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University of South Carolina

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

February 4, 2011

The University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met on Friday, February 4, 2011, at 1:05 p.m. in the 1600 Hampton Street Board Room.
days" at Governor Haley's request to allow her to make appointments to fill expired terms on the CHE so that the composition of the Commission reviewing the matter will be essentially identical as the Commission in place during its implementation in the months to come.

Ms. Shirley Mills updated the committee about the following legislative matters: Higher Education Efficiency Act; Transparency Legislation; and USC/Department of Justice Concurrent Jurisdiction Bill. She also noted that the legislature planned to recognize the University of South Carolina baseball team’s historic NCAA championship title during this legislative session.

Ms. Lawrence distributed a "USC Quick Facts" sheet for review and feedback; it had been requested that a one-page summary of the University’s message to legislators be given to Board members. In addition, she displayed an example of a data sheet which will be prepared by congressional district detailing pertinent information about the University within that district. Also distributed was a list of potential research project tours to be available to legislative delegations with the goal of making members aware of the contemporary relevance of the institution; a menu of opportunities will be posted on the web in the near future.

An e-newsletter to all legislators describing Carolina’s current research activities, student successes and events will begin circulation. It was anticipated that the University will generate three “e-blast" newsletters during legislative sessions.

III. COMMITTEE NAME CHANGE - AMEND BYLAWS, SECOND READING:

Chairman Loadholt called on Secretary Stepp who explained that at the December 13th Board meeting, members had unanimously voted to amend the Board of Trustees Bylaws to change the name of the Fiscal Policy Committee to the Audit and Compliance Committee. As indicated in Article XVII of the Bylaws, it was appropriate to consider the second reading of the proposed amendment today which would therefore make it effective as a Bylaws change.

Mr. Burroughs moved approval to change the name of the Fiscal Policy Committee to the Audit and Finance Committee. Mr. Warr seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

IV. BOARD OF TRUSTEES POLICY P770 2.03 - REMOVAL OF BOARD MEMBER:

Chairman Loadholt called on Secretary Stepp who explained that the University was undergoing the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) reaccreditation process. One of the standards involved the removal of Board members in cases of malfeasance, breaking the law, nonperformance of duties, etc. A reviewer had indicated that "there seems to be no way for the Board to remove members by a fair process and with due process." Secretary Stepp noted that one of the articles of the South Carolina constitution stated that Board members can be removed by a process in which the governor can seek a vote of two-thirds of the members of both the House of Representatives and the
Senate held separately with representation and fair hearings. However, SAC had expressed concern that no Board initiative was involved in that process.

Therefore, Secretary Stepp was recommending for action Board of Trustees Policy BTRU 2.03 which simply stated that if a majority of this body in a public vote feels that a member is engaging in malfeasance or malpractice in their office, you will ask the proper authority to initiate the steps for the removal of that member. This policy would show an assertive stand by the Board to initiate removal to ensure the integrity of the Board.”

Mr. Gregory moved approval of the Board of Trustees Policy BTRU 2.03 – Removal of Board Member as presented. Mr. Lister seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

V. REPORT OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION: Chairman Loadholt stated that Mr. Russell was not able to attend the meeting; therefore, a copy of his report was at their places:

University of South Carolina
Alumni Association Report
To the Board of Trustees February 2011

I regret not being able to attend the February meeting of the Board of Trustees, but wanted to make sure that each of you are updated on the current activities of the Alumni Association. Please be assured that the alumni are excited about the direction that the University is taking and are supportive of the critical role that we are playing.

You may recall that the Alumni Association has two primary strategic thrusts that we are undertaking at this time, in addition to our regular programmatic activities.

Our efforts to explore new directions, that our association may need to take, are moving along at a brisk pace. We have met with representatives of the University at all levels to undertake a “discovery process” to better determine how the University community views the Alumni Association and their input on the role that we have traditionally played and new roles that we could potentially play in the future. We have just sent out an internet survey to existing members and non members to assess this same information from graduates. We will be analyzing these results and they will be taken into consideration as final recommendations are made to our full Board of Governors at our March meeting.

We still believe that this process will lead the Association towards taking a stronger role in advocacy and in support University advancement efforts. We look forward to presenting this to the Board of Trustees once our report is finalized. I want to thank Amy Stone and Eddie Brown for the leadership role they are taking in this strategic process.

Our efforts at finalizing the location of our planned Alumni Center are also moving forward towards closure. We have now received the joint report from the consultant that our Association jointly sponsored with the Columbia Convention Center Authority. We should receive a final report in February and will be in a position to begin negotiations with the Convention Authority. We will have options that we will need to consider that will have an impact on the operational cost of the Alumni Center. The information provided by the consultant has given us much greater insight into potential revenue and operation expenses and certainly indicated that there are significant advantages to co-locating and sharing operational expenses with the Authority. We appreciate the Board’s support and look forward to sharing plans at a future Board meeting.

While these two major issues have dominated our strategic thinking during the past six months we are also moving forward with other efforts. During our fall meeting we introduced a Board of Governors program call “The Perfect Pitch” designed to get our board members to sponsor free Alumni Association membership to recent graduates. Modeled around our success on the baseball diamond, this program resulted in 1,100 new Association members and 100 percent participation by our Board of Governors.