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University of South Carolina  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Intercollegiate Athletics Committee

February 20, 2015

The Intercollegiate Athletics Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, February 20, 2015, in the 1600 Hampton Street Board Room.

Members present were: Mr. Mark W. Buyck, Jr., Chairman; Mr. Chuck Allen; Dr. C. Edward Floyd; Mr. William W. Jones, Jr.; Mr. Toney J. Lister; Ms. Leah B. Moody; Mr. Mack I. Whittle, Jr.; Mr. Eugene P. Warr, Jr., Board Chairman; and Mr. John C. von Lehe, Jr., Board Vice Chairman. Mr. Charles H. Williams was absent.

Other Trustees present were: Mrs. Paula Harper Bethea; Mr. Tommy C. Cofield; Mr. A. C. "Bubba" Fennell; Mr. William C. Hubbard; Mr. Miles Loadholt; Mr. Hubert F. Mobley; Dr. C. Dorn Smith III; and Mr. Thad Westbrook.

Chairman of the Faculty Senate James H. Knapp and Student Government President Lindsay Richardson were present. Also in attendance was Letterman's Association President Ryan Brewer.

Others present were: President Harris Pastides; Secretary Amy E. Stone; General Counsel Walter "Terry" H. Parham; Provost Michael D. Amiridis; Chief Operating Officer Edward L. Walton; Chief Financial Officer Leslie Brunelli; Vice President for Student Affairs Dennis A. Pruitt; Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations Jancy Houck; Vice President for Information Technology William F. Hogue; Vice President for Human Resources Chris Byrd; Vice President for Facilities and Transportation Derrick Huggins; Chief Communications Officer Wes Hickman; Athletics Director Ray Tanner; University Foundations Executive Director Russell H. Meekins; USC Beaufort Chancellor Jane Upshaw; Palmetto College Chancellor Susan Elkins; USC Upstate Chancellor Tom Moore; USC Sumter Dean Michael E. Sonntag; Senior Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Studies Helen Doerpinghaus; Associate Vice President for Business Affairs, Division of Administration and Finance, Helen T. Zeigler; College of Arts and Sciences Dean Mary Anne Fitzpatrick; Executive Director of Audit & Advisory Services Pam Doran; Executive Director of My Carolina Alumni Association Jack W. Claypoole; Executive Director for the Office of Economic Engagement William D. "Bill" Kirkland; Executive Associate Athletics Director Kevin O'Connell; Director of Facilities Planning and Programming and University Architect Derek S.

Gruner; Senior Associate Athletics Director Judy Van Horn; Associate Athletics Director, Academics and Student Development, Maria Hickman; Director of Capital Budgets and Financing, Division of Administration and Finance, Charlie Fitzsimons; Director of Governmental and Community Relations and Legislative Liaison Shirley D. Mills; University Treasurer Pat Lardner; University Controller Jennifer Muir; University Budget Director, Division of Administration and Finance, Harry Bell; Chief of Staff, President's Office, J. Cantey Heath, Jr.; Associate Director of Strategic Planning and Assessment Cameron Howell; Executive Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, USC Aiken, Joe Sobieralski; Chairman and CEO of Holder Properties John Holder; University Technology Services Production Manager Matt Warthen; and Board staff members Debra Allen and Leah Kososki.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Buyck called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone, and asked Board members to introduce themselves. Mr. Hickman introduced members of the media who were in attendance: Hannah Jeffrey and Lauren Shirley with the *Daily Gamecock*; David Cloninger with *The State*; Scott Hood with *Gamecock Central*; and John Whittle with 247Sports.com.

Chairman Buyck said that notice of the meeting had been posted; the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act; the agenda and supporting materials circulated to the committee; and a quorum was present to conduct business.

Chairman Buyck called for a motion to enter Executive Session for the receipt of legal advice. Mr. Whittle so moved and Ms. Moody seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion carried.

Chairman Buyck invited the Trustees, President Pastides, Secretary Stone, Mr. Parham, Mr. Tanner, Mr. Walton, Mr. Hickman, and Mr. Heath to remain.

## Return to Open Session

### II. Athletic Director's Report

Chairman Buyck called on Mr. Tanner who reported on the following topics.

Academic Success – For the 9<sup>th</sup> straight year, Gamecock student-athletes were #1 on the SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll. The men's basketball and women's track teams achieved the highest Grade Point Average (GPA) in the programs' history at 3.29 and 3.50 respectively; the women's tennis team achieved the highest departmental GPA at 3.54; and the women's cross country achieved the highest team GPA in the nation at 3.79. The football team recorded 48 students with a 3.0 or above GPA. Student-athletes achieved the outstanding GPAs while completing over 4,000 hours of community service during the 2014 Fall Semester.

The Fall 2014 Departmental GPA was 3.208 making it the 16<sup>th</sup> consecutive semester in which student-athletes surpassed a 3.0 GPA. Other academic highlights for the semester included: 17 of 18 teams recording a 3.0 or higher GPA; 45 student-athletes making the President's List (4.0 GPA); 194 student-athletes making the Dean's List (3.5 GPA or 3.25 GPA for freshman); and 383 student-athletes making the Athletic Director's Honor Roll (3.0 GPA).

Twenty-three student athletes graduated in December 2014, including two former student athletes who returned to complete their degree.

The USC football program was recognized by the American Football Coaches Association for academic achievement by graduating 90 percent of its student-athletes in the latest NCAA Graduation Success Rate (GSR).

Mr. Tanner recognized and thanked Senior Associate Athletics Director Maria Hickman for her accomplishments as the person responsible for academic and student development at the Dodie Academic Enrichment Center.

Football Success – In four consecutive seasons the football team won four post-season bowl games and claimed 40 wins. Since the 2009 season, the team has posted a 36-6 record at Williams-Brice Stadium. The Gamecocks have had a 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American for the past six consecutive years. Coach Steve Spurrier holds the record of 12-3 for the last 15 meetings with the University of Florida, University of Georgia, and Clemson University.

Gamecock Fans – Mr. Tanner noted statistics in support of the claim that Gamecock fans are the best. The 2014 season football ticket sales of over 54,000 set a record for the most season tickets sold in

the history of the program. In addition, the average attendance of 81,381 per game, ranked USC 8<sup>th</sup> in SEC average attendance.

Volleyball ranked USC 35<sup>th</sup> nationally and 5<sup>th</sup> in the SEC in average attendance per game.

USC is one of only two schools in the NCAA, where men's and women's basketball average 10,000 or more fans per game. With an average attendance of over 11,800 fans per game, women's basketball ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the nation and in the SEC. The sale of over 8,500 season tickets set the record for the most sold in the history of the program. The men's average attendance of over 11,372 fans per game ranked USC 31<sup>st</sup> in the nation and 4<sup>th</sup> in the SEC. During Frank Martin's tenure as men's head basketball coach, season ticket sales increased by 23 percent.

Baseball and softball set a record for the most season tickets sold in the history of the programs. Over 6,000 baseball and 1,000 softball season tickets were sold.

The total of 17,011 students who attended at least one sporting event this year, represented 70 percent of all students registered for Spring 2015 classes who were eligible to receive tickets.

Mr. Tanner reviewed the National Letter of Intent signing dates for recruits enrolling for the Academic Year 2015-16. He announced, by sport, the list of recruits who had committed to be Gamecocks.

#### Achievements

- Women's Basketball earned the #1 ranking in the Associated Press Poll on November 24, 2014, for the first time in the program's history and held the spot for 12 consecutive weeks, the third-longest stretch by a team in the past five seasons. Women's Basketball Head Coach Dawn Staley won her 300<sup>th</sup> career game in an 82-61 win over the University of North Carolina Charlotte on December 4, 2014, and was named Basketball Times National Coach of the Year. She was also named the assistant coach for the USA Women's National Team, which is her second Olympic assignment. USC Women's Basketball Associate Head Coach Lisa Boyer was inducted into the Ithaca College Athletic Hall of Fame on October 10, 2014.
- Head Volleyball Coach Scott Swanson picked up his 100<sup>th</sup> career win and his 50<sup>th</sup> win at USC, in the Gamecocks win over Elon University on September 13, 2014.
- Track and Field Assistant Head Coach Dee Quarles was inducted into Liberty University's Athletics Hall of Fame on September 19, 2014.
- Equestrian Head Coach Boo Major was presented the School of Journalism and Mass Communication's 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award on October 16, 2014.

- Men's Golf fired a final-round 275 (-5) on October 19, 2014, to win the inaugural Camden Collegiate Invitational by a stroke over Wofford at Camden Country Club. With 11 tournament victories, Men's Golf Head Coach Bill McDonald became the winningest coach by tournament victories in USC's history.
- Women's Golf captured its second Golfweek Team of the Week honor of the season after posting a win at the Mercedes-Benz Collegiate Championships on October 19, 2014. The team is ranked #1 in both the Golfweek/Sagarin and the Golfstat Relative rankings – a first for the program.
- Head Men's Soccer Coach Mark Berson received the Bill Jeffrey Award for outstanding service to, or achievement in, intercollegiate soccer in 2014.
- Associate Athletics Director of Marketing Eric Nichols was named the 2014-15 president of the National Association of Collegiate Marketing Administrators.
- Associate Athletics Director for Development Steve Eigenbrot was named to *The State* newspaper's "Top 20, Under 40 in the Midlands."
- Deputy Athletics Director Charles Waddell received the 2015 University of North Carolina Chapel Hill (UNC) Trailblazers Award. The award recognizes individuals who pave the way for success in all aspects of the student-athlete experience. Mr. Waddell is scheduled to be honored at halftime of the February 21, 2015, UNC men's basketball game.

SEC Network – Mr. Tanner reported that Gamecock Athletics expects to produce 110 live sporting events during the 2014-2015 Academic Year. Most of the sporting events will air on the SEC Network Plus website. USC has the highest number of individual viewers for SEC Network Plus events; and it is the first school to produce simultaneous events for SEC Network Plus. In addition, USC is the first school to have a USC staff-produced feature selected by ESPN for airing on the network's broadcast. Selected was the feature on Elliott Fry.

Mr. Tanner noted that SEC/ESPN subscribers will be able to view 50-51 of the 56 regular season baseball games.

Mr. Whittle asked if a pro forma had been done on the University's potential SEC Network revenue. Mr. Tanner responded yes, noting that the University was expected to receive approximately \$5 million in revenue this summer compared to original projections of revenues not being realized until year three or 2017. Mr. Tanner responded to Trustees' questions about the SEC Network.

Mr. Tanner concluded his presentation by showing a video of Gamecock athletes in action.

Chairman Buyck thanked Mr. Tanner for his informative presentation, which he said was received as information.

### III. NCAA Update

Chairman Buyck called on President Pastides, who he noted had recently been named Chair of the NCAA Division I Board of Directors.

President Pastides provided an update on the NCAA. Division I includes 346 schools; 6,494 teams; 175,738 student-athletes; 32 conferences; and provides \$2.7 billion in scholarship support. In Division I there are 32 conferences, which comprise 65 universities. There are five autonomous conferences – ACC, Big 12, Big 10, PAC 12, and the SEC. The Football Bowl (FBS) and the Football Championship (FCS) Subdivisions, and the non-football colleges, account for the other members. The Board of Directors is made up of 24 members: 20 college presidents/chancellors; an athletics director; a senior woman administrator; a faculty athletic representative; and a student-athlete.

President Pastides briefly discussed the topics before the board. The most prominent topic was the belief by some that universities don't share enough of their sports' revenue with their student-athletes. He said that an important aspect of the board's reform agenda was to allow the 65 universities in the five autonomous conferences to spend more revenue on student-athlete welfare. The result of its efforts was an increase in scholarships to cover the full cost of attendance (living expenses, travel, tuition and fees, books, room and board, course-related supplies, etc.); more investment in health monitoring, of which the concussion safety protocol was an example; lifetime education benefits; and loss of value insurance. These improvements are not restricted to the five autonomous conferences.

President Pastides said that he was proud of Ray Tanner, Charles Waddell, Fran Person, and the other athletics' administrators who worked to institute "The Gamecock Promise." The Promise includes a four-year scholarship guarantee; the cost of attendance; a lifetime degree guarantee; disability insurance; and a student-athlete opportunity fund.

After additional discussion of the NCAA Board meetings and the monitoring process of NCAA regulations, Chairman Buyck thanked President Pastides for his informative presentation.

### IV. Other Matters

Chairman Buyck called on Chancellor Elkins, who announced that USC Lancaster had added volleyball and USC Sumter had added men's and women's tennis on their campuses.

V. Adjournment

There being no other matters to come before the committee, Chairman Buyck declared the meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy E. Stone  
Secretary