

MINUTES OF MEETING  
OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION  
September 19, 1996  
10:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. R. Austin Gilbert, Chairman  
Ms. Rosemary H. Byerly  
Mr. Bart E. Daniel  
Dr. Colgate W. Darden, III  
Dr. C. Edward Floyd  
Mr. Dalton B. Floyd, Jr.  
Mr. Frank Gilbert  
Mr. Winfred S. Greene  
Dr. W. David Maxwell  
Gen. Thomas R. Olsen  
Mr. Bill H. Stern

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Lewis Phillips  
Mr. Roger B. Whaley

STAFF

Ms. Mary Broadwater  
Ms. Camille Brown  
Mr. Michael L. Brown  
Ms. Lorinda Copeland  
Mr. Charles D. FitzSimons  
Ms. Valerie Goodwin  
Dr. Nancy Healy-Williams  
Ms. Margaret L. B. Hicks  
Dr. R. Lynn Kelley  
Mr. John J. Krause  
Mr. Alan S. Krech  
Mr. Nelson Lindsay  
Dr. David Loope  
Ms. Lynn W. Metcalf  
Mr. Jeff Richards  
Mr. Fred R. Sheheen  
Mr. John E. Smalls  
Dr. Michael Smith

Ms. Yolanda Solone  
Ms. Janet K. Stewart  
Dr. Aileen C. Trainer  
Dr. Lovely Ulmer-Sottong  
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

GUESTS

Dr. Robert E. Alexander  
Dr. Mary Cheeseboro  
Ms. Donna Collins  
Ms. Naomi Dreher  
Dr. Nancy C. Dunlap  
Mr. Don Erich  
Mr. John L. Finan  
Ms. Linda Floyd  
Mr. Perry Fulkerson  
Dr. Carol Z. Garrison  
Ms. Sonya Goodman  
Dr. H. McLean Holderfield  
Dr. Sally Horner  
Mr. Jim Kensley  
Mr. Jim Kirk  
Mr. Charles F. Kovacik  
Mr. Manning N. Lomax  
Mr. William M. Mackie, Jr.  
Dr. Harry G. Matthews  
Mr. Gary McCombs  
Ms. Diane Owens  
Mr. William T. Putnam  
Mr. Tim Rogers  
Dr. Julius Scipio  
Mr. Ed Shannon  
Mr. Charles Shawver  
Dr. John C. Sutusky  
Mr. Jim Vincent

MEMBER OF THE PRESS

Mr. T. C. Hunter

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

1. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of August 26-27, 1996

It was moved (E. Floyd), seconded (Darden), and voted that the minutes of the meeting of August 26-27, 1996 be approved as written.

2. Proposed Change in Commission's Rules and Procedures Section II.2 - Title of Commission's Chief Executive Officer

Mr. A. Gilbert stated that there has been some concern that the title of Commission's chief executive officer is stated differently in the law than in the Commission's Rules and Procedures, Section II.2. Dr. Floyd noted that the Commission should conform to the law and call the chief executive officer Executive Director. Mr. Sheheen stated that the title has been at the will of the Commission in the past. Mr. F. Gilbert stated that at the July CHE meeting, the Commission voted to accept the Rules and Procedures with certain changes. The chief executive officer's title was not one. He made a motion for reconsideration. It was moved (F. Gilbert) and seconded (Olsen) that the former action of the Commission regarding the title of the chief executive officer be brought up for reconsideration.

After discussion, it was moved (Daniel), seconded, (Byerly), and voted that the Commissioner's title be changed to Executive Director and the Associate Commissioner's titles be changed to Directors.

3. Committee Reports

3.01 Report of the Executive Committee

Search Committee Activity

Mr. A. Gilbert reported that the Committee met and approved the RFP proposal for Executive Director of the Commission on Higher Education after revisions had been made to ensure that it complied with the requirements of the Office of Human Resources of the Budget and Control Board. It was moved (Daniel), seconded (Byerly), and voted that the RFP proposal be approved as revised.

Mr. A. Gilbert stated that the Committee agreed that once the search firm is selected, input would be solicited from senior staff at the Commission.

### 3.02 Report of Committee on Academic Affairs

Mr. Greene, chairman of the Committee on Academic Affairs, reported on the following items:

#### A. Consideration of Administrative Budget for the Teacher Loan Corporation FY 1996-97

In 1971, the General Assembly established the South Carolina State Education Assistance Authority, empowering it to provide financial assistance to students in their pursuits of postsecondary education through the making, insuring, and guaranteeing of student loans to South Carolina residents. In providing such financial assistance, the Authority has acted through its contractual agent, the South Carolina Student Loan Corporation for the purpose of performing the functions of making, handling, servicing and providing information about student loans.

In June 1984, the General Assembly named the Corporation as administrator of the South Carolina Teachers Loan Program which also includes the Governor's Teacher Loan Program. The General Assembly empowered the Commission on Higher Education to establish regulations to govern the Teachers Loan Program. These regulations include: 1) approval of the Corporation's annual operating budget associated with administering the Teachers Loan Program; and 2) approval of the appropriation request for loans made through the Teachers Loan Program.

The Committee recommended that the Commission approve the proposed operating budget of \$264,500 for administration of the Teachers Loan Program by the Student Loan Corporation for FY 1996-97. It was moved (Greene), seconded (Daniel), and voted that the recommendation be approved.

#### B. Consideration of Report on Institutional Compliance with English Fluency in Higher Education Act FY 1995-96

In April 1991, the General Assembly approved legislation known as the English Fluency in Higher Education Act which was signed into law as Act 27 of 1991. This Act required public institutions to certify that all teaching faculty members of the institution are fluent in spoken and written English. The legislation calls for all institutions to issue an annual report to the Commission on the number of student grievances filed under the Act and on the disposition of these grievances. The Commission

further strengthened reporting requirements by adopting language that all public institutions must publish a clear, complete summary of the institution's policies on the English Fluency in Higher Education Act in the catalog or student handbook.

The Committee recommended that the Commission accept this report for transmission to the chairmen of the General Assembly's education committees. It was moved (Greene), seconded (E. Floyd), and voted that the recommendation be approved.

C. Consideration of Guidelines for the Dwight D. Eisenhower Professional Development FY 1997-98

Since 1984, the Commission on Higher Education has been responsible for administering federal funds under a Title II program of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The purpose of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Mathematics and Science Education Act has been to provide funds to the states for improving instruction and teachers' skills in mathematics and science and to provide access to and participation in such instruction for all students. As a result of an amendment by Congress, the program was renamed the Dwight D. Eisenhower Professional Development Program (DDEPDP). The DDEPDP provides funds to states to assist in their efforts to stimulate and provide sustained and intensive, high-quality professional development in core academic subjects.

The allocation of funds to the states is based primarily on the state's proportion of the population aged 5-17. In each state, 84 percent of the allocation is to be administered by the state education agency for the public schools and the remaining 16 percent to be administered by the state agency for higher education. With these funds, the Commission issues a Request for Proposals for a competitive grants program. Guidelines representing the Commission's proposed rules and regulations for the competitive grants program have been prepared.

The Committee recommended that the Commission approve the Guidelines. It was moved (Greene), seconded (D. Floyd), and voted that the recommendation be approved.

D. Consideration of the Evaluation of the Center of Excellence in Middle Level Initiatives

The Education Improvement Act of 1984 provided for the establishment of a contract program to foster the development of Centers of Excellence in

teacher education in public or private colleges in South Carolina. In 1987 the Commission's Guidelines for the Centers of Excellence Program were strengthened to solicit proposals for new Centers that would be of substantial statewide impact and continue beyond the period of State funding. For FY 1994-95 the Guidelines were further strengthened to achieve the desired goals based on a statewide external evaluation of the program.

Annually each Center submits a report outlining its achievements and makes its appropriations request for the ensuing year. This report focuses on the Guidelines requirements that an evaluation be conducted at the end of the second year of each Center's operation.

Funds to establish the Center of Excellence in Middle Level Initiatives were awarded to USC-Columbia by the Commission in 1994. In April 1996, an evaluation of the Center was conducted in accordance with the Guidelines which stipulate that in its second year of operation, the Center will be evaluated by an outside reviewer, appointed by the Commission, to determine whether it should be funded for an additional two year cycle.

The Committee recommended that the Commission approve the review team's recommendation to fund the Center of Excellence in Middle Level Initiatives at the University of South Carolina for a second two year cycle in the amount of \$107,328 (FY 1996-97) and \$87,772 (FY 1997-98). It was moved (Greene), seconded (Byerly), and voted that the recommendation be approved.

E. Consideration of Award for a New Center of Excellence FY 1996-97

Requests for Proposals for Centers of Excellence for the 1996-97 project year were issued to all eligible public and private institutions in November 1995. Four proposals were received for consideration.

A Review Panel, consisting of one out-of-state consultant, the director of the S. C. Center for Teacher Recruitment, the principal of Terrel's Bay High School, and staff representing the State Department of Education and the Commission on Higher Education, was appointed to review the proposals and to make recommendations. The Panel was chaired by Dr. Robert Shoenberg, an education consultant from Maryland.

The Review Panel recommended, by unanimous decision, that the proposed Center of Excellence in Geographic Education at USC-Columbia be awarded funding for FY 1996-97. The Panel's final report indicates

that USC-Columbia's proposed Center builds on the strength of the University's nationally ranked Geography Department and has the potential for becoming a force in the State and the nation, a potential that has already been realized in the area of in-service training.

The Committee recommended that the Commission adopt the Review Panel's recommendation to award to the University of South Carolina-Columbia \$41,634 for FY 1996-97 to establish the Center of Excellence in Geographic Education. The FY 1997-98 Center allocation will require negotiation in light of the forthcoming Commission request for an increase in EIA Centers of Excellence funding from the Legislature. It was moved (Greene), seconded (F. Gilbert), and voted that the recommendation be approved.

F. Consideration of Guidelines for Center of Excellence Program FY 1997-98

The Education Improvement Act of 1984 provides for the establishment of a contract program with public or private colleges in South Carolina to foster the development of "Centers of Excellence" in particular areas of need related to teacher education programs. State funding is provided for up to four years at a decreasing rate each year with the goal of establishing statewide resource centers that gradually will be supported totally by institutional and external funding sources. There are currently eight Centers of Excellence, although only four still receive State funding. Guidelines for submission of proposals for project year 1997-98 have been prepared. The Guidelines remain substantially the same as those used last year.

The Committee recommended that the Commission approve these Guidelines. It was moved (Greene), seconded (Maxwell), and voted that the recommendation be approved.

G. Consideration of Proposal for New Endowed Professorship FY 1996-97

The endowed professorship program was established for South Carolina's senior institutions through Act 629 (1988) Section 59-104-230 (The Cutting Edge).

Each endowed professorship is supported by a separate endowment of \$100,000. Half of the corpus for each endowed professorship is provided by the State through the Commission on Higher Education and half from private funds raised by the institutions specifically for this purpose. The monetary award associated with each endowed professorship represents only the interest drawn on the principal.

By May 1995, the corpus of the State's endowed professorship fund had drawn enough interest to establish a new award in 1996. At the request of the Commission, the staff requested proposals along with guidelines for the competition to all public senior colleges and universities in the State. Three institutions submitted proposals: Clemson University, USC-Aiken, and USC-Spartanburg.

A review panel consisting of Dr. James Daniels, President of Coker College; Dr. Rosalie Crouch, Dean of the Graduate School at MUSC; Dr. Susan D'Amato, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at Furman University; and Dr. Larry Jackson, President Emeritus of Lander University was selected. The panelists reviewed and rated on a numerical scale each of the nominations based upon criteria enumerated in the guidelines.

The review panel recommended that Clemson University be awarded funds to establish an endowed professorship for Dr. Nyal Dwight Camper, Professor of Plant Pathology and Physiology.

The Committee recommended that the Commission accept the review panel's selection of Dr. Nyal Dwight Camper, Clemson University, and approve his selection for the new endowed professorship. It was moved (Greene), seconded (F. Gilbert), and voted that the recommendation be approved.

H. Consideration of Expanded Selection Criteria for Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Program FY 1997-98

The South Carolina Children First - Financial Resources for Scholarships and Tuition Act of 1996 directs merit-based funding to the State's existing Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Program. This program was initially established under Act 629 of 1988, commonly referred to as the "Cutting Edge Legislation." When the expanded program is fully implemented by FY 2000-01, it is estimated that 2,100 Palmetto Fellows Scholarships will be funded each year for students enrolled in higher education institutions in the State.

The Commission is responsible for oversight functions (e.g. rules, regulations, policies) relative to the student aid programs, including promulgation of guidelines and regulations governing the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Program.

In anticipation of the General Assembly's approval of the student aid programs for implementation in Fall 1996, the Commission formally approved guidelines for the student aid programs at its meeting on April 4,

1996. In addition, the Commissioner appointed a Student Aid Advisory Committee to review program policies and procedures and to make recommendations to the Commission pertaining to the administration of the student aid programs. The Advisory Committee recommended to the staff certain criteria that can be used to determine student eligibility and increase the applicant pool.

The Committee recommended that the Commission expand the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship eligibility Criterion #1 for FY 1996-97 for students who wish to apply for a scholarship so that eligible students must:

- score at least 118 on the PSAT; or
- score at least 1180 on the SAT on any test administration of the SAT through June of the junior year; or
- score at least 26 on any test administration of the ACT through June of the junior year; or
- rank in the top five percent of the student's high school junior class.

#### I. Informational Reports

1. Annual Summary Report on African-American Teacher Loan Program FY 1995-96

For the second year in a row, the S. C. Appropriations Act (FY 1995-96) included a proviso (Section 19.89) which continued funding the African-American Loan Program to attract African-American males into the teaching profession. As authorized in the proviso, regulations were developed by Commission staff and institutional representatives from Benedict College, S. C. State, and Voorhees.

In accordance with the approved regulations, other race and female students were eligible to participate in the loan program; however, at least 80 percent of the loans are to be awarded to eligible African-American males, unless justification is provided by the institution. The loans are to be forgiven at specified rates for service as a teacher in South Carolina.

2. Report on S. C. Participation in SREB's Academic Common Market

Established in 1974 by the Southern Regional Educational Board (SREB), the Academic Common Market was designed "to share between states specified degree programs located at southern public colleges and universities ... through an exchange of students across borders at in-state rates."

Since one of the goals of the Academic Common Market is to provide access to degree programs not available in the home state, each participating state compiles its own list of programs for access by its residents. In accord with SREB policy, eligible programs are those undergraduate and graduate programs which are a least 50 percent different in curricular content from programs offered in the home state. In South Carolina, interested students must contact the Commission on Higher Education for access to the Academic Common Market.

3. Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Awards for FY 1996-97

The General Assembly approved a large increase in the 1996-97 Appropriations Act for the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Program. The funding is from the fee revenues from the Barnwell Nuclear Waste Storage Facility. Because of these recent changes, the number of new Palmetto Fellows Scholarship awards made to freshmen increased from 32 awards in FY 1995-96 to 528 awards in FY 1996-97.

3.04 Report of Committee on Finance and Facilities

Mr. Daniel, chairman of the Committee on Finance and Facilities reported on the following matters and suggested that since it appears that there is nothing contentious in the agenda items, he would propose that all projects be approved at the end of his presentation. He added that any questions would be willingly answered, and Mr. Al Gilbert suggested that he list each item and see if there were questions.

A. Clemson University

1. Clemson Technical Center Lease and Acquisition

Clemson required approval to lease for five years, and at the end of the lease, accept as a gift, the Clemson Technical Center (CTC) including equipment and furnishings from WMX Technologies, Inc. The CTC is co-located with the University's L. G. Rich Environmental Research Laboratory, which houses the Department of Environmental Systems Engineering (ESE), in the Clemson Research Park in Anderson.

WMX agrees to contribute \$200,000 annually to the University's Foundation during the term of the lease agreement and any extensions. The gift is to be restricted to the ESE for maintenance and operation of the facility. In addition, Chem Nuclear will contribute \$1.2 million to the Foundation in order to establish the "WMX Technologies Restricted Fund for Environmental Systems Engineering" concurrently with the transfer of ownership of the CTC to the University.

The Committee recommended approval of the project as proposed subject to final acceptance of any and all environmental assessments by the Division of General Services, Property Management, and acceptance of the rates and terms of the Lease and Gift Agreements by the State Leasing Office; and provided that the University will allow for and maintain increases from the investment of the \$1.2 million in perpetuity to cover escalation costs of decommission and decontamination of the property.

## 2. Residential Postal Facilities

This project is for the installation of mail boxes in each dormitory or apartment complex commons building in order to improve services to resident students and to avoid expansion of the existing student post office. The total project cost is \$300,000.

The Committee recommended approval of the project as proposed.

## B. Medical University of South Carolina - Library Renovations

MUSC received approval to establish a library renovation project as part of its 1993-94 Annual Permanent Improvement Plan. The scope of work was to include the construction of additional office space, a new reference service area, and two small electronic classrooms. Upon the initial project request, MUSC was aware that the work envisioned would cost in excess of the budgeted amount. MUSC has now completed planning for this project and is requesting an increase of \$1.7 million.

The Committee recommended approval of the project as proposed.

## C. USC-Columbia

### 1. Athletic Baseball and Softball Renovations

This project is for improvements to the Spring Sports Center Athletic Fields and Facilities in order to meet the needs of the baseball and softball programs. The scope of work to the baseball field will include the

addition of a new locker room and lounge area. The estimated total cost is \$500,000.

The Committee recommended approval of the project as proposed.

## 2. Maxcy College Renovation

This project consists of extensive renovations to the Maxcy College Dormitory which is located on the Horseshoe block of the campus. The University is requesting authorization to change the source of funds from housing revenue to \$1.4 million housing revenue and \$3.4 housing revenue bonds.

The Committee recommended approval of the project as proposed subject to the University' repayment of these bonds being specifically limited to housing revenues.

It was moved (Daniel), seconded (Darden), and voted to approve the entire report.

## 4. Report of the Executive Director

Mr. Sheheen stated that the task forces appointed by the Chairman have completed their work with respect to performance funding. Their reports will be distributed to the Steering Committee today. The Steering Committee will meet on September 24 to review all the reports of the task forces. As soon as the Steering Committee completes its work, the results will be sent to Commission members for their consideration at their meeting on October 3.

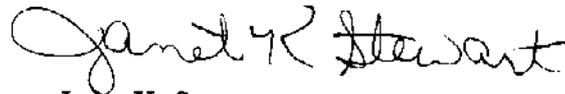
Mr. Sheheen reported that the Chairman is receiving nominations for persons to serve on the Sector Task Forces which will set benchmarks for performance indicators.

Mr. Sheheen stated that Dr. Floyd inquired and the Commission inquired about prospects for a Capital Improvement Bond Bill for the State and higher education. A formal report will be made to the Finance and Facilities Committee this afternoon so that it can recommend a position on a Bond Bill. Mr. Sheheen commented that he communicated with a representative of the Joint Bond Review Committee who stated that the Chairman of Committee raised the possibility that there will be a Bond Bill and also said that in the event there was not a Bond Bill the Capital Reserve Fund and certain State surpluses might be used to fund capital projects for higher education. Therefore, the Commission on Higher Education will probably be requested to go through the evaluation of projects in higher education. Mr. Sheheen stated that the procedure that has been used in the past is one prescribed in the law for soliciting projects and putting them in priority order, using objective criteria. Dr. Floyd stated that he believes that the Commission should take a strong stand for a process that more equitably distributes such funds. Mr. Daniel

stated that the Finance and Facilities Committee will give its recommendation at the Commission meeting on October 3.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet K. Stewart". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Janet K. Stewart  
Recording Secretary