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University of South Carolina

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Intercollegiate Activities Committee

September 24, 2004

The Intercollegiate Activities Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met on Friday, September 24, 2004, at 2:50 p.m. in the Campus Room of Capstone House.

Members present were: Mr. Samuel R. Foster, II, Chairman; Mr. Arthur S. Bahnmuller; Mr. Toney J. Lister; Mr. Miles Loadholt; Mr. Michael J. Mungo; Mr. Mack I. Whittle, Jr., Board Chairman; and Mr. Herbert C. Adams, Board Vice Chairman. Mr. M. Wayne Staton and Mr. Othniel H. Wienges, Jr. were absent. Other Trustees present were: Mr. James Bradley; Ms. Rita M. McKinney; and Mr. Eugene P. Warr, Jr.

Others present were: President Andrew A. Sorensen; Secretary Thomas L. Stepp; Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Mark P. Becker; Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Richard W. Kelly; Vice President for University Advancement T.W. Hudson Akin; Vice President for Human Resources Jane M. Jameson; Vice President for Student Affairs Dennis A. Pruitt; Legal Counsel Walter (Terry) H. Parham; Chancellor of USC Upstate John C. Stockwell; Dean of USC Lancaster John Catalano; Director of Athletics Michael B. McGee; Director of the Department of Internal Audit Alton McCoy; Senior Associate Athletics Director for Business and Development, Department of Athletics, Brad Edwards; Chief Financial Officer in the Department of Athletics, Shawn Eichorst; Assistant to the Vice President, Office of Business and Finance, Ken Corbett; University Legislative Liaison John D. Gregory; Director of University Communications, Division of University Advancement, Russ McKinney, Jr.; and members of the media.

Chairman Foster called the meeting to order and invited those present to introduce themselves. Mr. McKinney introduced members of the media who were in attendance. Chairman Foster stated that notice of the meeting had been posted and the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act; the agenda and supporting materials had been circulated to members of the Committee; and a quorum was present to conduct business.

Chairman Foster directed the attention of the Committee to the agenda and called on Dr. McGee.

I. Athletics Director's Report: Dr. McGee was pleased to announce that the spring semester gpa (grade point average) for 114 student athletes had totaled

2.935 (the highest reported for any single semester). Of that average, 242 male student athletes had earned a 2.76 gpa and 172 female athletes had earned a gpa of 3.17.

Dr. McGee also addressed community service activities in which student athletes and coaches had engaged. He noted that in the Fall 2003 semester, community service hours had totaled 1560; for the academic year 2003-2004, the total community service hours had exceeded 3000. Currently for the 2004-2005 academic year, more than 350 hours had been logged.

Dr. McGee commented that the Gamecocks had performed reasonably well at the beginning of this football season. Currently the team was ranked 9th in the nation for defense scoring.

The volleyball team had garnered 7 wins of 9 games; during the previous weekend the team had won games against Michigan State and Notre Dame. This evening the team will play Mississippi State and, on Sunday, will play the University of Mississippi at the Graveyard.

For men's soccer, the score to date was 4-1-1. The University will host a soccer game against Clemson University on October 10th. For women's soccer, the score was 6-3; the team defeated Clemson University (2-0) last week. It was scheduled to play Auburn and Alabama in the near future.

The cross country team defeated Clemson University at that campus during the previous weekend.

Dr. McGee discussed new recruiting requirements as a result of problems which had surfaced this past year. Mandatory was the development of new policy for all official visits. A University committee had been formed to address this matter; Dr. Russ Pate, Faculty Athletic Representative and various coaches were members. Specifically, he noted that the Carolina Classics and its counterparts at other SEC institutions had been terminated as a result. It was anticipated that a policy addressing all of the mandated recruiting restrictions will be submitted to the President for approval in October; submission to the SEC and NCAA will follow before December 1.

President Sorensen commended Dr. McGee and his staff (coaches and the academic advising staff) for the strong academic performance as reflected in the grade point averages of both the men and the women; he saluted the Athletics Director for his continued emphasis in this area. President Sorensen also commended the student athletes for their activities and investment in community service. And, finally, he thanked Dr. McGee for his efforts to tighten the University's recruitment policies and procedures.

Mr. Loadholt asked if the proposal to delay the beginning of the baseball season had been approved, how the delay will affect the program, and the nature of Coach Tanner's reaction to the proposal. In response, Dr. McGee explained that a decision would be rendered during the NCAA Council meetings scheduled for October 18 and 19; a task force had been formed to review the matter. Central to this proposal was the primary consideration of making baseball as competitive as it was in the northern tier of states. The popularity of college baseball had grown tremendously across the southern portion of the country.

Dr. McGee noted that one year ago the College Baseball World Series had been moved back one week. The task force had recommended that baseball practice be held from January 1 - February 1; that the beginning of competition be held from February 1 - March 1; and that the College World Series move back one more week (approximately the last week in June). This recommendation, which Dr. McGee believed had garnered extensive support, will be presented to the NCAA Council in October.

If this proposal was approved, the college baseball season will move further into the summer; therefore, it will become the only summer sport. Dr. McGee anticipated improved attendance as a result of this action. Although Coach Tanner had expressed misgivings when the concept was introduced, he strongly supported the initiative.

Mr. Bahnmuller thanked Dr. McGee and his staff for their outstanding work and particularly for their accommodating attitude whenever he contacted that department with questions or concerns; Dr. McGee also voiced accolades for Athletics Department staff members.

Mr. Whittle asked about scheduling difficulties (working with a professional team) if the baseball season was extended into the Fourth of July timeframe. Dr. McGee responded it would add to the complexity of such an operation.

II. Adjournment: There were no other matters to come before the Committee, and Chairman Foster declared the meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Stepp
Secretary