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University of South Carolina

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee

June 11, 2010

The Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met on Friday, June 11, 2010, at 11:25 a.m. in the 1600 Hampton Street Board Room.

Members present were: Mr. Herbert C. Adams; Mr. Mark W. Buyck, Jr.; Mr. Greg Gregory; Mr. William C. Hubbard; Mr. William W. Jones, Jr., Chairman; Mr. John C. von Lehe, Jr.; Mr. Mack I. Whittle, Jr.; Mr. Miles Loadholt, Chair of the Board; Mr. Eugene P. Warr, Jr., Vice Chairman of the Board. Mr. Othniel H. Wienges, Jr. was absent.

Other Trustees present were: Mr. Chuck Allen; Mr. J. Egerton Burroughs; Mr. Toney J. Lister; and Ms. Leah B. Moody.

Faculty Liaison Committee representatives present were: Dr. Patrick D. Nolan, Chair of the Faculty Senate and Dr. Charley Adams, Chair of the Faculty Welfare Committee. The following Faculty Liaison Committee representatives were absent: Harold Friedman, Faculty Advisory Committee; Stephen T. Bishoff, USC Sumter, Regional Campuses Faculty Representative; and Dr. Allen J. Dennis, USC Aiken, Senior Campuses Representative.

Others present were: President Harris Pastides; Secretary Thomas L. Stepp; Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Michael D. Amiridis; Vice President for Finance and Planning William T. Moore; Interim Vice President for Human Resources Judith Owens; Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer William F. Hogue; Vice President of Development and Alumni Relations Michelle D. Dodenhoff; General Counsel Walter (Terry) H. Parham; University Treasurer Susan D. Hanna; Director Athletics Eric C. Hyman; Associate Vice President for Finance and Budget Director, Division of Business and Finance, Leslie Brunelli; Associate Vice President for Resource Planning Edward L. Walton; Interim Vice President for Communications and Dean of the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies Charles Bierbauer; Special Assistant to the President J. Cantey Heath, Jr.; Special Assistant to the President and Athletics Director John D. Gregory; Vice Provost for Faculty Development Christine W. Curtis; Assistant Provost for Academic Programs Kris H. Finnigan; Chancellor of USC Beaufort Jane T. Upshaw; Chancellor of USC Upstate John C. Stockwell; Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, USC Aiken, Suzanne Ozment; Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Mary Anne Fitzpatrick; Dean of the Moore School of Business Hildy Teegen; Dean of the College of Education Les Sternberg; Assistant Dean and Director of the Graduate Division,

Moore School of Business, Christine LaCola; Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Professor in the School of Law Robert M. Wilcox; Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Studies - Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Mary Ann Byrnes; Professor in the Department of English, College of Arts and Sciences, David Lee Miller; Associate Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policies, College of Education, Zach Kelehear; Associate Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policies, College of Education, Katherine Chaddock; Director of Governmental and Community Relations and Legislative Liaison Shirley D. Mills; Director of Governmental Affairs and Legislative Liaison Casey Martin; Incoming Board of Trustees Member Thad H. Westbrook; Director of the Office of Media Relations, Division of University Advancement, Margaret Lamb; University Technology Services Production Manager, Justin Johnson; Board staff members Terri Saxon, Vera Stone, and Karen Tweedy; and a member of the media.

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order and invited those Board members present to introduce themselves. Ms. Lamb introduced a member of the press who was in attendance.

Chairman Jones 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 Jones stated that there were personnel matters dealing with recommendations for honorary faculty titles, appointments with tenure, tenure and promotion, transfer of tenure and honorary degree nominations which were appropriate for discussion in Executive Session.

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

The following individuals were invited to remain: Dr. Pastides, Secretary Stepp, Dr. Amiridis, Dr. Moore, Ms. Owens, Dr. Hogue, Dean Bierbauer, Ms. Dodenhoff, Mr. Heath, Mr. Parham, Dr. Curtis, Ms. Brunelli, Mr. Walton, Ms. Mills, Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Lamb.

Return to Open Session

I. Program Terminations:

- A. Bachelor of Arts in Italian
- B. Master of Arts in Religious Studies
- C. Physical Education I.M.A.
- D. Physical Education Master of Education (M.Ed.)
- E. Business Education Interdisciplinary Master of Arts (I.M.A.)
- F. Secondary Education M.Ed., with concentrations in English,  
Math and Social Studies
- G. Sciences I.M.A.
- H. Master of Teaching (M.T.) in Foreign Languages, concentration  
in Spanish
- I. Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) in Social Studies,  
concentrations in Geography and History
- J. Certificate in School Health Education
- K. M.A.T. in Health Education, concentration in Secondary Education
- L. M.Ed. in Early Childhood - Columbia program no longer being  
offered at USC Beaufort or USC Sumter, but remaining at  
USC Columbia
- M. M.Ed. in Elementary Education - Columbia program no longer  
offered at USC Beaufort, USC Sumter or USC Columbia
- N. Master of Arts in Applied Art History
- O. Master of Education in Elementary Education, USC Aiken
- P. Certificate Program in Writing, USC Aiken

Chairman Jones called on Provost Amiridis who initially remarked that President Pastides had recently reported to the Board that all academic programs were being carefully examined particularly in light of the current economic environment. During the previous meeting of this committee, fourteen program terminations were presented as informational items; however, it had been determined that Board action was required. In addition, two other proposed program terminations had been added to the list for consideration by the committee.

A. The Bachelor of Arts in Italian: Provost Amiridis remarked that this particular academic program had been in existence for approximately 20 years; 3 students had graduated from the program in the last 5 years and only 1 student remained. In addition, the last tenure track faculty member in the program had retired in 2008. Currently, instructors were teaching the various courses.

Mr. Buyck moved approval to terminate the Bachelor of Arts in Italian as presented. Mr. Gregory seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

B. The Master of Arts in Religious Studies: Provost Amiridis explained that in terms of demand and number of students, this program had graduated 12 students in the last 5 years. The Department of Religious Studies had decreased in size to 5 tenure track faculty members. He further noted that the department would continue to maintain the bachelors degree program of study. No new students had been admitted into the program since Fall 2008 in anticipation of this action and the remaining students will be allowed to finish. The last degree conferral was expected in August of 2012.

Mr. Adams moved approval to terminate the Master of Arts in Religious Studies as presented. Mr. Buyck seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

C. Other Terminations: The remaining 14 programs were discussed in detail during the March 23<sup>rd</sup> committee meeting.

Mr. Buyck moved approval to terminate the 14 programs as listed. Mr. Adams seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

II. New Program Proposals:

A. Master of Education degree with a major in Higher Education Business Administration, USC Columbia: Provost Amiridis indicated that the proposed program was a collaborative interdisciplinary program between the College of Education and the Moore School of Business and will be housed in the College of Education. It was designed for working professionals employed by institutions of higher education and related organizations or agencies. This unique program offered both an administrative aspect from the School of Business and a higher education component from the College of Education.

The program will use distance education significantly and on-line technology to address the needs of working clientele. It was believed that there were no other programs like this one in the Southeast.

Mr. Buyck moved approval of the program proposal as presented. Mr. Gregory seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

B. Dual Master of Mass Communications/Juris Doctor Degree, USC Columbia:

This proposed program will combine two existing programs to provide a dual Master of Mass Communications degree with a Juris Doctor degree in approximately 4 years. The target audience could potentially be attorneys seeking to specialize in media law or aspiring journalists or professionals in mass media who wished to develop legal expertise.

Mr. Hubbard moved approval of the proposed dual program as described in the materials. Mr. Adams seconded the motion.

Mr. Buyck asked if the 90 hours of Law School credit would properly qualify a student to take the South Carolina Bar. Professor Wilcox responded that 90 was the standard number of credit hours required. It would be possible to apply up to 9 hours of approved journalism graduate level courses toward a law degree.

In response to Mrs. Stone's inquiry about interest in the program, Dean Bierbauer noted that there was ample evidence of students who had graduated from the journalism program seeking a law degree. Mr. Hubbard commented that based on today's market, law firm employers were seeking lawyers well versed across disciplines who could handle "project management" rather than "isolated cases." He believed that this program was a good step forward to better prepare law students for employment opportunities.

Professor Wilcox explained that the common pattern was to begin in the Law School program for two years of courses followed by a year of journalism study and a fourth year of law school study. Any time during those two years, it would be possible to apply to the journalism program for admission.

Mr. Hubbard further commented that in some schools it was possible to earn these joint degrees in 3 years. He suggested that perhaps in the future the curriculums could

be synthesized more efficiently in order to allow students to earn joint degrees in the same amount of time as one degree.

The vote was taken and the motion carried.

III. New Center Proposal - Center for Digital Humanities, USC Columbia: On the advice of Provost Amiridis, Chairman Jones invited Dr. Miller, Professor in the Department of English, to explain the concept of digital humanities. He remarked that the current technological revolution was changing the manner in which humanities scholars conducted research and taught classes. Everything studied, he emphasized, was being transformed into digital formatting, stored in data bases and accessed by increasingly complicated and sophisticated computer technologies.

Dr. Miller characterized digital humanities as the area of study in which humanists with traditional backgrounds worked with specialists in technology fields (information science, computer technology, media arts) using these new tools. He further noted that computer scientists liked to collaborate with humanists because they presented interesting problems to solve which ultimately challenged them to extend the frontiers of their technical work. "Digital humanities is where this comes together and where it happens." Many funding agencies, including the National Endowment for the Humanities, had begun investing in this area more extensively in recent years. Establishing this program, he believed, would provide an opportunity for the University to increase its external funding and to develop an ethos of seeking external support in humanistic fields where traditionally little support had been available.

The most important reason for establishing this center, Dr. Miller reasoned, was the fact that there were serious intellectual questions and exciting intellectual opportunities which could not be explored in any other way. Universities across the country had been establishing these programs; the University of South Carolina belonged with those peer institutions.

Mr. Hubbard moved to establish the Center for Digital Humanities. Mr. Gregory seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

IV. USC Aiken Faculty Manual Changes: The various USC Aiken *Faculty Manual* changes under consideration were considered minor updates for this year.

Mr. Adams moved approval of the USC Aiken *Faculty Manual* changes as described in the materials. Mr. Gregory seconded the motion.

Mr. Adams specifically addressed the post tenure review process and questioned whether those changes which specifically affected that area were weakening the overall process. Dr. Ozment responded that at USC Aiken the post tenure review process was quite rigorous. Every six years tenured faculty members were reviewed. As part of the process, faculty members presented a detailed file including an application for post tenure review summarizing their work in the areas of teaching, scholarship and service during that period of time. Following submission of this information, a committee of

faculty members reviewed the materials to determine if that individual was continuing to meet the standards at his/her particular rank. For those few individuals who did not sustain the standards, submission of a professional development plan was required and a limited time period in which to meet the requirements was determined. Dr. Ozment reviewed the various consequences if the standards were not met.

The vote was taken and the motion carried.

V. USC Columbia Faculty Manual Changes: Dr. Amiridis advised that as a result of an 18-month process, there were substantial tenure and promotion changes in the USC Columbia *Faculty Manual*.

One of the significant changes addressed interdisciplinary programs. He explained that it was a common practice to hire individuals with expertise in more than one field (for example, hiring a digital humanities scholar with tenure in the Department of English who also had very good understanding of computer science or hiring someone in computer science with a strong literary background). Nationally, there was concern about the fact that these individuals "have been falling through the cracks." In order to protect them, the University had established memoranda of understanding to ensure that the second unit had input in the tenure and promotion process; that teaching in both units was equally valued; and that strict evaluation criteria were followed.

The second important change was an attempt to better define the terms of tenure and promotion at the University level. Dr. Amiridis commented that this magnitude of changes had not occurred since the mid 1990s.

Mr. Adams moved approval of the USC Columbia *Faculty Manual* changes as described in the materials. Mr. Hubbard seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

VI. USC System Campuses Faculty Manual Changes: Changes in the USC System Campuses *Faculty Manual* specifically addressed needed updates rather than substantive changes.

Mr. Hubbard moved approval of the USC System Campuses *Faculty Manual* changes as distributed. Mr. Buyck seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

Secretary Stepp thanked the Provost and others tasked with the responsibility of addressing *Faculty Manual* changes for completing this process in a timely manner. He had promised to bring these proposed changes before the Board only twice yearly - in June and in December.

VII. Other Matters: Chairman Jones recognized Mr. Adams who requested information about the status of nursing professors at the University of South Carolina. He also questioned whether a Masters program in nursing at both USC Aiken and USC Upstate was under consideration.

Dr. Amiridis advised that the Ph.D. program at USC Columbia, which had recently been established, was not as attractive to practicing nurses. However, the College of

Nursing was viewed as one of the national leaders in the establishment of a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program. He understood that it was considered the vehicle for the development of highly qualified nurses who could also potentially teach as clinical professors of nursing and one of the first ones to be accredited nationally. Dean Hewlett had advised him that it was attracting substantial interest.

Chancellor Stockwell indicated that extensive discussion had been held at USC Upstate about a Masters nursing program. He noted that there was substantial demand for practicing nurses to earn that degree and also a substantial demand for teachers who had Masters degrees in technical college settings.

USC Aiken also did not offer a Masters degree program. With additional growth in the undergraduate nursing program that campus would also be interested because the demand was definitely there. It was noted that the Medical College of Georgia, within close proximity of the Aiken campus, offered both masters and doctoral programs for nurses in that region.

Mr. Adams stressed the importance of studying the possibility of offering the program in the USC Upstate area. Recently, a Chairman of the Board of a hospital in that area had approached him about such a possibility.

President Pastides advised that nursing programs were very costly. "We will continue to look at ways that we can expand nursing, but it is absolutely a matter of taking money away from Peter to give to Paul."

Mr. Whittle pointed out that South Carolina had one of the most restrictive student/faculty nursing ratios of any state in the South. He believed that seeking the Board of Nursing's approval to change that standard would effectively help to alleviate this situation without increasing the cost.

Dr. Amiridis remarked that he will consult with the Dean of Nursing and discuss that possibility most likely at the next Health Affairs Committee meeting.

Since there were no other matters to come before the Committee, Chairman Jones declared the meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Stepp  
Secretary