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University of South Carolina
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Student and System Affairs Committee

February 21, 2020

The Student and System Affairs Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, February 21, 2020, in the C. Edward Floyd Boardroom of the Pastides Alumni Center.

Members in attendance were Mr. Chuck Allen, Chair; Mr. C. Dan Adams; Mr. Richard A. Jones Jr.; Ms. Leah B. Moody; Ms. Rose Buyck Newton; Dr. C. Dorn Smith III; Ms. Molly M. Spearman; Mr. John C. von Lehe Jr., Board Chair; and Mr. Hubert F. Mobley, Board Vice Chair.

Other Trustees in attendance were Mr. J. Egerton Burroughs; Mr. A. King Dixon III; Mr. Robert F. Dozier, Jr.; Dr. C. Edward Floyd; Mr. William C. Hubbard; Mr. Toney J. Lister; Mr. Miles Loadholt; Mr. Eugene P. Warr Jr.; Mr. Thad H. Westbrook III; Mr. Mack I. Whittle Jr.; and Mr. Charles H. Williams.

Also in attendance were USC Columbia Faculty Senate Chair Mark Cooper and USC Columbia Student Government President Luke Rankin.

Others participating in person were President Robert L. Caslen Jr.; Secretary J. Cantey Heath Jr.; Vice President for Human Resources Caroline Agardy; President's Chief of Staff Mark Bieger; Presidential Fellow Susan Bon; Chair of the Department of Computer Science, USC Beaufort Brian Canada; Executive Director for Strategic Initiatives Jack Claypoole; Dean of the College of Pharmacy Stephen Cutler; Chief Diversity Officer, Office of the Provost

John Dozier; Chief Audit Executive Pam Dunleavy; Palmetto College Chancellor Susan Elkins; Interim Chief Development Officer William Elliott; Associate Vice President for Finance Kelly Epting; Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Lacy Ford; Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer Doug Foster; Interim Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Tayloe Harding; Chief Executive Officer My Carolina Alumni Association Wes Hickman; Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Studies Sandra Kelly; Executive Director for the Office of Economic Engagement Bill Kirkland; University Treasurer Patrick Lardner; Associate Vice President and University Controller Mandy Kibler; Assistant to the President for System Affairs Eddie King; Director of Government Relations Derrick Meggie; USC Beaufort Chancellor Al Panu; General Counsel and Executive Director of Compliance Programs Terry Parham; Director of Public Policy and Advocacy Craig Parks; Associate Vice President for Administration and Finance and Medical Business Affairs Jeff Perkins; Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost for Academic Support Dennis Pruitt; USC Aiken Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration Cam Reagin; Palmetto College Faculty Senate Chair Christine Sixta Rinehart; Executive Assistant to the President, Equal Opportunity Programs Cliff Scott; Special Assistant to the President James Smith; Assistant Vice President, Administration and Finance Joe Sobieralski; Trustee Emeriti Wayne Staton; Interim Chief Communications Officer and Director of Public Relations Jeff Stensland; Athletics Director Ray Tanner; Senior Vice President for Administration and Chief Operating Officer Ed Walton; Public Relations Strategist Dana Woodward; and Board of Trustees Staff.

I. Call to Order

Chair Allen called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Mr. Stensland introduced members of the media joining by telephone—Ben Breiner with *The State*; Tyler

Fedor with *The Daily Gamecock*; Chris Clark with *Gamecock Central*; John Delbianco with *The Big Spur*, and Lucas Daprile with *The State Newspaper*.

Chair Allen stated 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 provided to the committee, and a quorum was present to conduct business.

II. Experiential Learning Program at USC Beaufort

Chair Allen called on Chancellor Al Panu for a report on Experiential Learning Programs at USC Beaufort.

Chancellor Panu stated USC Beaufort developed an Experiential Learning Program as one of its objectives for meeting USC Beaufort's goal of expanding and enhancing a rigorous, experiential academic environment. Through the Experiential Learning Program, every graduate will have at least one internship, research, service learning, or applied learning experience, which will enhance their career preparation. Several USC Beaufort students provided video testimonials as to how they benefitted from the Experiential Learning Program. One testimonial talked about participation in an undergraduate research program in epidemiology at Harvard University, which led to an invitation to apply to their graduate school. Another testimony talked about participation in the Disney College Program, which led to plans to apply for Disney's professional internships after graduation. Another testimony talked about serving as a director and technical director on a show called *By the River*. because of USC Beaufort's partnership with SCTV, which led to a \$3,000 scholarship award through the Broadcast Education Association. The final testimony talked about work as a research assistant and co-authoring papers that were published.

Dr. Panu stated these inspiring student stories are the result of USC Beaufort's adopting experiential learning. Learning outside of the traditional classroom at USC Beaufort

is accomplished through high impact educational practices such as undergraduate research, internship opportunities, service learning, study abroad experiences, and equipping students to serve the low country by solving pressing challenges. In 2018, USC Beaufort officially adopted the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) mandated Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). USC Beaufort's QEP is titled *Student Connected Field Work for the Future*. Through this program, USC Beaufort students engage in activities that promote and benefit the region, such as developing a marketing plan for heritage tourism in Beaufort County. Students collaborate with peers, faculty, and community leaders to assess and address regional issues. These projects range in scope from addressing the communication needs of a rapidly growing multi-faceted telecommunications company to participating in an archeological dig of a Tabby ruins structure.

Since 2013, the number of USC Beaufort students participating in internships has increased by 440%. The student connected initiative complements the efforts of academic programs with built-in requirements that connect students with the workforce. For example, during the 2018-2019 academic year, 119 Human Services students provided more than 14,000 service hours in the low country, which equates to more than \$330,000 of value to the region. Since 2014, USC Beaufort has seen a 274% increase in annual student research and scholarship participation. A student-produced literary journal, *The May Review*, has been nationally recognized three times with first place awards from the American Scholastic Press Association since 2016. Service Learning is an essential part of USC Beaufort's experience. The Newman Civic Fellowship Award is given to recognize community-committed students who are changemakers and public problem solvers. USC Beaufort has had a Newman Civic Fellow recipient every year for over a decade. Gamma Beta Phi is a student honor society that embodies service, scholarship, and character. In addition to maintaining high grades, students

in this organization must complete 20 hours of community service each year. With its 100 members, the USC Beaufort chapter has won the exemplary chapter award every year since 2012.

Chancellor Panu spoke to USC Beaufort's internationalization growth. Since 2014, the number of students participating in study abroad opportunities in Finland, Peru, Netherlands, Nepal, Ghana, France, England, Italy, Spain, Germany, Australia, and Poland has increased by 900%. He stated that several faculty members have received Fulbright awards. USC Beaufort was named as a top producer of Fulbright USC Scholars for 2019 and 2020 in the February 10 issue of the Chronicle of Higher Education.

Chancellor Panu stated, "At the end of the day, it is all about helping our students achieve their dreams. It is an honor for USC Beaufort to do so through many different means but especially through experiential learning."

Chair Allen thanked Chancellor Panu for his report and stated it was received as information.

III. Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the committee, Chair Allen declared the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Cantey Heath, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

J. Cantey Heath, Jr.
Secretary