The Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, December 18, 2012, in the 1600 Hampton Street Board Room at 11:05 a.m.

Members present were: Mr. Thad H. Westbrook, Chairman; Mr. Robert “Eddie” Brown; 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. John C. von Lehe, Jr.; Board Vice Chairman; and Mr. Eugene P. Warr, Jr., Board Chairman. Members absent were Mr. Mark W. Buyck, Jr. and Mr. Charles H. Williams.

Other Board members present were: Mr. Chuck Allen; Mr. J. Egerton Burroughs; Dr. C. Edward Floyd; Mr. William C. Hubbard; Mr. Toney J. Lister; Mr. Miles Loadholt; Ms. Leah B. Moody; Dr. C. Dorn Smith III; Mr. Mack I. Whittle, Jr.; Mr. Charles H. Williams; and Dr. Mitchell M. Zais.

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

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 for Communications Luanne M. Lawrence; Vice President for Development and Alumni Affairs Michelle Dodenhoff; Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer William F. Hogue; Vice President for Human Resources Chris Byrd; Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost for Academic Support Dennis A. Pruitt; General Counsel Walter (Terry) H. Parham; Director of Athletics Ray Tanner; Senior Vice Provost and Director of Strategic Planning Christine W. Curtis; Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Studies Helen Doerpinghaus; Chancellor of USC Aiken Sandra J. Jordan; Chancellor of USC Beaufort Jane Upshaw; Associate Vice President for Business and Finance Leslie Brunelli; Associate Vice President for Business and Finance and Medical Business Affairs Jeffrey L. Perkins; Executive
Chairman Westbrook called the meeting to order and invited those Board members present to introduce themselves. Mr. Hickman introduced Andy Shain of The State Newspaper and James Hammond of Columbia Business Regional Report.

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 e-mailed to the Committee and also posted electronically on the Board Portal; and a quorum was present to conduct business.

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

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

The following individuals were invited to remain: Dr. Pastides, Secretary Stone, Dr. Amiridis, Dr. Knapp, Dr. Mott, Dr. Nesmith, Members of the Executive Council, Mr. Perkins, Dr. Hoppmann, Dr. Doerpinghaus and Mr. Hickman.
Chairman Westbrook called on Dr. Amiridis to present the Open Session agenda items.

I. Program Terminations:

A. Bachelor of Science in Engineering (B.S.E.) in Engineering Science
B. Master of Music (MM), Conducting
C. Master of Music (MM), Jazz Studies
D. Master of Music (MM), Music Composition
E. Master of Music (MM), Music History
F. Master of Music (MM), Opera Theatre
G. Master of Music (MM), Piano Pedagogy

Provost Amiridis advised that the Bachelor of Science in Engineering (B.S.E.) in Engineering Science had not attracted enough students to remain sustainable possibly because of the significant non-engineering content of the program and the lack of national name recognition for this type of degree.

In addition, six Master of Music programs were proposed for termination because they had been consolidated into a single degree – the Master of Music degree with a concentration in the various areas. The Commission on Higher Education, he explained, had specific productivity expectations for “stand alone” degree programs which Carolina was unable to fulfill. He further noted that the Board of Trustees had already approved the consolidated degree in April 2012.

Mr. Fennell moved approval of the program terminations as presented. Mr. Mobley seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

Mr. Jones requested a list of program terminations and the resulting dollar savings since this process had begun. Provost Amiridis responded that more than 30 programs had been terminated. A list was distributed last year; he will update it and circulate the new one to the Committee.

II. Program Name Change:

– Department of Nursing and Health Professions, USC Beaufort

Provost Amiridis informed the Committee that the proposed program name change will allow for additional growth of the health profession programs and support the vision of USC Beaufort to increase the number of health profession majors.

Mr. Jones moved approval of the program name change as presented. Mr. Fennell seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

III. Revised Mission Statement, USC Beaufort: Provost Amiridis stated that as part of an ongoing “planning and improving” process, USC Beaufort continually examined its mission statement. In this particular instance, language had been changed and added referring to distance delivery of courses and on-line programs as USC Beaufort prepared to be a very active participant in the new
Palmetto College which will expand access to higher education in South Carolina by delivering high-quality, online education.

Mr. Jones moved approval of the USC Beaufort revised mission statement as presented. Mr. Cofield seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

IV. USC Regional Campuses Faculty Manual Changes: Provost Amirdis noted that USC Regional Campuses Faculty Manual changes were minimal and involved language clarification.

Two more substantive issues addressed tenure and promotion procedural issues.

Mr. Cofield moved approval of the USC Regional Campuses Faculty Manual changes as presented. Mr. Fennell seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

V. Report from the Faculty: Chairman Westbrook called on Dr. Sandra Kelly, Chair of the Faculty Senate, who presented an overview of the faculty to the Committee which, she hoped, would lead to more collaborative efforts.

She advised that USC Columbia had approximately 1,000 faculty members of which one third were females; systemwide, faculty totaled more than 1,400. Dr. Kelly characterized the faculty as “a diverse group with a heavy international representation.” Most had earned a terminal degree.

The three major academic areas of activity for this group were categorized as teaching, research and service.

Teaching in a classroom, she emphasized, was “just the tip of the iceberg” and required preparation, contact time and grading. Student contact time outside of the classroom often involved mentoring and advising. Dr. Kelly particularly noted that she advised 20-30 students every semester – an extensive investment of time.

In the area of research, Dr. Kelly emphasized that the University of South Carolina was the only Carnegie I Institute in South Carolina because of the high research activity of faculty members. Their passion for research, she believed, directly influenced their teaching “making the quality of education very different than you would see at a community college level.”

The Vice President for Research, Dr. Nagarkatti, had as a goal to increase the research funding at this institution from $226 million to $300 million in 5 years. Increasing that number will depend upon hiring additional faculty; more importantly, though, it will depend upon current faculty members continuing to be successful in acquiring grant funding dollars in the face of declining support.
And, thirdly, faculty engaged in service activities. At the department level, for example, faculty members made decisions about the curriculum to be offered; teaching assignments; and the research focus.

Another service activity involved search committees. Dr. Kelly explained that a primary focus at the University was to increase the number of faculty members by 200-220 in 2-3 years. Each new hire, she stressed, required a search committee doing “on the ground” recruiting.

In addition, Dr. Kelly pointed out that 59 special advisory committees reported to the Provost or President; the majority had faculty representation. The Faculty Senate had 18 standing committees composed of faculty members and student representation both undergraduate and graduate students.

She specifically highlighted the Committee on Curricula and Courses. A new general education core at USC Columbia required an in-depth review and approval of 120 courses (to date). Also involved were several ad hoc committees.

The tenure and promotion process began at the unit level. All tenure and promotion requests were initially reviewed by senior colleagues at the unit level who subsequently voted and wrote vote justifications. These requests were then channeled through the chair to the dean, to the Provost and finally to the University Committee on Tenure and Promotion which was composed of 24 senior faculty members who reviewed all of the files, voted and wrote vote justifications. Disagreements were handled by that particular committee in conjunction with the Provost and the President.

The Faculty Advisory Committee, chaired by Dr. Jim Knapp, was tasked with the responsibility of reviewing all of the faculty manual changes at USC Columbia. He estimated that he spent approximately perhaps one and one half weeks of each month devoted to committee work.

The Faculty Welfare Committee, chaired by Dr. David Mott, identified and facilitated issues to promote faculty welfare.

And, finally, the Faculty Budget Committee served as a liaison between the University Administration and the University Faculty (through the Faculty Senate) on matters pertaining to the University budget, advocated the faculty perspective on matters of budget and budgetary policy, and provided a venue for discussing faculty questions and concerns about the University budget and budgeting process. Currently, this committee had been working with the Provost's Office in great detail regarding salary compression for faculty.

Two committees which included in their charge interaction with the Board of Trustees were the University Athletics Committee, chaired by Dr. Charles Adams, which discussed any athletics issues...
covering student athletes and all things athletics; and the Faculty Board of Trustees Liaison Committee whose sole charge was to work with the Academic Affairs Committee on issues of mutual concern to the faculty and the Board of Trustees.

In closing, Dr. Kelly specifically addressed her area of study and research. She commented that her field was psychology and neuroscience. She was an adjunct professor in the Department of Pharmacology, Physiology and Neuroscience, School of Medicine; her tenure home was the Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences. She particularly studied the effect of alcohol on the developing brain using animal models and neurochemistry. “We are also looking at the neurobiology of social behavior. I am really interested in how social behavior is mediated by the brain.” Her field of teaching was neuroscience.

Dean Fitzpatrick advised that Dr. Kelly had received a major mentoring award at the University; she was also a recipient of the coveted Carolina Trustee Professorship award.

Chairman Westbrook thanked Dr. Kelly for this very informative report.

VI. Other Matters:

Since there were no other matters to come before the Committee, Chairman Westbrook declared the meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy E. Stone
Secretary