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Government Affairs Committee, December 13, 2007

Coastal Carolina University

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**Minutes
Coastal Carolina University
Board of Trustees**

**Government Affairs Committee Conference Call
Wall Board Room
December 13, 2007**

Committee Mr. J. Wayne George, Chairman Liz Gilland, Mr. Mark S. Kelley,
Members Present: Mr. William L. Lyles Jr., Mr. Mark S. Kelley, Dr. Oran P. Smith, and
Representative Thad Viers

Other Board
Members Present: Mr. Gary W. Brown and Mr. Joseph L. Carter

Others Present: Dr. Debbie Conner, Dr. Darla Domke-Damonte, Dr. David A. DeCenzo,
Dr. Edgar L. Dyer, Ms. Kathy Watts, Ms. Nila Hutchinson, and Ms.
Chyrel Stalvey

Mr. Lyles called the Government Affairs Committee meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
Representative Viers and Chairman Gilland were welcomed as ex-officio members of the
committee.

**Dr. Smith made a motion to approve the committee minutes of October 11 and November
27, 2007. Mr. George seconded and the motion carried.**

Chairman Gilland began the discussion on how the Board and University can work more
effectively with Horry County Council by stating that she has incredible confidence in Coastal's
administration. The land transfer of 50+ acres in the Atlantic Center to the Horry County Higher
Education Commission (HCHEC) has taken place. As 2008 is an election year, the Council's
agenda will be political in nature. There will be no additional millage this year for anyone. She
suggested a countywide public relations campaign to present the benefits of increasing funding
to Coastal.

Dr. DeCenzo thanked her for supporting the land transfer to the HCHEC for Coastal's use. The
University will not approach Council for additional millage this year.

Dr. Dyer said that Horry County Council has been a good friend to Coastal. Discussions have
been held to present a penny referendum on November's ballot to be divided between the Horry
County School District, Horry-Georgetown Technical College, and Coastal.

Representative Viers is appreciative for the opportunity to serve on the committee as it is a good
communication step for the local entities. Because Coastal brings so many people together, he
believes it is a pillar of the community.

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He listed several ways to improve the relationship between the University and the Legislative Delegation:

- Utilize the Legislative Delegation office in corresponding with the delegation members.
- Attend political events. Drs. DeCenzo and Dyer were invited to attend a drop-in on Tuesday where Speaker of the House Bobby Harrell will be in attendance. The administration will have an opportunity to talk with Speaker Harrell and to show the public and the legislative companions in Columbia that there is a close relationship between the delegation and the institution's leadership.
- Adopt a local legislator and get to know him better.
- Keep legislators updated on Coastal's master plan.
- Recommended a pre-session with members of the Delegation in the fall before the legislators goes back into session in January and also a spring session.
- Keep good communications by constantly updating in order for the Delegation to be able to answer legislative and community questions.

In a meeting with Senator Leatherman to review Coastal's legislative priorities for next year's budget, Dr. DeCenzo listed an additional \$3.8M of recurring funds, an additional 79 ¾ FTE faculty positions, and \$47M for a new science building.

There is not going to be a bond bill next year; however, Representative Barfield has recommended that the administration ask for an additional \$2M in recurring funds to help bond some of our facility needs.

Representative Viers suggested sharing copies of requests made to Senator Leatherman as a means of keeping the Delegation updated. Send a copy of the correspondence to the Delegation office and the staff will send the information to everyone.

Mr. Lyles asked Chairman Gilland how Horry County Council felt about the arena. Chairman Gilland stated that the Council and the City of Conway are very interested in the project and recognize that the arena would have the same impact that football did for the campus and the community. Dr. Dyer said the University has made known that the institution is postured to listen to any proposals for an arena project.

Mr. George suggested forming a committee with Horry County Council, City of Conway, Horry County Legislative Delegation, Horry-Georgetown Tech, Horry County School Board, Board of Trustees, and Coastal administration to start discussions on how to make the arena project happen. Dr. Dyer added that it would be good to have a representative from Senator Graham's office included. This should be discussed in the Facilities Committee.

The trustees will be asked to review the Senate and House of Representative Contact List tomorrow and note the legislators which they would feel comfortable approaching.

Dr. Conner reminded everyone of the Legislative Reception on February 6 at the Clarion House in Columbia.

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Dr. Dyer reported that Dr. Darla Domke-Damonte has been working with the Strategic Planning Committee to develop a new mission statement. It has been reviewed and approved by the Student Government Association and the Faculty Senate. The SCCHE has informally reviewed the proposed mission statement revision and feels that it can be officially reviewed and approved at the staff level when it is formally submitted. The mission statement will be presented to the Board for approval tomorrow.

Mr. George moved to go into Executive Session to review personnel and contractual issues. Dr. Smith seconded and the motion carried. No action was taken during Executive Session.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Chyrel Stalvey for
Tommy M. Stringer
Secretary/Treasurer