

**Board of Trustees Meeting
February 19, 2021**

**Minutes
Coastal Carolina University**

Board of Trustees

Singleton Ballroom

February 19, 2021

Presiding: Chairman William Biggs

Board Members Present: John Bartell, Lee Belcher, Lisa Davis, Dalton Floyd, Natasha Hanna, Sherry Johnson, Daniel Moore, George Mullen, Jason Repak, Oran Smith, Patrick Sparks, Gene Spivey, Delan Stevens, William Turner

Board Members Not Present: Wyatt Henderson, Samuel Swad

Others Present: Sandra Baldrige-Adrian, Michael Benson, Claudia Bornholdt, Brant Branham, Brian Bunton, Amanda Craddock, Lydia Deeck, Daniel Ennis, Darwin Flores-Agustin, David Frost, Richard Green, Matthew Hogue, Sara Hottinger, Martha Hunn, Edward Jadallah, Judy Johns, Carlos Johnson, Christopher Johnson, Kelly Moore, Travis Overton, Peter Paquette, Julie Quinn, Jerry Rashid, Michael Roberts, David Roper, Erika Small, Robert Young

(In accordance with the requirements of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, the news media were notified of the time, location, and agenda for the meeting. One member of the media was in attendance: Alan Blondin of The Sun News.)

Chairman William Biggs brought the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Oran Smith offered an invocation.

I. Roll Call

Roll call was taken by, Julie Quinn, Administrative Assistant.

II. Approval of the Minutes

Delan Stevens moved to approve the Oct. 23, 2020, and Dec. 11, 2020, meeting minutes. Daniel Moore seconded, and the motion carried.

III. President's Report

Michael Benson, University President, turned over the beginning of his report to the Student Government Association (SGA) President, Staff Senate President, Faculty Senate Chair, and the University's Legislative Liaison.

Darwin Flores-Agustin, SGA President, presented the SGA report.

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- Thirty-five senators came up with an ideas for new bills.
 - Some bills in progress include parking and mid-term faculty/course evaluations.
- In October, the SGA held a “mask-up” event, allowing students to share their voice and express why they wear their mask.

Sandra Baldridge-Adrian, Staff Senate President, presented the Staff Senate report.

- This past year, Staff Senate was able to offer furlough communication to staff and give staff a platform to bring concerns forward.
- Members of staff senate are currently serving on multiple committees such as the Non-Tenure Track Committee, Executive Council, and the Employee Benevolence Fund.

Brian Bunton, Faculty Senate Chair, presented the Faculty Senate report.

- Bunton has been attending Staff Senate and the Executive Council.
- Current top concerns for faculty are compensation and the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out.

Brant Branham, Legislative Liaison, presented a detailed report from the Columbia legislature.

- The Governor requested to increase lottery funds from \$20 million to \$80 million, but it is unclear how far this request will go.
 - \$60 million would go to any Pell Grant eligible student.
 - \$20 million would go to other private, independent universities in the state.

President Benson presented the President’s report.

- At the last Horry County Higher Education Commission (HCHEC) meeting, the University gave a full budget review, and Coastal is the only school in the state that has the HCHEC and Penny Sales Tax as financial resources.
- President Benson’s First 100 Days is a project that the University is putting together to chronicle the beginning of Benson’s presidency and telling stories of where he has visited so far.

IV. Standing Committee Motions

Finance and Audit Committee

- **Lee Belcher moved to approve lease renewals with the Coastal Educational Foundation and the Horry County Higher Education Commission (Motion 21-FAA-01 through Motion 21-FAA-07). William Turner seconded, and the motion carried. Motions are listed below.**
 - Renewal of one-year lease of the Athletic Parcel for the term July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, for approximately 25.89 acres (**Motion 21FAA-01**).
 - Renewal of one-year lease of the University Housing Parcel for the term July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, for approximately 16.66 acres (**Motion 21-FAA-02**).
 - Renewal of one-year lease of the Wheelwright Auditorium/University Boulevard Parcel for the term July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, for approximately 7.97 acres (**Motion 21-FAA-03**).

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- Renewal of one-year lease of the Academic Core Parcel for the term July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, for approximately 22.16 acres (**Motion 21-FAA-04**).
- Renewal of one-year lease of the soccer field and surrounding area for the term July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, for approximately 23 acres (**Motion 21-FAA-05**).
- Renewal of one-year lease of the parking lot area and greenspace located on University Boulevard between Baxley Hall and Highway 501 for the term July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022 (**Motion 21-FAA-06**).
- Renewal of one-year lease with the Horry County Higher Education Commission of the Burroughs and Chapin Center for Marine and Wetland Studies for the term July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022 (**Motion 21-FAA-07**).

Facilities and Planning Committee

No action items.

Academic Affairs and Retention Committee

- **Smith moved to bestow Emeriti title requests for faculty upon retirement (Motion 21-AAR-01). Gene Spivey seconded, and the motion carried.**

At the time of their retirement, the following faculty were awarded Emeriti titles: Amy Edmunds, Distinguished Lecturer; David Evans, Emeritus Professor; and Sharon Thompson, Distinguished Professor Emeritus.

- **Smith moved to approve promotion and tenure recommendations (Motion 21-AAR-02). Moore seconded, and the motion carried.**

Administration, Governance and Philanthropy

No action items.

Athletics

No action items.

Executive Committee

- **Biggs moved to conduct an external assessment of University advancement (Motion 21-EXC-01). Turner seconded, and the motion carried.**
- **Stevens moved to approve an adjustment to President Benson's contract compensation to correspond with the state's accountability, authority, and approval of his salary (Motion 21-EXC-02). Patrick Sparks seconded, and the motion carried.**

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Stevens moved to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters regarding the University. Sparks seconded, and the motion carried.

Upon reconvening, it was noted that no action was taken.

IV. Chairman's Report

Chairman Biggs stated it was time to name a nominating committee. Trustee Sherry Johnson will serve as chair, while Trustees Smith and Sparks will serve on this committee. All interested in serving as an officer of the board, need to get nominations to Johnson by April 15. A slate of nominations will be presented during the May Board of Trustees meeting.

During the December 2020 Trustees meeting, it was noted that there were personnel contracts finalized for individuals B, C, and D. Individual B is President Benson, Individual C is Coach Jamie Chadwell, and Individual D is President Emeritus David DeCenzo.

The future Board of Trustees meetings are as follows: May 6-7, 2021; August 5-6, 2021; October 2021 is to be determined; December 10, 2021; and February 17-18, 2022.

V. Adjournment

As there was no more business, Stevens moved to adjourn in memory of John Rhodes. Natasha Hanna seconded, and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lydia Deeck
Lydia Deeck
Recorder