

**MINUTES**  
**SC STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**LOWMAN HALL BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**ORANGEBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA**  
**APRIL 24, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER/OPEN SESSION:**

Chairman Milton Irvin called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. He noted that proper notice was given regarding the meeting to comply with the Freedom of Information Act. The agenda was circulated to the members (Attachment 1). Trustee Donnie Shell gave the invocation.

**Trustees Present:** Mr. Milton Irvin, Dr. Doris Helms, Mr. Donnie Shell, Dr. B.R. Skelton, Mr. Steve Swanson and Mr. Jeff Vinzani. *Ex-Officio Members:* Mr. DeAndre Hurley and Mr. John Funny.

**Administrators & others present:** *President*, Mr. James E. Clark; *Provost*, Dr. Learie Luke; *General Counsel*, Ms. Mercedes Pinckney; *Chief of Staff*, Mrs. Shondra Abraham; *Consultant for Students & Administrative Operations*, Betty Boatwright; *Vice President of Finance*, Mrs. Teare Brewington; *Vice President for Student Affairs*, Dr. Tamara Jeffries-Jackson; *Athletics Director*, Mr. Stacy Danley; *Executive Director of 1890 Research and Extension*, Mr. Delbert Foster; *Director of Operations, Institutional Advancement*, Angelia P. Jackson; and *Administrative Coordinator and Recorder*, Mrs. Eartha Mosley.

**Media:** *None Present*

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

*Chairman Irvin stated the agenda may need to be amended to add Tuition Increases and Moving Student Affairs to the Division of Academic Affairs. He asked for a motion to adopt the amended agenda. Trustee Jeff Vinzani moved the motion. The motion was seconded by Trustee Donnie Shell. Vote: unanimously approved.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES (ATTACHMENT 2)**

*The Chairman asked for a motion to approve the minutes from May 8, 2017, February 21, 2018, and March 18, 2018. Trustee Steve Swanson moved the motion. The motion was seconded by Trustee Doris Helms. Vote: unanimously approved.*

**THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairman Irvin stated that the only item he had was to encourage the trustees to review and complete the online Board Self-Assessment, which is a new requirement by SACSCOC.

**PRESIDENT'S UPDATES (ATTACHMENT 3)**

President Clark began by thanking the trustees for their service and commitment rendered to the University while serving on the Board of Trustees. He acknowledged all their accomplishments, whether made public or otherwise. He continued

by stating that his report would be in three parts: 1) summary of certain items, 2) reports by cabinet members, and 3) update on the strategic planning initiative.

The President gave brief summaries of the following: the SACSCOC On-site Reaffirmation Team Visit; his presentation at the “Men of Color” event held at Clemson; the Council of Presidents meeting which he attended; the June CHE Town Hall in Orangeburg; the CHE/Legislative Quarterly Report; the Hanover Research Program Opportunity Report; the President’s webpage to be launched soon; the HBCU Historic Building Preservation grant application (\$500K for Phase 1 renovation of Wilkinson Hall); Software for Board Training; Board Self-Assessment to meet new SACSCOC requirement; a Board Planning Retreat; and a potential visit by Dr. Belle Wheelen at the June 27<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

#### *Division of Academic Affairs*

For the Division of Academic Affairs, Dr. Learie Luke acknowledged Dr. Rizana Mahroof as the recipient of the Governor’s Award for Excellence in Science on April 11, 2018. She was also recognized by the SC Academy of Science for Excellence in Scientific Research at a Predominately Undergraduate Institution on April 14, 2018, at Presbyterian College. One of Dr. Mahroof’s students, Cayela Glover, competed and won an award at the Joint GA and SC Entomological Society meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup>.

In ROTC, the new Commanding Officer of Fort Jackson is Brigadier General Milford Beagle Jr, one of the University’s graduates and the second graduate to lead as Commanding Officer of Fort Jackson. He was recently inducted into SC State’s U.S. Army ROTC Hall of Fame.

The Honors and Awards Convocation was held on April 4<sup>th</sup>. The Keynote speaker was Ms. Sky Foster of BMW. Seventy students received gold medallions, 138 received silver medallions, and 387 received bronze medallions. In the arena of research, the School of Graduate Studies hosted a Symposium on April 6<sup>th</sup>. The speakers were Drs. Judith Salley and Marvella Ford. Attendees were from SCSU, MUSC, SC Humanities, and SC Vocational Rehabilitation Association. On STEM Day the students showcased a robotics project. Students also made presentations overseas. Student researchers won 1<sup>st</sup> Place in a Youth Researcher forum in Barcelona during Spring Break. In addition, faculty, staff and students traveled to Amsterdam and Paris during Spring Break. Other student accomplishments included Wesley Red, a senior physics major, approved for study in Namibia in June and July.

The Office of International and National Student Exchange Programs sponsored a “Taste of Italy” program in which faculty, staff, and students prepared original Italian pasta dishes. In addition, Dr. Moreen Joseph hosted a lecture and demonstration of healthy cooking in Staley Hall for the Be-Fit program. Staley Hall was recently renovated. Dr. Luke also shared information on the Annual Business Week activities, and the Brothers' Keeper Leadership Summit at which over 1,000 students attended.

#### *Division of Finance and Management (ATTACHMENT 4)*

Mrs. Brewington shared that the cash/noncurrent assets are slightly up compared to last year as revealed by the preliminary unaudited account as of March 31, 2018. The noncurrent assets/restricted cash/student loans/capital assets are up as well. The University is in a better position than this time last year.

The current liabilities/accounts payable/deferred revenues are down compared to this time last year.

Revenues are down slightly from last year. Expenses are up due partly to the removal of the 20-day furlough.

Vendor payables tracks the history year-end to year-end and where the University is presently. We are slightly ahead as we approach the end of June compared to 2017. The University is striving to have a 30-45 day turnaround to pay vendors provided all documentation is received.

Chairman Irvin asked about 120 days payable. Mrs. Brewington said some items have not been paid due to the fact that all proper documentation have not been submitted. In some cases, the proper procedures were not followed internally. Also, the BANNER system is set-up in such a way that if the forms are not completed properly, they can delay payment to vendors. Trustee John Funny asked her to speak about the *Net Operating Loss* between 2017 and 2018. Mrs. Brewington revealed that the *Net Operating Loss* is a little tricky because the state appropriations are not considered operating revenue. It is important to look at the *Change in Net Position* which takes into consideration all revenue. From a GASB reporting standpoint, the state appropriations and certain forms of federal student aid are not considered operating revenue. Therefore, they are not included in the numbers. Student Receivables data are a factor of timing. There is a \$6.6M student receivable figure that is greater than 90 days. That figure relates to students who are no longer enrolled. The staff is reviewing the accounts to determine which ones can be written off but still potentially collected. When collected they become a recovery of bad debt vs tuition revenue.

Several construction projects are underway on the campus. The Steam Decentralization project is in its final stages. The estimated cost was \$5M with a timeline of five years, but the actual cost was \$2.1M, and the project was completed in three years. The estimated annual energy savings is \$530K per year. Projects for the summer include the conversion of former boiler plant to a campus warehouse; campus generator project (in the final stage); and Phase I of roof repairs to Staley Hall, Williams Hall, Turner Hall, and Washington Dining Hall. Repairs will also be done to the plumbing system of the Washington Dining Hall. The sidewalk in front of MLK/Nance Hall will be replaced

President Clark added that the rental fee for MLK will increase. Additional work will be done to the following residence halls: Mitchell Hall, Hugine Suites, and Battiste Hall. Trustee John Funny commended the President on finding a way to squeeze the budget and improve the facilities for students. Chairman Irvin asked about the work on the STATE Room. The President said that the work will be completed within 8 to 10 days, thanks to the gifts from C & W Company. The President thanked Mrs. Brewington and staff for identifying the funds for these projects. Trustee Helms applauded Mrs. Brewington and her staff for the outstanding job done concerning the financial status compared to three years ago. Ken Davis stated 4-5 years ago when there was a meeting with the Governor's Team regarding the Steam Decentralization of the campus, the University was to receive \$1M each year. Those funds were never received. Nevertheless, the University found a way to prioritize issues to complete the decentralization project. He thanked Mrs. Brewington and the entire University for tightening their belts to afford the repairs.

#### *Division of Student Affairs*

Dr. Tamara Jeffries-Jackson reported that the Spring 2018 Open House with 450 attendees had increased in comparison to last year's 326 students. A New Student Admissions Ambassadors Program was created by Admission Counselor Ms. Portia Branch in the spring to assist with various recruitment activities and events. Trustee Helms asked, "how are the students rewarded?" Mr. Burell answered that no compensation was provided, but the dedicated students serve as a volunteers because of their "love" for the institution. Trustee Helms suggested that the Trustees find a way to bring the students in for a luncheon. Trustee John Funny stated his business, *GRICE Consulting Group*, would donate \$10K to assist with increasing student enrollment.

The Fall 2018 undergraduate applicant's decisions are up over 105%. Total students admitted was up 31%; and total enrollment fees paid was up by 113%. The three admission staff are working extremely hard and there is a position announcement for a new staff member. Chairman Irvin asked whether the budget will be built around 3,000 students. The President shared that 1% increase would yield 2,974 students in order to meet the loan forgiveness required by legislators.

There was some discussion concerning additional housing for students in Fall 2018, Dr. Jeffries-Jackson stated that the method for student housing at University Village would change. On the matter of providing Wi-Fi to students in University

Village, the Real Estate Foundation is the property owner of University Village and, therefore, responsible for furnishing Wi-Fi to students in that facility.

The Career Center plays a key role in the placement of students with employers. The preliminary placement numbers showed 204 students registered/received career services. There was some discussion pertaining to the low numbers of students not engaging in the services of the Career Center. Mr. Joseph Thomas, Director of the Career Center, emphasized that placement is a work in progress. The President indicated that the University should gauge the marketing of the Career Center so that more students will engage in the opportunities offered by the Center. Trustee Funny shared that alumni are making some drastic changes and will be more involved. He also asked if the President could present a plan on how the University is tracking the progress of placements.

Mr. DeAndre' Hurley was elected SGA President for 2018-2019.

The Bulldog family mourns the loss of a family member, Myreon Broomfield, Senior Accounting Major from Gadsden, SC.

#### *Division of Institutional Advancement*

---

Mrs. Angelia Jackson reported that private giving was up by 17% compared to this time last year. During Founders' Day Weekend, two alumni were inducted into the Miller Society. Members are individuals who have given at least \$100K. Inductees were Mr. Thurman D. Shuler, and LTC (Ret.) David R. Doctor. LTC Doctor was also recognized as the MEAC Distinguished Alumnus. The Omega XI Psi fraternity donated \$146,317 as the down payment on the one million dollars pledged. A student Phone-a-thon was held to simply say "thank you" to past donors.

#### *Division of 1890 Research & Extension*

Mr. Delbert Foster communicated that a new 1890 Building will be constructed on campus. The bids were open on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and Boyer Commercial Construction was certified as the low-bidder. Upon receiving USDA/NIFA's approval, "shovel in the dirt" will take place in June.

On April 25<sup>th</sup> bids would open for the construction of the new 1890 facility at Camp Harry E. Daniel in Elloree, SC. Approval was received from USDA/NIFA to renovate the conference center at Camp Daniel. Plans are in place to build 4-H & Youth Development cabins and to update recreational facilities at the camp. The 1890 Charleston facility anticipates announcing the bidding process in July or August.

The division is currently preparing FY18 Summer budgets and personnel documents, reviewing budgets, preparing for the June 30<sup>th</sup> closeout, finalizing plans for summer residential and day camps in service areas across the state.

Trustee Funny revealed that after reviewing Hugine Suites and walking around the building, it was apparent that someone did not do a good job of inspection. He asked who will be providing the inspection services for the new buildings? Mr. Foster stated C&W would be the project manager. Mr. Davis said the State requires the University to hire a third party inspector. After some discussion regarding bonding, Trustee Funny requested that the sign off on the punch list is the tie to the bond so if the punch list is not properly completed, the University can get another company to finish the work properly.

#### *Division of Athletics*

In referring to excellence, Mr. Stacy Danley reported that the University has 48 male student athletes and 56 female student athletes who achieved a 3.0 GPA or higher and are recognized in the MEAC Commissioner's All-Academic Team. In track and field, Demek Kemp achieved the 3<sup>rd</sup> fastest time in the country in the 60-meters race. The Men's Tennis team

won its 12<sup>th</sup> MEAC Championship. A Director of Athletics Advisory Board was created to provide financial support to the athletic department and strategic advice to the Athletics Director. Mr. Danley identified an SC State legend, Samuel “Here” Goodwin, for his selection to the SC Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2018. He was a two-sport letterman in football and basketball. He concluded with sharing that on the NCAA National Signing Day in April, the University secured 31 signees. Trustee Funny asked why coaches do not recruit more out-of-state players. Mr. Danley reported the coaches have their own philosophy about recruitment; they are given a portion of the money and the decisions are left with the coaches, but in-state costs play a big part in the decision making process.

Tyvoris Solomon, the basketball player who suffered cardiac arrest on the basketball court while playing NC State in Raleigh, NC is doing fine. On his Senior night, the Lord Wedgewood Charity donated a Cardea Screen (EKG) in his honor and presented it to the Athletics Department. NC State First Responders who were instrumental in saving Tyvoris’s life were in attendance on Senior Night. Mr. Danley concluded his remarks by providing the 2018 football and basketball season schedule.

#### *Office of Human Resources*

Ms. Mercedes Pinckney shared that two new hires were employed in April -- Ms. Kimberly M. Pelzer in the Treasurer’s Office, and Ms. Sodelene Laurent in the Admissions Office. Also, three training sessions were held: Workplace Violence (mandatory), Title IX (upper-level management), and Sexual Harassment (mandatory). Some concerns on student hazing among fraternities and sororities was mentioned. Dr. Jackson shared there is an anti-hazing workshop that is mandatory for student organizations.

President Clark announced that the University had received \$200K from an estate due to the kindness of Colonel (Ret.) Ned Felder to the donor. In the deceased’s Last Will and Testament, it was stated the University of Mississippi and SC State would receive donations from his estate. The funds will be used for student success and retention initiatives.

#### *University Computing Information Technology Services*

Dr. Damian Clarke shared that the University purchased software that will enable it to be more operational and efficient. One example is Campuslabs, which has better capabilities for accreditation reporting to SACSCOC as well as discipline-specific accrediting bodies. The software can also help with retention and success efforts by providing analytics for related data.

The institution has two core switches, which is a computer component that allows the distribution of Wi-Fi to various areas on campus. One core switch is in the Data Center in Crawford Zimmerman Complex, and the other core switch is located in Turner Hall. These are connected to two different sources of power. Should the core switch shut down in the county more than 50% of the campus would have no Internet service. Recently, to add to the power resiliency, a UPS core switch was added and connected to the core network switch, which will provide about 30 minutes of uptime during a power outage. This was Phase I. Phase II will add a generator to Turner Hall and Crawford-Zimmerman Complex for extended power supply.

The University is a member of Internet2. The institution currently has an Internet2 connection to USC with 3MB, which will soon be canceled. This will be replaced with a connection to Clemson for 10MB. This increase in bandwidth will facilitate research.

Educause is a non-profit organization that promotes IT in higher education. It helps higher education to use IT for retention and enrollment. Educause also facilitates research, publications, benchmarking, peer and professional development. The University recently joined the organization. The institution received donations of 22 computer applications, 140 computers, and networking equipment from Intel due to the consideration of “Rickie Roach.”

*Strategic Plan 2018-2022 (ATTACHMENT 5)*

President Clark shared a draft of the Strategic Plan and stated it was a work in progress. The draft included the following strategic priorities: 1) Ensure Fiscal Responsibility, Stability, Transparency, and Accountability; 2) Develop Global Leadership through Student Engagement and Success; 3) Enhance the Curriculum through Innovative Academic Programs; 4) Transform the University Through Re-branding and Image Enhancement; 5) Design an Innovative, Safe and Secure Campus Infrastructure; and 6) Reinvent and Reinvest in Research Infrastructure.

**DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS RESOLUTIONS (ATTACHMENT 6)**

Dr. Learie Luke presented three resolutions for the Division of Academic Affairs:

*1) Resolution to approve over 400 candidates for the May 2018 Graduation. Trustee Skelton made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Trustee Swanson. Vote: unanimously approved.*

*2) Resolution to approve honorary degrees for Mr. Frank P. Tourville, Sr. to receive an Honorary Doctor of Business Degree, and Dorothea Dawkins-Haigler to receive an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree. Trustee Skelton moved the motion. The motion was seconded by Trustee Helms. Vote: unanimously approved.*

*3) Resolution to approve Graduate Tuition Increase by 5% and Undergraduate Tuition Increase by 3%. Trustee Skelton moved the motion. The motion was seconded by Trustee Swanson. Vote: unanimously approved.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*The Chairman asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Contractual Matters and Personnel Issues. Trustee Shell moved the motion. The motion was seconded by Trustee Skelton. Vote: unanimously approved.*

**OPEN SESSION**

The Chairman asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session. *Trustee Shell moved the motion, and Trustee Skelton seconded the motion. Vote: unanimously approved. The Chair shared that no actions or votes were taken in Executive Session.*

*Trustee Jeff Vinzani made a motion to approve a non-binding resolution for the Athletic Director to pursue negotiations for a final contract with a candidate for the Women's Basketball Coach, who would enter into a non-binding letter of intent, which spells out the parameters as discussed rather than work with her attorney in signing a final contract. Trustee Skelton seconded the motion. Vote: unanimously approved.*

*Trustee Jeff Vinzani made a motion to approve President Clark's Employment Contract with a couple of changes (term date 2020 clarification to Human Resources questions). Trustee Swanson seconded the motion. Vote: unanimously.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Trustee Vinzani made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Trustee Helms.*

The next Board meeting is scheduled for June 27, 2018. The meeting adjourned at 4:50 PM.

Submitted by,



Recorder

Attachments

- 1 – Agenda
- 2 – Minutes
- 3 – President’s PowerPoint
- 4 – Finance Handout
- 5 – 2018-2022 Strategic Plan
- 6 – Three Resolutions from Academic Affairs