

The official minutes of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees are maintained by the Secretary of the Board. Certified copies of minutes may be requested by contacting the Board of Trustees' Office at trustees@sc.edu. Electronic or other copies of original minutes are not official Board of Trustees' documents.

University of South Carolina

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Student-Trustee Liaison Committee

March 5, 2008

The Student-Trustee Liaison Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, March 5, 2008 at 12:05 p.m. in the 1600 Hampton Street Board Room.

Members present were: Mr. William W. Jones, Jr., Chairman; Mr. John W. Fields; Mr. M. Wayne Staton; Mr. Eugene P. Warr, Jr.; Mr. Othniel H. Wienges, Jr.; Mr. Herbert C. Adams, Board Chairman; and Mr. Miles Loadholt, Vice Chairman. Mr. William L. Bethea, Jr., and Dr. C. Edward Floyd were absent. Other Trustees present were: Mr. Mark W. Buyck, Jr.; Mr. William C. Hubbard; and Mr. Toney J. Lister.

Others present were: President Andrew A. Sorensen; Secretary Thomas L. Stepp; Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Mark P. Becker; Vice President for Human Resources Jane M. Jameson; Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost for Academic Support Dennis Pruitt; Vice Provost and Executive Dean for System Affairs and Extended University Chris P. Plyler; General Counsel Walter (Terry) H. Parham; Vice Provost for Faculty Development Christine Curtis; Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, Department of Student Life, Jerry T. Brewer; Assistant Treasurer Susan Hanna; Director of Student Media Scott Lindenberg; Vice Chancellor for Student Services, USC Aiken, Dr. Deborah Kladviko; Student Government Association (SGA) Advisor, USC Beaufort, Kate Torborg-Shuman; Director of Student Life and SGA Advisor, USC Lancaster, Laura Humphrey; Associate Dean for Student Services and Director of East Campus and SGA Advisor, USC Salkehatchie, Jane T. Brewer; Director of Student Life and SGA Advisor, USC Sumter, Shannon Mewborn; Accounting Technician, USC Sumter, Advisor Wendell Prescott; Dean of Students and Assistant Vice Chancellor of Student and Diversity Affairs, USC Upstate, Laura D. Puckett-Boler; Broadcast Journalist in the Office of Media Relations, Division of University Advancement, Frenche Brewer; Editor-in-Chief of *The Daily Gamecock*, Jackie Alexander; University Technology Services Production Manager Justin Johnson; Director of University Communications, Division of University Advancement, Russ McKinney, Jr.; and Board staff members Terri Saxon, Vera Stone and Karen Tweedy.

SGA representatives present were: USC Aiken: President Laney Wiggins; USC Beaufort: President Jeremiah Glenn, Treasurer Reggie Thompkins, and Senator/Clerk of Senate Lindsey Simmons; USC Columbia: President James Laura, Treasurer Alesha

Brown, President Elect Andrew Gaeckle, and Chief of Staff Claire Hughes; USC Lancaster: President Devin Waiters, Treasurer Tristen Blount, and Senator Brittney Volker; USC Salkehatchie: President Chris Hale, and Vice President Sean Pittman; USC Sumter: President Kimberly Singleton, and Vice President Toby Shuler; USC Union: Vice President Chastity LeMaster, Secretary/Treasurer Jessica Tollison, Senator Jesse Thompson, and student Tyler Shugart; USC Upstate: President Xavier Pearson, Treasurer McKenzie Loudermilk, and Chief of Staff Justin Bradley.

I. Small Group Discussions over Lunch: Prior to the meeting, a luncheon was held and students had the opportunity to talk with Trustees and University officials at individual tables.

Following the luncheon, Chairman Jones called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. He invited Board members, administrators, and others in attendance to introduce themselves. Mr. McKinney introduced members of the media who were in attendance.

Chairman Jones stated that the agenda had been posted and the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act; the agenda had been circulated to Committee members; and a quorum was present to conduct business.

II. 100 Year Anniversary of *The Daily Gamecock*: Chairman Jones called on Dr. Pruitt who commented that this was an important year for the University because of the 100th anniversary of *The Daily Gamecock*, and the 40th anniversary of the Association of African-American Students.

Dr. Pruitt introduced Ms. Jackie Alexander, the current Editor-in-Chief of *The Daily Gamecock*. Ms. Alexander stated that she had been in her current position for three months, but had worked with the newspaper for over three years.

Ms. Alexander noted that reporters, writers, editors, photographers and other alumni who had worked with the newspaper were invited to attend various events in celebration of the 100th anniversary of *The Daily Gamecock*. The events were well attended. Many of the alumni from 1945-1948 indicated that this was their first visit back to the University.

Ms. Alexander gave a brief history of *The Daily Gamecock*.

On January 30, 1908, Robert E. Gonzales, the heir to *The State* newspaper founded *The Daily Gamecock*.

On August 24, 2006, *The Daily Gamecock* went from publishing three days a week to five days a week, and increased productivity by 60 percent; this was accomplished without additional funds from Student Government.

Ms. Alexander displayed a graph showing a comparison of newspapers printed per year by USC and other college newspapers in the area. USC printed 151 issues

per year and the nearest competitor was Winthrop University. *The Daily Gamecock* was ranked as the 15th largest newspaper in the state.

In 2006, USC received over \$500,000 in ad revenue. Currently, the department was on target to receive that amount or greater this year.

The newspaper had been cast into the national spotlight this semester because of the South Carolina political primaries.

The website www.dailygamecock.com was being used for breaking news alerts. It was a great tool because some 13,000 people could be notified at once in case of emergencies.

The Daily Gamecock had won 16 South Carolina Press Association awards including "Best of Show" at the College Newspaper in Advertising Managers competition, as well as 11 American Advertising Federation awards. In addition, *The Daily Gamecock* was named "Best Newspaper in the Region" by the Southeastern University Newspaper.

Ideas for future growth of *The Daily Gamecock* included purchasing more photography equipment and working with alumni for an Alumni Endowment to ensure future scholarships for needy students.

Ms. Alexander stated that the staff was very dedicated and did an outstanding job. They continued to look forward to taking *The Daily Gamecock* to a higher level to remain competitive with other newspapers in the state, region and nation.

Chairman Jones stated that this report was received for information and congratulated *The Daily Gamecock* on its many accomplishments.

III. USC Aiken - Transition from a Commuter Campus to a Residential Campus:

Chairman Jones called on Dr. Deborah Kladvko, Vice Chancellor for Student Services, who stated that the biggest change at USC Aiken over the past 10 years was campus housing. USC Aiken had changed from a campus that was exclusively commuter, to a campus that as of this fall, would have 30 percent of its students living on campus. She gave a brief history of how this had transpired.

USC Aiken was established in 1961 as a two-year campus in an old historic home in downtown Aiken, currently the historic museum. There were 139 students. In 11 years, the campus relocated to its present location, then consisting of only one building. By 1972, approximately 12 buildings had been added.

In 1977, the first baccalaureate degree was presented because USC Aiken had gone from 2-year to 4-year status and had grown to over 1,000 students.

In 1984, the first housing facility was added to the campus. To accomplish this goal, USC Aiken partnered with a private entity. Currently, the Aiken County Commission for Higher Education owned most of the land on which the buildings were

located. USC Aiken entered into a lease agreement with a private developer who built campus housing and managed it for 15 years.

In 1999, USC Aiken purchased the facility and five years later another 300 bed facility was added. Because of enrollment growth there continued to be a housing waiting list. This fall, USC Aiken would add another 300 bed facility. With the increase in housing, specific services had to be added to support students living on campus; food services, campus police, judicial affairs, health center, and a counseling center.

Dr. Kladviko called on Laney Wiggins to talk about campus culture and student life. Ms. Wiggins stated that having 1,000 students on campus was an asset for the student body and brought a sense of community to the campus. Students were very excited about the new housing facility opening in the fall.

Ms. Wiggins commented on the various renovations at USC Aiken. The athletics facilities had been relocated to the Convocation Center. The Student Activities Center was relocated to the former athletics facility. Additional space became available in the former athletics facility for Student Media, the Health Center, the Bookstore and Food Services. The old location of Athletics was converted to new intramural fields, since the intramural program had grown tremendously with the increase of students on campus. In addition, participation in athletics continued to grow and there were more leadership opportunities in the various new organizations.

Chairman Jones stated that this report was received for information.

IV. Brief Reports from Campuses:

Chairman Jones called on each of the campuses to provide a brief update of their campus activities.

A. USC Aiken: SGA President Laney Wiggins reported that they had raised over \$5,100 hosting their first dance marathon. SGA elections would be held Friday. There were several current renovation projects. During Spring Break, 20 students traveled to Miami to assist Habitat for Humanity in building a house.

B. USC Beaufort: SGA President Jeremiah Glenn stated that SGA elections were underway. Currently, students had embarked upon a global initiative campaign designed to get students to think about the global impact of various issues. Several events hosted were the Jena Six and illegal immigration debate and the Darfur rally. In addition, the Senate approved a proposal to become a "one campus" in its fight against global poverty. In April, SGA would host a Republican/Democrat debate regarding the war in Iraq.

The campus was growing and had received 800 applications for fall semester admission, as compared to 400 applications this time last year.

C. USC Lancaster: SGA President Devin Waiters stated that two forums were held this year. Upcoming events included an April 1st blood drive, Career Day, SGA elections on April 2nd, and Alcohol Screening Day on April 3rd. During Spring Break, Student Life had planned a backpacking trip to a national forest and a Spring Fling on April 23rd.

In closing, Mr. Waiters stated that more sports teams had been added, such as soccer, tennis and baseball. An additional parking lot had also been constructed.

D. USC Salkehatchie: SGA President Chris Hale thanked President Sorensen for his recent visit to their east campus. The basketball team had won 12 games and had participated in the semi-final Region 10 tournaments.

Two fundraisers were held for the homeless in the area.

E. USC Sumter: SGA Vice President Kim Singleton reported that they were very excited about Homecoming. SGA hosted "casino night" which was well attended by students. Students were looking forward to softball, soccer, and baseball games.

F. USC Union: SGA Vice President Chastity LeMaster stated that SGA was being restructured. The Constitution was being revised so that student activities could be improved. A process of strategic planning and assessment would be conducted at the end of each year, which would help track SGA progress and student involvement. Some of the activities included a welcome social. During Black History month, a panel discussion was held and students discussed racism in our country and community, and ways to address those problems. March was women's history month and several events were planned, one of which was the Spring Fling. A math professor had volunteered to be "pied in the face;" funds generated from the event would be used for scholarships.

G. USC Upstate: SGA President Xavier Pearson reported that enrollment had increased to 5,000, and they projected a substantial increase in fall admission applications.

Several fundraisers had been held, and the Harlem Gospel Choir performed on the campus.

Chairman Jones thanked the SGA representatives for their informative reports and stated that they were received for information.

There being no other matters to come before the Committee, Chairman Jones declared the meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Stepp
Secretary