

Clemson University
Clemson, South Carolina

MINUTES
Research and Economic Development Committee
CLEMSON UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Executive Board Room
Madren Center
Clemson, SC
April 4, 2024
11:00 a.m.

Call to Order

Notification as required by the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act was given at least twenty-four hours before the meeting by posting the notice and agenda on the bulletin board located at the ground floor public entrance of Sikes Hall, Clemson University and on the Clemson University Board of Trustees website. Additionally notice of, and the agenda for, the meeting was sent via email to the distribution list maintained by the Office of Media Relations which includes approximately 80 reporters and editors at the major daily newspapers, television and radio stations in S.C.

After notification as required by the Freedom of Information Act, Trustee Smith called the meeting to order at 11:23 a.m. with the following present:

Committee Members: Bill Smith, *Chair*; Joe Swann, *Vice Chair*; David Dukes, Nikki Haley, Louis Lynn, and Mark Richardson

Trustees: Ronnie Lee, Patti McAbee, Nicky McCarter, Smyth McKissick, Bob Peeler, Cheri Phyfer-Kubu, and Kim Wilkerson

Trustees Emeriti: J.J. Britton, David Wilkins, and Allen Wood (via web)

Administration: James P. Clements, *President*; Tony Wagner, *Executive Vice President for Finance and Operations*; Max Allen, *Vice President and Chief of Staff*; April Purvis, *Executive Secretary to the Board of Trustees*; Robert Donato, *Chief Strategy Officer*; Robert H. Jones, *Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost*; Chip Hood, *General Counsel and Special Advisor to the Board of Trustees*; Lisa Knox, *Associate Vice President and Executive Director for Office of Institutional Excellence*; Chris Miller, *Vice President for Student Affairs*; Felicia Benton-Johnson, *Vice President for Diversity and Inclusive Excellence*; Greg Yarrow, *Interim Dean of the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences*; Angie Leidinger, *Senior Vice President for External Affairs and Senior Advisor to the Board of Trustees*; Rick Petillo, *Chief Financial Officer*; Tracy Arwood, *Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer*; Brian O'Rourke,

Vice President of Advancement; Julio Hernandez, Assistant to the President for Community Engagement and Outreach; and Graham Neff, Director of Athletics

Guests: Jon Clayton, *CCIT*; Danielle Arrington, *Office of the Board of Trustees*; Elizabeth Caldwell, *Student*; Paula Agudelo, *College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Life Sciences*; Penny Reid, *Research*; Brian Powell, *Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees*; Beth Crocker, *Office of the General Counsel*; Robyn Curtis, *Office of Major Fellowships*; Sarah Winslow, *Honors College*; and Michael Sehorn, *Genetics and Biochemistry*

Media: Kat Pugh, *The Tiger*; Lauren Pierce, *Seneca Journal*; Caitlin Herrington, *Post and Courier*

April Purvis called roll of the committee. She noted a quorum was present.

Max Allen introduced members of the media.

Approval of Minutes of February 1, 2024

Trustee Lynn moved to approve the February 1, 2024 meeting minutes. Trustee Richardson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

External Affairs Report

Angie Leidinger presented. She provided an overview of key planning dates and provided a FY24-25 State Budget update. She also noted legislation of importance. She provided a federal update for FY24 and an SC Nexxus update.

University Research: Student Experience

Tanju Karanfil provided a research report and highlighted the opportunities for research experience students at Clemson receive. He introduced genetics student, Elizabeth Caldwell, who presented the impact of research in her experience at Clemson. At the conclusion of her presentation, President Clements announced that Elizabeth was officially selected as a Truman Scholar. Elizabeth received a standing ovation from the room.

Climate-Smart Grown in S.C

Paula Agudelo presented on Climate-Smart Grown in SC, a pilot project designed to increase the acreage and number of farmers in South Carolina using climate-smart practices. This collaboration between Clemson University and SC State University is funded by the USDA-NRCS Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities and focuses on the production of peanuts, leafy greens, forages for beef cattle, and forest products. She highlighted the work students are doing with the project.

VIPR-GS Update: Leading the way into the Digital Engineering future of vehicle R&D

Zoran Filipi shared a brief update on the future of vehicle research and design. He stated he would provide a more in-depth presentation at the July meeting due to time constraints.

Adjournment

There no being no further business, Trustee Smith adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

April S. Purvis

April Purvis
Executive Secretary to the Board of Trustees

April S. Purvis

Approved

07/18/24

Date Approved