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Athletics Committee, February 14, 2008

Coastal Carolina University

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**Minutes
Coastal Carolina University
Board of Trustees**

**Athletics Committee Meeting
Edward M. Singleton Building, Dawsey Conference Room
February 14, 2008**

- Members of the Committee Present:** Mr. William S. Biggs, Mr. R. Duke Brown, Mr. Charles J. Hodge, and Mr. Eugene C. Spivey
- Other Board Members Present:** Mr. William H. Alford and Mr. J. Wayne George
- Committee Members Not Present:** Ms. Jill Nyhof, Mr. Mark Kiskunas, and Mr. Mike Pruitt
- Others Present:** Mr. Scott Joyner, Mr. Warren Koegel, Dr. Steve Madden, Dr. Danny Nicholson, Mr. Patrick C. Ransdell, Mr. Mark Roach, Ms. Melissa Todd, and Ms. Nila Hutchinson

Mr. Biggs called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Mr. Spivey made a motion to approve the December 13, 2007 committee minutes and Mr. Brown seconded. The motion passed.

Mr. Koegel presented a student-athletic academic report and noted that Fall 2007 student-athlete GPAs were: teams overall - 2.957; overall (no cheerleading) – 2.976. The goal is to have 3.0 GPA or better each semester. This is only the second time in seven years that we have not had a 3.0 GPA. The academic and sport coaches are aware that we need to improve.

The NCAA Division I 2006-2007 Academic Progress Rate (APR) Institutional Report was reviewed. The national scores of all universities will be reported within the next week. The “upper confidence boundary” of a team’s APR must be below 925 for that team to be subject to contemporaneous penalties. Only men’s track is below with 900; however, a plan has been submitted to help bring up the score. Within a year’s time, the team should be at least 925. Basketball and football are very strong nationally.

The freshman-cohort graduation rate is based on the NCAA national graduation rate of six years denoting only those student-students graduating from Coastal. The 2000-2001 graduation rates are: all students – 42%; student athletes – 52%. The student-athlete graduation success rate denoting graduation whether or not they transfer to another school or transfer to Coastal is 95%.

Three fulltime academic advisers, Joe Mazurkiewicz, Walter Goffigan, and Vicky Pirher, do a terrific job with the athletes.

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Coastal is currently in second place in the Sasser cup standings and is traditionally strong in spring sports.

A listing of the current athletic staff was distributed as well as a list of the current network affiliates who carry our sports on radio. It was noted that all games are broadcast on the web site.

Mr. Brown congratulated Mr. Koegel and his staff for the good work they have performed for the university.

Jerome Simpson and his coach, Hunter Spivey, were interviewed on ESPN2 recently to talk about his preparation for the combine in Indianapolis.

The 2008 football signing class was reviewed.

Mr. Biggs thanked everyone for their efforts in making the athletic retreat successful and informative. The athletic programs are hurting for an arena and a fieldhouse. The facility is needed to take us to the next level.

Currently, we are \$600,000 short of private funds in order to go back to the Budget and Control Board for funding and approval to start construction on the fieldhouse project. Dr. Nicholson is encouraged that this funding will be forthcoming. Mr. Biggs said to please let the trustees know if there is anything they can do to be helpful in this process.

The athletic administration feels that the existing meeting rooms next door to the visiting locker rooms could be turned into a study hall/academic center with three offices, break out rooms for tutoring, and computer room. After meeting with Sandy Williams and Rein Mungo, it was determined that renovations could be done in-house. Naming rights for \$400,000-500,000 could be asked for this space. Also, the existing home locker room could be turned into a training room. It is hoped to use some funding from the future sale of University Place for these projects.

Mr. Spivey reported that Mr. Frink and he, along with Lynn Willet and members of her staff and students, had taken a road trip to check out student centers at UNC-Wilmington, Christopher Newport, Elon, Davidson, and Winthrop. After the trip, it was very apparent that Coastal has not kept up with its competition.

The Student Government Association reported to the Student Affairs Committee that they have polled the student body and found that students are overwhelmingly in support of additional fees to support the construction and/or renovation of a new student union and a new student recreation center.

After the road trip, Mr. Spivey met with Dr. DeCenzo, Dr. Dyer, Dr. Sheehan, Mr. Garland and Mr. Alford to propose a plan of action for a budget reallocation of debt service of \$525 per student per semester, commencing with the 2007 Fall semester. These funds will be dedicated to retire bonds for about \$64 million that will be issued by the institution on the pledge of this budget reallocation, all for the purpose of financing the construction, renovation and furnishing of infrastructure and permanent structures that will advance the interests of our academic programs, our student affairs programs, our athletic programs, and our alumni—i.e., remodel student recreation center, science building, and

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arena/performing arts/convocation center. There are still some options for public/private funding for the arena.

Mr. Alford stated that after the academic affairs retreat, it became clear that in order for Coastal to become a fully comprehensive university, we have to expand the majors and expand the population of the campus. In five years or less, we could have 12,500 students and in ten years 17,000.

Tomorrow Dr. DeCenzo and the administrative staff will be asked for a plan of action for the issuance of bonds, including an estimated amount of funds that might be realized and a recommended prioritization of construction and renovation projects for the Board's consideration.

Mr. Spivey noted that even if we have tuition increases this year, our tuition will not be as high as USC, Clemson, Winthrop, and College of Charleston.

Mr. Spivey asked the Athletic Committee to endorse a budget reallocation for debt service of \$525 per student per semester, commencing with the 2007 Fall semester. The funds will be dedicated to retire bonds for about \$64 million that will be issued by the institution on the pledge of this budget reallocation, all for the purpose of financing the construction, renovation and furnishing of infrastructure and permanent structures that will advance the interests of our academic programs, our student affairs programs, our athletic programs, and our alumni. Mr. Hodge seconded and the motion passed.

Mr. Biggs noted that radio talk show host Mark Packard of "Prime Time with the Packman" on WFNZ out of Charlotte had been talking about Coastal playing at Penn State. Mr. Packard put Coastal on his list for the southern pride football tour. Mr. Biggs suggested inviting him to campus.

Mr. Alford made a motion to declare Henry O'Neal Hucks Baseball Day on April 5, 2008. That is the date of the Winthrop baseball game and the Teal and White football game. Mr. Duke Brown seconded and the motion passed. Mr. Hucks is a Coastal athletic alumnus and former athlete he played with will be invited to campus for the event.

Mr. Joyner noted that football seat licensing would be discussed at the Board meeting tomorrow.

As time ran out, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Chyrel Stalvey for
Tommy M. Stringer
Secretary Treasurer