

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
1333 Main Street, Suite 200
Columbia, S.C. 29201
Minutes of the Meeting
March 4, 2010
10:30 a.m.

Commission Members Attending

Mr. Ken Wingate, Chairman
Dr. Doug Forbes
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne
Mr. Ken Jackson
Ms. Cynthia Mosteller
Mr. Jim Sanders
Mr. Bill Scarborough
Mr. Guy Tarrant
Mr. Chuck Talbert
Mr. Hood Temple
Dr. Charles Thomas
Dr. Mick Zais

Commission Members Absent

Dr. Raghu Korrapati
Mr. Neal Workman

Staff Present

Dr. Garrison Walters, Executive Director
Dr. Tini Anderson
Ms. Laura Belcher
Mr. Arik Bjorn
Ms. Courtney Blake
Ms. Camille Brown
Mr. Michael Brown
Mr. Sidney Brown
Ms. Julie Carullo
Mr. Derrah Cassidy
Ms. Stephanie Charbonneau
Ms. Lorinda Copeland
Ms. Renea Eshleman
Mr. Gary Glenn
Ms. Lane Goodwin
Dr. Paula Gregg
Ms. Trena Houpp
Ms. Erin Konkle
Ms. Rae McPherson
Dr. Gail Morrison
Mr. Clint Mullins
Ms. Yolanda Myers
Dr. Mike Raley
Ms. Beth Rogers
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Guests

Ms. Megan Augustine, Winthrop University
Dr. John Ballato, Clemson University (by phone)
Ms. Bonnie Blair, Open Arms Hospice
Dr. Mary Ann Byrnes, USC Columbia
Ms. Kelly Castle, Open Arms Hospice
Dr. Marsha Dowell, USC Upstate
Ms. Nicole Ford-Jennings, SC Budget & Control Board
Dr. Kris Finnigan, USC Columbia
Dr. Mary Anne Fitzpatrick
Ms. Stephanie Frazier, SC Technical College System
Ms. Kema Gadson, Winthrop University
Mr. Toby Hayes, Remington College
Ms. Robbie Higdon, Hughes Academy
Dr. George Hynd, College of Charleston (by phone)
Ms. Karen Jones, Winthrop University
Dr. John Kaup, Furman University
Ms. Dorcas Kitchings, Midlands Technical College
Mr. Mike Lanouette, Remington College
Dr. Andrew Lewis, College of Charleston (by phone)
Ms. Kathy McKinney, Furman University
Ms. Elizabeth Mann, Greenville Technical College
Dr. Patrick Mark, Hughes Academy
Dr. Martha Moriarty, USC Beaufort
Dr. Phil Moore, USC Columbia
Mr. Tom Nelson, Lander University
Ms. Mary Beth McCubbin, Clemson University
Ms. Jen Phelps, SC Association of Technical
College Commissioners
Ms. Sandra Powers, College of Charleston
Ms. Bonnie Smith, Greenville Technical College
Dr. Dennis Smith, Clemson University
Ms. Amy Sullivan, Winthrop University
Dr. Harvey Varnet, USC Beaufort
Ms. Beverly Wagner, Greenville Technical College
Dr. Belle Wheelan, Southern Association of Colleges
And Schools (SACS)
Dr. John Wheeler, Furman University
Mr. Chuck Wright, USC Sumter
Ms. Leanna Young, Greenville Technical College

Members of the Press

none

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

1. Introductions

- Julie Carullo

Ms. Carullo introduced all in attendance, all of whom are listed above.

2. Approval of Minutes

A **motion** was made (Tarrant), **seconded** (Forbes), and **carried** to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2010, CHE meeting.

3. Chairman's Report

- Ken Wingate

Chairman Wingate provided a brief overview of activities that had taken place since the February CHE meeting. Those activities included: 1) his debate on February 15 with Representative Jim Merrill regarding the bill to discontinue the CHE; 2) a presentation he and Dr. Walters delivered to the Winthrop Board of Trustees on February 19; and 3) a meeting with President DiGiorgio and others at Winthrop on February 23 for the purpose of planning a gubernatorial candidate forum to be held there on March 23. Focused on the subject of higher education, the gubernatorial forum will be sponsored by the CHE. Chairman Wingate had also met with the Board of the South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities to discuss the SCCANGO initiative as well as with some members of the legislature regarding various issues. At Chairman Wingate's request, Commissioner Thomas then shared information on his recent trip to Haiti to provide medical relief to victims of the recent, disastrous earthquake.

4. Report of the Executive Director

- Garrison Walters

Dr. Walters reported on his most recent presentations to Rotary clubs in Sumter and Beaufort, stating that both had resulted in good participation and discussion about the necessity of supporting higher education in a knowledge economy. He stated that he and Dr. Karen Woodfaulk would soon be returning to Jasper County to speak with members of the Hardeeville Chamber of Commerce about starting a college access program. Dr. Walters also reported on a meeting with senior administrators at USC regarding culture change research and development in an effort to support the development of college access programs and ensure their success. He stated that work was in progress toward the acquisition of a broadband technology computing center grant, and that he and Commissioner Scarborough will be co-chairing a task force whose purpose is to determine the graduate education needs of the Charleston area. A report from that task force should be available by mid-summer. Dr. Walters noted that a progress report on the New Front Door adult education initiative is expected to be delivered at the April CHE meeting. At Dr. Walters' request, staff updates were provided by: 1) Dr. Karen Woodfaulk on College Application Week and College Goal Sunday; 2) Dr. Gail Morrison on the March 2 & 3, 2009, Health Economy Advancement Legacy SC (HEAL SC) conference, a schedule of which may be found in **Attachment I**, as well as on the SC Transfer and Articulation project (SCTRAC); and 3) Mr. Michael Brown on the April 7-9, 2010, Access & Equity conference, information about which may be found in **Attachment II**. Commissioner Mosteller provided a briefing on the February 17-19 Campus Safety Conference, noting in particular one of the presentations concerning the legal liabilities of institutions and the individuals who represent them. She stated that the possibility of having this presentation delivered to the Commission as well as various institutional boards of trustees is being explored.

5. Legislative Report

- Julie Carullo

Ms. Carullo provided information on the House Ways & Means Committee's FY 2010-11 budget recommendations for colleges and universities (**Attachment III**), noting these recommendations reflect base funding for colleges of \$424 million, a level below funding received 25 years ago. Recommendations include base funding reductions of 15% for CHE. She also reported that funding recommendations provided for scholarship growth, and that the budget recommendations do not reflect funding additional funding for PASCAL. A schedule for appropriation bill deliberations for both the House and Senate (**Attachment IV**), indicates that the House expects to debate the budget during the week of March 15, and that it should be

considered on the floor of the Senate during the last week of April. Dr. Walters noted that additional detail demonstrating the severity of the lack of funding for higher education will be reflected in materials to be distributed and included in op-ed pieces to be developed soon.

6. Presentations

A. A Conversation About Accreditation

**- Dr. Belle Wheelan
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)**

Dr. Walters introduced Dr. Belle Wheelan, President of the Southern Associations of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. Dr. Wheelan described the purpose and function of SACS, the accreditation process, and specifics on particular standards related to the process. More detail about Dr. Wheelan's remarks may be found in her talking points (**Attachment V**). During the course of discussion that followed and in response to Chairman Wingate's question regarding whether SACS provides training on the accreditation process to members of institutional Boards of Trustees, Dr. Wheelan stated that the topic is to be considered at the SACS annual meeting in the fall. She stated she would deliver more detailed information to the CHE after the fall meeting.

B. CHE Service Learning Awards

- Ken Wingate

At Chairman Wingate's request, Commissioner Mosteller provided information on the background of the Service Learning Award. He stated that of the 16 programs nominated for the award, 4 had been selected based on the following criteria: 1) ability to resolve community concerns or address community issues; 2) degree to which project enhances student learning; 3) impact on community; and 4) integration into academics. Chairman Wingate announced the winners, which were: 1) York County Hunger Project, Winthrop University, Project Director – Ellin McDonough; 2) a.LINE.ments, Clemson University, Project Director – Mary Beth McCubbin; 3) Gerontology Certificate Service Learning Projects, Greenville Technical College, Project Director – Beverly Wagner; and 4) Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) Mentors Advancing Science Education and Wellness in Urban Greenville Schools, Furman University, Project Director – John Wheeler.

Chairman Wingate asked each recipient to briefly describe his/her program, and then commented briefly on each of the programs, recognized and commended each winner, and congratulated them for their outstanding efforts to help address community needs and concerns with direct hands-on student learning.

7. Report of the Higher Education Action Plan Ad Hoc Committee

- Ken Wingate

There was no report from the Higher Education Action Plan Ad Hoc Committee.

8. Committee Reports

8.01 Report of the Executive Committee

- Ken Wingate

Chairman Wingate stated that draft minutes of the February 25, 2010, Executive Committee meeting (**Attachment VI**) had been distributed to Commissioners for information.

8.02 Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

- Bettie Rose Horne

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Consideration of New Program Proposals

1. B.F.A., Theatre Arts, Concentrations in Acting, Design & Technology, and Physical Theatre, Coastal Carolina University
2. B.A., Sociology, USC-Beaufort
3. B.S., Computational Science, USC-Beaufort
4. B.S., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, USC-Columbia
5. B.A., Commercial Music, USC-Upstate

- 6. M.A., Writing, Coastal Carolina University
- 7. M.S., Ph.D., Photonic Science and Technology, Clemson University

B. Consideration of New Consortium Agreement, Lowcountry Graduate Center

C. Consideration of Annual Evaluation of Associate Degree Programs, FY 2007-2008

D. Consideration of Revised Transfer Policy

E. Report on Migration of First-Time Undergraduate Transfer Students, 2006-2008

F. Consideration of Amendments to Existing Licenses to Add New Programs

Commissioner Horne made reference to Agenda Items 8.02 A – F, described in **Attachment VIII**, stating that all but Item F were presented by the Committee on Academic Affairs & Licensing by consent agenda. Because Amendment Number One to the Lowcountry Graduate Center Consortium Agreement had been approved by the Committee contingent upon acquisition of the appropriate signatures, a signed version (**Attachment VII**) was distributed to Commissioners for their review. Commissioner Forbes then requested that Agenda Items 8.02A2 and 8.02A5 be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately.

A **motion** was made (Horne) and **carried** to approve Agenda Items 8.02 A 1, 3, 4, 6, and 7 as well as Agenda Items 8.02 B,C,D, and E as presented.

Commissioner Forbes stated he felt that Agenda Item 8.02A2 regarding the program leading to a B.A. in Sociology at USC Beaufort was duplicative in nature as there were several other similar programs at other institutions throughout the state. Following discussion in which it was noted that this is a standard undergraduate program and one for which a need has been demonstrated in the Beaufort area, a **motion** was made (Horne) and **carried** to approve it.

Commissioner Forbes asked how the proposed program described in Agenda Item 8.02A5 differed from a similar program that is already being offered at Francis Marion University. Representing USC Upstate, Dr. Marsha Dowell stated that the program leading to the B. S. in Music Industry at Francis Marion University focused primarily on the business aspects of the degree, whereas the proposed program at USC Upstate would focus on performance as well as business. Following brief discussion, a **motion** was made (Horne), and **carried** to approve the program at USC Upstate.

Agenda Item 8.02F was then considered. Discussion took place about Remington College's relatively high student loan default rate. Representing Remington College, Mr. Toby Hayes, President of the Columbia, SC campus of Remington College, stated that a job development specialist has been hired in order to help with employment placement for their students with the expectation that assisting with employment after graduation would provide students with the financial resources needed to further reduce the default rate. A **motion** was then made (Horne), and **carried** to approve the proposed amendment to their existing license.

Discussion followed and questions were raised about the new program approval process, after which Commissioners requested that CHE staff provide them with a more formal and detailed presentation on that process at some point in the future.

8.03 Report of Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services - Cynthia Mosteller

The Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services had no report. Commissioner Mosteller stated, however, that a meeting would take place on March 23 at 11:00 a.m. for the purpose of debriefing on the recent college application week and preparing for next year's event.

8.04 Report of Committee on Finance and Facilities

- Jim Sanders

The Committee on Finance and Facilities had no report.

9. Other Business

There was no other business to consider.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth B. Rogers
Beth B. Rogers
Recording Secretary

Attachments (I - VIII)

*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.