

**Special Committee on the College of Law  
Committee Minutes  
June 2, 2021**

The Special Committee on the College of Law met June 2, 2021. The following committee members were present and established a quorum: Belvin Perry and Kristin Harper.

Trustee Perry asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 4, 2021 and April 16, 2021 meeting minutes. Trustee Harper moved approval. The motion was seconded by Trustee Perry and passed with a unanimous vote.

Next, Trustee Perry recognized Dean Keller for an update regarding the licensure passage rate improvement plan. She said that the incoming LSAT score is 147, up two points from last year. The College is also on target to reach or exceed its undergraduate GPA goal of 3.3. The goal is to have an incoming cohort of 130 students. Currently they have received seat deposits from 86 student. The cohort remains diverse, with 50% African American, 19% Caucasian and 26% Hispanic.

Chair Lawson inquired about measures the College is taking to keep the students who perform better from transferring to other Universities. Dean Keller stated that the College was given \$1M, which is being used as retention scholarships for the top 20 scholars during their second year of law school. She stated that when students enter law school they keep their scholarship for the full three years, if they maintain their GPA. Trustee Perry stated that the University will need to put more money into the law school. Dean Keller stated that she will provide the dollar figure needed for student financial support.

Dean Keller indicated that in 2020, 52% of the students acquired bar passage required jobs. This was nearly 10% higher than the previous year. She said that the College works with the career center on the main campus, as well as the one at the College.

The College of Law's consultant Barry Currier shared information regarding increasing the bar passage rate. He stated that the obstacles the College faces includes:

- Financial aid
- Not providing scholarships for the entire three years of law school
- Students that transfer from the College after the first year. Note that the College had more transfers than any other HBCU or SUS law school.

Mr. Currier shared that students transfer to other schools because of better job opportunities, funds, reputation of school and location.

He suggested that the College consider using the *Law School Survey of Student Engagement* (LSSSE) which would provide a formulated survey of student attitudes about their engagement in law school. It is used by many law schools. The company

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that provides this survey has staff that work with faculty to deconstruct the results of the survey and increase student engagement.

Trustee Perry then summarized the take-aways from the meeting, as the need to work on:

- Scholarships
- Reputation and
- Placement

There being no further business for the Committee, the meeting adjourned.