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## Academic and Student Affairs Committee, January 21, 2010

Coastal Carolina University

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**Minutes  
Coastal Carolina University  
Board of Trustees**

**Academic & Student Affairs Committee  
Georgetown Campus, Room 111  
January 21, 2010**

**Committee Members Present:** Mr. Larry L. Biddle, Mr. Joseph L. Carter Mr. Samuel H. Frink, Mr. Dan S. Jolles, Dr. Michael S. Ruse, Dr. Oran P. Smith and Mr. Robert G. Templeton (teleconference)

**Committee Member Not Present:** Mr. Eugene C. Spivey

**Other Board Members Present:** Mr. William H. Alford, Ms. Natasha M. Hannah and Mr. D. Wyatt Henderson

**Others Present:** Dr. Debbie Conner, Mr. Taylor Eubanks, Ms. Haven L. Hart, Ms. Martha S. Hunn, Mr. J. Scott Joyner, Mr. Timothy E. Meacham, Dr. Rob Sheehan, Dr. Judy W. Vogt, Mr. Hunter Yurachek, Ms. Jennifer Packard and Ms. Chyrel Stalvey

(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.)

Dr. Smith brought the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Mr. Carter moved to approve the Academic & Student Affairs Committee minutes of October 15, 2009. Mr. Frink seconded, and the motion carried.**

Faculty Senate Chair Michael Ruse reported that Faculty Senate is working on a number of initiatives to increase efficiency: major committees meet on set days and times; uniformity of reporting of committees with standard formats; agendas and minutes posted on the Web site; and working on initiatives for faculty success and helping guide the University by compiling a faculty wish list.

The next Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) accreditation visit will take place in 2012. As part of this accreditation, an ad hoc committee of the Faculty Senate has been established to identify a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). This will be a significant *new* project geared towards student learning taking three to five years to complete and requiring significant resources. As the project plan is reviewed, it will be judged whether or not it is resourced and if it is assessable. The Student Government Association (SGA), faculty, staff, and the Board of Trustees will have to approve the project. This will require a sustained commitment to the issues of the accreditation. Mr. Biddle added that the QEP is closely tied to Baldrige performance standards.

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As Mr. Biddle has served on SACS committee reviews, Mr. Alford asked for him to be involved in the QEP. Perhaps public/private partnerships could be used to finance the project. The Board would like to have a report at the May meeting on the QEP.

Mr. Carter asked Dr. Sheehan to supply a report of first generation college students by the next meeting. Chairman Alford feels that these students require additional resources.

SGA President Dan Jolles reported that the SGA continues to improve communications on campus rather than passing legislation to get things done. SGA was instrumental in having crosswalks and bridges resurfaced because they were slippery and an emergency call box was installed by the Edwards Building. SGA's fund raising goal for the spring Relay for Life is \$5,000; and, almost \$2,000 has been raised. Coastal Carolina's Rotaract was recently recognized as the Rotary Club of the month out of 1,200 international clubs. SGA elections will be held the last week of February. An initiative has been started to encourage students to stop texting while driving.

SGA Vice President Taylor Eubanks was pleased to report that after working closely with the Alcohol Coalition on campus and receiving input from students and faculty, SGA has implemented the Safe Ride program to transport students to and from campus safely. SGA has partnered with local cab companies to get discounts for students. Another part of the program is to partner with alcohol and restaurant establishments to offer incentives for students to have designated drivers at the establishments. Information on the program was distributed.

Ms. Hart was complimentary of this program as it is a student-led initiative. Since June, three of our students have died in automobile accidents as a result of driving under the influence or texting while driving.

Mr. Alford asked the students what the Board could do to make the University better. One response was to have more class offerings.

As the Board is interested in expanding distance learning, Dr. Sheehan reported that there has been significant increase in distance learning of which there are three types: the use of the web in classrooms, offering of complete classes via the web and complete degree programs. Between Fall 2008 and Fall 2009, the total number of sections using Blackboard or web instruction increased 31%. Between Spring 2009 and Spring 2010, the total number of distance learning sections offered increased 45%. The University is now beginning the development of a substantive change request to SACS to offer complete on-line degree programs, commencing with the Health Science Degree.

A report was distributed comparing academic and nonacademic suspension figures from Fall 2008 to Fall 2009. There has been a decrease in student issues in spite of the enrollment increase. The campus judicial hearings discuss appeals and suspensions together. There could be some duplication in the numbers because one student could have more than one conduct case and/or also be on academic suspension. The statistics were very encouraging.

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Dr. Vogt added that Coastal Carolina may be the only institution in the state to include a series of questions regarding criminal offenses in the admissions process. Although it is laborious, a committee prescreens the applicants; and, a number of applicants have been rejected with this screening process.

Student utilization at Student Health Services continues to increase and the staff is doing a great job. It is expected that there will be an increase in the H1N1 virus in February.

MUSC has approached the University to take over their distance learning program for a Bachelor of Health Sciences degree that they are discontinuing. The program will further develop health professionals to obtain knowledge and expertise in health care management and leadership beyond the two-year associate degree or certificate level. The beginning of the program is timed to occur with the cessation of the program at MUSC, to allow for the effective transition of prospective students to Coastal Carolina University. This will be the first program on campus to be completely distance learning.

**Mr. Biddle made a motion to recommend to the full Board of Trustees the approval to proceed with submission to the Commission of Higher Education the addition of a B.S. in Health Sciences. Mr. Frink seconded and the motion passed. (Motion 10-06)**

Now that the Student Housing Foundation has purchased Campus Edge, the sophomore housing requirement has been put in place, including a requirement that students purchase a meal plan. Some students were staying at Campus Edge to establish South Carolina residency. The University is working to grandfather these students for the rest of the year to help them establish their in-state residency. In the future, students will not establish in-state residency by living in University Place or the former Campus Edge.

There have been a number of complaints from students who are upset by this sudden decision as they had other plans. They are also concerned about the meal plan requirements. Administrators are allowing some exemptions to both requirements this first year. Students' and parents' concerns regarding these housing issues are being dealt with positively and appropriately and phone calls are decreasing.

Mr. Biddle stated that "Building Pharaoh's Ship," the Nova special on PBS featuring Dr. Cheryl Ward, maritime archaeologist, was phenomenal and a wonderful advertisement for Coastal Carolina.

Mr. Carter made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Mr. Frink seconded and the motion carried. Upon reconvening, it was noted that no action was taken.

**Mr. Carter moved to hire Dr. James L. Everett with tenure as Chair of the Department of Communication. Mr. Frink seconded and the motion passed. (Motion 10-05)**

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As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel H. Frink  
Secretary/Treasurer