

8-12-2022

## Board of Trustees Minutes, August 12, 2022

Coastal Carolina University

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**Minutes  
Coastal Carolina University  
Board of Trustees**

**General Board of Trustees Meeting  
Singleton Ballroom  
August 12, 2022**

**Board Members Present:** Delan Stevens, John Bartell via teleconference, Lee Belcher, William Biggs via teleconference, Lisa Davis, Dalton Floyd, Natasha Hanna, Joe Jarrett, Sherry Johnson, Mark Kelley, George Mullen, Bradley Poston, Jason Repak, Oran Smith, Patrick Sparks, Gene Spivey, William Turner

**Board Members Not Present:** None

**Others Present:** Sandra Baldrige-Adrian, Michael Benson, Claudia Bornholdt, Brant Branham, Lee Brown, Brian Bunton, Amanda Craddock, Daniel Ennis, Amanda Foss, David Frost, Christina Genovevo, Jim Gillian, Stephen Harrison, Yvonne Hernandez Friedman, Matthew Hogue, Carlos Johnson, Christopher Johnson, Thomas Koczara, Chad Leverette, Colleen McGlone, Travis Overton, Jerry Rashid, Diane Sanders, Mateo Solana, Erika Small, Sam Sullivan, Holley Tankersley, Greg 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. No members from the media were present for the meeting.)*

Chairman Delan Stevens called the General Board of Trustees meeting to order at 9:36 a.m. Oran Smith offered an invocation.

- I. Roll call was taken by Executive Assistant to the President, Amanda Foss.
- II. William Turner moved to approve the General Board of Trustee meeting minutes from May 6, 2022. Jason Repak seconded, and the motion carried.
- III. Special Acknowledgements  
Stevens introduced a special speaker, David McNair, from the McNair Group. McNair presented information on board governance and challenges that some universities face. Stevens acknowledged the staff from Campus Environments (Custodial Services, Grounds, and Sustain Coastal) for their hard work maintaining our campus.
- IV. University Report  
Student Government Association (SGA) President, Mateo Solana, presented the SGA report and priorities being looked at for the upcoming year.
  - A major priority for this year will be getting more students involved in SGA. There are a number of unfilled seats currently, so they do not have a quorum.
  - Currently looking at University housing and parking to see if there are improvements that can be made.

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- The student body would like to see better security measures. With growth of campus, there are areas that may benefit from additional security cameras.
- Advocated for student voices to be heard when it comes to University spending.
- Currently working to create a committee of students and educators that will be the Freedom of Expression Committee.

Outgoing Staff Senate President, Sandy Baldrige-Adrian, introduced the new Staff Senate President, Sam Sullivan. Sullivan mentioned a few goals for Staff Senate in the upcoming year.

- Make clear and concise goals for the committees.
- Advocate for staff and make them feel comfortable to express their concerns.

Faculty Senate President, Brian Bunton, provided the faculty senate report.

- Over the summer some policies have been updated related to scholarly assignments, positions of assistant/associate deans, course evaluations, and attendance taking.
- Amanda Siegrist is the temporary Academic Integrity Officer.
- Bunton expressed his appreciation to the board for work done to receive compensation for faculty and staff, especially when it comes to decompression.
- Faculty Senate will begin meeting in person starting in Fall semester.

Chief Executive Officer of the Coastal Education Foundation (CEF), Christopher Johnson, provided the CEF report.

- Total net assets are \$62.5 million of which \$59.7 million is cash, investments, and pledges.
- Currently \$4.8 million of assets are uncommitted, unrestricted cash, and investments.
- Investment pool is \$52.47 million with a current allocation of 63.83% in equities and 36.17% in fixed income.
- Rolling return on investments managed by Vanguard for the last 10 years averaged an annual return of 6.10% and the last 5 years averaged an annual return of 5%.
- Vanguard investments rebounded in July 2022 with a 5.59% (\$2.6 million) gain.
- The CEF successfully settled the lawsuit regarding Waites Island. They are now working with the Nature Conservancy to amend the easement into one concise document and eventually transfer approximately 15 acres to CCU for a research facility.
- The CEF will be purchasing the Ace Bookstore (on Hwy 544).
- The employee dependent undergraduate scholarship was increased from \$45,000 to \$90,000. This means \$2,500 per student.

Governmental Affairs Director, Brant Branham, provided the legislative report.

University President, Michael T. Benson, provided the President's Report.

- V. Repak moved to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel and contractual matters.

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Lee Belcher seconded, and the motion carried.

Repak moved to allow board members on teleconference to remain on the line for the Executive Session. Belcher seconded, and the motion carried.

Upon return from Executive Session, it is noted that no action was taken.

VI. Standing Committees

A. Administration, Governance and Philanthropy

Turner requested to table the consent agenda to allow time to re-evaluate and reconvene the week after next to finalize.

B. Finance and Audit Committee

- **Belcher moved for the approval of one-year lease with the Coastal Educational Foundation, for real property consisting of the property located on Tilghman Pointe and Waites Island in Little River Township, Horry County, South Carolina effective November 1, 2022, through October 31, 2023. (Motion 22-FAA-17) Repak seconded, and the motion carried.**
- **Belcher moved for the approval of one-year lease, renewable for one more year, with the Coastal Educational Foundation, for the corner property at Founders Drive and 544 effective November 1, 2022, through October 31, 2023. (Motion 22-FAA-18) Patrick Sparks seconded, and the motion carried.**
- **Belcher moved for approval to extend President Benson's employment agreement to and approve the compensation agreement. (Motion 22-FAA-19) Mark Kelley seconded.**

Repak moved to table the motion, and as contractual and personnel matters are being discussed, moved to go into Executive Session. Sparks seconded, and the motion carried.

Repak moved to allow board members on teleconference to remain on the line for the Executive Session. Sparks seconded, and the motion carried.

Upon return from Executive Session, it is noted that no action was taken.

- **Belcher moved for approval to extend President Benson's employment agreement to 2028 and authorize the creation of a deferred compensation plan with the contribution investment schedules and maximum values as discussed and determined by the board and filed with the secretary. (Motion 22-FAA-20) Repak seconded. A roll call vote was taken. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried. (Confirmation with Chief of Staff, Travis Overton, confirms all board members voted in favor.)**

C. Facilities and Planning Committee

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- **Sherry Johnson moved for approval to replace six elevators on campus, as well as, construct an additional elevator in the Wall Building. Elevators that are in need of replacement are located in Lib Jackson Student Center, Wheelwright Auditorium, Wall Building, Prince Building, Ingle Hall, and Eaglin Hall. (Motion 22-FAC-03) Kelley seconded, and the motion carried.**
- **Johnson moved to name the conceptional learning library complex to the Thompson Library. (Motion 22-FAC-04) George Mullen seconded, and the motion carried.**

**D. Academic Affairs and Retention**

- **Smith moved to approve new program: B.S. in Biology Education. (Motion 22-AAR-10) Gene Spivey seconded, and the motion carried.**
- **Smith moved to approve new program: B.S. in Marine Science Education. (Motion 22-AAR-11) Spivey seconded, and the motion carried.**
- **Smith moved to approve new program: M.Ed. in Counseling with concentrations in School Counseling and Clinical Mental Health Counseling. (Motion 22-AAR-12) Spivey seconded, and the motion carried.**
- **Smith moved to grant a faculty new hire (chair of Theatre), appointment of Professor with tenure. (Motion 22-AAR-13) Spivey seconded, and motion carried.**
- **Smith moved to award honorary doctorate of science (posthumous) degree to Thomas G. Boyd. (Motion 22-AAR-14) Spivey seconded, and motion carried.**

**E. Athletics**

No Motions/Actions

**F. Executive Committee**

- **Stevens moved for the approval of July 2022 Bylaw Revisions. (Motion 22-EXC-02) Sparks seconded, and the motion carried.**

Policies and procedures will be moved under the new committee of Legal and Compliance with Mullen as chair.

With no additional business, Smith moved to adjourn at 2:08 p.m. Sparks seconded, and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Genovevo  
Recorder