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Academic and Student Affairs Committee, February 13, 2014

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Minutes
Coastal Carolina University
Board of Trustees

Academic & Student Affairs Committee
E. Craig Wall Jr. Board Room
February 13, 2014

Committee Members Present: Dr. Larry L. Biddle,* Mr. Samuel H. Frink, Mr. Marion B. Lee, Mr. Daniel W. R. Moore Sr., Dr. Oran P. Smith, Mr. Eugene C. Spivey and Mr. William E. Turner III*

Committee Member Not Present: Dr. Samuel J. Swad

Other Board Present: Mr. William S. Biggs, Ms. Natasha M. Hanna, Mr. D. Wyatt Henderson, Mr. Carlos C. Johnson,* Mr. Charles E. Lewis, Mr. William L. Lyles Jr., Mr. George E. Mullen and Mr. Robert G. Templeton*

Others Present: Dr. John P. Beard, Mr. David R. Betsch, Ms. Stacie A. Bowie, Dr. Barbara A. Burd, Dr. J. Ralph Byington, Dr. Debbie Conner, Dr. David A. DeCenzo, Mr. Edgar L. Dyer, Dr. Daniel J. Ennis, Mr. Stephen K. Harrison, Ms. Martha S. Hunn, Mr. Mark Kelley, Dr. Edward Jadallah, Ms. B.J. Landrum, Dr. Steven J. Madden, Mr. Timothy E. Meacham, Ms. Christine L. Mee, Ms. Jennifer Packard, Mr. William M. Plate Jr., Dr. Barbara A. Ritter, Mr. Mark A. Roach, Dr. Michael H. Roberts, Ms. V. Chyrel Stalvey, Mr. Steven S. Swieton and Mr. Gregory W. Thornburg

(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 Oran Smith brought the meeting to order.

Sam Frink moved to approve the October 10, 2013 committee minutes and Gene Spivey seconded. The motion carried.

Faculty Senate Chairman Steve Madden reported that the senate had voted to update the faculty manual section dealing with promotion to senior instructors and lecturers. A new online certificate in instructional technology is available to assist professors in teaching. For English 101 and 102 and Spanish 101 and 102, COFA is remodeling some of the classes so that students will have the skill sets to be successful.

*Denotes joined by teleconference.

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Student Government Association President Kaitlin Page stated that four new clubs were approved this semester. Club budgets with leftover money during the semester will be reallocated for the spring semester. Elections for new officers will be held in February.

Larry Biddle asked if anyone had checked on borrowing the voting machines from Horry County to create a model for electronic voting. Page stated that a lot of money has been invested in Coastal Connections which has been successful in creating high student traffic on the site. About 8-9% of our students participate in voting and the average at other colleges is 4-5%.

Vice President of Student Affairs Debbie Conner reviewed the preliminary report of AlcoholEDU which is encouraging. Our new students are at the national average with drinking behaviors. There have been huge educational changes after taking the program. Eight-five percent of the students said they had established a plan for responsible decisions regarding alcohol. One positive behavioral change of students is the intention to set a limit on drinking. Education regarding the negative consequences of drinking through this training/education process-- missing class, getting behind in assignments and drinking and driving--guided students to develop a specific course of action. Sixty-six percent of our students do not drink.

Sam Frink wanted to know how the students feel about going to a tobacco-free campus. Conner noted that Dean of Students Travis Overton had attended a national conference and talked with other representatives from campuses who have gone tobacco-free. There does not seem to be much of an enforcement problem.

Coastal is preparing cessation programs and will be offering alternative methods to stop smoking and giving alternative options, i.e. gum, drops, etc.

Students smoke more when they are out socializing. Currently, students are not allowed to smoke in on-campus housing.

Smith was reading the Chanticleer student newspaper this week and read an article stating that in a recent Facebook article, CCU ranked in the top 20 universities for drug and alcohol arrests: "CCU ranked 7 out of 20 for on-campus drug arrests, not in the top 20 for alcohol arrests, and number 20 out of 20 for on-campus drug and alcohol arrests. [Officer Phillip] Moore said there is zero tolerance for possession; we usually make a charge if we are called. CCU being ranked high means that our campus officers remain on top of their game and make every attempt to keep our campus safe for other students and drug-free."

The Silent Witness program, an anonymous text-driven reporting system for students, teachers, and staff and parents, has been very successful in reporting crimes. Reporting allows law enforcement to carry out the drug and alcohol policy.

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Administration is pleased with the numbers because awareness increases when enforcement increases. We try to be consistent in our policies and do a good job of reporting.

Steve Harrison, Director of Student Housing, introduced Steve Swieten, First Year Resident Engagement Coordinator, and David Betsch, Associate Director for Student Success. Since coming to work for Coastal in 2010, Harrison has worked hard with the University Place team to more fully engage students on campus.

Swieten reported that a survey was conducted for all on-campus residents in 2013. As a result, the COASTAL Living engagement model has now been implemented. The model aims to increase both the amount and quality of programming, as well as actively engage residents with each other and with the Resident Assistant staff. Each of the seven themes has associated learning objectives: community, overall wellness, academic success, self-discovery, transition, appreciation for diversity and leadership. National research shows that satisfaction with the on-campus living experiences is directly correlated with overall retention.

Resident Assistants have conducted individual interviews with 3,284 residents or 96.6% of the residents, 99.4% of the first year residents. One hundred percent of the communities completed community standards this year. These standards are in agreement within an RAs' communities that go beyond what is covered in the Code of Student Conduct and the Community Living Guide and may include things like agreeing not to slam doors, not to take things off of each other's doors, taking trash out, using the stairs instead of the elevator, spitting, etc.

This is the first semester in which residents were able to submit their own work orders directly and has been very successful. Of the total work orders for University Housing in the Fall 2013 semester, non-staff students comprised 86.9% of total submitters submitting 60.5% of all the work orders. Over 23% of all residents have submitted a maintenance request.

In the past, we have had difficulty retaining RAs even though receiving free room and board. This year there was a 56.1% increase in new applications and 48.4% increase of returning applications.

Larry Biddle asked if the Wi-Fi problems in housing had been fixed. Harrison stated that they had been improved dramatically with the addition of new access points. There are far fewer complaints.

Harrison, Swieten and Betsch left the meeting after their report.

Byington noted the Outstanding CHE Proposals list that had been included in the Board on-line information.

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Smith moved to establish a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology, a joint program with HGTC 2+2 (Motion 14-01). Dan Moore seconded, and the motion passed.

Mike Roberts noted that this program is designed to be an intermediate program with the existing computer science program.

Hanna was pleased that CCU has excelled in partnering with Horry-Georgetown Technical College. Coastal exceeds other institutions in submitting and working with two-year schools.

Byington expressed appreciation to Chris Mee and information technology for getting admissions dashboards up and running. Statistics can be tracked daily on the dashboard indicators to make sure that we are meeting our goals in accordance with the updated strategic plan. Enrollment trends are great indicators to know where we are historically and to make future plans for what admissions should be. Dashboards are important to point out what we are not doing.

The Retention Committee Report was reviewed. Additional professional advisors are available for each of the colleges to help with retention and graduation rate. Faculty will be in a mentoring role. Nelljean Rice, Dean of University College, has developed a summer program for at-risk students where students come to campus and stay in the dorms.

Greg Thornburg described the new Coastal Excellence and Leadership (CEaL) summer program offering an early start for the transition to campus life for lower achieving students. These students are required to attend. Students will reside in campus housing for Summer II. In addition to receiving six academic credits, students will have the benefit of early contact with Coastal faculty members and their academic adviser to discuss academic and professional goals. Students are required to make at least a C in two courses or they will be denied admission for fall.

George Mullen inquired if we are admitting students who should not have been allowed entrance. He felt that marginal applicants who don't meet required standards would perhaps be more successful at HGTC.

Byington stated that the point is valid; however, our students meet admission requirements but need additional training to be successful. Once students are admitted, we must do all that we can to help the student be successful.

Eddie Dyer added that we are not losing the students who meet the lower standards; we are losing more at the top end.

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The next tier of students is also encouraged to attend summer school to give them a jumpstart and have a couple of courses under their belt before starting fulltime in August.

Byington remarked that 50% of our students have attended two-year programs. We need to become more attractive to these students through matriculation agreements and memorandums of understanding to transfer classes from these two years. Thornburg added that students who have an associate degree of science and arts have an auto accept.

DeCenzo said the Bridge Program was cancelled because we did not have housing for the HGTC students. Also, the perception that they were CCU students had caused problems. Thornburg added that the Bridge Program was for students with multiple deficiencies who would not have been accepted to CCU.

Chuck Lewis wanted to know what admission requirements were for student-athletes. Thornburg replied that the requirements are the same for all students. The only difference is that NCAA requirements stipulate a student must have a 2.25gpa in core courses to be eligible to play.

Lewis also asked if statistics were available for the percentage of graduates and job placement rates. Dean of the Wall College of Business Barb Ritter noted the 92.4% job/graduate school placement rate for the undergraduate program 9-months after graduation (2010-2012; based on available respondents) and 100% job/graduate school placement rate for the MBA program (2012; based on available respondents). Dean of Spadoni College of Education Ed Jadallah reported that the college is currently compiling the data and it is not yet available. DeCenzo stated that graduate school is comparable to job placement for the humanities, arts and science degrees.

Carlos Johnson made a motion to revise the Student Code of Conduct (Motion 14-02). Johnson reported that he had met with Oran Smith, Will Turner, Dave DeCenzo, Ralph Byington and Eddie Dyer to review the Student Code of Conduct specifically in relation to jurisdiction of the code and appeal authority. Specific changes in jurisdiction of the Code of Conduct (a) define jurisdiction of the Code (b) appeal decision to the Vice President for Student Affairs will be made in consultation with the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs.

Byington drew everyone's attention to the highlighted major changes in regards to "Jurisdiction of the Code" on page 7 which states: "Violations of University policies, rules, or regulations, or federal, state, or local law may constitute a violation of this Code and result in disciplinary action. The University has authority over all conduct violations that occur on University premises and reserves the right to consider the behavior of students off-campus when it is determined that the off-campus behavior is detrimental to the University and its educational

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mission.”

Hanna is concerned that we may fail as an institution in protecting student’s constitutional rights. Students are disadvantaged when being judged on-campus and wanted to know whether we had evaluated constitutional protections afforded to students. Biddle added that it appears that students are guilty until proven innocent.

The University believes that we have to have constitutional considerations in place when judgments are made on campus before a civil court process takes place. Meacham interjected that there is a difference between the student conduct process and the criminal justice process. The law is different because there is a public safety concern on college campuses. He will provide legal research concerning the differences and the process to the committee.

Because there was some discomfort with the code as written, Smith added Hanna to the committee and asked the committee to review the motion again.

Dan Moore moved to refer the motion to revise the Student Code of Conduct (14-02) back to the ad-hoc committee and Hannah for further review. Spivey seconded, and the motion carried.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Chyrel Stalvey for
Larry L. Biddle
Secretary/Treasurer