

(Approved at August 7, 2015 Board of Trustees Meeting)

**COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON BOARD OF TRUSTEES
UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA, BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

Randolph Hall Boardroom¹
College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina
June 24, 2015
2:00 p.m.

Presiding:
Gregory D. Padgett, Chair

Board Members Present: Mr. John H. Busch, Mrs. Demetria Noisette Clemons, Mr. G. Lee Mikell, Mr. Gregory D. Padgett, and Mrs. Renee B. Romberger

Board Members Participating by Conference Call: Mr. Donald H. Belk, Dr. L. Cherry Daniel, Mr. Frank Gadsden, Mrs. Renee B. Goldfinch, Ms. Henrietta U. Golding, Mr. David H. Hay, Ms. Pansy King-Reid, Mrs. Annaliza Moorhead, Dr. Toya Pound, Mr. Jeffrey M. Schilz, Mrs. Ricci Land Welch, and Mr. John B. Wood, Jr.

Board Members Absent: Mr. Randy Lowell, Dr. Edward L. Thomas, Jr., and Mr. Joseph F. Thompson, Jr.

Others Present: President Glenn McConnell, Drs. Jeri Cabot (Interim Executive VP for Student Affairs), Brian McGee (Interim Provost), and John White (Dean of the Libraries); Messrs. Michael Adeyanju (Interim Director, Executive Communications), Mark Berry (Director of College Marketing and Communications), Professor Todd McNerney (Speaker of the Faculty), Steve Osborne (Executive VP for Business Affairs), Mike Robertson (Senior Director of Media Relations), and George Watt (Executive VP for Institutional Advancement); Meses. Betty Craig (Executive Assistant), Shirley Hinson (Director of Government Relations), Elizabeth Kassebaum (Executive Secretary to the Board of Trustees and VP for College Projects), Ashleigh Parr (Manager of Administrative Assessment and Accreditation), JoAnn Throckmorton (Administrative Assistant), and Katie Walker (Deputy General Counsel).

Also attending was Valencia Wicker and Thomas Malphurs, Channel 4 News.

¹In accordance with requirements of the *S. C. Freedom of Information Act*, news media was notified of the time, location, and agenda for this meeting.

Meeting Called to Order:

This special meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Chair Padgett noting that the meeting notice has been posted and the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

Welcome:

Chair Padgett welcomed everyone attending the meeting this afternoon and thanked them for making themselves available on such short notice, including Valencia Wicker and Thomas Malphurs, Channel 4 News.

Purpose of Meeting:

Chair Padgett noted that the purpose of the meeting today is to discuss two resolutions and how the Board of Trustees of the College of Charleston can continue to be a part of the healing process of our city, our region, and our state in the aftermath of the nine murders (Emanuel Nine) which occurred one week ago today and claimed the life of a beloved member of our own campus family, librarian Cynthia Graham Hurd.

He thanked John White, Dean of the Libraries, for representing the faculty and staff of the library. He offered the Board's sincerest condolences to friends and colleagues who worked so closely with Cynthia over the years.

Next, Trustee Clemons made the motion, seconded by Trustee John Busch, to add another Resolution to the meeting agenda regarding naming a scholarship. Chair Padgett called for the yeas and nays, and the motion passed by voice vote. All in favor.

Resolution Concerning Renaming One of the Colonial Scholarships the Cynthia Graham Hurd Memorial Scholarship:

Trustee Clemons read the first resolution honoring Cynthia Hurd's decades of service to the College and the community. *[Elizabeth Kassebaum distributed copies of the Resolution to the Board members attending the meeting and JoAnn Throckmorton emailed the Resolution to the Board members participating by conference call.]*

“Resolution Concerning Renaming One of the Colonial Scholarships the Cynthia Graham Hurd Memorial Scholarship

Whereas, Cynthia Graham Hurd was a member of Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church and was a victim in the tragic events of June 17, 2015;

Whereas, Cynthia Graham Hurd was the College's longest-serving part-time librarian, having been at the College since the 1990s;

Whereas, Cynthia Graham Hurd worked full time for the Charleston County Library system as a librarian and branch manager for more than three decades;

Whereas, Cynthia Graham Hurd was known for her quick wit, sense of humor and optimism;

Whereas, Cynthia Graham Hurd, during her life and through her work, represented the very best of our College and our beloved Charleston community;

Be it resolved, the College of Charleston Board of Trustees now and forever designates one of its most prestigious academic scholarships for South Carolinians as the Cynthia Graham Hurd Memorial Scholarship.”

The motion was made by Trustee Demetria Clemons, and seconded by Trustee John Busch, that the Board approve the Resolution Concerning Renaming One of the Colonial Scholarships the Cynthia Graham Hurd Memorial Scholarship as presented. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion passed by voice vote. All in favor.

Chair Padgett noted that this Resolution has honored a wonderful member of our College of Charleston family, whose memory we will always treasure.

Resolution Concerning the Confederate Battle Flag on State House Grounds:

Before Trustee John Busch presented the second Resolution addressing the Confederate Flag, Chair Padgett stated that he doesn’t usually take a position on a Resolution before it has been introduced and discussed, but he wanted to make his position clear in these most heart-breaking and unusual times.

“The College of Charleston is woven into the very fabric of the city of Charleston and our histories are so closely intertwined. Therefore, a statement on an issue of this magnitude that affects our city and our state should only come from the Board of Trustees, the College’s governing body.

We, as the governing body of this institution, must join with others in the state and from around the country in supporting the efforts to remove the Confederate battle flag from the South Carolina State House grounds.”

Trustee John Busch read the second Resolution concerning the Confederate Battle Flag on State House Grounds. *[Elizabeth Kassebaum distributed copies of the Resolution to the Board members attending the meeting and JoAnn Throckmorton emailed the Resolution to the Board members participating by conference call.]*

“Resolution Concerning the Confederate Battle Flag on State House Grounds

Whereas, the tragic events of June 17, 2015, occurred in Charleston, our beloved home city, and near our campus footprint;

Whereas, the city of Charleston lost nine pillars of our community, including Cynthia Graham Hurd, a longtime librarian and exceptional educator at the College of Charleston;

Whereas, the College of Charleston has and continues to play an integral role in the healing process of our city, our region and our state;

Whereas, members of the General Assembly have passed a concurrent resolution ‘concerning the South Carolina Infantry Battle Flag of the Confederate States of America and surrounding arrangement located at the Confederate Soldier Monument on the grounds of the State Capitol Complex’;

Whereas, the Board of Trustees is the governing body of the College of Charleston and represents the institution;

Be it resolved, the College of Charleston Board of Trustees supports the efforts of the state’s many political, civic and business leaders in urging for the removal of the Confederate battle flag from the South Carolina State House grounds.”

The motion was made by Trustee John Busch, and seconded by Trustee Demetria Clemons, that the Board approve the Resolution Concerning the Confederate Battle Flag on the State House Grounds as presented. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion passed by voice vote. Trustee Cherry Daniel abstained. All others in favor.

Meeting Adjourned:

The motion was made by Trustee Renee Romberger, and seconded by Trustee John Busch, that the meeting be adjourned at 2:20 p.m. All in favor.