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University of South Carolina

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee

March 5, 2008

The Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee of the University of South Carolina met on Wednesday, March 5, 2008, at 11:00 a.m. in the 1600 Hampton Street Board Room.

Members present were: Mr. John C. von Lehe, Jr., Chairman; Mr. William L. Bethea, Jr.; Mr. James Bradley; Mr. Mark W. Buyck, Jr.; Ms. Darla D. Moore; Mr. Herbert C. Adams, Board Chairman; and Mr. Miles Loadholt, Board Vice Chairman. Mr. Samuel R. Foster, II; Mr. William C. Hubbard; and Mr. Mack I. Whittle, Jr. were absent.

Other Trustees present were: Mr. John W. Fields; Dr. C. Edward Floyd; Mr. William W. Jones, Jr.; Mr. Toney J. Lister; Mr. M. Wayne Staton; Mr. Eugene P. Warr, Jr.; and Mr. Othniel H. Wienges, Jr.

Faculty Liaison Committee representatives present were: Dr. Robert Best, Chair of the Faculty Senate; Professor Elizabeth P. Bilderback, Chair of the Faculty Welfare Committee; and Dr. Teresa L. Smith, USC Sumter, Regional Campuses Representative. Dr. Pamela Cooper, USC Beaufort, Senior Campuses Representative; and Dr. Constance Schulz, Chair of the Faculty Advisory Committee were absent.

Others present were: President Andrew A. Sorensen; Secretary Thomas L. Stepp; Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Mark P. Becker; Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Richard W. Kelly; Vice President for Research and Health Affairs Harris Pastides; Vice President for Human Resources Jane M. Jameson; Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost for Academic Support Dennis A. Pruitt; Vice Provost and Executive Dean of Regional Campuses and Continuing Education Chris P. Plyler; General Counsel Walter (Terry) H. Parham; Associate Vice President for Research, Office of the Vice President of Research and Health Sciences, Rosemarie Booze; Associate Vice President for Business and Facilities Helen Zeigler; Assistant Treasurer Susan D. Hanna; Assistant Vice Provost for Academic Affairs William T. Moore; Vice Provost for Faculty Development Christine Curtis; Director of Athletics Eric Hyman; Dean of USC Union Hugh C. Rowland; Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, USC Upstate, Marsha Dowell; Director of Academic Services and Life

Skills, Department of Athletics, Raymond Harrison; Coordinator of Undergraduate Research, Office of Research and Health Sciences, Julie Morris; Special Assistant to the President and Athletics Director John D. Gregory; Applications Technician, Department of Athletics, Kumar Moguluru; Director of University Communications, University Advancement, Russ McKinney; Office of Media Relations Broadcast Journalist, Division of University Advancement, Frenche Brewer; University Technology Services Production Manager, Justin Johnson; Board staff members Terri Saxon, Vera Stone, and Karen Tweedy; and members of the media.

Chairman von Lehe called the meeting to order and invited those Board members present to introduce themselves. Mr. McKinney introduced the members of the media who were in attendance.

Chairman von Lehe stated that notice of the meeting had been posted and the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act; the agenda and supporting materials had been circulated to the Committee; and a quorum was present to conduct business.

Chairman von Lehe stated that there were personnel matters dealing with recommendations for honorary faculty titles, appointments with tenure, tenure and promotion recommendations, and honorary degree nominations which were appropriate for discussion in Executive Session.

Chairman von Lehe called for a motion to enter Executive Session. Mr. Buyck so moved. Mr. Adams seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried.

The following individuals were invited to remain: President Sorensen, Secretary Stepp, Dr. Becker, Dr. Pastides, Mr. Kelly, Dr. Pruitt, Ms. Jameson, Dr. Plyler, Mr. Parham, Dr. Moore, Dr. Curtis, Mr. Gregory, Mr. McKinney, Mrs. Saxon, Ms. Stone, and Ms. Tweedy.

Return to Open Session

Chairman von Lehe noted that he amended the order of business to accommodate Mr. Hyman's request to present first, in order to keep a prior commitment.

- I. Report from Director of Athletics:
 - A. Athletic Progress Report
 - B. Status of the Academic Enrichment Center

Chairman von Lehe called on Mr. Hyman, who introduced the Department of Athletics' Director of Academic Services and Life Skills Raymond Harrison. He said that Mr. Harrison did an excellent job for the Department and that he was very proud to work with him.

The Department of Athletics' Academic Program Objectives are as follows: bring in student-athletes with a legitimate chance to graduate; develop and foster an environment for academic success; and evaluate using academic progress and graduation rates.

Mr. Hyman discussed the Academic Program Assessment Recommendations: Personnel Restructuring; Program Enhancement Initiatives; and Facilities Enhancement. The Athletics Department's top priority was an Academic Enrichment Center. The ground breaking ceremony was scheduled for April 18, 2008.

Program Enhancement Measurements revealed the USC Student-Athletes' Grade Point Average was above 3.0 for the first time at 3.067 in Spring 2007, and 3.008 in Fall 2007. And, that they led the Southeastern Conference honor roll for the past two semesters with 104 honorees in Spring 2007 (18 more than any other institution), and 64 honorees in Fall 2007 (which includes 25 football players).

Mr. Hyman touched on the highlights of the proposed "The Dodie" Academic Enrichment Center, including that fact that when complete it would be the best in the country.

II. Magellan Scholars Program:

Chairman von Lehe called on Dr. Pastides who introduced Julie Morris, the Director of Undergraduate Research, Division of Health Sciences and Research. Dr. Pastides noted that the Magellan Scholars Program came from a Board of Trustees retreat which focused on enrollment management related to how to "increase the yield of the most highly qualified high school seniors that the University wanted to enroll." It also had the dual roll to increase the quality of the Undergraduate Research experience.

The Magellan Program began in 2006, with two annual competitions for undergraduate students that qualify. All Capstone Scholars receive a letter to participate in the Magellan Scholar Program.

Program participants are eligible to request up to \$3,000 for a mentor research experience that they could spend on travel, supplies, or other items they might need to work independently with a senior faculty member.

Ms. Morris reported that they had received 287 applications (Applicants were required to have at least a 3.3 GPA), and that 50-60% of the applications had been funded, and they hoped to see those numbers increase. These statistics however, did not reflect the current group of applicants. She noted that the

students had spread the word of their projects through national presentations and peer review publications. They had also received various awards, of which 18 were national awards including the Truman, Udall, Goldwater, and the National Science Foundation.

Ms. Morris highlighted some of the outstanding student projects.

III. Honorary Degree Nominations Process:

Chairman von Lehe explained that he was now aware, along with the other Trustees, that the recent revision of the Honorary Degree Nominations Process required only Board members to present their nomination proposals for Honorary Degrees. In his opinion it was not a good idea to bifurcate the process, but that to require presentation of all honorary degree proposals at the Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee meetings would not be prudent.

Chairman von Lehe stated that he shared his concern with Chairman Adams and Vice Chairman Loadholt. He noted that since the Ad Hoc Committee on Policies and Bylaws was the proper Committee to revisit this policy, they had met earlier in the day on this issue. As a result the Ad Hoc Committee proposed modifications to the current policy to provide for the establishment of an Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee Sub Committee to review every honorary degree nomination, no matter who proposed it. He referred to Secretary Stepp who reviewed the modifications in detail.

Secretary Stepp noted that in the earlier Ad Hoc Committee meeting, Mr. Parham had made some minor changes to legal language, which was not reflected in the copy provided to the Committee. He requested they Committee consider adopting the modified policy as amended by Mr. Parham.

Chairman von Lehe called for a motion to adopt the modified Honorary Degree Recipients Policy (BTRU 2.01). Mr. Buyck so moved and Ms. Moore seconded the motion.

Mr. Buyck said that there should be a provision by which nominations turned down by the Academic Affairs Sub Committee were at least reported to the full Academic Affairs Committee. Secretary Stepp noted that that issue might not be clear, but that was what was intended in the modified policy.

Dr. Floyd questioned the number of nominations accepted and Secretary Stepp responded that a high percentage of nominations were accepted. Mr. Adams stated that the reason for the modification to the policy was to ensure all nominations were treated equally.

Following some discussion it was agreed that the motion explicitly included the concept as expressed by Secretary Stepp, that the Sub Committee would have the opportunity to "seek information, to ask questions, to get oral

input by telephone or in person," or what ever it chose to do to ensure the process was "more thorough and more careful" with respect to direct input about each candidate. It was agreed to express this concept in the minutes because, in Secretary Stepp's words, "it is so implicit in what we are doing anyway it is really not beyond what we are talking about."

With that understanding, the vote was taken, and the motion carried.

V. Adjournment:

Since there were no other matters to come before the Committee, Chairman von Lehe declared the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Stepp
Secretary