

University of South Carolina  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Student and System Affairs Committee

February 8, 2019

The Student and System Affairs Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met at 12:34 p.m. Friday, February 8, 2019, in the Alumni Center's C. Edward Floyd Boardroom.

Members present were: Mr. Chuck Allen, Chairman; Mr. J. Egerton Burroughs; Mr. A. C. "Bubba" Fennell; Ms. Leah B. Moody; Ms. Rose Buyck Newton; Dr. C. Dorn Smith III; Mr. John C. von Lehe Jr., Board Chairman; and Mr. Hubert F. Mobley, Board Vice Chairman. Ms. Molly M. Spearman was absent.

Other Board members present were: Mr. C. Dan Adams; Mr. Robert F. Dozier Jr.; Dr. C. Edward Floyd; Mr. William C. Hubbard; Mr. Richard A. Jones Jr.; Mr. Toney J. Lister; Mr. Miles Loadholt; Mr. Eugene P. Warr Jr.; and Mr. Thad H. Westbrook.

Also present were USC Columbia Faculty Senate Chairman Marco Valtorta and Columbia Student Government President Taylor Wright.

Others present were: President Harris Pastides; Secretary J. Canteay Heath Jr.; General Counsel Walter "Terry" H. Parham; Chief Operating Officer Edward L. Walton; Vice President for Student Affairs Dennis A. Pruitt; Vice President for Human Resources Caroline Agardy; Vice President for Research Prakash Nagarkatti; Chief Advancement Officer and Senior Advisor to the President Paula Harper Bethea; Chief Communications Officer Wes Hickman; USC Aiken Chancellor Sandra Jordan; USC Beaufort Chancellor Al Panu; Palmetto College Chancellor Susan Elkins; USC Upstate Chancellor Brendan Kelly; University Treasurer Pat Lardner; Chief Diversity Officer and Senior Associate Provost for Inclusion, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, John H. Dozier (who participated by video conference); Associate Vice President for Administration and Finance and Medical Business Affairs Jeffrey L. Perkins III; College of Arts and Sciences Dean Lacy Ford; Executive Director for the Office of Economic Engagement William D. "Bill" Kirkland; Chief Audit Executive Pam Doran; Office of Equal Opportunity Programs Director Clifford Scott; Assistant to the President for System Affairs Eddie King; Palmetto College Faculty Senate Executive Committee Chair Christine Sixta Rinehart; Trustee Emeritus M. Wayne Staton; Ann Loadholt, wife of Trustee Miles Loadholt; American Council on Education Fellow, President's Office, Lisa Di Bartolomeo; St. Helena Island, South Carolina businessman J. Whitmire Suber; University Technology Services Production Manager Matt Warthen; and Board staff members Debra Allen and Terri Saxon.

## I. Call to Order

Presiding Chairman von Lehe called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone and invited those at the table to introduce themselves. He said the agenda had been posted, 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. Secretary Heath confirmed no Trustees were participating in the meeting by telephone. Mr. Hickman introduced Zahida Ashroff and Hannah Dear with *The Daily Gamecock*.

## II. Election of Committee Chair

Presiding Chairman von Lehe said the first order of business was the election of a new Student and System Affairs Committee Chair. Trustee Moody nominated Mr. Chuck Allen and Trustee Newton seconded the nomination. The vote was taken and Trustee Allen was unanimously elected Student and System Affairs Committee Chair. Effective December 19, 2018, former committee chairman Thomas C. Cofield was replaced as the Gubernatorial Appointee on the Board by Trustee Richard A. Jones Jr.

Trustee Allen accepted the gavel from Board Chairman von Lehe and presided over the remainder of the meeting.

## III. Economic and Community Engagement

Chairman Allen called on USC Upstate Chancellor Brendan Kelly.

Chancellor Kelly said regional comprehensive universities were designed to be responsive to the needs of the region in which they are located. The Aiken, Beaufort and Upstate campuses are each engaged in unique and mutually beneficial partnerships that work to create positive results for each university and its region. He provided a brief presentation on behalf of all three comprehensive universities, sharing an overview of select partnerships that highlight mutually beneficial economic development and community engagement activities at each institution.

Chancellor Kelly said USC Aiken serves the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) and hosts both the Economic Development Partnership (EDP) and the Small Business Development Center (SBDC). The EDP is a non-profit, public-private development corporation focused solely on serving the needs of new and existing businesses in Aiken, Edgefield, McCormick, and Saluda counties, and is directly responsible for economic development. The SBDC provides a vast array of technical assistance to small businesses. By supporting business growth, sustainability, and enhancing the creation of new businesses, SBDC fosters local and regional economic development through job creation and retention. In addition to providing space for these operations, USC Aiken leverages its intellectual capital and resources to help advance the missions of the EDP and SBDC.

The most significant local economic development impact is derived by USC Aiken's partnership with the Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) and its selection as the Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative (AMC). The AMC is a branch of the SRNL and will be built on USC Aiken's campus. The partnership includes leveraging USC Aiken and SRNL personnel to create a pipeline of new talent. USC Aiken's new programs are designed to dovetail with the mission of the AMC. USC Aiken is in the position to foster continued growth in the CSRA's manufacturing sector by leveraging the innovations and research manufacturing areas, such as: cybersecurity, applied gaming, robotics, process intensification, smart manufacturing, engineering, industrial mathematics, and computational chemistry. Grants and memoranda of understanding help to support and define the extent of the partnerships.

Chancellor Kelly discussed three USC Beaufort Hilton Head Island Campus for Hospitality Management programs that serve as a lifeblood for the tourist area.

- The Island Ambassador Program has trained over 1,600 certified ambassadors in the knowledge, culture, and environment of Hilton Head Island, in addition to well over 1,000 local employees a year.
- The Center for Event Management & Hospitality Training focuses on event incubation; volunteer management for marquee events such as the RBC Heritage PGA Tournament and the Concours d'Elegance.
- The Lowcountry & Resort Islands Tourism Institute, conducts and completes over 100,000 visitor/event surveys to provide feedback to vendors. The institute received \$425,000 in extramural funding.

The USC Beaufort service region is a destination location for tourists and retirees. The need for continuing education has been recognized since the early days of the founding of USC Beaufort, Chancellor Kelly said. What started as a small continuing education program in 1991, embarked on a significantly accelerated trajectory when the campus partnered with the Benard Osher Foundation to bring the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) to USC Beaufort in 2004.

Chancellor Kelly said there are about 122 OLLI programs nationally. Each OLLI program is housed under a university and is 100% financially self-sustained. The OLLI's mission is to provide quality, intellectually stimulating, not-for-credit, educational opportunities and experiences for adults age 50 years of age and older. More than 400 OLLI programs are offered at USC Beaufort to a membership of 1,400 – 1,500 annually. The OLLI program improves members' quality of life, connects them to the University, and encourages interest in giving.

Chancellor Kelly said the Advanced Manufacturing Management degree delivered on the campus of BMW Manufacturing is a Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree completion program which allows students with an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Mechatronics, Industrial Electronics Technology, or Automated Manufacturing Technology to pursue a four-year degree from USC Upstate.

USC Upstate's College of Science and Technology crafted the program to meet the needs of students and the manufacturing base in the Upstate of South Carolina and beyond. Degree recipients will become qualified operations managers who are equipped for leadership positions in advanced manufacturing. Many students will complete the program part-time, while working in manufacturing. Development of the program is a cooperative effort between USC Upstate, technical colleges in the Upstate, BMW, and other manufacturers to provide leadership skills and advancement opportunities for technology degree holders.

Chancellor Kelly said USC Upstate supports small business development through the GreenHouse Business Incubator in downtown Spartanburg, located in the George Dean Johnson, Jr. College of Business and Economics, "The George." The GreenHouse provides resources including work/office space, support and mentoring to area entrepreneurs to help them scale their ventures and attract investor funding. The incubator welcomes entrepreneurs, including students, who want to grow their businesses in Spartanburg's thriving entrepreneurship ecosystem.

President Pastides asked if there was anything the three campuses could do together. Chancellor Kelly responded that although programs are designed for each campus' unique demographic; opportunity for collaboration is available, as seen in shared leadership programs.

Chairman Allen thanked Chancellor Kelly and said the report was received as information.

#### IV. Update on Equity and Inclusion Plan

Chairman Allen called on Trustee Westbrook, chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on Strategic Planning, who said discussion of the draft Equity and Inclusion Strategy had been scheduled for the committee's meeting on December 18, 2018. However, it was deferred due to presenter travel conflicts. He said the strategy document is available on the Board Portal. However, he wanted it included on this agenda, since the committee will not consider it for full Board approval until its next meeting on June 7, 2019. Trustee Westbrook thanked Trustee Moody for her input on the plan.

Trustee Allen called on Dr. Dozier, who provided Trustees a draft of the Equity and Inclusion Strategy, which summarizes three strategic objectives and tactics to meet each objective. The first objective "composition" is to enhance diversity of the campus community (students, faculty and staff) by improving:

under-represented minority (URM) student enrollment; the number of full-time URM faculty across academic units; and the number of URM staff in the Admissions Office.

The second objective “achievement” will provide the support needed for every member of the University community to be successful in their teaching, learning, research, scholarship, and work by enhancing the academic outcomes for URM students, and improving post-graduate outcomes for URM students.

“Engagement and Inclusion,” the third strategic objective, is to engage the University community in the learning, understanding, and practice of diversity and equity; while fostering a welcoming and inclusive University community. The objective will be accomplished by increasing the engagement of students, faculty, staff, administrators, and members of the community in courses, training sessions and events that promote awareness and understanding of diversity, inclusion, critical analysis, and civil discourse. Also, it will improve the sense of inclusion among University community members.

Chairman Allen thanked Dr. Dozier and said the update was received as information.

V. Other Matters

Chairman Allen called for any other matters to come before the committee.

VI. Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the committee, Chairman Allen declared the meeting adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Cantey Heath, Jr.  
Secretary