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Board of Trustees Minutes, January 13, 2006

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 13, 2006, 9:00 a.m.

Presiding: Mr. Charles J. Hodge

Board Members Present: Mr. Doug Bell
Mr. William H. Alford
Mr. Robert D. Brown
Mr. Joseph L. Carter
Mr. Fred F. DuBard, Jr.
Mr. Samuel H. Frink
Ms. Cathy B. Harvin
Dr. James F. Kane
Mr. William L. Lyles, Jr.
Mr. Daniel W. R. Moore, Sr.
Mr. Clark B. Parker
Mr. Robert L. Rabon
Dr. Oran P. Smith
Mr. Eugene C. Spivey
Dr. Samuel J. Swad

Board Members Not Present:
Mr. Payne H. Barnette, Jr.

Others Present:
Dr. Ronald R. Ingle
Dr. Peter B. Barr
Dr. John P. Beard

(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 Hodge called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Dr. Smith offered an invocation. Ms. Cathy Harvin was given a standing ovation for her recent election as the Democratic nominee to represent Summerton County in the House of Representatives. Mr. Bob Noyes, the new Director of Food Services for Aramark, was introduced.

Roll call was taken.
II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Spivey moved to approve the minutes of October 28, 2005, and Mr. Frink seconded. The motion passed.

III. President's Report

Dr. Ingle congratulated Dr. Peter Barr's recognition as the Myrtle Beach 2005 Volunteer of the Year.

The work to straighten out University Boulevard should be completed in about a month. It is hoped to make an announcement within a couple of weeks for naming rights for the arena.

All education faculty have been relocated to the Foundation Center while Kearns Hall is being renovated.

The residents of College Park are very concerned about students partying, trashing, and walking through their neighborhood. Coastal Carolina wants to be a good neighbor; however, the University cannot patrol and maintain order in areas outside the University campus. The Student Government Association cleaned up the neighborhood after homecoming.

Residents have been encouraged to call the Horry County Police any time there is a disturbance. University police will routinely serve as backup support for such calls. The names of the students who have been arrested will be obtained, and University disciplinary action will be taken.

There are a number of faculty and staff and about 1,000 students who live there.

Coastal Carolina will leave the bridge and the gate in place for the present time; however, the gate will be locked based on a schedule which will be rigorously enforced. There will be increased video surveillance of the gate and bridge area, using Coastal Carolina's security video cameras.

Dr. Conner reminded everyone about the Grand Strand Legislative Reception hosted by the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, Horry-Georgetown Technical College, Horry County Schools, and Coastal Carolina to be held on February 1, at the Clarion Town House Hotel Ballroom.

The Celebration of Inquiry will be held February 15-17. The keynote address, "The Medici Effect: Groundbreaking innovation at the Intersection of Disciplines and Cultures" by Frans Johansson, will be held in the Wheelwright Auditorium on February 15, at 7:30 p.m.

On February 9, Georgetown County and Coastal Carolina will co-host an event with the Georgetown YMCA. Volunteers from the Amistad project will be invited to hear Nay Howell's address on "Nurturing Our Roots: Championing Diversity in our Community." An annual award has been created to recognize a business or individual who has been instrumental in fostering diversity in Georgetown County. The award will be named in honor of Leila Fenhagen, deceased daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Jim Fenhagen, who will also be the first recipient.
The major cultural arts event this spring will be the Five Browns on April 29.

Mr. Mark Kelley was asked to give observations regarding the upcoming legislative session. He said the House of Representatives and the Senate are aware of Coastal Carolina's needs and issues. Although the Governor's budget calls for a three percent cut in funding for higher education, increased funding will be sought after in the House and Senate versions of the budget. Higher education's best argument will be, if you want a knowledge-based economy in South Carolina then the educational system cannot stop in the twelfth grade.

The number one concern is that Coastal Carolina is the lowest funded comprehensive university per FTE in the state. An additional $7 million in funding would bring us to the average mean with the other universities and the General Assembly will be asked to start filling the gap. This would help tremendously with tuition increases.

This year there will be about $600 million of new money, mostly non-recurring funds. The General Assembly is aware of our deferred maintenance and science building needs.

It appears that there will be a better chance for a bond bill next year as there will be greater bonding capacity for the state.

Mr. Alford believes that it would be easier to build the case for the University to the General Assembly and the Budget & Control Board if there are matching private dollars. Dr. Ingle added that private funds and state dollars are important when soliciting Federal dollars.

Dr. Vogt reported that Spring 2006 enrollment was up 6.4% or 346 new students over last year's spring semester. The transfer population increased 29.2% which is a direct result of the cooperative relationship with Horry-Georgetown Technical College.

Fall 2006 applications are up 13.4%. Expectations are to receive 5,800 applications for the 1,500 seats in the freshmen class. We should have no problem in achieving the 5% increase for local students.

Admissions is aggressively seeking students who have dropped out to readmit. The high academic scholarship selection process will begin in about two weeks. In March, hotel programs in major markets for accepted students will begin.

Because Ms. Julie Snowden, chairman of the Horry County Higher Education Commission, could not be in attendance Dr. Edgar Dyer was asked to report on their activities. He was saddened to report that long-time Commissioner and Coastal Carolina supporter, Dr. Robert Elvington, had passed away. The revisions of the bylaws continue.
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IV. Standing Committee Reports

Executive Committee

Nothing to report.

Academic Affairs Committee

Dr. Smith was re-elected chair for 2005-06. The committee had reviewed the Executive Summary for the Academic Year 2004-05 and the report was distributed to everyone.

The University has refocused efforts on the importance of teaching and service while continuing to support the scholarship and creative activities which have included:

- over 100 faculty participating in “Master Teaching Institutes;”
- Technology in Education to Advance Learning (TEAL) Center teaching faculty to use technology in the classroom;
- Center for Effective Teaching and Learning (CETL) providing support and guidance for new and veteran faculty;
- investing over $1.4 million in smart classrooms;
- faculty continuing to work in public engagement and bringing “real world” experiences into the classroom;
- involving 410 students and 14 faculty in the mentoring project;
- initiating faculty incentive-based exit exam program to benchmark learning and teaching;
- creating and hiring 54 new faculty positions;
- implementing a three-year model to address salary compression;
- awarding internal grant programs at increasing levels of support; and,
- re-introducing faculty sabbaticals and nine faculty benefiting from the program.

A faculty Core Curriculum Ad Hoc Committee is in the progress of revising the core curriculum with plans to have the revised curriculum in place by Fall 2007.

There are personnel matters for Executive Session.

Development & Alumni Affairs Committee

Mr. Moore was re-elected 2005-06 chair of the Development & Alumni Affairs Committee.

Mr. Nicholson reported that almost $2 million in pledges and gifts have been received towards the $4 million “Advancing the Dream” goal for 2005-06. These gifts have been directed towards several priority projects, including the football field house and the library. Dr. Ingle has asked Advancement to raise $3 million in private pledges and gifts to move the field house project forward. Mr. Charlie Hodge has made a $100,000 pledge for the football field house. Strand Orthopaedic Associates and Coastal Orthopaedic Consultants have jointly committed $150,000. Mr. Sam McInnis has pledged a $50,000 gift.
Drs. Peter and Betsy Barr have also pledged $50,000 for the establishment of the Elizabeth K. Barr Psychology Research Endowment.

In December, an estate bequest of $150,000 from Ms. Mildred Petrie was received and will be used for a scholarship for an Horry/Georgetown resident.

We are anticipating the announcement of a significant gift from a Coastal Carolina alumnus, and there are other major gifts in the works.

In March, the Coastal Educational Foundation will hold a planning and assessment session.

Mr. Alford feels strongly that increasing Advancement resources would be advantageous to garner fundraising dollars and help the University soar to another level. Mr. Nicholson was asked to develop a blueprint for the expansion and coordination of fundraising efforts. Mr. Alford also asked for a report showing how much money is raised in Horry and Georgetown counties, within the rest of the state, and outside the state.

Dr. Ingle stated that strategies have been implemented to be more aggressive in the Waccamaw Neck area. Over 200 people attended a reception with the homeowners at DeBordieu. In the fall there were several tours and luncheons on campus with friends of the institution from that area.

Mr. Nicholson stated that two sets of corporate contact lists—a list of the top 100 companies published by the State of South Carolina and a local list—would be mailed out to each of the trustees shortly. Everyone was asked to review the list and see if they would be willing to contact them or suggest who would be a better contact or even add to the list.

Dr. Ingle reported that research is being conducted to locate foundations in South Carolina, foundations outside the state who have ties to the state, and foundations funding programs that we need support in.

Dr. Conner stated that it will be important to focus on alumni giving as greater emphasis is placed on alumni giving. The annual fund does not have a fulltime person devoted to it and the percentage of giving is very low. Our young alumni are giving gifts mostly under $500. As the alumni advance in their careers, the small gifts of today will be the large gifts of tomorrow.

Other updates included:

- Not only are alumni events planned for the Grand Strand but also in Charleston, Charlotte, and in Tennessee. Coastal Carolina and UNC-Wilmington will co-host the event in Tennessee.
- The Harris Alumni Directory is completed and over 3,000 alumni have updated their information. Over 1,000 directories have been sold for about $75 each.
- Professor emeritus Jim Branham will host the bi-annual 50s-80s class reunion in May.
- There is a “Meet the Team Tournament” for the golf team on February 11.
- Dr. Richard Koesterer will host the “Into Africa Safari” trip June 1-19, 2006 for alumni and friends.
In yesterday's committee meeting, Mr. Spivey was elected chair for 2005-06.

At the recommendation of the Planning and Fiscal Affairs Committee, Mr. Spivey made a motion to increase health services by $55 per semester, from $70 per semester to $125 per semester, as shown on page 1 of the University Health Services Report dated January 12, 2006. Mr. Carter seconded and the motion passed.

At the recommendation of the Planning and Fiscal Affairs Committee, Mr. Spivey moved for the full Board of Trustees to increase the room and board fees for 2006-2007 by $150 per semester, to $3,220 per semester as shown on page 4 of the Financial Update dated January 12, 2006. Mr. Carter seconded. The motion passed.

Mr. Spivey stated that the administration had been asked to provide information on the institution's bonding capacity in order to address pressing needs on campus. The administration met with the senior staff of the State Treasurer's Office and was advised that Coastal should move forward to seek the issuance of an institutional bond since interest rates were predicted to rise. They advised that all steps in the process should be put in place prior to July 1, 2006, to allow a bond issue shortly after the beginning of the next fiscal year. The State Treasurer's Office assisted Coastal Carolina in preparing a draft of a bond resolution, which was presented to the Committee for discussion and information. A list of projects, including deferred maintenance projects, will be prioritized by the administration.

Mr. Spivey made a motion to move forward in preparing a resolution “requesting the issuance of not exceeding $11.3 million of general obligation state institutional bonds for Coastal Carolina University pursuant to Chapter 107, Title 59, Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended.” Mr. Carter seconded and the motion passed.

Student Affairs Committee

Mr. Lyles asked Dr. Willett to give an update on the committee meeting.

Dr. Willett reported that a very generous gift by the Jackson family has allowed renovations to be made to the Student Center which will be completed over the next year. Although the footprint of the building will not be expanded, a number of changes will be made to make it more attractive and functional.

Since 2000, health services for our students have been provided by the Conway Medical Center. As the University has grown, the medical needs of the student population have become more extensive for a growing population. We continue to be under contract with Conway Medical Center during the 2005-06 academic year, and they would prefer not to renew the contract.

The administration proposes a self-operated Student Health Services in the fall and a projected $770,000 annual budget. The Student Health Services will remain in the current building which presently houses Counseling and Health Services. All residence hall students will be required to purchase the plan with the hopes of attracting other students as well to the plan. They will have unlimited doctor visits for clinical care during business hours and on weekdays.
The plan is to hire a Health Services Director in the spring that will help with the hiring of the remaining employees.

Mr. Rabon asked about liability for health services. Dr. Eddie Dyer stated that Coastal Carolina’s liability will be factored into the Insurance Reserve Funds policy.

Currently, the Conway Medical Center owns the building which houses Health Services and the Counseling Center. They have made a very generous offer to the University to purchase the building. Health Services and Counseling will remain in the same building.

At the recommendation of the Student Affairs Committee, Mr. Lyles moved to have the full Board of Trustees approve the development and funding of a University Health Services with the stipulation that the University will explore the possibility of sharing the services with Horry-Georgetown Technical College. Ms. Harvin seconded and the motion passed.

Mr. Koegel reported that basketball is the only sport currently in competition. Jack Leasure leads the nation in 3-point shots made in a game and averaging five 3-point shots per game.

Next year’s football schedule will include six homes games, playing Furman, Elon and SC State. The schedule will be released later in the spring.

Coastal Carolina is currently in first place overall for the 2005-06 Big South Conference George F. “Buddy” Sasser Cup Standings.

The NCAA Academic Progress Report regarding eligibility and graduation for student-athletes was reviewed. The 2004-05 report for all universities in the country will be released to the national press in February. If a program falls below 925 of the possible 1000 points for multiple years, scholarship dollars for the sport are lost. This first report will show a deficiency in retention for men’s soccer because some athletes have been drafted before graduating. Coastal Carolina’s scores should come back up by the end of next year.

Capital Projects Ad Hoc Committee

Mr. Moore stated that the Capital Projects Ad Hoc Committee has been actively pursuing replacement options for the Myrtle Beach Higher Education Center. It is hoped to make a proposal within the next two months.

Dr. Weldon noted that the Testing Center, the Small Business Center, and graduate distance learning with USC have been moved to Colonial Mall. Classrooms are being used at Horry-Georgetown Technical College’s Myrtle Beach campus for the spring.

Chairman Hodge commended the ad-hoc committee on the work that they have done.

At the recommendation of the Capital Projects Ad Hoc Committee, Mr. Moore made a recommendation for the full Board of Trustees to authorize the Capital Projects Ad Hoc Committee with oversight, in accordance with the State procedures and the administration,
to proceed with a lease and/or purchase for a Myrtle Beach Higher Education Center. The motion passed by acclamation.

Dr. Weldon noted the report on Multi-Year Leases – Real Property which the committee had asked the University to provide.

V. Chairman's Report

Chairman Hodge stated that the Board was very proud of Ms. Harvin's successful campaign for the House of Representatives seat. Ms. Harvin expressed appreciation to everyone for their support through her own health crisis and the loss of her husband. She will not forget the kindnesses or Coastal Carolina University.

Mr. Rabon was also congratulated on his election as chairman of the Horry County Republican Party.

The 2005 Perdiem reports were distributed.

Everyone was reminded that their Statement of Economic Interest Forms should be completed and submitted prior to April 17.

VI. Unfinished Business

Nothing to report.

VII. New Business

Nothing to report.

VIII. Executive Session

Mr. Spivey made a motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Frink seconded and the motion carried. No action was taken during Executive Session.

In accordance with the procedures established by the Faculty Manual and upon recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee, Dr. Smith recommended the conferring of Distinguished Professor Emeritus to Wade K. Baird, Darcy R. Carr, Richard F. Dame, and Timothy J. Touzel and Emeritus Professor to James F. Eason, Claudia J. McCollough, Daniel A. Selwa, Dianna Lynne Smith, and Philip A. D. Schneider. Mr. Frink seconded and the motion passed.

Dr. Smith recommended that the Board of Trustees submit a Request for Proposal (RFP) for presidential search firm services. Mr. Carter seconded, and the motion passed.
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IX. Adjournment

The next Board of Trustees' meetings will be May 5, 2006. As there was no further business, Mr. Spivey made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Lyles seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Samuel H. Frink  
Secretary/Treasurer