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Board of Trustees Minutes, June 7, 2012

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Chairman Wyatt Henderson brought the teleconference to order at 9:00 a.m. and roll call was taken.

Dr. DeCenzo reported that we have been working to change the legislation for Coastal Carolina University to offer a unique Ph.D. program. The legislation came out of the House with a broad-based language allowing all comprehensive institutions to propose Ph.D. programs. The Senate changed the language for only Coastal Carolina to offer a Ph.D. in Marine Science. The House has agreed to this change and the legislation went to Gov. Haley’s office yesterday. We are in the process of sending information to the Commission on Higher Education (CHE) for their review. Dr. Sheehan has worked with CHE on our final language for submitting. It is hoped to get it on the Commission’s agenda as quickly as possible.

The Board discussed and reviewed the proposed revised Mission statement. Dr. Oran Smith made a motion to change it to read: “As such, Coastal Carolina commits its resources to maintaining a population of 8,000-12,000 students by building baccalaureate and selective master’s programs of national and/or regional significance and a Ph.D. program in Marine Science.” In addition, as an update of the statement, the last sentence to read: “In committing itself to excellence through continuous assessment and improvement.” Dr. Larry Biddle seconded and the motion passed.

Dr. DeCenzo reported that the legislators are in the last few days of next year’s budget preparations. At this point the House and Senate versions continue to include the monies for a research vessel. As soon as the budget is finalized, we’ll begin the purchasing process.
Mr. Larry Lyles wanted to know what this legislation will do for other Ph.D. programs. Dr. DeCenzo replied that this will open the door for all comprehensive institutions to offer unique doctoral programs. Future programs will find the process much easier. He noted that Francis Marion University has been very helpful throughout the process. Originally, they wanted to add a Physician’s Assistant program into the legislation but withdrew it because they felt it would make it a more difficult for the legislation to pass.

As there was no further business, Mr. Dan Moore moved to adjourn and Mr. Lyles seconded. The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Chyrel Stalvey for
Larry L. Biddle
Secretary/Treasurer