

(Approved at the April 11-12, 2024 BOT Meetings)

**COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON**  
**UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON, SC**  
April Board of Trustees Prep Meeting

Zoom Video Conference  
Randolph Hall Boardroom

Presiding:  
Renée B. Romberger, Chair, Board of Trustees

**THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2024**  
**11:00 a.m.**

**Board Members Present** – Trustee Renée Romberger (chair), Beth Burke and David Hay  
**Board Members Participating via Zoom** – Trustees Laurin Burch, Demetria Clemons, Hank Futch, Andy Gianoukos, Penny Rosner, Steve Swanson (vice chair), Tav Swarat, Craig Thornton, Ricci Welch (secretary), Neysa Williams and John Wood  
**Board Members Absent** – Trustees John Busch, Henrietta Golding, Shawn Holland, Toya Pound and Brian Stern  
**President’s Cabinet Present** – President Andrew Hsu, Suzanne Austin, Chuck Baker, Mark Berry, Alicia Caudill, John Loonan, and Paul Patrick  
**President’s Cabinet Participating via Zoom** – Courtney Howard, Ron Menchaca, John Morris and Mark Staples  
**President’s Cabinet Absent** – Jimmie Foster, Dan Frezza and Matt Roberts  
**Others Present** – Elizabeth Kassebaum, Betty Craig and Joh-nette Brown (IT Representative)

**Welcome/Call to Order**

Chair Romberger welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m. noting that the meeting notice has been posted and the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

“Welcome everyone to our first official “prep” meeting.

As I shared with everyone at the last Board meeting, we will continue the meeting traditionally held a week or so prior to each quarterly Board meeting, but it will be the ‘Board of Trustees Prep Meeting’ instead of the Board of Trustees Executive Committee Meeting.

All board members will participate in the ‘Prep’ meetings, giving them an opportunity to review and discuss their respective committee’s agenda items for the upcoming Board meeting.”

### **March 1, 2024 Executive Committee Meeting Report**

Chair Romberger informed the Board that the newly organized Executive Committee met on Friday, March 1, and discussed the committee meeting organization, had brief enrollment and Greek Life Updates, along with an update on the Athletics Landscape. All Board members will receive similar and updated information in the committee meetings next week.

### **Highlights of April 11-12, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting**

Many Board members have spoken regarding the importance of ending the Board meetings by 2:00 p.m. on Friday to allow out-of-town Board members to return home within a reasonable time. To that end, Chair Romberger shared her thoughts regarding keeping the Board meetings on schedule.

“As you will recall, our committee meetings sometimes have extended beyond the scheduled time(s). To remedy that going forward, I would like to ask the Committee Chairs to manage their committee meetings within the allotted time. If there are topics that require extended discussion, I recommend the Committee Chairs suggest the topic/discussion be continued at a later date or continue the discussion by delaying another presentation in your committee meeting until the next Board of Trustees meeting. My goal is not to cut off discussion that is important to the Board.”

Then Chair Romberger shared a brief recap of the full Board meeting presentations/reports/events for the April 11-12, 2024 Board meeting:

Thursday’s Schedule includes:

- Thursday’s meeting will begin with the Student Affairs and Athletics; Academic Affairs; and Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee meetings in Alumni Hall, followed by a presentation during lunch by Provost Suzanne Austin regarding “Student Success – Improving Retention and Graduation Rates”.
- Following lunch, Board members will take a Campus History Tour of Recent Research and Discoveries.
- Following the tour, they will return to Alumni Hall for the Audit & Governance; Access, Equity and Inclusion; and Development, Alumni, Governmental and External Relations Committee meetings.
- The Board meeting will recess at approximately 5:10 p.m. until Friday morning to attend dinner with the School of the Arts (SOTA) Council in the CATO Center at 6:00 p.m., followed by “The Importance of Being Earnest” Dress Rehearsal at The Chapel Theatre.

Friday’s Schedule includes:

- Friday’s meeting will begin with a “Moment in History” presentation.
- Reports from the Foundation Board Chair, Alumni Association Board President, the Charleston Athletic Fund President, Faculty Senate Chair, and the Staff Advisory Committee to the President Chair.
- Board meeting will continue with the Board of Trustees Committee Chairs’ reports; committee resolutions/motions, as needed, for the Board’s consideration/approval; the President’s Report; the Board Chair’s Report; and Executive Session.
- Adjournment at approximately 2:00 p.m.

### **Board Committee Reports**

Board Committee Chairs/Vice Chairs gave brief committee reports regarding their respective committees for the April 11-12, 2024 Board of Trustees meetings.

- Student Affairs Committee Report – Committee Vice Chair Craig Thornton
- Academic Affairs Committee Report – Committee Chair Penny Rosner
- Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee Report – Committee Chair Laurin Burch
- Audit and Governance Committee Report – Committee Vice Chair Tav Swarat
- Access, Equity and Inclusion Committee – Committee Vice Chair Penny Rosner
- Development, Alumni, Governmental Affairs and External Relations (DAGER) Committee Report – Committee Chair Beth Burke

### **Brief Update on Board Elections**

Chair Romberger asked Paul Patrick to give an update regarding the 2022 Board Elections.

- Senate passed a Resolution to have elections on April 17.
- The House has been on furlough this week.
- We won't know for certain until the House returns on Tuesday.
- On Tuesday, we will know if there will be an election this year for those who have already been screened for terms ending in 2022.
- The election does not include terms ending in 2024 (will not be dealt with this year).
- Board of Trustees will continue to serve until they make a decision.
- Terms will begin the day of the election.

### **Student Demonstration at Noon Today in Cistern Yard**

President Hsu informed the Board regarding a student demonstration scheduled for today at noon in Cistern Yard regarding proposed legislation regarding DEI.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

The motion was made by Trustee Beth Burke, and seconded by Trustee David Hay, that the meeting be adjourned at 11:29 a.m. All in favor.