Clemson Trustees Minutes, 2000 April 21

Clemson University Board of Trustees

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Clemson University
Clemson, South Carolina

MINUTES

THE CLEMSON UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Madren Center Board Room
Clemson, South Carolina
Friday, April 21, 2000

After notification as required by the Freedom of Information Act, the Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM 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, Leslie G. McCraw, E. Smyth McKissick, III, William C. Smith, Jr., Joseph D. Swann, Allen P. Wood, and J. Thornton Kirby, Executive Secretary

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: President James F. Barker, Scott Ludlow, John Kelly, Steffen Rogers, Ben Anderson, Neill Cameron, and Almeda Jacks

Item 1. Introductions
Statement: Chairman Gressette called on Robin Denny to introduce any guests from the media in attendance. Ms. Denny introduced Anna Simon of the Greenville News and Ian Berry of the Anderson Independent.

Chairman Gressette extended his congratulations on behalf of the Board to Louis Lynn, Allen Wood, and Bill Smith, all of whom were reelected to the Board of Trustees by the South Carolina General Assembly earlier this month.

Chairman Gressette took pleasure in introducing the new President of Bucknell University, Clemson University's own Steffen Rogers. Chairman Gressette presented to Dr. Rogers a framed resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees to thank Dr. Rogers and Mrs. Rogers for all they have done for Clemson, and Dr. Rogers thanked the Board of Trustees for their support during his tenure at Clemson.

Chairman Gressette next introduced Ashley Torrence, winner of this year's Trustees Medal for Oratorical Excellence. Chairman Gressette presented the Trustees Medal to Miss Torrence, who thanked the Board for their recognition.

Item 2. Approval of Minutes
Statement: The minutes of the January 28, 2000 meeting and the March 22, 2000 Teleconference were submitted for approval.

Action: There being no changes, the minutes were approved as submitted.
Item 3. Report from the Executive Secretary to the Board

A. Dates of Future Board Meetings
Statement: Chairman Gressette called on Thornton Kirby to report the dates of future Board meetings. Mr. Kirby reported that the Board will meet July 14-16, 2000 in Charleston and October 12-13, 2000 in Clemson. Mr. Kirby also reported that committee meetings in anticipation of the July Board meeting will be held on June 13 in Columbia.

B. Approval of Honorary Degree Recipients
Statement: Mr. Kirby reported that two honorary degree recipients have been selected and presented for Board approval. The first is Mr. M. David Egan, who will receive an honorary Doctorate of Laws. The second is Mr. Joseph F. Edwards, who also will receive an honorary Doctorate of Laws.

Action: Mr. Amick made a motion to approve the honorary degree recipients, Mr. Swann seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

Item 4. Executive and Audit Committee
Statement: Chairman Gressette reported that all members of the Executive and Audit Committee were present for the 7:30 AM meeting this morning. The Committee received a good presentation on diversity from Byron Wiley, renewed the University's tort liability insurance policy, and heard several audit reports. Chairman Gressette noted that the external audit for the year ended June 30, 1999 was a clean audit, and all findings are being addressed. Chairman Gressette reported that eight other audits of University-related activities and foundations were received, all of which had clean audit letters and were in good order. The University's Internal Auditor also presented a tracking report showing outstanding audit recommendations, all of which are being addressed. Chairman Gressette concluded his report by noting that the Committee had formally approved a retirement contribution for President Deno Curris as agreed to by the Board of Trustees at the time of President Curris’ departure. Chairman Gressette asked for a motion to approve the retirement contribution by the full Board.

Action: Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the retirement contribution for Dr. Curris, Dr. Britton seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

Item 5. Educational Policy Committee
Chairman Gressette called on Mr. McCraw for the report of the Educational Policy Committee.

A. Creation of B.S. in Environmental & Natural Resources
Statement: Provost Rogers recommended that a new major be created for a B.S. degree in Environmental & Natural Resources. Provost Rogers noted that declining student interest and provisional approval by the Commission on Higher Education (CHE) have led to the termination of some programs, but strong demand has led to the creation of a bachelor's degree program in Environmental & Natural Resources. Following his comments, Provost Rogers recommended that the new bachelor's degree be approved.
Action: Mr. McCraw made a motion to approve the creation of a B.S. degree in Environmental & Natural Resources, Mr. McKissick seconded the motion, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

B. Termination of M.S. and Ph.D. Degrees in Nutritional Sciences
Statement: Provost Rogers noted that provisional CHE approval led to the evaluation of Clemson's programs in Nutritional Sciences, and the decision has been made to terminate these programs in favor of reinvestments to other programs. Provost Rogers noted that the termination of masters and doctoral degrees will have no effect on the undergraduate curriculum. Provost Rogers recommended terminating these degree programs.

Action: Mr. McCraw made a motion to approve the termination of M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Nutritional Sciences, Mr. Kingsmore seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

C. Graduate School of Business & Social Sciences
Statement: Provost Rogers noted that many business schools have elevated their reputations by consolidating several graduate programs into one umbrella business school. Provost Rogers advised that this will help Clemson attract top-notch faculty and extramural funding, and he also noted that the proposed action had broad support within the college and would incur no new administrative costs. Provost Rogers recommended approval of the creation of a Graduate School of Business & Social Sciences.

Action: Mr. McCraw made a motion to approve the creation of a Graduate School of Business & Social Sciences, Mr. Smith seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

D. Language & International Health Program
Statement: Provost Rogers explained the benefits of cultivating an international health curriculum. By combining existing courses, a dynamic new program will be created. The new program will address cultural communication needs and also prepare consultants for international job opportunities. According to Provost Rogers, this is believed to be one of the first programs of its kind in the nation. Provost Rogers recommended approval of the new program.

Action: Mr. McCraw made a motion to approve the creation of a Language & International Health Program, Mr. Amick seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.
E. Faculty Senate Report

Statement: Faculty Senate President Horace Skipper updated the Board on the activities of the Senate, including the following:

- Modification of the Faculty Manual to require a syllabus for each undergraduate and graduate class. The Manual previously required a syllabus for undergraduate classes only.
- Refinement of Instructor and Lecturer positions to clarify status and provide certainty in the areas of job security and promotion.
- Adoption of new titles for Research and Extension Professor. These will be non-tenured positions paid entirely by extramural funds and evaluated by departmental guidelines.
- Reappointment of Dr. Gordon Halfacre for another two-year term as Faculty Ombudsman.

President Skipper thanked Provost Rogers and President Barker, who presented certificates of appreciation to outgoing Faculty Senators on April 11. President Skipper also expressed his thanks to Provost Rogers for his support of family events at the Brooks Center. On behalf of the entire faculty, President Skipper also expressed deep appreciation to Chairman Gressette and Chairman McCraw for the Faculty Awards Banquet held on April 6. As his last official duty, President Skipper took pleasure in introducing Dr. Fred Switzer, who will serve as Faculty Senate President for 2000-2001.

Chairman McCraw thanked President Skipper on behalf of the Educational Policy Committee and the Board for his leadership and communication during the past year, and he welcomed Dr. Switzer as the new President.

Item 6. Student Affairs Committee

Chairman Gressette called on Mr. Smith for the report of the Student Affairs Committee.

A. Student Government Report

Statement: Wil Brasington reported that Student Government has recently concluded two successful projects, a High School Leadership Conference and the annual Campus Sweep. He reported that the student body is looking forward to the renovation of Fike Recreation Center, and he reported that students turned out in record numbers for the recent student body elections. Mr. Brasington thanked the Board for the support it has shown to him and to Student Government during the past year, and he introduced the new Student Body President, Rita Bolt. Miss Bolt stated that she feels honored and privileged to serve as Student Body President, and she looks forward to working with the Board during the coming year. Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Brasington for his hard work on behalf of Student Government, and he welcomed Miss Bolt to this and future Committee meetings.
B. Graduate Student Government Report

Statement: Matt Gevaert thanked the Board for the support it has shown him during the past year, and he introduced Craig Dawson of Savannah as the incoming President of Graduate Student Government. Mr. Gevaert reported that Graduate Student Government elections also experienced a record turnout, and he reported that the Solid Orange goal for the graduate school has been reached and surpassed by 50 percent. Mr. Gevaert concluded his report by stating that there is a viable and spirited group of graduate students at Clemson, the leadership of which is committed to improving the academic ranking of Clemson University. Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Gevaert for his hard work and service, and he welcomed Mr. Dawson.

C. Hendrix Center Update

Statement: Almeda Jacks reported that the Hendrix Student Center is now open, and she invited the Trustees to visit the new building while they are in town. Vice President Jacks reported that the groundbreaking ceremony for the new center will be held during the fall.

Item 7. Budget and Finance Committee

Chairman Gressette called on Mr. McKissick for the report of the Budget and Finance Committee.

A. Construction Contract Award—Olin Hall Renovations

Statement: Scott Ludlow reported that the HVAC and electrical systems in Olin Hall are being renovated. These renovations will bring the systems up to code and provide sufficient power to support teaching and research projects in Materials Engineering. The low responsive and responsible bidder is G-M Mechanical Corporation of Greenville. Their bid of $587,063, consisting of a base bid of $575,063 and a price of $12,000 for Alternate No. 2, is within funds available for construction. The Administration requests authorization to award a construction contract in the amount of $587,063 to G-M Mechanical Corporation of Greenville, South Carolina.

Action: Mr. McKissick made a motion to approve the low bid and award a contract to G-M Mechanical Corporation, Mrs. McAbee seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

B. Lease Renewal Request—DCIT

Statement: Mr. Ludlow reported that the Division of Computing and Information Technology (DCIT) has requested approval to renew a lease for space at the Center for Applied Technology in Pendleton, South Carolina. The landlord for this space is the Clemson University Research Foundation. The leased premises consist of 4277 square feet with an annual lease rate of $33,350.40. On behalf of the Administration, Mr. Ludlow requests authorization to renew and amend the lease.

Action: Mr. McKissick made a motion to approve the lease renewal and amendment, Mr. Smith seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.
C. Tuition & Student State Request
Statement: Mr. Ludlow presented a request for an average tuition and fee increase of 3.5 percent. Mr. Ludlow explained that the proposed fee increase is to provide resources for three main priority areas of the institution. These include: bonding capacity for a new Recreation/Wellness Center; monies to cover the unfunded cost of the state pay plan; and monies to address institutional priorities identified by President Barker.

Action: Mr. McKissick made a motion to approve the proposed tuition and fee increase, Dr. Britton seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

D. Classified Staff Commission Report
Statement: Outgoing President Cathy Bell updated the Board on the activities of the Classified Staff Commission during the last three months. Those activities include work on a library committee, collaboration with the Faculty Senate regarding staff evaluations, participation in legislative luncheons, an annual golf tournament to support scholarships for sons and daughters of Classified Staff members who attend Clemson, and work on committees to address parking and salary concerns. Ms. Bell stated that she had enjoyed her role working with the Board, and she advised the Board that the University has a very supportive staff whose members are willing to work with the Trustees. She concluded by introducing Brian Becknell, the new president of the Classified Staff Commission. Mr. McKissick thanked Ms. Bell for her report and her work during the past two years, and he welcomed Mr. Becknell.

Item 8. Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

Chairman Gressette called on Dr. Britton for the report of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee.

A. PSA Tours
Statement: Dr. Britton reported that President Barker and several members of the Administration recently participated in a statewide tour of PSA facilities and programs, and he asked President Barker to express any comments he might want to share. President Barker stated that he has done nothing more significant in the process of his education than participate in the PSA tours. President Barker stated that he found his meetings with citizens and employees throughout the state to be positive and inspiring. Dr. Britton thanked President Barker for making such a concerted effort to learn more about this important aspect of Clemson University.

B. Easement Request from South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT)
Statement: Stassen Thompson reported that SCDOT has a project under way to upgrade Highway 93. SCDOT requests a right-of-way easement for 3.675 acres of University property for Phase I of the project. To acquire the right-of-way easement SCDOT has agreed to pay Clemson $1/square foot. In addition, SCDOT will release to Clemson University approximately 2.4 acres in existing right-of-way. Mr. Thompson and recommended that Clemson University grant the requested easement.
Action: Dr. Britton made a motion to grant SCDOT an easement on the 3.675 acres for a price of $1/per square foot ($160,083.00). The right-of-way shall be granted provided that: 1) SCDOT releases to Clemson University all property in existing right-of-ways abandoned by SCDOT, and 2) asphalt and other road materials be removed from the abandoned roadways and the abandoned roadways be resodded at SCDOT’s sole expense. Mr. Kingsmore seconded the motion, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

C. Departmental Name Change
Statement: John Kelly advised the Board that due to internal reorganization of duties and priorities, the Department of Information, Computer and Program Resources desires to have its name changed to Extension Staff Development. Dr. Kelly noted that the proposed name change accurately reflects the current functions of this unit.

Action: Dr. Britton made a motion to approve the name change, Mr. Swann seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

**Item 9. Institutional Advancement Committee**

Chairman Gressette called on Mr. Hendrix for the report of the Institutional Advancement Committee. Mr. Hendrix recognized Neill Cameron for the first item.

A. Transfer of Leased Property
Statement: Mr. Cameron reported that on March 16, 2000, the Continuing Education/Conference Center Corporation Board of Directors officially approved a request to return 14.09 acres of leased property to Clemson University. This property represents a tract of land that is currently being utilized by the Clemson University Landscape and Grounds Department. There is no intended use by the Corporation to develop it in the future. A plat showing the location of the property is included as Attachment 1. Mr. Cameron recommended that the Board accept this return of property to Clemson University.

Action: Mr. Hendrix made a motion to accept the return of property, Mrs. McAbee seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

B. Executive Summary
Statement: Neill Cameron thanked Horace Skipper, Wil Brasington, Cathy Bell, Matt Gevaert, and Stef Rogers for their help on the successful Solid Orange campaign recently completed. Mr. Cameron reported that the first 100 days of President's Barker's tenure are now complete, as are the initial marketing efforts designed to introduce him. Mr. Cameron reported that he has been pleased with the campaign to introduce President Barker, as well as the public response to his presidency. Mr. Cameron also outlined the three overarching goals of Institutional Advancement, which are: 1) to enhance Clemson's reputation; 2) to grow the endowment; and 3) to promote project-based collaborations across campus.
C. Capital Campaign Update

Statement: Phil Prince provided the Board with a comprehensive update on the capital campaign. Mr. Prince noted the following:

- With 14 months left on the campaign, the overall goal has been increased from $210 million to $260 million.
- As of April 21, 2000, the campaign has generated $216,800,000.
- Eighty-five percent of all pledges made during the campaign have been collected. Although this is a good rate of collection, it probably indicates the need for more proposals.
- The largest gifts to the campaign have been by corporations, specifically Hoesch and Eastman Chemical. Despite these wonderful gifts, the University still has needs that have not been addressed. We still need help in the areas of scholarships, library, student life, faculty support, program support, and academic enhancements.
- The Campaign Executive Committee is still focusing on planned giving—only $28 million of the $45 million goal has been realized to date.
- Because state funding in South Carolina is below average, private giving is critical as the margin of excellence.

Mr. Prince concluded by encouraging Trustees to review their true ability to give and to make significant gifts at the level of their potential. Mr. Prince stated that he has made the same challenge to the Foundation Board. Chairman Gressette thanked Mr. Prince for his distinguished leadership, noting that no one works any harder than Phil Prince for the betterment of Clemson University.

D. Development Report

Statement: Mr. Cameron reported that the annual giving total for the period beginning July 1, 1999 through March 31, 2000 is $69,700,000. Mr. Cameron also noted that we have exceeded our goal for the Solid Orange Campaign on campus.

E. Endowment Report

Statement: Mr. Cameron reported that the market value of the combined University and Foundation endowments is $244 million. Mr. Cameron referred the Trustees to the executive summary distributed at the meeting for more detail.

F. Alumni Report

Statement: Mr. Cameron reported that efforts to increase alumni participation have yielded success. Mr. Cameron noted that alumni participation is a critical factor in national rankings of public universities, and that Clemson is striving for a participation rate of 24 percent. Mr. Cameron also reported that efforts to address the needs of young alumni, particularly in the area of career development, have been well received.

G. Conference Center & Inn

Statement: Mr. Cameron reported that the Conference Center is $250,000 ahead of budget this year, a big turnaround from one year ago. Upgrades are planned for the
entrance and parking areas, and the golf course has met every budget projection since December of 1999. At the current rate, the golf course is on track to break even for the first time ever. Mr. Amick reiterated the significance of the $250,000 contribution by the Conference Center to the University, noting the project is definitely not a drain on the University. John Kelly reported that synergy between turf grass faculty and the course superintendent could not be better. Mr. Amick commended Mr. Cameron for his contributions to Clemson, specifically in marketing the brand and the University’s strengths. Mr. Amick also commended Debbie DuBose for her efforts to enhance career development resources for alumni.

H. Brand Marketing and Communication Report

Statement : Cathy Sams reported that Clemson has experienced a great quarter in terms of brand marketing. Ms. Sams recapped Clemson's top news stories, including: a new President; a high-profile role in the South Carolina Republican presidential primary; the Confederate flag debate; several major gifts to the University; the recruitment of National Scholars; and numerous recognitions of our faculty and staff. Ms. Sams concluded by reminding the Trustees of the upcoming kickoff for this year's Solid Orange tour.

Item 10. President's Report

Chairman Gressette called on President Barker for his report.

President Barker extended his congratulations to Louis Lynn, Allen Wood, and Bill Smith for their reelection to the Board of Trustees. President Barker also congratulated Ashley Torrence and Steffen Rogers for their accomplishments recognized earlier in the meeting.

President Barker stated that the Inauguration was a wonderful event for the Barker family, and he hopes it was equally good for Clemson University. He thanked all members of the Board, the Administration, the Faculty, and the staff who worked on the inaugural events. President Barker reported that the Barker family is now living in the President's Home, which is beautiful since its refurbishment.

President Barker reported on his plans for the Provost Search Committee, noting that he is taking suggestions and consolidating ideas for a twelve-month search. President Barker noted that he will charge the committee to consider internal as well as external candidates. President Barker stated that he plans to interview six candidates for Interim Provost, and he will not appoint as Interim Provost any candidate for the permanent position.

President Barker reported that plans are being made for a trip to New York City over Thanksgiving weekend to see the Clemson University Singers perform at Carnegie Hall. He stated that the performance will be on Sunday following Thanksgiving, and he encouraged Trustees to attend.
President Barker concluded his report by sharing a story from the Pass-in-Review held the day before Inauguration. The father of a deceased ROTC student wrote to President Barker following the event to comment on the extraordinary honor and respect shown to him by a current ROTC student. President Barker shared his pride in the quality of students who attend Clemson University.

**Item 11. Executive Session**

Chairman Gressette stated that the Board needed to go into executive session to consider a contractual matter. Mr. McTeer made a motion to go into executive session, Mr. Smith seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous. Chairman Gressette stated that no decisions would be made and no votes would be taken while the Board was in executive session. He invited guests to remain outside the room until the Board reconvened in open session. The Board went into executive session at 11:30 AM.

**Item 12. Open Session**

Statement: The Chairman reconvened the meeting in open session at 12:30 PM. He announced that no decisions had been made and no votes had been taken during the executive session.

**Item 13. Adjourn**

Statement: There being no further business, Mrs. McAbee made a motion to adjourn, and the vote of approval was unanimous. The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Thornton Kirby
Executive Secretary to the
Board of Trustees