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University of South Carolina
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee

September 12, 2014

The Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 12, 2014, in the 1600 Hampton Street Board Room.

Members present were: Mr. Thad H. Westbrook, Chairman; Mrs. Paula Harper Bethea; Mr. Mark W. Buyck, Jr.; Mr. Thomas C. Cofield; Mr. A.C. “Bubba” Fennell; Mr. William W. Jones, Jr.; Mr. Hubert F. Mobley; Mr. Mack I. Whittle, Jr.; Mr. John C. von Lehe, Jr., Board Vice Chairman; and Mr. Eugene P. Warr, Jr., Board Chairman.

Other Board members present were: Mr. Chuck Allen; Mr. J. Egerton Burroughs; Mr. Toney J. Lister; Dr. C. Dorn Smith III; Mr. Charles H. Williams; Dr. Mitchell M. Zais; and Ms. Leah Moody who joined by phone.

Faculty Liaison Committee representatives present were: Chairman of the Faculty Senate James H. Knapp; Chair-Elect of Faculty Senate Augie Grant; Co-Chair of the Faculty Welfare Committee Camelia Knapp; Co-Chair of the Faculty Welfare Committee Janet Hudson; and Co-Chair of Faculty Advisory Committee Chris Robinson.

Also present was student representative Lindsay Richardson.

Others present were: President Harris Pastides; Secretary Amy E. Stone; General Counsel Walter “Terry” H. Parham; Provost Michael D. Amiridis; Chief Operating Officer Edward L. Walton; Chief Financial Officer Leslie Brunelli; Vice President for Student Affairs Dennis A. Pruitt; Vice President for Research Prakash Nagarkatti; Vice President for Human Resources Chris Byrd; Vice President for Information Technology William F. Hogue; Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations Jancy Houck; Vice President for Facilities and Transportation Derrick Huggins; Chief Communications Officer Wes Hickman; Athletics Director Ray Tanner; Senior Vice Provost and Dean for Graduate Studies Lacy Ford; Senior Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Studies Helen Doerpinghaus; Vice Provost Harry Ploehn; Palmetto College Chancellor Susan Elkins; USC Upstate Chancellor Tom Moore; Interim
Chairman Westbrook called the meeting to order and invited committee members to introduce themselves. He 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; and a quorum was present to conduct business. Mr. Hickman introduced members of the media in attendance: Hannah Jeffrey with the *Daily Gamecock*; and David Cloninger with *The State*.

Chairman Westbrook stated that there were personnel matters dealing with recommendations for honorary faculty titles and appointments with tenure that were appropriate for discussion in Executive Session. Mr. Mobley moved to enter Executive Session and Mr. Fennell seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

The following persons were invited to remain: President Pastides, Secretary Stone, the Faculty Representative and Student Representative to the Board, members of the President’s Executive Council, and Faculty Liaison Committee members.

**Executive Session**

**Return to Open Session**

I. **Academic Updates**

A. **Native American Studies Program, USC Lancaster**

Dean Collins from USC Lancaster introduced Chris Judge, Associate Director of the
Native American Studies Center, who presented an update on the Native American Studies Program and Center at USC Lancaster (USCL). Mr. Judge said that USCL began the Native American Studies program in 2005. In partnership with the City of Lancaster, the Native American Studies Center was opened in 2012. He said the majority of the artifacts in the center were Catawba Indian, noting that a large collection of Catawba Indian archives and pottery had been donated to the center. He explained that the Catawba pottery is the oldest Native American pottery tradition in the United States with a history that can be traced back about 5,000 years along South Carolina river banks. The center also offers the opportunity for community residents to conduct genealogical and historical research. An effort to revive and preserve the Catawba language also is underway at USCL. Once a year, the chiefs of several area tribes (e.g., Catawba, Cherokee, Edisto, Santee, Waccamaw) meet with USCL staff to offer input and guidance with regard to programming and curriculum development. This partnership has helped to foster good relationships with tribes across the state. Mr. Judge said USCL’s long-term goal is to offer a four-year degree in Native American Studies. In addition to the academic offerings and the center, faculty are involved in a long-term archaeological research project in the PeeDee and a lot of work takes place in the field documenting the daily life of the tribes.

Chairman Westbrook stated that this report was received as information.

B. First Year Reading Experience, USC Columbia

Chairman Westbrook called on Helen Doerpinghaus, Senior Vice Provost, to provide an update on the First-Year Reading Experience (FYRE). Dr. Doerpinghaus said that the FYRE was a signature program and a hallmark of the fall semester. She explained that the Provost’s Office oversaw the program in partnership with University 101 and the National Resource Center. She showed a brief video of Carolina Orientation Leaders sharing information about the 2014 USC Columbia FYRE book, The Circle. Dr. Doerpinghaus then gave the committee an overview of the book selection process at USC Columbia. In September of each year, the Book Selection Committee, comprised of professors, University 101 staff and student volunteers, begins the lengthy process. Approximately 20-30 books are identified and the committee divides into teams and begins the task of reading the books. Throughout the fall the committee reads and evaluates the books and narrows the list using six criteria: availability, cost, literary quality, relevancy to first-year students, programming potential and availability of the author.

The book is identified by December and copies are given to graphic design students who are instrumental in promoting this program. In the spring, the publisher is contacted and supplied with a custom list of reflective questions to be added to the book. Books are distributed to Orientation Leaders.
and Residence Hall mentors. Incoming freshmen receive their books at orientation and are asked to read it over the summer in preparation for the FYRE events, which take place the first Monday of “Welcome Week.”

Dr. Doerpinghaus then introduced incoming freshman Grace Porter to share her impressions of the book and the FYRE. Ms. Porter stated that she found the book interesting and relevant. At the fall event, she thought it was great to hear from the author in person and she especially enjoyed the small group discussions.

In response to a question by Dr. Smith, President Pastides said that not all USC campuses have a FYRE program, only USC Columbia, USC Upstate and USC Aiken. The book selection process at USC Upstate and USC Aiken is independent from USC Columbia. Chancellor Moore said that at USC Upstate the reading program was part of the English 101 course. The Composition and English faculty have a committee that solicits recommendations for books from the entire campus community in September and then narrows the list down to about 5-10 books. After selected books are read and evaluated, the committee makes a recommendation to the department chair. The final step in the process, which is new starting this year, is approval by the chancellor. Dr. Priest said that the process at USC Aiken was very similar to that at USC Columbia.

Chairman Westbrook stated that this report was received as information.

II. New Program: Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Pharmaceutical Sciences, USC Columbia

Provost Amiridis said that the proposed new degree, B.S. in Pharmaceutical Sciences, is a major designed for students who intend to pursue the Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) at the USC Campus of the South Carolina College of Pharmacy (SCCP). He reported that it would not impact existing programs; rather, it would formalize instruction that is already taking place into a degree program. The academic departments that offer the pre-requisite and general education courses during the first two years of the program will continue to do so, and SCCP faculty will instruct all of the professional courses taken in the last two years as they have been doing. Provost Amiridis said that this program would benefit both students and USC. The students would have the ability to earn an undergraduate degree while preparing for a career in pharmacy and the institution could accurately reflect student progression, attrition and graduation rates.

Chairman Westbrook called for a motion to recommend approval by the full Board of the B.S. in Pharmaceutical Sciences at USC Columbia as proposed. Mr. Jones so moved and Mr. Fennell seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.
III. **Other Matters**

Since there were no other matters to come before the committee, Chairman Westbrook declared the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy E. Stone  
Secretary