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Athletics Committee, May 3, 2018

Coastal Carolina University

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Minutes
Coastal Carolina University
Board of Trustees

Athletics Committee Meeting
E. Craig Wall Sr. Board Room
May 3, 2018

Members of the Committee Present: Mr. D. Wyatt Henderson, Mr. Charles E. Lewis, Mr. George E. Mullen, Mr. Patrick S. Sparks, Mr. Eugene C. Spivey, and Mr. H. Delan Stevens

Committee Member Not Present: Mr. William L. Lyles Jr.

Other Trustees: Mr. John H. Bartell Jr., Mr. William S. Biggs, Mr. Samuel H. Frink, Ms. Natasha M. Hanna, Mr. Carlos C. Johnson, Mr. Daniel W. R. Moore Sr., Dr. Oran P. Smith, Mr. H. Delan Stevens, Dr. Samuel J. Swad, and Mr. William E. Turner III

Others Present: Ms. Sandra A. Baldridge-Adrian, Ms. Katherine M. Brooks, Dr. J. Ralph Byington, Ms. Nedy Campbell, Ms. Julie Cheney, Mr. Joshua M. Chesson, Dr. Debbie C. Conner, Ms. Amanda E. Craddock, Dr. David A. DeCenzo, Dr. Darla J. Domke-Damonte, Dr. Daniel J. Ennis, Mr. David A. Frost, Mr. Stephen K. Harrison, Mr. Matthew L. Hogue, Dr. Sara N. Hottinger, Ms. Martha S. Hunn, Mr. Christopher A. Johnson, Ms. Robyn A. Jones, Dr. Gregory L. Krippel, Mr. Timothy E. Meacham, Dr. Megan McIlreavy, Mr. T. Rein Mungo, Mr. Travis E. Overton, Ms. Jennifer Packard, Mr. William M. Plate Jr., Mr. Mark A. Roach, Dr. Donald Rockey Jr., Ms. Carolyn Smith, Ms. V. Chyrel Stalvey, Mr. Gregory T. Thompson, and Mr. David Yancey

(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. No media were in attendance.)

Chairman Eugene Spivey brought the Athletics Committee meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Chuck Lewis made a motion to approve the Athletics Committee meeting minutes of February 15, 2018. Delan Stevens seconded, and the motion passed.

Executive Director of the Chanticleer Athletic Foundation (CAF) Chris Johnson stated that the CAF is entering one of its busiest times of year with April through June focusing on CAF.
membership growth through football season ticket sales and renewals, as well as suite solicitations, renewals and parking donations.

As of April 30, the CAF has raised $3,337,200 in total fundraising for FY2017/18. Total cash received between both current and prior year pledge payments totals $2,784,300.

The CAF Board of Directors will be holding its annual retreat next week. At this meeting the Board will elect two new directors and vote upon the next two years’ slate of officers.

We are ready to host what has grown into one of the largest local area social events of the year, the Chanticleer Gala on May 11. We currently have over 500 attendees and expect that the number will swell to over 550. Appreciation was expressed to the Board of Trustees for their support of this event for our student-athletes.

During the gala, Coastal alumni Chris and Heather St. John will receive the Chanticleer of the Year Award. They recently made a gift for the naming of the softball stadium, which also represents the first major naming right for a women’s only sport facility on campus. The stadium dedication will take place in the spring of 2019.

Henderson asked if the temporary suite in the end zone near the scoreboard will be available at the football games this year. Johnson said one suite will be available to accommodate 48 spaces and will be equipped with five televisions, assigned seating, and a deck on top. Inclusion will be based on priority points.

Director of Athletics Matt Hogue presented a sports update.

• Men’s and women’s golf have both won the Sunbelt Conference Championship and will be going to regionals. The men will play at the University of Florida at Kissimmee and the women will play at Florida State in Tallahassee.
• Coach Bill Garren and PGM Internship Director Gill Fagen had discussions where two new golfers were identified from the PGM program. Morgan Deneen did not play on the golf team last year. He is the number one player this year and not even on scholarship. Deneen's 10-under par 203 (73-63-67) not only is a Sun Belt record, but it ties for the fourth-best, 54-hole score in school history.
• The women’s lacrosse team won the Atlantic Sun Belt Conference championship. Five of their players are on the all-academic team. Harley Barrett was named Defensive Player of the Year, and Kristen Selvage was named Coach of the Year.
• Baseball is currently leading the Sun Belt Conference. Coastal Carolina plans to host NCAA regionals on June 1-4.
• Softball needs to win all three remaining games to win the Sun Belt Conference.
• The track and field championship is coming up. Newly elected Student Government Association President D’Andre Fletcher is one of the leading runners.
A special commencement will be held on Tuesday, May 8 for the 56 graduating student-athletes who will be competing this weekend in lacrosse, softball, and baseball.

CCU is ranked 132 in the Learfield Director’s Cup, the highest of any Sun Belt team. We have the opportunity to rise even higher before the season is finalized.

We are currently in fourth place for the Sun Belt Commissioner’s Cup, but have a chance to do better.

The fall football schedule has finally been released by the Sun Belt Conference.

Sun Belt has now signed a contract with ESPN 3 as their exclusive TV partner. All of our sports productions are now being done by students. We will need to upscale these productions to another level for ESPN 3.

The final Sun Belt transition strategic plan report will be submitted on June 1. By the end of the summer, we should receive approval, and the transition will be complete. We will then be eligible to play in a bowl.

After the women’s basketball conference was held on campus last year, ESPN was very pleased with our facilities and how the tournament was handled. As a result, CCU is partnering with the Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce and ESPN for a Myrtle Beach Invitational Basketball Tournament to be held in early December. CCU can only play once in every four years and will play in the 2019-2020 season. Eighteen tournaments will be played in three days.

This opens up the opportunity for other events to be held on campus and additional content will be shown on TV. ESPN has 30 events a year that they own and operate. Our facility will become more attractive for a regional bowl--whether or not we participate.

The NCAA oversight committee is looking at the whole participation certification for a bowl. The Commission on College Basketball gave a report on recommendations to reform the state of college basketball and how recruiting works. Ultimately, the legislation will be included in the bylaws.

Baseball America performed their annual ranking of college stadiums. CCU’s stadium was ranked eighth in the country and number one in the state. When it was being built, Coach Gary Gilmore insisted on the walkways around the stadium which an impact on the final decision for the ranking received.

President DeCenzo recently represented the Sun Belt Conference at the NCAA Division I Presidential Forum in Indianapolis. Part of the meeting was with the newly formed Commission on College Basketball chaired by Condoleezza Rice. Other members of the committee include former Duke star Grant Hill; former NBA star David Robinson; former college coaches Mike Montgomery and John Thompson III; former Florida Athletic Director Jeremy Foley; and current Ohio State Athletic director Gene Smith.
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Rice talked about the difference in sanctions of schools who had small infractions with stiffer penalties than those with more egregious infractions who only receive a slap on the hand. Rice is advocating that all NCAA violations go to an independent committee. In some cases, coaches are fired because of infractions by a university and get another job the next day. The committee will suggest the need for some coaches to be banned for life. These recommendations will be voted on in August and adopted recommendations will start immediately. It was felt that these changes are necessary for the reputation of the NCAA.

Spivey acknowledged the attendance of Associate Chair/Professor of Recreation & Sports Management Don Rockey who is the new faculty representative for athletics.

Oran Smith wanted to know if we were within the Sun Belt conference budget in updating the football stadium. Hogue said that we are basically within budget. The board was reminded that when the University becomes a full-fledged member of the conference, we will receive the full amount of funding from the Sun Belt Conference--depending on the conference success.

The football game with the University of South Carolina will bring in $1M revenue. Henderson feels that athletics should have a surplus this year.

As there was no further business, Stevens made a motion to adjourn, and Chuck Lewis seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

V. Chyrel Stalvey

V. Chyrel Stalvey
Recorder