

The official minutes of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees are maintained by the Secretary of the Board. Certified copies of minutes may be requested by contacting the Board of Trustees' Office at trustees@sc.edu. Electronic or other copies of original minutes are not official Board of Trustees' documents.

University of South Carolina

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Student-Trustee Liaison Committee

September 15, 2005

The Student-Trustee Liaison Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met on Thursday, September 15, 2005, at 12:30 p.m. in the Capstone House Campus Room.

Members present were: Ms. Rita M. McKinney, Chair; Mr. Mark W. Buyck, Jr.; Mr. Williams W. Jones, Jr.; Mr. M. Wayne Staton; Mr. Eugene P. Warr, Jr.; Mr. Herbert C. Adams, Board Chairman; and Mr. Miles Loadholt, Board Vice Chairman. Dr. C. Edward Floyd was absent. Other Trustees present were: Mr. Samuel R. Foster II; Mr. William C. Hubbard; Mr. Toney J. Lister; Mr. Michael J. Mungo; Mr. Mack I. Whittle, Jr.; and Mr. Othniel H. Wienges, Jr.

Others present were: President Andrew A. Sorensen; Secretary Thomas L. Stepp; Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Richard W. Kelly; Vice President for Human Resources Jane M. Jameson; Vice Provost and Executive Dean for Regional Campuses and Continuing Education Chris P. Plyler; Vice President for Student Affairs Dennis A. Pruitt; Associate Provost for Institutional Outreach and Dean of The Graduate School Christine Ebert; Director of the Department of Student Life, Division of Student Affairs, Jerry T. Brewer; Associate Professor, USC Lancaster, Noni M. Bohonak; and Director of University Communications, Division of University Advancement, Russ McKinney, Jr.

Student Government Association (SGA) representatives present were: USC Aiken: President Brenn Hartley; USC Beaufort: President Johnathan Lucky, Advisor Kate Torborg; USC Lancaster: President Andre Kennedy, Vice President Scott Baker, Treasurer Chirag Patel, and Advisor Tracey Taylor; USC Salkehatchie: President Sloan Sauls, Vice President (West Campus) Winter Atkinson and Advisor Kathy West; USC Union: President Lavarian Walkins, Vice President Brandi Spencer, Secretary Relicia Baxter, and Advisor Michael Moton; USC Upstate: President Robert Gideon and Dean of Students Laura Puckett-Boler.

Prior to the meeting, a luncheon was held and students had the opportunity to talk with Trustees, University officials and President Sorensen at their individual tables.

Following the luncheon, Chair McKinney called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. She invited Board members, the Administration and others in

attendance to introduce themselves. Mr. Russ McKinney stated that there were no members of the media in attendance. Chairman McKinney stated that the agenda had been posted and 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.

I. Response to Hurricane Katrina Evacuees: Chair McKinney called on Dr. Pruitt who reported that 30 students who had been displaced as a result of Hurricane Katrina had enrolled at the University. Many of the students had already paid their tuition at other universities; therefore, the University will only charge instate fees for the fall semester. Students were admitted to classes based on the availability of space.

Dr. Pruitt stated that students at the University wanted to raise money for Hurricane Katrina evacuees but also wanted to do more hands on type of activities. Students had volunteered their services to the various organizations and had scheduled fundraisers including a fundraiser at football games.

Dr. Sorensen thanked Dr. Pruitt, his colleagues and the regional campuses for their efforts. He stated that prior to Labor Day, he, Mayor Bob Coble and Congressman Jim Clyburn had discussed ways to bring the community together to assist those persons affected by the hurricane. Since a centralized location was needed to provide services, he had volunteered the use of a University building. This community-wide activity included the Salvation Army, American Red Cross, State Department of Social Services, Social Security Administration, and the Southern Baptist Association. To date, 1,500 evacuees from Louisiana had been processed.

In addition, Dr. Sorensen indicated that a visiting lecturer from Harvard Medical School and the President of Bennett College had toured the facility for processing the evacuees; they were very impressed with the fact that everyone was working together and the evacuees were treated with dignity.

Chair McKinney thanked Dr. Sorensen and Dr. Pruitt for the care, generosity and the leadership they had displayed.

Chair McKinney stated that this report was received for information.

II. Report from Student Affairs Alcohol and Drug Office: Chair McKinney called on Melissa Watson, President of GAMMA (Gamecocks Advocating the Mature Management of Alcohol) who reported on numerous activities sponsored by GAMMA. Members of this organization made presentations to various programs on campus, such as Late Night Carolina, tail gate parties. In addition, cards were sent to students who were celebrating their 21st birthday; included were inserts containing information about alcohol poisoning.

Ms. Watson explained that a tailgate party was a high risk activity for college students but could also provide students with a substance free atmosphere

to enjoy friends, food and entertainment. She gave a detailed report on many activities held at Late Night Carolina.

Ms. Watson stated that another big event was "Safe Spring Break Week". Spring Break was another "high risk time" for college students. Prior to spring break, GAMMA was paired with Student Government and Carolina Productions to host events throughout the week.

National Collegiate Alcohol Week was a nationally recognized week with emphasis placed on collegiate alcohol prevention.

Ms. Watson stated that the NCAA had given GAMMA a grant for peer educators and student-athletes to give presentations to students; the organization had purchased t-shirts which listed 6 tips for safe partying.

From 1997 to 2004, GAMMA had received the national peer network award annually.

Chair McKinney stated that this report was received for information.

III. Brief Reports from Non-Columbia Campuses: Chair McKinney requested reports from representatives of each campus and asked them to discuss successes and challenges at their institution.

A. USC Aiken: Mr. Brenn Hartley gave an overview of student activities held at USC Aiken. The golf team had won two national championships in Division II. In addition, the school had a new 4,000 seat Convocation Center which would house the basketball team and other athletic functions.

Mr. Hartley stated that USC Aiken had been ranked number one by *USA News and World Report*. For the past eight years, USC Aiken had been listed as one of the top ten Public Comprehensive Schools in the South.

B. USC Beaufort: Mr. Jonathan Lucky reported that construction of the new South campus had been completed. In addition, the campus had begun its student housing village and 800 students would be housed in the future. Another major upcoming event was the yearly Relay for Life for the American Cancer Society.

C. USC Lancaster: Mr. Andre Kennedy reported that monthly "get togethers" were held to bring together students, staff and faculty in an informal setting. Other activities included a back to school bash and a fall blood drive. In collaboration with the local chapter of the Red Cross, USC Lancaster was also working to collect money and supplies for Hurricane Katrina evacuees. In addition, a staff member would donate a rental home for one year for a displaced family. And, on November 18th there would be an elegant "black and white" party.

Mr. Kennedy stated that campus organizations had received their budget allowances. In order for any organization to exist on the campus, members of that group must complete a group-wide community service project. In addition, the organization must host a charitable event. In the past, SGA had provided toys for

Christmas and read to children at the Lancaster Childhood Development; toys would be donated again this semester.

D. USC Salkehatchie: Ms. Sloan Sauls reminded the Committee that there were two campuses. Enrollment had increased. There was now intercollegiate baseball; the team consisted of 43 players. Various fundraisers were scheduled to assist Hurricane Katrina evacuees and coin collection jars were placed throughout campus.

E. USC Union: Mr. Lavarian Walkins reported on various student activities. A welcome back social was held and 85 people attended; an ice cream social will be held next week.

The African-American Association held a yard sale and the funds would be used for a trip to the "Million Man March" in Washington, DC. The Association would also host a World AIDS Day program; SGA will educate people about AIDS and provide testing.

In addition, two Hurricane Katrina families were given donations of clothing and other needed items. A blood drive will be held on November 8th.

Ms. Walkins stated that Criminal Justice and Women's Studies had been added to the curriculum.

F. USC Upstate: Mr. Robert Gideon reported that a ground breaking ceremony had been held for the Health and Education Complex. In addition, there were 750 new freshmen this year; the average GPA was 3.5 and the average SAT score was above 1000.

SGA had planned a trip to assist in one of the areas affected by Hurricane Katrina. The Red Cross would provide training to a group that consisted of at least 30 volunteers. In addition, staff from the Technology Department had provided computer training to evacuees and had helped them locate family members; the Career Center assisted in locating jobs for them.

In the spring, SGA will rally the legislature to express their concerns about budget cuts in higher education, which have led to rising tuition.

Chair McKinney expressed appreciation to the students for all of their community activities and stated that the University was very proud of them.

She stated that these reports were received as information.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair McKinney declared the meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Stepp
Secretary