Board of Trustees Minutes, July 7, 1995

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Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order, and Mr. Brown offered the invocation.

The following were introduced to the Board: Col. William J. Baxley (Interim Vice President for Institutional Advancement), Dr. Valgene Dunham (Dean, School of Natural & Applied Sciences), Ms. Chyrel Stalvey (staff member in the Office of the President), and Mr. James Dukes (President of Coastal Carolina University’s Student Government Association).

I. Roll Call

All members of the Board were in attendance.

II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Keith Smith made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 7, 1995 Board of Trustees meeting and Mr. Hudson seconded. The motion carried.

III. Report by Ed Yarborough and Mike Ey - McNair & Sanford, P.A.

Mr. Yarborough reported that he and Mr. Ey have experienced two very active years serving as Coastal’s legislative liaisons. There is a real role for the Board of Trustees in the State
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House, particularly in dealing with projects and funding at Coastal and in funding for higher education and other matters of restructuring. McNair & Sanford’s primary goal is to help Coastal build a relationship with the legislature beginning with the local delegation which, in his opinion, has been very supportive of Coastal. They will continue to branch out in other areas of the state to develop relationships, particularly in the House and Senate.

Mike Ey reported that early in the year money became a primary issue in the legislature. The House reduced higher education funding while the Senate increased funding. Overall it ended well with higher education receiving about ten million dollars more than in the year just ended.

He reported that Coastal has two items included in the Supplemental Appropriations Bill: $600,000 for A&E monies for the humanities building and $250,000 for the comprehensive community fitness center. The status of the funding will be known towards the end of August. A great deal of credit for this funding goes to Representatives Mark Kelley and Bobby Harrell and Speaker Wilkins.

The General Assembly faced other major issues this year for higher education.

1) The 3.5 percent pay increase created problems as the General Assembly only provided monies for positions funded out of the general fund of the state. Coastal will have to come up with the remainder.

2) Higher education restructuring reduced the size of the Commission from 18 to 14 members.

3) The General Assembly passed legislation to keep open the Barnwell facilities. Approximately $130-140 million will be generated with thirty percent of those funds dedicated and placed in a special account to be used for tuition assistance at public institutions. This program will not actually come into effect until the 1996-97 year.

Representative Bill Witherspoon introduced legislation to eliminate tenure. The subcommittee in the House met a few times but adjourned without action.

Mr. Oran Smith asked about the possibility of getting a member of Coastal’s Board of Trustees on the new State Commission on Higher Education Board representing the four-year colleges. Chairman Johnson requested that McNair and Sanford submit a course of action to make this happen.

IV. Standing Committee Reports

Executive Committee

No report.

Academic Affairs Committee

A motion was made by Mr. Parker to officially recognize Dr. Marshall Parker as Emeritus Professor and seconded by Mr. Hudson. The motion carried.
Mr. DuBard reported that a great portion of the July 6 meeting was directed towards the hiring of a new Vice President for Institutional Advancement. Dr. Ingle stated that we are very fortunate to have Col. Baxley, a long-time member of Coastal's staff and one-time head of Institutional Advancement, who has agreed to return on a part-time basis to head this department. In addition to continuing the office operation, Col. Baxley has been asked to assess the operation in the advancement area, particularly the relationship of that office to the Office of the President. Dr. Ingle will be directly involved in seeking out candidates for this position and has begun. He has already sought advice from national search firms, organizations, and colleagues. The screening process will most likely continue through the fall hoping to make an appointment early in the spring semester.

Mr. DuBard was pleased with the results of the final Giving Report for 1994-95 which overall was up 23 percent. The alumni annual fund was up 15 percent. It was noted that donations of friends and parents of the college had increased twofold from last year.

Mr. Burroughs made a motion to appoint Dr. R. Cathcart Smith as the first Trustee Emeritus of Coastal Carolina University as a result of his many years of service and dedication. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wall, and the motion carried.

Each Board member received a copy of the recently published Alumni Directory which identified about 6,000 alumni. The staff will continue to update the computer database.

Chairman Johnson reported that the Coastal Educational Foundation meets in July, and there is some discussion on turning Foundation lands over to the Board of Trustees. Mr. Burroughs added that the Foundation is in the process of changing their by-laws to reflect that Coastal Carolina University will be the soul entity of fund-raising efforts.

Planning and Fiscal Affairs Committee

Chairman Johnson noted that there were ten Board of Trustees members present at the committee meeting yesterday.

Mr. Keith Smith made a motion to: 1) increase in-state student tuition $45 per semester to total $1,400 per semester; 2) increase out-of-state student tuition $235 per semester to total $3,735 per semester; and, 3) implement an assessment of laboratory fees for those courses which have special and unique costs for instructional supplies and expenses directly associated with the course, the fees generally to be $20 per course but not to exceed $75 total per semester. The motion was seconded by Ms. Marks. The motion carried with Clark Parker voting nay.

Dr. Horner stated the preliminary figures indicate that Coastal operated in the black for the 1994-95 fiscal year. It appears that there will be a $200,000 surplus.

Mr. Anderson stated concern over raising tuition with a $200,000 surplus. Mr. Keith Smith clarified that the $200,000 is not operational and is only one-half of a percent of the total budget. These monies will be used to make repairs on the dormitories.
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Dr. Ingle stated that even though tuition will be increased, we are still the lowest in the state for in-state students and approaching the higher one-third for out-of state students.

A motion was presented by Mr. Keith Smith to increase student housing fees by $40 per semester for a total of $1,360 per semester. Dr. Kane seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mr. Brown asked what the total out-of-pocket expenses per student per semester would be with these various increases. Dr. Ingle said for in-state students this means some students will have an increase of more than $200, if they have lab fees. All of these are within the guidelines of the legislature.

Mr. Wall made a motion that the budget for 1995-96 be approved with optional revenues and expenditures projected at $22,675,000. The administration will adjust revenues and/or expenditures as required, if conditions change, to ensure that the University maintains a positive current fund balance. The motion was seconded by Mr. Burroughs and the motion carried.

Ms. Harrell wanted to know the fall-back posture if the enrollment projections fall short. Dr. Ingle stated there are a couple of things already built in to this year’s tight budget. A vacancy lag of two months will be enforced for classified positions as well as a plan to bring faculty overloads under control. Being on our own computer system, has allowed us to react immediately whenever we see problems occurring.

Chairman Johnson inquired about the enrollment indicators for the Fall 1995 semester. Dr. Idoux stated they expect to have 850-900 new students which is a two to four percent increase in enrollment.

Mr. Lyles wanted to know how many student applicants were rejected. Dr. Horner stated 250 of the 1,500 applicants were rejected. Rejected applicants are counseled and sometimes referred to a technical school.

Mr. Wall asked what percentage of students will be on scholarship. Including both academic and athletic scholarships, Ms. Sizemore responded that 10 percent of the total student body and 13.62 percent for full-time students receives them. Approximately 70 percent of the total students receiving financial aid.

Chairman Johnson expressed appreciation to the committee and the administration for their hard work in preparing the budget and stated that everyone is frustrated with the present funding in the state.

A motion was presented by Mr. Keith Smith to approve an expenditure up to $8,000 for cosmetic improvements in the President’s Office and surrounding area. The motion was seconded by Ms. Powers and carried.

Student Affairs Committee

Ms. Powers presented a formal motion by the Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees who, after careful review and due consideration of the University Administration’s
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Student Health Service Proposal, does both endorse the proposal as submitted and hereby move that the Board direct President Ronald R. Ingle to affix his signature to the agreement for medical services with Coastal Family Medicine, P.C. as submitted. Ms. Marks seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Hudson inquired what the procedure was for a student to go to the doctor. Ms. Powers stated they would first go to Ms. Loebs and, if necessary, would be referred to Coastal Family Medicine.

Mr. Hudson inquired about malpractice insurance for Ms. Loebs and extended his service to examine Coastal’s liability. Dr. Squatriglia confirmed that Ms. Loebs, as a university employee, is covered by the Insurance Reserve Fund under her "scope of employment." As an independent contractor, Coastal Family Medicine, P.C. must show evidence of insurance prior to an agreement being put into effect.

The results of a survey given to graduating seniors was included in Board meeting folders.

V. President’s Report

Dr. Ingle stated it has been a successful and exciting year at Coastal. He stated that he did have some concerns regarding our retention statistics and feels we need to do a better job of interacting and listening to our students. The area of enrollment management has been revamped in order to be more in tune to the students’ needs and wants. By targeting the students during orientation this summer, we have received more positive comments and letters than any time since coming to this institution. Dr. Ingle wants Coastal to stand for the dignity of the individual, whether it be student, faculty or staff.

He has been elected President of the Council of College Presidents. It is very important that higher education make its case to the decision-makers and to the public. Dr. Ingle referred the Board to a copy of the bill to restructure higher education. He feels that the study committee is getting hung up on details and mechanisms rather than the future of higher education. Early in August the Executive Committee of the Council of College Presidents will meet to list the items this study committee should address. He is concerned that the course for higher education cannot be charted by February. An indepth study needs to be undertaken, and it cannot be done in a matter of three to four months. He solicited the Board for suggestions and items that should be addressed.

Dr. Ingle is very optimistic that funding for the A&E of the humanities building will be forthcoming in the Supplemental Appropriations Bill. He is cautiously optimistic that the money for the comprehensive community fitness facility (track) will be there.

Members of the Horry County Higher Education Commission, as well as Coastal’s athletic director and head coaches, met with Horry County Council to discuss building a multi-purpose conference facility in an area adjacent to campus. The facility will seat up to 6,200 at an approximate cost of six to eight million dollars. The Council voted 11-0 in support of the facility; however, this was in principle only. Others endorsing the facility are the Myrtle Beach Convention Center and the Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce. The School of Business is conducting economic feasibility studies. Dr. Ingle voiced concern that they may not be enough monies generated from revenue bonds to finance the facility. Next week Dr. Pete
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Barr, Mr. Andy Hendrick and Mr. Stan Godshall will be going to look at the Charlotte Hornet practice facility as a possible model.

Contractors are scheduled to begin work on July 17 to lower the domed ceiling in the Board Room to correct the acoustical problems and should be completed by the end of August.

Ms. Davis is now working with Pat Sizemore as Administrative Assistant in Enrollment Management. The administrative support for the Board has been brought into the Office of the President. Ms. Hutchinson and Ms. Stalvey will address the needs and questions of the Board.

Each Board member received the Drayton Hall video which was produced by Coastal Carolina in conjunction with Drayton Hall and will be viewed on educational television.

He referred to the article on the "Educational Alliance of Horry County" which is a collaborative partnership between the Horry County Schools and Coastal Carolina University that brings together, through a unique organizational structure, the personal, physical, financial and intellectual resources to meet common goals shared by both institutions.

As a matter of interest, Dr. Ingle wanted the Board to have a copy of John O'Hanlan’s letter commenting on his Coastal experience and the faculty.

Everyone received a copy of the June 30, 1995 newspaper article from The State, "Committee Named to Oversee Review of College System" identifying the 12-member committee on higher education. Some of the committee members are already familiar with Coastal. Mr. Buck Mickel received an honorary degree from Coastal. Mr. Austin Gilbert of Florence has been on the campus and worked with Dr. Ingle on the Quality Funding for Higher Education Proposal.

Dr. Ingle made mention of the report on the "Fall 1994 Migration of Transfer Students" which is included in the folder for members to review.

Mr. James Dukes, President of the Student Government Association at Coastal, was asked why he chose to attend Coastal. He responded that it was close to home, affordable, and was his first choice. Dr. Ingle feels Mr. James Dukes will provide tremendous leadership to Coastal, and he is actively involved in student government at a state level as well.

VI. Chairman’s Report

Chairman Johnson stated that it has been two years since the Board’s initial retreat and feels it is time for another one. He suggested inviting E. K. Fretwell as a possible consultant.

Chairman Johnson suggested evaluating the dates of the quarterly meetings of the Board which may necessitate changes in the by-laws.

VII. Unfinished Business

Nothing to report.
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VIII. New Business

Chairman Johnson asked Ms. Harrell if she would be willing to represent Coastal, if asked, on the new Commission for Higher Education. Ms. Harrell stated she would be honored. She stated that Governor Beasley is very in-tune to what is happening in our area of the state and felt he would be receptive to have someone from Coastal’s Board serve on this commission. Chairman Johnson stated it is now up to the Board to support her and make contacts to influence this process.

Ms. Powers made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss some personnel matters. Mr. Lyles seconded and the motion carried.

IX. Executive Session

No action taken.

X. Nominating Committee Report

Dr. Kane reported the committee had solicited recommendations for next year’s officers. Prior to the meeting each of those recommended were called to see if they would be willing to serve.

Dr. Kane made a motion that the Coastal Carolina University Board of Trustees elect as the slate of officers for 1995-96: Mr. Fred F. DuBard, Jr., Chairman; Ms. Elaine W. Marks, Vice Chairman; and, Mr. H. Franklin Burroughs, Secretary. Mr. Wall seconded.

A discussion followed on the correct procedure to accept nominations from the floor. Mr. Burroughs stated that under the Freedom of Information Act there could not be a secret ballot.

Dr. Kane made a motion to vote by ballot. Ms. Powers seconded. After discussion Dr. Kane moved to withdraw the motion to vote by ballot and Mr. Burroughs seconded. The motion carried.

Dr. Kane made a motion that the Coastal Carolina University Board of Trustees elect as the slate of officers for 1995-96: Mr. Fred F. DuBard, Jr., Chairman; Ms. Elaine W. Marks, Vice Chairman; and, Mr. H. Franklin Burroughs, Secretary. Ms. Powers seconded.

Chairman Johnson then opened the floor for nominations.

Ms. Harvin moved that the nominations be closed and that the slate of officers recommended by the Nominating Committee be elected by acclamation. Dr. Kane seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Brown thanked Chairman Johnson for the fantastic job he had done. He was fair and listened to everyone.

Chairman Johnson stated it was a honor to serve as Chairman of Coastal Carolina University’s Board of Trustees. The first two years were a period of transition. He is pleased with the
university's position within the state and expressed appreciation for the leadership and cooperation that existed within the Board.

As the newly elected Chair, Mr. DuBard expressed his appreciation of the Board's confidence in his ability to fulfill the office. He stated he would be relying on Mr. Johnson for a lot of help and looks forward to everyone working together.

Mr. Anderson asked that the Board be kept abreast of specific news items that may affect them with regard to the University.

Mr. Oran Smith suggested that Chairman Johnson receive a framed reproduction of the atheneum as appreciation for a job well done.

The meeting adjourned at noon.

Respectfully submitted,

H. Franklin Burroughs
Secretary