

MINUTES
SC STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CALLED MEETING
LOWMAN HALL BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM
ORANGEBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA
JULY 19, 2017

CALL TO ORDER / OPEN SESSION:

Chairman Charles S. Way, Jr. called the meeting to order at 9:37AM. 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. Charles S. Way, Jr., Mr. Milton Irvin, Dr. Doris Helms, Mr. Donnie Shell, Dr. B.R. Skelton, Mr. Steve Swanson, and Mr. Jeff Vinzani. *Ex-Officio Member:* Mrs. Vernell Brown.

Absent: *Ex-Officio Member:* Mr. DeAndre Hurley.

Administrators & others present: *President*, Mr. James E. Clark; *Special Assistant to the President for Executive Affairs*, Mrs. Shondra Abraham *Acting Provost*, Dr. Learie Luke; *General Counsel*, Ms. Mercedes Fabers; *Controller*, Ms. Teare Brewington; *Athletics Director*, Mr. Stacy Danley; *Director of Public Relations*, Mrs. Elizabeth Mosely-Hawkins; *Consultant for Students & Administration Operations*, Mrs. Betty Boatwright; *Department Chair*, Dr. Judith Salley; *MUSC Faculty*, Dr. Marvella Ford; *Faculty Senate President*, Dr. Thomas Cassidy; *Staff Senate President*, Ms. Kenita Pitts and *Administrative Coordinator and Recorder*, Mrs. Eartha Mosley.

Media: *The Times and Democrat Reporter*, Mr. Gene Zaleski and *WLTX Reporter*, Mr. Deon Guillory.

The Chairman extended a warm welcome to Dr. B.R. Skelton to the Board of Trustees at South Carolina State University and asked each Trustee to give a short introduction of themselves.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman Way asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Trustee Irvin made the motion. The motion was seconded by Trustee Swanson. Vote: unanimously approved.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

President Clark began by stating that over the years, the institution has had several interim positions. He was proud to announce that this was no longer the case. The following were announced: Dr. Learie B. Luke as Provost; Mrs. Teare Brewington as Vice President for Finance and Management, Attorney Mercedes Fabers as General Counsel, Dr. John Robinson as Director of Band, and Mr. Stacy Danley as Athletic Director. Over the next few weeks, a Financial Aid Director and an Admissions Director will be hired as well.

ENDOWED CHAIR

The President announced that the University has its first endowed chair. He called on Dr. Judith Salley, Chair, Department of Biological and Physical Sciences, to introduce Dr. Marvella Ford. Dr. Ford is a tenured professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). She also serves as associate director of Population Sciences and Cancer Disparities at MUSC Hollings Cancer Center. She will maintain her appointment at MUSC and will also hold a joint appointment as a professor in SC State's Department of Biological and Physical Sciences. Dr. Ford is recognized as one of the nation's leading authorities for cancer disparities research and cancer prevention research.

SOLAR ECLIPSE '17 (ATTACHMENT 2)

President Clark called on Dr. Donald Walter to give a summary on what will take place on August 21st. Dr. Walter told the Trustees that on Monday, August 21st the University has made preparation for Solar '17 Eclipse. Pre-eclipse events, activities at the Oliver C. Dawson Stadium, which is the designated NASA solar site, and post-eclipse events are planned. Workshops on the Eclipse began in March, in collaboration with Clemson, Lander University, and OC-Tech during the evenings have taken place and are ongoing. Students are being trained as Eclipse ambassadors to assist with the thousands who are expected to attend.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Trustees entered into Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter, personnel issues and to receive legal advice. The following persons were asked to be available during Executive Session: Dr. Learie Luke, Mrs. Teare Brewing and Mrs. Donna Hanton.

OPEN SESSION

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

Dr. Luke said Academic Affairs has several resolutions for approval by the Board:

1) Dr. Luke read the resolution to propose an increase in housing fees to improve the quality of life in student housing where the cost of operating residence halls has increased. The University proposes an increase in fees for residence halls between \$25.00 to \$125.00 (per selected residence hall) in 2017-2018 fiscal year, at the discretion of the President. Trustee Helms moved to accept the resolution and Trustee Irvin seconded the motion. Vote: unanimously approved.

2) Dr. Luke read the resolution to charge fees for the cross registration process. The University proposed, subsequent to the President's discretion, to charge a one-time application fee of \$25.00 per student, and an enrollment fee of \$50.00 per course for cross registration. Trustee Helms moved to accept the recommendation, Trustee Skelton seconded the motion. Vote: unanimously approved.

3) Dr. Luke read the resolution dealing with program productivity review of graduate programs. The University proposed to eliminate graduate programs that have graduated less than three (3) students in the last five (5) years. Savings from the elimination of these programs can contribute positively to the University's budget and provide funding for new degree programs in the future. The recommendation was to eliminate the M.Ed. in Special Education, and the MS in Individual and Family Development at the end of 2017-18 academic year. Discussion: Trustee Helms mentioned that it is important to point out that the approval is within the CHE guidelines standards of the program productivity. She and Trustee Swanson echoed that the undergraduate program for Special Education is healthy and

available to students. Vote: unanimously approved. Trustee Helms moved to accept the recommendation, Trustee Irvin seconded the motion.

4) Dr. Luke read the final resolution regarding Tenure and Promotion applicants. After careful consideration, the University-Wide Tenure and Promotion Committee, the Provost and the President recommended nine (9) faculty members for promotion and tenure. They are as follows: Dr. Nayo Mack Harvin promoted to Associate Professor and Tenured; Dr. Judith Mwakalonge promoted to Associate Professor and Tenured; Dr. Gnana Warshamana-Greene promoted to Associate Professor and Tenured; Ms. Kimberly LeDee promoted to Full Professor and Tenured; Dr. Necati Engec promoted to Full Professor; Dr. Michelle Maulsby Priester promoted to Full Professor; Dr. Rizana Mahroof promoted to Full Professor; Ms. Ursula Robinson promoted to Full Professor; and Dr. James Stukes promoted to Full Professor. Trustee Helms moved to accept the recommendation, Trustee Irvin seconded the motion. Vote: unanimously approved.

BUDGET (ATTACHMENT 4)

President Clark indicated that the institution is submitting a conservative budget before the board for approval. The proposed budget is balanced and represents an expectation of \$70,300,000 in revenues and expenses of \$68,900.00. The budget also represents a decrease in accounts payables from two years ago from \$13M to a few hundred thousand dollars. The Chairman and President Clark made it clear that the budget is based on the enrollment of 2,940 students and that it will change again. *Trustee Vinzani made a motion to approve the submitted budget and to commend Mrs. Brewington, Ms. Hanton and the President for their work especially with the exciting news concerning accounts payables going from \$13M to a few hundred thousand. Trustee Irvin seconded the motion. Vote: unanimously approved.*

The Chair announced that the next Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 31, 2017 with SACSCOC President, Dr. Belle Wheelan attending the Board meeting. President Clark reiterated that Dr. Wheelan is not coming to the University on a SACSCOC visit but will be attending as an invited guest by the Board.

Ms. Vernell Brown extended farewell remarks as this is her last meeting as President of the National Alumni Chapter.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. *Trustee Vinzani moved, and Trustee Irvin seconded the motion. Vote: unanimously approved.*

The meeting adjourned at 12:28PM.

Submitted by,



Recorder

Attachments

- 1 – Agenda
- 2 – Solar Handout
- 3 – Four Resolutions
- 4 – Budget Handout