

BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR FRANCIS MARION UNIVERSITY

Francis Marion University
The Cottage, Hendrick Room

Thursday, November 17, 2016 – 5:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Presiding:

Mr. Kenneth W. Jackson, Chairman

Present:

Mr. Jody Bryson
Dr. James M. Bunch
Mr. William W. Coleman, Jr.
Dr. H. Randall Dozier
Mr. Benjamin I. Duncan, II
Mr. R. Tracy Freeman
Mr. William Edward Gunn
Mrs. Patricia C. Hartung
Mr. Stephen N. Jones
Mr. Floyd L. Keels
Ms. Karen A. Leatherman
Mr. George C. McIntyre
Mr. Mark S. Moore
Dr. J. Kevin O'Kelly
Mrs. Gail Ness Richardson
Member Emeritus

Others Present:

Mr. Darryl Bridges, Vice President for Development/Executive Director of the Foundation
Ms. Patricia J. Burkett, Director of Public Relations
Dr. L. Fred Carter, President
Mrs. Kim Davis, Executive Assistant to the President
Mr. Daniel Dukes, Legislative Liaison
Mrs. Joyce Durant, Dean of the Library
Mr. Jonathan P. Edwards, General Counsel
Mr. Larry Falck, Media Production and Web Design Coordinator
Dr. Rebecca Flannagan, Chair of the Faculty and Professor of English
Mr. A. Glen Gourley, Vice Chair of the Faculty and Professor of Theatre Arts and Speech – Directing
Mr. Murray G. Hartzler, Director of Athletics
Dr. Tracy Meetze Holcombe, Associate Dean of the School of Education and Associate Professor of Education
Dr. Christopher M. Kennedy, Associate Provost and Director of Graduate Programs
Mr. Jay Kispert, Vice President for Business Affairs
Dr. Peter King, Provost
Dr. Jennifer Kunka, Associate Provost for Advising and Professor of English
Mr. Matthew J. McColl, Director of Communications
Mr. Tucker Mitchell, Executive Director of Public Affairs
Ms. Fredricka Pressley, SGA President
Mrs. Teresa J. Ramey, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
Ms. Melissa Rollins, Reporter for Morning News
Dr. Charlene Wages, Vice President for Administration
Dr. Alissa Wartens, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management
Dr. Ruth Wittmann-Price, Dean of the School of Health Sciences and Professor of Nursing
Mr. Julian M. Young, Director of Alumni Affairs and Annual Giving

Mr. Jackson called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm, and then he asked Mrs. Davis to call the roll. He stated for the record that media notification had been made in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, and that a quorum was present.

Mr. Jackson presented the minutes of the August 4, 2016 meeting to the board for approval. Mr. Coleman made a motion for the minutes to be approved, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Freeman. The minutes received unanimous approval by the board.

Executive Affairs Committee:

Mr. Jackson presented Resolution 04-16 – Naming of the Adele Kassab Recital Hall and Art Gallery to the board. Dr. Dozier made a motion for the resolution to be approved, and Mr. McIntyre seconded the motion. The resolution received unanimous approval by the board.

Academic Affairs and Accreditation Committee:

Dr. Bunch reported the following information that was shared with the committee:

- Resolution 05-16 Approving a change to the Mission of Francis Marion University to include offering of professional degrees at the doctoral level was presented to the board, which comes from the committee with unanimous approval. Dr. Bunch made a motion that the resolution be approved, and Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. The resolution received unanimous approval by the board.
- Resolution 06-16 Approving the Doctorate of Nursing Practice degree at Francis Marion University was presented to the board, which comes from the committee with unanimous approval. Dr. Bunch made a motion that the resolution be approved, and Mr. Freeman seconded the motion. The resolution received unanimous approval by the board.
- Total enrollment for Fall 2016 is 3,876 students.
- Fall 2016 New Freshman enrollment is 729, with 94% of those students being from South Carolina and 48% from the Pee Dee Region.
- The Admissions Counselors have participated in 85 College Application Days, which are sponsored by SC Commission on Higher Education. In addition, they have participated in over 60 high school Interview Days across the state.
- The Admissions Office has received over 1800 applications so far this Fall, and they continue to receive more daily.
- Two Open Houses have been held during Fall 2016, and another one is scheduled for December 10. In addition, three Open Houses will be hosted during Spring 2017.
- There were 44 undergraduates and 9 graduate students that graduated in August.
- Plans are being made for the Fall 2016 Commencement. Currently there are 258 undergraduates and 61 graduate students scheduled to graduate in December.
- The new Center for Academic Success and Advisement is providing intensive support for first-year students. Individualized advising sessions are held with the students, which includes information about course selections and schedules, career options, goal-setting skills, time management, and study strategies.
- The Nursing program has been recognized as a Center of Excellence in Nursing by the National League for Nursing.

- The Health Care Administration program currently has 140 students enrolled, with several of them scheduled to graduate in December.
- FMU has joined Coastal Carolina University and the Belle W. Baruch Foundation to form the Belle W. Baruch Institute for South Carolina Studies to be located at Hobcaw Barony in Georgetown.

Dr. Bunch concluded his report.

Development and Alumni Committee:

Mr. Coleman shared the following report with the board:

Development:

- The FMU Education Foundation recently received scholarship support from McLeod and Pee Dee Electric Cooperative.
- Grant funding has been received from the Duke Energy Foundation to support the PAC Children's Series and the Windham Environmental Center operated by FMU.
- The new Local Government Leadership Institute began in September, and feedback regarding the sessions has been very positive.
- The FMU Kelly Center for Enterprise and Innovation has partnered with the City of Florence in operating the North Dargan Innovation Center to provide services and support for the business incubator and other clients.

Alumni:

- The Office of Alumni Affairs has coordinated several events to encourage alumni involvement and raise student interest in becoming involved after graduation.
- The Alumni Awards program will be held after the next board meeting on March 2.

Mr. Coleman concluded his report.

Financial Affairs and Facilities Committee:

Mr. Jones shared the following information from the committee meeting:

Budget Summary Report:

- The university's State Appropriations for 2016-2017 have been received. Along with our appropriated base increase of \$925,000, the university received an additional \$530,270 in recurring appropriations to offset increases related to our State pay increase as well as an increase in employer contributions for health, dental, and retirement costs.
- Revenue collection for Summer II concluded at \$165,755 above budget expectations, which is attributed to a strong enrollment of undergraduates and nursing graduate program courses.
- Fall revenue collection is almost complete with revenues currently at 98.5% of the budgeted amount. Undergraduate revenues exceeded the projected budget by \$50,000.

- As of the report date, 30% of our general funds had been expended, which is in line with budget expectations.
- Total employee headcount is currently 495, and FTE is 442.26. The four-year change is 8 for headcount and 8.10 for FTE.
- The estimated amount of financial aid for 2016-2017 remains at \$52,546,820, which exceeds last fiscal year's total of \$52,195,706. An update of financial aid estimates is expected in February after spring enrollment has concluded.

Audit Report:

- The university audit was performed by Cline Brandt Kochenower. The firm has been instrumental in assisting FMU in meeting the deadlines set by the South Carolina Comptroller General's office.
- The auditor had no reservations concerning the financial statements and issued an unqualified opinion, meaning that the financial statements fairly represent the financial position of the university. This is the best opinion that an auditor can issue.
- There were no findings relating to the financial statements and the audit firm proposed no adjustments.
- The auditor reported no instances of noncompliance with accounting standards in the audit.
- Federal Awards are audited under different rules and are given a separate opinion by the auditor as is required under the current guidelines. There were no deficiencies reported.

Facilities:

- Resolution 07-16 for the Establishment of the University Facility Fee was presented to the board, which comes from the committee with unanimous approval. Mr. Jones made a motion that the resolution be approved, and Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. The resolution received unanimous approval by the board.

Mr. Jones concluded his report.

Student Affairs and Athletics Committee:

Mr. Bryson presented the following information reported to the committee:

Student Affairs:

- The Leadership FMU Recognition Ceremony will be held on November 21 at 5:30. There are 32 participants that will complete the program this semester.
- The Student Government Association has established a standing Commuter Student Committee to help identify and resolve issues that are specific to the commuter student population.
- The SGA has established a Dining Services Student Advisory Board and Bookstore Student Advisory Board. The advisory boards will work closely with the management of these specific areas to address student issues and build strong relationships among the student body.

- The SGA's Campus Relations Committee has partnered with the Men's Basketball Team to organize a Student Discount Booklet which will be available to students in Spring 2017. It includes many businesses in the Florence area that are willing to provide discounts and savings to our students.
- During the Fall 2016 final exam period, the SGA will partner with Dining Services to sponsor a Late Night Breakfast to help the student body prepare for exams.
- The annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration will be held on Thursday, January 12.
- Homecoming 2017 will be held on February 11.

Athletics:

- 87 student athletes were named to the Peach Belt Conference Presidential Honor Roll for the 2015-2016 academic year.
- The volleyball, golf and women's tennis teams earned national All-Academic Team recognition. This is the third consecutive year that the golf and women's tennis teams have earned this honor.
- Paul MacDonald, who has been Head Volleyball Coach for the past eleven years, announced earlier in the year that he will step down at the end of the season to take another position on campus. Coach MacDonald leaves as the winningest coach in program history with 179 victories. The current record for the team is 15-12, and they are anticipating a berth in the NCAA playoffs.

Mr. Bryson concluded his report.

President's Report:

Dr. Carter made the following comments during his report:

- Mr. Jay Kispert and the departments under his supervision are to be commended for their exceptional work which made the unqualified opinion on our recent audit possible.
- When Paul MacDonald was hired eleven year ago as our Head Volleyball Coach, he came to FMU with an undergraduate degree in Supply Chain Management. Recently the Director of Purchasing position became available, and he indicated his interest in applying for the position because he wanted to get back into management and procurement. Based on his strong qualifications, Paul was hired for the position and will continue his exemplary service to the university in that capacity.
- Now that the Speech Therapy program has been approved by the SC Commission on Higher Education, steps will be taken to obtain accreditation. Dr. Freida Campbell-Wilson, our new Director of Speech Pathology, and Dr. Chris Kennedy will work together over the next year to guide the university through the accreditation process and obtain approval so that the new program can begin in Spring 2018.
- In approximately one year, plans for a new Occupational Therapy program will be presented to the board, and plans for a Physical Therapy program will follow two years later.

- Three budgetary requests will be made to the Legislature this year.
 1. \$610,000 in recurring funds to enhance certain faculty positions, particularly in the areas with professional accreditation reviews such as the School of Business, School of Education, and School of Health Sciences.
 2. \$350,000 in recurring funds to strengthen STEM positions, particularly in the areas where there is collaboration with our surrounding school districts.
 3. Additional funding for the new Honors Center. The building will cost approximately \$3.1 million, and \$2.4 million is still needed to begin construction.

- Fall 2016 Commencement is scheduled for December 17, and the speaker will be Senator Vincent Sheheen. He will be awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humanities Degree along with Mrs. Teresa Myers Ervin who serves on the Florence City Council and has spent her career in nursing.

- The university is excited about the new Belle W. Baruch Institute for South Carolina Studies at Hobcaw Barony. Through the Institute, numerous opportunities in the areas of humanities, social sciences, and behavioral sciences will be made available to our students. Dr. Lynn Hanson is currently working at the Institute during her sabbatical, and her efforts have been instrumental in the development of these programs.

Dr. Carter concluded his report.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

None

Executive Session

Not needed

Mr. Jackson adjourned the meeting at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

William Edward Gunn
Secretary