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University of South Carolina
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Called Meeting

March 15, 2019

The University of South Carolina Board of Trustees convened in a called meeting at 3:35 p.m. on Friday, March 15, 2019, in the Alumni Center's C. Edward Floyd Boardroom.

Members present were: Mr. John C. von Lehe Jr., Board Chairman; Mr. Hubert F. Mobley, Board Vice Chairman; Mr. C. Dan Adams; Mr. J. Egerton Burroughs; Dr. C. Edward Floyd; Mr. William C. Hubbard; Mr. Richard A. Jones Jr.; Mr. Toney J. Lister; Mr. Miles Loadholt; Ms. Leah B. Moody; Ms. Rose Buyck Newton; Dr. C. Dorn Smith III; Ms. Molly M. Spearman; Mr. Eugene P. Warr Jr.; Mr. Thad H. Westbrook; and Mr. Mack I. Whittle Jr.; with Mr. Robert F. Dozier Jr.; Mr. A.C. "Bubba" Fennell III; and Mr. Charles H. Williams joining by telephone. Mr. Chuck Allen was absent.

Also present were USC Columbia Faculty Senate Chairman Marco Valtorta and USC Columbia Student Government President Taylor Wright.

Others present were: President Harris Pastides; Secretary J. Cantey Heath Jr.; General Counsel Walter "Terry" H. Parham; Provost Joan Gabel; Chief Operating Officer Edward L. Walton; Vice President for Student Affairs Dennis A. Pruitt; Vice President for Information Technology Doug Foster; Vice President for Human Resources Caroline Agardy; Chief Communications Officer Wes Hickman; Palmetto College Chancellor Susan Elkins; Chief Audit Executive Pam Doran; University Controller Mandy Kibler; University Treasurer Pat Lardner; Associate Vice President for Administration and Finance and Medical Business Affairs Jeffrey L. Perkins III; Executive Director for the Office of Economic Engagement William D. "Bill" Kirkland; Chief Diversity Officer and Senior Associate Provost for Inclusion, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, John H. Dozier; Director of State Government and Community Relations Derrick Meggie; Director of Public Relations Jeff Stensland; Executive Director for Strategic Initiatives Jack Claypoole; Assistant to the President for System Affairs Eddie King; Cynthia Lister, wife of Trustee Toney Lister; Ann Loadholt, wife of Trustee Miles Loadholt; University Technology Services Production Manager Matt Warthen; and Board staff members Terri Saxon and Ina Wilson.

I. Call to Order

Chairman von Lehe called the meeting to order and 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. Secretary Heath confirmed Trustees who had joined the meeting by telephone.

Mr. Hickman introduced Hannah Dear with *The Daily Gamecock*.

Motion for Executive Session

Chairman von Lehe said there was a need for an Executive Session for personnel matters related to the awarding of honorary degrees and the position of Executive Director of the Alumni Association.

Mr. Mobley made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Whittle. The vote was taken, and the motion approved.

The following persons were invited to remain: President Pastides, Secretary Heath, Mr. Parham, Dr. Valtorta and Mr. Wright.

Executive Session

When there were no other matters appropriate for discussion in Executive Session, Chairman von Lehe declared the meeting returned to Open Session.

Return to Open Session

II. BTRU 3.00 Appointment of Board Members to Serve on USC Foundation Boards

Chairman von Lehe called on Mr. Parham to present a new policy related to the appointment of Trustees to serve on the boards of the University's foundations.

Mr. Parham said for the Board's consideration was a policy establishing the method by which the Board will select members to serve on the University's four support foundation boards. He described a method that would begin with a selection through a vote by the Executive and Governance Committee, which would then recommend an individual to the full Board for final consideration and determination of which member would serve on each of the four foundation boards. Those elected by the full Board will serve four-year terms and will have the right to be reappointed for one additional four-year term for a total term of service of eight years. The policy also would provide that all Board members are eligible for consideration but would be unable to serve on two foundation boards at the same time.

Chairman von Lehe called for a motion. Trustee Mobley so moved, and Trustee Westbrook seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

III. Equity and Inclusion Plan

Chairman von Lehe called on Trustee Westbrook who reminded Trustees that in Fall 2018 following adoption of the University's strategic plan, the strategic priority forward dealt with equity and inclusion. Coming out of that discussion, the Strategic Planning Committee, in conjunction with the President and his team, put together a subplan for equity and inclusion.

Mr. Westbrook said the plan has been on the Board Portal for a while and during the Board's committee meetings in February Dr. Dozier made a presentation about the plan. Therefore, he asked that the full Board move forward with approving the plan. He also thanked Trustee Moody for her contributions to the plan.

Before proceeding with adoption of the plan, Ms. Moody asked Dr. Dozier to comment on the student pipeline, which was brought up earlier in the week during discussions at the State House.

Dr. Dozier explained pipelines, as referenced in the equity and inclusion plan, as being the entire process by which students can obtain access to the University. The University of Possibilities program is one of those pipeline programs, in terms of developing entry points. However, processes also need to be in place to ensure students are prepared academically for entrance into the University of South Carolina. The pipeline also includes ensuring the University is successful with underrepresented students in terms of their graduation rates and that they can obtain employment after graduation. This is the complete pipeline.

Ms. Moody noted the University had been criticized in terms of the diversity represented in its professional schools. She asked if the pipeline process described by Dr. Dozier would help broaden the pool of eligible underrepresented students available to the University's professional schools.

Dr. Dozier said one aspect not clearly articulated in the legislative discussion was the function of yield – the difference between who is admitted to the University and who ultimately enrolls in the University. This issue is a function of scholarships, of scholarship money that can be made available to underrepresented minority students. It also is a function of creating a welcoming environment where students feel like they are coming to an institution where they can truly be successful.

He said the pipeline in the equity and inclusion plan does not necessarily address professional schools, but the implementation of the plan can encompass that need so conversations take place with deans to ensure the University is converting more students from applicant to enrollee.

Chairman von Lehe called for a motion approve the plan. Mr. Westbrook so moved, and Trustee Smith seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

IV. Adjournment

There being no other matters on the agenda, Chairman von Lehe adjourned the meeting at 4:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Cantey Heath, Jr.
Secretary