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University of South Carolina

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Intercollegiate Athletics Committee

February 1, 2008

The Intercollegiate Athletics Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met on Friday, September 14, 2007, at 1:45 p.m. in the 1600 Hampton Street Board Room.

Members present were: Mr. Othniel H. Wienges, Jr., Chairman; Mr. Arthur S. Bahnmuller; Mr. Mark W. Buyck, Jr.; Mr. Samuel R. Foster II; Mr. William C. Hubbard; Mr. Toney J. Lister; Mr. Michael J. Mungo; Mr. M. Wayne Staton; Mr. Herbert C. Adams, Board Chairman; and Mr. Miles Loadholt, Board Vice Chairman. Other Trustees present were: Mr. William L. Bethea, Jr.; Mr. John W. Fields; Dr. C. Edward Floyd; Mr. William W. Jones, Jr.; Mr. James H. Rex; Mr. John C. von Lehe, Jr.; and Mr. Eugene P. Warr, Jr.

Others present were: President Andrew A. Sorensen; Secretary Thomas L. Stepp; Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Mark P. Becker; Vice President for Research and Health Sciences Harris Pastides; Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost for Academic Support Dennis A. Pruitt; Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Richard W. Kelly; Dean of the School of Medicine Donald J. DiPette; Vice President for Human Resources Jane M. Jameson; Legal Counsel Walter (Terry) H. Parham; Executive Assistant to the President for Equal Employment Opportunity Programs Bobby Gist; Associate Vice President of Economic Development and Director of Innovista, Division of Health Research and Sciences, John Parks; Vice Provost for Faculty Development Christine Curtis; Chancellor of USC Aiken Thomas L. Hallman; USC Campus Dean of the South Carolina College of Pharmacy Randall C. Rowen; Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Mary Anne Fitzpatrick; Assistant Treasurer Susan D. Hanna; Executive Director of the USC Alumni Association Marsha A. Cole; Director of Athletics Eric Hyman; Director of Governmental and Community Relations, Division of University Advancement, Shirley Mills; Associate Director of Governmental Affairs and Legislative Liaison Casey Martin; Chair of the Faculty Senate Robert G. Best; Assistant Athletics Director for Compliance, Department of Athletics, Jennifer Stiles; Chair of the University Athletics Advisory Committee Manton Matthews; United Methodist Campus Chaplain Tom H. B. Wall; University Technology Services Production Manager Justin Johnson; Director of University Communications, Division of University Advancement, Russ

McKinney, Jr.; Board staff members Terri Saxon, Vera Stone, Karen Tweedy; and members of the press.

Chairman Wienges called the meeting to order and invited those present to introduce themselves. Mr. McKinney introduced members of the media who were in attendance. Chairman Wienges stated that notice of the meeting had been posted and the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act; the agenda and supporting materials had been circulated to members of the Committee; and a quorum was present to conduct business.

I. Athletics Director's Report: Chairman Wienges called on Mr. Hyman who introduced Jennifer Stiles, Assistant Athletics Director for Compliance.

Mr. Hyman made the following reports:

A. Academic Progress Rate: Mr. Hyman stated that one of the most significant pieces of regulation that had been passed during his professional career and in the history of the NCAA was the Academic Progress Rate (APR). In 2004, the NCAA developed an Academic Progress Rate which focused on the academic reform structure. The APR would penalize schools for not graduating at least 50 percent of its student-athletes over time.

Mr. Hyman stated that APR was a point system that was based on a 4-year cycle which was calculated annually. Penalties could be immediate if a team displayed a pattern of poor academic progress. Fifty percent equated to an APR score of 925. Programs that fell below 925 would face a set of penalties that could ultimately lead to expulsion from the NCAA. In order for student-athletes to be counted in the APR, they must receive financial aid. Students could earn two points per semester. One point was earned if a student was academically eligible for the next semester (eligibility point). Another point was earned if the student returned to the institution for the next semester (retention point). A student who was on financial aid for an entire year would earn 4 points. Finally, Mr. Hyman displayed a chart showing the current status of student-athletes.

Mr. Hyman commented that he met with coaches each semester to discuss their team's APR.

Additionally, Mr. Hyman explained that there were two penalty systems. First, there was the contemporaneous penalty system which was immediate. If a team had an APR of less than 925, they would lose financial aid for the next year. Financial aid penalties were capped at 10 percent or the maximum financial aid limit per sport. For example, football had 85 scholarships and the maximum reduction in any one year would be nine scholarships.

Second was the historical penalty system. This system was long-term and occurred when a team had an APR of less than 900. On the first occasion, the team

would be issued a public warning. On the second occasion, the team would be issued restrictions on financial aid, practice time, and/or recruiting opportunities. On the third occasion, the team would have restrictions on post season competition. And, on the fourth occasion and if the team fell below 900, the institution's membership status would be affected. Mr. Hyman stated that the institution must have three consecutive years above 900 to reset historical penalties back to the first occasion.

Mr. Hyman commented that he had made several changes in the Athletics Department to improve the academic standing of USC student-athletes. The changes included personnel restructuring, program and intervention, facilities technology and academic achievement. He stated that one issue beyond his control was student-athletes' attitude. However, this issue could best be dealt with through a commitment from the coaches in controlling the student-athletes "playing time."

Mr. Mungo made inquiry as to the number of teams at the University that had an APR of 900 or less. Mr. Hyman responded, "None, as of this year."

B. Developing the Individual Student Athlete: Mr. Hyman noted that the Athletics Department personnel placed emphasis on preparing student-athletes for "life after sports." This was crucial because a majority of student-athletes would not have a professional career in Athletics but some other career.

In addition, Mr. Hyman emphasized student-athletes were frequently reminded of the following: *"There are Consequences for Your Actions. There is a choice you have to make in everything you do. So keep in mind that in the end, the choice you make, makes you."* Several seminars were held to remind student-athletes of "consequences" for their actions.

Mr. Hyman stated that the Athletics Department hosted a "Consequences for your Actions" seminar. The seminar was well attended and consisted of a panel. Among the panelists was Richland County Solicitor, W. Barney Geise, who made a presentation regarding sound decision-making and Coach Ray Tanner gave a personal testimony regarding player discipline. Other panelists included Ms. Casey Martin and Mr. I. S. Leevy Johnson.

Mr. Hyman stated that the seminar was mandatory for freshmen and first-time student-athletes at USC. A questions and answers session followed the presentations. He commented that the Athletics Department would continue this program in the future to help all of our young people.

During their Sophomore Year, student-athletes were required to attend etiquette training or "Manners Matter." An etiquette dinner was held, and student-athletes, their parents, coaches and other University officials attended.

Mr. Hyman further noted that a "Dress for Success" seminar was held for juniors. Mr. Perry Dozier gave a presentation covering the proper attire for an interview, how to build a professional wardrobe and the importance of first impression. Also, a networking seminar was conducted and mock interviews were held. Mr. Hyman stated that students learned how crucial the first 45 seconds of an interview were and the importance of first impressions.

Mr. Hyman explained that all these seminars were helpful in developing our young people and would also help in recruiting students.

Mr. Hyman stressed the importance of student leadership and service in their community. Student-athletes had participated in various community outreach projects. "Teen Gamecock" was a cross-section of student-athletes who had made a commitment of service to the community. One program was "Lift-Up America" - a program for the homeless. Student-athletes distributed over 30,000 pounds of Tyson chicken to homeless people all across the Midlands. In addition, student-athletes participated in a reading program and read to children in the local elementary schools.

Mr. Hyman commented that he was very proud of the student-athletes and their accomplishments.

C. Head Basketball Coach Search Process: Mr. Hyman gave an overview of the search process for a head basketball coach. The Athletics Department had begun to develop a profile to help determine a candidate who would be the best fit for the University. Mr. Hyman had received input from the student-athletes. In addition, he planned to seek input of former student-athletes, coaches, and people in the coaching profession who had a connection to the University or to South Carolina as well as University officials.

On February 22 and February 23, the Athletics Department would celebrate 100 Years of Carolina Gamecock Basketball. There would be a full weekend of events which would include former basketball players and coaches. The events consisted of a basketball game between the University and Mississippi State on Saturday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 4:00 p.m. As of today, over 120 former players and coaches planned to attend the weekend celebration. The former coaches would include Bob Stevens, Bill Foster, George Felton, Steve Newton and Eddie Fogler. Mr. Hyman stated these events were planned in an effort to reach out to former student-athletes to help them feel that this was their University and to help them feel welcome. He stated that all former coaches since Frank McGuire would be attending the reunion.

In the future, championship banners, retired jerseys, hall of fame murals and trophy cases would be installed in the Colonial Center.

Mr. Hyman stated that FY 2006-2007 was a record breaking fund-raising year

for the Athletics Department. A total of \$28 million had been raised, \$14 million for the Gamecock Club. Mr. Hyman reported that a one million dollar commitment was received on yesterday.

Mr. Foster expressed his enthusiasm for the significant number of student-athletes who had a 3.0 GPR over the past semester. Mr. Hyman commented that for the last two semesters, more USC student-athletes had qualified for the commissioner's honor roll than any other school in the southeastern conference. He expressed pride regarding the student's performance in the classroom and looked forward to their continued improvement.

Chairman Wienges stated that the report was received for information.

II. Other Matters: There being no further matters to come before the Committee, Chairman Wienges declared the meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Stepp  
Secretary