

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

May 6, 1976
10:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

PRESENT:

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Dr. R. Cathcart Smith, Chairman
Mr. Howard L. Burns
Dr. Marianna W. Davis
Dr. William C. Draffin
Mr. Paul W. McAlister
Mr. T. Eston Marchant
Mr. William F. Prioleau, Jr.
Mr. Alex M. Quattlebaum
Mr. J. Clyde Shirley
Mr. I. P. Stanback
Mr. Arthur M. Swanson
Mr. T. Emmet Walsh

GUESTS

Mr. W. Green DesChamps, Jr.
Mr. William Dudley
Dr. Larry A. Jackson
Mr. L. Roger Kirk
Mr. Kenneth Kyre
Mr. Ellis McDougall
Mr. J. Lacy McLean
Dr. George Reeves
Dr. Walter D. Smith

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
Ms. Rosita Minerva
Mr. James L. Solomon, Jr.
Mrs. Gaylon Syrett
Mrs. Cheryl M. Timberlake

MEMBER OF THE PRESS

Ms. Warren McInnis

I. Introductions

Dr. Smith introduced Mr. Arthur M. Swanson, who was appointed to the Commission on April 6 by Governor Edwards as successor to Mr. Chapman.

II. Approval of Minutes of March 4, 1976, Commission Meeting

It was moved (Stanback) and seconded (Quattlebaum) and unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the March 4, 1976, Commission meeting, as written.

III. Report of Academic Program Development Committee

Mr. Quattlebaum, chairman of the Academic Program Development Committee, presented the committee's recommendations concerning the following programs:

a. Diagnostic Center - Clemson University

The Committee recommended that the program be approved. It was moved (Quattlebaum) and seconded (McAlister) and unanimously voted that the recommendation of the committee be adopted.

b. ROTC (Army) Unit - Francis Marion College

The Committee recommended that the program be approved, subject to the proviso that, should an affiliation with an existing unit be authorized, the College not be permitted to include costs for this purpose in calculating its annual appropriations request under the Appropriation Formula. This would be similar to the arrangement now existing at Lander College, where students are permitted access to the ROTC unit at Presbyterian College. Under these conditions, there would be no additional cost to the College or to the State.

President Walter D. Smith noted that, although the program at Francis Marion may operate as an affiliate of Presbyterian College, an Army officer will be stationed on the Francis Marion campus. He stated that while Francis Marion does not anticipate the need for additional support for the program during the current fiscal year, future growth may result in some expense to the State for office and storage space, secretarial help, and office supplies. Dr. Draffin suggested, and the committee concurred, that the last sentence of the recommendation be amended to state, "Under these conditions, there would be no additional cost to the College or to the State, other than the furnishing of office and storage space and secretarial help." It was moved (Quattlebaum) and seconded (Burns) and unanimously voted that the recommendation be approved, as modified.

c. B.S. in Political Science - Lander College

The Committee recommended that the program be approved for implementation in 1976-77. It was moved (Quattlebaum) and seconded (Marchant) and unanimously voted that the recommendation be approved.

d. B.S. in Criminal Justice (2 programs) - University of South Carolina and South Carolina State College

Mr. Quattlebaum noted that South Carolina State College expects to be able to staff the program with the addition of two new positions, while the University of South Carolina will require 16. Under the assumption that additional State appropriations for the programs will not be provided for 1976-77, S.C. State anticipates that it can begin its program as proposed in Fall, 1976; U.S.C. will not be able to do so at that time because of its greater need for additional faculty. With this understanding, the committee recommended that both proposals, specifically including the "Memorandum of Agreement" between the two institutions, be approved. It was moved (Quattlebaum) and seconded (Stanback) and unanimously voted that the recommendation be approved.

e. A.E.T. in General Engineering Technology - Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College

The committee recommended that the program be approved, but that all engineering technology programs be carefully monitored when this program is implemented to determine whether any with low productivity should be discontinued. In keeping with the Commission's earlier recommendations concerning this program in other locations, the committee also recommended that a follow-up study be made by the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education to determine whether the courses selected by the students provide appropriate training for employment, and to evaluate the employment experience of the graduates.

Dr. Davis requested that in the future detailed demographic data be provided to assist the Commission in evaluating a program's productivity. Mr. Kyre stated that a committee of SBTCCE has developed criteria and policy governing program termination. Mr. McAlister expressed the hope that legislative changes will soon be made which will enable the Commission to terminate unnecessary programs. Mr. Burns stated that the Commission should develop criteria for analysis and evaluation of program productivity. Dr. Smith noted that a productivity study has been made on the graduate level, and that as a result a number of programs have been terminated or merged with others.

Dr. Boozer stated that a productivity study on the undergraduate level could not be made until an inventory of degrees awarded was completed and certain other types of data were analyzed and that such a study might be made in the future. He noted that as the legislation now stands, the Commission does not have the explicit authority to discontinue programs but can work with institutions to focus on programs that appear to have outlived their usefulness. President Jackson noted that the number of graduates listed in particular degree programs does not necessarily, or usually, show total productivity of courses in these disciplines. It was moved (Quattlebaum) and seconded (Marchant) and unanimously voted that the recommendation of the committee be approved.

f. A.Bus. in Secretarial Science - Spartanburg Technical College

Mr. Quattlebaum noted that Spartanburg Technical College is one of only two technical institutions which do not have associate degree programs in Secretarial Science. The committee and staff agreed that the program is well justified, although it duplicates a program currently offered at Spartanburg Methodist College. The committee at its meeting on April 1 deferred judgment on this proposal until satisfactory evidence of discussions between the chief executives of the two institutions concerning the apparent duplication was received. The staff has since been informed that the required discussions have taken place and has received a letter from President Barrett of Spartanburg Methodist College which defers to the committee's judgment in the matter. The committee recommended that the program be approved.

Mr. Walsh stated that when a State institution plans and implements a program that duplicates one at a private institution, the private college program cannot compete and will eventually wither. He expressed concern for the future of the State's private college sector. Mr. Krech stated that the number of graduates in the program at Spartanburg Methodist College has been very limited, and that an agreement can be worked out enabling students from the private college to take machine-oriented courses at the technical college, saving S.M.C. the expense of buying new equipment and hiring faculty.

Mr. Kyre noted that Spartanburg Methodist was the only institution in the area that responded negatively to the program proposal, and further, that the student costs are considerably greater at the private college, resulting in low enrollment in the program at S.M.C. Dr. Davis objected to the practice by institutions of offering courses and allowing students to complete those courses before the program has been approved by the Commission. Mr. Kyre stated that the proposed program had been under consideration for 18 months, and that the granting of degrees was not the basis for requesting program approval.

Mr. Burns stated that approval or disapproval of the program at the technical college would not affect enrollment in the program at S.M.C., because the

cost differential is a greater consideration than whether or not the degree is offered. He noted that students who complete the courses in Secretarial Science are able to go into the job market without having the associate degree. It was moved (Quattlebaum) and seconded (Marchant) and unanimously voted to approve the recommendation of the committee.

Dr. Davis requested that the Commission do whatever it can to work cooperatively with the private institutions in the State. She stated that, while tuition costs are greater at private colleges, the Tuition Grants Program provides financial aid to students who attend those colleges and thus promotes the private sector generally. Dr. Smith noted that Mr. McLean attends Commission meetings regularly in order to be informed about the work of the Commission and to transmit information back to the private institutions and from them to the Commission.

Dr. Boozer stated that the Commission relates to the private institutions in the State in various ways. Representatives of the private sector are included in all the planning activities and study committees of the Commission. He noted that more viable communication among the public and private institutions in the Spartanburg area resulted from the discussions concerning coordination and cooperation held during the past year. He stated that optimum use should be made of all resources available to higher education in South Carolina, both public and private, and the Commission is working to do so.

Mr. McLean stated that more has been accomplished in South Carolina in the interest of the private colleges than in most other states. He expressed appreciation to the Commission for its efforts and stated that cooperation between the public and the private sectors must extend to the entire region.

g. Diploma in Industrial Drafting - Piedmont Technical College

The committee recommended that the program be approved. It was moved (Quattlebaum) and seconded (Stanback) and unanimously voted to approve the recommendation.

IV. Report of Legislative Relations Committee

Copies of Bills pertaining to the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education (H.3662, Exhibit A), and the Commission on Higher Education (H.3738, Exhibit B), were distributed to Commission members. Mr. Walsh, committee chairman, read a statement that had been drafted by the Executive Committee and the Legislative Relations Committee at their meeting prior to the Commission meeting. The statement, as amended in the discussion, was as follows;

"The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education urges the Governor and the General Assembly to do everything possible during this session to enact legislation which will give the Commission the authority, through proper control and coordination, to ensure that the taxpayers of South Carolina are getting the most for their dollar.

"House Bill H-3662, pertaining to the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education, has been passed by the House and is now before the Senate Education Committee. As it now stands, this Bill removes authority of the Commission to

approve new associate degree programs and new campuses in the technical education system. To prevent unnecessary expansion of postsecondary education institutions, the Commission must have the authority to approve new programs and expansion through new campuses. The Commission therefore urges the appropriate legislative bodies to amend Bill H-3662 to provide that the construction of any new permanent facility at any location other than a currently approved campus or on property immediately contiguous thereto be subject to the approval of the Commission, and that the authority of the Commission to approve new programs be continued."

Mr. Kirk stated that the Governor's Office had spent several weeks in preparation of H.3662, working with SBTCE and the Legislators involved, and had reached a mutual agreement which would authorize SBTCE Administrative Offices to make policy decisions and would authorize local TEC officials to administer programs at the institutions. He noted that the Senate Education Committee is considering an amendment to the Bill which would restore the authority of the Commission to approve new programs and campuses of the technical education system. Mr. Kirk stated that he continues to be strongly in favor of the authority of the Commission to set criteria for courses as well as to approve new programs.

Mr. Walsh noted that H.3738, concerning the Commission on Higher Education, grew out of the Lake Committee Report. Mr. Kirk stated that the amendments to that Bill were written by the Governor's Office in an effort to eliminate any conflict with H.3662. Mr. McAlister stated that he would urge the Governor to amend reference to "ex officio members of the Commission on Higher Education" to read "without the right to vote." Mr. Kirk indicated that such an amendment could be made.

It was moved (Walsh) and seconded (Shirley) that the statement of the Executive Committee and the Legislative Relations Committee, as amended in the discussion and quoted above, be approved. The motion was adopted, with Mr. Marchant abstaining.

Mr. Jennings distributed copies of summary information from the 1976-77 General Appropriation Bill, as passed by the House (Exhibit C). He noted that the Bill provides for a 5 percent salary increase for all State employees, with funds to pay one-fifth of the increase to be appropriated to each agency. Funds to pay the remaining four-fifths would be expected to come from the agencies' regular appropriations. It is anticipated, however, that funds equivalent to one-fifth of the increase would be appropriated to the Budget and Control Board for allocation to certain agencies to assist them in meeting their share. Mr. Prioleau stated that this would actually result in a further reduction of 3 or 4 percent in each institution's appropriation. He suggested, and Mr. McAlister concurred, that the Commission make a statement to the Senate Finance Committee opposing such a reduction.

On invitation of the Chairman, President Jackson stated that costs for faculty and staff travel have been reduced to a minimum at Lander College, the library budget has been reduced, and it will be recommended to the Board of Trustees that student fees be increased for 1976-77, as has been done at M.U.S.C. and Winthrop College. He noted that very little flexibility exists in the operating budget of any State college or university.

It was moved (Prioleau) and seconded (Stanback) that, in view of the adverse impact further reductions in funding will have on the colleges and universities, the Commission advise the Senate Finance Committee of the Commission's hope that additional funds may be found to cover the pay increase, in lieu of requiring that most of it be absorbed by the institutions as proposed in the House Appropriation Bill. The motion was approved.

Dr. Draffin stated that President Knisely had expressed concern with reference to Section 127 of the 1976-77 General Appropriation Bill (Exhibit D), as passed by the House, which would require all State agencies to obtain the approval of the Budget and Control Board for "all allocations of Federal Funds for programs and services to be administered through State Government agencies . . ." and the colleges and universities to submit their "plans and allocations to the Commission on Higher Education for review prior to submission" to the Board. President Jackson stated that the Council of Presidents of the Public Colleges and Universities recently passed a resolution in opposition to the new requirement in Section 127.

It was moved (Draffin) and seconded (Marchant) that the Commission on Higher Education request that the Senate Finance Committee give consideration to eliminating that portion of Section 127 of the General Appropriation Bill, 1976-77, as it affects higher educational institutions. Mr. Quattlebaum suggested that the Commission make reference in its statement to the resolution of the Council of Presidents. The motion was approved.

V. Report of Executive Director

Dr. Boozer reported that, at his request, the Council of Presidents of the Public Colleges and Universities has proposed a tentative schedule of meetings of the Commission on the campuses of the colleges and universities, beginning with the July meeting and continuing in alternate months.

Dr. Boozer stated that the State Auditor's report on the Commission for Fiscal Years 1974 and 1975, the subject of a newspaper report on May 6, was received by him on May 5. He noted that there was therefore insufficient time to provide copies to members prior to the Commission meeting, and that the report would be mailed to them as soon as possible.

The audit report is in three sections: Financial Statements for the years ending June 30, 1974, and June 30, 1975, and a Management Letter covering both years. The draft of the report, dated August 22, 1975, initially came to the Commission office on April 15, 1976, when Dr. Boozer was afforded the opportunity of reviewing it and submitting written comments on it. His letter of April 21, 1976, to Mr. Pat Smith, which was approved by Chairman Cathcart Smith, was included with the Management Letter (pages 5-7). It was suggested by the State Auditor's Office that the Commission staff assist in drafting policies addressing some of the procedures called into question which are also followed by other State agencies, including the colleges and universities. Dr. Boozer stated that the staff, in cooperation with the Council of Presidents, is in the process of responding to the request from the State Auditor's Office.

On motion made (Quattlebaum) and seconded (Stanback) and unanimously voted, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gaylon Syrett
Gaylon Syrett
Recording Secretary