

**SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

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TO: William J. Whitener, Chairman  
Commission on Higher Education  
Joint Legislative Program Liaison  
Committee

Max Lennon, Chairman  
Council of College Presidents  
Joint Legislative Program Liaison  
Committee

FROM: Fred R. Sheheen

The following summary of the meeting of the Joint Committee is submitted to members for information and comment.

The items which were mutually agreed upon, insofar as members of the Committee are concerned, appear to be the following:

1. The Council of College Presidents and the Commission agree that the necessity for funding the formula at 100% is extremely pressing this year, in light of an accumulation of a number of years of short falls in base funding for the institutions. A critical expenditure from the additional funds provided to the institutions will be a commitment to enhance faculty salaries, now judged to be, by all statistical measures, below the regional average and substantially below the national average.
2. The Council of College Presidents and the Commission agree that in the event of full-formula funding,

raises will be granted to the faculty throughout the system which will exceed the average national salary increases each year. This presumes that the General Assembly will, as it has in the past several years, grant an across the board increase to State employees which approximates to some extent the rate of inflation.

3. The Commission and institutions have also agreed that if the 100% of formula funding is achieved, the governing boards will give very careful consideration to the extremely sensitive issue of educational tuition and fee increases for the students enrolled in the institutions. The Commission on Higher Education will wholeheartedly endorse the efforts of the institutions to hold educational and general fees constant at the level of the preceding year.
4. The Commission and the institutions agree that the Cutting Edge program should be funded at a level of \$20 million as follows:
  - a. \$5 million to fund the existing programs in the Cutting Edge.
  - b. \$10 million to be dedicated to quality incentives in the colleges and universities in the State, the funds to be awarded on performance factors. The institutions and the Commission will work out a program of performance funding to be presented to the Budget and Control Board and the General Assembly. Examples of indications of quality that might be considered as factors influencing performance funding include the following:
    - o program accreditation
    - o assessment of academic majors
    - o alumni and/or employers satisfaction as determined by scientific surveys
    - o appropriate implementation of corrective measures to bring about improvements when assessment of institutional effectiveness components identifies weaknesses
  - c. \$5 million to expand the existing programs in the Cutting Edge towards the levels required for full implementation.