

MINUTES OF MEETING  
OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

February 6, 1975  
10:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

PRESENT

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Dr. R. Cathcart Smith, Chairman  
Mr. Howard L. Burns  
Dr. Marianna W. Davis  
Dr. William C. Draffin  
Mr. Gedney M. Howe  
Mr. F. Mitchell Johnson  
Mr. Paul W. McAlister  
Mr. T. Eston Marchant  
Mr. Alex M. Quattlebaum  
Mr. Y. W. Scarborough, Jr.  
Mr. Fred R. Sheheen  
Mr. O. Stanley Smith  
Mr. I. P. Stanback  
Mr. Othniel H. Wienges, Jr.

GUESTS

Mr. L. Roger Kirk, Jr.  
Dr. William M. McCord  
Mr. J. Lacy McLean  
Dr. Charles E. Palmer  
Dr. Charles B. Vail

STAFF

Dr. Howard R. Boozer  
Mr. Horace F. Byrne  
Dr. George P. Fulton  
Mr. William C. Jennings  
Dr. Frank E. Kinard  
Mr. Alan S. Krech  
Mr. James R. Michael  
Mr. John J. Powers  
Mrs. Rosita M. Ramsey  
Mr. James L. Solomon, Jr.  
Mrs. Gaylon Syrett  
Miss Clara K. Wilson

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS

Mr. Robert Hitt  
Ms. Warren McInnis

I. Introductions

Dr. Smith opened the meeting by introducing Mr. L. Roger Kirk, Jr., recently appointed by Governor Edwards to serve as his Executive Assistant for Education and Manpower, and Mrs. Rosita M. Ramsey, who joined the Commission's staff as secretary on January 27.

## II. Approval of Minutes of January 9, 1975, Commission Meeting

It was moved (Marchant) and seconded (Stanback) to approve the minutes of the January 9, 1975, Commission meeting, as written. Mr. Johnson read a statement regarding the Commission's appropriation recommendations to the Budget and Control Board, and requested that it be made a part of the minutes. The statement made reference to an error in the preliminary figures submitted by the Commission to the Budget and Control Board. Mr. Sheheen explained that the error had been called to the attention of the State Auditor and corrected, but that it was discovered too late to be changed in the budget book. He suggested that Mr. Johnson's statement be made an addendum to the minutes of the January Commission meeting. The motion was amended (Marchant) and seconded (Stanback) that the minutes be approved with the addition of Mr. Johnson's statement. The motion was adopted.

## III. Consideration of Capital Improvement Requests - M. U. S. C.

Mr. Michael reported staff recommendations concerning capital improvement requests received from the Medical University of South Carolina.

1. Parking Garage - \$5,100,000. Approval recommended, provided no State-appropriated funds are used. It was moved (Sheheen) and seconded (Howe) to adopt the staff recommendation. The motion was approved.

2. Student Residence - \$3,450,000. Approval recommended, provided no State-appropriated funds are used. It was moved (Howe) and seconded (Stanback) to adopt the staff recommendation. The motion was approved. It was the sense of the Commission that General Obligation Bonds should not be used, and that Revenue Bonds are appropriate for Items 1 and 2 above.

3. College of Pharmacy - \$800,000. Approval recommended. It was moved (Scarborough) and seconded (Howe) to adopt the staff recommendation. The motion was approved.

4. Auditorium - \$1,585,500. Disapproval recommended until all approved projects have been fully funded.

5. Gymnasium - \$1,134,000. Disapproval recommended until all approved projects have been fully funded.

In the discussion concerning Items 4 and 5, Mr. Quattlebaum suggested that the Commission consider studying the feasibility of facilities which could be used by several institutions in the Charleston area. It was moved (Quattlebaum) and seconded (Davis) that action on Items 4 and 5 be deferred pending further study by M. U. S. C., the College of Charleston, and other institutions in the Charleston area concerning the joint use of such facilities. The motion was approved.

6. Land Acquisition - \$1,000,000. Approval recommended. It was moved (Sheheen) and seconded (Marchant) to adopt the staff recommendation. The motion was approved.

7. Basic Science II - \$31,713,000. It was recommended that the application be returned to the institution for additional justification. It was moved (Marchant) and seconded (Quattlebaum) to adopt the staff recommendation. The motion was approved.

8. Physical Plant Service Facility - \$1,714,850. It was recommended that the application be returned to the institution, to be resubmitted if appropriate when Item 7 and/or other facilities are approved. It was moved (Howe) and seconded (Burns) to adopt the staff recommendation. The motion was approved.

#### IV. Report of Committee on Federal Programs

Committee Chairman Howe requested that Dr. Davis present the report of the Committee on Federal Programs. Dr. Davis stated that the Committee met on January 9, 1975, to review 14 proposals and make its recommendations to the Commission for funding from the State's anticipated 1975 allotment of \$169,754 under Title I of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. The 14 proposals, totaling \$248,017.61, were selected from an original field of 34 by tabulation of preference votes of eight readers -- two from the CHE Committee on Federal Programs, three from the Commission's staff, one from the Governor's Office, and two consultants with special credentials for the task. Prior to the meeting Commission members were provided with a list of the proposals in rank order. The Committee recommended that the first 10 proposals be approved for funding, with a 10 percent decrease in the amounts requested in order to stay within the anticipated funds available. Dr. Davis reported that the Committee also recommended that all 14 proposals be funded in the event sufficient additional funds should be forthcoming. It was moved (Howe) and seconded (Burns) to adopt Committee recommendations. The motion was approved.

#### V. Report on Beaufort Technical Education Center Five-year Plan

Mr. Krech reported that the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education had submitted a five-year institutional plan for the development of Beaufort Technical Education Center, the second of several such plans which are being developed, at the request of the Commission, for former Area Trade Schools and for the Williamsburg Regional Manpower Center. The staff recommended that the Commission receive the "Beaufort TEC Five-year Plan" as information, with the understanding that specific programs will be separately submitted to the Commission for action. The staff also suggested that staff members of SBTCE and Beaufort TEC give consideration to (1) possible combined use of certain facilities by Beaufort TEC and Beaufort Regional Campus of U.S.C.; (2) an examination of the Varnville Extension Center in relation to joint criteria for the development of multicampus institutions, should complete degree programs be planned

for that institution in the future; and (3) the addition of the Beaufort Regional Campus of U.S.C. to the bus route of the four "Substate Area Ten" buses assigned by the Governor's Office, which are housed and maintained by Jasper County Health Center and made available at no cost to Beaufort TEC.

#### VI. General Discussion of CHE Priorities

Dr. Smith stated that this item had been put on the agenda to provide Commission members an opportunity to offer their comments and suggestions concerning Commission priorities.

Mr. Wienges recommended that the Commission continue to work closely with the private colleges in South Carolina as well as with the State institutions.

Mr. Howe suggested expanding the consortium concept, e.g., coordinating libraries and other facilities, holding regional meetings of institutions, possibly developing a State consortium to avoid duplications and to conserve funds.

Mr. McAlister stated that the movement to disallow tax deductions for charitable contributions, particularly those of appreciated property, will jeopardize both public and private institutions. He noted that South Carolina's law does not conform to the federal law in that it does not permit a carry-over of charitable contributions for appreciated property in excess of 30 percent of one's income. He urged the Commission to remind the Legislature to examine this law as it relates to the federal legislation.

Mr. Johnson suggested that Dr. Smith consider broadening the committees of the Commission. Dr. Smith stated that the committees were designed to prevent an excessive demand on the time of the Commission as a body. He suggested the possibility of forming an ad hoc committee to work on budgetary matters.

Mr. S. Smith expressed the view that formula budgeting tends to reinforce the continuance of academic programs that perhaps should be discontinued or consolidated, and recommended the development of program budgeting to replace formula budgeting.

Mr. Sheheen suggested that the Commission (1) develop a timetable on the preparation of a master plan for higher education in South Carolina; (2) examine the legislation that permits the automatic conversion of U.S.C. branches to senior college status; (3) make an effort to clarify the contradiction in the law concerning the governance of new four-year institutions; and (4) hold at least three of its meetings each year on various college and university campuses, as has been done before but not in the recent past.

Mr. Quattlebaum stated that the Commission should be better informed on student enrollments, both in the public and in the private sectors, and suggested that staff of the institutions and of the Commission develop a plan to obtain enrollment projections in future years. He stated that budgetary procedures other than formula budgeting are worth considering. He recommended that the Commission develop guidelines for cooperation between U.S.C. branches and TEC institutions to avoid duplication.

Mr. Marchant noted that the Board of Trustees of U.S.C. has promulgated a 15-point checklist in an attempt to study the operations of branches that plan to remain a part of the University system. He stated that all contracts between the branches of the University and the Main Campus have expired and are being renegotiated. He stated also that the credibility of the Commission to the Legislature has improved greatly during the past three years, due to a variety of factors, including the positive approach the Commission has taken.

Mr. Wienges stated that the governance of the two-year branches is a legislative problem that must be resolved by the Legislature. He expressed the view that the Commission should establish a clear and concise policy and identify the problems for the Legislature. Dr. Smith stated that the Commission might find it helpful to develop a counter-proposal to present to the Legislature if it asks for an alternative.

The Chairman observed that the Commission has not established criteria for the conversion of a two-year institution into a four-year institution. Mr. Sheheen noted that the Commission has not established the principle that there should be an automatic conversion of two-year institutions at all. He suggested that the Legislative Relations Committee study the problem and make recommendations to the full Commission within the next two months. Dr. Smith suggested that the staff develop recommendations, giving several alternatives, for consideration by the Commission.

Mr. Burns recommended (1) that students attending public institutions in the State bear a reasonable and equitable portion of the increases in higher education costs; (2) that a comparison be made of the relative needs of physical facility maintenance and improvement at the various institutions in the State; and (3) that the Commission not only attempt to keep harmony and oversee the fair and equitable distribution of funds and academic programs each year, but spend more time and effort on long-range planning, over-all policy, and direction for the educational needs of the State for future years. He expressed the view that an excessive amount of time is spent by the Commission on immediate problems when long-range problems should be its prime concern.

On the invitation of the Chairman, Dr. Vail commented that the Council of Presidents continues to be concerned about long-range, comprehensive planning. He stated that the Council stands ready to provide assistance to the Commission in any way it can.

Mr. Kirk stated that the House Education Committee would welcome information and advice from the Commission to assist the Committee in making informed and intelligent decisions.

On Dr. Smith's invitation, Mr. McLean stated that, although private colleges are in a precarious position all over the country, South Carolina private institutions are healthier than most because of the Tuition Grants Program. Freshman enrollment in private colleges in the State is up 8.8 percent this year over last year, while the national increase is about 1.5 percent. He stated that the private institutions are eager to cooperate with State institutions in proximity, in an effort to produce better education for less money.

#### VII. Report of Executive Director

Dr. Boozer stated that he was impressed by the breadth of concern expressed by Commission members regarding CHE priorities and by the excellent suggestions. He indicated that the aim of the Commission's staff is to implement policy decided upon by the Commission, and that the staff is anxious to solve problems and answer questions with reference to the formula and other matters. He noted that a meeting of the 1202 Commission, to focus on planning, is scheduled for March 6. The staff is working to develop steps on ways to proceed, with plans for research studies in several areas, such as enrollment projections, libraries, student financial aid, articulation between two-year and senior institutions, attrition and migration of students, health education, and proprietary education. He noted that through the Commission's standing committees the Commission will be able to give more attention to long-range matters than has been possible in the past, without taking an inordinate amount of time in discussion around the full table.

He reported on consortium activities among Charleston institutions, and noted that he has met on several occasions with the presidents of the public and private institutions in Spartanburg to work toward cooperation and consortium activities in that area. He reported also that Mr. Howe, Mr. Scarborough, Dr. Smith, and he and two other staff members attended the annual meeting in Charleston in December of the State Association of Colleges and Universities.

Dr. Boozer stated that letters requesting suggestions for use in further refining the budget formula had been mailed to the presidents of public senior colleges and universities, the chairmen of the two legislative education committees, Governor Edwards and other members of the Budget and Control Board, and to members of the Commission. He urged recipients of the letter to convey their recommendations back to him by March 1.

On motion made (Quattlebaum) and seconded (Burns) and unanimously adopted, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Gaylon Syrett*  
Gaylon Syrett, Recording Secretary