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University of South Carolina

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Student-Trustee Liaison Committee

March 23, 2010

The Student-Trustee Liaison Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, March 23, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. in the 1600 Hampton Street Board Room.

Members present were: Mrs. Amy E. Stone, Chair; Mr. J. Egerton Burroughs; Mr. Greg Gregory; Mr. William W. Jones, Jr.; and Mr. Eugene P. Warr, Jr., Vice Chairman. Members absent were: Dr. C. Edward Floyd, and Ms. Leah B. Moody.

Board member John C. von Lehe, Jr. was also in attendance.

Others present were: President Harris Pastides; Secretary Thomas L. Stepp; Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost for Academic Support Dennis A. Pruitt; Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer William F. Hogue; Interim Vice President for Communications and Public Affairs and Dean of the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies Charles Bierbauer; Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, Department of Student Life, Jerry T. Brewer; Chair of the Faculty Senate Patrick D. Nolan; Director of Student Life and Student Government Association (SGA) Advisor, USC Lancaster, Laura Humphrey; SGA Advisor, USC Salkehatchie, Jane Brewer; SGA Advisor and Biology Instructor in the Department of Science, Math, and Engineering, USC Sumter, Daniel Kiernan; SGA Advisor and Admission Recruiter, USC Union, Brad Greer; SGA Advisor and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, USC Upstate, Laura D. Puckett-Boler; University Technology Services Production Manager, Justin Johnson; and Board staff members Terri Saxon and Vera Stone.

SGA representatives present were: USC Aiken: No representatives were present due to a conflict in their class schedules; USC Beaufort: Treasurer Colleen Erner, and Senators Taylor Mason and Chris Moyer; USC Columbia: SGA President Ebbie Yazdani, Vice President Taylor Cain, Treasurer Peter Schaeffing, Past SGA President Meredith Ross, and Graduate Past President Alan Taber; USC Lancaster: SGA President-Elect Dylan Knight, Vice President Michael Bailey, and Senator Stacey Stallard; USC Salkehatchie: SGA President Dustin Pannell and Vice President Caylenne Donnelley; USC Sumter: SGA President Jennifer Black, Vice President Richard Boone, Secretary/Treasurer Brandi Williams, and student Dapheny Greene; USC Union: SGA President Jeremy Robinson, Vice President Tyler Page, and At-Large Member Dona Nena Wright; USC Upstate: SGA President Leon Fernades, Vice President Gregory Wrice, Secretary Ximena Sherard, and Treasurer Jasmine Horton.

I. Small Group Discussions over Lunch: A luncheon was held which gave students an opportunity to talk with Trustees and University officials. Following the luncheon, Chair Stone called the meeting to order, welcomed and invited everyone to introduce themselves. No members of the media were in attendance. She stated that 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.

II. Columbia Campus Student Government Association Goals: Chair Stone called on the newly elected USC Columbia SGA President Ebbie Yazdani, who thanked past President Meredith Ross for helping him transition into this position. He thanked her for leaving a legacy which he could build upon this upcoming year.

Mr. Yazdani reported on, and distributed, information regarding the updated USC Columbia SGA's Vision, Mission Statement and Goals.

Vision: "Empowering students through opportunities and experiences seeking a better Carolina."

Mission Statement: "Student Government of the University of South Carolina represents the voice of all students, advances the overall quality of learning through promoting involvement within the Carolina community, advocates a greater understanding and collaboration with faculty and administration, and encourages responsible citizenship within a culturally diverse and globally independent society."

Goals: Fostering leadership through communication; encouraging involvement in community; perpetuating pride in the University; improving the quality of life; promoting an understanding for diversity; and achieving success through unity.

Mr. Yazdani stressed the importance of empowering students and said that one way to empower students was to register them to vote in local, state, and national elections. Many USC freshman, upon arriving on campus, were not registered to vote. The SGA set a goal to register a minimum of 1,000 students between now and September.

Chair Stone thanked Past President Meredith Ross for the great job she did as SGA President and stated that she would be missed.

III. Reports from University System Campuses: Chair Stone called on each of the campuses to provide an update of their campus activities.

A. USC Aiken: Chair Stone stated that student representatives from USC Aiken were unable to attend the meeting today due to a conflict in their class schedules; however, USC Aiken SGA President Brad Hall submitted a written report which she read aloud. The SGA Senate recently passed a bill, which if approved, would make every part of campus except parking lots smoke-free.

The USC Aiken Men's basketball team won the Peach Belt Championship and moved on to the NCAA Division II Tournament, where they won their first game, but did not make it past the second round.

USC Aiken finished a documentary about the Pickens Salley House on campus. It will be presented in two half-hour segments, first telling the plantation and Civil War

stories, and then stories of the 20th century suffrage movement and the civil-rights era. The house, physically moved twice, was now home to the Office of the Chancellor and the Office of University Advancement. This documentary will premiere on March 30th.

In the past, USC Aiken students have not been able to wear regalia at graduation that was not related to academic honor societies. SGA had another bill passed by the Faculty Assembly that would allow students from Greek and other service organizations to wear their stoles and cords at graduation, if approved by the Campus Life Committee.

B. USC Beaufort: Treasurer Colleen Erner reported that USC Beaufort held their first ever Sand Sharks Homecoming this year during a double header baseball game. The Baseball team was at 20-8 overall, with a 6-5 conference record. The Golf and Cross Country teams continued to set records with men's Golf placing second in a recent invitational in Daytona.

USC Beaufort's enrollment continued to increase. A ribbon cutting ceremony of the new Campus Center was held to officially announce its opening after a successful semester of operation. Ms. Erner thanked the Board and President Pastides for their support in this achievement. Three SGA Executive Board members and two Senators planned to attend Carolina Day at the Statehouse the next day.

The SGA designed a window decal to be circulated to local businesses who gave a discount for showing the "Sand Shark ID" card; this was an exciting partnership with the local community. The SGA was currently re-evaluating their Senate structure to institute a more proportionate representation of athletes, residential, and commuter students. The student newspaper had been reborn under the name "Tidal Tribune" and its inaugural issue would be published this week.

USC Beaufort commencement would be held on April 30th with a graduating class of over 150 undergraduate students participating and 19 MAT graduate students.

USC Beaufort was celebrating its 50th anniversary as a post-secondary institution in the Low country. Lecturer series and exhibits were planned as part of this celebration. On April 6th, the University would officially present Chancellor Upshaw with a medallion and Ms. Erner invited everyone to this historic event and thanked the Board for their support.

C. USC Lancaster: SGA President-Elect Dylan Knight reported that in February the SGA partnered with TRIO to host "Hoops for Haiti," a basketball tournament in which approximately \$800 was raised and donated to the American Red Cross for Haiti relief efforts. The soccer team hosted a benefit dinner and raised \$350. In April, SGA would host a Blood Drive for the American Red Cross.

In May, nine USC Lancaster students and faculty would travel to China as part of a study abroad program. The SGA offered three student scholarships to assist with the cost of the trip, and planned to offer the same financial assistance for next year's trip to Dublin and London. The SGA planned an international food festival for March 31st; the proceeds would be used to benefit the study abroad program.

USC Lancaster launched a women's softball team. Coach Allen Blankenship was hired and would be recruiting for the team. Scrimmages would begin this fall.

USC Lancaster peer advisors were chosen in December. At a recent Southern Region Orientation Workshop they attended educational sessions with 1,500 other students from colleges around the South.

Several USC Lancaster students competed in the South Carolina Speech and Theatre Festival at Limestone College in February. All students did tremendously well placing in three categories; one student, Grant Baker, placed first in the Monologue category. Professor Marybeth Holloway was doing an outstanding job as the Lancaster Players Theater group Advisor.

In the Fall of 2009, USC Lancaster initiated a partnership with the National Society of Leadership and Success. As of Spring 2010 they had 37 members. The Society offers national leading lecturers and a networking community to foster members' success. The chapter's first members would be inducted in a ceremony in April.

Other upcoming events included Intramural Flag Football April 14-17th, Spring Fling on April 22nd, and Relay for Life on April 23rd.

D. USC Salkehatchie: Vice President Caylenne Donnelly reported on behalf of SGA President Dustin Pannell, who was unable to attend the meeting since he was the pitcher for their baseball team and was traveling with the team.

The 2010-2011 elections for SGA Officers and the Professor of the Year would be held in April. USC Salkehatchie's commencement would be held on May 3rd with nearly 130 students expected to receive Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees. However, some students would receive their Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from USC Aiken, and Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies and Bachelor of Liberal Studies from USC Columbia. This year, USC Salkehatchie would also have their first class of Bachelor of Science in nursing students participating with USC Columbia.

An academic reception was scheduled for April 15th to recognize academic award winners for this year, and academic scholarship recipients for next fall including the new Salkehatchie Scholars recipients for fall 2010. The athletics banquet would be held on April 18th. Brandon Riley was selected "Basketball Player of the Year" for the National Junior College Athletic Association's Region 10. Plans were underway for the SGA annual Salkehatchie Olympics where the East Campus would play the West campus in a variety of field activities and games. Students, staff, and alumni planned to attend the Carolina Action Network Legislative Day the following day.

USC Salkehatchie was featured this month as the National Junior College Athletic Association's National College of the Month out of over 500 schools.

E. USC Sumter: SGA President Jennifer Black reported that USC Sumter had increased campus security by installing security cameras in each building. They had also become more involved with upgrading Wi-Fi on campus; specifically, identifying additional buildings that needed Wi-Fi, and making students more aware of the wireless connections.

In February, USC Sumter sent representatives from various campus clubs and the SGA to the Moore School of Business in Columbia for the 24th Annual Student Leadership and Diversity Conference. The Student Education Organization hosted an event called "Hotdogs for Haiti." All proceeds were sent to the American Red Cross to assist Haiti.

Ms. Black noted other events which had been sponsored by Student Life, including the musical appearance of Native American singer Michael Jacobs. Upcoming events in which students could participate were an American Red Cross Blood Drive, an Alcohol Awareness Simulator, Earth Day, and a "Pig-Out" BBQ, all in an effort to encourage them to return to school the next semester. The SGA would end the year with a Town Hall meeting in April where students would have the opportunity to socialize with Dean Carpenter.

F. USC Union: SGA President Jeremy Robinson reported that last month the SGA joined in with a local church, the Potter's House, to help with a food drive to feed hundreds of homeless and financially impaired people. They also joined in with the Red Cross to do a "spare change drive," with proceeds from this going to Haiti.

Going green on campus was brought to the SGA's attention by a student, so the SGA purchased recycling bins and placed them throughout the campus. This effort had paid off. Students were participating and realizing the importance of recycling.

The SGA teamed up with the local media stations and created a You-Tube channel to promote USC Union's campus. USC Union had hired the Boudreaux group to help develop a master plan for their campus.

G. USC Upstate: SGA President Leon Fernandes reported that on February 13th Track student-athlete Daniel Groshans passed away; and on February 28th, student Touas Yang and his father were electrocuted when a power line came into contact with a ladder they were using to trim trees. Both students were extraordinary gentlemen, very active members in the community, and will be greatly missed.

The USC Upstate Police Department put several measures in place to deal with the increased number of computer thefts. Surveillance cameras were installed in the majority of the computer labs, and several undercover police officers were employed to patrol the campus. This summer the Police Department and Health Services would move into new locations which would allow them to better serve the growing student population. The SGA and the Police Department completed their annual campus safety walk, which resulted in a list of issues soon to be addressed to ensure the continued safety of all students, faculty, and staff. Already, gates had been installed around the residence halls to increase security.

The SGA recently hosted a "Meet the Candidates Event" which went well. It was a great kick off to the election week.

Completion of renovations to the 36 year old Hodge Center would be completed before the Basketball Fall 2010 season. This renovation was made possible because of a four million dollar gift from Ms. Dodie Anderson, an Upstate alumna.

The downtown George Dean Johnson, Jr. School of Business and Economics opening ceremony was scheduled for May. Classes would begin at that location in the fall. There was much excitement among the Upstate community about this new facility.

Chair Stone thanked all SGA representatives for their informative reports, and for their leadership. She stated that all the reports were received as information. She reminded everyone of the Carolina Day at the Statehouse the following day. She was pleased to hear that many students from various campuses were planning to attend.

There being no other matters to come before the Committee, Chair Stone declared the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Stepp
Secretary