

Annual Report on Higher Education Desegregation
Efforts in South Carolina, 1982-83

Presented by Roosevelt Gilliam, Jr., Chairman,
Committee on Implementation of the State
Desegregation Plan

July 7, 1983

Summary

South Carolina is required to submit to the U. S. Department of Education annually, by August 15, a progress report on its higher education desegregation efforts during the preceding year. The CHE Committee on Implementation reviewed the draft of the 1982-83 Annual Report at its meeting on June 16, 1983. The Committee finds that while progress is being made in meeting Plan commitments in several areas, there are other areas where results of the State's efforts cause considerable concern. The Committee is disappointed with the results shown in these areas and is committed to taking steps which it believes and hopes will begin to move the State more expeditiously toward the goals established in the Plan. The Committee's comments on each of the areas addressed in the 1982-83 Annual Report are as follows:

I. DISESTABLISHMENT OF THE STRUCTURE OF THE DUAL SYSTEM

A. Institutional Mission Statements

There were no changes in institutional missions in 1982-83.

B. Enhancement of Traditionally Black Institutions

1. South Carolina State College

a. Enhancement Programs

The State's commitment to establish specific enhancement programs at South Carolina State College is on schedule and all the equipment requested to support the enhanced programs has been purchased. The Committee is

pleased with these results. However, of the 30 faculty positions and 9 staff positions to be filled by the end of this fiscal year, 5.5 faculty and 2.5 staff positions have not been filled. While there are well founded reasons for this, the Committee finds it disappointing. Funds for the unfilled positions are provided in the 1983-84 Desegregation Plan budget and South Carolina State College has stated that all authorized and funded positions will be filled during 1983-84.

b. Enhancement of Faculty Salaries

The 1982-83 average faculty salaries by academic rank at South Carolina State College exceed The Citadel/Winthrop College averages for the ranks of professor and instructor, and are within \$200 of The Citadel/Winthrop College averages for the ranks of associate professor and assistant professor. The Committee is very pleased with these results.

2. Denmark Technical College

a. Establishment of the Denmark Technical Education Commission

A Bill creating a local Commission for Denmark Technical College was enacted by the 1983 General Assembly. The Committee is very pleased that the Denmark Technical Education Commission will be functioning soon.

b. Enhancement Programs

The State's commitment to initiate associate degree programs in Business and Public Service is on schedule. The student enrollment (including white students) in these programs has increased over last year; the programs are adequately staffed; and needed equipment and furniture have been purchased. Also, equipment needed has been provided for the enhancement of programs in nuclear engineering, engineering technology and air conditioning/refrigeration; and the white Recruitment/Admissions Counselor was continued and appears to be producing significant results. The Committee is pleased with these

results. However, there is concern that the mandated budget cuts delayed activities designed to upgrade the machine tool technology program and caused a delay in the implementation of a two-year diploma program in construction management. Funds to address both concerns are included in the 1983-1984 Desegregation Plan Budget.

II. DESEGREGATION OF STUDENT ENROLLMENT

A. Increasing Black Student Enrollment at Traditionally White Four-Year Institutions

Student enrollment is the area of greatest concern. The State's efforts to increase the proportion of black students at traditionally white institutions, and to achieve in five years an enrollment of at least 2,295 first-time freshmen and transfer students at four-year traditionally white institutions, are falling short of the mark. It is clear that the drop in the availability of financial aid and the effect of the economy on family income have reduced the college going rates for whites and blacks. It is also clear, however, that more effective ways of increasing minority enrollment must be found. The Committee will examine this area very closely and where warranted will shift funds from activities that are not showing promise of being effective to those that show promise of being effective.

B. Graduate Student Enrollment

Attempts to increase black student enrollment in graduate and professional schools are also disappointing. However, the Committee has initiated changes in the procedure for awarding Graduate Incentive Fellowships which should enable the State to better meet its commitment in this area.

C. Increasing White Student Enrollment at Traditionally Black Institutions

The State is committed to make a good faith effort to increase the total proportion of white students attending its two traditionally black institutions.

However, numerical goals for increasing the white enrollment at South Carolina State College and Denmark Technical College will not be set until 1984. There was a modest increase in the number of white undergraduates at both institutions in 1982. This is encouraging but is still an area for concern.

III. DESEGREGATION OF FACULTY, ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
NON-ACADEMIC PERSONNEL AND GOVERNING BOARDS

A. Desegregation of Faculty and Staff

This remains an area of concern. The Committee will continue to examine this area very closely and where warranted shift funds from activities that are not showing promise of being effective to other more promising activities.

B. Desegregation of Governing Boards

A law authorizing the Governor to appoint an additional member to each board except Clemson University has been enacted. Further, a black person has been elected to the Clemson University Board. The Committee is pleased that these significant first steps have been taken.

Steps To Be Taken To Ensure Continued Progress

The following steps have been taken or will be taken in an effort to address areas of concern and to ensure continued progress toward the achievement of the State's Desegregation Plan commitments:

1. SREB Meeting

At the request of the CHE staff the Southern Regional Education Board convened a meeting in Atlanta to identify successful and unsuccessful desegregation activities in the affected states. These activities are being studied by the staff and the Committee in an attempt to identify those appropriate for use in South Carolina.

2. Advisory Committee

The Committee will establish an advisory committee of institutional personnel with expertise and knowledge in areas critical to successful

implementation of the Plan. This Committee will aid in selecting and implementing activities which are showing promise for success.

3. Policies

The Committee has developed policies to guide the effective implementation of the Plan.

4. Greater Involvement of Institutional Presidents

Experience in other States has shown that involvement of the President is essential to the achievement of established desegregation goals. The Chairman of the Committee met with the Council of Presidents and solicited greater involvement. He also notified them that beginning in 1983-84 those activities that have not proven productive will be replaced with activities which show promise of being productive. (See Attachment 1)

5. Graduate Incentive Fellowship

Beginning with 1984-85 Graduate Incentive Fellowships will be allotted to institutions on the basis of their success in enrolling other-race graduate students.

6. Individual Committee Members Assigned to A Specific School

Individual members of the Implementation Committee have been assigned to specific institutions in order to increase the Committee's awareness of ongoing activities and their prospect for success.

Recommendations

The Committee Recommends:

1. That the Commission approve the draft of the 1982-83 Annual Report (Attachment 2);
2. That the Commission endorse the steps to be taken to ensure continued progress in implementing the Desegregation Plan, including the proposed Policies (Attachment 3); and

3. That the Commission approve the 1983-84 Desegregation Plan Budget (Agenda Item 7b) and authorize the Implementation Committee to approve changes in the activities listed, where it is determined that to do so will enhance the State's prospects for achieving the goals in the Plan.