

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

*Minutes of the Meeting*

March 2, 2006

**Commission Members Present**

Dr. Layton McCurdy, Chairman  
Ms. Rosemary Byerly  
Dr. Doug Forbes  
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne  
Dr. Vermelle Johnson  
Mr. Jim Konduros  
Mr. Miles Loadholt  
Mr. Dan Ravenel  
Mr. Jim Sanders  
Mr. Neal Workman  
Dr. Mick Zais

**Commission Members Absent**

Mr. Larry Durham  
Ms. Cyndi Mosteller

**Staff Present**

Ms. Camille Brown  
Mr. Mike Brown  
Ms. Renea Eshleman  
Dr. Conrad Festa  
Mr. Gary Glenn  
Ms. Lane Jeselnik  
Ms. Lynn Metcalf  
Dr. Gail Morrison  
Dr. Mike Raley  
Ms. Beth Rogers  
Mr. Rashad Rogers  
Ms. Jan Stewart  
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

**Guests**

Mr. Reginald Adams, S. C. State University  
Dr. Mark Becker, U.S.C. - Columbia  
Ms. Lisa Bennett, Troy University  
Ms. Betty Boatwright, S. C. State University  
Dr. Joann Boyd-Scotland, Denmark Technical College  
Mr. Brill Bragdon, U.S.C. - Columbia  
Mr. Duncan Burrell, U.S.C. - Columbia  
Mr. Bob Connelly, U.S.C. - Upstate  
Dr. Anthony Coyne, U.S.C. - Sumter  
Dr. Bill Glisson, Troy University  
Dr. Doris Helms, Clemson University  
Dr. Sally Horner, Coastal Carolina University

Mr. David Hunter, U.S.C. - Columbia  
Ms. Debbie Jackson, Clemson University  
Ms. Karen Jones, Winthrop University  
Ms. Star Kepner, U.S.C. - Sumter  
Dr. Scott Ludlow, S.C. Technical College System  
Ms. Beth McInnis, Clemson University  
Mr. John Malmrose, Medical University of S.C.  
Dr. Isaac Metts, The Citadel  
Ms. Caroline Mills, Clemson University  
Ms. Candice Morgan, University of Phoenix  
Mr. Rick Moul, PASCAL  
Dr. Diane Newton, Lander University  
Ms. Jennifer Pearce, Medical University of S.C.  
Dr. Chris Plyer, U.S.C. Regional Campuses  
Ms. Susan Prior, U.S.C. - Columbia  
Dr. Chris Przirembel, Clemson University  
Ms. Hope Rivers, S.C. Technical College System  
Dr. Aileen Trainer, U.S.C. - Columbia  
Dr. Tom Seebode, Troy University  
Ms. Christine Smalls, Medical University of S.C.  
Dr. Henry Stewart, Troy University  
Ms. Tamara Webb, Clemson University  
Dr. Richard Weldon, Coastal Carolina University  
Mr. Bob Wells, Clemson University  
Dr. Dave White, Troy University  
Mr. Bryce Wilson, S.C. Budget & Control Board

**Members of the Press**

no members of the press attended

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

### 1. Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Chairman McCurdy. Ms. Renea Eshleman introduced the guests attending, all of whom are listed above.

### 2. Approval of Minutes

Chairman McCurdy asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 2, 2006. A **motion** was made (Loadholt), **seconded** (Byerly), and **carried** to approve the minutes as written.

### 3. Chairman's Report

Chairman McCurdy began his report with presentations of the awards for the Commission's Fourth Annual Service Learning Competition. He provided background information for this initiative which publicizes on a statewide scale the service learning and volunteerism efforts of South Carolina's colleges and universities.

Of the eleven nominations, the three recipients of this award were as follows:

The Medical University of S. C. for their project, "Crisis Ministries Homeless Shelter Medical Clinic", Project Director: Liz Sheridan;  
Florence-Darlington Technical College for their project, "Storm Drainage for the Presbyterian Home in Florence, SC", Project Director: Kamil Zakhour; and  
Furman University for their project, "Ladies of Distinction - Beck Academy", Project Director: Nancy Cooper.

Dr. McCurdy made reference to recent news articles about funding for higher education in South Carolina and the variety of data sources which provide numbers to which these articles refer. He reported that Ms. Lynn Metcalf and Ms. Julie Carullo had compiled a list of those data sources and the information they contain, a copy of which is found in **Attachment I**. Dr. McCurdy also made reference to comparative data drawn from The Chronicle of Higher Education Almanac Issue, 2005-06, a copy of which may be found in **Attachment II**. Discussion followed regarding the conclusiveness of this data and the selective use of data to prove a point. Dr. McCurdy commented that officials at Clemson University are currently in the process of acquiring grant money which will be used to assess statewide student debt burden in South Carolina. When that data is collected, it will be presented to the Commission for review and questions.

**4. Committee Reports**

**4.01 Report of the Executive Committee**

(No Report)

**- Layton McCurdy**

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

**- Vermelle Johnson**

**A. Consideration of New Program Proposals**

Dr. Johnson thanked Commissioner Horne as well as members of the CHE staff for their hard work in preparing the materials brought forward today. She further stated that all three of these programs had been thoroughly considered and approved by her committee. Detailed information about each of these programs may be found in **Attachments III - V**.

1. B.S., Bioengineering, Clemson
2. B.S., Biomedical Engineering, USC - Columbia
3. M.S. and Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering, USC - Columbia

A **motion** was made (Johnson), **seconded** (Workman), and **carried** to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve Clemson University's proposed program leading to the B.S. degree in Bioengineering with concentrations in biomaterials engineering and bioelectrical engineering, to be implemented in Fall 2006, provided that no additional "unique cost" or other special state funding be required or requested.

A **motion** was made (Johnson), **seconded** (Loadholt), and **carried** to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve USC - Columbia's proposed program leading to the B.S degree in Biomedical Engineering, to be implemented in Fall 2006, provided that no additional "unique cost" or other special state funding be required or requested.

A **motion** was made (Johnson) and **seconded** (Workman) to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve USC - Columbia's proposed programs leading to the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Biomedical Engineering to be implemented in Fall 2006, provided that no additional "unique cost" or other special state funding be required or requested.

Commissioner Byerly inquired as to whether it was unusual to begin B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. programs in a particular field all at the same time. Questions were also asked about whether these three programs could be implemented so quickly as well as whether other programs of the same type already exist in the Southeast. Dr. Mark Becker of the USC responded that since these programs evolve out of other disciplines, the core infrastructure for them already exists, though some faculty will have to be added. He further stated that other programs of this nature do currently exist in the Southeast, but that it is emerging as a core important area and is needed in South Carolina. Discussion followed about collaboration of Clemson, USC, and MUSC in the offering of these programs, the saturation level of similar programs offered in nearby states, and the fact that the need for these programs is being fueled by the country's current biological revolution which is requiring the development of new instruments and new therapies in the medical field. Discussion also followed about the accreditation process of these programs. Dr. Duncan Burrell of U.S.C. responded that all of these programs would be accredited every six years through the Accrediting Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) and that this will be applied for as soon as the ongoing program is established. He also responded to questions about the cost of the accrediting process as well as whether these particular programs would be considered at the same time that other similar programs are scheduled to be reviewed for accreditation purposes.

The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

**B. Consideration of Request for License Amendment**

B.S., Business Administration and B.S., Criminal Justice,  
Troy State University at Sumter and Charleston

Dr. Johnson provided background information about this request, a summary of which may be found in **Attachment VI**. She also explained that the request had come before the Commission in 2003 but action on it had been deferred due to concerns raised about the program's quality and resources. Dr. Johnson stated that the Commission staff has found that the program now meets the appropriate licensing regulations and requirements.

A **motion** was made (Johnson) and **seconded** ( Konduros) to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve an amendment to the license of Troy University which would allow Troy University to offer in Sumter and Charleston the programs leading to the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice.

In response to Commissioner Ravenel's question, Dr. David White of Troy University responded that at least two other similar programs are currently offered in the Charleston area. He added that, unlike the other programs, this program is

built totally around the working adult student. Discussion followed about the articulation of credits earned at Troy, the use of the U.S.C. - Sumter library, future expansion of the program, and the percentage of student at Troy who are in the military. Commissioner Horne commented that the programs offered by Troy University have become increasingly strong over the years, and are very reasonably priced as well as user friendly for the working adult student populations.

The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

**C. Consideration of NCATE/State Partnership Program Evaluations at Clemson University and The Citadel**

A summary of the report of the evaluations for both institutions may be found in **Attachment VII**. Based on those reports, a **motion** was made (Johnson) and **seconded** (Horne) to approve the following **recommendations**:

For Clemson University:

1. The Committee recommends that the Commission grant full approval status for programs as noted below in Table 1 (see page 7, **Attachment VII**), and accept the termination noted.
2. In addition, the Committee recommends that the Commission require that Clemson report on unit and program improvements made in response to the UAB and CHE consultants' findings in its 2006 Institutional Effectiveness report, due August 1, 2006.
3. Finally, the Committee recommends that the Commission require that a progress report be submitted to the Commission by June 1, 2006, indicating a strong plan for program change with measurable goals and objectives for the programs in Technology & Human Resource Development: B.S. Industrial Technology, M.H.R.D. in Human Resources Development, and Ed.D. in Career & Technology Education.

For The Citadel:

1. Consistent with the UAB decision to "continue accreditation, with conditions", the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission award to all programs in The Citadel's School of Education provisional approval as noted in Table 2 (see p. 11, **Attachment VII**) until the UAB reconsiders the unit's status based on a visitation to be held no later than Fall 2007.
2. The Committee recommends that the Commission accept the terminations noted.

3. The Committee recommends that the Commission require that The Citadel must also report on unit and program improvements made in response to the UAB findings in its 2006 Institutional Effectiveness report, due August 1, 2006.
4. In keeping with customary practice and policy, the Committee recommends that the Commission consider no new program requests in Education until the unit obtains full accreditation.
5. Finally, the Committee recommends that the Commission require that the one program (M.Ed. Reading Education) not receiving full approval from its responsive SPA (see Footnotes, p. 12, **Attachment VII**), be resubmitted until full approval is granted.

In response to Commissioner Ravenel's question, Colonel Isaac Metts stated that this action would leave only the Social Studies program in secondary education at The Citadel. He further stated that the institution was in the process of developing scholarships which would help reinstitute secondary education programs in Math and Science. In response to Commissioner Sanders' inquiry, Colonel Metts stated the accreditation process with regard to this type of program is very rigorous.

The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

#### **D. Consideration of NCATE's Reconsideration of Evaluations of Lander University and Francis Marion University**

A summary of the report of the evaluations for both institutions may be found in **Attachment VIII**. Based on those reports, a **motion** was made (Johnson), **seconded** (Workman), and **carried** to approve the following **recommendations**:

For Lander University:

1. The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends to the Commission that it recognize the October 2005 action by NCATE's Unit Accreditation Board to change a decision associated with the evaluation of teacher education programs at Lander University and award "Full Approval" program status as shown in Table 1 (see page 10, **Attachment VIII**).
2. The Committee recommends that the Commission congratulate Lander University for achieving full approval from NCATE.
3. The Committee recommends that the Commission require the unit to report on continued unit and program improvement made in response to the UAB and CHE consultant's findings in its 2006 Institutional Effectiveness report, due August 1, 2006.

For Francis Marion University:

1. The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends to the Commission that it recognize the October 2005 action by NCATE's Unit Accreditation Board to change a decision associated with the evaluation of teacher education programs at Francis Marion University and award "Full Approval" program status shown in Table 2 (see page 14, **Attachment XIII**).
2. The Committee recommends that the Commission congratulate Francis Marion University for achieving full approval from NCATE.
3. The Committee recommends that the Commission require the unit to report on continued unit and program improvements made in response to the UAB and CHE consultant's findings in its 2006 Institutional Effectiveness report, due August 1, 2006.
4. The Committee recommends that the Commission urge the institution to make every effort to obtain full approval within the allowable two-year time frame established by the State Department of Education from the Specialty Professional Associations (SPA) for programs on provisional status; periodic updates as to the progression of programs through the SPA approval process should be provided to the Committee.

**E. Consideration of Annual Evaluation of Associate Degree Programs, FY 2003-04**

Commissioner Johnson commented that the evaluation of these programs revealed that they all met the "good" status requirements for this reporting year. A summary of this information may be found in **Attachment IX**.

A **motion** was made (Johnson) and **seconded** (Horne) to approve the following **recommendations**:

The Committee recommends that the Commission grant this report's designation of programs for the current reporting year as shown in Tables 5,6,7, and 8 (see p. 14 - 17, **Attachment IX**).

The Committee recommends that the Commission request the Technical College System and two-year regional USC campuses to develop plans for both their systems and individual institutions to address increasing enrollments and degree completions in AA/AS programs, as well as transfer to four-year institutions from the AA/AS transfer programs.

The Committee recommends that the Commission request that the State Technical College System develop a system plan for Engineering Technology programs for improving academic preparation for these programs among new students;

recruitment and retention of students through graduation; and transfer of graduates to related in-state four-year programs of study; and

The Committee recommends that the Commission request that the State Technical College System and the USC two-year Regional Campuses develop a cooperative and comprehensive statewide plan to offer some non-duplicative, occupationally-related associate degree programs at USC - Lancaster, USC - Salkehatchie, and USC - Union as workforce and economic development needs suggest would be appropriate.

Discussion followed regarding the cancellation of the HVAC Technology program at Spartanburg Technical College, the decrease in the number of program graduates in the USC System, as well as the steadiness of the System's enrollment numbers. Commissioner Horne commented on how well this report had been prepared in terms of the information it provides with regard to workforce development.

The motion was then brought to the table and carried.

#### **4.03 Report of the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services**

**- Dan Ravenel**

Commissioner Ravenel stated that the Committee had no report, however, he introduced CHE staff member Michael Brown who provided information on the upcoming Access & Equity Conference to take place in Charleston April 19-21, 2006. More complete detail about the conference may be found in **Attachment X**.

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

**- Rosemary Byerly**

##### **A. Consideration of Interim Capital Projects**

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. Clemson                     | - Rhodes Hall Annex Construction<br>A & E Only  |
| 2. Coastal Carolina University | - Instructional Space Renovation<br>- Deferred Maintenance<br>- Campus Development/Infrastructure<br>- Athletic Training Facility - Phase II<br>- Student Center Deferred Maintenance |
| 3. SC State University         | - Campus-wide Buildings Miscellaneous<br>Reports  |

Commissioner Byerly stated that each of the projects listed above had been considered carefully, reviewed, discussed, and approved by her Committee. She briefly described each of the projects, detailed information about which may be found in **Attachment XI**.



A motion was made (Byerly) and **carried** to approve all of the above-mentioned projects as **recommended**.

#### **B. Information Items**

1. MUSC Notification of Sale of Land
2. List of Staff Approvals for January 2006
3. CHE Permanent Improvement Recommendation and Transmittal

Commissioner Byerly stated this material, as found in **Attachment XI**, was provided for information only and that no action was required.

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

Chairman McCurdy stated that the legislative update would be postponed due to the fact that both Rita Allison and Julie Carullo were attending to matters concerning activities of the House Ways and Means Committee and unable to be at the Commission meeting. A prepared packet of information concerning current legislation and funding as well as other newsworthy matters was, however, provided to the Commissioners for their review. (See **Attachment XII**).

#### **6. Report of the Executive Director**

Dr. Festa reported that the subcommittee for higher education of the Ways and Means Committee had recommended that the CHE be funded \$135,000 to be used for much needed personnel additions in area of Finance and Management Information Systems. Also recommended was \$328,000 for the CHE to implement its responsibilities in accordance with the EEDA. No funds have been recommended thus far for the Electronic Library or for Program Review. Dr. Festa stated that the CHE's request for \$50 million in Education and General funds was not recommended. Instead the Ways and Means Committee is recommending a series of additions, in the amount of approximately \$10 million, to selected institutions to address parity. Discussion took place about the lack of a recommendation for recurring funding for the Electronic Library. Commissioner Ravenel urged the CHE to once again take the lead in advocating recurring funding for this item. Commissioner Konduros noted the value of contacting legislators one-on-one in this regard. Dr. Festa further discussed with Commissioners the House Ways and Means Committee Budget Recommendations to date.

Dr. Festa stated that he has advocated that the amount of money spent on below-the-line items be reduced significantly to include only those items which are meeting statewide needs and goals. He also stated that, though no statewide strategic plan currently exists for higher education in South Carolina, the Governor's task force for this purpose is still being developed and they are expected to report to the Governor by June of this year. This will hopefully bring forward the beginning for a statewide strategic plan. Dr. McCurdy reported that he and Dr. Festa had had one meeting with Mr. Lyles Glenn, the Chair of the Taskforce.

Dr. Festa also reported that he and members of the CHE staff have been spending a great amount of time working in conjunction with K-12 on committees brought forth by the EEDA. This involves the restructuring of high schools and better preparing students for higher education, ultimately producing a more qualified workforce and better economy in South Carolina.

Dr. McCurdy stated that, though not yet confirmed, initial appointments to the Commission of Ken Wingate as an at-Large representative and Dr. Louis Lynn as the Research representative have been made.

## **7. Presentation**

Dr. Morrison introduced Dr. Chris Przirembel who delivered a presentation about the significant research efforts currently underway at Clemson University. This is the second of the state's three research universities to present to the Commission. Dr. Harris Pastides of USC presented at the January 2006 meeting and Dr. Ray Greenberg of the Medical University of S. C. is scheduled to present at the Commission's meeting on September 7, 2006. Dr. Przirembel's presentation demonstrated the relationship between research at Clemson and economic development in South Carolina with particular emphasis on the Clemson University International Center for Automotive Research (ICAR). Specific information about Dr. Przirembel's presentation may be found in **Attachment XIII**.

## **8. Other Business** (none)

9. There being no other business, Chairman McCurdy adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Beth B. Rogers*

Beth B. Rogers  
Recording Secretary

## **Attachments I - XIII**

\*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.