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University of South Carolina  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Academic Excellence and Student Experience Committee

December 15, 2020

The Academic Excellence and Student Experience Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, December 15, 2020, in the Pastides Alumni Center Ballroom and by Microsoft Teams.

Committee members present were Mr. C. Dan Adams, Chair; Mr. Alex English; Mr. Richard A. Jones; Ms. Leah B. Moody; Mr. Eugene P. Warr; Dr. C. Dorn Smith III, Board Chair; and Mr. Thad H. Westbrook, Board Vice Chair. Committee members participating by Microsoft Teams were Ms. Molly Spearman and Mr. John C. von Lehe Jr.

Other Board members present were Mr. J. Egerton Burroughs, Mr. Brian Harlan, Mr. Hubert F. Mobley, and Mr. Mack I. Whittle Jr. Board members participating by Microsoft Teams were Dr. C. Edward Floyd, Mr. Toney J. Lister, Mr. Miles Loadholt, Ms. Emma W. Morris, Ms. Rose Buyck Newton, Mr. Robin D. Roberts, and Mr. Charles H. Williams.

Also present were USC Columbia Student Government President Ms. Issy Rushton and the Board's Strategic Advisor Mr. David Seaton. USC Columbia Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Mark Cooper participated by Microsoft Teams.

Others in attendance were President Robert L. Caslen Jr., Secretary J. Cantey Heath Jr., Vice President of Human Resources Caroline Agardy, Assistant Vice President Health and Wellness and Executive Director of Student Health Services Deborah Beck, President's Chief

of Staff Mark Bieger, Dean of the Darla Moore School of Business Peter Brews, President and CEO University Foundations Jason Caskey, Chief Audit Executive Pamela Dunleavy, Chancellor Palmetto College Susan Elkins, Interim Chief Development Officer Will Elliott, Associate Vice President of Finance and Budget Kelly Epting, Executive Director University 101 Programs Dan Friedman, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Lacy Ford, Vice President of Information Technology and Chief Information Officer Doug Foster, Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence August Grant, Associate Vice President of Facilities Planning Derek Gruner, College of Engineering and Computing Dean Hossein Haj-Hariri, Board of Trustees Governance Consultant Cameron Howell, Chief Executive Officer USC Alumni Association Wes Hickman, Dean of the School of Medicine Greenville Marjorie Jenkins, Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Studies Sandra Kelly, Assistant to the President for System Affairs Eddie King, Executive Director of Economic Engagement Bill Kirkland, Associate Vice President and Chief Procurement Officer Venis Manigo, Assistant Professor Arnold School of Public Health Melissa Nolan, USC Beaufort Chancellor Al Panu, General Counsel and Executive Director of Compliance Programs Terry Parham, Associate Dean for Operations and Accreditation Arnold School of Public Health Lee Pearson, Chief Operating Officer Jeff Perkins, Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost Dennis Pruitt, Interim Executive Communications Director Amy Rogers, Special Assistant to the President James Smith, University Treasurer and Assistant Vice President of Administrative Operations and Chief of Staff Joe Sobieralski, Assistant Vice President for Media and External Engagement Jeff Stensland, Director of Athletics Ray Tanner, Executive Vice President for Administration and CFO Ed Walton, and Vice President for Diversity Equity and Inclusion Julian Williams. Others attending via Microsoft Teams video conference were Executive Vice

President for Academic Affairs and Provost Bill Tate, and Board Governance Consultants Cathy Trower and Peter Eckel. Joining by audio conference were College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management Dean Matt Brown; Executive Director of Strategic Planning Jack Claypoole; Interim Chancellor USC Upstate Derham Cole; Assistant Dean for Enrollment Management and Academic Program Development, College of Education Rob Dedmon; Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs School of Law Susan Kuo; Vice President for Research Prakash Nagarkatti; Chancellor USC Beaufort Al Panu; Dean of the College of Education Jon Pedersen; and College of Information and Communications Dean Tom Reichert.

## OPEN SESSION

### I. Call to Order

Chair Adams called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance, and asked everyone at the table to introduce themselves. Secretary Heath confirmed Committee and Board members in attendance via Microsoft Teams video conference.

Chairman Adams called on Mr. Stensland to introduce members of the press in attendance. Mr. Stensland introduced Lucas Daprile with the *State*, attending in person and Christine Bartruff with the *Daily Gamecock* and Reggie Anderson with *WLTN* joining by audio conference. Chair Adams stated, 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; and a quorum was present to conduct business.

Chair Adams called on Board Chair Dorn Smith for comments. Dr. Smith stated, the Board has retained governance consultants Cathy Trower and Peter Eckel to facilitate the upcoming Board Retreat. Dr. Trower is president of Trower & Trower, Inc., a board

governance consulting firm. Dr. Peter Eckel is a senior fellow and director of leadership programs in the Alliance for Higher Education for Democracy in the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Education. They have been asked to observe the Open and Executive Sessions of today's meetings. He extended the Board's welcome to Dr. Trower and Dr. Eckel.

#### MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Adams stated, there were personnel matters dealing with honorary academic titles and new hires with tenure appropriate for discussion in Executive Session and called for a motion. Mr. Jones moved to enter Executive Session, and Ms. Moody seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously. The following were invited to remain: Trustees, President Caslen, Secretary Heath, the President's Executive Council, Dr. Cooper, Ms. Rushton, Mr. Seaton, Chancellor Derham Cole, Chancellor Sandra Jordan, Chancellor Al Panu, and Board support staff. All others in attendance were excused.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Executive Session Removed

#### RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

##### II. USC Columbia

Chair Adams called on Provost Tate to present new programs for consideration. Provost Tate provided a brief overview of new program requests and advised information related to each program, including financials, was posted to the Board Portal.

##### A. New Program

1. BS Music Industry Studies – The BS in Music Industry Studies meets market demand and adds value at the nexus of business preparation and the music industry.

2. BA and MA Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (Program Consolidation)  
– Languages, Literatures, and Cultures programs are being combined at the undergraduate and master’s levels, which strengthens the programs and allows greater competition in today’s marketplace.
3. MSN Nurse Education – The MSN in Nurse Education meets a tremendous need for the State of South Carolina.
4. Certificate in Graduate Studies in Nursing Education – This new program allows for a higher level of certification.
5. PhD Psychology (Program Consolidation) – The PhD Psychology combines three concentrations in psychology in accordance with how Association of American Universities’ PhD programs in that area of study are organized.
6. PhD Informatics – The PhD Informatics program capitalizes on the University’s College of Engineering and Computing to provide a rich experience at the PhD level in the areas of informatics and data analytics.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval to the full Board for establishment of these seven new programs as presented and posted on the Board Portal for this meeting. Mr. Warr so moved, and Mr. English seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

Provost Tate provided a brief overview of requested program modifications.

B. Program Modifications

1. MEd Learning Design and Technology – This program is currently a joint program between USC Columbia and USC Aiken. Discussions between the

two campuses resulted in a determination that a joint program was no longer necessary. Accordingly, the degree will now only be offered by the Columbia campus.

2. MEd Special Education (add concentration) – The proposed modification adds a multi-categorical concentration to the existing MEd in Special Education and terminates concentrations in Emotional and Behavioral Disorders, Intellectual Disabilities, and Learning Disabilities. Concentrations in Early Childhood Special Education and Severe and Multiple Disabilities will remain an option. The new concentration will be available 100% online.
3. MAT Special Education (add concentration) – The proposed modification adds a multi-category concentration to the existing MAT in Special Education and terminates concentrations in Emotional and Behavioral Disorders, Intellectual Disabilities, and Learning Disabilities. The concentration in Severe and Multiple Disabilities will remain an option. The program will provide students with all requirements for initial certification in multi-category special education and address the severe shortage of special education teachers in South Carolina and the United States.
4. MBA/PharmD Combination Degree – This modification establishes a combination degree for the MBA and PharmD programs to allow students to work toward the degrees concurrently.
5. MD Medicine – This modification realigns the second-year medical curriculum to optimize student learning and retention of foundational

sciences for application to later clinical work.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval to the full Board the five program modifications as presented and posted on the Board Portal for this meeting. Mr. von Lehe so moved, and Ms. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

Provost Tate provided a brief overview of five dual degree program approval requests.

C. Dual Degree Programs

1. BS Civil Engineering Dual Degree with National University of Science and Technology, Sultanate of Oman – This dual degree program provides opportunities for students to expand their learning and enhance their academic mentoring from faculty from both universities.
2. BS Mechanical Engineering Dual Degree with National University of Science and Technology, Sultanate of Oman – This dual degree program provides opportunities for students to expand their learning and enhance their academic mentoring from faculty from both universities.
3. BS Electrical Engineering Dual Degree with National University of Science and Technology, Sultante of Oman - This dual degree program provides opportunities for students to expand their learning and enhance their academic mentoring from faculty from both universities.
4. MPH Dual Degree and MHA Dual Degree with Nanjing Medical University – This modification establishes a 3+2 program with Nanjing Medical University to allow students to finish their undergraduate degree while simultaneously beginning graduate work towards an MHA or MPH in

## Health Services Policy Management.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval to the full Board of these five dual degree programs as presented and posted on the Board Portal for this meeting. Mr. Jones so moved, and Ms. Moody seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

Provost Tate provide brief overviews involving two program name changes.

### D. Program Name Changes

1. Accelerated Master of Business Administration Name Change to One-Year Master of Business Administration – This title change aligns the University with peer aspirants and the evolution of industry naming standards. The program will continue to be offered in an accelerated format.
2. Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in Library and Information Science Name Change to Certificate of Specialized Study in Information Science – This proposed name change reduces the required credit hours from 18 to 12 and replaces the internship requirement with a more open capstone experience that could be satisfied by an internship, independent study, thesis, or practicum.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval of these two program name changes to the full Board as presented and posted to the Board Portal for this meeting. Mr. von Lehe so moved, and Mr. English seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

Provost Tate provided a brief overview of two 100% online delivery programs.

### E. Online Delivery – 100%

1. BS Integrated Information Technology, College of Engineering and Computing – This program prepares students in a wide range of technologies providing essential knowledge and skills that are in high demand across all sectors of the economy. It is designed to attract more under-represented minorities in the STEM fields and to expand BS-level degree completion options for students from the University’s extended campuses and the community/technical colleges.
2. BA Interdisciplinary Studies – This program is designed specifically for the more mature student dealing with competing priorities that give rise to unique challenges in completing his or her degree.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval of these two online delivery programs to the full Board as presented and posted to the Board Portal for this meeting. Ms. Spearman so moved, and Mr. Warr seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

Provost Tate provided a brief overview of information related to the establishment of the Cardiovascular Translational Research Center (CTRC).

F. New Center

- Cardiovascular Translational Research Center (CTRC) – The CTRC’s overall mission is to improve cardiovascular health in South Carolina and beyond. The CTRC will build upon existing strengths and establish unique collaborations across multiple disciplines, colleges, and clinical partners. There will be increased funding for basic and translational biomedical research, training for a diverse workforce to meet regional needs in a

changing healthcare environment, and educational outreach to patient populations in South Carolina.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval of the establishment of the Cardiovascular Translational Research Center to the full Board as presented and posted to the Board Portal for this meeting. Mr. Jones so moved, and Ms. Moody seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

### III. Approval of Personnel Matters

Chair Adams presented USC Columbia and USC Beaufort personnel matters involving honorary academic titles, hires with tenure, and tenure and promotions for consideration as discussed in Executive Session. He called for a motion to recommend approval of these personnel matters to the full Board as presented and posted to the Board Portal for this meeting. Mr. English so moved, and Mr. Warr seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

### IV. Approval of Faculty Manual Change – Budget Committee

Chair Adams called on General Counsel Terry Parham to present a proposed amendment to the Faculty Manual. Mr. Parham stated, at the September 11, 2020 meeting of the Academic Excellence and Student Experience Committee, the Committee acted on a set of amendments dealing with professional track faculty. Proposed amendments dealing with the Faculty Budget Committee were deferred so that questions concerning the scope and intent of proposed language which reads “Members of the Faculty Budget Committee will represent the faculty on any committee established for regular budget review and planning.” He stated, at the direction of Provost Tate, he had discussions with Faculty Senate Chair Mark Cooper, and they have agreed to clarify that language to provide that Faculty Budget

Committee members will represent the faculty “on any permanent committee established by the administration as part of the formal university-wide budget review process.” This new language clarifies that it applies to permanent committees and not board committees. Further, it only applies to committees created to consider the university-wide budget as opposed to university individual academic units.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval of the Faculty Manual Change related to the Budget Committee to the full Board as presented and posted to the Board Portal for this meeting. Ms. Moody so moved, and Mr. von Lehe seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

V. Review of Bylaws and Committee Charter

Chair Adams stated, Article VIII. Responsibilities of Standing Committees, Section 1. Academic Excellence and Student Experience Committee of the Board Bylaws and the Academic Excellence and Student Experience Committee Charter adopted by the Board on June 19, 2020 were uploaded to the Board Portal for this meeting. He asked that Committee members review these documents and provide him with feedback as to any changes or additions that should be considered.

VI. Review of Committee Matrix

Chair Adams stated, a draft of the Academic Excellence and Student Experience Committee work matrix was uploaded on the Board Portal. He noted the matrix provides a timeline through October 15, 2021, and asked Committee members to review the Work Matrix and provide him with feedback as to any changes or additions that should be considered.

VII. Other Matters

Chair Adams called for other matters to come before the Committee.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no other matters on the agenda, Chair Adams adjourned the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Cantey Heath, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

J. Cantey Heath, Jr.  
Secretary