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University of South Carolina
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Academic Excellence and Student Experience Committee

February 19, 2021

The Academic Excellence and Student Experience Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, February 19, 2021, in the Pastides Alumni Center Ballroom and by Microsoft Teams.

Committee members present were Mr. C. Dan Adams, Chair; Mr. Alex English; Mr. Richard A. Jones; Dr. C. Dorn Smith III, Board Chair; and Mr. Thad H. Westbrook, Board Vice Chair. Committee members participating by Microsoft Teams were Ms. Molly Spearman and Mr. John C. von Lehe Jr. Ms. Leah B. Moody and Mr. Eugene P. Warr were not in attendance.

Other Board members present were Mr. J. Egerton Burroughs; Dr. C. Edward Floyd; Mr. Brian C. Harlan; Mr. Hubert F. Mobley; Ms. Emma W. Morris; Ms. Rose Buyck Newton; Mr. Robin D. Roberts; Mr. Charles H. Williams; and Mr. Mack I. Whittle Jr. Mr. Toney J. Lister participated by Microsoft Teams video conference and Mr. Miles Loadholt participated by Microsoft Teams audio conference.

Also present was USC Columbia Student Government President Ms. Issy Rushton. USC Columbia Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Mark Cooper and the Board's Strategic Advisor Mr. David Seaton participated by Microsoft Teams video conference.

Others in attendance for the meeting were President Robert L. Caslen Jr.; Secretary J. Cantey Heath Jr.; Vice President of Human Resources Caroline Agardy; President's Chief of Staff Mark Bieger; Budget and Human Resources Manager Jean Brklich; USC Upstate Interim Chancellor Derham Cole; Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations Monica Delisa; Chief Audit Executive Pamela Dunleavy; Chancellor of Palmetto College Susan Elkins; Associate Vice President for Finance and Budget Kelly Epting; University 101 Programs Executive Director Dan Friedman; Vice President of Information Technology and Chief Information Officer Doug Foster; USC School of Music Dean Tayloe Harding; USC Alumni Association Chief Executive Officer Wes Hickman; Assistant Board Secretary Cameron Howell; Interim Director for Academic Programs and Director of the Office of Distributed Learning Trena Houp; USC Aiken Chancellor Sandra Jordan; University Controller Mandy Kibler; Assistant to the President for System Affairs Eddie King; Executive Director, Office of Economic Engagement Bill Kirkland; Faculty Senate Chair-Elect Audrey Korsgaard; Senior Director of Strategic Partnership for Military and Government Programs Todd McCaffrey; General Counsel and Executive Director of Compliance Programs Terry Parham; Chief Operating Officer Jeff Perkins; Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost Dennis Pruitt; Interim Executive Communications Director Amy Rogers; College of Arts and Sciences Interim Dean Joel Samuels; Special Assistant to the President James Smith; University Treasurer, Assistant Vice President of Administrative Operations and Chief of Staff Joe Sobieralski; Assistant Vice President of Media and External Engagement Jeff Stensland; Director of Athletics Ray Tanner; and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Bill Tate.

OPEN SESSION

I. Call to Order

Chair Adams called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance, and asked everyone at the table to introduce themselves. Secretary Heath confirmed Committee and Board members in attendance via Microsoft Teams video and audio conference.

Chairman Adams called on Mr. Stensland to introduce members of the press in attendance. Mr. Stensland introduced Lucas Daprile with *The State* and Josh Kendall with the *Athletic*.

Chair Adams stated 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.

MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Adams stated there were personnel matters dealing with honorary academic titles and tenure and promotions appropriate for discussion in Executive Session and called for a motion to enter Executive Session. Mr. von Lehe so moved, and Ms. Spearman seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously. The following were invited to remain: Trustees, President Caslen, Secretary Heath, Assistant Secretary Howell, the President's Executive Council, Dr. Cooper, Ms. Rushton, Mr. Seaton, Chancellor Cole, Chancellor Elkins, Chancellor Jordan, Chancellor Panu, and Board support staff.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

– Executive Session Removed

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RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

II. USC Columbia

Chair Adams called on Provost Tate to present tenure and promotion recommendations and program recommendations for approval.

A. Personnel Matters

Provost Tate presented tenure and promotions recommendations that were approved by President Caslen. He noted supporting materials were posted to the Board Portal for this meeting.

1. Hire with Tenure

Dr. Joaquin Lado-Abeal – The School of Medicine Tenure and Promotion Committee’s Clinical Unit, along with interim Department Chair Sharon Weissman and Dean Leslie W. Hall recommended Dr. Lado-Abeal be hired as Professor of Internal Medicine with tenure in the University of South Carolina School of Medicine and as Director of the Division of Endocrinology effective January 1, 2021.

2. Transfer with Tenure

Dr. Toby Jenkins-Henry – The tenured faculty of the College of Education Department of Educational Leadership and Policies, along with Interim Department Chair Peter L. Moyi and Dean Jon E. Pedersen recommend Dr. Toby Jenkins-Henry’s tenure be transferred from the Department of Instruction and Teacher Education to the Department of Educational Leadership and Policies at the rank of Associate Professor effective March 1, 2021.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval to the full Board of Dr. Lado-Abeal's hire with tenure at the rank of Professor and Dr. Toby Jenkins-Henry's transfer with tenure at the rank of Associate Professor as presented and posted on the Board Portal for this meeting. Mr. Jones so moved and von Lehe seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

B. New Programs

1. Certificate in Graduate Studies in Maternal and Child Health – Arnold School of Public Health

Provost Tate stated the Arnold School of Public Health (ASPH) received funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for a five-year training grant to expand the University's current maternal and child health (MCH) curriculum by developing a MCH Certificate Program to prepare students to pursue careers in MCH-focused jobs in public health agencies. The grant will cover costs for the MCH certificate program implementation. Upon completion of this grant, ASPH plans to apply for HRSA's MCH Center grant, which would provide continuous funding for program personnel and administrative costs.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval by the full Board of the new Certificate of Graduate Studies in Maternal and Child Health within the Arnold School of Public Health as presented and posted on the Board Portal for this meeting. Ms. Spearman so moved, and Mr. English seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity Management – Darla Moore School of Business

Provost Tate stated the Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity Management within the Darla Moore School of Business is designed to be completed while enrolled in the Professional MBA program. Certificate holders will be the link between senior management, computer security specialists, and end users. No new courses are needed; however, the certificate program will require the hiring of an adjunct professor. The program will be revenue-generating beginning in year one.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval to the full Board of the new Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity Management within the Darla Moore School of Business as presented and posted on the Board Portal for this meeting. Mr. Jones so moved, and Mr. von Lehe seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Graduate Certificate in Strategic Innovation – Darla Moore School of Business

Provost Tate stated the Graduate Certificate in Strategic Innovation within the Darla Moore School of Business is designed to enhance the career progression of students by providing critical frameworks and advanced content material for understanding science, technology, and innovation management. The certificate program will complement graduate degree programs and certificates offered within the Darla Moore School of Business. No new courses are needed, and the

certificate program will use existing faculty. The program will be revenue generating beginning in year one.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval to the full Board of the new Graduate Certificate in Strategic Innovation within the Darla Moore School of Business as presented and posted on the Board Portal for this meeting. Ms. Spearman so moved, and Mr. English seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

C. Program Modification

— BS Geological Sciences – College of Arts and Sciences

Provost Tate stated, this program modification involves a name change from BS in Geology to BS in Geological Sciences within the College of Arts and Sciences and adds a new concentration in Geophysics. There are no new costs or expenses involved.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval to the full Board of modifications to the BS Geological Sciences Program within the College of Arts and Sciences as presented and posted on the Board Portal for this meeting. Ms. Spearman so moved, and Mr. Jones seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

D. Program Termination

— BS Geophysics – School of Earth, Ocean, and Environment

Provost Tate stated demand for the University's Geophysics degree program has been in decline since the late 1980s. Establishment of the School of

the Earth, Ocean, and Environment (SEOE) and subsequent changes in faculty and programmatic priorities has led to the conclusion that a BS in Geophysics is neither sustainable nor critical to the future of the SEOE. A concentration in Geophysics will be added to the BS in Geological Sciences program within the College of Arts and Sciences.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval to the full Board for termination of the BS Geophysics Program within the School of Earth, Ocean, and Environment as presented and posted on the Board Portal for this meeting. Mr. English so moved, and Mr. von Lehe seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

E. Institute Termination

— Confucius Institute – College of Arts and Sciences

Provost Tate stated termination of the Confucius Institute was being recommended due to changes in the College of Arts and Sciences and University priorities and strategic direction. Since this is a cultural exchange institute and not a degree or certificate program, there is no student enrollment.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval to the full Board of termination of the Confucius Institute within the College of Arts and Sciences as presented and posted on the Board Portal for this meeting. Mr. English so moved, and Ms. Spearman seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

III. USC Aiken

Chair Adams called on Chancellor Sandra Jordan to present recommendations for approval of three new programs and a Faculty Manual change.

A. New Programs

1. BS Mechanical Engineering

Chancellor Jordan stated after offering coursework for the “pre-engineering” track for 32 years at the University of South Carolina Aiken (USC Aiken), the Board approved its first engineering degree program in 2014. It was an innovative industrial process engineering program designed by USC Aiken faculty in conjunction with 23 regional companies and industries. The program was officially launched in 2016 with 37 students and grew over the next four years to 115 students. Although the engineering program had a mechanical engineering component embedded within it, students were transferring out of the USC Aiken engineering program in their second semester junior year to mechanical engineering degree programs at the University of Georgia and Francis Marion College. USC Aiken has several mechanical engineering PhD faculty and access to adjuncts from the National Labs, the Savannah River, Bridgestone, and other area companies. In addition, USC Aiken will partner with the University of South Carolina Columbia’s College of Engineering and Computing for some senior-level course instruction. There will be a sharing of tuition revenue between the Columbia and Aiken campuses.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval to the full

Board of a new BS Mechanical Engineering degree program at USC Aiken as presented and posted on the Board Portal for this meeting. Mr. Jones so moved, and Ms. Spearman seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

2. BS Spanish

Chancellor Jordan stated the proposed BS Spanish program will have concentrations in translation and interpretation as well as language, literature, and cultures. The program is specifically designed for outreach to the Latino and Latina population in South Carolina as there is a growing demand for bilingual employees in healthcare, business, education, government, and other industries. The projected first-year enrollment is 100 with increases of 35 to 40 over the fourth and fifth years.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval to the full Board of a new BS Spanish degree program at USC Aiken as presented and posted on the Board Portal for this meeting. Mr. English so moved, and Mr. von Lehe seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. BA Theater

Chancellor Jordan stated students with general arts degrees were finding it difficult to define their pathway into careers. To better position fine arts students in the job market, the Board approved the separation of USC Aiken's arts and music degree programs, which included a theater concentration. In

completing the fine arts program triumvirate, USC Aiken recommended separating the theater concentration into a BA in Theater degree program. No additional faculty or space needs are required.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval by the full Board of the new BA Theater degree program at USC Aiken as presented and posted on the Board Portal for this meeting. Mr. Jones so moved, and Ms. Spearman seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Faculty Manual Change

— Record of Violations

Chancellor Jordan stated the recommended faculty manual change clarifies to whom reports should be sent related to students who receive a zero or F grade due to academic integrity issues. Reports will be sent to the dean, the department chair, and the associate vice provost to ensure there are no abuses and that counseling is made available for students cited for academic integrity issues.

Chair Adams called for a motion to recommend approval to the full Board of a change to the USC Aiken Faculty Manual related to Record of Violations as presented and posted on the Board Portal for this meeting. Mr. English so moved and von Lehe seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

IV. Athletics Academic Update

Chair Adams called on Athletic Director Ray Tanner to present an Athletics Academic Update.

Mr. Tanner reported the 560 students in the 21-sport athletics program have continued to maintain a 3.0 GPA successfully. Of those, 91 student-athletes were named to the President's List, having earned a 4.0 GPA; 208 student-athletes were named on the Dean's list, having earned a 3.5 GPA or 3.25 GPA for Freshmen; and 436 student-athletes were named to the Fall Athletics Director Honor Roll, having earned a 3.0 GPA. The University of South Carolina has led the SEC in fall academic honor roll for 15 of the last 17 fall semesters. The semester departmental GPA was 3.29. Athletic programs earning their 2nd highest GPA ever were Women's Golf at 3.89, Men's Golf at 3.58, Women's Soccer at 3.79, Softball at 3.59, and Beach Volleyball at 3.83.

Mr. Tanner stated Paul Stoltzfus is the Assistant Athletics Director for Academics, and he runs the Dodie Academic Enrichment Center. Maria Hickman is the Executive Senior Associate and oversees the Academic Enrichment program, which she developed 12 to 14 years ago. Ms. Hickman also serves as the Senior Women's Administrator to the SEC for the USC Athletics Department as well as Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for the Athletics Department.

Chair Adams thanked Mr. Tanner and stated the Athletics Academic Report was received as information.

V. Review of Committee Matrix

Chair Adams called attention to the Academic Excellence and Student Experience Committee matrix posted to the Board Portal for the Committee's review. He noted the matrix provides a timeline through October 15, 2021. Chair Adams thanked Dr. Cooper for his work in assisting with development of the matrix.

VI. Other Matters

Chair Adams called for other matters to come before the Committee. There were none.

VII. Adjournment

There being no other matters on the agenda, Chair Adams adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Cantey Heath, Jr.", is positioned above the typed name.

J. Cantey Heath, Jr.
Secretary