The Citadel Board of Visitors (BOV) held its monthly teleconference in the Executive Conference Room, Bond Hall, at 1:00 p.m. on 12 January 2016, to conduct an executive session for legal matters and receive reports from the President and Board committees.

The following members were present: Lieutenant General John B. Sams, Jr., Chair; Colonel Dylan W. Goff, Vice Chair (telephone); Colonel Allison Dean Love (telephone); Colonel Fred L. Price, Jr. (telephone); Colonel Tee Hooper (telephone); Colonel Peter M. McCoy, Sr. (telephone); Colonel Robert H. Nuttall, Sr. (telephone); Colonel L. E. “Gene” Pinson (telephone); Colonel Greg A. Lapointe (telephone); Colonel Stanley L. Myers. Sr. (telephone); Colonel Myron C. Harrington, Jr.; Chairman Emeritus, Colonel Leonard C. Fulghum, Jr. (telephone); member emeritus, Colonel William E. Jenkinson III (telephone); Mr. Claudius E. Watts, IV, Chairman of The Citadel Foundation (TCF) (telephone); Mr. Jamie A. Khan, President, The Citadel Alumni Association (CAA) (telephone); and Mr. Alfred R. Kennickell, Jr., President, The Citadel Brigadier Foundation (TCBF) (telephone). Also in attendance were: Brigadier General Connie L. Book, Provost and Dean of the College (telephone); Captain E. “Geno” Paluso, Commandant of Cadets; Colonel Joseph Garcia, Vice President for Finance and Business; Mr. Mark Brandenburg, General Counsel; Mr. M. Dawes Cooke, Jr., Counsel to the Board of Visitors (telephone); Mrs. Ashley Witherspoon, Paralegal and Compliance Specialist; and Mrs. Patricia M. Kinard, Assistant to the President for Board Matters.

Voting members absent: none. A quorum was present.

The meeting followed the agenda at enclosure 1.

Mrs. Kinard affirmed the meeting was in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) in that notice had been posted 24 hours in advance in Bond Hall and on the college website, and local media sources were notified at the same time by electronic means.

Chair Sams opened the meeting and briefly reviewed the agenda.

Chair Sams thanked those Board members who had attended the funeral of an alumnus, Senator Billy O’Dell. He said the college was well represented at the service.

Chair Sams called for a motion to go into executive session for an update on legal matters. Motion made by Colonel Harrington, seconded, and unanimously passed.

Motion to come out of executive session made by Colonel Love, seconded, and unanimously passed.
Captain Paluso provided an update to the Board on behalf of the President. The Corps returned to campus on Sunday. At present, 78 cadets did not return, including an estimated 20 freshmen, many of whom had financial difficulties. The college will be gathering data as to why these students did not return for the spring semester.

The first Commandant’s Board will be held on Friday regarding the students involved in the “Christmas Carolers” incident. A second Commandant’s Board will be held Saturday morning. Dr. Lamont Melvin, a 1991 graduate, will serve as a consultant to the Office of the Commandant in connection with disciplinary matters. A broad spectrum of punishments will be considered, with a recommendation to the President anticipated by 20 January.

Captain Paluso had addressed the Corps of Cadets earlier today, emphasizing the effects of the negative publicity on the college. The President will address the Corps on Thursday morning. The incident does not negate the outstanding fall semester and all the effort and progress made due to the leadership of the class of 2016 and class of 2017.

General Book reported tracking of applications indicates we are slightly above previous years. A letter to all admitted students was sent stating the recent incident does not reflect our values. The responses to the letter were largely positive.

Colonel Goff called for a motion to go into executive session for contractual matters. Motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

Motion to come out of executive session made by Colonel Goff, seconded, and unanimously passed.

Chair Sams called on committee chairs for any significant items to report:

Strategy, Vision and Governance Committee - no significant items to report.

Education and Leadership Development Committee – Colonel Myers mentioned the 2016 National Conference on Trusteeship to be presented by the Association of Governing Boards in April. Colonel Harrington has volunteered to attend, and the Board will be asked at the January meeting if any other members wish to participate.

Operations and Risk Management Committee – no significant items to report.

Colonel Love, Chair of the Communications and Community Relations Committee, reported the Commission on Higher Education made a presentation on the state budget. The commission is seeking more control and oversight on financial matters.
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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Kinard
Assistant to the President for Board Matters
Recorder