

145

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
July 18, 1968

The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education met in Columbia at the ETV Center on Thursday, July 18, 1968, at 10:00 A. M. Commission members present were Chairman Cauthen, Messrs. Coker, Furman, Grier, Holliday, Osborne, Schachte, Wall, Walsh and Vance, and Dr. Kinard. Visitors were Governor Robert E. McNair and Mr. James S. Konduros.

The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 10:10 A. M. Mr. Cauthen welcomed Colonel Holliday to the Commission as the new Chairman of The Citadel's Board of Visitors. Mr. Cauthen noted that Mr. Lumpkin was out of town, Mr. Rogers was ill, and Mr. Russell was tied up with business, and that those three had notified him they would be unable to attend. Mr. Cauthen welcomed Governor McNair, and Mr. Konduros, to the meeting, and turned the floor over to the Governor.

Governor McNair thanked the Commission for delaying its regular meeting so that he could meet with the Commission, and invited the members to ask questions or interject comments at any time during his remarks. He expressed his deep concern over any apparent differences between himself and the Commission, and his opinion that any differences that did exist were due primarily to a breakdown in communications. He expressed the hope that today's meeting would remedy this situation.

The Governor stated that the principal interest of his entire administration had been and was in the whole field of education, from kindergarten through graduate school, and his conviction that the colleges must be improved in order that the rest of the system could be improved. The Governor referred to his Chairmanship of the Southern Regional Education Board, his Chairmanship of the Education Commission of the States and his recent appointment to a Committee of the latter to assess public education, as indicators of his interest in education.

The Governor stated that he had helped to draft the act creating the Commission, and had steered it carefully through the legislature, and that he had carefully handpicked the members for their expertise and demonstrated interest in higher education. He stated that the purpose of the Commission should be to coordinate but not to make policy, to eliminate present chaotic conditions such as the competition for funds. He cited as examples the Budget and Control Board's uncertainty as to whether or not an equitable distribution of state funds for higher education was being made, and the Board's need for guidance in the placement of programs in the right colleges, such as the Board's recent authorization of a Marine Biology program at Clemson and the hiring of an oceanography professor at South Carolina. Another example cited was the great potential, relatively untapped in higher education yet, of the educational television system, and the needless duplication of production facilities.

The Governor stated that the Commission was not created to chart a course for higher education, but to coordinate. He stated his conviction that a third University was not needed, and that the major need at the Medical College was for a strengthened faculty. In this connection, he noted that affiliation of the Medical College with a University had been recommended by some.

The Governor stated his unalterable opposition to the mixing of technical education and junior colleges. He announced that the State Committee for Technical Education had recently agreed to move the Technical Centers out of academic areas, and to go back to concentration on vocational training and adult education, with entrance requirements for their programs to be made on an age level rather than ability or educational tests. He pointed out that the libraries at the Technical Education centers were not needed.

Turning to the Moody Report, the Governor stated that this was not intended to be a master plan, but was a study of problems the state now faced in a number of areas, and of the state's ability to move to meet those problems. He stated that it should be considered along with other reports, and that he had read the report prepared by Cresap, McCormick and Paget on the independent colleges. As to the Universities, Governor McNair noted a great deal of money would be required to maintain and build two good ones; that the Universities should be allowed to make their own decisions, particularly as they pertain to graduate schools. On the question of Winthrop, the Governor noted some opposition to making the college coeducational, and gave it as his opinion that it ought to remain a girls' school, with perhaps some men admitted on a non-resident basis. As to The Citadel, the Governor expressed his wish that it remain a military college, and his conviction that Federal funds may be found to support its production of officers for the armed forces. He gave it as his opinion, supported by the Southern Regional Education Board study of this field last year, that the state would still need for some years to come a college to be attended primarily by Negroes. Returning to the question of the independent colleges, the Governor reminded the Commission of the Constitutional prohibition against direct subsidies, and stated that these colleges themselves must decide whether they would lower their standards, and admit more students. In this area, he was hopeful that the Commission could be helpful because of the strong representation of the private colleges among the membership.

On the question of junior colleges, the Governor asserted his fear that establishment of a large system would overload the senior colleges and universities in the upper divisions, and stated that he understood Virginia was now struggling with this problem. He had concluded, he said that new institutions should be four-year senior colleges, and not junior colleges. He also stated his opinion that the Columbia area needed a new four-year senior college as badly as any area in the state, and that it was cheaper to provide baccalaureate education in four colleges than in Universities.

In response to a question from Mr. Walsh, the Governor gave it as his opinion that two-year terminal programs could be operated in the senior colleges, that the Technical Education centers could also help to meet this need; and that the state's need for large numbers of technicians, public health personnel and the like was going to increase.

Turning to the question of proper staffing of the Commission, the Governor stated that he felt the college presidents needed a place they could turn where they felt their problems were understood, and the need for more staff was clear. He stated that these should probably not be college professors, and that the addition of more "Moody-type" consultants would be more practical.

The Governor observed that the Commission should report to the Governor before going before the legislature.

He noted that, partly through his influence as Chairman of the Education Commission of the States, he had hopes that the Department of Health, Education and Welfare would provide general aid for education in South Carolina as a demonstration project, and that officials of Campus Facilities Associates had conferred with Washington officials on this subject.

The Governor announced that he would hold a series of meetings with various state agencies and officials in mid-August, at Wampee, to go into the recommendations of the Moody Report in depth. One day of these meetings would be set aside for discussions on higher education, to which all the college presidents had been invited. Once these discussions had taken place, the Governor said, he hoped that the Commission would begin to move in the area of its responsibility.

Governor McNair then stated that there were other matters he wished to discuss with the Commission with no staff present. Mr. Konduros, Mrs. Hunter and Dr. Kinard were therefore excused from the meeting at 12:05 P. M.

The Governor completed his meeting with the Commission, and excused himself from the balance of the meeting, whereupon the Commission adjourned for lunch at 1:50 P. M.

The meeting was reconvened by the Chairman at 2:20, with Mr. Schachte excused. On motion by Mr. Furman, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the Minutes of the meeting of June 6 were approved as written.

Dr. Kinard gave a brief summary of the visit to the Indiana University Medical Center, Indianapolis, noting that a trip report had been provided for each member of the Commission. Dr. Kinard also noted that, as requested by Dr. Smith, he had listed for Drs. Smith and McCord those graduate courses already offered at the University of South Carolina and at Clemson University which in his opinion might be suitable for application to the first two years of the basic medical science curriculum in medicine, should the Medical College wish to proceed with any joint agreements for such an arrangement with these universities. In response to a question from Mr. Coker, Dr. Kinard noted certain obvious gaps in the existing curriculum at the universities, such as in anatomy and in pathology, but stated that the course listing he had compiled was just a first step in the investigations which needed to be done.

On motion by Mr. Osborne, seconded by Mr. Furman, it was unanimously adopted that the Commission should not make any decisions or recommendations in any direction until the final version of the Moody Report, the Cresap report on the independent colleges, and the Thomas Committee report were all in its hands.

Dr. Kinard noted the existence of a proposal for the establishment of a Ph. D. program in Geology at the University of South Carolina. He also stated that an unfortunate and tragic accident had recently resulted in the death of Dr. Vincent Guinn, Chairman of the University Department of Geology; and that he had discussed the proposal with President Jones in the light of that fact; and that President Jones had expressed a wish that the proposal be considered except that authorization be given for starting the program in September, 1970, rather than September, 1969, as originally proposed. On motion by Mr. Osborne, seconded by Mr. Holliday, the revised proposal was approved, and Dr. Kinard was instructed to so notify President Jones.

Dr. Kinard introduced a letter from President Edwards, dated June 28, outlining certain administrative changes at Clemson University, which have been approved by the Clemson Board effective July 1, 1969. On motion by Mr. Coker, seconded by Mr. Osborne, these changes were approved by the Commission; and Dr. Kinard was instructed to so notify President Edwards and to convey the Commission's thanks to President Edwards for bringing this change to the attention of the Commission.

Dr. Kinard read a memorandum just received from President Jones, bearing on a resolution adopted by the State Bar on June 14, 1968, and forwarded to the Commission. On motion by Mr. Osborne, seconded by Mr. Crier, the Commission unanimously approved the following statement:

"This Commission recognizes the public and educational need set forth in the resolution of the State Bar of June 14, 1968, and endorses the action recommended therein pertaining to an expanded capability of the School of Law at the University of South Carolina. The Commission regards the provision of adequate facilities, both as to physical space and library resources, for the study of law to be of prime importance to the State and the needs of its expanding economy, and urges the solution of the problem as expeditiously as possible."

Dr. Kinard was instructed to notify Mr. David W. Robinson, President, S. C. State Bar, of this action, and to send copies of such letter to Dean Figg and to Dr. Jones.

Dr. Kinard raised the question of additional staff for the Commission and asked for direction as to whether or not he should be seeking additional qualified staff personnel now. Mr. Cauthen stated that this question had been discussed with the Governor, who had expressed a strong belief that the Commission should attempt to add Dr. J. A. Morris, of the University, and Mr. M. A. Wilson, of the Clemson University staff, to the Commission staff; and that the Budget and Control Board had rejected the proposed addition of Dr. Thomas because, in the Governor's opinion, Dr. Morris was better qualified than was Dr. Thomas. Mr. Osborne noted that this recommendation had been received as information.

After some discussion, on motion by Mr. Osborne, seconded by Mr. Vance, a Committee of Three was established, to be appointed by the Chairman, to investigate further this situation. Mr. Cauthen appointed Mr. Wall, Chairman, Mr. Coker and Mr. Osborne to serve on this Committee.

Mr. Coker observed that this should be discussed promptly, whereupon Mrs. Hunter and Dr. Kinard were excused from the balance of the meeting. The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 5:30 P. M., to reconvene on the call of the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank E. Kinard
Frank E. Kinard
Executive Director

July 31, 1968