

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF LANDER UNIVERSITY**

F. Mitchell Johnson Board Room  
Lander University  
Greenwood, South Carolina

Tuesday, March 7, 2017  
11:00 a.m.

**Presiding:** Mr. Jack Lawrence, Chair

**Members of the Board in Attendance:** Mr. Bobby Bowers  
Mrs. Holly Bracknell  
Mr. Cary Corbitt  
Dr. Linda Dolny  
Mr. Maurice Holloway  
Mr. Ray Hunt  
Mrs. Marcia Hydrick  
Ms. Catherine Lee  
Mr. Don Lloyd  
Dr. Peggy Makins  
Mr. Claude Robinson  
Dr. Robert Sabalis  
Ms. Angela Strickland  
Mrs. S. Anne Walker

Absent-

Mr. Robert Barber  
Dr. Dee Stone

**Others in Attendance:** President Richard E. Cosentino; Dr. David Mash, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Mr. Andy Benoit, Vice President for Enrollment and Access Management; Mr. H. Randall Bouknight, Vice President for Student Affairs; Mr. Adam Taylor, Vice President for Governmental Relations; Mr. Van Taylor, Interim Vice President for University Advancement; Mr. Brian Reese, Vice President and Athletic Director and Mr. Matt Braaten, Office of the President.

**Guests:** Mr. Tom Covar, Controller; Dr. Jason Lee, Chair, Faculty Senate; Ms. Megan Price, Director, University Relations and Publications; Ms. Deb Nygro, Assistant Director,

Relations and Publications; Ms. Ashley Lee, Incoming Chair, Faculty Senate; Mr. Brian Hamm, Assistant Vice President for Student Enrollment and Access Management; Dr. Holisa Wharton, Dean School of Nursing; Dr. Lucas McMillan, Dean College of Behavior and Social Sciences and Ariel Gilreath with the Index Journal.

Chair Lawrence stated for the record that the appropriate publicity for the meeting, in order to comply with the Freedom of Information Act, had been disseminated and this meeting was in compliance with that Act.

The regular meeting of the Lander University Board of Trustees was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Chair Lawrence who acknowledged and welcomed all guests. Chair Lawrence would like to point out that your travel voucher may be signed off and monies donated to The Lander Foundation.

Dates to Remember:

March 14-16, 2017 – SACSCOC Site Visit  
 May 6, 2017 – Spring Commencement  
 June 13, 2017 – June Board of Trustees Meeting

Statement of Economic Interests Forms are due on or before March 30.

**MINUTES:** IT WAS MOVED and seconded that the minutes of the last meeting, Tuesday December 13, 2016, be approved. Approved as amended with word “collection” be changed to “collective.” Approved with correction.

**PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS:** Chair Lawrence called upon President Cosentino for comments.

President Cosentino highlighted the following:

- Brookside renovation. Adam Taylor shared photos of the project. The goal for Fall 2017 is 100% occupancy.
- Compensation study being conducted. Further details to follow when the study is complete.
- Created a Staff Senate. The Staff Senate Chair will attend the September board meeting and give a report.
- Developed a diversity council. We will share more details about this council and their charge in a future board meeting.
- Moving forward with the Lander Leadership Academy. This program will follow best practices at other universities which will allow us to mentor our own faculty and staff.
- Anne Walker shared a list of commencement speakers from Highpoint University with Dr. Cosentino. Upon further review of those speakers and the expense, he

would like to have input and insight from our board members as to future speakers to consider for commencement.

- Purchase of 513 Grace Street due to the generous gift from Dr. Dee Stone. This project is close to campus and will allow us to expand the footprint of Lander University.
- Greek Life update to be given by Randy Bouknight at a future board meeting.
- Policy page is now on our website and we are actively working on adding new policies.
- Plans to recruit and hire a university attorney in order to handle issues that we have been outsourcing.
- Legislative budget request discussion – data were shared and discussion followed.
- Introduction and brief presentation by the following: Mr. Brian Reese, Athletics Director; Dr. Holisa Wharton, Dean School of Nursing; Dr. Lucas McMillan, Dean College of Behavioral & Social Sciences; and Mr. Brian Hamm, Assistant Vice President for Enrollment and Student Success.
- Dr. Cosentino discussed the level of excellence that we have in our leadership team and we will continue to recruit great talent.
- Discussion on fees at our June board meeting.
- Beginning renovation of Bearcat Lounge.
- Focus on our Career Center and internship opportunities.
- Dr. Cosentino is confident that we will be able to meet the challenges before us with our leadership team, faculty and staff.

**RECESS:** Chairman Lawrence called for a short recess.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:** Ms. Anne Walker reported on behalf of the Academic Affairs Committee. She called attention to the report from the Office of Academic Affairs, which had been distributed earlier. (A copy of the report will be made a part of the official minutes.) Ms. Walker highlighted the following:

- SACSCOC Accreditation Team will be on campus March 14-16, 2017.
- The following new programs are at various stages of approval in the CHE pipeline: Warfare, Military and Diplomatic Studies Certificate, B.S.; Chemistry with an emphasis in Forensic Science, B.S.; Criminology, B.F.A., Bachelor of Fine Arts, B.S.; Visual Art, with an emphasis in Business, B.S.; Chemistry, with an emphasis in Secondary Education

**GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE:** Mr. Don Lloyd called attention to the report from Governmental Relations, which was distributed earlier. (A copy of the report will be made a part of the official minutes.) Mr. Lloyd highlighted the following:

- Adam Taylor is accomplishing great things on behalf of the university.

**FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE:** Mr. Don Lloyd called attention to the report from the Finance and Facilities Committee, which had been distributed earlier. (A copy of the report will be made a part of the official minutes). Mr. Lloyd highlighted the following:

- Appreciation to Greg Lovins, Vice President for Business and Administration and his team for their stewardship and leadership.
- Information technology and security cameras are being reviewed. The team was commended for their work on these projects.

Mr. Lloyd stated that the Finance and Facilities Committee had one action item to bring before the Board for approval as a recommendation out of committee. He then presented the following action item:

**1. Proposed Amendment to the FY2016-2017 Budget:**

IT WAS MOVED that the proposed budget amendment be approved as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE:** Mr. Cary Corbitt called attention to the report from the Office of University Advancement, which had been distributed earlier. (A copy of the report will be made a part of the official minutes.) Mr. Corbitt highlighted the following:

- Continue to implement comprehensive fundraising strategies for qualification, cultivation and solicitation of gifts and pledges.
- Goal to facilitate and strengthen corporate and foundation partnerships for Lander.
- Continue to build the university endowment.
- Increase private giving from alumni, individuals, corporations, businesses and private foundations.
- Strengthen our corporate relationships in the community.
- Serve as a resource to faculty and staff to facilitate and assist in submitting private funding proposals.
- Giving Report is a part of the official minutes. Please note that these are gifts received. We are no longer reporting in-kind gifts on this report.
- Personnel changes: Peggy Cromer now reports to Greg Lovins, Vice President for Business and Administration and Kathryn Dean has been hired as a part-time Administrative Assistant.
- Currently in the midst of our search for our Vice President of Advancement.
- Received resignation letters from Foundation Board members: John Pillman and Wes McAllister.

- Lander Foundation Investment Committee met on February 14, 2017.
- Samuel Lander Golf Classic has been scheduled for June 27, 2017.
- Eleanor Shiflet Teal Scholarship banquet has been scheduled for November 2, 2017.
- Lander Foundation Executive Committee approved the purchase of property located on 513 Grace Street.
- Lander Foundation Executive Committee approved loan modification with First Citizens Bank and Trust.
- Lander Foundation Executive Committee approved a modification for Dr. Cosentino's car allowance.

Discussion followed.

**INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS COMMITTEE:** Mr. Claude Robinson called attention to the report from Intercollegiate Athletics, which had been distributed earlier. (A copy of the report will be made a part of the official minutes.) Mr. Robinson highlighted the following:

- Thrilled with addition of Brian Reese as our new Athletic Director
- The athletic team's GPA average is 3.017
- New pilot program is underway - serving beer at several of our baseball games. We are partnering with Sports Break.
- Working on apparel agreement with Adidas.

Discussion followed.

**STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:** Mr. Claude Robinson called attention to the report from Student Affairs, which had been distributed earlier. (A copy of the report will be made a part of the official minutes.) Mr. Robinson highlighted the following:

- Report highlights all of the activities offered by the Office of Campus Recreation.
- Office of Housing & Residence Life: Brookside renovation is underway and housing applications are up 5%.
- There are 7 intramural sports available on campus.
- Currently 6 club sports teams.
- Office of Career Services continues to work on the internship program.
- Fitness Center served over 14,783 participants in Fall 2016.
- Homecoming week was a big success.
- Habitat House is in progress.

Discussion followed.

**ENROLLMENT AND ACCESS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:** Ms. Holly Bracknell called attention to the report from Enrollment and Access Management, which had been distributed earlier. (A copy of the report will be made a part of the official minutes.) Ms. Bracknell highlighted the following:

- Staff has far exceeded goals for applications and admittances for Fall 2017.
- SAT scores continue to rise for our applicants.
- Building geographic footprint for the university.

Discussion followed.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Board of Trustees Calendar:** Chair Lawrence provided the calendar for 2017/2018.

**Emeritus Policies (4):** Chair Lawrence provided handouts that were sent to the Board several weeks ago. Discussion followed. Modifications and changes noted to the final policies.

IT WAS MOVED that the proposed Emeritus policies for Trustee, President, Faculty and Staff be approved. Maurice Holloway presented the motion and Robert Sabalis seconded. The motion carried unanimously. (A copy of the policies will be made a part of the official minutes.)

**Appointment of Nomination Committee:**

- Chair Lawrence has asked Don Lloyd, Robert Barber and Marcia Hydrick to serve on the nominating committee for a new slate of board officers. He has asked them to call each board member to get their opinions, gather details and then to interview and talk to candidates. The committee will send the recommended slate of officers to the Board of Trustees one week prior to the June meeting.

**Faculty Senate:**

On behalf of the Faculty Senate, Dr. Jason Lee, Chair of the Faculty Senate, shared the following:

- Dr. Jason Lee steps down as chair of Faculty Senate, Ashley Lee steps in. Dr. Jason Lee will continue to serve on committee.
- We have multiple new programs currently submitted to CHE for approval and others that will go to Columbia soon.
- Lander's current enrollment is around 2,700 students, we have been told to anticipate 3,100 or more students in the fall.

- This enrollment increase will bring a new set of challenges for everyone on campus.
- The Lander faculty will continue to strive to provide the highest quality classroom experience for our students. Faculty will rise to the challenges that the increased enrollment creates because we know this enrolment increase is necessary for Lander to continue to provide resources to maintain our high quality classroom experience.
- The upcoming visit of SACSCOC onsite team has caused some concern regarding several instances of noncompliance according to the offsite team review. Accreditation is essential for the University.
- The faculty would like to express appreciation for the current analysis of salaries across the university. We are thankful to hear that our leadership is working to compensate us on par with the faculty at other state support institutions. The faculty are immensely grateful knowing that this is a priority for the administration on the board.

(A copy of this will be made a part of the official minutes.)

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion made to go into executive session. Motion approved.

**MOTION AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

IT WAS MOVED that the Trustees Emeritus status be granted to George Starnes and Mamie Nicholson. Maurice Holloway presented the motion and Ray Hunt seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion made, and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, June 13, 2017.