

**Clemson University
Clemson, South Carolina**

MINUTES

of the meeting of

THE CLEMSON UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Madren Center
Clemson, South Carolina
Friday, January 28, 2000**

After notification as required by the Freedom of Information Act, the Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with the following members present: Lawrence M. Gressette, Jr., presiding; Bill L. Amick (by phone), J. J. Britton, Leon J. Hendrix, Harold D. Kingsmore, Louis B. Lynn, Patricia H. McAbee, Leslie G. McCraw, E. Smyth McKissick III, Thomas B. McTeer, William C. Smith, Jr., Joseph D. Swann, Allen P. Wood, and Thornton Kirby, Executive Secretary

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Cathy Sams, Jack McKenzie, Verna Howell, Rusty Guill, Cathy Bell, Dot Burchfield, Mendal Bouknight, Horace Skipper, Dave Fleming, Debbie DuBose, Debra Jackson, Jeff Davis, Stassen Thompson, Pat Smart, Matt Gevaert, Will Brasington, Anna Simon, Ian Berry, and Jeff Martin

Item 1. Introductions

Statement: The Chairman called on Jack McKenzie to introduce any guests from the media. Mr. McKenzie introduced Anna Simon of the *Greenville News* and Ian Berry of the *Anderson Independent*.

Item 2. Announcement

Statement: Before proceeding with the first agenda item, Chairman Gressette announced that Trustee Doug Kingsmore and his wife Vicki had made a gift to the Athletic Department of One Million Dollars for the renovation of the baseball stadium. The gift will be formally announced today, and the new name of the stadium will be "Doug Kingsmore Stadium, Home of the Clemson Baseball Tigers." Chairman Gressette thanked Mr. Kingsmore for his generosity, and the Trustees and guests joined in giving the Kingsmores a hearty round of applause.

Item 3. Approval of Minutes

Statement: Chairman Gressette noted that the minutes of the October 22, 1999 meeting and the December 20, 1999 teleconference had been circulated in advance of this meeting, and he stated that unless changes are required the minutes would be approved as written.

Action: There being no changes suggested, the minutes of the October 22, 1999 meeting and the December 20, 1999 teleconference were approved as written.

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 will meet on the following dates:

April 20-21, 2000 – In Clemson;
July 14-16, 2000 – Meeting and Retreat in Charleston; and
October 12-13, 2000 – In Clemson.

Item 5. Adoption of Resolutions

Statement: Chairman Gressette called on Mr. Kirby to present three resolutions for Board approval (Attachment 1), the first honoring Provost Steffen Rogers as requested by the Board at its October meeting. The other two resolutions honored Chad Carson and Kyle Young, both of whom are football players recently named GTE Academic All-Americans.

Item 6. Executive and Audit Committee

Statement: Chairman Gressette reported that the Executive and Audit Committee had met earlier this morning, and he noted that no action items had been presented. The Chairman also noted that reports of the external and internal auditor had been deferred until April, but he assured the Board that he had reviewed the pertinent audit findings and no major problems had been reported.

Item 7. Educational Policy Committee

Statement: Chairman Gressette called on Mr. McCraw for the report of the Educational Policy Committee. Mr. McCraw in turn called upon Provost Rogers to present the Committee's two action items.

Action Items

A. Trustee Scholarship Program

Statement: Provost Rogers reported that the Trustee Scholarship program had been designed to supplement the State's Palmetto Fellowship program, with the result being a full scholarship to Clemson. He noted that some students have other scholarships in addition to the Palmetto Fellows' award, and the \$3,500 Trustee Scholarship often provides more than is needed to round out a full scholarship. The Trustee Scholarship is also restricted to in-state students, while in some years the University is in greater need of resources to attract bright out-of-state students. For these reasons the Administration requests authority to make the Trustee Scholarship Program more flexible. Specifically, the Program should be modified to permit awards to out-of-state students, and the amount of the scholarship should be either \$2,500 or \$3,500, whichever amount is more appropriate to achieve the goal of awarding a full scholarship to Clemson.

Action: Mr. McCraw made a motion to approve the modifications recommended by the Administration. Mr. Swann seconded the motion, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

B. Termination of Master of Agriculture Program

Statement: Provost Rogers reported that the Master of Agriculture degree program has suffered low enrollment for the past five years, producing three graduates in only one of the five years studied. Despite an investment of time, energy, and money over the past two years, enrollment has not increased. Consequently, the Administration recommends terminating this degree program and reinvesting the savings back into the Agriculture Education program. Provost Rogers emphasized that agriculture majors are being reinvigorated at Clemson, noting that despite the termination of this program the number of agriculture majors has increased from 300 per year to 1000 per year during the past eight years. He reported that investments have been made in areas where excellence has been achieved and where student demand is high.

Action: Mr. McCraw made a motion to terminate the Master of Agriculture degree program. Mr. McTeer seconded the motion, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

Informational Items

A. Faculty Senate Report

Statement: Faculty Senate President Horace Skipper reported the following items:

- Judith Melton received this year's Class of '39 Award for Excellence
- The Solid Orange campaign among faculty is ahead of last year's pace, with 78% of the goal already attained

- A display case has been arranged at the Madren Center to highlight Clemson authors, thanks to a gift from First Sun Management. A second display is planned to highlight patents generated by Clemson faculty members.
- President Skipper thanked Scott Ludlow for his recent presentation to the Faculty Senate concerning the new PeopleSoft system
- The Post-Tenure Review system at Clemson has been modified to account for timing issues not identified at inception
- The Faculty Senate recently adopted a resolution to support the removal of the confederate flag from the State House dome
- The Faculty Senate recently approved the Academic Integrity Policy after working closely with Student Government
- A successful Faculty Senate retreat was held in December, and President Skipper thanked President Barker for delivering the lunchtime speech and Neill Cameron for door prizes and gifts for all participants
- President Skipper concluded his report by thanking Provost Rogers for his ongoing support of faculty initiatives.

B. Accreditation Update

Statement: Mr. McCraw reported that the Committee had received a through update on the upcoming accreditation survey by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). Mr. McCraw noted that SACS accreditation is a critical issue not to be taken lightly, and he expressed confidence in the leadership provided by Dr. Debra Jackson.

C. Library Update

Statement: Mr. McCraw reported that the Committee had received two reports on the status of the University's libraries, one from a Harvard consultant and a second from our own Dean of Libraries, Joe Boykin. Mr. McCraw noted that library support is a priority of the President, and he concluded by reporting that the Committee's discussion was productive and that work would continue.

D. Patents

Statement: Mr. McCraw reported that the Committee had briefly discussed patents generated at the University, and it was the Committee's belief that more celebration of patents is needed in order to stimulate maximum productivity. Mr. McCraw concluded his report by promising more study on this opportunity.

Item 8. Student Affairs Committee

Statement: Chairman Gressette recognized Bill Smith for the report of the Student Affairs Committee.

Action Items

A. Housing Fee Increase

Statement: Mr. Smith reported that the Committee had struggled with a difficult issue during its meeting the prior day, noting that good discussion had taken place and both sides of the debate had been thoroughly aired. The result of the discussion was a recommendation for a significant housing fee increase, which although not desirable, was necessary for the following reasons: (1) housing fee increases have been held to a minimum for the past five years, and some of those years have seen no increase at all; (2) expenses in the housing budget will rise this year due to increases mandated by the State and by the University; and (3) life safety concerns have prompted the University to accelerate sprinkler installation in high-rise dormitories, resulting in faster depletion of the Housing Improvement Fund.

Action: Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the 5.8% increase proposed by the Administration, and Mr. McCraw seconded. Vice President Almeda Jacks stated that she knew students were unhappy with the magnitude of the proposed fee increase, but that no better options had been identified. Mr. Smith noted that the Committee had heard from students during the meeting yesterday, and he circulated a resolution from the Student Senate adopted since the Committee's meeting opposing the fee increase (Attachment 2). Despite the student's opposition, Mr. Smith advised that the Committee felt the full 5.8% increase was necessary to discharge the Board's fiduciary duty to the University. Following the discussion, the Chairman called for a vote. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Health Service Fee Increase

Statement: Mr. Smith reported that the Committee had tabled this proposed fee increase until its April meeting, at which time all across-the-board mandatory fees will be considered.

Informational Items

A. Fike Recreation Center

Statement: Jeff Davis, Student Senate President, reported that Student Government had surveyed students to gauge their support for a fee increase to renovate Fike Recreation Center, and he presented a resolution endorsing the proposed fee increase (Attachment 3).

B. Student Government Report

Statement: On behalf of Student Body President Wil Brasington, Jeff Davis reported the following:

- Student Government is planning a ring ceremony to enhance the presentation of the Clemson class ring.
- The Student Government Excellence in Teaching Award has recently been presented to Dr. Richard Saunders of the History Department.
- Student Government elections will be held within the next two months.

C. Graduate Student Government Report

Statement: Graduate Student Government President Matt Gevaert reported that his term would soon be ending and elections for new officers would be held this Spring. He also reported the following:

- Graduate Student Government is working with the Faculty Senate to permit on-line evaluation of faculty members.
- A recent rental fair for graduate students and local landlords was well received.
- An on-line rental resource for prospective graduate students has also been well received.
- The graduate student portion of the Solid Orange campaign leads the University in participation with a 200% increase over last year.

Mr. Gevaert concluded his report by noting that although the Solid Orange report distributed at the meeting showed graduate student goal attainment at 99%, he has personally strong-armed two students whose participation brings the total to 100% of the goal. The Trustees applauded his efforts, and Chairman Gressette thanked Mr. Gevaert for his report.

Item 9. Budget and Finance Committee

Statement: Chairman Gressette called on Smyth McKissick for his Committee's report.

Action Items

A. Approval of Horse Barn Construction Bids

Statement: Chief Financial Officer Scott Ludlow reported that bids have been received for the construction of a horse barn at the Garrison Arena, and the low bid is within funds available for the project. The low bidder is Zorn Company, Inc. of Seneca, and the bid with alternates is \$363,500. Mr. Ludlow recommended approval of the bid.

Action: Mr. McKissick made a motion to approve the bid of \$363,500 and award the contract to Zorn Company, Inc., Mr. McTeer seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

B. Approval of Jervey Training Room Renovation Bids

Statement: Mr. Ludlow reported that bids have been received for the renovation of the training room in Jervey Athletic Center, and the low bid of \$644,777 is within funds available for construction. The low and sole responsive bidder is Zorn Company, Inc. of Seneca, and Mr. Ludlow recommended approval of the bid.

Action: Mr. McKissick made a motion to approve the low bid of \$644,777 and award the contract to Zorn Company, Inc, Mr. McTeer seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

C. Approval of Meal Plan Rate Increase

Statement: Mr. Ludlow recommended a 2.5% rate increase in the University's meal plan, the revenue from which would defray escalating labor costs, renovations to food service areas, and increased flexibility of meal plans.

Action: Mr. McKissick made a motion to approve the 2.5% increase in meal plan rates, Mr. Kingsmore seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

Informational Items

A. Classified Staff Commission Report

Statement: Classified Staff Commission President Cathy Bell reported the following items:

- The most recent edition of Inside Clemson contains a good article describing the role and work of the Classified Staff Commission.
- Information on the Commission is also available on its new web site.
- The Commission recently adopted a resolution on salary equity concerns, and President Barker has been responsive to study the concerns of the classified staff.
- A recent resolution expressing concerns over parking calls for better communication in advance of disruption in parking space availability.
- The Faculty Senate and the Classified Staff Commission are working together effectively, most recently to address salary concerns mention earlier.
- The Solid Orange campaign among classified staff has been successful.

Item 10. Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

Statement: Chairman Gressette called on J. J. Britton for his Committee's report.

Informational Items

Statement: Dr. Britton reported that the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee had received updates on the following items:

- The history and current status of Clemson's involvement at the Baruch Institute in Georgetown, SC.
- Biotechnology research and societal concerns associated with its implications.
- Construction plans for the horse barn at the Garrison Arena
- Termination of the Master of Agriculture degree program.
- A meeting of agriculture leaders earlier in the week in Columbia.
- A meeting of the Livestock-Poultry Health Commission held in conjunction with the Committee's meeting yesterday.

Action Items

A. Easement to BellSouth

Statement: Dr. Britton reported that BellSouth operates a cross-box containing telephone equipment to service Clemson's Ravenel Center, and the cross-box needs routine maintenance. Since Highway 93 is being widened, the cross-box will also have to be relocated. BellSouth has requested an easement to relocate and repair the cross-box, and Clemson proposes to grant the easement for the life of the cross-box in exchange for a one-time fee of \$1,500.

Action: Dr. Britton made a motion to grant the easement as proposed, Mr. Swann seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous.

B. Approval of Sandhill Program Plan

Statement: Dr. Britton reported that the Committee had heard plans for the development of the Sandhill Research and Education Center in Columbia, and he asked Vice President John Kelly for a brief report on the plans.

Action: Following Vice President Kelly's comments, Dr. Britton made a motion to develop a center of excellence in community and economic development at the Sandhill Research and Education Center by allocating the proceeds of a land sale approved on August 26, 1999 to finance the following:

- the development of a conference/education facility and appropriate grounds,
- the endowment of community service scholarships,
- the endowment of an electronic library collection to support the programs at the Center, and

- the endowment of academic programs in economic and community development.

Mrs. McAbee seconded the motion, and after a brief discussion the vote of approval was unanimous.

Item 11. Institutional Advancement Committee

Statement: Chairman Gressette called on Mr. Hendrix for his committee's report. Mr. Hendrix reported that the Committee had no action items for consideration, and he called on Vice President Neill Cameron for an informational report.

Informational Items

Statement: Mr. Cameron referred the Trustees to an executive summary of progress on the capital campaign, annual giving, endowment, alumni participation, marketing and communications, and the conference center. Mr. Cameron updated the report by noting that Clemson had a great quarter in advancement activities, and he recognized Debbie DuBose, Dot Burchfield, Cathy Sams, Jeff Martin, and Mendal Bouknight for their outstanding efforts. He reported that Clemson has just received and announced its largest gift ever, a \$38 million gift from Eastman Chemical of Kingsport, Tennessee. Mr. Cameron noted that Clemson has raised \$203 million of the \$210 million campaign goal, and even with the extraordinary gifts we are still ahead of goal on cash and pledges. He concluded by reporting that the Conference Center and Inn are performing well, and the reserve account for the conference center is very healthy compared to its performance at the same time last year.

Item 12. President's Report

Statement: Chairman Gressette called on President Barker for his report. President Barker thanked the Trustees for the time they had granted for his transition into office, as well as for their office visits and their counsel on various issues. President Barker updated the Trustees on the following items:

- The development campaign is progressing very well, with momentum building.
- In the area of research, we need a clearer understanding of the obstacles and opportunities for research on campus. President Barker has scheduled a research summit in February to pursue issues outlined in the report of the Commission on the Future of Clemson.
- A strategy for addressing library deficiencies is being developed, with short-term and long-term strategies based on public and private resources.
- His study of Clemson history has pointed out the ongoing relationship between the University's Presidents and the South Carolina General

Assembly. His philosophy is to treat each legislator like an annual donor who gives \$1.75 million each year to Clemson.

- He thanked the Trustees for their efforts to build a platform of understanding with the faculty, and he expressed his desire to build upon that platform by exposing the Trustees to the everyday activities of faculty members.
- President Barker reported on his plans to restructure the President's Advisory Council in an effort to heighten its linkage with the membership and work product of the Commission on the Future of Clemson.
- He reported that David Stalnaker's good work with the Board of Visitors has that group poised to accomplish much for Clemson, and he noted that the Board of Visitors would be hand-delivering offers of admission or arranging a personal visit with all African-American students admitted to Clemson for the fall of 2000.
- As a final note, President Barker reported that one of his twelve goals has already been accomplished. The Clemson University Singers have been invited to perform at Carnegie Hall on Thanksgiving weekend of 2000, and an appropriate celebration will be planned. President Barker's announcement was met by applause from the Trustees and guests in attendance.

President Barker concluded his report by reiterating his appreciation for the Board's help in his transition, and he stated that he is excited about the building momentum for Clemson's future.

Following the President's report, Mr. McCraw and Dr. Britton expressed their appreciation for the strong work of the Board of Visitors in the areas of admissions and legislative advocacy.

Item 13. Executive Session

Statement: Chairman Gressette stated that the Board needed to go into executive session to discuss a contractual matter.

Action: Mr. Kingsmore made a motion to go into executive session, Mrs. McAbee seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous. The Chairman announced that no decisions would be made and no votes would be taken while in executive session, and he invited guests to wait outside the room. The Board went into executive session at 10:05 A.M.

Item 14. Open Session

Statement: Chairman Gressette reconvened the Board meeting in open session at 11:00 A.M. He stated that no decisions were made and no votes were taken while the Board was in executive session.

Item 15. Adjourn

Statement: There being no further business, Mr. McKissick made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Kingsmore seconded, and the vote of approval was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Thornton Kirby
Executive Secretary to the
Board of Trustees