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University of South Carolina

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee

March 16, 2006

The Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met on Thursday, March 16, at 1:30 p.m. in the 1600 Hampton Street Board Room.

Members present were: Mr. John C. von Lehe, Jr., Chairman; Mr. James Bradley; Mr. John W. Fields; Mr. Samuel R. Foster, II; Mr. William C. Hubbard; Ms. Darla D. Moore; Mr. Othniel H. Wienges, Jr.; Mr. Herbert C. Adams, Board Chairman; and Mr. Miles Loadholt, Board Vice Chairman. Mr. Mack I. Whittle, Jr. was absent. Other Trustees present were: Mr. William W. Jones, Jr.; Ms. Rita M. McKinney; Mr. M. Wayne Staton; and Mr. Eugene P. Warr, Jr.

Faculty Liaison Committee members present were: Dr. C. Eugene Reeder, Chair of the Faculty Senate; Dr. Judith Alexander, Chair of the Faculty Advisory Committee; Dr. Marja Warhime, Chair of the Faculty Welfare Committee; and Dr. Noni Bohonak, USC Lancaster, Regional Campuses Representative.

Others present were: President Andrew A. Sorensen; Secretary Thomas L. Stepp; Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Mark P. Becker; Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Richard W. Kelly; Vice President for Research and Health Sciences Harris Pastides; Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer William F. Hogue; Vice President for University Advancement Brad Choate; Vice President for Student Affairs Dennis A. Pruitt; General Counsel Walter (Terry) H. Parham; Vice Provost and Executive Dean for Regional Campuses and Continuing Chris P. Plyler; Chancellor of USC Aiken Thomas L. Hallman; Associate Provost for Institutional Outreach and Dean of The Graduate School Christine Ebert; Dean of the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies Charles Bierbauer; Dean of the College of Nursing Peggy O. Hewlett; Executive Dean of the South Carolina College of Pharmacy Joseph T. DiPiro; Interim Dean of the College of Pharmacy Randall C. Rowen; Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, USC Upstate, Reginald Avery; Chair of the Natural Science and Engineering Department, USC Upstate, David Ferris; Interim Program Director for Nursing, USC Beaufort, Susan C. Williams; Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, USC Beaufort, Rayburn Barton; Director of the School of Library and Information Science, College of Mass Communications and Information Studies, Daniel D. Barron; Director of the Department of Student Life, Division of Student Affairs, Jerry T. Brewer; Professor in the Department of Exercise Science, Arnold School of Public Health, and NCAA/SEC Faculty Representative, Russell R. Pate; Professor and Head of the Department of Education, USC Aiken, Jeffery Priest; USC Columbia Student

Government Association President Tommy Preston; USC Columbia Student Government Vice President Ryan Holt; USC Columbia Student Government Treasurer Jennifer Guest; Public Information Officer, Office of Media Relations, Karen Petit; Director of University Communications, Division of University Advancement, Russ McKinney, Jr.; and members of the media.

Chairman von Lehe called the meeting to order and invited those Board members present to introduce themselves. Mr. McKinney introduced members of the media in attendance.

Chairman von Lehe 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 von Lehe stated that there were personnel matters dealing with recommendations for honorary faculty titles, appointments with tenure and honorary degree nominations which were appropriate for Executive Session.

Secretary Stepp stated that there was an additional and timely contractual matter with respect to an academic program. He requested that Chairman von Lehe ask Dr. Sorensen, Dr. Pastides, Dr. Becker and Secretary Stepp to remain for a brief Executive Session. Other Executive Session participants will be asked to return for the other matters following the discussion of this item.

Chairman von Lehe called for a motion as stated by Secretary Stepp. Mr. Hubbard so moved. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Open Session

I. New Program Proposals:

A. Bachelor of Arts in Middle Level Education, USC Aiken: Chairman von Lehe called on Chancellor Hallman who reported that the State Department of Education was certifying middle grade programs in more distinct levels. He believed that the proposed program proposal would prepare teachers for those very important grade levels in the school system.

Chairman von Lehe called for a motion for approval of the Bachelor of Arts in Middle Level Education as described in the materials distributed for the meeting. Mr. Adams so moved. Mr. Loadholt seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried.

B. Bachelor of Science in Nursing, USC Beaufort: Chairman von Lehe called on Dr. Rayburn Barton who stated that the proposal would create a two track degree, the RSN to BSN and a generic four year program. Chancellor Upshaw was working with the hospital to identify funding for the program. He explained that there was a big demand for a nursing program in the Beaufort area. In addition, the hospitals in Beaufort, Hilton Head, Savannah and Bluffton were very supportive of this degree offering.

Dr. Sorensen stressed the importance of all nursing programs within the USC system working together in a coherent and integrated manner. The Administration at

USC Beaufort had coordinated their program proposal with Dean Hewlett; they were available to answer questions in terms of the relationship to other Nursing programs.

Chairman von Lehe requested a further explanation of the sources of funding for the first year of \$2,830,517 and the statement that "Other Funding will be generated through program growth funds, donations from health care partners and private individuals" as stated on page 19 in the materials for the meeting. Dr. Barton responded that Dr. Upshaw was working with all the hospitals in the area. He noted that USC Beaufort received funding from Beaufort and Jasper counties. A portion of the funding was designated within their budget; however, the program was contingent upon the ability of USC Beaufort's receiving adequate funding.

Chairman von Lehe called for a motion to approve the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, USC Beaufort, contingent upon full funding being achieved and as described in the materials distributed for the meeting. Mr. Adams so moved. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried.

C. Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology Management, USC

Upstate: Chairman von Lehe called on Dr. Reginald Avery who was proposing to offer this program at USC Upstate. An advisory committee, established to conduct surveys and receive feedback, had determined that the program would be a very viable one for the state and the region. Dr. Avery introduced Dr. David Ferris, Chair of Natural Sciences and Engineering who stated that he was available to answer any questions.

Chairman von Lehe called for a motion to approve the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology Management, USC Upstate as described in the materials distributed for the meeting. Mr. Wienges so moved. Mr. Adams seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried.

D. Bachelor of Science in Information Science - College of Mass Communications and Information Studies, USC Columbia:

Chairman von Lehe called on Dean Bierbauer who introduced Dr. Dan Barron, Director of the School of Library and Information Science. Dean Bierbauer stated that the proposed program would be unique in South Carolina because the University had the only library school. It had resulted from the combination of need and opportunity as the manner in which data was collected, analyzed, accessed and disseminated in today's information age was considered. He stated that the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies had coordinated very closely with the College of Engineering and Information Science, Moore School of Business and the College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management to ensure that the program was complimentary rather than overlapping or conflicting with the others. There was a discernible market for students who wished to major in this program. The Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics projected that information jobs would grow faster than jobs in other sectors of the economy.

Chairman von Lehe called for a motion to approve the Bachelor of Science in Information Science - College of Mass Communications and Information Studies, USC

Columbia as described in the materials distributed for the meeting. Mr. Foster so moved. Mr. Hubbard seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried.

II. Program Modification - Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies with an Option in Security Studies, USC Beaufort: Chairman von Lehe called on Dr. Barton who reported that this proposal was a modification of the Liberal Studies degree. He stated that there was a large military presence in that area of the state. In addition, the school was located between the second and third largest ports on the East Coast, Charleston and Savannah. USC Beaufort had been working for approximately one year with an advisory group and with faculty to fashion an appropriate curriculum. USC Beaufort had designed an option in Security Studies which would allow a student the opportunity to look at various policy issues related to national and homeland security. He stated that it was not a practitioner's degree; it was an interdisciplinary generalist degree that would cover several ranges of security related questions. This program was being offered as an option to an existing local studies program which enabled students to choose a degree from at least two different disciplines.

Secretary Stepp stated that a revised title page had been distributed at board members' places. The title of the program was Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies with an Option in Security (rather than Securities) Studies. He suggested that the motion be made with that revised title accordingly.

Chairman von Lehe called for a motion to approve the program modification as described in the materials distributed for the meeting with the correction offered by Mr. Stepp. Mr. Foster so moved. Mr. Hubbard seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion carried.

III. Report on Grade Forgiveness Policy: Chairman von Lehe stated that this agenda item was briefly mentioned at the last Board meeting during which Provost Becker had indicated that he would present a more detailed report at the upcoming Academic Affairs Committee meeting. He called on Provost Becker who remarked that Justin Williams, former Student Government Association President, had discussed in his final report to the Board a proposal for a Student Grade Forgiveness Policy.

Recently, the Student Government Association had asked the Faculty Senate to consider adoption of a policy that would provide an opportunity for students to retake up to two courses in which they had performed poorly because of extenuating circumstances. Provost Becker emphasized that the motivation was not to inflate GPA's. Rather, the reality was that there were semesters in which students' grades may have been affected by personal or family problems. This policy would be limited to two courses and it would not expunge low grades from transcripts.

In addition, students would retake the class and the new higher grade would be used to determine the grade point average. This proposal had been sent to the Faculty Senate and subsequently forwarded to a sub-committee on standards, progression and petitions; the subcommittee would review it next year.

Provost Becker stated that a similar policy was already in place at peer institutions such as the University of North Carolina, University of Florida and University of California, Berkeley.

Chairman von Lehe stated that this report was received for information.

IV. Report on Carnegie Research Classifications: Chairman von Lehe called on Provost Becker who stated that the Carnegie Foundation had historically classified universities by type. Carnegie had undertaken a project to refine their system of classifications. Carolina had been categorized as a Research One institution for some time.

The new system actually refined the research categories even further. There were now two classifications within the research university category. There were over 200 research universities; approximately 92 of those universities were classified as very high research universities and 126 were high research universities. The University of South Carolina was in the high group, which included public universities such as UNC Chapel Hill, University of Florida, University of Georgia, University of California, University of Virginia, University of Michigan, University of Wisconsin, University of Minnesota, and included all 64 of the AAU institutions. Under the new reclassification, the amount of research funding as well as the amount of funding the institution had per capita per faculty member was considered. The system measured the intensity and activity based on the current faculty. Carolina was ranked in the most prestigious group of research universities in the country.

Chairman von Lehe stated that this report was received for information, with great pleasure and high compliments.

V. Report from Faculty Senate Chair: Chairman von Lehe called on Dr. Gene Reeder who stated there would be minor modifications to the faculty manual that would be presented at the next meeting. Also, the Faculty Senate was looking at all the committees within their area to see if they were functioning properly and if changes were needed.

Dr. Reeder gave an update of the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics. This was a body of representatives from the Faculty Senates of approximately 50 Division I NCAA institutions. The coalition had brought forth a set of best practices which had been recommended for adoption at the NCAA and our institution adopted, in principle, those best practices; the University Athletic Advisory Committee was in the process of incorporating those best practices.

The Coalition was asked by the NCAA Presidential Task Force to comment on reports that it was bringing forward to the NCAA. He stated that the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics had responded on eight items; he gave a brief synopsis of them. He reported on fiscal responsibility and the major thesis that there should be increased transparency in providing all interested constituents access to the budgetary and fiscal process of athletics departments. The Presidential Task Force was reviewing financial incentives for winning in contracts and whether they should be eliminated and the degree to which contracts should focus on academic

success and all around development of athletes. There was also a report on presidential leadership from a faculty perspective.

Dr. Reeder stated that he was pleased with the University's position with respect to the various recommendations. The report stated that presidents as a group should advocate for the kinds of contracts that would reward coaches who promoted academic excellence as well as athletic excellence.

Commercialization was another area addressed. There was a general feeling among the NCAA presidents that commercialization was presenting a threat to the integrity of intercollegiate athletics. The report mentioned the importance of the Faculty Academic representative and the president's leadership in ensuring that this activity did not occur.

In summary, Dr. Reeder stated that there was clearly strong support for the initial work of the NCAA Presidential Task Force. The COIA was of the opinion that the Task Force could shape national, regional and local decisions about college sports. These structures and best practices emerging within the NCAA would more closely reflect the values of academic institutions and put college athletics back in the position of being part of an excellent university.

He stated that these examples were some of the goals. He was pleased with the receptive attitude on this campus regarding COIA recommendations and what the NCAA Presidential Task Force was advocating. Dr. Reeder and Dr. Sorensen believed that there was a change in the culture of NCAA which was refreshing from a faculty standpoint.

Dr. Sorensen requested that Dr. Russ Pate, Faculty Athletics representative, Professor Bill Bearden, Chair of the Athletics Advisory Committee, and Mr. Hyman, Athletics Director convene to discuss these issues further in a more thoughtful and organized way and then present a report to the Board. Topics to be addressed would include the academic progress rate. In addition, coaches were now being held accountable for students' progress toward graduation.

Dr. Sorensen stated that he felt there were five sports that were not doing as well as they should, a topic which he had discussed with Mr. Hyman and Mr. Foster, Chairman of the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee. As the incoming President of the Southeastern Conference, he was concerned that the SEC (Southeastern Conference) was not adequately addressing academic excellence. He had appointed Provost Becker as the chair of a group of all of the SEC institution Provosts to discuss the manner in which academic excellence within the conference should be handled. Dr. Sorensen asked Dr. Becker to report to the Board in the future about the progress of this group; he concurred that the commercialization of intercollegiate athletics was worrisome.

Mr. von Lehe stated that this report was received for information.

Since there were no other matters to come before the Committee, Chairman von Lehe declared the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Stepp
Secretary