

10. To assure the effectiveness of comprehensive planning for procurement of current and capital funds; to authorize the acceptance of major gifts and bequests in accordance with Board policies and public law.
11. To authorize the construction of new buildings and the major repair or renovation of existing buildings.
12. To assure the accountability of the University to fundamental social values and to the provisions of public law; to facilitate communications between the University and State government or other agencies and constituencies.
13. To protect the academic environment of the University from improper pressure or interference adversely affecting the functions of scholarship, teaching, and learning; to assure the academic freedom of faculty and students.
14. To assure appeal procedures in disputes or grievances involving faculty, administrative officers, staff, and/or students.

3. Membership of the Board of Trustees

- A. The Board of Trustees is composed of the Governor of the State of South Carolina, an *ex officio* member of the Board; and sixteen members, with fifteen of these members to be elected by the General Assembly and one member to be appointed from the state at large by the Governor.
- B. The term of elective members is four years. The member occupying Seat Sixteen serves at the pleasure of the Governor.
- C. The term of office of an elective trustee commences on the first day of July of the year in which the trustee is elected.
- D. Members of the Board of Trustees are expected to attend all regularly scheduled and called meetings of the full Board and its committees. State statute requires that a member who has three consecutive unexcused absences of regularly scheduled meetings is considered removed from the Board and a vacancy is created. Excused absences are within the discretion of the chair.

4. Officers of the Board

The officers of the Board of Trustees shall consist of the Chair, the Vice Chair and the Secretary. Election of officers shall be held at the quarterly fall meeting biannually. New officers will assume office at the quarterly winter meeting. Each officer is elected for two years or until a successor is elected or qualified. In the event of a vacancy in the Chair's position, the Vice Chair will succeed to the position for the remainder of the term. All other vacancies in any office may be filled at any meeting. The term for the chair will be a single two-year term. The other officers may serve multiple terms.

A. Chair

The Chair of the Board of Trustees is charged with the duty of maintaining a level of interest and activity among the Board which will contribute to the determination of Board policies, wise planning for the future, intelligent and considerate observance of the rights of the faculty and student body, and the maintenance of the independence of the Board from outside influences harmful to the interest of the University. Powers and duties of the Chair include the following:

1. Preside over the meetings of the Board. If the Chair is absent, the Vice Chair shall preside if present. Otherwise the Chair shall designate some other trustee to preside.
2. With the Secretary, execute all papers to which it is necessary to affix the seal of the University.
3. Appoint all committees, subject to the approval of the Board.
4. Serve as member *ex officio* of all committees of the Board.
5. Upon request of the Board, act as its spokesperson or representative.
6. Perform those additional duties which may be imposed upon his office by statute or by direction of the Board.

B. Vice Chair

In the absence or inability of the Chair to discharge the duties of office, all the duties of the Chair of the Board shall devolve upon and be executed by the Vice Chair.

C. Secretary

The powers and duties of the Secretary shall include the following:

- 1) Keep a faithful record of all proceedings.
- 2) Conduct correspondence for the Board.
- 3) Give notice of time and place of meetings.
- 4) See that all documents entrusted to his care are filed and safely kept at the University.
- 5) Make documents entrusted in his care available for inspection by the Board or any committee of the Board.
- 6) Surrender documents under his control only to an agent or officer authorized to receive them.