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University of South Carolina
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee

March 17, 2017

The Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met at 10:55 a.m. on Friday, March 17, 2017, in the Alumni Center's C. Edward Floyd Boardroom.

Members present were: Ms. Leah B. Moody, Chair; Mr. Mark W. Buyck Jr.; Mr. Thomas C. Cofield; Mr. A.C. "Bubba" Fennell III; Mr. William C. Hubbard; Dr. C. Dorn Smith III; Mr. Thad Westbrook; Mr. John C. von Lehe Jr., Board Chairman; and Mr. Tommy Preston Jr., who participated by phone.

Other Board members present were: Mr. Chuck Allen; Mr. William W. Jones Jr.; Mr. Toney J. Lister; Mr. Miles Loadholt; Mr. Hubert F. Mobley, Board Vice Chairman; Mr. Eugene P. Warr Jr.; Mr. Mack I. Whittle Jr.; and Mr. J. Egerton Burroughs, who participated by phone.

Also present was Faculty Senate Chair August E. "Augie" Grant; Student Body President Ross Lordo; and Faculty Liaison Committee members Christian Anderson, Bridget Coleman, Marco Valtorta, and Hendrikus van Bulck.

Others present were: President Harris Pastides; Secretary J. Cantey Heath Jr.; General Counsel Walter "Terry" H. Parham; Provost Joan T. A. Gabel; Chief Operating Officer Edward L. Walton; Chief Financial Officer Leslie Brunelli; Chief Information Officer Doug Foster; Chief Information Security Officer James Perry; Vice President for Student Affairs Dennis Pruitt; Vice President for Human Resources Chris Byrd; Vice President for Facilities and Transportation Derrick Huggins; Vice President for System Planning Mary Anne Fitzpatrick; Chief Communications Officer Wes Hickman; Athletics Director Ray Tanner; Chief Financial Officer, Athletics Department, Jeff Tallant; Deputy Provost Helen Doerpinghaus; Palmetto College Chancellor Susan Elkins; Executive Director of Audit & Advisory Services Pam Doran; USC Beaufort Chancellor Al Panu; USC Upstate Chancellor Brendan Kelly; USC Aiken Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Jeff Priest; University Treasurer Pat Lardner; University Architect Derek Gruner; Associate Vice President for Business Affairs Helen Ziegler; Associate

Vice President for Finance Jennifer Muir; Vice Provost and Director of Global Carolina P. Allen Miller; Law School Dean Robert Wilcox; College of Arts and Sciences Dean Lacy Ford; Executive Director for the Office of Economic Engagement William D. “Bill” Kirkland; Executive Director of My Carolina Alumni Association Jack W. Claypoole; Director of International Student Services Jody Pritt; Director of Study Abroad Magdalena Grudzinski-Hall; Director of International Support For Faculty and Staff Lorraine Aun; Director of Purchasing Venis Manigo; Director of Facilities Design and Construction Jeff Lamberson; Assistant Director of Facilities Design and Construction Thomas Opal; Assistant Director for Audit & Advisory Services Glenn Murray; Audit & Advisory Services Audit Consultants Roscoe Patterson, Richard Stingel and Mark LaBruyere; Brian D’Amico, Elliott Davis Decosimo; Benjamin Kennedy, Kennedy and Company Education Strategies; University Technology Services Production Manager Matt Warthen; and Board staff members Debra Allen, Terri Saxon and Ina Wilson.

Chair Moody called the meeting to order and invited committee members to introduce themselves. She 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. Mr. Hickman informed the committee that there were no members of the media in attendance.

Chair Moody stated there were personnel matters dealing with honorary academic titles and appointments with tenure appropriate for Executive Session. Mr. Cofield moved to enter Executive Session and Mr. Fennell seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

The following individuals were invited to remain: President Pastides, Secretary Heath, members of the President’s Executive Council, Ms. Doran, Dr. Grant, Mr. Lordo and Faculty Liaison Committee members.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

I. International Students and International Travel Update

Provost Gabel introduced Jody Pritt, Director of International Student Services, to present the update. Ms. Pritt thanked the committee for the opportunity to provide an update on how compliance support for international activities at the University was managed. As with any initiative on campus, she said, the safety of the University’s students, faculty, staff as well as the university community, is given top priority.

Ms. Pritt said the office staff engages with peers at institutions around the country to ensure alignment with best practices and compliance with federal and state regulations. The staff is also very involved with NAFSA: Association of International Educators, which is the national professional association that provides up-to-date staff training and sets the standards and principles for best practices. She informed the committee the University was known for practicing a conservative approach to immigration regulation. This, she emphasized, helped the University to exercise its willingness to bring internationals to campus while maximizing its safety and compliance efforts.

She shared, while some international students come to the University of South Carolina as a result of its recruitment activities, many international students hear about the University from siblings or other international alumni who have had a positive experience here. All must go through the admissions process and if admitted, the International Student Services (ISS) Office creates a certificate of eligibility through the U. S. Department of Homeland Security that is issued to students so they may apply for a visa interview at an U. S. Embassy or U. S. Consulate in their country. The offices of International Student Services and English Programs for Internationals work in conjunction with the U. S. Department of Homeland Security, the U. S. Department of State, and U. S. Customs and Border Protection when admitting and providing immigration documents to international student applicants. Ms. Pritt reported all international students undergo a multi-step vetting process, which includes review and validation of documents, proof of sufficient financial resources, familial and social ties to home country, background checks and in-country U. S. Department of State interviews for a visa, prior to traveling to the United States.

Once on campus, she said, every new international student must physically check-in with their documents at International Student Services or English Programs for Internationals prior to registration. While some universities allow online check-in, the University of South Carolina does not. Students are required to stay in regular contact with USC's International Student Services Office for immigration compliance. Any conduct issues or concerns with an international student are reported to the ISS Office for review and action. Throughout the admission, arrival, and support process, International Student Services and English Programs for Internationals work in conjunction with an expansive list of partners both on campus and off campus, including USC Police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Ms. Pritt reported the ISS Office had demonstrated a high standard of compliance and took its responsibility of ensuring safety and maintaining strict interpretation of the law very seriously. She added that the ISS Office valued the international activity on campus and advocated for it as a means of creating

a diverse and high achieving student body that provides all students the opportunity to learn in an internationally cultivated environment.

In response to a Trustee question, Ms. Pritt said currently there are 1,789 international students attending the University's Columbia campus from 101 countries. Countries with the largest number of students enrolled are: China, India, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Bangladesh, Taiwan and the United Kingdom. Responding to a question about system campuses, she said that her office maintained the compliance support for the Palmetto College (two-year) campuses and there were a total of 22 international students at those campuses. She said USC's four-year campuses had their own Principal Designated School Official who maintained compliance measurements and standards; however, she noted there was an open line of communication between her office and the partner offices at these campuses.

Trustee Cofield thanked Ms. Pritt and said he now felt more comfortable about the University having substantive layers of protection and vetting surrounding the admission of international students.

Responded to a question by student representative Ross Lordo, President Pastides said 10% of PhD students are international, which is lower than that at some of the University's peer aspirant institutions. Currently, there is not a plan to increase that number.

Chair Moody stated that this report was received as information.

II. USC Beaufort – Mission Statement Revision

Chair Moody called on Chancellor Panu who reported the proposed revision in mission was the result of the ongoing strategic planning process as well as a sense of urgency associated with the 2019 review by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. He noted the only change was with regard to graduate program offerings, which had received significant need and demand.

Chair Moody called for a motion to recommend approval by the full Board of the requested revision of the USC Beaufort mission statement. Mr. Fennell so moved and Mr. Hubbard seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

III. Other Matters

Chair Moody announced Trustees are invited to attend Discover USC on April 21 prior to the Board's committee meetings that day. Dr. Shuji Nakamura, the 2014 Nobel Laureate in Physics, will deliver the keynote address following a welcome by President Pastides at 8:30 a.m. at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center.

IV. Adjournment

There being no other items to come before the committee, Chair Moody adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Cantey Heath, Jr.
Secretary