(Approved at August 20-21, 2026 Board of Trustees Meeting)

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON
UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON, SC

Board of Trustees Meeting
March 26-27, 2026

Tate 202/Zoom Video Conference

Presiding:
Renée Romberger, Chair, Board of Trustees

Trustee Laurin Burch, Chair, Finance Committee
Trustee David Hay, Chair, Property Committee
Trustee Matt Klein, Chair, Academic Affairs Committee
Trustee Neysa Williams, Chair, Student Success Committee
Trustee Shawn Holland, Athletics Committee
Trustee Tav Swarat, Chair, Advancement Committee
Trustee Beth Burke, Chair, Governance Committee

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2026
8:30 a.m.

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

President's Cabinet Member(s) 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, Sasan Poureetezadi, Matt Roberts and Brad Weiland*

Other Attendees Present *– Joh-nette Brown, Peggy Cieslikowski, Jason Coy, Betty Craig, Michelle Futrell, Mary Green, Dan Guttentag, Elizabeth Kassebaum, David King (IT), Chris Korey, Jesse Kunze, Lance Laidlaw, Cathy Mahan, Kevin McCord, Kendra Stewart 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

Welcome
Chair Romberger called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. noting that the meeting notice has been posted and the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

BOT Meeting Policy
Chair Romberger reminded everyone that in accordance with our BOT Meeting Policy, we follow Robert's Rules of Order, and the Chair recognizes Board members for comments. Others in attendance are asked not to address the Board in any fashion unless called upon by the Board Chair.

President's Report
"The College of Charleston has recently hosted several events and developments, including a talk by the president of Princeton on free speech and partnering with the Gibbes Museum to host the president of Yale. Lowcountry philanthropists Anita Zucker and Ben Navarro have also spoken in classes and engaged with students, providing valuable perspectives and opportunities for learning. The Center for Public Choice and Market Processes is currently hosting Adam Smith Week, featuring best-selling author Matt Ridley.

The College has made good progress on the public launch of its campaign, and early numbers for recruitment season are looking strong. Academically, there are several exciting new academic programs being considered, including a partnership opportunity with Medical University of South Carolina and graduate certificates designed to meet clear and growing industry demand in the financial sector. Greek life has also been found to have a positive impact on student success.

The budget update underscores the College's fiscal strength and disciplined approach that continues to position it well for the future. John Loonan, who has served as a steady hand at the wheel and helped position the institution for continued success, will be retiring soon. The women's basketball team made history this season by representing the College in March Madness for their first-ever appearance.

Advancement is proving to be a powerful engine propelling the College to new heights, with Chief Advancement Officer Dan Frezza and his team having an incredible CofC Day and a remarkable year of giving so far. The trustees are thanked for their continued engagement and support of their alma mater, which has helped make the College exceptionally well-positioned for success."

ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING (with Vision, Strategy and Priorities Session during Executive Session – "The Campaign")

Committee Member(s) – *Trustees Tav Swarat (chair), Derrick Williams (vice chair), Beth Burke, Henrietta Golding (zoom), Matt Klein, Steve Swanson, Neysa Williams (zoom), Renée Romberger (ex officio) and Andrew Hsu (ex officio, non-voting))*

Call to Order – *Committee Chair Tav Swarat*

Approval of Minutes
The motion was made by Trustee Beth Burke, and seconded by Trustee Derrick Williams, that the minutes of the January 15, 2026 Advancement Committee Meeting be approved. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the minutes were approved.

Executive Session
The motion was made by Trustee Derrick Williams, and seconded by Trustee Matt Klein, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of "Discussion of trade secrets and receipt of legal advice relating to Campaign and Naming Opportunities". All in favor.

T**he motion was made by Trustee Beth Burke, and seconded by Trustee Matt Klein, to come out of Executive Session. All in favor.**

Committee Chair Swarat noted that no action was taken in Executive Session when the Board reviewed plans for the Campaign and a naming opportunity.

Information/Discussion Items

- University Communications Update – *Ron Menchaca*
  - Teachable Moments – analytics for the College's weekly program on SC Public Radio
  - Media placements
  - The Conversation – highlights and analytics from our first three years as members

Motion to Consider Naming Opportunity

Upon careful review of all of the associated issues, the Administration recommends the Board of Trustees make a motion to consider naming the Cougar Food Pantry in honor of Dr. Stanley Kaplan and Mrs. Pamela Kaplan.

The motion was made by Trustee Derrick Williams, and seconded by Trustee Steve Swanson, to approve the Administration's recommendation to name the Cougar Food Pantry in honor of Dr. Stanley Kaplan and Mrs. Pamela Kaplan. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion passed. All in favor.

Motion to Adjourn

The motion was made by Trustee Beth Burke, and seconded by Trustee Derrick Williams, that the Advancement Committee meeting be adjourned. All in favor.

[Short Break]

VISION, STRATEGY AND PRIORITIES SESSIONS (Public Session)

- Bachelor of Professional Studies (BPS) – *Michelle Futrell, Director*
- Tourism – *Dan Guttentag, Director*
- Riley Center – *Kendra Stewart, Director*

FULL BOARD EXECUTIVE SESSION DURING LUNCH

The motion was made by Trustee Ricci Welch, and seconded by Trustee Beth Burke, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of "Personnel matters – legal matters covered by attorney-client privilege and proposed contractual arrangements". All in favor.

T**he motion was made by Trustee Ricci Welch, and seconded by Trustee Beth Burke, to come out of Executive Session. All in favor.**

Chair Romberger noted that no action was taken in Executive Session when the Board reviewed Athletics Department Finances.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING RECESSED

Chair Romberger recessed the full Board meeting and Board members departed for the three "BOT Connections" sessions for today's meeting.

“BOT CONNECTIONS” SESSIONS (formerly “Talk Abouts”)

(1) School of Health Sciences (Faculty) – *Dean Wes Dudgeon*
(2) First-Year Experience Class (Students) – *Chris Korey*
(3) Campus Services (Staff) – *Ashleigh Parr*

Upon return from the “BOT Connections” sessions, Board members reported on their respective tours.

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee Members – Trustees Shawn Holland (chair), Andy Gianoukos (vice chair), Laurin Burch, Hank Futch, David Hay, Toya Pound, Craig Thornton (zoom), Derrick Williams, Renée Romberger (ex officio) and Andrew Hsu (ex officio, non-voting)

Call to Order – *Committee Chair Shawn Holland*

Approval of Minutes

The motion was made by Trustee Derrick Williams, and seconded by Trustee Toya Pound, that the minutes of the January 15, 2026 Athletics Committee Meeting be approved. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the Minutes were approved.

Athletics Updates

- Women’s Basketball Team Recognition – *Matt Roberts*
  - Proposed Resolution/Proclamation of the Board of Trustees Recognizing the CofC Women’s Basketball Team – *Shawn Holland*

RESOLUTION/PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES RECOGNIZING THE COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON WOMEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM

WHEREAS, the College of Charleston Cougars women's basketball team achieved a historic milestone by earning the program’s **first-ever berth in the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Tournament**, marking a significant moment for the College and the Charleston community; and

WHEREAS, the Cougars compiled a remarkable **27–6 record**, the most wins in program history at the Division I level, demonstrating excellence, resilience, and dedication throughout the season; and

WHEREAS, the Cougars secured the **Coastal Athletic Association Tournament Championship** with a decisive **68-56 victory over the Hofstra Pride women’s basketball team** on March 15 at CareFirst Arena; and

WHEREAS, outstanding performances by **Taryn Barbot**, **Taylor Barbot**, and **Grace Ezebilo helped propel the Cougars to victory**, with Taryn Barbot earning **CAA Tournament Most Valuable Player honors**; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Head Coach **Robin Harmony and the Women’s Basketball Coaching Program Assistants and Staff**, the Cougars have demonstrated exceptional teamwork, perseverance, and commitment to excellence both on and off the court; and

WHEREAS, the Cougars represented the College and the Lowcountry on the national stage as the **No. 14 seed** in the Sacramento Region of the NCAA Tournament when they faced the **No. 3 seed Duke Blue Devils women’s basketball team,** champions of the Atlantic Coast Conference, in the opening round on **March 20** at historic Cameron Indoor Stadium; and

WHEREAS, the Cougars performed an outstanding game against one of the most talented teams in the country and represented the College of Charleston on the NCAA’s national stage; and

WHEREAS, this historic achievement reflects the dedication of the student-athletes, coaching staff, athletics administration, and the unwavering support of the College of Charleston community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees proudly congratulates the **College of Charleston Women's Basketball Team** for capturing the Coastal Athletic Association Championship and earning the program's **first appearance in the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board commends the players, coaches, and support staff for their outstanding accomplishments and for representing the College of Charleston with distinction, pride, and integrity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees extends its best wishes to the Cougars for continued success in the future, inspiring the College of Charleston community and future generations of student-athletes.

ADOPTED this 27th day of March, 2026.

Shawn Holland, Chair of the Athletics Committee of the Board of Trustees

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Renée Romberger, Chair of the Board of Trustees

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Andrew Hsu, President

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Community Engagement – *Matt Roberts*

- New Revenue Opportunities
  - Uniform Sponsorships
  - Arena Naming Rights Renewal
  - TD Arena New Court Sponsorship
  - TD Arena Premium Seating Study
  - TD Arena Concerts/Special Events

Executive Session – *No Executive Session Items*

Motion to Consider/Approve Resolution/Proclamation of the Board of Trustees Recognizing the College of Charleston Women's Basketball Team

Upon careful review of all of the associated issues, the Administration recommends the Board of Trustees make a motion to approve the Resolution/Proclamation of the Board of Trustees Recognizing the College of Charleston Women's Basketball Team as presented.

The motion was made by Trustee Andy Gianoukos, and seconded by Trustee Derrick Williams, that the Resolution/Proclamation of the Board of Trustees Recognizing the College of Charleston Women's Basketball Team be approved as presented. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion passed. All in favor.

<u>Motion to Adjourn</u>

The motion was made by Trustee Toya Pound, and seconded by Trustee Hank Futch , that the Athletics Committee meeting be adjourned. All in favor.

STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee Members – Trustees Neysa Williams (chair), Hank Futch (vice chair), Beth Burke, Darryl Fyall, Shawn Holland, Toya Pound, Penny Rosner, Ricci Welch, Renée Romberger (ex officio) and Andrew Hsu (ex officio, non-voting)

Call to Order – *Committee Chair Neysa Williams*

Approval of Minutes

The motion was made by Trustee Shawn Holland, and seconded by Trustee Hank Futch, that the minutes of the January 15, 2026 Student Success Committee Meeting be approved. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the minutes were approved.

Student Government Highlights

- Student Government Association President – *Simon Adams*
- Graduate Student Association – *Dylan McGuire*

Student Wellness and Wellbeing Updates – *Alicia Caudill*

- Academic Year Data Overview
- New Initiatives

Fraternity and Sorority Life Updates – *Alicia Caudill*

- Retention Data for Fraternity and Sorority Members
- IFC Student Insights
  - Paco Barcia, IFC President
  - Hudson Adams, IFC Vice President
  - Jackson Shearn, Pi Kapa Phi President

Executive Session - *No Executive Session Items*

Motion to Adjourn

The motion was made by Trustee Toya Pound, and seconded by Trustee Penny Rosner , that the Student Success Committee meeting be adjourned. All in favor.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee Member(s) – Trustees Laurin Burch (chair), Darryl Fyall (vice chair), Andy Gianoukos, Henrietta Golding, David Hay, Matt Klein, Brian Stern, Steve Swanson, Craig Thornton, Derrick Williams, Renée Romberger (ex officio) and Andrew Hsu (ex officio, non-voting)

Call to Order – *Committee Chair Laurin Burch*

Approval of Minutes

The motion was made by Trustee Matt Klein, and seconded by Trustee Steve Swanson, that the minutes of the January 16, 2026 Finance Committee Meeting be approved. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the Minutes were approved.

Before turning the meeting over to John Loonan, Committee Chair Burch thanked John for his extraordinary service to the College of Charleston. "As you know, John will be departing the College in the middle of April to begin work as the Head of Business Affairs at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Our loss is their gain! While Renée, Andrew and I will present John with a small token of appreciation at the close of the Finance Committee meeting today, I just wanted to take a moment to let him know how much I have enjoyed working with him over the past few years. Thank you, John! And, of course, everyone is invited to John's Farewell Reception on Tuesday, March 31, at 4:00 p.m. at the President's House."

Information/Discussion Items

- Budget & Finance Review – *John Loonan*
  - Board of Trustees February 28, 2026 Month-End Budget Status Report
  - 3rd Quarter Expense Analysis
- Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Timeline & Highlights
- Capital Projects Update
- Fiscal Year 2027 Fee Change Proposals
  - School of the Arts – Studio Art Course Fee Increase
    (from $75 to $100 Per Course)
  - School of the Arts – Applied Music Lesson Fee Increase
    (1 Credit hour course from $225 to $450; 2 Credit hours course from $300 to $600)
  - School of Health Sciences – CofC/MUSC Joint Bachelor of Science in Nursing Fee
    ($150 Per Student/Per Semester)
  - iCharleston Commitment Fee Proposal (New)
    (from $400 to $1,000 one-time fee to enroll)

Executive Session – *No Executive Session Items*

Motion to Consider School of the Arts Studio Art Course Fee Increase Proposal (Resolution)

Upon careful review of all the associated issues, the Administration recommends the Board of Trustees make a motion to approve the School of the Arts Studio Art Course Fee Increase Resolution as presented.

School of the Arts Studio Art Course Fee

College of Charleston
Resolution of the Board of Trustees

School of the Arts Studio Art Course Fee

DATE: July 1, 2026

Whereas, studio art courses at the College of Charleston require specialized equipment, materials, and facilities that support hands-on artistic practice and instruction;

Whereas, the studio art course fee helps support access to industry-standard tools and materials, equipment maintenance and replacement, software used in digital art creation, and the disposal of hazardous materials associated with studio operations;

Whereas, adjusting the studio art course fee will help sustain instructional quality and maintain access to the tools and technologies required for contemporary art education;

NOW THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approves an increase to the School of the Arts Studio Art Course Fee from **$75 to $100 per student per course per semester**, effective **Fall 2026**.

The motion was made by Trustee Steve Swanson, and seconded by Trustee Derrick Williams, that the School of the Arts Studio Art Course Fee Resolution be approved as presented. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion was approved. All in favor.

<u>Motion to Consider School of the Arts Applied Music Lesson Fee Increase Proposal</u> (Resolution)
Upon careful review of all the associated issues, the Administration recommends the Board of Trustees make a motion to approve the School of the Arts Applied Music Lesson Fee Increase Resolution as presented.

School of the Arts Applied Music Lesson Fee

College of Charleston
Resolution of the Board of Trustees

School of the Arts Applied Music Lesson Fee

DATE: July 1, 2026

Whereas, the College of Charleston's School of the Arts provides applied music instruction that includes individualized lessons delivered by qualified instructors as a core component of music education;

Whereas, applied music instruction requires significant faculty time, specialized instruction, and dedicated facilities to support student learning and performance preparation;

Whereas, adjusting the applied music lesson fee will help align the fee with program costs, maintain competitive instructor compensation, sustain educational quality, and reduce the subsidy from general operating funds;

NOW THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approves an increase to the School of the Arts Applied Music Lesson Fee as follows:

- 1-credit applied music lesson fee increased from **$225 to $300 per student per semester**
- 2-credit applied music lesson fee increased from **$450 to $600 per student per semester**

effective beginning **Fall 2026**.

The motion was made by Trustee Steve Swanson, and seconded by Trustee Henrietta Golding, that the School of the Arts Applied Music Lesson Fee Resolution be approved as presented. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion was approved. All in favor.

<u>Motion to Consider CofC/MUSC Joint Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program Fee Proposal</u> (Resolution)
Upon careful review of all the associated issues, the Administration recommends the Board of Trustees make a motion to approve the CofC/MUSC Joint Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program Fee Proposal as presented.

College of Charleston/Medical University of South Carolina Joint Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program Fee

College of Charleston
Resolution of the Board of Trustees

College of Charleston/Medical University of South Carolina Joint Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program Fee

DATE: July 1, 2026

Whereas, the College of Charleston partners with the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) to support a joint Bachelor of Science in Nursing program designed to prepare students for careers in the healthcare field;

Whereas, participation in the joint program requires coordination of academic resources, advising support, and administrative services that support student success in the program;

Whereas, establishing a program fee will help support the administrative and programmatic costs associated with managing and sustaining the joint nursing program;

NOW THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees is hereby informed of the implementation **of a COFC/MUSC Joint Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program Fee of $150 per student per semester for students participating in the joint nursing program, effective Fall 2026.**

The motion was made by Trustee Darryl Fyall, and seconded by Trustee Andy Gianoukos, that the CofC/MUSC Joint Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program Fee Proposal be approved as presented. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion was approved. All in favor.

<u>Motion to Consider SAC Staff Award Monetary Distribution Change</u>

Upon careful review of all the associated issues, the Administration recommends the Board of Trustees make a motion to approve the SAC Staff Award Monetary Distribution Change to the Cougar Rising Award by deleting one $500 award and increasing another award by $500, with no net change in the Cougar Rising Award.

The motion was made by Trustee Derrick Williams, and seconded by Trustee Darryl Fyall, that the SAC Staff Award Monetary Distribution Change to the Cougar Rising Award be approved as presented. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion was approved. All in favor.

<u>John Loonan's Gift Presentation</u>

Committee Chair Burch recognized John Loonan and presented him with a special gift of two stemless wine glasses for his years of service to the College as Chief Financial Officer. "On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we appreciate your conservative approach which helped to get the College on sound financial grounds. We thank you!"

[Photo of President Hsu, Chair Romberger, Trustee Laurin Burch and John Loonan.]

<u>Motion to Adjourn</u>

The motion was made by Trustee Matt Klein, and seconded by Trustee Derrick Williams, that the Finance Committee meeting be adjourned. All in favor.

<u>GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING</u>

<u>Committee Member(s)</u> – Trustees Beth Burke (chair), Penny Rosner (vice chair), Laurin Burch, Darryl Fyall, Brian Stern, Tav Swarat, Ricci Welch and Renée Romberger (ex-officio)

<u>Call to Order</u> – *Committee Chair Beth Burke*

<u>Approval of Minutes</u>

The motion was made by Trustee Ricci Welch, and seconded by Trustee Laurin Burch, that the minutes of the January 15, 2026 Governance Committee Meeting be approved. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the Minutes were approved.

<u>Information Items</u>

- CHE Council of Board Chairs Meeting Report – *Trustee Henrietta Golding*
- Receipt of Annual BOT Ethics Disclosure Form and Statement of Commitment, Code of Conduct and Oath of Office Signatures – *Committee Chair Beth Burke*

<u>Board of Trustees Signed Ethics Disclosure Form and Oath of Office, Code of Conduct and Statement of Commitment</u>

Committee Chair Burke reminded everyone that at the January 27, 2017 Board of Trustees meeting, the Board approved the annual completion by every Board member of the Disclosure of Ethics Compliance Form, certifying each respective member's full compliance with the State Ethics Act and all related procedures and regulations, including related College of Charleston policies and procedures.

"In addition, after diligent examination of USC's Code of Conduct and Clemson University's Board of Trustees Manual Appendix E (Trustee Code of Conduct and Responsibilities) and other good governance and best practices research, on August 6, 2021, the Board adopted similar principles in its own College of Charleston Board of Trustees "Oath of Office, Code of Conduct and Statement of Commitment."

Before asking all Board members to sign both documents, Committee Chair Burke called their attention to a few items in the document to be included in our meeting minutes.

"By signing this Code of Conduct and Statement of Commitment, I endorse and accept the important responsibilities that define my role as a member of the Board. Accordingly, I hereby affirm and publicly commit to the following guiding principles and core values:

#2: The Board acts in a transparent, honest, fair and respectful manner.
#3: One that is committed to goodwill and dedicated to sustaining the trust and support for the College of Charleston constituency stakeholders.
#4: A Board member maintains a spirit of civility and avoids being a disruptive member of the fiduciary body."

Board members signed both documents indicating their endorsement and acceptance of each responsibility. Elizabeth Kassebaum collected all signed forms and sent forms to the Board members participating in the meeting via zoom.

- Governmental Relations Report – *Paul Patrick*

Executive Session - *No Executive Session Items*

Motion to Adjourn
The motion was made by Trustee Ricci Welch, and seconded by Trustee Darryl Fyall, that the Governance Committee meeting be adjourned at 4:58 p.m. All in favor.

Board of Trustees Meeting Recessed Until Tomorrow Morning
Board of Trustees Meeting recessed until tomorrow morning at 8:30 a.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2026

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING RECONVENED

Board Member(s) Present – *Trustees Renée Romberger (Chair), Laurin Burch, Beth Burke, Hank Futch, Darryl Fyall, David Hay, Matt Klein, Steve Swanson (Vice Chair), Tav Swarat and Derrick Williams*

Board Member(s) via Zoom – *Trustees Andy Gianoukos, Henrietta Golding, Shawn Holland, Toya Pound, Penny Rosner, Brian Stern, Craig Thornton, Ricci Welch (Secretary) and Neysa Williams*

President's Cabinet Member(s) 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, Sasan Poureetezadi, Matt Roberts and Brad Weiland*

<u>Other Attendees Present</u> **–** *Joh-nette Brown, Betty Craig, Bruce Fleming (First Year International Programs & Experience), George Fraggos, JoAnna Gilmore (for Property Committee), Mary Green, Jason Grimes, Liz Jurisich, Elizabeth Kassebaum, Jesse Kunze, Kevin McCord, Laurie Minges, Keith Sauls and Jeff Woraratanadharm*

(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).

<u>Call to Order/Welcome</u>

Chair Romberger reconvened the Board meeting at 8:39 a.m. and welcomed everyone attending the meeting.

<u>BOT Meeting Policy</u>

Chair Romberger reminded everyone that in accordance with our BOT Meeting Policy, we follow Robert's Rules of Order, and the Chair recognizes Board members for comments. Others in attendance are asked not to address the Board in any fashion unless called upon by the Board Chair.

<u>Executive Session</u>

The motion was made by Trustee Tav Swarat, and seconded by Trustee Derrick Williams, to go into Executive Session at 8:40 a.m. for the "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 receipt of legal advice concerning the new Business School Building"; "Employee records – legal matters and executive contract negotiations – personnel matters"; Personnel matters – legal matters covered by attorney-client privilege"; and "Discussion of trade secrets and receipt of legal advice relating to or concerning Enrollment Management and Campaign and Naming Opportunities". All in favor.

The motion was made by Trustee Derrick Williams, and seconded by Trustee Tav Swarat, to come out of Executive Session 9:58 a.m. All in favor.

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

<u>Alumni Association Board President, Foundation Board Chair and Charleston Athletic Fund President Reports</u>

Laurie Minges, President of the Alumni Association Board; Keith Sauls, Chair of the Foundation Board; and Alan Uram, President of the Charleston Athletic Fund, presented their respective Board Reports.

Chair Romberger presented Laurie Minges with a small token of appreciation for her service to the College. *[Photo of Chair Romberger, President Hsu, Laurie Minges and Trustee Tav Swarat.]*

Chair Romberger presented Keith Sauls with a small token of appreciation for his service to the College. *[Photo of Chair Romberger, President Hsu, Keith Sauls, Trustee Tav Swarat and Dan Frezza.]*

<u>Faculty Senate Report</u>

Liz Jurisich, Speaker of the Faculty Senate, gave the Faculty Senate Report on behalf of the Faculty.

<u>Staff Advisory Committee Report</u>
Jeff Woraratanadharm, Chair of the Staff Advisory Committee to the President, gave the Staff Advisory Committee Report on behalf of the Staff.

<u>"Moment of Mission" (formerly "Moment of History") Presentation</u> – *President Hsu*
For today's Moment of History and Mission, President Hsu addressed some good press the College recently received.

Before he talked about our most recent accolade, he first related an interesting story in our founding and our location.

"As you may know or not know, the establishment of colleges in South Carolina was discussed throughout the 1700s. The first plan was probably in 1707, with an early colonist, James Child, thinking of a school on the western branch of the Cooper River. In the 1720's, there were on-and-off-again discussions of establishing a school in Charleston between the lieutenant governor and religious leaders. But those talks went nowhere.

In 1748, interest in higher education picked up again around the creation of the Charleston Library Society, which eventually led to legislation being passed in 1770, with land being granted to establish a school here in Charleston. In 1785, just two years after the close of the American Revolution, the General Assembly again took up the work to create a college – this time, chartering three schools – one in Ninety-Six, another in Winnsboro and one in Charleston.

Most people don't know that also in 1785, there was actually an effort by the Midlands legislators to put the sole college in Winnsboro. Unless you are from the Midlands, I don't think many people know where that is, and our institution certainly is very fortunate to be able to stay on the ground that was given to us back in 1770.

All that history leads me to say: place matters.

Earlier this month, *Southern Living* Magazine ranked Charleston third among college towns in the South. Charleston was listed behind two very highly regarded college towns – Athens, Georgia; and Chapel Hill, North Carolina – and ahead of Knoxville, Boone, Clemson, Gainesville, Lexington, Auburn and Oxford.

Let me read you the magazine's write-up on our city: "A city campus can be just as stunning as one spread our over lots of land – especially when its buildings are part of the striking historic architecture of downtown Charleston. College of Charleston students are privy to all the Holy City has to offer, from award-winning dining at places like Vern's, Chubby Fish, and Leon's Oyster Bar to memorable shopping to easy access to the water. There may not be a more idyllic location to get an education."

Many of the other colleges highlighted in these rankings are framed primarily around nightlife or bar-centered culture; by contrast, our inclusion reflects a more distinctive and positive narrative: one rooted in history, culture, livability and intellectual energy.

That we are the only non-football institution on the list further underscores that our appeal is not driven by game-day spectacle, but by the intrinsic strength of Charleston itself and the way our institution is woven into it.

In short, this recognition elevates both our brand and our value proposition: a top-tier academic experience in one of the most compelling and culturally rich environments in the country. This recognition is a powerful reflection of our "Moment of Mission" – the idea that the trajectory of the College of Charleston is deeply connected to the strength and distinctiveness of the place we call home. Charleston, South Carolina – with its history, cultural vitality and quality of life – serves as both a magnet and a multiplier for our institution. Our growing national reputation draws talented students, faculty and partners who are seeking not just an education, but an experience rooted in place. In turn, the College amplifies Charleston's intellectual and cultural capital, creating a mutually reinforcing relationship.

This is our 'Moment of Mission' in action: leveraging the power of Charleston's name recognition to elevate the College's impact, while ensuring that our academic excellence contributes meaningfully to the continued vitality of the city."

PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING

Trustee David Hay, Chair; Trustee Craig Thornton, Vice Chair

Committee Member(s) *– Trustees David Hay (chair), Hank Futch, Andy Gianoukos, Shawn Holland, Steve Swanson, Tav Swarat and Craig Thornton (vice chair); Renée Romberger (ex officio), Andrew Hsu (ex officio, non-voting)*

Call to Order – *Committee Chair David Hay*

Approval of Minutes

The motion was made by Trustee Tav Swarat, and seconded by Trustee Hank Futch, that the minutes of the January 16, 2026 Property Committee Meeting be approved. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the Minutes were approved.

Community Engagement Council Update

Courtney Howard, VP for Community Engagement, provided an update regarding the Community Engagement Council (CEC), the Community-based advisory and stewardship body that provides recommendations and feedback to the College's leadership regarding Project 205/106 Coming Street.

The CEC met in February:

- Monthly meeting (Archaeology 101 presentation)
- Request – detailed cost-benefit analysis supporting site selection
- Action – two official observers during recent 3D GPR
- Action – a group of members wrote a statement on meaningful engagement in response to the Board of Trustees' January resolution; signed by 10 members

The CEC met in March:

- Monthly meeting (Review of work plans and SHPO feedback)
- Decision – add one representative from Muscogee (Creek) Nation and allow one representative from each of the other 12 federally recognized tribal nations that were contacted by the College
- Decision – approved CEC mission, goals and objectives

Next CEC meeting is April 2.

<u>Property Reports</u> – *Paul Patrick*

- South Carolina 2026 Legislative Session Update
- Property Updates -
  - The College continues to work with the City regarding the Wentworth Garage.
  - The Stern Center Renovation is going fine – will be back up in Spring 2027.
  - 58 George Street is under active renovation.

<u>Executive Session</u> – *No Executive Session items*

<u>Motion to Adjourn</u>
The motion was made by Trustee Hank Futch, and seconded by Trustee Tav Swarat, that the Property Committee meeting be adjourned. All in favor.

<u>ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING</u>
Trustee Matt Klein, Chair; Trustee Toya Pound, Vice Chair

<u>Committee Member(s)</u> – *Trustees Matt Klein (chair), Toya Pound (vice chair), Darryl Fyall, Henrietta Golding, Penny Rosner, Brian Stern, Ricci Welch, Neysa Williams, Renée Romberger (ex officio) and Andrew Hsu (ex officio, non-voting)*

<u>Call to Order</u> – *Committee Chair Matt Klein*

<u>Approval of Minutes</u>
The motion was made by Trustee Darryl Fyall, and seconded by Trustee Toya Pound, that the minutes of the January 16, 2026 Academic Affairs Committee Meeting be approved. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the Minutes were approved.

<u>Provost's Report</u> – *Suzanne Austin*

- Dean Searches
  - School of Natural and Environmental Sciences
  - Graduate School and Associate Provost of Research
  - School of Education
- Program Update
  - Joint-Degree Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Program – *SOHS Dean Wes Dudgeon*

<u>Enrollment Planning Update</u> – *Jimmie Foster*

<u>Executive Session</u> – *No Executive Session items*

<u>Motion to Approve Establishment of a Joint-Degree Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Program</u>
Upon careful review of all the associated issues, the Administration recommends the Board of Trustees make a motion to approve the establishment of a joint-degree Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program in partnership with the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC).

The motion was made by Trustee Darryl Fyall, and seconded by Trustee Ricci Welch, that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a joint-degree Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program in partnership with the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC).

This approval is **contingent upon approval by the Faculty Senate at its April meeting.** Partner institution MUSC has already completed its faculty approval of the proposed program.

Upon the College's Faculty Senate approval, the College's administration is authorized to submit the BSN program to the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education for final review and approval.

The Board recognizes that the proposed joint-degree BSN program addresses important regional and statewide workforce development needs.

The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion was approved. All in favor.

<u>Motion to Approve Awarding of Degrees for May 2026 Graduates (Resolution)</u>
Upon careful review of all the associated issues, the Administration recommends the Board of Trustees make a motion to approve the Resolution on "Awarding Degrees for May 2026 Graduates".

The motion was made by Trustee Ricci Welch, and seconded by Trustee Darryl Fyall, that the Resolution "Awarding Degrees for May 2026 Graduates" be approved. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion was approved. All in favor.

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AWARDING OF DEGREES

March 27, 2026

WHEREAS, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §59-130-30 (9) the Board of Trustees of the College is constituted as a body corporate and politic and is empowered, among other things, to "confer degrees upon students and other persons as the board considers qualified;"

WHEREAS, the President has made available to the Board a preliminary list of candidates for the award of baccalaureate and graduate degrees from the several Schools of the College and the University of Charleston, South Carolina;

WHEREAS, each such candidate has been certified by the appropriate Dean, the Registrar, and the Provost, as Chief Academic Officer of the College, as meeting the requirements and prerequisites for the award of the appropriate degree upon the candidate's successful conclusion of the Spring 2026 Semester;

WHEREAS, the Board has accepted such representations and certifications as being true and accurate in all material respects and has determined that all such degree candidates are so qualified for the award of their respective degrees upon the successful conclusion of the Spring 2026 Semester; and

WHEREAS, all of the relevant degree-awarding programs of the College related to degrees to be awarded under this Resolution have been duly approved by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes the President to confer on each and all of the aforementioned described degree candidates who have successfully completed the Spring 2026 semester, the names of each of which shall be published in the Official Program for the May 2026 Graduation Ceremony, those degrees for which they have been found qualified, together with all the rights, honors, privileges and responsibilities appertaining thereto;

RESOLVED, that the President and the Provost, or either of them, may make such adjustments to the preliminary list of candidates for the award of baccalaureate and graduate degrees from the several Schools of the College and the University of Charleston, South Carolina, as may be necessary and appropriate to account for the actual academic performance of degree seeking candidates during the Spring 2026 semester; and

RESOLVED, that the President and Provost, and such employees as may be designated by both or either of them, are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all action as may be necessary and appropriate to implement this Resolution and effectuate its purposes.

Motion to Adjourn

The motion was made by Trustee Ricci Welch, and seconded by Trustee Brian Stern, that the Academic Affairs Committee meeting be adjourned. All in favor.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMITTEE CHAIRS' REPORTS

Committee Chairs gave brief reports of their respective committee meetings.

RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS FOR BOARD ACTION

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes for Board Action

The motion was made by Trustee Derrick Williams, and seconded by Trustee Toya Pound, that the minutes of the January 15-16, 2026 Board of Trustees Meeting be approved. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the Minutes were approved.

Committee Resolutions/Motions for Board Action

Board Committees met yesterday and today and there are two motions from the Academic Affairs Committee, one motion from the Advancement Committee; one motion from the Athletics Committee; and four motions from the Finance Committee.

Academic Affairs Committee

The Academic Affairs Committee moves that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a joint-degree Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program in partnership with the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) as presented at today's committee meeting.

This approval is **contingent upon approval by the Faculty Senate at its April meeting.** Partner institution MUSC has already completed its faculty approval of the proposed program.

Upon the College's Faculty Senate approval, the College's administration is authorized to submit the BSN program to the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education for final review and approval.

The Board recognizes that the proposed joint-degree BSN program addresses important regional and statewide workforce development needs. **The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion was approved. All in favor.**

The Academic Affairs Committee moves that the Board of Trustees approve the Resolution – "Awarding of May 2026 Degrees" as presented at today's committee meeting. The chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion passed. All in favor.

Advancement Committee

The Advancement Committee moves that the Board of Trustees approve naming the Cougar Food Pantry in honor of Dr. Stanley Kaplan and Mrs. Pamela Kaplan as presented at yesterday's committee meeting. The chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion passed. All in favor.

Athletics Committee

The Athletics Committee moves that the Board of Trustees approve the "Resolution/Proclamation of the Board of Trustees Recognizing the College of Charleston Women's Basketball Team" as presented at yesterday's committee meeting. The chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion passed. All in favor.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee moves that the Board of Trustees approve the Resolution – "School of the Arts Studio Art Course Fee" as presented at yesterday's committee meeting . The chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion passed. All in favor.

The Finance Committee moves that the Board of Trustees approve the Resolution – "School of the Arts Applied Music Lessons Fee" as presented at yesterday's committee meeting. The chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion passed. All in favor.

The Finance Committee moves that the Board of Trustees approve the Resolution – "College of Charleston/Medical University of South Carolina Joint B.S. Nursing Program Fee" as presented at yesterday's committee meeting. The chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion passed. All in favor.

The Finance Committee moves that the Board of Trustees approve the SAC Staff Award Monetary Distribution Change to the Cougar Rising Award by deleting one $500 award and increasing another award by $500, so no net change in the Cougar Rising Award" as presented at yesterday's committee meeting. The chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion passed. All in favor.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Romberger began her report by thanking the Board members for their continued service and leadership. "Higher education is not an easy business to be in right now – yet you give tirelessly to this university without any pay and oftentimes without recognition. Your service matters and it is greatly appreciated. Whether it is attending the conference basketball tournament, or representing the College at the CHE meeting, or shadowing a faculty member, your time is valuable and you have a choice of how to spend it. I recall when I first ran for the board and asked how much time it would take … the response I got was 'we have five board meetings a year'. That didn't seem overwhelming at all. Yet, here we are today, with four or five special called board meetings beyond the regular sessions, multiple foundation events, athletic events, community engagement work…. It's certainly not a five-meeting-a-year position! So I know the President joins me in saying 'thank you'."

Faculty Shadowing Program

Three Board Members participated in the Faculty Shadowing Program and Chair Romberger asked them to share a little bit about their experience.

- Darryl Fyall – "professors are appreciative of Board members' participation in the program. Students appreciate it as well and they ask questions."
- Matt Klein – shadowed three professors (different disciplines) – All were 100% supportive of the Board's work."
- Derrick Williams – "level of commitment of faculty and engagement with students is great."

Areas of Focus for the June Board Retreat

Chair Romberger noted two areas of focus for the June Board Retreat:

- Update on where we stand with our strategic priorities and what, if any, pivots will be made to ensure we reach our goals.
- Issue of Recruitment and yield (in-state and out-of-state)

Visioning Session at August Board of Trustees Meeting

Chair Romberger shared that our visioning session at the August Board meeting will focus on "All things AI".

Executive Session

The motion was made by Trustee Ricci Welch, and seconded by Trustee Tav Swarat, to go into Executive Session at 12:09 p.m. for the "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"; "Discussion of individual employment matters; and "Discussion of trade secrets where public disclosure would expose commercially valuable plans, marketing services and competitive information". All in favor.

The motion was made by Trustee Derrick Williams, and seconded by Trustee Darryl Fyall, to come out of Executive Session at 1:15 p.m. All in favor.

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

Motion to Adjourn

The motion was made by Trustee Steve Swanson, and seconded by Trustee Matt Klein, that the meeting be adjourned at 1:17 p.m. All in favor.