

June 17, 2025 (BCek)

(Approved at August 22, 2025 Board of Trustees Meeting)

**COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON**  
**UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON, SC**  
Board of Trustees Meeting/Retreat  
June 2-3, 2025

**Wild Dunes Resort/Zoom Video Conference**

Presiding:

Renée B. Romberger, Chair, Board of Trustees  
Trustee Laurin Burch, Chair, Budget, Finance, & Facilities Committee

**MONDAY, JUNE 2, 2025**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Board Members Present** – Trustees Laurin Burch, Beth Burke, Hank Futch, Darryl Fyall, Andy Gianoukos, David Hay, Shawn Holland, Matt Klein, Toya Pound, Renée Romberger (Chair), Penny Rosner, Steve Swanson (Vice Chair), Tav Swarat, Craig Thornton, Ricci Welch (Secretary), Derrick Williams and Neysa Williams

**Board Members Absent** – Trustees Henrietta Golding and Brian Stern

**President's Cabinet Present** – President Andrew Hsu, Suzanne Austin, Chuck Baker, Mark Berry, Alicia Caudill, Katarina Fjording, Jimmie Foster, Dan Frezza, Courtney Howard, John Loonan, Michelle McGrew, Ron Menchaca, Paul Patrick, Matt Roberts, Mark Staples and Brad Weiland

**Other Attendees Present** – Joh-nette Brown, Betty Craig, Jason Grimes, Liz Jurisich, Elizabeth Kassebaum, Peter Kenton, Jesse Kunze, Colin McGlynn, Dean Narayanan Kuthirummal, Ashleigh Parr, Dean Steve Schreiner, Dean Paul Schwager and William Veal

**Other Attendees Via Zoom** – Dan Greenberg and Dawn Willan

(Only attending Board Members, President Hsu, Chief of Staff, President's Cabinet, Board Office Staff, and others presenting or participating in the meetings are noted as attendees).

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING** – Wild Dunes Resort (Sweetgrass Inn)

**Welcome/Call to Order**

Chair Romberger called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. noting that the meeting notice has been posted and the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING RECESSED**

Chair Romberger recessed the Board meeting at 9:04 a.m. and turned it over to Committee Chair Laurin Burch for the Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting.

**BUDGET, FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING**

Trustee Laurin Burch, Chair; Trustee Craig Thornton, Vice Chair

**Committee Members Present** – Trustees Laurin Burch (Chair), Hank Futch, Darryl Fyall, Andy Gianoukos, David Hay, Matt Klein, Steve Swanson, Craig Thornton (Vice Chair), Derrick Williams, Renée Romberger (ex officio) and Andrew Hsu (ex officio, non-voting)

**Committee members Absent** – Trustees Henrietta Golding and Brian Stern

**Call to Order**

Committee Chair Burch called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. noting that the meeting notice has been posted and the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

**Approval of Minutes**

The motion was made by Trustee Hank Futch, and seconded by Trustee Derrick Williams, that the minutes of the May 28, 2025 Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee Budget Workshop be approved as presented. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the Minutes were approved.

**Review of Proposed Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Annual Budget & Tuition/Fees**

- Fiscal Year 2026 Proposed Budget Summary – *John Loonan*
  - 0% In-State Tuition Increase
  - 1.45% Out-of-State Tuition Increase

**Motion to Approve Tuition and Fees and Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (Resolution)**

The motion was made by Trustee Derrick Williams, and seconded by Trustee Craig Thornton, to approve the Resolution on “Tuition and Fees and Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026” as presented. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion was adopted. Nine BFF Committee members were present and voted in favor of the Resolution. BFF Committee members Henrietta Golding and Brian Stern were absent and did not vote.

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON  
 RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
 ON  
 TUITION AND FEES  
 AND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

As Approved and Recommended by the  
 Budget and Finance Committee  
 6/2/2025

WHEREAS, College management has presented the Board separate documents, entitled the College of Charleston 2025-2026 Proposed Budget and the College of Charleston 2025-2026 Fees (collectively referred to in this Resolution as the

WHEREAS, the Proposed Budget and Fees contains recommendations regarding adjustments to student tuition and fees as well as a College budget for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year;

WHEREAS, College management is of the opinion that the proposed budget and its tuition and fee

recommendations for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year are reasonable given the impact of current enrollments and legislatively initiated salary and retirement increases, and fully consistent with the need to maintain elements of the College's Strategic Plan and to meet the operational and deferred capital needs of the College, while taking into account the effect on its students and families, and the College's tuition level relative to other public institutions of higher education in the State; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees instructs the Administration to continue efforts to review program costs and strive for improved efficiencies.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ---**

**RESOLVED**, that for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year, College management is hereby authorized and directed to set undergraduate and graduate tuition and fees for each semester in the following amounts:

1. \$6,259, for resident undergraduate students;
2. \$19,192, for nonresident undergraduate students; and

**RESOLVED**, that for the 2026-2026 Fiscal Year, College management is hereby authorized to assess student fees in the amounts presented to the Board in the Proposed Budget and to implement the proposed budget contained therein; and

**RESOLVED**, that the College continue its review of program costs and efficiencies; and

**RESOLVED**, that the College provide timely notice to students and student applicants of the tuition and fees for the 2025- 2026 Fiscal Year.

**Motion to Approve Revised “Wellness & Wellbeing Fee” dated July 1, 2025 (Resolution)**

**NOTE FOR THE RECORD:** At the March 27-28, 2025 Board of Trustees meeting, the Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee and the Board of Trustees approved the “Wellness & Wellbeing Fee Resolution dated July 1, 2025”, which included the following:

“NOW THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approves the implementation of a student fee of \$75 per semester for all students to establish and support the Counseling Center as a self-sustaining auxiliary operation.”

At today's Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee, John Loonan presented a Revised “Wellness & Wellbeing Fee” Resolution dated July 1, 2025.

**The motion was made by Trustee Craig Thornton, and seconded by Trustee Derrick Williams, to approve the “Revised Wellness & Wellbeing Fee Resolution” dated July 1, 2025 as presented. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion was adopted. Nine BFF Committee members were present and voted in favor of the Resolution – Laurin Burch (Chair), Hank Futch, Darryl Fyall, Andy Gianoukos, David Hay, Matt Klein, Steve Swanson, Craig Thornton (Vice Chair) and Derrick Williams,. BFF Committee Members Henrietta Golding and Brian Stern were absent and did not vote.**

**College of Charleston  
Resolution of the Board of Trustees**

**Wellness & Wellbeing Fee (Revised)**

**DATE: July 1, 2025**

Whereas the College of Charleston’s Counseling Center provides supportive mental health services, available to all currently enrolled students, including individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, case management, and psychiatric services;

Whereas the Counseling Center promotes student success and post-graduate outcomes by providing access to mental health care that increases well-being, improves academic performance, and reduces dropout rates. These services preserve tuition dollars and reduce problematic student behaviors in other campus areas, including conduct violations, residence life disruptions, alcohol and other drug violations, classroom disruptions, and Student of Concern and student care cases;

Whereas, to ensure the Counseling Center can continue to provide high-quality services and meet increased demand for these services, there is a need to implement a fee structure to support Counseling Center services;

**NOW THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approves the implementation of a student fee per semester, based on class standing, to establish and support the Counseling Center as a self-sustaining operation, as follows:**

1. Freshmen - \$90
2. Sophomores - \$85
3. Juniors - \$80
4. Seniors – (no fee)

**Motion to Adjourn**

**The motion was made by Trustee Matt Klein, and seconded by Trustee Darryl Fyall, that the Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee meeting be adjourned at 10:01 a.m. All in favor.**

*[Break]*

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING RECONVENED**

**Welcome/Call to Order**

Chair Romberger reconvened the meeting at 10:26 a.m. noting that the meeting notice has been posted and the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

At its meeting earlier today, the Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee approved two Budget Resolutions for the full Board’s approval.

**MOTION TO APPROVE PROPOSED TUITION AND FEES AND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 (Resolution)**

**The Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee moves that the Resolution on Tuition and Fees and Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 be approved as presented. The Chair called for the yeas**

**and nays, and the motion was adopted. All 17 Board members present voted in favor of the Resolution. Trustees Henrietta Golding and Brian Stern were absent and did not vote.**

**MOTION TO APPROVE REVISED WELLNESS & WELLBEING FEE DATED JULY 1, 2025 (Resolution)**

**The Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee moves that the Revised Wellness and Wellbeing Fee Resolution dated July 1, 2025 be approved as presented. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion was adopted. All 17 Board members present voted in favor of the Resolution. Trustees Henrietta Golding and Brian Stern were absent and did not vote.**

**TWO NEW ENGINEERING PROGRAMS**

Provost Suzanne Austin introduced Steven Schreiner, New Dean, School of Engineering, Computing and Mathematics. He began working at the College on June 1.

Interim Dean Narayanan Kuthirummal presented two new engineering programs: (1) Bachelor of Arts in General Engineering, and (2) Bachelor of Science in Integrated Engineering and Business.

**Motion to Approve Two New Engineering Degrees**

Upon careful review of all of the associated issues, the Administration recommends the Board of Trustees make a motion to approve two new engineering degrees: (1) Bachelor of Arts in General Engineering and (2) Bachelor of Science in Integrated Engineering and Business.

**The motion was made by Trustee Penny Rosner, and seconded by Trustee Toya Pound, to approve two new engineering degrees: (1) General Engineering and (2) Integrated Engineering and Business. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion passed.**

**NEW BOARD COMMITTEE NAMES AND CHARTERS AND RELATED BYLAWS AMENDMENTS**

Audit and Governance Committee Chair Tav Swarat presented an update regarding the new Board Committee Names and Charters and related Bylaws Amendments.

Bylaws amendments regarding the new Committee Names and Charters have been discussed during the last several Board meetings and all Board members were sent an email on April 30 which provided the required 30 days' notice for approval of the Bylaws Amendments at today's Board meeting.

Trustee Swarat noted that the Bylaws Amendments include committee name changes, including Charters, of the eight Board of Trustees' Standing Committees:

- (1) Executive Committee
- (2) Student Success Committee (will include SHORE)
- (3) Governance Committee (includes Audit, Board Education and Governmental Relations)
- (4) Academic Affairs Committee
- (5) Finance Committee (includes Budget)
- (6) Property Committee (includes Facilities) will be a standing committee
- (7) Advancement Committee (includes Alumni and Philanthropy)
- (8) Athletics Committee

**The motion was made by Trustee Beth Burke, and seconded by Trustee Ricci Welch, to approve the Bylaws Amendments to include the new Board of Trustees Committee Names and Charters as presented. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion was adopted.**

### **COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT PROCESS AND AUGUST BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE**

Chair Romberger shared that she will be reassigning Board Committee Membership under the new committee structure by the end of July and will share it with all Board members at the August Board meeting to be effective the end of day on August 22, 2025, and in place at the October 15-17, 2025 Board meetings.

Chair Romberger informed the Board members that Elizabeth Kassebaum will send them a Committee Assignment Preferences Survey to be completed by Friday, June 6. If Board members don't submit the completed survey with their "Top Three Committee Assignment Preferences" by the deadline, Chair Romberger will select their committee membership assignments.

### **DUAL PROGRAM BETWEEN COFC AND NORD ACADEMY**

Before going into Executive Session, President Hsu shared important information regarding the international engineering and management dual degree program between the College of Charleston and the NORD Academy. This program has been very successful in Germany, and the College of Charleston is the first to introduce this model in the United States.

During this three-year program, students would work at their partner companies while completing their bachelor's degree in international engineering and management with NORD Academy in Germany and also taking coursework at the College of Charleston.

President Hsu will bring it to the Faculty Senate in the Fall and the first cohort starts in October.

### **Executive Session**

**The motion was made by Trustee Tav Swarat, and seconded by Trustee Derrick Williams, to go into Executive Session at 10:53 a.m. for "Receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege", "Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed purchase/lease of property" and "Discussion of trade secrets (Section 30-4-40) where public disclosure would expose commercially valuable plans, marketing services and competitive information." All in favor.**

*[Only the Board of Trustees, President Hsu, President's Cabinet, William Veal, Liz Jurisich, Colin McGlynn, Peter Kenton, Board Staff and IT Staff remained for Executive Session. All others were put in the waiting room.]*

*[Lunch at 12:30 p.m.]*

*[At 1:10 p.m., only the Board of Trustees, Chuck Baker and Paul Patrick remained for Executive Session.]*

*[At 1:43 p.m., the Board of Trustees, President Hsu, President's Cabinet, Board Staff and IT Staff returned to Executive Session.]*

**The motion was made by Trustee Craig Thornton, and seconded by Trustee Matt Klein, to come out of Executive Session at 4:00 p.m. All in favor.**

Chair Romberger noted that no action was taken in Executive Session.

*[Public Session resumed.]*

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING RECESSED**

Chair Romberger recessed the Board meeting until tomorrow morning, Tuesday, June 3, at 8:30 a.m. for breakfast and the Board meeting at 9:00 a.m.

### **TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025**

**Board Members Present** – Trustees Renée Romberger (chair), Laurin Burch, Beth Burke, Hank Futch, Darryl Fyall, Andy Gianoukos, Shawn Holland, Matt Klein, Toya Pound, Renée Romberger (secretary), Penny Rosner, Steve Swanson (vice chair), Tav Swarat, Craig Thornton, Ricci Welch (secretary), Derrick Williams and Neysa Williams

**Board Member(s) Absent** – Trustee Henrietta Golding and Brian Stern

**President's Cabinet Present** – President Andrew Hsu, Suzanne Austin, Chuck Baker, Mark Berry, Alicia Caudill, Katarina Fjording, Jimmie Foster, Dan Frezza, Courtney Howard, John Loonan, Michelle McGrew, Ron Menchaca, Paul Patrick, Matt Roberts and Mark Staples

**President's Cabinet Absent** – Brad Weiland

**Other Attendees Present** – Joh-nette Brown, Betty Craig, Elizabeth Kassebaum and Jesse Kunze

(Only attending Board Members, President Hsu, Chief of Staff, President's Cabinet, Board Office Staff, and others presenting or participating in the meetings are noted as attendees).

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING RECONVENED**

Chair Romberger reconvened the full Board meeting at 9:03 a.m.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

**The motion was made by Trustee Tav Swarat, and seconded by Trustee Derrick Williams, that the minutes of the April 15, 2025 Board of Trustees Special Meeting be approved as presented. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the Minutes were approved.**

#### **Recognition of Mark Staples Upon His Retirement**

In recognition of Mark Staples' retirement as Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer at the College of Charleston, Chair Romberger expressed appreciation for all that he and his team have accomplished and presented him with a small gift.

#### **Executive Session**

**The motion was made by Trustee Derrick Williams, and seconded by Trustee Toya Pound, to go into Executive Session at 9:06 a.m. for "Receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege", "Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed purchase/lease of property", "Employee records – legal matters and executive contract negotiations – personnel matters", Personnel matters – legal matters covered by**

**attorney-client privilege; and “Discussion of trade secrets (Section 30-4-40) where public disclosure would expose commercially valuable plans, marketing services and competitive information.” All in favor.**

*[Only the Board of Trustees, President Hsu, Chuck Baker, Mark Berry, Elizabeth Kassebaum and Paul Patrick remained for Executive Session. Trustee David Hay participated via Zoom.]*

*[At 10:10 a.m., President’s Cabinet, Board Staff and IT Staff joined Executive Session.]*

### **MOTION TO LEAVE EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**The motion was made by Trustee Toya Pound, and seconded by Trustee Derrick Williams, to come out of Executive Session at 11:43 a.m. All in favor.**

Chair Romberger noted that no action was taken in Executive Session.

*[Public Session resumed.]*

*[Lunch – Trustee Penny Rosner delivered the prayer.]*

### **CHAIR ROMBERGER’S “WRAP UP” DURING LUNCH**

- Fall 2025 Board of Trustees Charleston Experience
  - Behind the scenes tour of a theatre production
  - Bee Keeping at Stono Preserve
  - Archaeology field experience
  - Boeing tour
  - Rita planetarium tour

Elizabeth Kassebaum will send the Board of Trustees an email in early August so they can note their preferences for the BOT Charleston Experience.

- Visioning topics for 2025 quarterly Board of Trustees meetings:
  - August Meeting – Collaboration/Partnerships
  - October Meeting – Facilities Management Overview

Chair Romberger encouraged everyone to attend the Board meetings in person, noting that the meetings are more effective as a group when in person.

And finally, Chair Romberger noted that the team’s dashboard information will be presented at the August Board meeting.

### **Housekeeping Items**

Elizabeth Kassebaum shared a few housekeeping items:

### **Confirmed 2026 Board Meeting Dates:**

January 14-15-16, 2026 (Wednesday, Thursday & Friday)

March 25-26-27, 2026 (Wednesday, Thursday & Friday)

May 18-19, 2026 – New Board Member Orientation

May 28, 2026 (Budget Committee Budget Workshop)

May 31, June 1-2, 2026 (Monday & Tuesday)  
August 19-20-21, 2026 (Wednesday, Thursday & Friday)  
October 14-15-16, 2026 (Wednesday, Thursday & Friday)

**Motion to Adjourn**

**The motion was made by Trustee Craig Thornton, and seconded by Trustee Derrick Williams, that the meeting be adjourned at 11:49 a.m. All in favor.**