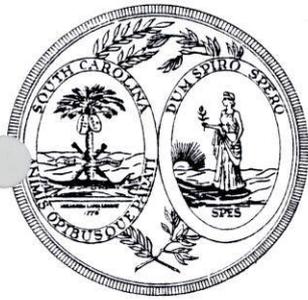


Additional enclosures:

Meeting notices, agendas and supporting materials are enclosed for the Finance and Facilities Committee meeting at 9:00 a.m. and the Executive Committee meeting at 10:30 a.m. on August 6, prior to the Commission meeting. These Committees will be discussing information relating to FY 2009-10 budget requests. These meetings will be held in CHE's large conference room.

Also, as noted on the Presidents' Presentation Schedule, the Access & Equity and Student Services Committee is meeting at 9:00 am at CHE in the Palmetto Room. An agenda is attached for your information.



South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

Layton McCurdy, M.D., Chairman
Mr. Daniel Ravenel, Vice Chairman
Doug R. Forbes, D.M.D.
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne
Mr. Kenneth W. Jackson
Dr. Raghu Korrapati
Dr. Louis B. Lynn
Ms. Cynthia C. Mosteller
Mr. James Sanders
Mr. Hood Temple
Mr. Randy Thomas
Mr. Kenneth B. Wingate
Mr. Neal J. Workman, Jr.
Dr. Mitchell Zais

Dr. Garrison Walters, Executive Director

TO: Commission Members

FROM:  Mr. Jim Sanders, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Finance & Facilities

SUBJECT: Committee Meeting, August 6

DATE: August 1, 2008

A meeting of the Finance and Facilities Committee is scheduled to be held in the Commission's Main Conference Room at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 6. Due to the informative nature of the meeting, we would like to extend an invitation to you to join us if your schedules permit.

I am including a copy of the agenda and draw your attention to items 4 and 5.

If you are interested in seeing the materials before the meeting, please let Gary Glenn know and he will be glad to send them to you. Gary can be reached at gglenn@che.sc.gov or by phone at (803) 737-2155.

AGENDA
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE & FACILITIES
AUGUST 6, 2008
9:00 A.M.
MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM
SC COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
1333 MAIN STREET, SUITE 200
COLUMBIA, SC 29201

1. Introductions
2. Minutes of June 5 Meeting
3. Election of New Committee Chair & Vice Chair
4. FY 2009-10 Budget Approval Process & Timeline
5. Budget Requests for Higher Education Institutions & Entities
 - A. Operating & Capital Needs
 - B. Other Higher Education Support
 - i. Need-based Grants
 - ii. PASCAL (Statewide Higher Education Electronic Library)
 - iii. Lottery Tuition Assistance Program (LTAP)
 - iv. National Guard Tuition Assistance (NGTA)
 - v. Critical Needs Nursing Initiative
 - vi. Centers of Economic Excellence (CoEE)
 - vii. SC LightRail
 - viii. Other Programs
 - C. Separate Entity Support
 - i. Lowcountry Graduate Center (LGC)
 - ii. University Center of Greenville (UCG) & Greenville Technical College
 - iii. Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR)
 - iv. South Carolina Manufacturing Extension Partnership (SCMEP)
6. Leases
 - A. Medical University of South Carolina
 - i. 21 Courtenay Drive
 - ii. 135 Cannon Street – Office Space
 - iii. 135 Cannon Street – Parking
7. Other Business
 - A. List of Capital Projects & Leases Processed by Staff for June & July 2008 (For Information)

South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

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Mr. Kenneth W. Jackson
Dr. Raghu Korrapati
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Ms. Cynthia C. Mosteller
Mr. James Sanders
Mr. Y. W. Scarborough, III
Mr. Hood Temple
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Mr. Kenneth B. Wingate
Mr. Neal J. Workman, Jr.
Dr. Mitchell Zais

Dr. Garrison Walters, Executive Director

**Access & Equity and Student Services Committee
South Carolina Commission on Higher Education
Palmetto Conference Room
Wednesday, August 6, 2008
9:00 a.m.**

AGENDA

Introductions
Minutes

Ms. Cynthia Mosteller
Chair, Access & Equity and Student
Services Committee

E2 Visa Classification

Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

SC Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention
and Advancement (CERRA) Teaching Fellows
Proposal

Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Other Business

Ms. Cynthia Mosteller

Adjournment



South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

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Mr. Neal J. Workman, Jr.
Dr. Mitchell Zais

Dr. Garrison Walters, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Dr. Layton McCurdy, Chairman

TO: Executive Committee Members:
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Ms. Cyndi Mosteller, Mr. Jim Sanders

CC: Members of the Commission
Dr. Garrison Walters, Executive Director

DATE: July 31, 2008

RE: August 6, 2008, Meeting of the Executive Committee

Please find below the agenda for the upcoming meeting of the Executive Committee of the Commission. The meeting is being held in the offices of the S. C. Commission on Higher Education, 1333 Main Street, Suite 200, Columbia, SC 29201.

AGENDA

Call to Order

1) Discussion Item

a) CHE FY 2009-10 Agency Budget Request

2) Other Business

Adjournment

Discussion Item
CHE FY 2009-10 Agency Budget Requests

The Commission on Higher Education, like all other agencies of state government, experienced agency operating reductions as a result of the economic downturn of the state during the FY 2008-09 budget deliberations. The request for agency support which follows does not seek to replace those reductions but rather to build the capacity to achieve the goals of the agency as we implement the Action Plan for Higher Education. The request is a very conservative estimate of the resources we will need to undertake the initiatives that will move South Carolina toward success in the knowledge-based economy and improve the quality of higher education. The requested agency support is, in fact, less than the appropriation reduction assessed to the Commission's administrative operating fund in FY 2008-09.

CHE Request – Agency Support – \$89,533 (Recurring)

◆ **Higher Education Plan Implementation** - The amount requested does not recover the operating reduction assessed to CHE in FY 2008-09.

◆ **Higher Education Plan Implementation – \$89,533 (Recurring)**

In 2007, the General Assembly commissioned a Higher Education Study Committee. The Committee was charged broadly with developing and recommending a multi-year strategic plan for higher education in South Carolina to meet the needs of the state as can be addressed by higher education. The Committee is expected to release a macro, state-level plan in September with a full report including implementation details to follow by early December. Given the discussions to date, it is anticipated that the Committee will recommend an Action Plan for Higher Education commencing July 1, 2009. CHE would be expected to administer the plan and ensure its implementation. Given current CHE staffing and funding levels, CHE is unable to fund FTE positions critical in carrying out CHE's statutory planning responsibilities and for conducting the work necessary for implementation of a statewide higher education plan. As a result, CHE requests an additional \$89,533 in recurring funds to fill one program manager staff position.

CHE Request – Agency Support – \$130,000 (Recurring)

◆ **Agency Technology**

◆ **Agency Technology – \$130,000 (Recurring)**

The Commission received \$130,000 in non-recurring funding to enhance agency technology in FY 2007-08. This was one-time money and the economy did not support the continuation of funding for this extremely important activity in FY 2008-09. It is imperative that the Commission continue to provide state and national stakeholders with efficient and effective data collection, analysis, and reporting. CHEMIS is a key component in this effort. Additionally, with limited resources available to increase the size of the staff, the use of technology to increase productivity has become even more important. To ensure that the information we collect is safe, that the data is provided in user-friendly formats, and that productivity is continually enhanced, we are again requesting \$130,000 to be used for agency technology upgrades and security.

CHE Request – State Responsibilities – \$469,300 (Recurring)

◆ **Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Contract Costs**

Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Contract Costs – \$469,300 (Recurring)

Each year, SREB sets state membership dues and regional contract program fees to assess member states for the costs of providing access to academic programs individual states may not offer. In South Carolina, these include optometry, veterinary medicine, the North Carolina School for the Arts, and support of the Doctoral Scholars Program. The funding also enables the state to participate in regional initiatives and policy research. CHE seeks increased funding necessary to continue the state's participation in these SREB programs and services. The fee schedule for FY 2009-10 for South Carolina is based on estimated student participation levels and requires an increase of \$469,300 over the amount appropriated in FY 2008-09.

CHE Request – Improving Student Access & Success in Higher Education – \$238,740 (Recurring)

- ◆ **GEAR UP - \$223,147 (Recurring)**
- ◆ **Access and Equity - \$15,593 (Recurring)**

◆ **GEAR UP – \$223,147 (Recurring)**

GEAR UP is a national grant program which supports early college preparation and awareness activities for rural and low-income students. Currently, SC GEAR UP serves 17 high schools. These schools are located throughout the state with the exception of one primary geographic area – the Upstate. SC GEAR UP recognizes that there are pockets of need in each area of the state and that it is important to provide services that reach children in need of tutoring, mentoring, and other early awareness services regardless of the geographic location of their homes. Accordingly, we are requesting \$210,000 to provide services to students currently not served in the Upstate. These funds, which were also requested last year, will provide for an additional school services coordinator, two site coordinators, and the requisite support needed to ensure the success of this program expansion. We are also seeking to recover the appropriation reduction from the FY 2008-09 budget of \$13,147 to return our federal match to its previous level.

◆ **Access and Equity – \$15,593 (Recurring)**

Increasing opportunities for minority populations is a key to the success of our overarching goal of providing our citizens with the skills they will need to survive and thrive in a knowledge-based economy. We are seeking to recover the appropriation reduction from the FY 2008-09 budget of \$15,593 to ensure that continued progress we have made in increasing accessibility to higher education. It is noted that for the past three years, CHE has requested additional program funds in the amount of \$400,000 to enable CHE to establish a statewide partnership among our colleges to build a more diverse health-care workforce. CHE is not requesting those funds this year in light of the state's budget situation. However, a focus on Access and Equity programs remains a priority.