

**Clemson University
Clemson, South Carolina**

MINUTES

of the meeting of

THE CLEMSON UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Madren Center

Clemson, South Carolina

Friday, January 29, 1999

After notification as required by the Freedom of Information Act, the Chairman called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. with the following members present: Lawrence M. Gressette, Jr., presiding; Bill L. Amick, J. J. Britton, Bill Hendrix, Harold D. Kingsmore, Louis Lynn, Patricia McAbee, Leslie McCraw, Smyth McKissick, Thomas McTeer, William C. Smith, Jr., Joe Swann, Allen Wood, Louis P. Batson, Jr., W.G. DesChamps, Jr., D. Leslie Tindal, and Thornton Kirby, Executive Secretary

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: President Curris, Steffen Rogers, Almeda Jacks, Scott Ludlow, John Kelly, Neill Cameron, and David Stalnaker

Item 1. Introductions

Statement: The Chairman called on Robin Denny to introduce any guests from the media. Ms. Denny introduced Kimberly Davis of The Greenville News and David Breitenstein of The Anderson Independent. Chairman Gressette thanked Mr. Breitenstein for his kind letter notifying the Board of his departure for another job in Florida and wished him well in his future endeavors.

The Chairman also introduced Alfred Bundrick, Clemson's new Assistant to the President for Federal Relations, welcoming him to the Clemson family. Mr. Bundrick, formerly the Legislative Director for U.S. Senator Strom Thurmond in Washington, thanked the Chairman and stated that he looks forward to working with the Board.

Item 2. Resolution for Geiger Family

Statement: Chairman Gressette reminded all present of the recent loss of Trustee Emeritus William N. (Bill) Geiger, and he called on Executive Secretary Kirby to present a resolution acknowledging Mr. Geiger's significant contributions to Clemson University. Mr. Kirby presented the resolution (Attachment 1) and advised the Board that he would deliver it to the Geiger family.

Item 3. Approval of Minutes

Statement: The minutes of the October 9, 1998 and November 12, 1998 Board meetings were submitted for approval.

Action: Dr. Britton made a motion to approve the minutes with one correction. In the minutes of October 9, a typographical error needed to be corrected where the text carried over from page six to page seven. Dr. Britton's motion was seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

Item 4. Future Board Meetings

Statement: The Chairman called on Thornton Kirby to present the dates of future Board meetings. Mr. Kirby reported that the Board would meet on April 16, 1999 in Clemson, July 16-18, 1999 in Charleston, and October 22, 1999 in Clemson.

Item 5. Student Affairs Committee

Statement: Chairman Gressette called on Mr. Swann for a report from the Student Affairs Committee.

Action Item

A. Housing Rate Increase for 1999-2000

Statement: Vice President Almeda Jacks called on Verna Howell to present a proposed housing rate increase of three percent (3%). Mrs. Howell explained that the proposed increase had been discussed previously and is needed in order to finance construction of the new residence facilities.

Action: Mr. Swann made a motion to approve the proposed increase, Mr. Wood seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

Informational Items

A. Housing Construction

Statement: Vice President Jacks gave a brief update on the construction of Clemson's two new residence facilities and advised that more detailed plans will be shared at the Board's next meeting in April.

B. Hendrix Student Center Update

Statement: George Smith updated the Board on the status of construction and explained that the Hendrix Student Center is expected to be complete and fully occupied in early 2000.

C. Student Government Update

Statement: Matt Dunbar reported on the current issues before Student Government, including the development of an academic integrity statement, a prepaid calling card, and campus recreation. At the conclusion of Mr. Dunbar's report, Dr. Britton commended Student Government for its generous support of the Cox Plaza and Matt Dunbar in particular for his outstanding comments at the dedication ceremony.

D. Graduate Student Government Update

Statement: Matt Gevaert reported on issues facing Graduate Student Government, including the availability of student athletic tickets for graduate students. Mr. Gevaert also invited the Trustees to attend the Graduate Student Research Forum, at which time the varied work of Clemson's graduate students will be on display.

Item 6. Executive and Audit Committee

Statement: Chairman Gressette reported that the Executive and Audit Committee had met earlier in the day and received the following reports:

- Report of the External Auditor for Year Ended June 30, 1998
- Financial Statements for related University organizations
- Quarterly report of the University's Internal Auditor
- Tracking report from the Internal Auditor to show resolution of prior findings
- Athletic Compliance Officer's semi-annual report

Chairman Gressette commented that all reports were in order, noting that Clemson University had received an unqualified opinion from the External Auditor.

Item 7. Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

Statement: Chairman Gressette called on Mrs. McAbee for her committee's report.

Action Items

Mrs. McAbee called on Stassen Thompson to update the Board on several land matters.

A. Land Management Issues

1. Easement Request to Fort Hill Natural Gas

Statement: Mr. Thompson reported that Clemson University has asked Fort Hill Natural Gas to provide service to a new Forestry field headquarters, and an easement is needed to allow Fort Hill Natural Gas access to the site. Mr.

Thompson recommended granting the easement so that Clemson's order for new service can be accommodated. (Attachment 2)

Action: Mrs. McAbee made a motion to approve the easement, Mr. Kingsmore seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

2. Land Request from Department of Natural Resources

Statement: Mr. Thompson explained that the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources has requested approximately two acres of land on which to build an equipment shed and storage area, and he recommended making the land available for a nominal fee. (Attachment 2)

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

3. Request for Easement at Edisto Research and Education Center by SCE&G

Statement: Mr. Thompson reported that SCE&G has requested a twenty foot right of way easement for a distribution line at the Edisto Research and Education Center. Mr. Thompson recommended granting the easement as requested by SCE&G. (Attachment 3)

Action: Chairman Gressette noted that in light of his close relationship with SCE&G, he would abstain from any action on this issue. Trustee Bill Amick also indicated his desire to abstain from any action for the same reason, and Chairman Gressette called on Vice Chairman Swann to conduct the discussion and any vote on the matter.

Vice Chairman Swann stated that he would entertain any motions concerning the action recommended by Mr. Thompson, and Mr. McTeer made a motion to approve the easement. Mr. Hendrix seconded, there was no discussion, and the vote of approval was unanimous. Trustees Gressette and Amick abstained from the vote.

4. Adair Property Proposal

Statement: Mr. Thompson reported that Mr. Joe Adair has proposed a gift of 508 acres in Laurens County to establish the Adair Nature, Education, and Community Project. Mr. Thompson gave a brief explanation of the Project, noting that an environmental assessment has been performed, that the University will incur no expense relating to management of the property, and that Clemson is not obligated to retain the property indefinitely. Mr. Thompson recommended acceptance of the proposed gift under the terms and conditions outlined in the fund agreement included in the Board's materials. (Attachment 4)

Action: Mrs. McAbee made a motion to accept the proposed gift in accordance with the terms and conditions of the fund agreement, Mr. McTeer seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

5. Deed Water Line and Easement to City of Columbia

Statement: In order to ensure fire protection for the new Animal Diagnostic Laboratory in Columbia, Clemson proposes to deed a six inch water line and hydrant serving the laboratory to the City of Columbia. Mr. Thompson recommended deeding the six inch water line to the City of Columbia and granting the City a fifteen foot easement to service and maintain the line. (Attachment 5)

Action: Mrs. McAbee made a motion to approve the deed and easement as recommended, Mr. Smith seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

B. Proposed Bill on Unused Agricultural Pesticides

Statement: Neil Ogg, Director of Regulatory Services, explained that many South Carolina farmers possess unused pesticides that cannot be used or discarded under current laws, and Clemson University desires to assist with disposal. John Gentry noted that costs and liabilities associated with disposal have been significantly reduced by changes to federal law, and he anticipates a great benefit to agricultural producers in the state as well as to persons who have inherited or purchased land from agricultural producers. Dr. Lynn and Chairman Gressette expressed their concern that Clemson will incur liability for the disposal of hazardous substances despite well-intentioned changes to federal law.

Action: After much discussion, Mr. Amick made a motion to approve the proposed regulation contingent upon the receipt of a legal advisory opinion from the State Attorney General stating that Clemson is adequately protected against liabilities associated with waste disposal. Mrs. McAbee seconded the motion, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

Informational Items

A. PSA Economic Development Coordinator

Statement: Vice President John Kelly introduced Jimmy Sheriff, who was recently appointed as the Economic Development Coordinator for PSA.

B. PSA Budget Requests

Statement: Vice President Kelly referred the Trustees to a report on PSA budget requests pending before the South Carolina General Assembly, and he offered to answer any questions. There being no questions, Mrs. McAbee thanked Vice President Kelly for his update and stated that the committee's report was concluded.

Item 8. Budget and Finance Committee

Statement: Chairman Gressette called on Mr. Amick for his committee's report.

Action Items

A. Meal Plan Rate Increase of 2.5%

Statement: Mr. Amick called on Scott Ludlow, who explained several dining facility improvement projects and stated that a meal plan increase is needed to fund the projects and to extend hours of operation in several of the dining facilities. Mr. Ludlow noted that the average annual meal plan rate increase over the past five years has been 1.6%, well below the average inflation rate in the consumer price index for food industries during the same period (2.44%).

Action: Mr. Amick made a motion to approve the meal plan rate increase, Mr. Smith seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

B. Processing Charge for Credit Card Payments

Statement: Mr. Ludlow explained his plan for reducing the discount charges paid by Clemson to credit card companies, an expense item that has doubled within the past three years as a result of the Voice Response System by which students register and pay their fees. Mr. Ludlow's plan is to implement a processing charge that will save the University more than \$440,000 in credit card discount charges each year. Trustees asked whether the processing charge had been reviewed by the University's legal counsel, and Mr. Ludlow responded in the affirmative. The Trustees also discussed related issues, such as a tuition payment plan and customer satisfaction.

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

C. Request for Bid Approval – Install Fire Sprinkler System in Manning Hall

Statement: Mr. David Stalnaker reported that Trehel Corporation was the low bidder for a project to install a fire sprinkler system in Manning Hall, and he recommended approval of the low bid in the amount of \$638,152 and authorization for the Administration to award the contract to Trehel Corporation.

Action: Mr. Amick made a motion to approve the low bid and authorize the Administration to award the contract to Trehel Corporation, Mr. Kingsmore seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous. Following the vote Chairman Gressette expressed his pleasure at the University's initiative to ensure fire safety for its students.

Item 9. Educational Policy Committee

Statement: Chairman Gressette called on Mr. McCraw for his committee's report.

Action Items

A. Entomology B.S. Degree Program Discontinued

Statement: Mr. McCraw called on Provost Steffen Rogers, who discussed the proposed termination of the undergraduate degree program in Entomology. Provost Rogers noted that Clemson's enrollment in Entomology has declined over recent years, and the Commission on Higher Education has recommended termination of the program. Provost Rogers also noted that the program will be phased out over several years so current students will not be affected by the

termination. He concluded by noting that most universities with degree programs in Entomology do not offer an undergraduate degree.

Action: Mr. McCraw made a motion to approve the proposed termination, the motion was properly seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

B. Nomination Pool for Faculty Senate Officers

Statement: Provost Rogers explained a proposed change to the Faculty Manual intended to enlarge the pool of candidates who may serve as Faculty Senate officers, and he recommended approval. (Attachment 6)

Action: Mr. McCraw made a motion to approve the proposed change, Mr. McTeer seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

C. Name Change for The Institute of Wildlife and Environmental Toxicology (TIWET)

Statement: Provost Rogers discussed a proposed name change for The Institute of Wildlife and Environmental Toxicology (TIWET), explaining the desire to include “Clemson” in the name and to reflect the expanded role of the institute to include human environmental toxicology. He reported that the new name, if approved, will be “Clemson Institute of Environmental Toxicology.”

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

D. Name Change for the Department of Public Health

Statement: Provost Rogers discussed a proposed name change for the Department of Public Health, noting that the Department currently receives numerous calls from persons who mistakenly assume they are calling the local health department. If approved, the new name will be “Department of Public Health Sciences.”

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

Informational Items

A. Faculty Senate Report

Statement: Faculty Senate President Pat Smart reported the following:

- Professor Larry Bauer was recently awarded the Class of '39 Award for Excellence
- Post-tenure review policies are being implemented according to schedule

- Faculty input regarding the Report of the Commission on the Future of Clemson is due and will be transmitted to David Stalnaker for the Board's consideration, and
- The recent op-ed piece in The Greenville News was not approved or supported by the Faculty Senate.

President Smart also introduced Professor Horace Skipper, who will take over as Faculty Senate President in April. She concluded by thanking the Board for its continuing support and open dialogue, and she also thanked members of the Administration for their support. Chairman Gressette welcomed President-Elect Skipper, and he thanked President Smart for the outstanding job she has done as President of the Faculty Senate.

B. Teaching Effectiveness and Innovation Presentation

Statement: Linda Nilson, Director of Clemson's Office of Teaching Effectiveness and Innovation, presented materials and discussed the mission of her office. She pointed out that the office is not designed to evaluate faculty, but instead to serve as a resource to instructors who desire to improve their teaching effectiveness. Ms. Nilson reported that she has received a warm response since coming to Clemson, and the demand for her services has been surprisingly high. Evaluations of workshops to date have indicated a positive response by Clemson's faculty.

C. Policy for Academic Salary Release Time

Statement: Provost Rogers updated the Board on his proposed policy for academic salary release time, according to which faculty members may be released from a portion of their required teaching load if they are involved in externally funded research.

D. Commission on the Future of Clemson University

Statement: Mr. McCraw reported that David Stalnaker is working with the committee to prepare its report, which will be delivered to the full Board when ready.

Item 10. Institutional Advancement Committee

Statement: Chairman Gressette called on Mr. Hendrix for his committee's report.

Action Item

A. Investment of Endowment Funds Currently Held by State Treasurer

Statement: Mr. Hendrix reported that the Board had previously approved a Memorandum of Understanding to invest endowment funds currently held by the State Treasurer, but the newly elected State Treasurer has asked that the document be amended to include a specific term and rate of interest.

Action: Mr. Hendrix made a motion to appoint a committee, composed of Clemson's Chief Financial Officer, the President of the Clemson University Foundation, the Chairman of the Foundation's Investment Committee, and the Chairman of the Board's Institutional Advancement Committee, to negotiate the term and interest rate with the State Treasurer. The motion was properly seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

Informational Item

A. Advancement Reports

Statement: Mr. Hendrix called on Neill Cameron, who reported the following:

- To date, \$117 million of the \$210 million capital campaign goal has been raised
- Alumni giving is up 80% (in dollars) over last year's performance
- The new Martin Inn is operating at 60% occupancy, well in excess of initial projections
- The Madren Center has hosted 2,500 companies since it opened, and roughly 52% of Madren Center use is University-related
- Clemson was featured in two Wall Street Journal articles last week alone
- Clemson's statewide marketing campaign will kick off in March
- A direct marketing program will be tested in May, the goals of which are to assess brand awareness among important constituencies; to increase knowledge and participation; to increase corporate engagement; to engender political support and awareness; and to gain visibility on education issues.

Mr. Hendrix thanked Mr. Cameron for his report and concluded by pointing out that the endowment had rebounded significantly since the last report.

Item 11. Ratification of Mail Ballot

Statement: Chairman Gressette called on Thornton Kirby for a report on a recent mail ballot.

A. Resolution in Memoriam for Trustee Emeritus William N. Geiger

Statement: Mr. Kirby reported that the Board had voted unanimously by mail ballot to approve the resolution honoring Trustee Emeritus Bill Geiger, and he asked for ratification of the mail ballot.

Action: Dr. Britton made a motion to ratify the mail ballot, Mrs. McAbee seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

B. Honorary Degree Candidates

Statement: Mr. Kirby reported that the Board had voted by mail ballot to approve honorary degrees for Joseph P. Riley and Minoru Ohnishi, and he asked for ratification of the mail ballot.

Action: Dr. Britton made a motion to ratify the mail ballot, Mrs. McAbee seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

Item 12. President's Report

Statement: Chairman Gressette called on President Curris for his report.

President Curris opened his remarks by expressing his thanks for the prayers and support of the Board on this first anniversary of his surgery. He then discussed teacher education with the Board, pointing out that nationwide concern regarding educational quality is mirrored by South Carolina's concern.

President Curris reported that he has been asked to serve on two major task forces concerning education, one affiliated with the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, and the other affiliated with the American Council of Education. The primary question to be answered by these task forces is this: What should institutions of higher education be doing to prepare teachers? President Curris observed that among other things, institutions must do the following:

- Ensure that teachers are prepared in the subject matters they teach (30% of science classes in the U.S. are taught by teachers who do not have either a major or a minor in science or math)
- Increase emphasis on early childhood education
- Increase emphasis on the critical shortage of math and science teachers, which crisis will worsen before it improves

- Remedy the growing shortage of ethnic minority teachers (African-American and Hispanic in particular)
- Improve the preparation of school administrators
- Increase professional development requirements for teachers following their formal education

President Curris concluded by stating his intention to keep Clemson University engaged in the education debate and to take a leadership role where appropriate.

Item 13. Adjourn

Statement: There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 3:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Thornton Kirby
Executive Secretary