

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

January 8, 1976
10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Dr. R. Cathcart Smith, Chairman
Mr. Howard L. Burns
Mr. Hugh M. Chapman
Dr. Marianna W. Davis
Dr. William C. Draffin
Mrs. Wanda L. Forbes
Mr. F. Mitchell Johnson
Mr. T. Eston Marchant
Mr. William F. Prioleau, Jr.
Mr. Alex M. Quattlebaum
Mr. Y. W. Scarborough, Jr.
Mr. J. Clyde Shirley
Mr. I. P. Stanback
Mr. T. Emmet Walsh

STAFF

Dr. Howard R. Boozer
Mr. Charles A. Brooks
Mr. Horace F. Byrne
Mrs. Clara W. Evans
Dr. George P. Fulton
Mr. William C. Jennings
Dr. Frank E. Kinard
Mr. Alan S. Krech
Mr. Cannon R. Mayes
Mr. James R. Michael
Mr. James L. Solomon, Jr.
Ms. Rosita M. Ramsey
Mrs. Gaylon Syrett

GUESTS

Gen. Wallace Anderson
Dr. Keith Davis
Dr. Robert C. Edwards
Dr. Robert Hoskins
Dr. Larry A. Jackson
Mr. L. Roger Kirk
Dr. William H. Knisely
Mr. J. Lacy McLean
Miss Frances H. Miller
Dr. M. Maceo Nance, Jr.
Dr. Charles E. Palmer
Dr. William H. Patterson
Dr. Walter D. Smith
Dr. Theodore S. Stern
Dr. Charles B. Vail

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS

Mr. Hugh Gibson
Mr. Robert Hitt
Ms. Warren McInnis

I. Introductions

Chairman Smith introduced members of the Council of Presidents of Public Senior Colleges and Universities, who had been invited to meet with the Commission, in accordance with the Commission statute.

II. Approval of Minutes of December 4, 1975, Regular Commission Meeting

It was moved (Quattlebaum) and seconded (Stanback) and unanimously voted that the minutes of the December 4, 1975, regular Commission meeting be approved, as written.

III. Approval of Minutes of December 21, 1975, Special Commission Meeting

It was moved (Walsh) and seconded (Davis) and unanimously voted that the minutes of the December 21, 1975, Special Meeting of the Commission be approved, as written.

IV. Further Consideration of CHE Recommendations Concerning Appropriation Requests of the Public Senior Colleges and Universities

Mr. Chapman, chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee, reported that the Committee and the Executive Committee had met prior to the Commission meeting to discuss the effects the Commission action of December 21, 1975, would have on appropriation recommendations for the individual institutions. The Commission had voted on December 21: "(1) that the Commission recommend for the Medical University of South Carolina for 1976-77 the same amount as it will receive in 1975-76 (\$40,838,202); (2) that that amount be deducted from the total available (\$147,814,699), leaving a balance of \$106,976,497 to be appropriated to the other 11 senior institutions and the University of South Carolina two-year branches; (3) that the 1976-77 Appropriation Formula be applied, using the actual FTE enrollments for Fall 1975; and (4) that the new total be reduced proportionately to \$106,976,497."

A summary of the results of computations made in accordance with that action (Exhibit A) was distributed to Commission members. Mr. Chapman reported that, after consideration of these results, the Executive Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee recommended that the Commission rescind its action of December 21, and instead recommend that each institution be allocated in 1976-77 the same amount in appropriated funds as it will receive in appropriations in 1975-76 after the 8 percent reductions have been made.

A summary of Budget and Control Board recommendations for increases over 1975-76 was distributed. This shows a 4 percent inflation allowance factor in operations (excluding personal services), and a factor for continuation of salary increments commenced during 1975-76 (Exhibit B).

It was moved (Chapman) and seconded (Davis) that the Commission approve the recommendation that, with reference to the adjusted total of \$147,814,699 appropriated to the institutions for 1975-76, each institution receive for 1976-77 the same amount as it will receive in 1975-76 after the 8 percent reductions.

Mr. Johnson requested that the record show that in his view the Commission, not the Budget and Control Board, has destroyed the effectiveness of the Formula for the past two years by using as its basis the appropriations or the actual enrollments of the previous year.

President Smith expressed the opinion that it would be premature to make specific recommendations at this time; that if the Commission should endorse the Budget and Control Board recommendation, it would be stating to the Legislature, in effect, that those amounts will meet the needs of the colleges and universities for the coming year. Mr. Walsh stated that the Budget and Control Board requested that the Commission provide recommendations concerning the allocation of the available funds

(\$147,814,699) for 1976-77, and that the Commission is obligated, under the law, to do so. President Jackson requested that the recommendations of the Commission to the Budget and Control Board contain a proviso that if additional funds become available the appropriations be adjusted upward according to actual enrollments in Fall 1976.

It was moved (Marchant) and seconded (Johnson) that the motion be tabled.

President Edwards stated that each institution and its board of trustees will be responsible for making the decision of whether or not additional students can be accepted for 1976-77, according to the appropriations received by that institution. Mr. Scarborough stated that in his opinion the four-year branches of USC should be allocated funds on the basis of the two-year branches, and that the money so generated be allocated to the remaining institutions.

Mr. Quattlebaum reiterated the suggestion that the motion contain the proviso that if the economy improves, each institution's allocation be adjusted upward in accordance with its actual enrollment for 1976.

President Nance requested, and President Vail concurred, that each institution receive no less than it will receive for 1975-76, rather than the amounts recommended by the Commission on December 21 (Exhibit A).

Mr. Marchant withdrew the motion to table the original motion.

A substitute motion was made (Marchant) and seconded (Johnson) that the Commission's recommendations for 1976-77, based on the Formula, and reduced proportionately by 18.8 percent to \$106,976,497, be approved, and that MUSC receive the same amount it will receive in 1975-76 (\$40,838,202), for a total of \$147,814,699. It was moved (Prioleau) and seconded (Burns) to table the substitute motion. Mr. Prioleau stated that such an allocation would result in five institutions receiving less than they will receive in the current fiscal year, after the 8 percent reductions. The motion to table the substitute motion was adopted, with 8 voting in favor and 5 opposing.

A second substitute motion was made (Scarborough) and seconded (Johnson) to approve allocations in accordance with Commission recommendations for 1976-77, under the 1976-77 Formula, reduced proportionately by 18.8 percent to \$106,976,497, and that MUSC receive the same amount it will receive for 1975-76 (\$40,838,202), except that all branches of the University of South Carolina be funded on the basis of two-year branches, and that the money so generated be allocated pro rata among the remaining institutions (excluding MUSC). Mr. Walsh stated that three of the USC branches (Aiken, Coastal, and Spartanburg) have achieved four-year status according to the law, and that the Commission has no authority to alter that. The second substitute motion was disapproved.

The motion to approve the recommendation that each institution receive for 1976-77 the same amount as it will receive in 1975-76 after the 8 percent reductions was approved, with 9 voting in favor and 4 opposing.

It was moved (Quattlebaum) and seconded (Chapman) that if funds in addition to \$147,814,699 become available while the 1976 General Assembly is in

session, the Commission request that it be given the opportunity to submit recommendations concerning the allocation of additional funds in accordance with enrollment growth and other Formula factors. The motion was approved.

It was moved (Walsh) and seconded (Scarborough) and unanimously voted that the Medical University of South Carolina receive for 1976-77 the same amount (\$40,838,202) as it will receive for 1975-76.

Mr. Chapman requested that the record show that in his view the Commission should appreciate the efforts of the Budget and Control Board in controlling State expenditures in the current fiscal crisis.

V. Consideration of Capital Improvement Requests (University of South Carolina)

Mr. Michael reported that the University of South Carolina originally had submitted two requests for capital improvements, one involving a small facility at Hobcaw Barony. He stated that USC has requested that consideration of that facility be deferred to a subsequent meeting. The remaining item for consideration was a request that the surface of the track at the Athletic Center be replaced. The cost is estimated at \$40,000, for which Athletic Departments funds will be used. The staff recommended approval of that project, and further that the Commission approve deferral of the facility at Hobcaw Barony for consideration at a subsequent meeting. It was moved (Shirley) and seconded (Davis) and unanimously voted to adopt the staff recommendations.

VI. Progress Report on Legislative Matters Relating to Higher Education

Dr. Boozer reported that Dr. Smith and the Commission staff had been invited to meet with the House Education and Public Works Committee on December 5 to present to the Committee the appropriation requests for 1976-77 which the Commission had presented to the Budget and Control Board, the House Ways and Means Committee, and the Senate Finance Committee on October 21. At Dr. Boozer's request, Mr. Michael made a brief presentation of the Commission's appropriation request. Mr. Stoddard, Chairman of the Committee, indicated that, because of time limitations, the Commission would be invited to return in January to present the Commission's recommendations concerning institutional appropriation requests. The Committee also invited presidents of the public senior colleges and universities to make presentations to the Committee concerning their appropriation requests for 1976-77.

Dr. Boozer noted that at the December 4, 1975, Commission meeting, Mr. Walsh, chairman of the CHE Committee on Legislative Relations, reported the consensus of the Committee "that the Commission should not decide upon specific recommendations to be made to the General Assembly at this time, in view of the existence of special committees of the Legislature which were created to study higher education in South Carolina." He reported further the Committee's recommendation "that the Commission and its staff work with the legislative committees and the General Assembly in an effort to determine the best course of action for improving higher education in the State."

Dr. Boozer noted that he and Dr. Smith had been requested by Senator Lake on October 23, 1975, to submit recommendations regarding legislation

affecting the Commission to his special study committee. Subsequent to the December 4 meeting of the Commission, and with concurrence of Dr. Smith and Mr. Walsh, Dr. Boozer wrote a letter to Senator Lake transmitting a number of suggestions on which there was "apparent consensus" in the Legislative Relations Committee (Exhibit C). He noted that his letter was prompted by the fact that Senator Lake's committee planned to draft its report by December 31, and to be of use any suggestions had to be submitted without delay. Dr. Boozer requested that the Commission endorse his December 16 letter to Senator Lake and the attached list of suggestions concerning legislative changes on which there was apparent consensus in the Legislative Relations Committee.

It was moved (Walsh) and seconded (Shirley) that the Commission ratify and endorse the letter to Senator Lake of December 16 and the list of suggestions for legislative changes that was enclosed. Mr. Johnson stated that in his view the Commission is overstepping its bounds in requesting authority to terminate existing programs which are determined to be unnecessary (Item 4, Exhibit C); that such decisions should be made by the boards of trustees of the institutions and not by the Commission. Dr. Davis stated that the 1202 Commission has the responsibility of studying and making recommendations concerning educational resources in the State, and that the issue is whether or not the Commission should have the authority to make decisions such as the termination of programs. Dr. Boozer stated that the Commission has statutory authority to approve new programs and is requesting authority to terminate those which have outlived their usefulness. Dr. Knisely asked whether the legislation concerning termination of programs would be directed toward programs with a small number of students. Dr. Boozer stated that the fact of low enrollment would not necessarily be the reason a program should not exist. Dr. Knisely stated that the fact that only one institution provides a program may be the very justification for what may appear to be an economically unsound program in an exceedingly important area.

A substitute motion was made (Johnson) and seconded (Draffin) that Item 4 be deleted from the listing of possible legislative changes needed (Exhibit C). The motion was disapproved.

Mr. Prioleau inquired concerning the necessity for Commission approval in capital improvement requests. Mr. Walsh stated that all capital improvement requests in amounts of \$10,000 or more must have Budget and Control Board approval and that the function of the Commission is to review and advise that Board concerning such requests, but that the Commission has no final authority in such matters.

The original motion, to endorse the list of suggestions concerning possible changes needed in legislation relating to the Commission, was approved.

Dr. Boozer stated that several State agencies have direct involvement and interest in postsecondary educational matters as specified in legislation or executive orders, such as the Commission on Higher Education, the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education, the State Board of Education, and the State Board of Nursing. He noted that inter-relationships also exist among several State agencies with reference to the collection and analysis of health manpower and other types of data needed by a variety of groups, including the Commission. He cited as an example an "Inter-agency Agreement"

among several groups with an interest in health education and manpower data, presently in draft form, which will minimize duplication of effort and reduce costs.

In the area of teacher education, the State Board of Education approves specific teacher education programs for certification purposes in both the public and private institutions; the Commission is charged with the responsibility of approving degree programs in the public institutions. While potential for conflict exists between these two agencies in carrying out their legislative mandates, relationships in practice are constructive and mutually supportive. He noted that a similar situation exists with reference to nursing education. Both the State Board of Nursing and the Commission are required by statute to approve new educational programs in nursing. The Health Education Authority of the Commission, in its discussion of various health professions, has discovered the potential for conflict in the legislation governing the two agencies, although the Commission's responsibility is limited to public postsecondary institutions. As a consequence, the HEA adopted a Resolution on July 22, 1975:

"that the staff of the Higher Education Commission point out the apparent conflict of authority between the Higher Education Commission and the State Board of Nursing and recommend steps be taken by the Higher Education Commission to permit the Higher Education Commission to effectively carry out its statutory responsibilities."

Dr. Boozer stated that, while the potential for conflict may exist in the statutes, relations between the State Board of Nursing and the Commission have also been constructive and mutually supportive, as evidenced by the existence of the Statewide Master Planning Committee on Nursing Education which was created in 1971 under the auspices of the Commission on Higher Education (in response to a request from the State Board of Nursing, the South Carolina Nurses' Association, and the South Carolina League for Nursing) to assist the Commission in planning for nursing education and to advise it concerning the need for new programs. The State Board of Nursing and the Commission are presently reorganizing the work of the Committee and revising procedures that will govern the functioning of the Master Planning Committee in the future. Dr. Boozer stated that the staff of the Commission, as a consequence of the HEA Resolution, is studying the legislation that governs the two agencies. He also reported that a new Task Force on Health Care Team Relationships is being formed by the HEA to consider inter-relationships between and among the various health professions.

Dr. Boozer recommended that the Resolution adopted by the HEA concerning nursing education be referred to the Committee on Legislative Relations, and that the Committee consider the Resolution in the broader context of inter-agency relationships in general as it identifies other possible conflicts in legislation that may adversely affect the Commission's effectiveness or its relationships with other agencies of State government. It was moved (Chapman) and seconded (Shirley) and unanimously voted that Dr. Boozer's recommendation concerning the HEA Resolution be approved.

VI. Informational Report on "Interdisciplinary Training in Developmental Disabilities" at Winthrop College and the University of South Carolina

President Vail reported that, through a project jointly developed by the University of South Carolina and Winthrop College in recent months, special clinical facilities have been made available for the purpose of training professionals and paraprofessionals to work with developmentally disabled persons. He stated that a move during the past decade to normalize such handicapped people resulted in their being placed in schools and in society without suitably trained teachers or professional personnel. He noted that, although Winthrop and USC have given attention through their special education programs to training teachers of handicapped students and to making maximum use of existing resources, there were no facilities in the State related to a college or university with the clinical characteristics to provide both services for the developmentally disabled and instructional experience for those who work with disabled persons. In 1974 Winthrop established a small clinic near the campus, partially supported by a grant from the Governor's Council for the Developmentally Disabled, for the purpose of providing such clinical experience.

In May, 1975, Winthrop and USC jointly entered into the University Affiliated Facility Program of South Carolina, supported by a grant from the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. The purpose of the program is to provide pre-service training to college students and in-service training to practitioners in fields related to the developmentally disabled. The program at USC demonstrates an urban model of the Facility by coordinating services through various agencies in the Columbia area, while Winthrop provides a rural model. A cooperative agreement has been developed between USC and Winthrop which enables faculty members at one institution who work directly in the program to hold a second appointment at the other institution. One of the objectives of the program is to create suitable models which can be adapted for use at other colleges and agencies within the State. A consortium of institutions serving the developmentally disabled has been established. President Vail noted that no new academic programs have been created and that funding has been largely through special federal and State grants.

Dr. Smith thanked President Vail and accepted the report as information on behalf of the Commission.

VII. Meeting With Council of Presidents of Public Senior Colleges and Universities

President Jackson, Chairman of the Council of Presidents of the Public Senior Colleges and Universities, served as spokesman of the Council. He outlined the concerns of the Council and urged the Commission on Higher Education (and the Planning Commission) to reexamine their initial efforts in formulating a Master Plan for Higher Education in South Carolina and to make a special effort to involve members of the Legislature in the development of such a Plan. He noted that members of the Commission had been mailed copies of a statement which was prepared by the Council of Presidents (Exhibit D), and he distributed copies of a statement from which he read (Exhibit E).

He stated that the Council of Presidents is concerned about the growing consensus in the State that the colleges and universities are over-funded, about the erosion of authority of the boards of trustees and the presidents of the institutions, and that the current economic situation will lead to proposals for significant increases in tuition at the public colleges and universities.

He noted that there exists a need for a strong voice in the General Assembly which will be the advocate of higher education. He urged that the Commission take that responsibility, and that it recommend to the Legislature that action on the development of additional two-year or four-year college programs, or other actions of significance concerning higher education, be deferred until a Master Plan is completed.

Dr. Smith inquired whether the Council's request was that the Commission represent the Council in the General Assembly or serve as a lobbyist for that group. President Jackson stated that the Council has need for an advocate in the general public rather than a lobbyist in the General Assembly. President W. D. Smith stated that the Legislature has no group to whom it can turn concerning higher education, and expressed the view that the Commission is in a position midway between the General Assembly and the institutions. President Nance stated that the Commission, through its staff, could be of help in supporting legislation concerning higher education. President Vail noted the tendency to lump all State agencies together, stating that no one in the General Assembly represents higher education.

Mr. Chapman stated that it would be impossible for the Commission to represent the individual interests of the institutions, since there exists a diversity of interests that are not necessarily compatible. Dr. Knisely stated that the Commission should be the authority to represent the presidents to the Legislature at least in cases where the institutions are in agreement. President Nance noted a lack of mutual respect between the Commission and the Council of Presidents, and stated that the Commission is sometimes an adversary rather than an advocate.

Dr. Davis stated that a need exists for a non-partisan liaison person connected with the Commission. Mr. Shirley stated that contact with the presidents and visits to the various campuses would be helpful to Commission members in understanding the problems of the institutions.

Mr. Walsh requested clarification concerning the presidents' views with respect to a Master Plan. President Jackson stated that a Master Plan should incorporate studies of situations and recommendations for actions concerning new institutions and other significant matters. President Stern stated that specific goals and the best course of action to meet those goals should be determined.

Mr. Prioleau requested that the Commission recommend to the General Assembly that the institutions be allowed to retain funds generated by increases in tuition and required fees. President Jackson stated that this falls within Step 10 of the Appropriation Formula, and that the Council of Presidents will make a recommendation concerning this matter at a later date.

Dr. Boozer observed that a meeting such as this, with the Council of Presidents, provides an opportunity for the presidents to relate their concerns to the Commission and for the Commission to gain insight into the needs and problems of the institutions, individually and collectively, as reflected by the presidents. He noted agreement with the comment made by President Smith that the Commission is in a position of being in the middle, that the Commission must face toward the institutions as well as toward the General Assembly, and that the position is one of

delicate balance. He expressed the view that there is no way to avoid tension between the Commission, the institutions, and the Legislature, and that all concerned must make an effort to work constructively within that framework.

Dr. Smith noted that the Commission has agreed that it would be advantageous to hold occasional meetings on the campuses of the public colleges and universities, and that this is planned for future meetings. He noted also that the Commission plans to hold a weekend retreat within the next few months and asked if the presidents would like to participate in such a meeting. The presidents enthusiastically endorsed the prospect of such a meeting with the Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gaylon Syrett

Gaylon Syrett
Recording Secretary

Please Note:

The letter from Mr. McAlister to Dr. Smith, dated January 7, 1976 (Exhibit F), was received after the January 8 Commission meeting. In accordance with Commission action taken at its February 5 meeting, the letter was made a part of the minutes of the January 8 meeting.