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University of South Carolina

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee

March 17, 2005

The Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met on Thursday, March 17, 2005, at 1:50 p.m. in the Capstone House Campus Room.

Members present were: Mr. John C. von Lehe, Jr., Chairman; Mr. James Bradley; Mr. Samuel R. Foster, II; Mr. William C. Hubbard; Ms. Darla D. Moore; Mr. Othniel H. Wienges, Jr.; Mr. Herbert C. Adams, Board Chairman; and Mr. Miles Loadholt, Board Vice Chairman. Mr. Robert N. McLellan and Mr. Mack I. Whittle, Jr. were absent. Other Trustees present were: Mr. Arthur S. Bahnmuller; Mr. William W. Jones, Jr.; Mr. Toney J. Lister; Ms. Rita M. McKinney; Mr. M. Wayne Staton; and Mr. Eugene P. Warr, Jr.

Faculty Liaison Committee members present were: Dr. James R. Augustine, Chair of the Faculty Senate; Dr. C. Eugene Reeder, Chair-Elect of the Faculty Senate; Ms. Linda Allman, Chair of the Faculty Advisory Committee; and Dr. Lisa Rashley, USC Lancaster, representative for the Regional Campuses. Dr. Timir Datta, Chair of the Faculty Welfare Committee, and Dr. Joe Harm, USC Aiken, Senior Campuses representative, 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 Information Technology and Chief Information Officer William F. Hogue; Vice President for Research and Health Sciences Harris Pastides; Vice President for Human Resources Jane M. Jameson; Vice President for Student Affairs Dennis A. Pruitt; General Counsel Walter (Terry) H. Parham; Vice Provost and Executive Dean for Regional Campuses and Continuing Education Chris P. Plyler; Chancellor of USC Aiken Thomas L. Hallman; Chancellor of USC Upstate John C. Stockwell; Associate Provost for Institutional Outreach and Dean of The Graduate School Christine Ebert; Vice President for Medical Affairs and Dean of the School of Medicine Larry R. Faulkner; Dean of the Arnold School of Public Health Donna L. Richter; Associate Dean for Clinical Research and Special Projects, School of Medicine, Stanley D.

Fowler; Interim Associate Dean for Clinical Research, College of Nursing, Kathleen Scharer; Public Information Officer, USC Lancaster, Shana Funderburk; Public Information Officer, Office of Media Relations, Karen Petit; and Director of University Communications, Division of University Advancement, Russ McKinney, Jr.

Chairman von Lehe called the meeting to order and invited those Board members present to introduce themselves. Mr. McKinney indicated that no members of the press 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 honorary faculty titles, appointments with tenure, and honorary degree nominations which were appropriate for discussion in Executive Session. Mr. Bradley so moved and Mr. Wienges seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried.

The following individuals were invited to remain: Dr. Sorensen, Mr. Stepp, Dr. Becker, Mr. Kelly, Dr. Pastides, Dr. Hogue, Dr. Pruitt, Mr. Parham, Ms. Jameson, Dr. Plyler, Mr. McKinney, Ms. Stone, and Ms. Tweedy.

Return to Open Session

I. Update on University Goals in Academic Areas: Chairman von Lehe called on Provost Becker who initially commented that the process of formulating Board of Trustees' goals for the University had emanated from a retreat which had been held the previous September. From a pool of more than 40 goals which had been identified through efforts led by Mr. Hubbard and Mr. Whittle during their chairmanships, a project had developed to establish a smaller number of goals with specific targets in focused areas that the University would consistently track through the year 2010.

The five identified categories with concomitant goals were: Undergraduate Students (SAT Scores/Student Awards and Distinctions); Post-Baccalaureate Students (Doctoral Degrees Conferred/Professional School/Program Rankings); Faculty (Hiring/Faculty Awards and Distinctions); Research (Total Research Awards and Expenditures/Federal Research Awards and Expenditures); and Resources (Endowment/Annual Giving). As a next step, these measures will be specifically defined; Provost Becker briefly reviewed points to consider under each goal.

Mr. Adams asked whether the University will consider an applicant's high school class ranking as a factor in admissions. Provost Becker responded that typically the high school GPA score was the best predictor nationally of academic success; Dr. Pruitt concurred with this statement. Dr. Pruitt further stated that the University closely tracked class ranking; however, only 60 percent of Carolina students provided the information because many high schools did not publish it. Certain states were required to calculate ranking because of a top 10 percent rule; others submitted that data after the May 1st application deadline. Provost Becker noted that for high school student success measures, *US News and World Report* ranked SAT scores as the highest.

Responding to Mr. Bahnmuller's inquiry about the current status of the Fall 2005 admission process, Dr. Pruitt advised that the University had received 13,000 applications; 8,000 students had been accepted with a projected goal of 3,400 enrolled freshmen. He also remarked that 1,200 students had been offered the opportunity to participate in the Capstone Scholars Program; to date, 350 had accepted. A typical entering student for the upcoming fall semester will have scored 1158 on the SAT and will have earned a 3.6 high school GPA. In addition, as President Sorensen pointed out, a wholistic admissions process will be in effect beginning 2006 so that criteria other than SAT scores and grade point averages will be considered.

In conclusion, Provost Becker remarked that he will again report to the Committee in the near future with greater specificity particularly in those areas

which required more precise definitions; also included will be targets for the University to attain during the next five years.

II. Residency Status and Institutional Aid: Chairman von Lehe called on Dr. Pruitt who asked to report to the Committee regarding a change of University policy in the area of scholarships which was affecting many states.

He explained that 10 million illegal or undocumented aliens lived in this country. Both the federal and state governments were trying to determine the degree of benefits and services to provide to these individuals. Under President Bush's administration, the federal government was supporting an amnesty policy which would allow undocumented aliens who were living in this country, paying taxes, and abiding by the laws, to obtain a renewable green card every three years. The states of Utah and Arizona were considering the possibility of restricting benefits and services; other states such as Arkansas and Minnesota were considering the possibility of providing a wide range of services. For example, Arkansas had recently voted to allow students who were dependents of undocumented aliens living there to attend state universities, to receive in-state fees, and to be eligible for in-state scholarships.

Two years ago, in South Carolina, the University began working with the Commission on Higher Education to determine ways to handle this situation because they were finding individuals who had lived in the state for an extended period of time and had graduated from South Carolina high schools--many of whom were excellent students with outstanding academic records--were not authorized to benefit from the state scholarship program or to receive in-state fees.

In response, this past year the Commission on Higher Education (CHE) extended visa certifications for certain types of students to allow them for "fee purposes attending college only" to receive in-state fees. Dr. Pruitt briefly described the circumstances of a particular student who fell into this category. To attend the University would have cost \$28,000 because the individual did not qualify for in-state tuition, scholarship assistance, or employment. For purposes of attending college only, the CHE agreed to allow this student and 13 others in the same predicament to qualify for in-state tuition which reduced the cost to \$17,800. However, the CHE will not sanction their participation in federal or state aid or state lottery scholarship assistance.

Internally, the University's Scholarship and Financial Aid Committee reviewed this situation both locally and nationally. As a result, the Committee approved a policy which would allow a South Carolinian who attended high school for two years or graduated from a South Carolina high school and who for fee classification

purposes had been certified by the CHE for in-state fees, to be eligible for a University of South Carolina scholarship.

Dr. Pruitt explained that the University would continue to meet with the CHE; it was hoped that these students would also be eligible for state lottery scholarships.

III. Other Matters: Potential Contract with School Districts for Principal Continuing Education: Chairman von Lehe called on Provost Becker who stated that the College of Education was working with school districts regarding a program to prepare future school principals. He commented that South Carolina was experiencing a significant shortage of school principals; therefore, developing a leadership pool for state public schools was of prime importance.

The College of Education was engaged in developing a model program which would operate on a cohort basis; a group of selected individuals who will be identified based on their potential to become public school leaders, and particularly principals, will participate.

Interested school districts will contract with the College of Education for this program; the Executive Committee will likely review the proposed contract during its April meeting. Provost Becker assured the Committee that Chairman von Lehe would receive a copy of the proposed contract because of its academic nature. If further discussion or action was required of this Committee, appropriate arrangements will be made before the April meeting.

President Sorensen commented that during a Bow Tie Bus Tour stop at Batesburg-Leesville High School yesterday, the principal (a graduate of Carolina) had expressed concern about the future supply of available leadership because they were experiencing a "graying" at that level; people were retiring in large numbers. He encouraged the Provost and the Dean of the College of Education to proceed with this proposal.

There were no other matters to come before the Committee, and Chairman von Lehe declared the meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Stepp
Secretary