

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

February 3, 1994
10:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. D. Glenburn Askins, Jr., Chairman
Mr. Fred L. Day
Ms. Elaine Freeman
Mr. Robert C. Gallager
Mr. Kenneth E. Goad
Mr. R. Austin Gilbert
Mr. Marvin C. Jones
Ms. Reba Anne Kinon
Mr. Ray D. Lathan
Mr. Henry D. McMaster
Mr. Edward T. McMullen, Jr.
Mr. Lewis Phillips
Dr. Raymond C. Ramage
Mr. Edwin E. Tolbert, Sr.
Mr. Joseph J. Turner, Jr.
Ms. Mildred R. Williams

STAFF

Mr. Fred W. Boynton
Mr. Michael L. Brown
Ms. Renea H. Eshleman
Mr. Charles D. FitzSimons
Ms. Amy Greenman
Mr. Ivan F. Guinn
Mr. Douglas I. Holleman
Dr. R. Lynn Kelly
Mr. John J. Krause
Mr. Alan S. Krech
Dr. Gail L. Morrison
Mr. Joseph V. Pendergrass
Dr. Robert K. Poch
Dr. Michael Raley
Dr. Marilyn M. Scannell
Mr. Fred R. Sheheen
Ms. Helena Shim
Mr. John E. Smalls
Ms. Edna P. Strange
Dr. Aileen C. Trainer
Dr. Lovely K. Ulmer-Sottong
Ms. H. Noel Wilson
Dr. Karen A. Woodfaulk

GUESTS

Mr. Mel Barnette
Mr. Harry Bell
Mr. Ken Brown
Dr. Collie Coleman
Dr. Patricia Cormier
Dr. Robert W. Denton
Dr. Anthony DiGiorgio
Dr. David Dunlap
Dr. Nancy Dunlap
Ms. Katherine Fanning
Mr. David Fleming
Dr. Carol Garrison
Mr. Sandy Gilliam
Dr. Tim Groza
Dr. Sally Horner
Ms. Beverly Howard
Dr. James L. Hudgins
Dr. Ed Jackson
Dr. Monica Janus
Ms. Terri Jenkins
Mr. Carl Jordan
Mr. David Larson
Col. Jerry Lyons
Dr. Harry Matthews
Dr. Michael McCall
Mr. Gary McCombs
Mr. J.P. McKee
Mr. Rufus Mitchell
Mr. Larry Myers
Dr. LeRoy Peterson
Dr. Blanche Premo-Hopkins
Mr. William T. Putnam
Dr. George M. Reeves
Ms. Janet Scarborough
Dr. Jackie Skubal
Dr. Carolyn McIver Smith
Mr. Sterling Smith
Ms. Janice Trawick
Mr. W.E. Troublefield, Jr.
Dr. Emad Wajeeb
Dr. Wanda Ward
Dr. Dennis Wiseman

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS

Mr. Bill Robinson
Mr. Bob Tanner

For the record, notification of the meeting was made to the media as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

Dr. Askins welcomed the guests and staff members to the Commission's monthly meeting.

1. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of January 6, 1994

It was moved (Tolbert), seconded (Kinon), and voted that the minutes of the meeting of January 6, 1994, be approved.

2. Special Presentations

Support of Need-Based Tuition Grant Program - Independent Colleges and Universities

Mr. Smith expressed his support of the inclusion of the private sector in the need-based tuition grant program, stating that students from low-income families are three times less likely to get a college education.

Dr. Coleman also offered his "unwavering, unqualified support" of the program but added that the grants currently supply only about 10% of the cost of education at a private college or university.

Ms. Freeman asked if any programs currently exist which are intended to help male African-American students through high school and college. Mr. Lathan agreed with the importance of such a program.

Mr. Tolbert responded that the proposed Access and Equity program offers incentive grants for African-American students including those seeking college teaching positions.

3. Committee Reports

Dr. Askins requested that the agenda items be rearranged with the Report from the Committee on Business and Finance to precede that of the Executive Committee.

3.01 Report of Committee on Business and Finance

a. Discussion of Allocation Methodology (Pending)

Mr. Jones reported that at the Commission's January meeting, further consideration of the funding methodology had been requested. He also stated that because of the inability of the Commission and of the Council of Presidents to agree on a funding methodology, Mr. Brooks had developed a plan which combines elements of both proposals. Mr. Jones expressed the Commission's appreciation of Mr. Brooks' efforts.

Mr. Brooks prefaced his report with the statement that although both the methodology advocated by the Commission

and that advocated by the Council of Presidents hold the FY 1993-94 appropriation as baseline, that base has not been funded in the Governor's 1994-95 Executive Budget. The FY 1993-94 baseline is \$562,116,850, while the Governor's Higher Education budget is approximately \$552 million.

Mr. Brooks explained that according to the proposed plan, for funding above the FY 1993-94 base one-half would be allocated according to the Council's methodology and one-half according to that of the Commission. (See attachment A.)

Dr. DiGiorgio stated that the Council of Presidents is "in accord" with the compromise.

Mr. Jones recommended that for FY 1994-95, funding above the FY 1993-94 base be allocated to institutions, one-half according to the Council's methodology and one-half according to the Commission's methodology.

It was moved (Jones) and seconded (Gallager) that the recommendation be approved.

Mr. Lathan questioned whether the methodology would be reconsidered after one year, and Mr. Jones clarified that it would be.

It was voted that the recommendation be approved.

Mr. Jones further recommended that the Commission continue to develop for FY 1995-96 and subsequent fiscal years, in conjunction with the institutions, Legislature, and other interested groups, a distribution of revenues that is based on measurable outcomes which address first, overall needs of the State, and second, unique conditions of the individual institution.

It was moved (Jones) and seconded (Day) that the recommendation be approved.

Mr. Turner questioned what form the "measurable outcomes" would take and whether the Commission and the institutions would agree on them.

Mr. Jones responded that the measurable outcomes could take many forms but they they would need to be agreed upon by all parties.

Ms. Freeman commented that she would prefer that the Commission and the institutions agree on the measurable outcomes and on the groups involved prior to approval of the recommendation, in order to avoid an "unproductive scenario."

Mr. Sheheen stated that further discussion should begin at the institutional level and progress to the Business and Finance Committee and the Commission. Mr. Jones compared the process to the one which the Goals Statement underwent prior to its adoption.

It was voted that the recommendation be approved.

Mr. Brooks stated that a change in the funding procedure for pay increases for public college and university employees would significantly lower students fees in South Carolina and would bring them closer to regional averages. He further stated that such a change would achieve the outcome of providing affordable education for South Carolina students.

It was recommended that the Commission and the public colleges and universities request the House Ways and Means Committee to include funding for pay increases (if any) for employees paid from student fees.

It was moved (Jones) and seconded that the recommendation be approved.

Dr. DiGiorgio, speaking for the Council of Presidents, stated that this has been long been one of the Council's highest priorities. He urged the Commission to approve the recommendation.

It was voted that the recommendation be approved.

Mr. Sheheen praised the Business and Finance officers of the institutions, the "unsung heroes" who had originally proposed the recommendations presented by Mr. Brooks.

3.02 Report of Executive Committee

- a. Consideration of Webster University Amendment to Add Counseling at Myrtle Beach

Webster University currently offers the Masters of Arts Degree in Counseling at Charleston and Greenville and has requested permission to extend the program to the Myrtle Beach campus. The degree in Counseling is a professional degree designed for individuals pursuing a career in the counseling field.

The Committee recommended that Webster University's current license to operate in Myrtle Beach be amended to include the offering of a Master of Arts Degree in Counseling, subject to annual reporting as required by the Commission.

It was moved (Gallager), seconded (Day), and voted that the recommendation of the Committee be approved.

3.03 Report of Committee on Academic Affairs

a. Consideration of Report on Dwight D. Eisenhower Guidelines

Ms. Williams reported that although the proposed guidelines are essentially unchanged from last year's, this year's guidelines do designate as a State priority those projects that tie in with the priorities of the recently funded Statewide Systemic Initiative (SSI). She also stated that this year's competition will be the last of its type since the Eisenhower program is currently being reauthorized by Congress and will certainly undergo some changes. According to Ms. Williams, one change will likely be that the funding area will be expanded from math and science to all core curricula.

b. Presentation of Dwight D. Eisenhower Projects

In order to give Commission members an idea of the types of projects which are funded, Ms. Williams introduced directors of two projects funded for project year 1993-94.

Dr. Monica Janus presented an overview of the program at the University of Charleston, which focuses on teaching science and math to middle school students with mild handicaps.

Dr. LeRoy Peterson described the Francis Marion program, a summer camp for economically disadvantaged middle school students.

3.04 Report of Committee on Access and Equity

a. Consideration of Access and Equity Program: "A Fresh Approach"

Mr. Tolbert discussed the similarities and differences between the current Access and Equity program and the new program, and he emphasized that efforts will include sharing information on all South Carolina high schools with colleges and universities to facilitate further college/high school partnerships. He also summarized the goals of the new program.

The Committee recommended that A Fresh Approach be approved for implementation in 1994-95 and thereafter.

It was moved (Tolbert), seconded (Day), and voted that the recommendation of the Committee be approved.

3.05 Report of Committee on Facilities

There was no report of the Committee.

3.06 Report of Committee on Planning and Assessment

- a. Consideration of 1994 Update of the State Plan for Higher Education

Mr. Gallagher presented Quality and Service: Initiatives for 1994, explaining that it adds only two selected initiatives and focuses on the implementation of priorities that have been previously set.

The Committee recommended that Quality and Service: Initiatives for 1994 be accepted.

It was moved (Gallagher) and seconded (Williams) that the recommendation be approved.

Ms. Freeman asked what would happen to those initiatives which had not yet been implemented.

Mr. Gallagher stated that these initiatives would not be dropped but would be revisited, perhaps in a different form.

It was voted that the recommendation be approved.

4. Report of the Commissioner

Mr. Sheheen reported that legislation affecting the governance of the Commission has been introduced in the General Assembly. One bill, advocated by the Business Advisory Council and introduced by Senator Moore and Senator Courson, would replace the current membership of the Commission with trustees representing various colleges and universities and a Chairman appointed by the Governor. The second bill, sponsored by Senator Drummond and Senator J. Verne Smith, would create a Council of Higher Education consisting of eight members appointed by the Governor, three institutional representatives, and one representative of the independent colleges and universities.

Mr. Sheheen then reported the positions taken by various institutions regarding the proposed bills.

Coastal Carolina has forwarded correspondence to the Commission, which quoted its President as saying that although he would vote in favor of the Moore-Courson bill, he had reservations concerning the composition of the Coordinating Council.

According to a written communication from Francis Marion University, its Board has voted in favor of the Moore-Courson bill, with the qualification that the University of South Carolina and its branches are over-represented on the Coordinating Council.

The College of Charleston Board has not yet acted formally on the proposal although the President of the College has stated that individual Board members have indicated their support of the Moore-Courson bill.

The Chairman of the Greenville Area Commission of Greenville Technical College has stated that the Board has voted to support the Drummond-Smith bill and that it views the representation on the Coordinating Council advocated by the Moore-Courson bill as "unbalanced in favor of four-year colleges and universities."

The Board of the Technical College of the Lowcountry has not yet acted on the proposal.

The Board of S.C. State University has voted to support the Moore-Courson bill, provided that it is amended to provide a permanent seat for S.C. State University.

The Commission has not yet received written communication concerning the action taken by the Board of the Citadel.

Mr. Sheheen stated that if and when hearings are called and the Commission is asked to formulate recommendations, the matter would be referred to the full Commission in either extraordinary or regular session.

Mr. McMullen asked if the Commission as a body has taken an official position.

Dr. Askins replied that it has not, and Mr. Sheheen noted that although individual Commission members may have formed opinions of the proposals, any official response will come only after collective deliberation of the full Commission.

Mr. McMullen moved that the Commission on Higher Education go on record as neither supporting nor opposing any legislative recommendation until the Legislature requests the Commission to respond. This motion does not in any way prevent individual Commission members from taking personal positions on the restructuring issue.

Mr. McMaster seconded the motion.

Mr. Gallagher, Mr. Tolbert, and Mr. Lathan questioned the need for the motion. Mr. Tolbert called it unnecessary, saying that a position cannot be assumed if no position is taken.

Due to the confusion concerning the need for the motion, Mr. Phillips moved that the motion be tabled.

It was seconded (Tolbert) and voted that the motion be tabled, with four votes in the negative.

Mr. Gallagher questioned the composition of the Business Advisory Council.

Mr. Sheheen stated that the Council was formed two years ago by the Council of College Presidents and is chaired by Cathy Novinger. He stated that he would provide Commission members with a roster of the members of the Business Advisory Council.

Mr. Gallagher also questioned some of the statistics used by Ms. Novinger, including the reported \$5.5 million which could be saved by restructuring the Commission on Higher Education.

Mr. Sheheen also reported hearing Ms. Novinger use the \$5.5 million figure, but he stated that she gave no specific source of the figure. She did suggest that some savings would result from the elimination of the Commission's legal staff, but Mr. Sheheen said the Commission does not have a legal staff.

Mr. Gallagher stated that he had heard that some of the savings would result from fewer "reporting requirements" for the institutions. He requested a summary of the reports required by the Commission, including an indication of which reports are federally and state mandated.

Mr. Sheheen replied that the Commission requires 66 reports annually. Of those, 49 are mandated by federal and state law. The Commission requires seven reports in order to make the formula calculations and an additional ten reports in pursuit of its other responsibilities.

Mr. Gallagher requested that the CHE staff supply Commission members with a listing of these reports, in addition to the roster of Business Advisory Council members. He also requested that Ms. Novinger be asked by the Chairman of the Commission to explain the source of the \$5.5 million figure.

Mr. Sheheen affirmed that the CHE staff would supply the requested information, and Dr. Askins agreed to write a letter to Ms. Novinger requesting clarification of the statistics she has used.

In addition, Mr. Tolbert requested that the CHE staff also supply a list of the accomplishments achieved by the Commission. Mr. Sheheen affirmed that the staff would supply this report.

Dr. Askins then presented a report on his recent visit to Nebraska and his positive reaction to its two year-old Coordinating Council on Higher Education.

Mr. Sheheen stated that Dr. Morrison would give each Commission member a copy of the Report of the Committee to Study Two-Year Education and that the Executive Committee would consider the staff's recommendations and present its report at the Commission's March meeting.

5. Other Business

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet T. Williams

Janet T. Williams
Recording Secretary