

MINUTES OF ACTION

TAKEN BY THE

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

April 12, 1978

S.251, amending Commission on Higher Education legislation, was signed into law by Governor Edwards on March 6, 1978, taking effect "upon approval by the Governor." A copy of the new law (R.435) is attached (Exhibit A).

Because there is no specific provision in the new law for continuity or a period of transition during which new members will be appointed, Mr. Roger Kirk and Dr. Boozer discussed the status of the existing Commission with Attorney General McLeod on March 6. In his letter of March 7 to Dr. Boozer (which was forwarded to members of the Commission on March 8 -- see Exhibit B), the Attorney General stated his opinion

" . . . that the present Commissioners must continue in office in a de facto capacity until the assumption of office by the new commissioners, either in their entirety or by a majority thereof, and that the acts of the present Commissioners in such a de facto capacity are valid in all respects . . . "

The regular monthly meeting of the Commission would have been on Thursday, April 6. As that date approached, Dr. Smith, Chairman, determined that a formal meeting of the Commission in April would not be required due to a limited agenda. He authorized the Executive Director, Dr. Boozer, to poll members for a vote by ballot on three items recommended for approval by the Committee on Facilities and Federal Programs, and to follow the same procedure later with reference to two programs to be considered by the Committee on Academic Program Development at the regular quarterly meeting of that Committee on April 6. Commission members have now voted and approved all of these matters by mail ballot, as follows:

The Committee on Facilities and Federal Programs met on March 2 and recommended approval of the following three items:

1. Funding of the following projects under the provisions of Title I-A, HEA 1965, as amended (Community Service and Continuing Education):

a. University of South Carolina - Information Systems in Local Government	\$25,000
b. University of South Carolina - Orientation Program for Local Government and Public Officials	3,838
c. Francis Marion College - Skills for Jobs and Living	13,174
d. Greenville Tech. College - Center for Continuing Education for Women	23,550

e. Medical University of S.C.	- Parenting Education for Teenage Mothers	21,134
f. University of South Carolina	- Substance Abuse Education Through Theatre	28,788
g. Piedmont Technical College	- New Thrusts in Mental Health	15,758
h. Clemson University	- Containment of Hospital Costs	19,709
i. Midlands Tech. College	- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Training Program	21,124

Total Federal Cost \$172,085

2. A request from the University of South Carolina to construct a Science Addition at a cost of \$4,500,000, to be funded through Institutional Bonds; and
3. A request from Winthrop College to pave an existing parking lot at a cost of \$20,000, to be funded through revenues from the Book Store and vehicle registration.

By mail ballot, completed on April 6, a majority of Commission members approved all three of the above projects. There were no negative votes.

At its meeting on April 6, the Committee on Academic Program Development recommended approval of the following two programs:

1. Specialist degree in Librarianship, USC-Columbia, subject to the condition that, for funding purposes, all credit hours accrued by students enrolled in the program be recorded at the master's level, rather than the post-master's or doctoral level; and
2. Institute of Management, Winthrop College.

Members of the Commission were forwarded the above recommendations on April 7 with the request that they indicate their votes by mail ballot. As of April 12, a majority of the members had voted to accept the above recommendations of the Committee on Academic Program Development. There were no negative votes.

On that ballot members of the Commission were also requested to indicate their votes of approval or disapproval of the minutes of the March 2, 1978, meeting of the Commission. By April 12, a majority of the members had approved the minutes of the March 2 meeting.

At the direction of Chairman Smith, this report of actions taken by the Commission since March 2 and through April 12, 1978, will be recorded as official minutes of the Commission on Higher Education.

Respectfully submitted,

Gaylon Syrett
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Recording Secretary