Chairman Oran Smith called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Sam Frink moved to approve the October 24, 2012 Academic & Student Affairs Committee meeting minutes. Dr. Larry Biddle seconded, and the motion carried.

Dr. Keshav Jagannathan stated that this semester’s important discussion has been by a contingent of associate faculty who do not have privileges accorded to them, i.e. right to redress. They have expressed interest in participating in Faculty Senate. Positions have been made available to them as Senators as well as membership for them on the Faculty Welfare and Development Committee. Other standing committees also have the ability to add positions for members for the contingent faculty. Faculty Senate recently approached the Ph.D. coursework currently under consideration by S.C. Commission on Higher Education.

In light of the $1M budget cuts requested by the Board, a few interested faculty have requested an update on where and when the allocations of the Fund for Excellence are made. The fund went into effect in the early fall last year. Faculty are appreciative of the Board committing these funds.
SGA President Desmond Wallace reported that student government is in the process of printing the new Smart Ride cards to enable students to have discounted tax services when they participate in the local nightlife. The new logo is going through the approval process. It is hoped to have the cards available after spring break. SGA election campaigning began this week and elections are February 25 –March 1. Winners will be announced March 4 at an elections reception in Wall Board Room.

This year the voting will be through the new CoastalConnections system.

Dr. Larry Biddle encouraged working with Horry County Voting office to set up precincts on campus like public elections in order to give the students the opportunity to know what it is like to vote.

Ms. Natasha Hanna has been involved with the “Elect Her” program and wanted to know how many female students are involved in elections. Mr. Wallace said there is at least one female running for each position.

Dr. Biddle wanted to know what the toughest issue Mr. Wallace is working with now. He believes that alcohol sanctions and smoke free campus seem to be the issues students are most concerned about.

Dr. DeCenzo told everyone that Mr. Wallace is a product of the Scholars Academy and has been attending Coastal Carolina for seven years. He will be graduating in May and is looking forward to graduate school. He has been accepted at the University of Georgia and the University of Iowa.

Dr. Smith wanted to know what it means to have a smoke free campus. Dr. Sheehan responded that smoking is only allowed in the gazebos placed around campus. So far, faculty, staff and students seem to be adapting very well.

Mr. Frink asked if parking was an issue. Mr. Wallace said that there is less conversation about parking as more lots have become available. More discussion takes place about the undependable shuttle service.

Dr. Debbie Conner noted that Student Affairs is in the process of establishing a chaplain’s council as a result of students wanting more religious interaction on campus and more use of the Lackey Chapel. Area clergymen will have the opportunity to apply for serving on the council. Members of the council would be available for counseling for major campus crises, participate in university programs, visit with students throughout campus, and have office hours in Lackey Chapel where students can have access to them. Quarterly, the council will meet with Dr. Conner and review what is happening on campus.

The Student Health Center and Counseling Services continue to have increased usage.

On April 3, Coastal Carolina will hold its first major concert at the new HTC Center with American Idol winner, Phillip Phillips. The Center seats 4,200.
Academic & Student Affairs Committee  
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After an article in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* regarding too many administrators on campuses, Dr. Rob Sheehan said the University financed a study to compare Coastal Carolina with other South Carolina colleges.

The student FTE to total staff/faculty FTE in Fall 2011 is 7:1 is comparable to the group ratio of SC comprehensive of 6:1, peers of 7:1, and aspirant of 6:1. Student to Faculty ratio is 20:1 which is higher than other S.C. comprehensive and aspirant ratios of 17:1 and slightly higher than the group ratios of peers of 19:1. Student to executive/administration/manager staff is 350:1 is considerably higher (more than double) the group ratio of S.C. comprehensive of 156:1, peers of 132:1, and aspirants of 150:1. Student to Profession rate is 26:1 which is higher than the S.C. comprehensive Group ratio of 21:1 but lower than the group ratio of peers of 30:1 and aspirant of 29:1, reflecting Coastal’s shift from less executive/administration/manager staff to more professional staff. In three of these four groups, there have been improvements since 2007.

The University is moving to improve Distance Learning Degree Programs offered. Other universities are moving to three-year programs which includes two summers and 18-hour semesters. Our faculty are committed to modularizing 100 and 200 course work that will give students greater choices. Upper level classes will be easier to offer online. The only gap is foreign language; however, HGTC has online foreign language and the University will work with them to test the program. We need to get resources necessary for training in foreign language online classes. The Administration has approached Faculty Senate to make a requirement that all students will take a minimum of two online classes before graduating.

We currently have online degree programs for a Bachelor’s degree in Health Administration and Masters of Education Program in Instructional Technology and moving to have a Master’s degree in Business Administration and a Bachelor’s degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. We hope to have additional online offerings within another year.

Dr. Smith wanted to know how it is ensured that the right student is actually taking the online classes. Dr. Sheehan stated that there are several options: passwords; special key stroke software will determine if the correct person is taking the class/exams; and, 25-30 personal questions, that only the student would know, will appear at various increments during an exam. If the answers are incorrect, the exam closes down. Also, we are reviewing the use of a video while teaching students online. Online students who are physically on campus will have the use of proctor exam stations.

Oran wanted to know if there are different ways to deliver distance learning. Dr. Sheehan stated that we are currently using Blackboard and most universities have the same delivery system. Faculty who have never taught online are skeptical of effective teaching. Training will have to be provided training or have a hiring practice for new faculty with online teaching experience.

We are also looking at offering orientation online.
Ms. Natasha Hanna noted that the University of South Carolina has created South Carolina Palmetto College and hired a chancellor to oversee online offerings/degrees. This will challenge out-of-state schools like the University of Phoenix and Virginia College.

Chairman Henderson and Dr. DeCenzo have visited with Liberty University who has a great online program.

Dr. Smith moved to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Mr. Spivey seconded and the motion passed. Upon reconvening, it was noted no action was taken.

Dr. Smith moved to approve the administration's seventeen recommendations for promotion to Associate Professor with tenure to Aneilya Barnes, Cathy Jones, David Kellogg, Deborah Perkins, Vladislav Gulis, William Jones, Daniel Turner, Easton Selby, Erika Small, Jason Eastman, Jeffrey Jones, Joe Oestreich, Louis Rubbo, Min Ye, Robert Jenkot, Robert Salvino, and Suheir Daoud and one recommendation for tenure to John Felts (Motion 13-17). Mr. Sam Swad seconded and the motion carried.

Dr. Smith moved to bestow Emeritus Professor for Andy E. Hendrick at his retirement (Motion 13-18). Mr. Will Turner seconded and the motion carried.

Dr. Smith moved to bestow an honorary degree of doctor of public service to Senator Tim Scott and to ask him to be our May commencement speaker. Dr. Swad seconded and the motion carried.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Chyrel Stalvey for
Larry L. Biddle
Secretary/Treasurer