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# University of South Carolina BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### Ad Hoc Committee on Information Technology

May 19, 2021

The Ad Hoc Committee on Information Technology of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees met at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 19, 2021, by Microsoft Teams hosted in Room 206B of the Osborne Administration Building.

Committee Co-Chair Mr. Doug Foster participated in person. Committee members participating by Microsoft Teams were Ms. Leah B. Moody, Co-Chair; Dr. Dirk Brown; Dr. Mark Ferguson; Dr. Hossein Haj-Hariri; Mr. Eddie King; Dr. Diana Mitchell; Ms. Rose Buyck Newton; Mr. David Seaton; and Mr. Thad H. Westbrook, Board Vice-Chair. Dr. C. Dorn Smith III, Board Chair was absent.

Board members participating by Microsoft Teams were Mr. Brian C. Harlan, Mr. Richard A. Jones Jr., Ms. Emma W. Morris, and Mr. Mack I. Whittle Jr.

USC Columbia Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Mark Cooper participated by Microsoft Teams. Information Technology expert advisors Ms. LaJoia Broughton and Mr. Jack Pringle participated in person.

Others attending in person were Secretary Cameron Howell, General Counsel and Executive Director of Compliance Programs Terry Parham, Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost Dennis Pruitt, Special Assistant to the President James Smith, Assistant Vice

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President for Public Relations Jeff Stensland, Board support staff Delphine Bigony, and IT support staff Matt Warthen. Participating by Microsoft Teams were President's Chief of Staff Mark Bieger; University Treasurer, Assistant Vice President and Chief of Staff for Division of Administration and Finance Joe Sobieralski; and Chief Information Security Officer Marcos Vierya.

#### **OPEN SESSION**

#### I. Call to Order

Co-Chair Moody called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance, and asked everyone at the table to introduce themselves. Secretary Howell confirmed Committee and Board members participating via Microsoft Teams video and audio conference.

Co-Chair Moody called on Mr. Stensland to introduce members of the press joining by audioconference. Mr. Stensland advised there were no members of the press on the call.

Co-Chair Moody 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. <u>Discussion with Expert Advisors</u>

Chair Moody introduced Mr. Jack Pringle and Ms. LaJoia Broughton of Adams and Reese LLP. Their primary areas of practice are privacy, cybersecurity, and data management. Mr. Pringle holds the designation of Information Privacy Professional (CIPP-US) from the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP). He has guided clients through information incidents, data breaches, and related threats including notification, mitigation, regulatory response, and resulting lawsuits and investigations. In addition, Mr. Pringle assists

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organizations in strengthening their information security programs by creating and implementing appropriate security policies and training. Ms. Broughton helps guide companies in securing their sensitive information, using information and emerging technologies effectively, and complying with new and evolving regulatory requirements.

Mr. Pringle provided an overview of various aspects of information security design, implementation, and monitoring He stated the Board has a responsibility for being a "credible challenge" to management by asking better questions that will successfully provide oversight and accountability to senior management and the committees with whom responsibility for information security lies. When new technology is being evaluated or threats are identified, the Board should ask the following questions.

- 1. How is this addressed in our risk assessment process?
- 2. How is this governed in our IT policy?
- 3. How will this be audited independently?
- 4. How is the System addressing this issue?
- 5. How do we ensure our vendors have addressed this issue?

Mr. Pringle stated, although the Board may delegate responsibilities for oversight of information security, the Board must present a credible challenge to management.

## III. BOT Standing Committees' IT Governance Domains and Matrices

Co-Chair Moody noted at the April 21, 2021 Committee meeting, the various IT governance domains were identified based upon committee charters, matrices, risks, and other areas for which the committees have governance oversight. Secretary Howell continues to connect with committee chairs and committee liaisons to discuss the mechanics of aligning IT governance domains.

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# IV. Adjournment

There being no other matters on the agenda, Chair Moody adjourned the meeting at 9:31 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cameron Howell Secretary

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