

July 25, 2000

**Clemson University  
Clemson, South Carolina**

**MINUTES**

**of the teleconference of**

**THE CLEMSON UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
President's Conference Room, Sikes Hall  
Clemson, South Carolina  
Tuesday, July 25, 2000**

After notification as required by the Freedom of Information Act, the Chairman called the meeting to order at 3:05 P.M. with the following members present: Lawrence M. Gressette, Jr., presiding; Bill L. Amick, J. J. Britton, Leon J. Hendrix, Jr., Harold D. Kingsmore, Louis B. Lynn, Patricia H. McAbee, E. Smyth McKissick, III, Thomas B. McTeer, Jr., William C. Smith, Jr., Allen P. Wood, W.G. DesChamps, P.W. McAlister, and J. Thornton Kirby, Executive Secretary

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: President James F. Barker

OTHERS PRESENT: Chris Przirembel and Robin Denny

MEDIA PRESENT: Anna Simon, *Greenville News* and Charlene Gunnells, *Charleston Post & Courier*

**Item 1. Introductions**

Statement: Chairman Gressette called on Executive Secretary Kirby to call the roll of Trustees participating by phone and to introduce guests in the room where the call was being initiated. After doing so, Mr. Kirby advised the Chairman that a quorum of the Board was present for the meeting.

**Item 2. Research Resolution**

Statement: Chairman Gressette reminded the Board that significant efforts are underway to enhance collaborative research opportunities among the three research universities in South Carolina. An important first step is the adoption of a joint resolution by the respective boards of Clemson University, the Medical University of South Carolina, and the University of South Carolina. Chairman Gressette presented a proposed joint resolution for consideration (Attachment 1).

Action: Mr. McKissick made a motion to adopt the proposed resolution, Mr. McTeer seconded, and Chairman Gressette called on Dr. Britton to open the discussion.

Dr. Britton reported that all three research universities desire to enhance their research efforts, and this joint resolution came about as a byproduct of discussions between trustees and presidents of the three institutions. As Clemson, MUSC, and USC strive to grow research, create new jobs, and foster new economic development, cooperative efforts to attract external research funding will be vital if the state is to realize its full potential. Dr. Britton noted that the proposed resolution calls for joint cooperation by the boards, administrators, and faculty of the three universities. It also calls upon the governor and state leaders to support research efforts. Dr. Britton concluded by noting that the other two universities' boards will meet within the next few weeks to adopt this resolution.

President Barker noted that collaboration between the three universities will be vital to Clemson's success as we strive to become a Top 20 public university. Research collaboration will increase efficiency, allow for more powerful presentations to funding agencies, and enhance economic development efforts. President Barker noted that despite past successes in collaborative research, this is an excellent opportunity to renew our commitment.

Following the discussion, the vote of approval was unanimous.

### **Item 3. Research Committee**

Statement: Chairman Gressette reminded the Board that the Commission on the Future of Clemson had recommended the establishment of a Research Committee of the Board of Trustees. He also noted that internal discussions focused on research have acknowledged the positive impact such a committee could have. For all these reasons, Chairman Gressette recommended that he be allowed to appoint a Research Committee and direct the members of the committee to produce a charter for their work.

Action: Dr. Britton made a motion to allow the Chairman to appoint a Research Committee and direct the committee to produce a charter for consideration at the Board's October meeting, Mr. Kingsmore seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

### **Item 4. Adjourn**

Statement: There being no further business, Mr. Smith made a motion to adjourn, the motion was properly seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous. The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 3:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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J. Thornton Kirby  
Executive Secretary to the  
Board of Trustees