

(Approved at April 28, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting)
Special Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Friday, April 10, 2020
10:00 a.m.
Board of Trustees' Office, Room 208C, Randolph Hall
Zoom Video Conference*

Executive Committee Members:

Trustees David Hay (Chair), Demetria Clemons (Vice Chair), Renée Romberger (Secretary), Ricci Welch and John Wood

Board Members Participating by Zoom Video Conference:

Trustees Chuck Baker, Laurin Burch, Beth Burke, John Busch, Demetria Clemons (Vice Chair), Hank Futch, Henrietta Golding, David Hay (Chair), Toya Pound, Renée Romberger (Secretary), Penny Rosner, Brian Stern, Steve Swanson, Tav Swarat, Craig Thornton, Ricci Welch and John Wood

Absent: Trustees Cherry Daniel, Shawn Holland and Randy Lowell

Others Participating by Zoom Video Conference:

President Andrew Hsu

Michaela Abbott (Staff Assistant)

Mark Berry (Deputy Chief of Staff)

Alicia Caudill (Executive VP, Student Affairs)

Betty Craig (Executive Assistant)

John Curtis (IT Representative)

Elizabeth Kassebaum (Executive Secretary to the Board and VP for College Projects)

Ron Menchaca (VP, Communications)

Angela Mulholland (General Counsel)

Paul Patrick (Chief of Staff)

Fran Welch (Interim Provost and Executive VP, Academic Affairs)

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL:

Elizabeth Kassebaum served as host to this special Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom video conferencing. She welcomed everyone to this special meeting and confirmed all attendees by a call of the roll.

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME:

Chair Hay called the Zoom video conference meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. in the Board of Trustees' Office, Room 208C, Randolph Hall, noting that the meeting notice has been posted and the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

*Special Executive Committee Meeting was held via Zoom Video Conference due to COVID-19 Crisis.

NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS:

Before turning the meeting over to President Hsu, Chair Hay expressed the “Board Members’ deep appreciation for all that the faculty, staff and leadership of the College have been doing and continue to do to help our students succeed during this unprecedented Spring Semester.

Truly it will go down in history as one of the most challenging, and on behalf of all of the Board of Trustees, I extend my sincere gratitude for your unrelenting commitment to academic excellence and student success.”

PRESIDENT HSU’S REPORT:

President Hsu provided the Board of Trustees with an update regarding actions being taken by College administration in response to COVID-19 and short- and long-term planning and contingency plans.

He thanked everyone for their incredible assistance and sent his condolences to Shawn Holland’s family.

CHAIR HAY’S CLOSING REMARKS:

Chair Hay reminded everyone that the next meeting will be the previously scheduled Executive Committee Meeting on Tuesday, April 28, at 2:00 p.m.

“As you might expect, we are not likely to be able to have our May 7-8 Board Meetings on campus. Therefore, we plan to have the May Board of Trustees Meeting virtually by way of Zoom conferencing on Thursday, May 7.

We’ll have the committee meetings run one after the other throughout the morning, with a short break for lunch and then the remainder of the committee meeting in the early afternoon.

The full Board Meeting will be held beginning at 2:30 p.m. that afternoon.

We are confident that we will be able to accomplish all we need to with the virtual format in less time than is required meeting on campus over two days.

That said, it is not my intention to plan all Board Meetings in the virtual setting going forward. I believe we would all agree, there is important connection, engagement and comradery achieved in campus meetings that cannot be replaced in a virtual setting, but unusual times call for unusual efforts, and I thank you all in advance for making the effort to ensure the success of the May 7th virtual Board Meetings.

Finally, I began this meeting by thanking the faculty and staff for all they are doing through these challenging times and now I would like to thank the Board Members as well.

I am confident that you believe, as I do, that we can turn this around. And that this difficult time gives us the opportunity to make the case to all of our personal and professional constituents and contacts, that the value of higher education has never been more evident with this crisis.

The agility of the higher education community to turn their entire work produce from one delivery method into another within one week’s time is something to be championed, celebrated and

commended. Don't let anyone tell you ever again, that higher education institutions move slowly. The higher education community and the College of Charleston are providing the best example ever of the value of higher education as an economic engine for their respective communities and who are producing a workforce of citizens for tomorrow who are creative, innovative, and have the ability to change.

As Board Members, we should be Merchants of Hope for the future. And, we need to state loud and often: We have never been as proud of our Alma Mater.

Thank you all for your time and attention with this important meeting.”

ADJOURN:

The motion was made by Trustee John Wood, and seconded by Trustee Ricci Welch, that the meeting adjourn at 10:37 a.m. All in favor.