Amount: Three (3) change orders for a total amount of $41,558.09.

Project Initiation Date: August 18, 2022
Design Professional: JH&H Architects Planners Interiors, P.A.
General Contractor: Fountain Construction Co., Inc.
Phased Project Budget: $5,604,789.02
Total Project Budget: $10,500,000.00

19. UMMC – IHL 209-592 SWITCHGEAR REPLACEMENT

Approval Request: Initiation and Appointment of Design Professional

Board staff approved Initiation of the Switchgear Replacement and appointment of The Power Source, PLLC as the design professional.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 18, 2026

Project Initiation Date: September 18, 2026
Design Professional: The Power Source, PLLC
General Contractor: TBD
Total Project Budget: $3,921,310.00

20. UMMC – IHL 209-593 NEW CHILLER 16

Approval Request: Initiation and Appointment of Design Professional

Board staff approved Initiation of the New Chiller 16 and appointment of Engineering Resource Group, Inc. as the design professional.

Approval Status & Date: Approved, September 17, 2026

Project Initiation Date: September 17, 2026
Design Professional: Engineering Resource Group, Inc.
General Contractor: TBD
Total Project Budget: $3,205,912.00

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

21. USM – IHL 208-397 ARTS DISTRICT PATHWAY (MDOT)

Unapproval Request: Schematic Design Documents

Board staff DID NOT approve the Schematic Design Documents, and waiving of Design Development Documents, as submitted by Neel-Schaffer, Inc.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
LEGAL
OCTOBER 15, 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 Phelps Dunbar, LLP (statement dated 8/27/26) from the funds of the IHL System Office. (This statement, in the amount of $3,091.75, represents services and expenses in connection with an immigration/labor certification matter.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 3,091.75

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Brunini, Grantham, Grower and Hewes, PLLC (statement dated 9/16/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of $775.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 775.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 9/18/26 and 9/18/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amount of $3,322.00 and $52,410.75, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 55,732.75

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statement dated 8/12/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of $715.00, represents services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 715.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Brunini, Grantham, Grower & Hewes, PLLC (statement dated 9/18/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of $1,737.50, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 1,737.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 9/14/26, 9/14/26, 9/18/26 and 9/18/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $20,148.00, $2,263.00, $2,939.50 and $4,526.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 29,876.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Kaplan Kirsch (statement dated 9/14/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of $4,789.50, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 4,789.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Lightfoot Franklin White, LLC (statement dated 9/15/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of $3,604.50, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 3,604.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mayo Mallette, PLLC (statement dated 9/10/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (This statement, in the amount of $1,050.00, represents services and expenses in connection with general legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 1,050.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 8/17/26, 8/28/26, 8/28/26, 8/28/26 ad 9/1/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $2,650.00, $533.00, $531.00, $539.00 and $8,150.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 12,403.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Starnes Davis Florie, LLP (statement dated 9/17/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $7,490.70, represent services and expenses in connection with legal advice.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 7,490.70

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Ware|Immigration (statements dated 9/18/26 and 9/18/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $200.00 and $200.00, represent services and expenses in connection with immigration/labor certification matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 400.00

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 dated5/21/26, 6/23/26, 7/30/26, 7/20/26 and 8/26/26) from the funds of Jackson State University. (These statements, in the amounts of $70.00, $538.00, $438.00, $1,022.00 and $2,390.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 4,458.50

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, LLP (statements dated 8/21/26, 9/21/26, 9/9/26 and 9/9/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of $383.00, $28.00, $293.50 and $248.50, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 943.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mendelsohn Dunleavy, P.C. (statement dated 9/15/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (This statement, in the amount of $747.00, represents services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 747.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Stites & Harbison, PLLC (statements dated 8/26/26, 8/26/26 and 8/26/26) from the funds of Mississippi State University. (These statements, in the amounts of $711.00, $830.00 and $875.00, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 2,416.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 8/26/26, 8/26/26, 8/26/26 and 8/26/26) from the funds of the University of Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $623.00, $140.00, $70.00 and $70.00, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……$ 903.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Butler|Snow (statements dated 8/24/26, 8/24/26 and 8/26/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $190.00, $143.00 and $431.00, respectively, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 764.00

Payment of legal fees for professional services rendered by Mendelsohn Dunleavy, P.C. (statements dated 8/7/26, 8/7/26, 8/7/26 and 8/7/26) from the funds of the University of Southern Mississippi. (These statements, in the amounts of $280.00, $140.00, $4,300.00 and $887.00, represent services and expenses in connection with patents or intellectual property matters.)

TOTAL DUE……..……..……$ 5,607.00

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
INFORMATION AGENDA
ADMINISTRATION/POLICY
October 15, 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. MSU – On September 23, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and RMR Investment Company, LLC for a space located at 101 G.T. Thamses Drive, Suite E, Starkville, MS for a Resource and Referral Center operated by the University in accordance with the terms of a grant awarded the University by the Mississippi Department of Human Services. The term of the lease is three years effective March 1, 2027 through February 28, 2030. The total cost of the agreement is $66,562.56 payable in monthly installments of $1,848.96 each. The IHL Associate Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Risk Management reviewed this item and found it compliant with Board Policy 707.01 Land, Property, and Service Contracts. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.

b. MSU – On September 23, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Lease Agreement between Mississippi State University and RMR Investment Company, LLC for space located at 101 G.T. Thamses Drive, Suite D, Starkville, MS for a Resource and Referral Center operated by the University in accordance with the terms of a grant awarded the University by the Mississippi Department of Human Services. The term of the lease is three years and one month effective January 1, 2027 through February 28, 2030. The total cost of the agreement is $68,411.52 payable in monthly installments of $1,848.96 each. The IHL Associate Commissioner for Legal Affairs and Risk Management reviewed this item and found it compliant with Board Policy 707.01 Land, Property, and Service Contracts. A copy of the document is on file in the IHL Board Office.

c. MUW – On September 23, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Facilities Lease Agreement between the Mississippi University for Women and Columbus Christian Academy for the University's use of CCA's baseball field for the fall and spring semesters. The term of the lease is September 21, 2026, through June 30, 2027, at a total cost of $5,000 which will be invoiced upon execution of the agreement and is due within 45 days of receipt of the invoice. 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.

d. USM – On September 25, 2026, Commissioner Alfred Rankins, Jr. approved the Sublease Agreement between the University of Southern Mississippi and Liberty Alliance for approximately 4,605 square feet of space in the USM Roger F. Wicker Center for Ocean Enterprise at Port of Gulfport. The term of the sublease is approximately three months at a rate of $22,644.20 per month. There is a long-term sublease for a larger portion of this space on the Board's agenda for approval in October. The purpose of the short-term sublease is to allow the subtenant to move into a portion of the space and once the longer-term sublease is Board approved and the tenant is ready to take occupancy of the additional space, the sublease will terminate in alignment with the effective date of the Board-approved longer-term sublease. 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
OCTOBER 15, 2026

PERSONNEL ACTION REPORT

1. Sabbatical

Mississippi State University
FROM: Henk F. Arnoldus; Professor of Physics & Astronomy; *from* salary of $105,495.00 per annum, pro rata; E&G Funds; 9-month contract; *to* salary of $52,747.50 for sabbatical period; E&G Funds; effective August 16, 2026, to December 31, 2026; professional development
[*Originally approved by IHL Board March 19, 2026]*
CORRECTED: This item was rescinded.