

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
1333 Main Street, Suite 200
Columbia, SC 29201

Minutes of the Meeting

May 1, 2008

10:30 a.m.

Commission Members Attending

Dr. Layton McCurdy, Chairman
Dr. Doug Forbes
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne
Mr. Ken Jackson
Dr. Raghu Korrapati
Dr. Louis Lynn (by phone)
Ms. Cynthia Mosteller
Mr. Daniel Ravenel
Mr. Jim Sanders
Mr. Hood Temple
Mr. Randy Thomas
Mr. Ken Wingate

Commission Members Absent

Mr. Neal Workman
Dr. Mick Zais

Staff Present

Dr. Garrison Walters, Executive Director
Ms. Rita Allison
Dr. Argentini Anderson
Ms. Althea Anthony
Ms. Laura Belcher
Mr. Michael Brown
Ms. Julie Carullo
Ms. Renea Eshleman
Mr. Gary Glenn
Ms. Alyson Goff
Dr. Paula Gregg
Ms. Trena Houpp
Ms. Yolanda Hudson
Ms. Lane Jeselnik
Dr. Lynn Kelley
Ms. Rae McPherson
Dr. Tajuana Massie
Dr. Gail Morrison
Dr. Michael Raley
Ms. Stephanie Reynolds
Ms. Beth Rogers
Ms. Courtney Walker
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Guests

Mr. Robbic Barnett, SC Chamber of Commerce
Ms. Julie Brown, Troy University
Ms. Marilyn Burstein, Art Institute of Charleston
Dr. Richard Chapman, Francis Marion University
Mr. Monty Clark, Art Institute of Charleston
Ms. Donna Collins, USC Columbia
Dr. Anthony Coyne, USC Sumter
Dr. David DeCenzo, Coastal Carolina University
Mr. George Fletcher, New Carolina
Mr. Jack Forrest, Remington College
Mr. Henry Giles, Spartanburg Community College
Dr. Tom Hallman, USC Aiken
Dr. Catherine Houghton, Art Institute of Charleston
Mr. Hunter Howard, SC Chamber of Commerce
Dr. David Hunter, USC Regional Campuses
Ms. Betty Jenkins, SC State University
Ms. Karen Jones, Winthrop University
Mr. Howard Katz, Art Institute of Charleston
Ms. Angie Leidinger, Clemson University
Mr. Mike LeFever, SC Independent Colleges & Universities
Dr. Learie Luke, SC State University
Mr. Scott Ludlow, State Technical College System
Dr. Gene Luna, USC Columbia
Ms. Beth McGinnis, Clemson University
Mr. John Malmrose, Medical University of SC
Dr. Bud Marchant, Piedmont Technical College
Ms. Jennifer Pearce, Medical University of SC
Ms. Sandra Powers, College of Charleston
Dr. Jack Sanders, Medical University of SC
Dr. Tom Seehode, Troy University
Mr. John Smalls, SC State University
Mr. Tom Quasney, USC Columbia
Mr. Joe Taylor, SC Department of Commerce
Dr. Aileen Trainer, USC Columbia
Dr. Fran Welch, College of Charleston
Ms. Sandy Williams, Coastal Carolina University
Mr. Bryce Wilson, SC Budget & Control Board

Members of Press

none

The meeting was held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Introductions

- Lynn Kelley

Dr. Lynn Kelley introduced the guests, all of whom are listed above.

2. Approval of Minutes

A **motion** was made (Temple), **seconded** (Korrapati), and **carried** to approve the minutes of April 3, 2008 meeting.

3. CHE Forum

The Business Community and Higher Education's Action Plan

Special Guests:

Secretary Joe Taylor, S.C. Department of Commerce

Mr. Hunter Howard, President & CEO, S.C. Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Robbie Barnett, Assoc. V.P. of Education Policy, S.C. Chamber of Commerce

Mr. George Fletcher, Executive Director, New Carolina

Commissioner Ravenel began by welcoming the guests and thanking them for their participation. He explained that the Higher Education Study Committee (HESC) is currently in the process developing a statewide plan for higher education to be delivered to the legislature for their consideration in September 2008. Commissioner Ravenel reviewed the plan's four overarching goals, which are: 1) increasing educational levels; 2) increasing measures of research and innovation; 3) increasing workforce training and educational services; and 4) improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the state's public colleges and universities. He stated that task forces are being developed for the purpose of further defining these goals. Discussion followed in response to Commissioner Ravenel's invitation that the guests, the Commissioners, and visiting Presidents DeCenzo and Hall comment on their reactions to the goals. Below is a summary of that discussion.

Emphasis was placed on the importance of taking action that is specifically linked to the economic needs of South Carolina. It was generally agreed that higher education has been included in existing efforts to improve the state's economy by virtue of its participation in various joint activities created by the Education and Economic Development Act (EEDA). Though the research and technical institutions appear to have more visibility with regard to economic development in the state, the comprehensive institutions are very involved in their respective communities and are working to meet local needs.

The importance of collecting and examining accurate data on the state's economic needs was stressed. It was noted that consideration of data pertaining to smaller areas of the state might be relevant in determining those needs, as issues existing in one region do not necessarily exist in all. Although some specific data on regional levels are currently available, it is not well disseminated. If that data were more accessible, the relationship between levels of education and the ability to sustain employment might be more apparent. It was suggested that a collection of regional plans might evolve into a state plan.

Connections between the efforts of the HESC and EEDA, particularly with regard to the regional education centers and workforce investment centers were discussed. The EEDA's Education and Workforce Committee is a forum where several groups with a vested interest in education have made a real impact on improving the economy. This group was recommended as a good source of feedback on the overarching goals as well as a source of recommendations of individuals to serve as members of the goals' task forces.

With regard to the efficient and effective delivery of higher education, the topic of better coordination and guidance of higher education institutions in South Carolina was discussed. It was noted that all involved parties should be on the same page in the development of any restructuring efforts.

The topic of adult education was also discussed. It was noted that higher education should address the issue of adult education in such a way that there is an ongoing look at what workforce needs are so that they may be addressed on a continuing basis.

The importance of showing students the value of all higher education options (technical, two-year, four-year, graduate) was emphasized as was the importance of guiding students wisely toward the option for which each is individually best prepared.

It was noted that funding provided by the EEDA has assisted in enabling guidance counselors to deal with fewer numbers of students, giving the students more personal attention and allowing the counselors to work with them on individual graduation plans. EEDA efforts which have facilitated the representation of career clusters in K-12 schools have also helped students connect the relevance of school to earning a living. Also noted was the importance of training guidance counselors to provide students with more thorough and accurate information about financial aid possibilities.

Dr. Walters concluded the forum discussion by requesting that each guest either participate in or send a representative to take part in the task forces which will work to define more specifically each of the four overarching goals.

4. Chairman's Report

- Chairman McCurdy

Chairman McCurdy called on Dr. Walters to deliver the report of the Executive Director.

5. Report of the Executive Director

- Garrison Walters

Dr. Walters asked Dr. Morrison to comment on the upcoming Endowed Chairs site visits and the status of the Course Alignment Project. Dr. Morrison distributed a hand-out which summarized the eleven Endowed Chair proposals for FY 2007-2008 (**Attachment I**). She stated that an external review panel would begin visits to the three research universities during the week of May 5. Dr. Morrison noted that there is a total of \$36 million in state funds to be awarded for these projects and that the total value of all the projects under review is \$45 million. Chairman McCurdy stated that each of the proposals requires a match of non-state funds in order to acquire access to state lottery

funds. Dr. Morrison reported that the entirety of the state funds have to go into endowment and at least 40% of the private money raised must go into endowment so that the program keeps on generating income over the life of the endowed professorship. Dr. Morrison stated that the Endowed Chairs program annual report would soon be forthcoming and that it would be posted on the CHE web site. Dr. Morrison invited all interested persons to come to a meeting on the South Carolina Course Alignment Project on May 16 at 10:00 a.m. in the main CHE conference room, at which national course alignment expert, Dr. David Conley, will speak. Dr. Morrison explained that Dr. Conley and his research staff have examined the high school course standards in Math, Science, and English in an attempt to determine whether they are rigorous enough to prepare student adequately to succeed in entry freshman level courses at college. The findings of this examination will be presented at the May 16 meeting as will information on the next steps to be taken which will enlist high school and college faculty to compare course content, identify gaps, then design ideal courses which will best serve students.

Dr. Walters made reference to a letter which was recently sent from the State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) to the three current Presidential candidates. **(Attachment II)**. He stated that the letter, which addresses the status of higher education, was well-crafted and supported by the CHE staff.

Dr. Walters reported he had recently visited Coastal Carolina University and Horry-Georgetown Technical College, had met with the editorial board at The Sun Newspaper, and delivered a knowledge economy awareness presentation to the York County Chamber of Commerce. In response to Dr. Walters' request, Ms. Allison reviewed the status of CHE's work on higher education awareness, stating that the development of an ad hoc committee comprised of representatives from various areas of higher education was in progress. She also noted that additional knowledge economy awareness presentations will be scheduled as will additional editorial boards visits. Ms. Allison stated that work was underway to revamp the CHE website and develop a new CHE logo.

6. Legislative Report

- Julie Carullo

Ms. Carullo reported that the crossover deadline was reached in the General Assembly today, meaning that bills that have not yet moved from one legislative body to the other will have a more difficult time being passed before the end of this year's session. She stated that the bill, H. 4408, pertaining to the Palmetto Fellows and Life scholarships math and science enhancements has moved from the House to the Senate and appears to be getting closer to its passage. Ms. Carullo also reported on the status of the budget, noting that the Senate has sent its budget recommendations back to the House for consideration. Ms. Carullo reported that funding for the statewide electronic library may become a conference issue as the Senate version of the budget recommended \$200,000 in recurring money whereas the House version does not recommend any funding for this project. She stated that there was no dedicated increase recommended for the need-based aid program, but both the House and the Senate versions of the budget include a provision which would allow a change in the allocation methodology to one based on need with any new funds appropriated for that program. She also commented that the Senate, like the House, has fully funded the merit scholarship programs, and that the Senate did not include the Light Rail and reduced funding to \$10 million for the CoEE

program. The budget will now be considered again by the House before going to the conference committee so that Senate and House differences may be worked out.

7. Committee Reports

6.01 Report of the Executive Committee

- Layton McCurdy

The Executive Committee had no report.

7.02 Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

-Bettie Horne

Consent Agenda, Items A - I:

A. Consideration of New Program Proposals

1. A.H.S., Cardiovascular Technology, Piedmont Tech
2. A.H.S., Physical Therapy Assistant, Piedmont Tech
3. A.H.S., Veterinary Technology, Piedmont Tech
4. A.I.T., Radiation Protection Technology, Spartanburg Community College
5. A.H.S., Occupational Therapy Assistant, Horry-Georgetown Tech
6. B.S., Secondary Education, College of Charleston
7. B.A. and B.S., Public Health, USC Columbia
8. B.S., Music Industry, Francis Marion
9. B.S., Athletic Training, Winthrop
10. B.S., Exercise Science, Winthrop
11. M.A.T., Early Childhood Education, Winthrop
12. M.S.D., Dentistry, MUSC

B. Consideration of Request for Initial License

A.A.S., (1) Business Administration; (2) Computer and Network Administration; and (3) Criminal Justice, at a Columbia Campus, Remington College, Mobile, AL

C. Consideration of Requests for Amendments to Existing License to Add New Program

1. B.F.A., Digital Filmmaking and Video Production, Art Institute of Charleston
2. B.S., Psychology at Sumter, Charleston, and Rock Hill campuses, Troy University, Troy, AL

D. Consideration of *Centers of Excellence (Teacher Education)* Appropriations Request, FY 2009-10

E. Consideration of Annual Evaluation of Associate Degree Programs, FY 2005-06

F. Consideration of Proposed Changes to *CHE Policy for Approval of Specialized Accreditation Agencies*

G. Consideration of Request for the Addition of an Accrediting Agency to the List of National Institutional and Specialized Accrediting Bodies Recognized by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

H. Consideration of Annual Report on Admissions Standards for First-time Entering Freshmen, FY 2007-08

I. Consideration of Annual Report for AP Course Acceptance Policies, FY 2007-08

For Information Only, Items J-K

J. Informational Report on Awards for Centers of Excellence (Teacher Education) Program, FY 2008-09 (New and Continuing)

K. Informational Report on Awards for Improving Teacher Quality Competitive Grants Program, FY 2008-09, (New and Continuing)

Commissioner Horne stated that each of the twelve programs, listed as Consent Agenda Item 7.02 A above and described in **Attachment III**, had been reviewed closely by the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing, and that questions had been entertained and answered.

A **motion** was made (Horne) and **carried** to approve the recommendations, as listed in **Attachment III**, for each of these program proposals included in Agenda Item 7.02A.

A **motion** was then made (Horne) to approve the recommendations, as listed in **Attachment III**, for Agenda Items 7.02B - I.

In response to Commissioner Sanders' question about Table 8 of Agenda Item 7.02E, concerning the difference between suspension and probation of an associate degree program, Dr. Cheryl Cox explained that a program that does not meet productivity standards goes on probation. If its productivity does not meet standards within a specified period of time, usually three years, it becomes suspended and no new students can be enrolled in it. Time is allowed for students already in the program to matriculate out, after which the program is cancelled.

The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

Dr. McCurdy noted that Agenda Items 7.02 J and K were provided for information only.

**7.03 Report of Committee on Access & Equity
and Student Services**

- Cynthia Mosteller

The Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services had no report.

7.04 Report of Committee on Finance and Facilities

- Daniel Ravenel

A. Consideration of Interim Capital Projects

- | | | |
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| 1. Clemson University | - | Doug Kingsmore Stadium Addition |
| 2. University of SC Columbia | - | Preston College HVAC Renovation |
| | - | Health Sciences Renovation |
| | - | Patterson Hall Renovation |
| | - | Athletic Venues Construction |
| | - | Athletic Village Garage and
Maintenance Facility Construction |
| | - | Athletic Village Infrastructure
Development Construction |
| | - | Athletic Coaches Support Building
Construction |
| 3. Medical University of SC | - | Renovations for Expanded
Adult Emergency Department |
| 4. Coastal Carolina University | - | Athletic Training Facility
Construction |
| 5. College of Charleston | - | AT&T (Bell) Building Electrical
Improvements |
| 6. Spartanburg Community
College | - | Gaines & East Building Continuing
Education Renovation |

B. List of Staff Approvals for April 2008 (For Information)

Commissioner Ravenel reviewed information about all of the above-referenced interim capital projects the Committee on Finance and Facilities had unanimously approved at its meeting which took place earlier in the morning. More detail about these projects may be found in **Attachment IV**.

A **motion** was made (Ravenel) to collectively approve the following recommendation for each of the interim capital projects:

The Committee on Finance and Facilities **recommends** approval of this project as proposed.

In response to Commissioner Mosteller's question about why reference is made on page 3 of **Attachment IV** to the university not spending more than \$3 million on the Doug

Kingsmore Stadium Addition project, Mr. Gary Glenn explained that this project is a combination of a donation of a \$1 million and other existing institutional funds and that the \$3 million figure represents a voluntary cap to assure CHE that its cost would not grow beyond what was originally intended, and also to assure that the project will be completed by the opening of the 2010 baseball season. In response to Commissioner Mosteller's question about the statement that the USC Columbia Health Sciences Renovation project does not require an increase in tuition and fees, Mr. Glenn explained that this type of project uses the revenue from the institution's already established fee within their tuition and fee structure, which is designated for the purpose of supporting institutional bonds and capital projects. Mr. Glenn stated further this is not necessarily a given. He said that because questions occasionally surface, and in the interest of being aware of the impact of these projects on tuition and fees, CHE staff has begun to include this information in a project's description.

The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

The April 2008 permanent improvement projects and leases approved by the staff, as described in Agenda Item 7.04B, were provided for information only. Commissioner Ravenel stated that the issue of staff approval which establishes projects will be a topic of consideration at the continuation of the Finance and Facilities committee meeting which follows today's Commission meeting.

8. Other Business

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth B. Rogers

Beth B. Rogers

Recording Secretary

Attachment I-IV

*Attachments are not included in this mailing, but will be filed with the permanent record of these minutes and are available for review upon request.