

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION  
1333 Main Street, Suite 200  
Columbia, SC 29201

*Minutes of the Meeting*

June 3, 2004

10:30 a.m.

**Commission Members Present**

Dalton Floyd, Chairman  
Rosemary Byerly  
Larry Durham  
Douglas Forbes  
Vermelle Johnson  
James Konduros  
Miles Loadholt  
DeLoris Oliver  
Daniel Ravenel  
Roger Stevenson

**Commission Members Absent**

Sue Cole  
Austin Gilbert  
John Griffith  
Tom Olsen

**Staff Present**

Rita Allison  
Camille Brown  
Mike Brown  
Lorinda Copeland  
Renea Eshleman  
Conrad Festa  
Charlie FitzSimons  
Betsy Gunter  
Yolanda Hudson  
Lynn Kelley

**Guests**

Bill Bragdon  
Jim Byrd  
Donna Collins  
Anthony Coyne  
Bryan French  
Jennifer Gaddy  
Dr. Gary Hansen  
Curt Holland  
Sally Horner  
Charlie Jeffcoat  
Ricky Jones  
Star Kepner  
Dorcas Kitchings  
Scott Ludlow  
Bob Mellon  
Philip Moore  
Susan Morrison  
Susan Prior  
Christina Smalls  
Roger Thompson  
Aileen Trainer  
Brice Wilson

This meeting is held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

**1. Introductions**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Floyd and Dr. Lynn Kelley was asked to introduce visitors attending the meeting.

## 2. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Floyd asked for a motion to approve the minutes. The **motion** was made (Oliver), **seconded** (Byerly) and **carried** to approve the minutes as written.

## 3. Chairman's Report

- ◆ Chairman Floyd discussed the fact that the July meeting may or may not happen. Since there is a possibility that there will only be a few capital projects presented, he asked the Commission to give the Executive Committee the authority to approve those projects after they have been reviewed and discussed at the Committee level and the Committee on Finance and Facilities makes their recommendation. A **motion** (Byerly), was made, **seconded** (Ravenel) and **carried** to give the Executive Committee said authority if it appears a feasible alternative to meeting.
- ◆ There is not usually a Commission meeting in august, but rather the budget request presentations to the Commission by the presidents of the institutions. Those dates have not yet been confirmed.
- ◆ Vermelle has talked to Chairman Floyd and Dr. Festa concerning a proposal she has for a Center for Women's Professional Development. That is being referred to the Committee on Academic Affairs and the Finance Committee (from a budget standpoint). If the Committee recommends it and the Commission agrees, it would be a below-the-line item and would need to be discussed with the presidents, since a sponsoring school would be necessary. Hopefully this can be reviewed and considered over the summer and have a report for the Commission in September.
- ◆ An article was distributed entitled "What's wrong with the guys?" addressing the "disappearing male" in higher education and conveying the fact that over the last 30 years all of the progress in educational attainment has been achieved by females – almost none has been earned by males. Chairman Floyd pointed out that that may be one of the policy matters the Commission might address this coming year. He asked the staff to look at those statistics and report to the Commission.
- ◆ Chairman Floyd commended the Special Projects Committee (Jim Konduros, Austin Gilbert, and Dan Ravenel) for the fine work they did on the virtual library. Due to that committee working with the presidents that the money was forthcoming from the legislature. That committee will remain intact for other projects dealing with changes in legislation.

Mr. Ravenel asked about the approach to policy questions and whether or not they should be discussed with the presidents while they were here in august. There are questions that need addressing. Chairman Floyd informed the group that some of those things were already underway. For one, the Accountability Work Group is working now toward an accountability system. Ms. Byerly agreed with Mr. Ravenel that while the presidents were here for the budget presentations would be a good time for some meaningful interaction with the presidents. Dr. Festa pointed out that the presentation period in august would not be a good time in that they only come for an hour or so, but such a discussion session could be arranged.

- ◆ Mr. Floyd reported on the Press Conference and Recognition event honoring the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Brown v. the Board of Education. Pictures of the proceedings shown during the report. There were 13 of the descendents of the plaintiffs present and a commemorative medal designed by

#### **4. Committee Reports**

##### **4.01 Report of the Executive Committee**

**-Dalton B. Floyd**

At the May Commission meeting, a project was request was submitted by USC Columbia on the morning of the meeting. Due to its time-sensitive nature, it was agreed that this project would be reviewed by the Committee on Finance and Facilities and they in turn would make their recommendation, as is customary. The Executive Committee was, by unanimous vote, given the authority to act on behalf of the Commission in the final approval (or disapproval) of the project.

The Finance and Facilities fully reviewed the request on May 20 and recommended approval and the Executive Committee upheld that recommendation (also on May 20). **ATT I**

##### **4.02 Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing**

**-Vermelle Johnson**

Though there was not report from the Committee on Academic Affairs, Dr. Vermelle Johnson requested a few moments to speak to the Commission. She thanked everyone for their thoughts, prayers, cards and concerns for her and her family during the illness of her grandson. He reportedly has gone home now and, while he is still very ill, he has progressed to the point that his family was allowed to take him home. Sue Cole performed the duties of the Chair in Dr. Johnson's absence.

##### **4.03 Report of the Committee on Student Services**

**- DeLoris Oliver**

In Sue Cole's absence, DeLoris Oliver gave the report from the Student Services Committee. The Proposed FY 2004-2005 Administrative Budget for the South Carolina Teachers Loan Program submitted by the South Carolina Student Loan Corporation who is charged by the General Assembly with administration of this Loan Program, established by the Education Improvement Act (EIA) of 1984 to assist students who wished to become certified teachers in the state in geographic or subject areas of critical need. These loans may be canceled at a rate of 20% per year for each full year of teaching in a critical area in South Carolina. The proposed budget and full explanations of increases necessary for operation of the program are found in **ATT II**. On behalf of the Committee on Student Services, a **motion** (Oliver) was made, **seconded** (Byerly) and **carried** to approve the operating budget as presented by the SC Student Loan Corporation.

##### **4.04 Report of Committee on Finance and Facilities**

**- Ms. Rosemary Byerly**

- A.** In introduction, Ms. Byerly explained that the items before the Commission today have been reviewed and recommended for approval at the Committee level. The first item presented contains the Comprehensive Permanent Improvement Plans (CPIP), representing the five-year long-range plans for each institution. Charlie FitzSimons was asked to explain the CPIP process. Lynn Metcalf was asked to make a brief presentation explaining exactly what CPIP is and what its purpose is. It is basically a planning document required by the Budget and Control Board outlining the institutions' five-year plans for permanent improvements. The staff reviews all of these projects, make recommendations for approval and bring them to the Commission for final approval. These are projects for which the institutions already have money or for

which they can reasonably expect to have funds. No requests are allowed in year one of the five-year plan. What is being asked of the Commission today is approval of Year 1 of the plans. Summaries and full explanations are found in **Attachment III**. If approved today, the institutions may begin their Year One projects at any time as long as there are no significant changes to the project. Year two will be scored and evaluated and brought to the Commission in the fall to be submitted for the budget. Today, they are submitted for information only. Years three, four and five represent long-term plans and are very changeable. They are presented today for information. On behalf of the Committee on Finance and Facilities, a **motion** (Byerly) was made, **seconded** (Ravenel) and **carried** to approve the Year One projects and accept the remainder of the report as information.

During the discussion period, Dr. Forbes asked in reference to Clemson's building request what an academic support center did. It was explained that this was a center open to students 24 hours a day, seven days a week to offer support and teach learning skills. Over half of the cost of the requested building will come from private donors. The second item questioned was the street improvement project for USC Columbia. That was explained by a representative from USC, in that this is very important to improve the environment for the students and thus enhance student life on campus. On the Clemson project in Charleston, the question was whether the staff looked at the availability of buildings in Charleston to look at in planning a \$6 million dollar new building? Ms. Metcalf responded to that inquiry – Clemson is using the College of Charleston's facilities now. A special facility is required in order to offer the program and the College of Charleston needs their space; and there isn't a public space that would meet their needs. This project was approved some time back and this is just approval to begin work.

#### **B. Consideration of Performance Funding Ratings and Appeals for 2003-04 to impact Fiscal Year 2005-05 Allocations**

Ms. Wahl was asked to explain the rating system and how it is used. An explanation of the system and format as well as the actual scores (Report Cards) are found in **Attachment IV**. It is noted that all institutions are scoring at *Achieves* or *Exceeds*.

On behalf of the Finance and Facilities Committee, a **motion** (Byerly) was made, **seconded** (Durham) and **carried** to approve the performance ratings as submitted by staff.

The question was asked as to whether there was a similar grading or rating system for the private Institutions in the state. The private institutions also report through IPEDS on a national level. The private institutions are working with CHE establishing a data reporting system.

#### **5. Legislative Update**

**-Rita Allison  
-Charlie FitzSimons**

The higher education institutions are receiving a 15% reduction on their travel, meals, etc. There had previously been a proviso limiting tuition increases which was eliminated, so the institutions now have the flexibility to increase tuition as they deem necessary to meet their needs. The statewide electronic library was an item in the budget to gain support due to lottery funds. There has been no increase in administrative dollars for the commission for administration of the scholarships. **Attachment V** is the Summary of notable budget activity.

**6. Report of the Executive Director****-Conrad Festa**

There is a lot of interest from the Governor's office in a proposal to establish a pre-kindergarten through grade 16 council, which many states have adopted. We have been talking with K-12 and

the pre-kindergarten people. There is a lot of interest and now that it seems it will likely come up next year, so the Commission will be kept informed from this office as what the PK-16 council does and how it would interact with the Commission.

There have been discussions with legislators and with the presidents of the institutions as to how to redesign performance funding. The presidents want to eliminate performance funding, but there has to be an accountability system to take its place. Elimination of performance funding will be explored when there is a proposed method of accountability to offer in its place. A committee has been formed to begin formulating a plan.

Best practices from other states are now available for accountability and how it works in other states. The Commission will be given the opportunity to see this proposal before it goes to legislators.

The parity issue is an enormously complex issue and difficult to deal with, but study is underway. Chairman Floyd talked briefly about the fact that the Commission had attempted to address the issue some years ago with appropriations at a time when budgets were better.

Dr. Festa commended Dr. Woodfaulk for administration of the scholarships on a very small budget.

**6. Other Business**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

*Betsy Gunter*

Recording Secretary

**Attachments I-IV**

\*Attachments are not included in this mailing, but will be filed with the permanent record of these minutes and are available for review upon request.