

10-25-2012

## Government Affairs Committee, October 25, 2012

Coastal Carolina University

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**Minutes**  
**Coastal Carolina University**  
**Board of Trustees**

**Government Affairs Committee**  
**HTC Center, Room 207**  
**October 25, 2012**

**Committee Members Present:** Dr. Larry L. Biddle, Mr. Samuel H. Frink, Ms. Natasha M. Hanna, Mr. William L. Lyles Jr., and Mr. Daniel W. R. Moore Sr.

**Other Board Members Present:** Mr. William S. Biggs, Mr. Gary W. Brown, Mr. R. Duke Brown, Mr. J. Wayne George, Mr. D. Wyatt Henderson, Mr. Carlos C. Johnson, Dr. Oran P. Smith, Mr. Eugene C. Spivey, and Mr. William E. Turner III

**Others Present:** Ms. Sandy Baldrige, Ms. Stacie A. Bowie, Ms. Lori Church, Dr. Debbie Conner, Ms. JoAnna Dalton, Dr. David A. DeCenzo, Mr. Edgar L. Dyer, Ms. Martha S. Hunn, Mr. Tim Meacham, Ms. Jennifer Packard, Mr. Gregory Thompson, Mr. Brandon Reilly, Mr. Gary Pope, Ms. Margaret Pope, Ms. Sharon Sluys, Ms. Chyrel Stalvey, Dr. Judy W. Vogt, Mr. Greg Thornburg, Mr. Desmond Wallace and Ms. Sandy Williams

(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. Heather Gale of The Horry Independent was in attendance.)

Chairman Larry Lyles brought the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

Mr. Bill Biggs moved to approve the Government Affairs Committee minutes of July 19, 2012. Dr. Larry Biddle seconded, and the motion passed.

Mr. Biddle moved to go into Executive Session to discuss legal matters and Ms. Natasha Hanna seconded. Upon reconvening, it was noted that no action was taken.

Mr. Mark Kelley expressed appreciation for Chairman Brian White, Senator Nikki Setzler, Senator Raymond Cleary and the Horry Legislative Delegation in helping to pass the legislation for the Ph.D. program and budgeting state money for a research vessel.

There will be no additional funding in next year's budget.

There are concerns regarding where comprehensive universities will fall in the discussion of remodeling higher education. Gov. Haley brought legislators, educators, and businessmen to discuss accountability at an October conference. She believes college funding should be on a merit system that rewards schools for their graduation rates and job placements. Haley wants the Legislature to get away from its standard funding formulas that have given the schools the same

**Government Affairs Committee**  
**October 25, 2012**

percentage of state money year after year. There is a mindset that education needs to be focused on job creation, technical job training, and research. This pinches out the comprehensive universities. Everyone will be looking for survival. We need to educate why comprehensive universities are important to the state.

Dr. Decenzo added that the goals of the state are to increase the quality of life and increase income. In other states, the four-year degree has made a difference. We need to develop talking points to educate. For example, about 36% of our out-of-state students stay in the state. What is Coastal Carolina's record versus other comprehensives in the state?

Ms. Hanna reported that concern was expressed at Governor Haley's Higher Education Conference regarding the state's return on investment for college degrees. Technical colleges tout their Associate Degree students finding successful jobs. Graduates are leaving South Carolina because there are no manufacturing businesses. Another hot topic is the budget. Schools are spending way too much money on buildings and athletic facilities instead of academics.

Dr. DeCenzo believes the formula is not bad. The problem is carrying through with the formula.

Mr. Dyer feels we must be careful to watch the definitions of retention and graduation rates. We need to track students who attend Coastal, transfer to another school and graduate from there.

Mr. Kelley reported that the Washington lobbyist contract was expiring and a decision needs to be made whether or not to continue the contract. We need to have a presence in Washington. This will be discussed in Executive Session.

Mr. Dyer reported that a good rapport continues with Horry County Schools and the Myrtle Beach Regional Economic & Development Corporation which we are supporting financially and with expertise. The Horry County Higher Education Commission continues their support of the University through the tax millage. They are currently working on issuing \$6M in bonds for a student center expansion. Good relationships continue with the Atlantic Center POA.

As there was no further business, Dr. Biddle moved to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Chyrel Stalvey  
for Larry L. Biddle  
Secretary/Treasurer