



South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

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Dr. Richard C. Sutton,
Executive Director

TO: Presidents, Public Colleges and Universities
President, S.C. Technical College System

FROM: Richard C. Sutton

DATE: 5 July 2013

RE: August CHE Presentations and FY15 Budget Review Process

Attached please find the schedule for the **August 14-15** CHE meetings and presidents' presentations. Each year these conversations provide the Commissioners with an opportunity to learn more about your institution's recent achievements, challenges, priorities, and funding needs.

I am writing to share with you this year's expectations regarding these presentations and the process for developing the Commission's FY 2014-15 budget requests for South Carolina's higher education enterprise.

In order to make the conversations in August as productive as possible, we would appreciate your providing key information in advance of your scheduled presentation. We ask that you provide a summary document that outlines your institution's anticipated FY15 budget request within the context of your strategic plan. Elements of this document should include:

- 1) a description of your overall priorities for the upcoming year, including any major plans or activities that are already underway;
- 2) a listing, brief description, and projected amounts of your planned FY 2014-15 budget requests, including any special items, petitions, or budget provisos (new or amended);
- 3) legislative priorities for the upcoming session; and
- 4) any other specific requests or strategic priorities that you believe the Commission should consider in its planning for the upcoming year and for the longer-term horizon.

Last year Francis Marion University submitted a budget request [summary](#) (posted on the CHE website) that may serve as a useful model as you prepare your institution's document. There is, however, no prescribed format, so long as the requested information is included.

We ask that each institution submit the requested information (with the S.C. Technical College System Office sending the technical college information collectively) by email to Gary Glenn (gglenn@che.sc.gov) by **Friday, August 2**. Receipt of information by this date will allow Commissioners to receive materials in advance and thereby facilitate a productive discussion on your priorities.

If you should choose to use PowerPoint slides during your presentation at the meeting, please submit that file electronically to Camille Brown (cbrown@che.sc.gov) by **Monday, August 12**, so that we can have it loaded for your appointed time. For hardcopy distribution of your presentation or other materials you may wish to share with the Commissioners, please bring 20 copies with you.

In the development of CHE's FY 2014-15 budget requests, we will diverge a bit from the process used in recent years. As you know, I arrived late this spring as the General Assembly was in its final two months of the FY14 budget negotiations. As I look toward my first opportunity to be engaged in the full cycle for FY15, I would like to design ways in which CHE is positioned to act as a champion for key initiatives that address important state needs and issues.

Presidents, Public Colleges and Universities
President, S.C. Technical College System
5 July 2013

As we examine the summary budget documents that you submit on August 2 and listen to your presentations on August 14-15, we will be looking for items that are or could be structured as collaborative ventures among multiple SC colleges and universities. These might be explicit, formal partnerships, or a collective of individual actions that might be packaged as complementary, related programs around a common theme.

The Commissioners and CHE staff are considering several themes that are of particular interest and that may resonate well with the General Assembly. Although not an exclusive list, we will be particularly encouraging of programs and activities that (1) address the education and workforce training needs of economic development clusters (identified through the SmartState Centers for Economic Excellence, the Department of Commerce, and other entities); (2) address ways to reduce remediation, improve degree completion, limit student debt, and enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of program delivery; or (3) strengthen teacher preparation, high school-to-college curricular alignment, and P-20 collaboration.

Following the August 14-15 meeting, CHE staff will construct the general request and targeted collaborative initiatives for consideration at the Commission's September 5 meeting. We anticipate that recommendations will be reviewed by the CHE Finance & Facilities Committee, meeting as a committee-of-the-whole. As was the case last year, we expect agency budget requests will again be due to the Governor in late September.

As we move into October and November, we will work on any appropriate revisions to our budget submission that may reflect updated state revenue projections or other factors. We will continue to consult with you during this stage of the process, and this will likely provide the focus for a Presidents' Council meeting in mid-to-late fall. As I navigate this route, I will try to be flexible and responsive to your internal schedules and planning processes. Working together, I am hopeful that we will project a coordinated approach to the state's higher education investment that will serve our students most effectively.

In closing, I would call your attention to the **August 14 reception and dinner** sponsored by the SC Higher Education Foundation. You should have recently received a separate email invitation to this event. It provides a relaxed social occasion for you, Commissioners, and CHE staff to gather informally and reinforce our common bonds in support of higher education. I appreciate your leadership in advancing our shared goals, and I look forward to seeing you then.

Attachment: August 14-15 Schedule (as of 7/3/2013)
Cc: Members of the Commission on Higher Education
Presidents of the Technical Colleges
Deans, USC Two-Year Campuses
CHE Senior Staff

Schedule

Public Colleges and Universities and SC Technical College System Presidents' Presentations, August 14-15, 2013

SC Commission on Higher Education Conference Room
1122 Lady Street, Suite 300
Columbia SC, 29201

Wednesday, August 14, 2013

CHE Meetings

9:30 – 10:30 am Finance and Facilities Committee
10:30 – 11:30 am Full Commission
11:30 am – 12:00 pm Commissioners' Lunch

Time	Institution	President
12:00 pm – 12:30 pm	Lander University	Dr. Dan Ball
12:30 – 1:00 p.m.	Coastal Carolina University	Dr. David DeCenzo
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Clemson University	President Jim Barker
2:00 – 2:15 pm	Break	
2:15 – 4:15 pm	USC Columbia USC Aiken USC Beaufort USC Upstate USC Palmetto College	Dr. Harris Pastides Dr. Sandra Jordan Dr. Jane Upshaw Dr. Thomas Moore Dr. Susan Elkins
4:15 – 5:15 pm	State Technical College System	Dr. Darrell Staat
6:30 pm	Reception and Dinner for Public College Presidents and Commissioners, hosted by the SC Higher Education Foundation	

Thursday, August 15, 2013

Time	Institution	President
9:00 – 9:30 am	Francis Marion University	Dr. Fred Carter
9:30 – 10:00 am	The Citadel	Lt. Gen. John Rosa
10:00 – 10:30 am	College of Charleston	Dr. George Benson
10:30 – 10:45 am	Break	
10:45 am – 11:45 am	Medical University of South Carolina	Dr. Raymond Greenberg
11:45 am – 12:15 pm	Winthrop University	Dr. Jayne Comstock
12:15 pm – 12:45 pm	SC State University	Dr. Thomas Elzey