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Executive Committee, February 14, 2008

Coastal Carolina University

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**Coastal Carolina University
Board of Trustees
Minutes**

**Executive Committee
Wall Board Room
February 14, 2008**

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

Other Board Members Present: Mr. William S. Biggs, Mr. Gary W. Brown, Mr. J. Wayne George, Mr. William L. Lyles, and Dr. Oran P. Smith

Others Dr. Debbie Conner, Dr. David A. DeCenzo, Dr. David W. Evans, Ms. Alison L. Hawk, Ms. Nila S. Hutchinson, Dr. Danny Nicholson, Dr. Rob Sheehan, and Ms. Chyrel Stalvey

Mr. Alford brought the Executive Committee meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Dr. DeCenzo stated that he is delighted with the level of excitement in the committee meetings and expressed appreciation to the trustees for their time and help to advance the university and focus on the future.

Dr. DeCenzo has planned trips out of the area to tell the Coastal story in Atlanta and to meet with alumni and next month will visit Charlotte. Efforts are being made to pull USC-Coastal alumni back to Coastal. Editorials in The Sun News are more positive.

We are at a turning point in the history of Coastal and will have to make some tough decisions. The reality is that we are very proud of this campus but we have not kept up with other institutions within our peer group. We need to look like a comprehensive university, not a community college. We are getting quality applicants but when they visit our campus they ask to see the student recreational center and the gymnasium—neither of which we have on campus. Academic excellence alone will not take the university forward.

Dr. Evans noted that faculty members want to be involved and have volunteered to attend the Board committee meetings. They, too, are excited about what is happening on campus.

Mr. Alford asked each committee to report on committee actions items for the Board meeting tomorrow.

Academic Affairs – Dr. Smith

A motion will be made that the faculty promotion and tenure process shall include external letters of reference or support beginning with faculty hired for Fall 2008.

There will be a motion to confer distinguished professor emeritus to Jessie C. Brown, Richard O. Collin, James Farsolas, Richard H. Moore, Douglas D. Nelson and emeritus professor to Colleen A. Lohr, Sylvia Kenig Snyder, and Deborah A. Vrooman at their retirement.

Alumni Affairs – Dr. Swad

There were no action items.

Athletics – Mr. Biggs

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A motion will be made to declare Henry O’Neal Hucks Baseball Day on April 5, 2008.

Audit – Mr. Stringer

There were no action items.

Facilities – Mr. Brown

The following leases will be approved: Sanderson Property (Theater Prop Shop); Alumni House; B&C Marine and Wetland Studies, Singleton and Atheneum Hall; and Soccer Field.

A recommendation will be made to convert Chanticleer Drive into a one-way street with slant-in parking on one side facing the academic buildings in an effort to alleviate parking issues on campus and add 400 parking spaces.

A recommendation will be presented for the administration to pursue the purchase of the Atlantic Center building located at 624 Century Circle.

Finance

The major discussion was centered on the budget reallocation for debt service. (See Student Affairs below.)

Government Affairs – Mr. Lyles

There were no action items. Mr. Lyles stated that the addition of Representative Viers, Chairman Gilland, Dr. Tankersley (faculty senator) and Mark Kelley has added validity to the committee.

Institutional Advancement – Dr. Nicholson

A motion will be presented to name the “Thomas E. Jones Green Room” in the Wheelwright Auditorium.

Student Affairs – Mr. Spivey

The Student Affairs Committee with the endorsement of the Academic Affairs, Athletics, Facilities, Finance, and Student Affairs Committees will ask the Board to approve a budget reallocation for debt service of \$525 per student per semester, commencing with the Fall semester of 2007, with said funds to be dedicated to retire bonds 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, and, further, that the President and administrative staff be directed to bring to this Board, at its April meeting, a plan of action for the issuance of such 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.

A motion will also be made to hire a consultant to review the university’s alcohol policy at a cost not to exceed \$2,000 plus expenses.

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Dual Role Ad-hoc – Dr. Swad

The committee had met to make a decision on trustees serving on dual foundations in an ex-officio, non-voting capacity. Dr. Swad feels that the conflict of interest is a perception issue.

The Student Housing Foundation has written a letter asking the committee to reconsider making trustees ex-officio, non-voting members of foundations and boards. Mr. Hodge had reported that 55 out of 90 universities surveyed by AGB have voting members on Boards and foundations. He cautioned that when you take away the voting power, you have no power.

Mr. Lyles asked how the proposed sale of University Place was proceeding. Mr. Hodge reported that the sale is imminent and representatives from American Housing Foundation would be at the Board meeting tomorrow to make a presentation. The Student Housing Foundation was originally appointed by the president and is now a separate, non-profit entity from the university. There are six members of the SHF--two university directors with no set terms and appointed by the president and four non-university appointees who serve two years. The Board asked for more information on the setup of the SHF structure.

Dr. DeCenzo stated that the external auditors took exception that potential conflicts of interest were not adequately disclosed on the appropriate forms—Statement of Economic Interests and Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements. However, when voting took place, trustees who may have had a conflict of interest recused themselves.

Mr. Alford wants to make sure that we have a solid voice on the foundations. Mr. Hodge suggested making a motion at the Board meeting tomorrow requiring trustees to submit the Statement of Economic Interests and Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements to the Director of Internal Audit for review for potential conflicts of interests to satisfy the external auditor's concerns.

Mr. Stringer felt that nothing further should be done until the university's risk assessment is completed and that will be taking place shortly.

After discussion, the Executive Committee recommended tabling the Dual Role Ad-hoc Committee's recommendation for further discussions.

Honorary Degree Ad-hoc – Mr. George

There were no action items.

Master Plan Ad-hoc – Mr. Brown

The committee will ask for permission to start the state procurement process to hire a master planning consultant and to establish a budget for the work.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tommy M. Stringer
Secretary/Treasurer