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University of South Carolina
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee

March 22, 2013

The Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met on Friday, March 22, 2013, at 12:30 p.m. in the 1600 Hampton Street Board Room.

Members present were: Mr. Thad H. Westbrook, Chairman; Mr. Robert E. Brown, Sr.; Mr. Mark W. Buyck, Jr.; Mr. Thomas C. Cofield; Mr. A.C. "Bubba" Fennell III; Mr. William W. Jones, Jr.; Mr. Hubert F. Mobley; Mr. Eugene P. Warr, Jr., Board Chairman and Mr. John C. von Lehe, Jr., Board Vice Chairman.

Other Board members present were: Mr. Chuck Allen; Mr. William C. Hubbard; Ms. Leah B. Moody; Dr. C. Dorn Smith III; Mr. Mack I. Whittle, Jr.; and Mr. Charles H. Williams.

Faculty Liaison Committee representatives present were: Dr. Sandra J. Kelly, Chair of the Faculty Senate; Dr. Bruce Nims, USC Lancaster, Regional Campuses Representative; and Dr. David Ferris, USC Upstate, Senior Campuses Representative. Representatives absent were: Dr. James Knapp, Chair of the Faculty Advisory Committee; and Dr. David D. Mott, Chair of the Faculty Welfare Committee

Others present were: President Harris Pastides; Secretary Amy E. Stone; Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Michael D. Amiridis; Chief Financial Officer Edward L. Walton; Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost for Academic Support Dennis A. Pruitt; Vice President of Development and Alumni Relations Michelle D. Dodenhoff; Vice President for Research Prakash Nagarkatti; Vice President for Human Resources Chris Byrd; General Counsel Walter (Terry) H. Parham; Senior Vice Provost and Director of Strategic Planning Christine W. Curtis; Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Studies Helen Doerpinghaus; Special Assistant to the President J. Cantey Heath, Jr.; Chancellor of USC Upstate Tom Moore; Chancellor of Palmetto College Susan A. Elkins; Vice Provost and Executive Dean, Palmetto College, Chris P. Plyler; Dean of the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies Charles Bierbauer; Executive Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Roger H. Sawyer; Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, USC Upstate, Warren J. Carson; Associate Dean for International Programs and Continuing Education, College of Engineering and Computing, Hanif Chaudhry; Chair of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering and Director of the Center

for Information Technology, College of Engineering and Computing, Michael N. Huhns; Professor and Acting Associate Dean, College of Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management, Tena B. Crews; Professor and Chair of the Department of Sport and Entertainment Management, College of Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management, Andy Gillentine; Associate Professor in the School of Library and Information Science, College of Mass Communications and Information Studies, Kendra S. Albright; Associate Professor and Head of the Visual Communications Sequence in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications, College of Mass Communications and Information Studies, Van Kornegay; Assistant Professor in the School of Library and Information Science, College of Mass Communications and Information Studies, Karen Gavigan; Executive Director of the South Carolina Center for Children's Books and Literacy and Director of Cockey's Reading Express Kim Jeffcoat; Director of Academic Programs, Office of the Provost, Kristia H. Finnigan; Director of State Relations Trey Walker; Interim Dean of the Mary Black School of Nursing, USC Upstate, Katharine M. Gibb; Dean of the School of Education, USC Aiken, Jeffrey M. Priest; Associate Director of Strategic Planning and Assessment Cameron Howell; Associate Director of State Relations Trey Walker; College of Mass Communications and Information students Zac Baker, James Armstrong and Thomasin Holly; Wife of Trustee Charles Williams, Karen Williams; Interim Vice President for Communications Wesley T. Hickman; University Technology Services Production Manager, Matt Warthen; Board staff members Debra Allen, Terri Saxon and Karen Tweedy; and members of the media.

Chairman Westbrook called the meeting to order and invited Committee members to introduce themselves. Mr. Hickman introduced members of the press Thad Moore and Amanda Coyne from *The Daily Gamecock*.

Chairman Westbrook 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 posted on the Board Portal for Committee review; and a quorum was present to conduct business.

Chairman Westbrook announced that Open Session agenda items will be reviewed initially followed by the Executive Session. He called on Provost Amiridis who introduced Dean Bierbauer to present his academic update.

I. Academic Updates:

A. College of Mass Communications and Information Studies: Dean Bierbauer

expressed pleasure at receiving this invitation to offer remarks regarding activities within the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies.

He commented that the journalism school was building an emphasis on business and financial reporting, a relatively new program with courses taught by professional business journalists. The Committee viewed video clips of various journalism students talking about the value of the business journalism program. Dean Bierbauer stated that the program had received an important boost from the endowment of the Baldwin Business Journalism Initiative.

This summer, Associate Professor Van Kornegay will be escorting a group of students to Malawi in southern Africa. He stated that it had been advertised as a service learning trip because students will learn to tell stories by living the story. Approximately 10 students will be working with the non-governmental organization, Ministry of Hope, an African based group.

Projects will include working in a mobile medical clinic and covering a village solar lighting project where solar panels will be mounted on community centers to give people an opportunity to charge lanterns and cell phones (very important in rural Africa). Students will also be involved in a bucket drip irrigation project. Essentially, he noted, they will be working with the staff of this organization as well as documenting their experiences.

The idea for the Malawi trip actually began several years ago when Professor Kornegay escorted a Magellan Scholar to the area to produce a short informational video about this group. He described the experience as “transformational” for the student who subsequently returned to Columbia and earned a degree with a public relations minor in non-profit NGO public relations. After graduation, she returned to Africa and worked for two years in Zania, Tanzania.

Dean Bierbauer announced that he and Scott Farrand, an Instructor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications, were taking 21 students to Munich and Berlin during Maymester where they will be involved in multimedia storytelling in an unfamiliar environment.

He introduced School of Library and Information Sciences Associate Professor Kendra Albright and Assistant Professor Karen Gavigan who went to prison to gather materials for a project.

Dr. Albright initially explained that HIV cases were growing at an alarming rate in South Carolina. The highest at risk population was the African American teenage population between the ages of 15-19.

Her research had revealed that culturally targeted materials tended to be more effective than generic information.

Dr. Gavigan's research involved the use of graphic novels (somewhat like comic books) specifically to boost literacy among adolescent males experiencing reading difficulties. Ultimately, the two professors began a dialogue about the possibility of creating a graphic novel targeting HIV AIDS prevention in African American teens in South Carolina.

Through a community initiative grant and with the support of the dean and director of the school, they teamed up with the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice working with their adolescent incarcerated youth between the ages of 15 and 19. "We met with them twice a week last summer and they wrote the story; they developed the characters; and they wrote the script." An illustrator from New York brought the characters to life. What resulted was a graphic novel called *AIDS in the End Zone*, a copy of which was distributed to all Board members.

Their objectives for the project were to target the population; to have them write the story; and to use the resulting graphic novel as an intervention tool for the prevention of HIV AIDS. They will be working with four public libraries in the Richland Library system. A total of 40 participants will be tested for their knowledge gains after reading the graphic novel. Participants will also be asked to help with any modifications they may suggest.

Once the modifications were completed, the professors planned to distribute it nationally and ultimately, with additional funding, to take it to Africa where Dr. Albright had contacts.

Dean Bierbauer introduced Kim Jeffcoat and an outstanding student volunteer, James Armstrong, to share the inside story about the literacy initiative at the University.

Ms. Jeffcoat announced that Cockey's Reading Express, a collaboration of the Student Government Association and the School of Library and Information Science to help school children understand the importance of life-long reading, had visited all 46 South Carolina counties. Today, nearly 60,000 books had been distributed to children in the state. She reported that the program was continuing to expand and that they had partnered with community organizations and other colleges across campus. Mr. Armstrong added that he believed the most important part of the program was the commitment of student volunteers.

Ms. Jeffcoat continued that they were also offering literacy programs in the areas of finance, nutrition, healthcare and environment to families. Parents were receiving valuable information and resources while they introduced the children to books about these themes.

This program was also adding technology. Under development was an app to leave with the schools between visits which will track not only how students' attitudes toward reading were changing, but also their chronological awareness (comprehension skills and vocabulary).

Ms. Jeffcoat proudly introduced "Young Palmetto Books," a collaborative effort with the University Press and the South Carolina Center for Children's Books and Literacy. For the first time, children and young adult materials will be published. These materials will be placed in libraries and in schools and used as part of the outreach effort. She announced that the first publication is titled "Fragments of the Arc" by Louise Merriweather and the second is "A Greek Revival From the Garden" by Carolina's First Lady, Patricia Moore-Pastides. She was also very excited to reveal that her colleagues' graphic novel, "Aids in the End Zone," was on advance contract.

Mr. Fennell asked for a copy of the Cockey's Reading Express bus schedule so that he would be aware when it was visiting his county. President Pastides indicated that the information will be posted on the Board Portal.

B. Academic Dashboard Adjustment: Provost Amiridis introduced Vice President for Research Prakash Nagarkatti to discuss the effects of the recent government sequestration in the area of research funding at the University.

Dr. Nagarkatti initially remarked that the impact of sequestration had resulted in the loss of \$85 billion of funding from the federal government.

In the past 10 years the University's research funding had more than doubled from \$100 million to a record of \$238 million in fiscal year 2012 which was an increase of approximately 33 percent from 5 years ago. USC was the only university in the state of South Carolina identified as a tier one research institution by the Carnegie Institute.

Dr. Nagarkatti explained that nearly 60-70 percent of research funding generated at either public or private universities was provided by the federal government.

Data for fiscal year 2012 revealed that the University generated \$238 million of research funding of which \$142 million or 60 percent of that total originated from federal agencies. NIH (National Institutes of Health) provided approximately 27 percent; Health and Human Services, excluding NIH, provided the remaining 28 percent which accounted for most of the research funding in the area of health sciences and life sciences. The National Science Foundation (NSF) sponsored 14 percent; the Department of Defense

sponsored 10 percent; the Department of Energy sponsored 14 percent; and the Department of Education sponsored 7 percent.

Anticipated was the following potential impact of sequestration. NIH and NSF funding will be reduced 5.2 percent which, Dr. Nagarkatti emphasized, will have significant impact on the research currently underway at the University. NIH had already reduced the funding for most of the principal investigators approximately 10 percent. He understood that NSF will not cut existing grants, but may reduce the total number of grants by 1000 in the next year.

Because NIH and NSF will fund fewer new projects, it will be very difficult for USC faculty members, and particularly junior faculty, to compete successfully for them. Currently the success rate at NIH and NSF, the major funding agencies, was approximately 6-8 percent. Dr. Nagarkatti pointed out that less than 10 percent of the grants submitted by faculty members were funded nationally which will further cause problems trying to secure these grants.

Dr. Nagarkatti predicted that existing projects may face significant cuts. Some agencies may eliminate certain programs completely. Recently, he indicated, there was an amendment attempting to force NSF to discontinue funding for political science. In the same manner, the Department of Defense or Department of Education may try to prioritize funding.

In addition, graduate students may be affected through reduction in the research assistantships because faculty members include those kinds of salaries (research assistantships and tuition for graduate students) in their grant applications.

Dr. Nagarkatti advised that the United States Senate was reviewing 200 amendments involved in the sequestration, one of which addressed the possibility of restoring the NIH funding. "We'll keep our fingers crossed and see how that goes."

Dr. Nagarkatti displayed a chart which provided information about the manner in which faculty members were funded through various agencies. An estimated average of 8.4 percent had been calculated to determine how sequestration may impact funding from the federal agencies. It was anticipated that total this year may reach \$12 million which may continue in the future.

In response to sequestration, the University was attempting to collect indirect costs and return them to the infrastructure. In addition, the University was trying to provide bridge funds to the faculty so that they could successfully compete for original sources of funding using interdisciplinary research which was focused on problems or opportunities unique to the state or region.

Dr. Nagarkatti summarized the large grants the University had been able to secure. He especially highlighted two grants the University had received this year: NIH Center for Inflammation for \$10 million as well as the only center in the nation for birth defects for a total of \$28 million. “We are trying to use the fact that we are a comprehensive university trying to put together interdisciplinary centers of excellence and compete nationally. We believe that will help offset some of the loss we may experience. We will try to continue on that path toward reaching the \$300 million research goal.”

President Pastides remarked that this past Tuesday he had met with the South Carolina delegation in Washington, D.C. The feeling was that sequestration will not be quickly resolved and that there will be additional automatic cuts occurring in the second year. He noted that he was in Washington, D.C. on that day to advocate for not cutting the Federal Direct Student Loan Program; University of South Carolina students alone, he indicated, had borrowed \$318 million in loans from the federal government in one year. Sequestration did not affect the student population. Students will not be asked to return money this year; however, as part of the automatic triggering for next year, that program will be cut in terms of new loans (another potential impact of sequestration).

Provost Amiridis advised that the University will adjust the Academic Dashboard because it was highly unrealistic that the previously established targets would be attained when a \$50 million reduction was anticipated this year. Research expenditures will decrease approximately \$12-15 million which, most likely, will be reflected in the data of other institutions as well.

Provost Amiridis further explained that because the University paid some of the faculty on a nine-month salary basis (the remaining three months’ summer salary was expected to be generated through grants), that amount will not be enough to pay them through the summer. In essence, he noted, there will be no effect on the institution, but rather a personal effect on them.

“It will mean that we will probably not be able to renew the employment of a number of people who were employed with ‘soft money’ (basically on research grants) and not performing teaching functions, but were hired by the principal investigators to conduct research. If the grants are not there, the size of our research personnel supported by grants outside of the University will shrink. There is potentially going to be an impact on the number of doctoral students, because a good number of them are funded by these programs.

It had been made clear, he emphasized, that the University cannot pick up the research costs of those faculty members conducting externally funded research.

II. Program Proposals

A. Master of Science (MS) in System Design, College of Engineering and Computing,

USC Columbia: Provost Amiridis stated that this proposed degree program

combined various engineering technical aspects with more of the skills required to assemble systems in order to optimize costs and reduce risk. The program will focus on systems in the area of energy, aerospace, cyber security and power system design. He noted that it was one of the degree programs associated with the McNair Center.

Provost Amiridis advised that Clemson University had started a Master of Science degree in Systems Engineering last fall. Clemson's focus was in the areas of ecology, environmental engineering, transportation and information technology which complemented this program. The University planned to cooperate with the Clemson program as well as with a much smaller degree program at The Citadel in project management.

Mr. Cofield moved approval of the Master of Science (MS) in System Design, College of Engineering and Computing, USC Columbia as presented. Mr. Jones seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

B. Ph.D. in Sport and Entertainment Management, College of Hospitality, Retail, and

Sport Management, USC Columbia: Provost Amiridis noted that there was an

increased interest around the state and across the country in sport and entertainment management programs. In fact, the University's sport and entertainment management program was quite strong and attracted out-of-state students.

Because of the national expansion of these programs, faculty members were needed; therefore, the program would address that need. It will be the only such doctoral program in the state; nationally, only 21 doctoral programs in this field currently exist. An interesting statistic was the fact that when undergraduate programs advertised for faculty positions in that area, 40 percent remained unfilled because there were not enough doctoral graduates to fill them.

Mr. Buyck moved approval of the Ph.D. in Sport and Entertainment Management, College of Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management, USC Columbia. Mr. Fennell seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

C. Associate of Science (A.S.) in Criminal Justice, USC Salkehatchie, USC Sumter and

USC Union: This program proposal will align the three regional campuses with the

fourth one, USC Lancaster, which already offered the program. One of the Palmetto College degree

programs was criminal justice which will be taught at USC Upstate; therefore, the University was “setting the foundation” to create a seamless transition into the criminal justice program for students.

In response to Mr. Whittle’s question regarding funding, Provost Amiridis indicated that part of the incremental funding for the program was derived from the state appropriation to create Palmetto College. As a result, the University had already allocated one faculty position on each of the regional campuses; two were assigning these positions to criminal justice.

Mr. Buyck moved approval of the Associate of Science (A.S.) in Criminal Justice, USC Salkehatchie, USC Sumter and USC Union. Mr. Fennell seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

D. Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) in Clinical Nurse Leader, USC Upstate:

Provost Amiridis stated that this proposed program would focus on leadership skills so that graduates will have extensive training in assessing the risk, designing and implementing plans of care and overseeing care delivery for individuals, families or broader populations.

USC Upstate planned to collaborate with London University which was also proposing a program like this one. The two programs will approach the Commission on Higher Education together; the University, therefore, had been asked to accelerate the approval process.

Mr. Jones moved approval of the Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) in Clinical Nurse Leader, USC Upstate. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

III. Review of Program Terminations: Provost Amiridis distributed information to Committee members listing new and terminated programs during the past three years which spanned the current administration’s term of office.

The first part of the table displayed a list of new programs and approval dates; the second section listed the terminated programs and the reasons for termination. He noted that the explanations were relatively similar: low enrollment, no enrollment or replaced by another program because the current one was outdated.

Mr. Whittle asked if the expenses associated with terminated programs were totally removed. Provost Amiridis explained that it was difficult to determine the cost savings because, for example, a staff member’s time will have been reallocated. He hoped to have more information in the near future to present to the Committee. Chairman Westbrook indicated that the Committee will revisit this topic at its next meeting.

Chairman Westbrook stated that there were personnel matters dealing with recommendations for honorary faculty titles, honorary degree nominations and appointments with tenure as well as the receipt of legal advice which were appropriate for discussion in Executive Session. Mr. Buyck moved approval to enter Executive Session. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

The following individuals were invited to remain: Trustees, Dr. Pastides, Secretary Stone, Dr. Amiridis, Mr. Parham, Mr. Walton and Dr. Pruitt.

Return to Open Session

- Adjournment: Since there were no other matters to come before the Committee, Chairman Westbrook declared the meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Amy E. Stone". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A".

Amy E. Stone
Secretary