

12-14-2007

## Executive Committee, December 14, 2007

Coastal Carolina University

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**Coastal Carolina University  
Board of Trustees  
Minutes**

**Executive Committee  
Wall Board Room  
December 14, 2007**

**Committee Members Present:** Mr. J. Wayne George, Mr. Charles J. Hodge, Mr. Tommy M. Stringer, and Dr. Samuel J. Swad

**Committee Members Not Present:** Mr. William H. Alford

**Other Board Members Present:** Mr. William S. Biggs, Mr. Gary W. Brown, Mr. R. Duke Brown, Mr. Joseph L. Carter, Mr. J. Wayne George, Mr. Clark B. Parker, Mr. Robert L. Rabon, Dr. Oran P. Smith, Mr. Eugene C. Spivey, and Mr. Tommy M. Stringer

**Others Present:** Dr. Debbie Conner, Dr. David A. DeCenzo, Dr. Edgar L. Dyer, Ms. Nila S. Hutchinson, and Ms. Chyrel Stalvey

Dr. Swad brought the Executive Committee meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Mr. Biggs moved to approve the October 12, 2007 committee minutes and Mr. Rabon seconded. The motion passed.

Dr. DeCenzo asked for feedback regarding the first seven months of his administration. How are the committee meetings working? Are we getting information out to you in a timely basis? Where can we make improvements?

The following suggestions were made: a calendar of all the Board and committee meetings, rearrange Board meetings by working longer in committees on Thursday and stopping earlier on Friday, go through the President's office for information, and have Athletics send out a weekly update on sports information.

Each committee chair was asked to share what came out of their respective committees and what will be presented at the Board meeting during the Executive Committee.

Academic Affairs – Dr. Smith

- Presented an over-view of Academic Affairs for the new ex-officio members.
- Academic Affairs Retreat will be held January 10-11, 2008 to review the academic programs, the quality of programs, faculty needs, and space needs.
- Hiring of a professor with tenure will be presented to the full Board.

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Facilities – Mr. Rabon

- Appoint Masters Plan Ad-hoc Committee with Gary Brown chairing to ensure that the plan meets current projects.
- Renewal of two leases.
- Present priority list of eight capital projects in the Facilities Master Plan, in no particular order, to include: construction of new science building annex for labs, construction of football fieldhouse, student center deferred maintenance and CINO Grille expansion, residence life deferred maintenance and life safety, expansion of student parking on campus, renovation of Atheneum Hall, creation of a one-stop-shop at Kingston Hall, and EQL/ecology/chemistry renovation.
- Senator Graham has said that if we could find the money for the bricks and mortar for the science building lab addition, he would help to find sources of Federal monies for equipment needs.
- Discussions were held to improve our bonding capacity and join with the county's bond bill in 2008.
- Proposed a penny sales tax referendum for the county in November to be divided with the Horry County School District (80%), Horry-Georgetown Tech (10%), and Coastal (10%).
- Mr. Hodge would like to present an idea to move the fieldhouse project forward.

Athletics – Mr. Biggs

- Reviewed graduation rates.
- Reviewed accomplishments of some outstanding student-athletes.
- Athletic Retreat will be held January 17-18 to develop a 5-year plan.
- Messrs. Biggs, Hodge, and Spivey will conduct an athletic survey within the department to be reviewed at the retreat.

Mr. Hodge stated that the Student Housing Foundation (SHF) had an insurance consultant, Delan Stevens, to review their insurance premiums. The previous premium was \$287,000 and Mr. Stevens was able to broker a new premium for \$82,000 with the same coverage. He suggested that Coastal should also review their insurance coverage.

The SHF's assets are currently \$40M; \$7M in cash with \$3.5M accessible to SHF (or the University). University Place has a current occupancy rate of 95%. The sale of University Place should be completed by the end of January. The debt coverage ratio has been reduced from 3.8 to 1.4 which will help in the sale of University Place.

After discussions with an architect, Mr. Hodge believes that the fieldhouse could be built for less than what first thought.

He will present two motions to the Board:

1. Endorse the issuance of an RFP for preliminary plans for an arena. Such cost of the plan is not to exceed \$30,000 and such cost of the arena not to exceed \$25M provided any bidder shall possess the technical expertise and experience to undertake such a project. The RFP shall be prepared by appropriate personnel with all necessary technical specifications. (Mr. Rabon stated that there may be available FEMA funds to help with the arena project.)
2. Endorse the issuance of an RFP for plans for the fieldhouse with costs of such fieldhouse not to exceed \$8.5M, provided any bidder shall possess the technical expertise and experience to undertake such a project. The RFP shall be prepared by appropriate personnel with all necessary technical specifications. (The project should not be limited to Georgian architectural design.)

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It was noted that there may be seat licensing for the football stadium to raise funds. Mr. Spivey was not in favor as some universities are moving away from this.

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 discuss how to move the arena project forward.

Finance/Audit – Messrs. Stringer and Parker

- The management letter was reviewed on Wednesday and has been distributed to the Board.
- SHF audit is completed and has been submitted to our external auditor.
- Search continues for the Director of Internal Audit. Hope to finalize selection in January.
- State procurement retreat will be held in January.
- Finance Committee will present four motions to the Board regarding petty cash, \$15/semester fee to all undergraduate business majors and graduate MBA students, hire Daniel Klett as a consultant on a limited scope basis to assist in creating a quantitative foundation for Coastal's Facilities Master Plan, and adjust any full-time employee whose salary is less than \$21,000.
- \$5M surplus in the budget this year was noted.
- Parking fines have climbed from \$40,000 all of last year to \$139,000 so far this semester. They are being audited.

Student Affairs – Mr. Spivey

- Mr. Spivey noted that a new student center was not included on the list of capital priorities; however, the Student Government Association have polled and interviewed a large sector of the student population and an overwhelming number are in favor of paying \$100/semester to build a new student center. The student center is a huge retention issue.

Honorary Degree Ad-hoc – Mr. George

- Four honorary degrees recipients will be presented.

Dr. DeCenzo reported that retired businessman Thomas P. Brown Jr. and his family will announce a \$100,000 gift to Coastal Carolina University at the Board meeting this morning. The gift will establish the Each One Teach One Entrepreneurship Institute in Coastal's E. Craig Wall College of Business Administration as well as initiate funding for the TPJ Brown Entrepreneurship Scholars, a new scholarship program for at-risk students interested in pursuing business careers.

As there was no further business, Mr. Spivey moved to adjourn and Mr. Rabon seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Tommy M. Stringer  
Secretary/Treasurer