

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

March 4, 1976
11:05 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

PRESENT:

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Dr. R. Cathcart Smith, Chairman
Mr. Howard L. Burns
Dr. Marianna W. Davis
Dr. William C. Draffin
Mr. F. Mitchell Johnson
Mr. Paul W. McAlister
Mr. T. Eston Marchant
Mr. William F. Prioleau, Jr.
Mr. Y. W. Scarborough, Jr.
Mr. J. Clyde Shirley
Mr. I. P. Stanback
Mr. T. Emmet Walsh

GUESTS

Dr. John M. Bevan
Dr. Larry A. Jackson
Mr. J. Lacy McLean
Miss Frances H. Miller
Dr. Charles E. Palmer

STAFF

Dr. Howard R. Boozer
Mr. Charles A. Brooks, Jr.
Mr. Horace F. Byrne
Mrs. Clara W. Evans
Dr. George P. Fulton
Mr. William C. Jennings
Dr. Frank E. Kinard
Mr. Alan S. Krech
Mr. Cannon R. Mayes
Mr. James R. Michael
Mr. John J. Powers
Mr. James L. Solomon, Jr.
Mrs. Gaylon Syrett
Mrs. Judi R. Tillman

MEMBER OF THE PRESS

Ms. Warren McInnis

I. Approval of Minutes of February 5, 1976, Commission Meeting

It was moved (Johnson) and seconded (Marchant) and unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the February 5, 1976, Commission meeting, as written.

II. Consideration of Motion Carried Over from February 5 Meeting

In accordance with Commission action taken at its February 5 meeting (see minutes of meeting, p. 201), a motion by Mrs. Forbes that "the Commission notes the commendable action Dr. McCord has recently taken in not accepting the position of President Emeritus of the Medical University of South Carolina" was carried over to the March meeting when Dr. Draffin could be present. Dr. Smith read a memorandum (Exhibit A), dated March 1, 1976, from Mrs. Forbes, who was unable to attend the March meeting, in which she stated that she wished to withdraw her original motion. Dr. Smith stated that no action would be taken by the Commission in Mrs. Forbes' absence, and that the Commission accepted her statement for the record.

III. Consideration of Academic Programs

A.P.S. in Criminal Justice - Beaufort Technical Education Center and Sumter Area Technical College

Mr. Krech reported that at its meeting of December 4, 1975, the Commission voted to approve the recommendation of its Committee on Academic Program

Development that action on the proposed A.P.S. in Criminal Justice at Beaufort Technical Education Center and Sumter Area Technical College be deferred while local cooperative agreements were developed in Beaufort and Sumter between the local technical institutions and the University of South Carolina regional campuses. A memorandum of agreement (Exhibit B), developed for both local areas, was signed by President Patterson and Dr. Palmer on January 27, 1976. The Committee on Academic Program Development reviewed the document, and recommended that the programs be approved as modified by the supplemental "Memorandum of Agreement." It was moved (Marchant) and seconded (Johnson) and unanimously voted that the recommendation be approved.

IV. Consideration of Capital Improvement Request - College of Charleston

Mr. Michael recalled for the Commission that State Auditor P. C. Smith met with the Commission on July 10, 1975, to clarify the financing of equipment for new buildings (see minutes, July 10, 1975, pp. 144-45). It was agreed that such equipment should be included in the capital funding for new facilities and not funded through the Appropriation Formula, and further, that if funds for equipment had not been included in previously approved capital budgets, requests could be submitted to the Budget and Control Board as separate items. Mr. Michael stated that the College of Charleston submitted a request for \$252,515, for initial movable equipment for Grice Marine Laboratory, which was not included in the capital budget of \$1,142,000, approved in 1974. That budget does include \$120,000 for "Equipment and Supplies," all of which has been committed primarily for fixed equipment. Grice Laboratory is ready for occupancy, providing approximately 15,000 square feet for undergraduate instruction in marine biology, chemistry, and geology.

In February, 1973, the Commission entered into an agreement with the South Carolina Commission on Wildlife and Marine Resources whereby the Wildlife Commission would finance and construct a Cooperative Research Facility at Fort Johnson with areas reserved therein for graduate and research programs of the colleges and universities, each of which specified the amount of space desired. Fixed equipment would be provided by the Wildlife Commission, but movable equipment would be a responsibility of the institution. The College of Charleston requested \$39,274 for initial movable equipment for its laboratories in the Cooperative Research Facility.

The two requests were submitted for consideration as a single item totaling \$291,789. The staff recommended that the Commission approve a commitment of up to \$140,000 in State funds for marine science equipment at the College of Charleston, without jeopardy to providing additional funds in the future if required. Although the College would determine the priority for spending the \$140,000, the staff would encourage that the section of the Cooperative Research Facility reserved for the College's graduate program be equipped, in accordance with the agreement between the Commission on Higher Education and the Wildlife Commission. Such a commitment by the State, together with the new marine science facilities and the generally favorable environment for marine affairs in Charleston, would place the College in a strong position to seek additional funds through grants from federal and private sources.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Dr. Bevan of the College of Charleston stated that the Grice Laboratory is a unique undergraduate marine science facility which is intended to serve not only the College of Charleston but all the institutions of the Charleston Consortium and other colleges and

universities in the State in offering an intensive type of learning experience. It will also serve as a career-testing center for students who think they may be interested in studying marine science. He noted that, because the existing facilities have been a limiting factor in enrollment, the College anticipates a substantial increase in the number of majors in marine science in the future. He stated that the College's initial application for funding from the National Science Foundation was not approved.

Dr. Davis stated that the potential is great for development of the facility as a center for marine science for the entire Southeastern United States, and that federal funds should be available under the Advanced Institutional Development Program. Dr. Bevan stated that the College has not yet been declared eligible for that program, although inquiry has been made and it is hoped that the College can qualify.

Mr. Shirley inquired concerning the Baruch Foundation funds. Dr. Smith stated that those funds have been designated for use by Clemson and USC at the Hobcaw Barony facility only. Dr. Fulton stated that at Hobcaw the thrust is on ecological problems, whereas at Fort Johnson there will also be opportunity for medical scientists to do research, and that the two facilities will be complementary.

It was moved (Davis) and seconded (Burns) that the Commission approve the staff recommendation. Mr. Johnson stated that the College originally had requested \$625,000 and that, because of the economic situation in the State, had reduced the amount to \$291,789. He noted that after the staff had reviewed the request for \$291,789 and stated that it appeared to be justified, it now was recommending a further reduction to \$140,000. He made the following observations: (1) no explanation has been made by the staff that duplications exist or that specific items should be eliminated; (2) the College has applied for additional funds from federal and private sources and will continue to seek such funds; (3) it will be impractical to move equipment between Grice Laboratory and the Cooperative Research Facility; (4) the recommended amount is not sufficient to purchase equipment for the first year of the program in a \$1 million building; and (5) such a reduction in equipment would do grave injustice to the development of marine sciences in the State. He stated that if the staff believes only \$140,000 is needed for equipment, it should have recommended where the reductions can be made and which items can be eliminated.

Mr. Burns asked if the economic situation was the only reason for the recommended reduction. Mr. Michael stated that reduced revenue was an overriding consideration, and that because of the time required to build the program, acquire students, and purchase and place equipment, in the opinion of the staff the delay of a portion of funds would not seriously harm the program. Dr. Davis stated that as a program is being built, priorities can be set and certain items reduced or eliminated on a temporary basis without adverse effect to the program.

Dr. Fulton agreed with Dr. Bevan concerning the possibility that the College of Charleston might now qualify for support from the National Science Foundation, and indicated that the staff will assist, if requested to do so, by investigating the various ways in which support can be obtained for the facility with its broadened regional approach. He stated his opinion that in the past several years the State has been generous in its appropriations to its educational institutions, that more self-sufficiency should be encouraged, and that the leaders in marine science should themselves seek supplementary funds to relieve the State of some of its heavy responsibility. He observed that in terms of

numbers of students it would appear that the program will build slowly. He noted that the students and faculty may be interchangeable, but that it was never intended that equipment be taken from one building to another. He stated that at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, equipment is brought in from the home institution of the investigator especially for a particular project, for a specified length of time, since one facility could not possibly have on hand all of the equipment which might be used from time to time by research scientists, and in that sense equipment would be moved, but not on a daily basis. Mr. Johnson expressed surprise that a scientist would say that \$291,789 for equipment is justified but that \$140,000 would be sufficient, and indicated that it is crucial that the building be fully equipped as the program begins.

A substitute motion was made (Driffin) and seconded (Marchant) that the staff recommendation to support a commitment of State funds, at this time, of up to \$140,000 be approved, without jeopardy to providing additional funds in the future, with the provision that the College of Charleston seek additional funds from federal and private sources, but if unsuccessful before September 1, 1976, the additional funds will be recommended by the Commission.

Dr. Davis expressed opposition to the substitute motion, stating that it would be unlikely that a proposal for federal funds could be written, reviewed, and funded by September 1, and that the motion contains a guarantee that if this does not occur, the Commission will recommend full funding. Mr. Shirley stated that although the College of Charleston will undoubtedly make every effort to secure federal funds, it might be unwise to include such a proviso in the motion. He stated that he detected a defensive attitude on the part of Mr. Johnson and expressed the hope that Mr. Johnson would not think the Commission or any of its members oppose the interests of the College. He stated further that when Commission members differ, it is usually a matter of interpretation, and that in his view most would agree that the request for \$291,789 is not an outrageous one, but since this is an initial move and the needs of the program will grow, it is not necessary to completely fund it in this time of austerity. He added that such a reduction would not mean that the Commission wants to restrain the College of Charleston or that there exists a hidden persecution toward any institution. Mr. Burns expressed the view that after spending more than \$1 million on the building, it appears to be too late to consider a reduction in funds for equipment.

The substitute motion was adopted, with six voting in favor and three opposing.

V. Report on Proposed Funding of FY-1976 Title VI-A Applications (Undergraduate Instructional Equipment)

Mr. Solomon reported that, since Congress recently decided not to support the President's request to rescind previously appropriated FY-1976 funds for certain higher education programs, South Carolina is expected to receive \$99,479 available for funding of FY-1976 Title VI-A applications -- \$79,583 under Category I (laboratory and other special equipment, materials, and minor remodeling) and \$19,896 under Category II (closed circuit instructional television equipment, materials, and minor remodeling). Procedures for establishing priority ranking for funding, as well as funding levels, are specified in detail in the South Carolina State Plan for Title VI-A, adopted by the Commission on November 7, 1974, and approved by the U.S. Commissioner of Education on November 27, 1974. Based upon the priority ranking of eligible projects and the amount of funds tentatively available, 11 projects under

Category I and four projects under Category II qualify for funding (Exhibit C). In accordance with usual procedure, these projects will be forwarded to the U.S. Office of Education on March 15, 1976, with the recommendation that they be funded, as provided for in the approved State Plan. Dr. Smith stated that this report was received as information and required no Commission action.

VI. Report of Executive Director

Dr. Boozer distributed copies of a Bill (H. 3738) introduced on March 2, 1976, to amend Act 194 of 1967, as amended, relating to the reconstitution of the Commission on Higher Education (Exhibit D), and noted that the Bill had been referred to the House Education and Public Works Committee.

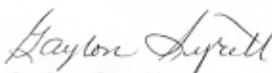
VII. Other Business

Dr. Smith read a statement (Exhibit E) in response to a memorandum from Mr. Johnson (Exhibit F), dated February 17, 1976. It was moved (Walsh) and seconded (Davis) that both Dr. Smith's statement and Mr. Johnson's memorandum be incorporated in the minutes of the meeting as information. The motion was approved.

Mr. McAlister suggested that the Commission formally endorse Dr. Smith's opinion that a further reduction in funds for the 1976-77 fiscal year would require that the institutions reduce enrollments. It was moved (Burns) and seconded (McAlister) that it is the sense of the Commission that any further reduction in appropriations for higher education will result in reduced enrollments and will seriously hamper the State institutions in carrying out their missions. The motion was adopted.

Dr. Smith announced that the Commission would meet in Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter immediately following the regular meeting. On motion made (Marchant) and seconded (Shirley) and unanimously voted, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Gaylon Syrett
Recording Secretary