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University of South Carolina
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Health and Medical Affairs Committee

March 17, 2022

The Health and Medical Affairs Committee of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 17, 2022, in the Business & Education Building Conference Center at USC Aiken and by Microsoft Teams.

Committee members present were Mr. Hubert F. Mobley, Chair; Mr. Brian C. Harlan; Mr. Richard Jones Jr.; Mr. Miles Loadholt; Ms. Emma W. Morris; Mr. Mack I. Whittle Jr.; Dr. C. Dorn Smith III, Board Chair; and Mr. Thad H. Westbrook, Board Vice Chair. Dr. C. Edward Floyd participated by Microsoft Teams. Ms. Molly M. Spearman was absent.

Other Board members present were Mr. C. Dan Adams, Mr. Alex English, Ms. Rose Buyck Newton, Mr. Robin D. Roberts, and Mr. John C. von Lehe Jr. Mr. J. Egerton Burroughs, Mr. Toney J. Lister, Ms. Leah B. Moody, and Mr. Charles H. Williams participated by Microsoft Teams.

Also present were USC Columbia Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Audrey Korsgaard and USC Columbia Student Government President Mr. Alex Harrell.

Others in attendance were Interim President Harris Pastides; Secretary Cameron Howell; Vice President of Human Resources Caroline Agardy; USC College of Nursing

Dean Jeannette Andrews; Interim Vice President for Development Stacey Bradley; College of Social Work Interim Dean Teri Browne; Vice President for System Affairs Derham Cole; Interim Provost Stephen Cutler; Chief Audit Executive Pamela Dunleavy; Palmetto College Chancellor Susan Elkins; Associate Vice President of Finance and Budget Kelly Epting; University Architect and Associate Vice President of Facilities Derek Gruner; USC Upstate Chancellor Bennie Harris; USC Aiken Chancellor Daniel Heimmermann; Chief Executive Officer, USC Alumni Association Wes Hickman; University Controller Mandy Kibler; Executive Director of Economic Engagement Bill Kirkland; Director of Government Relations Derrick Meggie; Senior Athletics Director Chance Miller; USC Beaufort Chancellor Al Panu; General Counsel and Executive Director of Compliance Programs Terry Parham; Director of Government Relations Craig Parks; Chief Operating Officer Jeff Perkins; Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost Dennis Pruitt; University Treasurer, Associate Vice President and Chief of Staff for the Division of Administration and Finance Joe Sobieralski; Interim Vice President of Health and Well-Being Jason Stacy; Assistant Vice President of Media and External Engagement Jeff Stensland; Athletic Director Ray Tanner; Vice President for Communications Larry Thomas; Executive Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer Ed Walton; IT Production Manager Matt Warthen; and Board of Trustees staff Cary Graham.

OPEN SESSION

I. Call to Order

Chair Mobley called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance, and asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves. Secretary Howell confirmed Trustees joining by Microsoft Teams. Chair Mobley called on Mr. Stensland to introduce members of the

press. There were no members of the media in attendance.

Chair Mobley stated 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; and a quorum was present to conduct business.

II. UofSC Interim Vice President of Health and Well-Being Campus Health Update

Chair Mobley called on Interim Vice President of Health and Well-Being Jason Stacy to provide a campus health update. Dr. Stacy reviewed COVID case numbers from the beginning of the pandemic and during the Delta and Omicron waves. He stated the campus COVID positivity rate is currently below 3%. The University has recently relaxed the mask policy to allow maskless in-person meetings. High-risk individuals are encouraged to continue wearing a mask. USC will continue to remain vigilant in monitoring and follow evidence-based healthcare recommendations.

Dr. Stacy stated USC's vaccination rate has increased from 51.7% in August of 2021 to 72.2% as of March 2022.

Dr. Stacy provided an update on campus mental health and resources. Campus leaders attended a retreat in February focused on appropriate outreach to students, information distribution, and accessibility. Dr. Stacy discussed a new partnership with Christie Health that will increase USC's ability to reach and help students. Christie Health provides immediate crisis intervention, case managers, counselors, online applications, and multilingual counseling. Dr. Stacy stated all faculty and staff members are eligible for six free counseling visits.

Chair Mobley thanked Dr. Stacey and stated the update was received as information.

III. Report for the UofSC College of Nursing – Dean’s Update

Chair Mobley called on USC College of Nursing Dean Jeannette Andrews to provide a College of Nursing (CoN) update. Dr. Andrews reviewed program metrics, ranking comparisons, and faculty research statistics from 2013 and 2021, alongside goals for the next 5-7 years. Whereas the CoN had no National Institutes of Health ranking in 2013, it was ranked 35 in 2021. The 2027-2028 goal is to achieve a top-20 ranking. The number of doctoral prepared faculty has increased from 60% to 98.5%, and the number of tenured faculty has doubled from 11 to 22. Growth in faculty has helped achieve an increase in research funding, from \$687,000 in 2013 to \$4.2 million in 2022. The goal is to increase this amount to \$10 million by fiscal year 2027-2028.

The CoN has received *U.S. News* rankings three times in the past five years. The bachelor of science in nursing program is in the top 1% in the U.S. for the National Council of State Boards of Nursing licensure examination 1st-time pass rates.

Dr. Andrews presented information on CoN partnerships. The Prisma – READI to work pipeline program allows CoN students the opportunity to work under supervision at Prisma to help address the nursing shortage. Students that continue working at Prisma after graduation and stay for at least two years are eligible for a one-time loan repayment or bonus. Twenty-nine students participated in the 2021 pilot program.

The Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner workforce program offers CoN students the opportunity to receive scholarships funded by Blue Cross Blue Shield grants for nurses in rural areas who wish to go back to school to become nurse practitioners. Currently, there are 78 students enrolled in the program.

In 2021, the CoN entered into a memorandum of understanding with Claflin

University to allow Claflin graduates with a non-nursing bachelor degree an entry opportunity in the master of practice nursing program. Dr Andrews stated the CoN received \$1.5 million from Blue Cross Blue Shield for a Faculty Fellows program to assist with faculty shortage. Doctoral students who wish to hold faculty positions are employed and paid full-time for their work during the fellowship and will be hired as assistant professors after graduation.

Chair Mobley thanked Dean Andrews and stated the update was received as information.

IV. Report for the UofSC College of Social Work – Dean’s Update

Chair Mobley called on Interim Dean of the USC College of Social Work Teri Browne to provide a report for the USC College of Social Work (COSW). Dr. Browne began with an overview of the COSW programs. Founded in 1969, the College of Social Work is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and offers three degree programs. The bachelor of social work is one of six in the State, the master of social work is the largest of three in the State, and the doctoral program is the only one in the State of South Carolina. When reviewing enrollment, Dr. Browne stated that, while the master of social work program enrollment has declined, there has been a significant increase in undergraduate enrollment. The master program is in-person only, and trends have shown an overall decrease in in-person programs over the last five years.

Dr. Browne discussed field education and reviewed the types of field work settings, highlighting faculty research areas and major research partnerships throughout the state. Dr. Browne closed her presentation with an overview of ways the college can improve its ranking, emphasizing the need for a permanent Dean. The highest priority of the college is

to create an online master of social work program, although this cannot occur until after 2024, when the college has completed its reaccreditation process. Dr. Browne stated efforts will continue in the areas of public relations, faculty research, curriculum, student experience, alumni engagement, and community stakeholder engagement.

Chair Mobley thanked Dr. Browne and stated the update was received as information.

V. Health Sciences Deans' Retreat – Provost Update

Chair Mobley called on Interim Provost Stephen Cutler to present an overview of the Health Sciences Deans' Retreat held in November. Dr. Cutler state the retreat was attended by forty deans and chancellors from across the USC system. The group analyzed USC's health sciences programs including an assessment of program strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. Dr. Cutler presented an overview of findings, which were posted to the Board portal. He then reviewed comments provided by the group's consultant, David Nelson, M.D., Senior Vice President for Health Affairs at the University of Florida.

Dr. Cutler discussed plans for moving forward, including focusing on constituents, evaluating similar university models, and analyzing potential academic areas to strengthen. Dr. Cutler stated there would be a follow-up retreat scheduled to allow more conversations to continue the work and progress of the group.

Chair Mobley thanked Dr. Cutler and stated the update was received as information.

VI. Other Matters

Chair Mobley stated there was a need to approve the Health and Medical Affairs Committee's matrix. He called for a motion to adopt the general format and content of the HMAC matrix and dashboard for strategic reporting by HMAC schools, colleges, and

programs. Mr. Harlan made the motion and Ms. Morris seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Chair Mobley stated the motion would be presented on the Health and Medical Affairs Committee's written consent agenda for consideration at the next scheduled meeting of the full Board.

Chair Mobley called for other matters to come before the Committee. There were none.

VII. Adjournment

There being no other matters to come before the Committee, Chair Mobley adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cameron Howell
Secretary