

12-11-2020

## Board of Trustees Minutes, December 11, 2020

Coastal Carolina University

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**Board of Trustees Meeting  
December 11, 2020**

**Minutes  
Coastal Carolina University**

**Board of Trustees**

**Singleton Ballroom**

**December 11, 2020**

**Presiding:** Vice Chairman Delan Stevens

**Board Members Present:** John Bartell, Lee Belcher, William Biggs, Lisa Davis, Dalton Floyd, Natasha Hanna, Wyatt Henderson, Sherry Johnson, George Mullen, Jason Repak, Oran Smith, Patrick Sparks, Eugene Spivey, William Turner

**Board Members Not Present:** Daniel Moore, Samuel Swad

**Others Present:** Michael Benson, Brant Branham, Brian Bunton, Amanda Craddock, David DeCenzo, Darla Domke-Damonte, Lydia Deeck, Daniel Ennis, David Frost, Richard Green, Matthew Hogue, Sara Hottinger, Martha Hunn, Judy Johns, Carlos Johnson, Christopher Johnson, Christopher Morgan, Travis Overton, Peter Paquette, Julie Quinn, Jerry Rashid, Michael Roberts, Erika Small, Gregory Thompson

(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. Three members of the media were in attendance: Katie Powell of MyHorryNews.com, Alan Blondin of The Sun News, and Hannah Strong of The Post and Courier)

Vice Chairman Delan Stevens brought the Board meeting to order at 10:50 a.m. Oran Smith offered an invocation.

## **I. Roll Call**

Roll call was taken by, Julie Quinn, Administrative Assistant.

## **II. President's Report**

- President David DeCenzo turned the beginning of his report over to William Turner for an update on the impact football had on the University this week. Turner explained that the Trustees get publicity updates regarding the University in the media. With ESPN's College Game-Day and the recent football win over Brigham Young University, the University has picked up a large amount of free publicity.

Martha Hunn, Associate Vice President/Chief Communication Officer, showed a recent media piece on Coastal Carolina University's Chanticleer football team. The video was

**Board of Trustees Meeting  
December 11, 2020**

pushed out on social media and picked up by the general media as well. Over a nine-day period, the University received about \$227 million dollars' worth of publicity. Coastal was mentioned 7,200 times in various media outlets.

- DeCenzo welcomed members from the Icelandic Whales Alumni Association (IWAA) via video call. DeCenzo introduced a resolution recognizing Stephen Nagle, Sara Sanders, Adolf Olason, and Geoffrey Parsons for their leadership and contributions to advancing collaboration, stewardship, and support for relationships between Iceland and Coastal Carolina University (attached).
- The President wanted to take a moment and thank the University's Board of Trustees for the opportunity to lead the University for the past thirteen and a half years. With retirement ahead of him, DeCenzo looks back on his presidency with great fondness. He thanked Wyatt Henderson for his six years as Chairman of the Board of Trustees and helping him navigate during uncertain times.

President DeCenzo wanted to give a special thank you to his wife, Terri DeCenzo. What Mrs. DeCenzo has done for the institution cannot be measured. Whatever success he has enjoyed, President DeCenzo stated that a lot of the credit goes to Mrs. DeCenzo.

President DeCenzo is excited about the future of the institution and continuing the upward trend. DeCenzo cannot wait to see what President-elect Michael Benson will do with the University when he takes the helm on January 1, 2021. DeCenzo gifts Benson with a gold dollar that he carried during his tenure as president.

DeCenzo received a standing ovation for his years of service to Coastal Carolina University.

### **III. Standing Committee Motions**

#### Finance and Audit Committee

- **Henderson moved for renewal of a one-year lease with Fountain-Fuller of SC, L.L.C. for +/- 10,000 square feet of warehouse space at the Atlantic Center, (454 Century Circle), for University Housing, effective March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2022 (Motion 20-FAA-04). Eugene Spivey seconded and the motion carried.**
- **Henderson moved for the University to request authority to exercise administrative discretion with regard to entering into four-month leases, each with a possible renewable term, with off-campus student housing properties near campus effective January 13, 2021, through May 13, 2021, for up to 100 beds to be used (Motion 20-FAA-05). William Turner seconded and the motion carried.**
- **Henderson moved to approve the budget to include the amendment to the current furlough plan effective January 11, 2021. This effectively ends the furloughs for the spring semester (Motion-20-FAA-06). Spivey seconded and the motion carried.**

**Board of Trustees Meeting  
December 11, 2020**

Facilities and Planning Committee

No action items.

Academic Affairs and Retention Committee

- **Oran Smith moved to bestow Distinguished Professor Emeritus and Emeritus Professor title requests for tenured faculty to be awarded upon retirement (Motion 20-AAR-07). Turner seconded and the motion carried.**

Janice Black was awarded the title of Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the time of her retirement.

- **Henderson moved to approve the request for appointment of Professor of History with Tenure (Motion 20-AAR-08). Turner seconded and the motion carried.**

President-elect Michael Benson's appointment of Professor of History with Tenure was approved.

Administration, Governance and Philanthropy

No action items.

Athletics

No action items.

Executive Committee

- **Henderson moved to approve the personnel action discussed in executive session concerning Employee B (Motion 20-EXC-06). Turner seconded and the motion carried.**
- **Henderson moved to approve the personnel action discussed in executive session concerning Employee C (Motion 20-EXC-07). Turner seconded and the motion carried.**
- **Henderson moved to approve the personnel action discussed in executive session concerning Employee D (Motion 20-EXC-08). Turner seconded and the motion carried.**

**IV. Chairman's Report**

The Trustees gratefully acknowledged President DeCenzo's thirteen and a half years of service to the University. They expressed their gratitude and acknowledged his dutiful commitment to

**Board of Trustees Meeting  
December 11, 2020**

Coastal Carolina. The Trustees acknowledge the pledge and courage that the President and Mrs. DeCenzo have shown CCU by presenting both with CINO pins.

- **Henderson moved, with President-elect Benson's approval, to name one of the residence halls the David A. and Terri DeCenzo Residence Hall (Motion 20-EXC-09). Smith seconded and the motion carried.**

Vice Chairman Stevens introduced a resolution conferring the title of President Emeritus of Coastal Carolina University to David Anthony DeCenzo (attached).

The future Board of Trustees meetings are as follows: February 18-19, May 6-7, and August 5-6 2021, October 2021 is to be determined.

**V. Adjournment**

As there was no more business, Spivey moved to adjourn. Turner seconded and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lydia Deeck*  
Lydia Deeck  
Recorder