

179

MINUTES OF MEETING  
OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

March 6, 1969

The Commission on Higher Education met on Thursday, March 6, 1969, in the Conference Room on the fourth floor of the Rutledge Building. Commission members present were Messrs. Cauthen, Coker, Grier, Osborne, Rogers, Russell, Vance, and Wall, and Dr. Morris. Dr. Harrison Peebles was present to represent Mr. Schachte who was unable to attend.

Mr. Vance called the meeting to order at 10:30 a. m. Since there were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the February 6, 1969, meeting they were approved as written.

A telegram had been received from Colonel Holliday who was unable to attend the meeting because of his brother's illness. It was agreed that Dr. Morris would write Colonel Holliday expressing the Commission's best wishes for his brother's speedy recovery.

Mr. Vance asked Dr. Morris for a report of the Commission's activities for the previous month. Dr. Morris stated that a successful meeting on the data and planning system had been held with all state college and university presidents and business officers attending. A four volume report on DAPS was presented to the group. Dr. Morris said he felt the general reaction of all presidents was most enthusiastic. Dr. Morris explained that the Commission would play an important role in coordinating the system and reporting to the Budget and Control Board in June and August in order to tie in with new budgetary methods being used in the Auditor's Office. It was decided that the DAPS report would be reviewed by the colleges and universities, and then meetings would be held on March 18 and 19 with Working Committees from the colleges and universities to go over the report with Mr. Gaskie of Campus Facilities Associates. After the meetings of the Working Committees, a meeting with the Policy Committee, made up of the presidents and Dr. Morris, would be held on March 26. Dr. Morris stated that the Commission would strive to have the DAPS operating by this summer in order to have a better basis for making recommendations on budgets to the Budget and Control Board.

Dr. Morris announced that a meeting had been held on February 25 to discuss coordination of para-medical education programs. The group included Dr. William McCord from the Medical College, Dr. Kenneth Ayccock, State Health Officer, Mr. Thomas Barton, Director of Technical Education Committee, and Dr. Morris. The question was asked at the meeting if this was the proper group to coordinate these programs and it was decided that it was. It was pointed out that there was a need for expansion of para-medical programs and the following responsibilities were delegated to those present:

Dr. Aycock's office would conduct a survey to determine supply and demand needs in the health professions in the state if funds become available for this purpose.

Mr. Barton would submit to the Commission for review information on all new para-medical education programs offered in the TEC centers.

Dr. McCord would set up an office with a director and staff at the Medical College to evaluate and make recommendations on all para-medical education programs being offered in the state, to include high school vocational programs. The new programs would be submitted to the Commission, then referred to Dr. McCord's office, and returned to the Commission after review with recommendations. This phase of the para-medical education coordination program would cost approximately \$100,000. Dr. Morris said a request for the money from state appropriations could be made when a proposal was received from Dr. McCord and approved by the Commission.

In general discussion following Dr. Morris' report of the meeting on para-medical education it was agreed that the Commission should review all of the accreditation requirements for these para-medical education courses and that there would be one reviewing office at the Medical College. Mr. Cauthen said that it was important for the Medical College to judge the minimum criteria for these courses and that the TEC programs, according to the Act creating the Commission on Higher Education, should also be approved by the Commission.

Dr. Morris announced that the Academic Advisory Committee for the Marine Science Research Project, which included Dean Davis, Dean Brownlee, and him, had met with Mr. Eltzroth. A request for funds for the project had been submitted and there was much optimism that the request would be approved. The next step would be to hire a director, and then select a site for the laboratory. In the beginning a temporary site would be used, possibly Mather School in Beaufort. Mr. Eltzroth planned to have the Advisory Committee approve decisions on research, and after the program was established, professional people from the colleges and universities would be able to work with the laboratory and use the facilities there.

Mr. Wall asked what part the Belle Baruch Foundation was playing in connection with the Marine Science Research Project. Dr. Morris replied there was no direct role in this particular connection but that Clemson, through their agreement with the Belle Baruch Foundation and the grant which they had received for marine science and forestry, could hire the people they needed to get their particular programs going.

Mr. Wall asked if some member of the Commission was requested to serve on the Belle Baruch Foundation would there be a conflict of interest. The general feeling of the Commission was that there would be no conflict of interest and that it would be very beneficial to have a member serving on this Foundation. Mr. Vance remarked that if the Commission could work with Dr. Edwards at Clemson and get support from the Belle Baruch Foundation, South Carolina could become a top flight research center, with the two universities using the facilities of the Baruch Plantation. Dr. Morris said he would like to see a laboratory established at the Baruch Plantation and he felt the Baruch people

wanted their property used, but only under carefully controlled conditions. Mr. Wall stated that the field of marine biology was a tremendous field and interest in it was growing. He felt that if we are going to have top flight research meaningful to the state, we must have top flight research sites. Bears Bluff was mentioned as a possibility, but it was pointed out that Dr. Lunz who is Director there had shown little enthusiasm for using the laboratory there as a broadly-based marine science laboratory. Mr. Cauthen stated that the Commission should not write off Bears Bluff as a possibility. Mr. Wall reported that some land at the mouth of the Savannah River had been donated for the study of marine biology and that the federal government had given funds to help. If these funds are available from the federal government, it is possible that South Carolina may be eligible. Mr. Wall felt the Commission should try to coordinate this program. Dr. Morris stated that if the laboratory was set up under a state agency, the university and college researchers could use the facilities. The Commission comes in through the Academic Advisory Committee for Marine Science. Mr. Cauthen asked if the Commission would invite Dr. Jones, Dr. Edwards and Mr. Eltzroth to a meeting of the Commission to discuss this. Dr. Morris said he would be happy to talk with those mentioned and report back to the Commission.

The higher education situation in Charleston was the next item on the agenda. Dr. Morris reported that Dr. Palmer continued to consult with him and that apparently Palmer College is anxious to have the Commission recommend to the Legislature that the state take over the property. Dr. Morris said the College of Charleston appeared to be in better shape financially, but had no illusion that they could take care of four or five thousand students, which is what is needed in the Charleston area. They have not, however, withdrawn their offer to the state. Dr. Morris announced that he would attend a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the College of Charleston. Mr. Wall asked if it was definite that some facility had to be created in Charleston to take care of four year college students. Dr. Morris answered that it was and that ideally the state should absorb the College of Charleston. In connection with Palmer College, it was felt that the Commission could not say anything at this time. Mr. Vance asked if the Commission wanted Dr. Morris to continue to handle the Charleston situation as he was doing and it was agreed that he should.

Dr. Morris announced that the Commission was being attacked directly as a result of its stand on separation of two year branches. He said the editorials in the Spartanburg papers had been less than kind, and he felt the Commission should accelerate getting the facts to the people as it had been reported that separation would reduce the standards, create accreditation problems, and that the two year centers would become community colleges. Dr. Morris said that to counteract these false impressions the Commission staff had written a memorandum, a copy of which was in each Commissioner's folder, stating the reasons for the recommendation. Dr. Morris asked if the Commission should send the memorandum with a letter to the editors, Chairmen of local higher education commissions, etc. It was decided that the Commission members would review the memorandum and get in touch with Dr. Morris' office by March 12 if there were any changes. After March 12 the memorandum would be distributed to the editors, etc.

Mr. Cauthen commented that a great mistake had been made by not getting the voice of the local people on the separation of the branches before any legislation was undertaken. Dr. Morris announced that there would be public hearings set by the House Education Committee on April 9 and that he would be prepared with a statement which the Commission could approve at its meeting on April 3. Mr. Cauthen asked if it would be possible for the Commission staff to have local hearings concerning the regional campuses before April 9 if the communities desired these hearings. Dr. Morris replied that he would be delighted to do this and would write a letter to each Commission telling them of this.

General discussion on the two year centers followed with Mr. Wall asking if the chances of a two year center becoming a four year college would be increased if there were separate boards, and who would be responsible for making the decision on the "C" student. Dr. Morris replied that in connection with the transition from the two year to four year college that the Commission would be working on the criteria and it would not matter with whom they were affiliated. It would be based on need and capacity. In connection with the decision of the "C" student, Dr. Morris answered that the universities have to base their standards on a higher type student, and if a board was created it would set criteria for the two year branches. Mr. Wall asked if the Commission wanted to indicate that there would be some changes in admission standards. Dr. Morris answered that if the Commission was in favor he would say we had to go out and meet the needs. Mr. Grier stated that it would have to be a phase of remedial courses. Mr. Rogers made a motion that the concept be accepted that the two year colleges should attempt to meet the needs of the high risk students in the community by providing remedial and other programs. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coker and unanimously adopted. In the discussion following it was agreed that the two year centers should be such that any student admitted to the regular program had a reasonable chance to succeed. On the other hand, the centers should attempt to deal with high risk students by providing special programs.

The next item on the agenda was whether the Commission should hold open meetings. Mr. Coker moved that the Commission meetings continue to be closed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Grier and unanimously adopted.

Dr. Morris indicated that he was to make the speech at the dedication of the Byrd Hall Science Building at The Citadel. He pointed out that a law student from the University of South Carolina had just completed the task of collecting all state laws pertaining to higher education. The question of phasing out the agricultural programs at South Carolina State College was brought up. The Commission reiterated its position that these programs be phased out and that any student eligible and already enrolled have the opportunity to transfer to Clemson.

In the discussion of Winthrop College's request for approval of a Master of Science in Business Education program, Dr. Morris said this was a very important and badly needed program in South Carolina and that Winthrop was qualified to do it. He recommended approval. Mr. Osborne moved that the

program be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coker and unanimously adopted.

Dr. Morris stated that Winthrop had also requested approval of a Master of Science in Speech Pathology program. He said there was a tremendous demand for speech pathologists in the state. If approved, this program would get pathologists certified by the State Department of Education, but sixty hours of graduate work are required for professional accreditation. Dr. Morris stated that there were few specialists in this particular area, but Winthrop did have a proposal in to get federal money for two speech pathology teachers. This program would cost the state very little money, and several people in speech and hearing had written stating their approval of the program. Dr. Morris concluded that the program should be approved provided the federal funds were available. Mr. Osborne made the motion that the program be approved if federal funds were available. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cauthen and unanimously adopted.

Dr. Morris stated that Dr. Edwards had requested in a letter approval of four new programs at Clemson, to begin in the Fall of 1969. It was agreed that Dr. Edwards should send copies of these programs to the Commission and they would be taken up at the next meeting.

Mr. Vance asked if there was any further business. Dr. Peebles said it was truly an education to be at the meeting and he appreciated the opportunity.

Since there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:25 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Morris