

## Highlights from Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2026, Board of Trustees meeting



Toni Brown swears in new Board of Trustees member Emilee Collins of Pickett Sprouse Commercial Real Estate at the Feb. 10 meeting. She was appointed by the Orange County Board of Commissioners to fill the remainder of the term vacated by Janet Hadar.

### Consent Agenda and Action Items

#### Consent agenda

The Board unanimously approved:

- the budget report
- cycle fees for curriculum and continuing education for fiscal year 2026-27
- off-cycle fees for continuing education and curriculum for fiscal year 2025-26

#### Board actions

The Board unanimously approved the following actions:

- 3-1 Health Sciences amendment

- 3-1 Orange County Campus addition
- Candidates for 2026 Honorary Degrees:
  - Commencement Speaker/ Student Honorary Degree Parsa Zareiesfandabadi,
  - Retiree Mary Anne Grabarek
  - Community Partner Steve Farmer, former vice provost for Enrollment and Undergraduate Admissions at UNC–Chapel Hill who spearheaded the creation of the C-STEP program.
- Building 9 architectural partners recommendation



### President's Report

President Buxton provided an updated timeline on the College's Affordable Housing development. Following execution of the purchase agreement, site clearing has begun at 902 S. Briggs Ave.

President Buxton also announced that the College has been selected by Achieving the Dream to participate in the Digital Holistic Student Supports initiative, which is currently underway.

### Informational

The following joined the Trustees for a panel discussion on economic and workforce development priorities for Durham and Orange counties (pictured, from left):

- Steve Brantley, Orange County economic development director
  - Aaron Nelson, president and CEO for the Chamber for a Greater Chapel Hill-Carrboro
  - Joshua Gunn, Durham Office of Economic and Workforce Development director
  - Andy Miracle, Durham County economic development director
  - Trustee Matt Gladdek, vice president of economic development for the Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce.
- Each panelist provided informative



responses to prompts regarding key drivers of the region's economy, as well as opportunities and challenges. They also shared perspectives on priorities to continue and new areas of focus. This

input will inform ongoing discussions among the Trustees, the College's Strategic Plan Core Team, and the Task Force as they review data related to the plan.