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Board of Trustees Minutes, January 14, 2005

Coastal Carolina University

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Minutes
Coastal Carolina University
Board of Trustees
E. Craig Wall, Sr. College of Business Administration Building, Board Room
January 14, 2005, 9:00 a.m.

Presiding: Mr. Fred F. DuBard, Jr.

Board Members Present:
Mr. Robert D. Brown
Mr. Joseph L. Carter
Mr. Samuel H. Frink
Ms. Cathy Brand Harvin
Mr. Charles J. Hodge
Dr. James F. Kane
Mr. William L. Lyles, Jr.
Mr. Daniel W. R. Moore, Sr.
Mr. Robert L. Rabon
Mr. Keith S. Smith
Dr. Oran P. Smith
Mr. Eugene C. Spivey
Dr. Samuel J. Swad

Others Present:
Dr. Ronald R. Ingle
Dr. Peter B. Barr
Mr. Doug Bell
Mr. David A. Bredekamp
Dr. Teresa E. Burns
Dr. Janis W. Chesson
Ms. Debbie Conner
Dr. David A. DeCenzo
Dr. Edgar L. Dyer
Dr. David W. Evans
Mr. Stanyarne R. Godshall
Mr. Glenn S. Hanson
Dr. Sally M. Horner
Mr. Warren D. Koegel
Dr. Varavut Limpasuvan
Ms. Linda P. Lyerly
Dr. Douglas D. Nelson
Mr. Danny Nicholson
Dr. Judy W. Vogt
Dr. Richard N. Weldon
Dr. Lynn Willett
Ms. Nila S. Hutchinson
Ms. V. Chyrel Stalvey

(In accordance with the requirements of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, the news media were notified of the time, location, and agenda for the meeting. Ms. Tonya Root of The Sun News was in attendance.)

I. Call to Order

Chairman DuBard called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Dr. Oran Smith offered an invocation.

Roll call was taken.
Dr. Dyer reported that due to health concerns, Chairman John Dawsey has resigned from the Horry County Higher Education Commission. He has been a wonderful advocate for Coastal Carolina University and will be sorely missed. The current major business of the Commission will be the election of a new slate of officers.

Mr. Bill Marsh, president of the Coastal Educational Foundation, could not be in attendance and Mr. Stan Godshall was asked to give a brief report on the Foundation. A lease has been secured for the Coastal Science Center (formerly AMS Building) after a long, arduous process. Efforts continue to provide the necessary legal and scientific instrumentation for the Center for Marine and Wetland Studies’ environmental research and education facility at Waites Island. The Foundation is in the process of trying to secure additional space across Highway 501 for expanding academic programs. An orientation program will be held for the new members of the Foundation on January 24, and the next full Foundation meeting is scheduled for January 25.

II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Spivey moved to approve the minutes of October 22, 2004, and Mr. Moore seconded. The motion passed.

III. President’s Report

Dr. Ingle reminded everyone of the Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce and Coastal Carolina University joint General Assembly reception in Columbia on January 18, from 6-9 p.m. at the Clarion Town House. The University is appreciative that one of the Chamber’s 2005 legislative agenda items is to increase support for Coastal Carolina from the General Assembly. Ms. Conner asked the trustees who were coming to the event to attend a briefing by Mr. Mark Kelley prior to the reception at 5:45 p.m. The theme of the evening will be “Discover the Hidden Treasures of South Carolina.” Coastal Carolina students will mingle with the attendees, and various student drum ensembles will entertain.

On January 17, Dr. Ingle will be speaking to the Columbia Rotary Club. He also has appointments with some of the General Assembly leadership prior to Tuesday evening’s event.

It appears that there will not be a bond bill this year. Most likely there will be one next year. However, there are so many demands that have built up over the years, and it is unlikely that any institution will get a sizable amount. In recognizing this, the Administration is working with Senator Lindsay Graham and his staff and Representative Henry Brown and his staff to identify sources for receiving some Federal funds to begin the new science building project. This will give leverage when approaching the General Assembly for additional funds to complete the project.

Today’s Sun News features several articles on Coastal Carolina, including the Campus Master Plan, fundraising, and Coach David Bennett. Copies of the paper were available for everyone. Everyone was invited to the press conference to be held today regarding Coach Bennett and the future of the football program at 1:00 p.m. in the Wall Auditorium.

In early January, a defective sprinkler pipe in the Brooks Stadium Hospitality Suite caused considerable damage. Dr. Weldon reported that the damage was covered by insurance and
repairs are underway. The carpet and the walls will be replaced. Within a couple of weeks, the repairs should be 90 percent completed. Fortunately, the electronic equipment was not damaged.

Dr. Vogt reported that Spring enrollment increased by 212 new students (34 freshman and 178 transfer students), a three percent increase from last year. The applicant pool for Fall 2005 is coming in strongly—nine percent ahead of applicants from last year—and acceptances are up 13 percent. The next step will be receiving deposits for the fall.

Dr. Ingle conveyed the impact faculty members have by telling of a letter he had received from the parent of a junior attending Coastal Carolina. His son had been an outstanding high school student majoring in the sciences. The family decided to come for a weekend visit to campus during which the young man spent considerable time with a faculty member from the College of Natural and Applied Sciences. Although the prospective student had the opportunity to attend Ivy League schools, he chose Coastal Carolina after this experience. The father believes that it was the best decision that his son could have made. The young man has become a very successful student and a campus leader. The faculty member made the difference in the young man’s decision to attend Coastal Carolina.

Dr. Vogt reported that a regional financial aid conference was hosted by Admissions last week with representatives from the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (SCCHE). About 35 high school guidance counselors from North Myrtle Beach to Charleston were in attendance. This week Leadership South Carolina met on campus with 40 leaders from across the state. In his keynote speech to them, Dr. Ingle addressed the issues of higher education.

On February 8, Coastal Carolina and Horry-Georgetown Technical School will co-host a financial aid night for parents from the surrounding counties on campus. The free seminar is designed to help prospective students and parents of college students understand the opportunities for financial aid.

It has been reported recently in the news that Pell Grant funding would be decreased. However, according to The Chronicle of Higher Education, President Bush will announce today that Pell Grant funding will be increased. It appears that more needy students will receive additional money, and parents in the top income tier from $38-40,000 may not be eligible in the future. Currently, Coastal Carolina has 33 students who would be affected with these changes.

By the end of the year, Dr. Ingle will prepare an accountability report for the Board of Trustees regarding benchmarks, i.e., percentage of students passing exit exams and retention rates. This summary will give an overview of what is being done well and the areas needing improvement. He asked for suggestions of items to include in the report.

IV. Standing Committee Reports

Executive Committee

Nothing to report.
Academic Affairs Committee

Dr. Oran Smith reported that the committee had met and reviewed the issues to be brought to the Board.

Drs. Teresa Burns and Varavut Limpasuvan from the Department of Chemistry and Physics were introduced. At yesterday’s committee meeting, Dr. Teresa Burns, interim Chair of the Department of Chemistry and Physics, had reviewed the advantages of having a degree in applied physics, which included:

- There is a demand in business and industry for literacy in science and technology.
- The environmental emphasis compliments the Marine Science Program.
- It supports the Clemson 3+2 engineering degree.
- The research required prepares students for jobs and/or graduate school.
- It will help to train future teachers in physics and the physical science.
- It will help to bring technology to the state.
- It will help bridge the gap between math and the natural and physical sciences.

At the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee, Dr. Oran Smith moved to approve the proposal to establish a Bachelor of Science degree in applied physics. Ms. Harvin seconded, and the motion passed.

A natural fit for Coastal Carolina, is a degree in resort and tourism management housed within the College of Business Administration. Currently, there is a concentration of resort and tourism within the college. Internships will take place throughout the region and involve beneficial research on the region. Coastal Carolina will partner with Horry-Georgetown Tech to teach one course in the hospitality section.

Dr. Kane asked how many resort tourism programs there are currently within the state. Programs are at the College of Charleston, the University of South Carolina, and Clemson. Dr. Ingle stated that there had been reluctance on the part of SCCHE several years ago to establish this degree because of the other three programs. As a consequence, a resort tourism concentration under management was initiated. We now have a stronger position due to student enrollment in the current management concentration and no additional faculty will be needed.

Dr. Smith made a motion, at the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee, to approve the proposal to establish a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree in resort tourism and management. Dr. Swad seconded, and the motion carried.

Dr. Swad noted that there are no additional costs to adding these two new major offerings.

A summary of the academic initiatives was included in the Board packets.

Dr. Smith reminded everyone of Coastal Carolina’s commitment to offer service learning or public engagement to students in an effort to decrease the school dropout in Horry County. Given this experience, a SCCHE task force has recommended that a service learning pilot program take place at Coastal Carolina prior to being used throughout the state.
Dr. Ingle added that Horry County is also piloting the Early College Laboratory School program for students with the potential for academic success and for dropping out. Major funding has been applied for through the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, as well as other major college foundations. Secretary of Education Dick Riley will serve as chair of the Advisory Board. Horry-Georgetown Tech, Horry County Schools and Coastal Carolina are involved in this program. The students will blend a high school experience at Horry-Georgetown Tech. Primarily, they will eventually become Tech students. It is hoped that the students will get into the mindset that education is necessary and possible.

The committee has two personnel items for Executive Session.

Development & Alumni Affairs Committee

Mr. Moore asked Mr. Nicholson to recap the meeting held yesterday.

Mr. Nicholson reported that the public phase of the 50th Anniversary Capital Campaign continues to move forward in good fashion. Currently, the campaign total is $11,421,608. In addition, University Advancement is about halfway to reaching this year’s office goal of $4.5 million.

An Advancement planning retreat has been scheduled for March 29-30. The Medical University of South Carolina’s vice president, Jim Fisher, has been invited to speak on “How to take University Advancement to the Next Level.” A Legacy Society pamphlet, “Your Legacy,” was distributed and trustees were encouraged to consider estate planning. Toni and Dan Moore will hold a prospect reception at their home in the spring. Ms. Robin Edwards held a successful reception in the fall. In an effort to bring all those who have created endowed scholarships to meet their scholarship recipients, a scholarship reception will be held on April 28th. Dr. Ingle is pleased that major donors are now identifying others to help with Coastal Carolina’s future.

Ms. Conner pointed out that an Alumni Relations Update handout was included in everyone’s packet and highlighted some of the items. Ms. Kathy Watts has joined Ms. Christi Chambers as a staff member. Over 1,000 alumni have gone on-line to update their records. Mailing lists and accurate records are a continual struggle. Everyone was asked to encourage alumni who have not received information from Coastal Carolina in a while to go to the Web site to update their information. University Advancement has a dedicated staff member to update the alumni database. Ms. Chambers is working with Advancement to update the alumni database for the upcoming Harris Publishing Directory that is published every five years. Harris Publishing will be instrumental in updating and finding other alumni. The Low Country Area Chapter in Charleston is very active and plans are underway to create other area chapters. Alumni events are being coordinated with athletic events. New reunions groups and a golf reunion are being planned.

Coastal Carolina’s Web site will soon have a link to the Advancement, Alumni, and Parent pages for on-line giving to the Annual Fund. Nationally, young alumni go to Web sites to make contributions with credit cards. This will be a strong move to continue to increase alumni participation.
Planning & Fiscal Affairs Committee

Mr. Keith Smith stated that a meeting was held yesterday, and there was an item for Executive Session. He noted that all the trustees should have already received a copy of the State Auditor's financial report.

Student Affairs Committee

Mr. Larry Lyles asked Dr. Willett to give a summary of the updates presented in the Student Affairs Committee yesterday. Her comments included:

- The appointment of Paula Drummond as Director of Residence Life.
- The continuation of the installation of state-of-the-art digital surveillance cameras on campus.
- The installation of new bus stop shelters at University Place, Atlantic Center, and on campus.
- The repaving of student parking lots.
- A list of fund-raising projects developed at the request of the Provost and University Advancement in looking towards the future goals.

Also at yesterday's meeting, Mr. Koegel presented the “Fifth-Year Athletically Related Financial Aid Report” for students who have exhausted their eligibility and are on track to graduate. Twenty students are currently in the program. Student-athletes receive the equivalent of out-of-state tuition for the fifth year, and they are given some sort of work detail—compiling sports statistics, game management, special events planning, and helping the academic department in counseling younger students.

Mr. Koegel reported that David Bennett was named Big South and Regional Coach of the Year for 1-AA. Seniors Boyzzz Khumalo and Mubarike Chisoni have both been extended an invitation to participate in major league soccer. Football player Josh Hoke was named to the 1-AA Academic All Star team, joining 33 other players in the nation to be distinguished as such.

Capital Projects Ad Hoc Committee

Mr. Moore referred to the report of on-going capital projects and a timeline that were included in everyone packets. The major projects before the Capital Projects Committee are: the potential lease for Quail Creek Golf Course, the use and parking agreement for the proposed arena, renovations for the Coastal Science Building and Kearns Hall, and the straightening of University Boulevard.

The committee has contractual matters to discuss in Executive Session.
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V. Chairman's Report

Chairman DuBard noted that the 2004 Per Diem Forms for income tax filing were in the Board packets, as well as an updated calendar. Everyone was reminded that the "Statement of Economic Interest" forms are due earlier this year than in the past years--February 4.

All trustees should have received a copy of the McNair Law Firm's proposed changes to the bylaws in the mail and were encouraged to review them prior to voting on them at the May Board meeting. Mr. Spivey reminded the Board of the discussion to change the elected term of the chairman from one to two years. As a 30-day notice is required for proposed changes prior to the Board taking action, the administration was asked to put this change in writing and send it to the Board for review.

VI. Unfinished Business

Nothing to report

VII. Executive Session

Mr. Spivey moved to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel and contractual matters and Mr. Moore seconded. Upon reconvening, Mr. DuBard stated that no action was taken during Executive Session.

VIII. New Business

At the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee, Dr. Oran Smith moved to ratify the conferring of professor emerita to Dr. Karen Dallis Carpenter. Ms. Harvin seconded, and the motion passed.

Also at the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee, Dr. Smith moved to hire Dr. Barbara J. Chesler as Associate Professor with tenure. Ms. Harvin seconded, and the motion carried.

Mr. Keith Smith, at the recommendation of the Planning and Fiscal Affairs Committee, made a motion for the Board of Trustees to authorize the University President to develop and implement bonus programs for University employees. Bonuses should be awarded in accordance with State regulations and the South Carolina Code of Laws. Further, any bonus plan developed by the administration should be reported to the Planning and Fiscal Affairs Committee as information before it is implemented. Mr. Rabon seconded, and the motion passed.

Mr. Moore stated that the Capital Projects Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees pass a resolution affirming its support for President Ingle to execute a lease agreement and a conservation easement for the Quail Creek Golf Course subject to approval of the South Carolina Budget and Control Board. Mr. Hodge seconded, and the motion carried.
Mr. Moore stated that the Capital Projects Committee continues to review the arena agreement. At this time, that is an on-going fluid negotiation. The Capital Project Committee, with the approval of the full Board of Trustees, strongly supports the arena project. We have been impressed by the efforts of the project investment group. If completed, the project should offer tremendous opportunities and benefits for the people of Horry County and Coastal Carolina University. Several contractual issues need to be worked out pertaining to this use agreement. We are continuing the negotiations and are confident that those issues can be resolved. The Board of Trustees and the Capital Projects Committee continues to support the project, and we look forward to working with all the relative parties involved in the arena.

IX. Adjournment

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel W. R. Moore, Sr.
Secretary