

University of South Carolina
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Academic Excellence and Student Experience Committee

In Person, Floyd Boardroom, Pastides Alumni Center
and By Microsoft Teams

June 19, 2024

OPEN SESSION

I. Call to Order

Chair English called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. Secretary Howell confirmed Trustees attending in person and by Microsoft Teams audio and video conference.

Committee Members in attendance:

Alex English, Chair

C. Dan Adams

Richard A. Jones Jr.

Leah B. Moody

Emma W. Morris

John C. von Lehe Jr. (online)

Rose Buyck Newton, *Board Vice Chair*

Thad H. Westbrook, *Board Chair*

Members Absent:

Ellen Weaver

Other Trustees in attendance:

C. Edward Floyd (online)

Brian C. Harlan

Henry L. Jolly Jr.

Hubert F. Mobley

E. Scott Moise

Reid T. Sherard

C. Dorn Smith III

Charles H. Williams

Others in attendance:

Patton Byars, USC Columbia Student Government President

Wayne Outten, USC Columbia Faculty Senate Chair

Robin Roberts, Advisor to the Advancement, Engagement and Communications Committee

David Seaton, Advisor to the Governance Committee

Administrators in attendance:

Michael Amiridis, President

Cameron Howell, University Secretary and Secretary of the Board of Trustees

Donna Arnett, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

Terry Parham, General Counsel

Ed Walton, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Media in attendance:

Jessica Holdman, *SC Gazette*

Notice:

Chair English stated notice of the meeting and agenda 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.

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair English stated there was a need for an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters related to tenure and promotions, honorary academic titles, and confidential candidates for the award of honorary degree.

Ms. Moody made the motion to enter Executive Session, and Mr. Adams seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Chair English invited the following to remain: Trustees, Mr. Byars, Dr. Outten, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Seaton, President Amiridis, Secretary Howell, Chancellors, members of the President's Executive Council, Dr. Eckel, Mr. Warr, and Board support staff.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

– Executive Session Removed

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

II. USC Columbia

A. Personnel Matters

Dr. Arnett presented USC Columbia personnel matters for approval.

1. Approval of Tenure and Promotions – Fall 2023 Cycle

- a. Mingli Xu – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences

- b. Annie Bourbonnais – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, School of Earth, Ocean and Environment, College of Arts and Sciences
- c. Elizabeth Countryman – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of English Language and Literature, College of Arts and Sciences
- d. Jonathan Edwards – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of English Language and Literature, College of Arts and Sciences
- e. Colin Wilder – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of History, College of Arts and Sciences
- f. Noah Gardiner – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies, College of Arts and Sciences
- g. Jaclyn Wong – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, College of Arts and Sciences
- h. Kristin Hall – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Theatre and Dance, College of Arts and Sciences
- i. André Megerdichian – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Theatre and Dance, College of Arts and Sciences
- j. Carleen Maur – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, School of Visual Art and Design, College of Arts and Sciences
- k. Priyank Arora – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Management Science, Darla Moore School of Business
- l. Fatih Ari – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Educational Studies, College of Education
- m. Kathleen Mary Winn Cunningham – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Educational Leadership and Policies, College of Education
- n. David G. Martínez – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Educational Leadership and Policies, College of Education
- o. An De Meester – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Physical Education, College of Education
- p. Erfan Goharian – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, College of Engineering and Computing

- q. Ioannis Rekleitis – promoted to the rank of Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, College of Engineering and Computing
- r. Sanjib Sur – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, College of Engineering and Computing
- s. Dezhi Wu – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Professor, Department of Integrated Information Technology, College of Engineering and Computing
- t. Dongkyu Lee – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering and Computing
- u. Nikolaos Vitzilaios – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering and Computing
- v. Jesse Cross – promoted to the rank of Professor, Joseph F. Rice School of Law
- w. Lisa Martin – promoted to the rank of Professor, Joseph F. Rice School of Law
- x. Aparna Polavarapu – promoted to the rank of Professor, Joseph F. Rice School of Law
- y. Emily Suski – promoted to the rank of Professor, Joseph F. Rice School of Law
- z. Clinton G. Wallace – promoted to the rank of Professor, Joseph F. Rice School of Law
- aa. Emily Winston – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Joseph F. Rice School of Law
- bb. Aaron Glenn – awarded tenure, Law Library, Joseph F. Rice School of Law
- cc. Ana Pocivavsek – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience, School of Medicine Columbia
- dd. Jay Jacobs – awarded tenure at the rank of Associate Professor, School of Music
- ee. Michael Wilkinson – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, School of Music
- ff. Karen E. Wickersham – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Biobehavioral Health and Nursing Science, College of Nursing
- gg. Lisa Fitton – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Arnold School of Public Health
- hh. Monique J. Brown – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Arnold School of Public Health

- ii. Robert Davis Moore – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Exercise Science, Arnold School of Public Health
- jj. Courtney Monroe – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior, Arnold School of Public Health
- kk. Nicole Hair – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Health Services Policy and Management, Arnold School of Public Health
- ll. Peiyin Hung – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Health Services Policy and Management, Arnold School of Public Health
- mm. Bongki Woo – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, College of Social Work

Ms. Morris made a motion to recommend full Board approval of the USC Columbia candidates for tenure and promotions as presented. Ms. Moody seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

2. Approval of Transfer to Tenured Position with Rank of Associate Professor

- Dr. William Strosnider, transfer from the professional-track faculty rank of Research Professor to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure in the School of Earth, Ocean, and Environment in the College of Arts and Sciences

Mr. Adams made a motion to recommend full Board approval of the USC Columbia's transfer to tenured position with rank of associate professor as presented. Ms. Morris seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

3. Approval of New Hires with Tenure

- a. Dr. Natasha Brison, hire with tenure at the rank of Associate Professor in the Department of Sport and Entertainment Management, College of Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management
- b. Dr. Cara Delay, hire with tenure at the rank of Professor in the Department of Women's and Gender Studies, College of Arts and Sciences
- c. Dr. Susan Newman, hire with tenure at the rank of Professor in the Department of Biobehavioral Health and Nursing Science, College of Nursing, and as a Health Sciences Endowed Chair of Nursing
- d. Recommendation to hire Dr. Tara Sobo-Attwood with tenure at the rank of Professor in the Arnold School of Public Health, with corresponding appointments as Dean of the Arnold School of Public Health and to the Henry Savage Jr. Professorship in Environmental Quality and Global Health

- e. Dr. Kathleen Searles, hire with tenure at the rank of Professor in the Department of Political Science, College of Arts and Sciences
- f. Dr. Leland Spencer, hire with tenure at the rank of Professor in the Department of Women's and Gender Studies, College of Arts and Sciences
- g. Dr. Jill Stewart, hire with tenure at the rank of Professor in the School of Earth, Ocean and Environment, College of Arts and Sciences
- h. Dr. Thorsten Wuest, hire with tenure at the rank of Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering and Computing

Ms. Morris made a motion to recommend full Board approval of the USC Columbia new hires with tenure as presented. Ms. Moody seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

4. Approval of Honorary Academic Titles

- a. Dr. G. Thomas Chandler – Distinguished Dean Emeritus, Arnold School of Public Health, August 15, 2024
- b. Dr. Linda Hazlett – Clinical Professor Emerita, Arnold School of Public Health, May 15, 2024
- c. Dr. James Hussey – Clinical Professor Emeritus, Arnold School of Public Health, May 15, 2023
- d. Dr. Douglas Bradley Meade – Professor Emeritus, College of Arts and Sciences, May 16, 2024
- e. Dr. Nic Ularu – Distinguished Professor Emeritus, May 15, 2024
- f. Dr. August Grant – Named Chair Emeritus, J. Rion McKissick Professor of Journalism, College of Information and Communication, May 15, 2024
- g. Dr. Ana Lopez-DeFede – Distinguished Research Professor Emerita, College of Social Work January 3, 2024
- h. Dr. Ruth Riley – Librarian Emerita, School of Medicine Columbia, June 3, 2024
- i. Dr. Marilee Birchfield – Librarian Emerita, University Libraries, May 31, 2024
- j. Dr. Bruce Harvey Gray – Clinical Professor Emeritus, School of Medicine Greenville, September 30, 2022

Mr. von Lehe made a motion to recommend full Board approval of the USC Columbia candidates for honorary academic titles as presented. Ms. Newton seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

B. Approval of New Program

Dr. Arnett presented a new program for approval.

- Post-baccalaureate Certificate, Biostatistics

C. Approval of Program Modifications

Dr. Arnett presented program modifications for approval.

1. M.Ed., Applied Behavioral Analysis, change curriculum and add two tracks
2. M.Ed., Higher Education and Student Affairs, change name of concentration in Higher Education Administration to Higher Education Leadership concentration and change in curriculum

D. Approval of Combination Degree

Dr. Arnett presented a combination degree for approval.

- M.S., Business Analytics and Master in Sport Entertainment Management

E. Approval of Program Terminations

Dr. Arnett presented program terminations for approval.

1. M.P.H., Biostatistics
2. M.S., Physical Education

F. Approval of Revisions to USC Columbia Faculty Manual

Dr. Arnett presented revisions to the USC Columbia faculty manual for approval.

Ms. Morris made a motion to recommend full Board approval of the USC Columbia new program, program modifications, combination degree, program terminations, and faculty manual revisions. Mr. von Lehe seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

Chair English stated these items would be included on the Committee's written consent agenda for consideration at the next full Board meeting.

III. USC Aiken

A. Personnel Matters

Chancellor Heimmermann presented USC Aiken personnel items for approval.

1. Approval of Tenure and Promotions – 2023-24 System Cycle
 - a. Timothy Ashton – promoted to the rank of Professor, Department of Languages, Literature & Cultures, USC Aiken

- b. Elizabeth Georgian – promoted to the rank of Professor, Department of History, Political Science & Philosophy, USC Aiken
- c. Laura Jelsone-Swain – promoted to the rank Professor, Department of Psychology, USC Aiken
- d. Judith Callazo – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Education, USC Aiken
- e. Joseph Kameen – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Visual & Performing Arts, USC Aiken
- f. Timothy McClure – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Sociology, USC Aiken
- g. Gerald Prendergast – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science, Engineering & Mathematics, USC Aiken
- h. William Westermeyer – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Sociology, USC Aiken
- i. Doug White – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Chemistry & Physics, USC Aiken

Ms. Newton made a motion to recommend full Board approval of USC Aiken’s tenure and promotion candidates as presented. Mr. Adams seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

2. Approval of New Hire with Tenure

Chancellor Heimmermann presented a new hire with tenure for approval.

- Phillip B. Bridgmon, Ph.D., hire with tenure at the rank Professor

Mr. Adams made a motion to recommend full Board approval of USC Aiken’s new hire with tenure as presented. Ms. Moody seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

3. Approval of Honorary Academic Title

Chancellor Heimmermann presented a candidate for honorary academic title for approval.

- Dr. Christopher DeWitt, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, College of Sciences and Engineering, USC Aiken, May 31, 2024

Ms. Morris made a motion to recommend full Board approval of USC Aiken’s honorary academic title as presented. Ms. Moody seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

B. Approval of New Programs

Chancellor Heimmermann presented new programs for approval.

1. Undergraduate certificate, Strategic Communications
2. Undergraduate certificate and Post-baccalaureate certificate, Real Estate
3. Undergraduate certificate and Post-baccalaureate certificate, Spanish for the Clinical Encounter
4. M.S., Management Science

E. Approval of Revisions to USC Aiken Faculty Manual

Chancellor Heimmermann presented revisions to the USC Aiken faculty manual.

Mr. Adams made a motion to recommend full Board approval of USC Aiken's new programs and revisions to the USC Aiken faculty manual as presented. Mr. von Lehe seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

Chair English stated these items would be included on the Committee's written consent agenda for consideration at the next full Board meeting.

IV. USC Beaufort

A. Approval of Tenure and Promotions – 2023-24 System Cycle

Chancellor Panu presented four candidates for tenure and promotions for approval.

1. Mercer Brugler – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Professor, Department of Natural Sciences, USC Beaufort
2. Daniel Pettay – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Natural Sciences, USC Beaufort
3. Alyssa Powell, awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Public Health & Human Services, USC Beaufort
4. Dawn Robinson – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Public Health & Human Services, USC Beaufort

Ms. Moody made a motion to recommend full Board approval of USC Beaufort's candidates for tenure and promotion as presented. Ms. Newton seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

B. Approval of New Program

Chancellor Panu presented a new program for approval.

- M.A.T., Secondary Education

C. Approval of Program Modification

Chancellor Panu presented a program modification for approval.

- B.S.N., Nursing, add Beaufort Memorial Hospital site

D. Approval of 100% Online Delivery

Chancellor Panu presented a 100% online delivery program for approval.

- M.Ed., Literacy

E. Approval of Program Termination

Chancellor Panu presented a program termination for approval.

- A.A./A.S., Liberal Arts and Sciences

Ms. Morris made a motion to recommend full Board approval of USC Beaufort’s new program, program modification, 100% online delivery, and program termination. Mr. von Lehe seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

Chair English stated these items would be included on the Committee’s written consent agenda for consideration at the next full Board meeting.

V. USC Upstate

A. Personnel Matters

Chancellor Harris presented USC Upstate personnel items for approval.

1. Approval of Tenure and Promotions – 2023-24 System Cycle

- a. Darlene Amendolair – promoted to the rank of Professor, Mary Black College of Nursing, USC Upstate
- b. Deshia Breaux – promoted to the rank of Professor, Department of Informatics and Engineering Systems, USC Upstate

- c. Michele Covington – promoted to the rank of Professor, Department of Sociology, Criminal Justice and Women’s Studies, USC Upstate
- d. Ona Egbue – promoted to the rank of Professor, Department of Informatics and Engineering Systems, USC Upstate
- e. Calvin Odhiambo – promoted to the rank of Professor, Department of Sociology, Criminal Justice and Women’s Studies, USC Upstate
- f. Nolan Stolz – promoted to the rank of Professor, Department of Fine Arts and Communication Studies, USC Upstate
- g. Daniel Davis – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Management, Entrepreneurship and Marketing, USC Upstate
- h. Brooke Hardin – awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor, Department of Education, USC Upstate
- i. Shuang Liu Hundley – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Fine Arts and Communication Studies, USC Upstate
- j. Polinapilinho Katina – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Informatics and Engineering Systems, USC Upstate
- k. Walter Lee – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Education, USC Upstate
- l. Alexander Lorenz – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, Department of Languages, Literature and Composition, USC Upstate
- m. Kristi Miller – awarded tenure, Department of Management, Entrepreneurship and Marketing, USC Upstate
- n. Yin-Chi Liao – awarded tenure, Department of Management, Entrepreneurship and Marketing, USC Upstate

Ms. Moody made a motion to recommend full Board approval of USC Upstate’s candidates for tenure and promotion as presented. Mr. Adams seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

2. Approval of Honorary Academic Title

- Dr. Toshua Kennedy, Professor Emerita, Mary Black College of Nursing, USC Upstate, December 31, 2023

Ms. Moody made a motion to recommend full Board approval of USC Upstate’s honorary academic title as presented. Mr. Adams seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

B. Approval of New Programs

Chancellor Harris presented new programs for approval.

1. B.S., Data Science
2. B.S., Industrial Engineering

3. B.S., Sport Management
4. Ed.S., Applied Teacher Leadership

D. Approval of Program Modification

Chancellor Harris presented a program modification for approval.

- B.S., Mathematics, add B.A.

Mr. Adams made a motion to recommend full Board approval of USC Upstate’s new programs and program modification. Ms. Morris seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

VI. Palmetto College

A. Approval of Tenure and Promotion – Fall 2023 Cycle

Chancellor Elkins presented candidates for tenure and promotion for approval.

1. Dana Lawrence – promoted to the rank of Professor, University of South Carolina Lancaster
2. Damien Picariello – promoted to the rank of Professor, University of South Carolina Sumter
3. Majdouline Aziz – promoted to the rank of Professor, University of South Carolina Union
4. Katie Klik – awarded tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, University of South Carolina Union

Ms. Moody made a motion to recommend full Board approval of Palmetto College’s tenure and promotion candidates as presented. Mr. Adams seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

B. Approval of Honorary Academic Title

- Dr. Mark Elliott Vittes, Professor Emeritus, Palmetto College, May 15, 2024

Ms. Moody made a motion to recommend full Board approval of Palmetto College’s candidate for honorary academic title as presented. Ms. Newton seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

C. Approval of Revisions to Palmetto College Faculty Manual

Chancellor Elkins presented revisions to the Palmetto College faculty manual for approval.

Ms. Moody made a motion to recommend full Board approval of revisions to the Palmetto College Faculty manual as presented. Mr. Adams seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

Chair English stated this item would be included on the Committee's written consent agenda for consideration at the next full Board meeting.

VII. Report from the College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management

Chair English stated this report had been provided for review and called for questions. There were none.

The report was received as information.

VIII. Approval of Confidential Candidates for the Award of Honorary Degree

Ms. Newton made a motion to recommend full Board approval to advance the full slate of confidential candidates for the award of honorary degrees as presented in Executive Session without objection. Ms. Moody seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

Chair English stated these candidates would be forwarded to the full Board for further at its meeting later in the day.

X. Committee Charter Matrix

Chair English stated that the Committee Matrix was published for review.

XI. Other Matters

Chair English called for any other matters to come before the Committee. There were none.

XII. Adjournment

Chair English declared the meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cameron Howell
Secretary