

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

March 1, 1984
10:30 a.m. - 12:55 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Fred R. Sheheen, Chairman
Dr. Willa J. DeWitt
Mr. Robert C. Gallagher
Mr. Roosevelt Gilliam, Jr.
Mr. Robert E. Graham
Mr. David B. Smith
Mr. Mortimer F. Smith
Mrs. Nanette H. Smyth
Mrs. Nelle H. Taylor
Mr. Robert L. Wynn III

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. George L. Brightharp
Mr. Harold W. Jacobs
Dr. Alba M. Lewis
Mr. Robert L. Utsey, Jr.
Dr. Hugh H. Wells
Dr. Robert F. Williams
Dr. Louis D. Wright, Jr.

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS

Mr. Lou Fontana
Mr. John Norton
Mr. Herman Rich
Mr. Jim Tharpe

GUESTS

Dr. Jack Anderson
Mr. Pete Arnold
Dr. Francis T. Borkowski
Dr. Carl Clayton
Mr. G. William Dudley, Jr.
Mr. N. Casey Frederick
Mr. Gus Gilbert
Dr. H. M. Holderfield
Dr. Andrew Hugine, Jr.
Dr. Larry A. Jackson
Mr. Hans Knoop
Mr. Joe McCulloch
Dr. Carolyn McIver
Mr. J. Lacy McLean
Dr. W. David Maxwell
Mr. David P. Rinker
Dr. Thomas C. Stanton
Dr. Glenn G. Thomas
Dr. Roland A. Tuttle
Col. Jack Whitener
Mr. Marion E. Woodbury

STAFF

Dr. Howard R. Boozer
Mr. Charles A. Brooks, Jr.
Mrs. Denise L. Jones
Mr. Alan S. Krech
Mrs. Lynn Metcalf
Dr. James A. Paschal
Ms. Alvena M. Smarr
Mrs. Gaylon Syrett

I. Approval of Minutes of February 2, 1984, Meeting

Mr. Sheheen noted that he recently received a letter, dated February 23, 1984, from Dr. W. David Maxwell, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Clemson University, noting that at the February 2 meeting of the Commission he had strongly opposed the recommendation that the Commission be given the authority to set maximum and minimum tuition and required fees at the colleges and universities, and that the minutes did not report his opposition. Mr. Sheheen suggested that Dr. Maxwell's letter be appended to the minutes of the February 2, 1984, meeting. It was moved (Wynn), seconded (Gallagher), and voted that the minutes of the February 2, 1984, meeting be approved as written, and that Dr. Maxwell's February 23 letter be appended.

Mr. Sheheen noted that each member of the Commission received a letter, dated February 23, 1984, from Dr. James B. Edwards, President of the Medical University of South Carolina, reporting that MUSC's 1984 College of Dental Medicine class received the highest scores in the history of that Dental School on the clinical portion of the National Board examinations and scored above national averages in all subject areas tested. He congratulated MUSC and the College of Dental Medicine on this exemplary record.

II. Report of Committee on Business and Finance

Status Report on 1984-85 Appropriation Bill. Mr. Gallagher, chairman of the Committee on Business and Finance, reported on the status of the 1984-85 Appropriation Bill.

III. Report of Committee on Facilities

Mr. Graham, chairman of the Committee on Facilities, reported on the following matters:

a. Consideration of Permanent Improvement Request, Francis Marion College. Mr. Graham reported that Francis Marion College has requested approval to construct dormitories for 320 students and a cafeteria to accommodate approximately 450 students. The Committee recommends approval. It was moved (Graham) and seconded (D. Smith) that the recommendation of the Committee be adopted.

In response to questions by Mr. Gallagher, President Stanton of Francis Marion College stated that 76% of the College's students are in the traditional college-age group and prefer to live in campus housing. He noted that the College currently has a waiting list of 250 who have applied for such housing. Mr. M. Smith stated that Francis Marion is no longer a commuter institution but a senior college with the same requirements of other senior institutions.

Dr. Boozer noted that Act 410 of 1978 authorized Francis Marion to build its first dormitories. Mr. D. Smith noted that many students living in the large rural Pee Dee area are unable to commute because they lack transportation. Mrs. Taylor stated that financial aid is more readily available to full-time resident students than to commuting students. The motion was adopted with Mr. Gallagher opposing.

b. Consideration of Proposed Legislation to Clarify the Role of the Commission with Respect to Certain Facilities at the Public Colleges and Universities. Mr. Graham reported that at its meeting on February 2, 1984, the Commission requested that proposed legislation to clarify the role of the Commission with respect to certain facilities at the public colleges and universities be referred to the Committee on Facilities, with appropriate consultation with the institutions and the Attorney General's Office, for a report to the Commission. He noted that the statutes are not clear with respect to the Commission's role, if any, when an existing building or land is acquired by a public entity, such as an area higher education commission, for use by a public institution; or when such an entity contracts with private investors to build a facility, such as student housing, on its land for use by a public college. The Aiken Higher Education Commission, for example, has indicated that land it owns adjacent to USC-Aiken will be used for a private apartment project. Another related example is that the Western Carolina Commission on Higher Education has acquired an abandoned school building for use by USC-Salkehatchie

in offering courses in Walterboro. There is currently no provision in the statutes authorizing review by the Commission on Higher Education of such acquisition or use of off-campus facilities.

The Committee on Facilities considered the matter on February 23, 1984, and recommends that Section 59-103-110 be amended by striking it in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

"Section 59-103-110. Approval of Facilities. No public institution of higher learning and no area commission on higher or technical education shall construct, contract for, accept a donation of, or otherwise use or accept the ownership or benefit of any facility for educational, housing, athletic, or other purposes related to a public institution of higher learning, unless such construction, contract, acceptance or use has been approved by the Commission. This section shall not apply to any facility as to which its use or benefit will be for endowment or investment purposes only; however, the use or benefit of such facility shall not be converted to educational, housing, athletic, or other purposes related to a public institution of higher learning without prior approval by the Commission."

At its meeting on February 29, 1984, the Executive Committee considered the matter and recommends the following alternate amendment:

"Resolved: That statutes, regulations and procedures which apply to public higher educational institutions for recommendation or approval of acquisitions, leases or improvement of facilities shall apply to local area higher education and technical education commissions, and that appropriate legislation shall be drafted and introduced to accomplish this purpose."

It was moved (Graham) and seconded (M. Smith) that the alternate amendment be approved.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Dr. Francis T. Borkowski, USC Provost, expressed the view that Commission involvement in such matters would be an intrusion into situations that should be handled by the area commissions. Mr. Gallager stated that the Commission's concern is that, after private developers have built apartments or dormitories adjacent to a campus and have made a profit, the institutions ultimately will request State support for the facility. The Commission is also concerned about problems that can occur when a public institution, or an agent acting on its behalf, acquires property which has the potential of modifying the mission of an institution or of creating a new campus. At the invitation of the Chairman, Dr. W. David Maxwell, Clemson Provost, indicated that he prefers the alternate amendment over the previous one but wishes to study the matter further. The motion was adopted. Mr. Graham stated that the Commission will work with the appropriate officials in drafting the legislation.

IV. Report of Committee on Implementation of the State Desegregation Plan

Interim Report on Progress in Implementing the Desegregation Plan. Mr. Gilliam, chairman of the Committee on Implementation of the State Desegregation Plan, reported that Commission members were provided on February 22, 1984, a preliminary

summary of enrollment goals of the Desegregation Plan for 1983-84. This information will be included in the Third Annual Evaluation of State Desegregation Plan Activities to be presented to the U.S. Department of Education in August 1984. The summary includes three tables setting forth enrollment data: "Projected and Actual Number and Percent of Undergraduate Other-Race Students Enrolled at Four-Year Institutions, Fall 1981, 1982 and 1983"; "Projected and Actual Number and Percent of Black Students Enrolled at the USC Two-Year Campuses and the Technical Education System, Fall 1981, 1982 and 1983"; and "Projected and Actual Number and Percent of First-Time Entering Black Students at White Four-Year Public Institutions, Fall 1981, 1982 and 1983."

Mr. Gilliam presented an interim report on progress in implementing other goals in the Desegregation Plan. It was moved (Gilliam), seconded (Smyth), and voted that the interim report be accepted as information and appended to the minutes of the meeting. The report, and the tables listed above, are attached as Exhibit A.

V. Other Business

a. Discussion of Prerequisites for Freshman Admission. Mr. Sheheen suggested that, in response to concern expressed by various members of the general public, the Commission reaffirm its intent that the prerequisites for freshman admission, adopted by the Commission on April 7, 1983, and amended on June 2, 1983, be required of all freshman applicants for admission to public senior colleges and universities, including athletes, beginning in Fall 1988.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Dr. Borkowski stated that USC fully supports the recommended requirements with the exception of the recommendation that two units of the same foreign language be included. Mr. Sheheen stated that the prerequisites were endorsed by all the public colleges and universities, including USC. Dr. Borkowski noted that President Holderman's June 27, 1983, letter to Dr. Boozer stated that, "In response to the Commission's recommendation of April 7, 1983 regarding freshmen admission prerequisites, the University on each of its campuses, will expect freshmen applicants to have completed the high school units recommended by the Commission as minimum preparation for college studies." He noted that Dr. Holderman used the words "will expect" rather than "will require." Dr. Borkowski stated that, subsequent to this letter, USC faculty approved the recommended requirements with the exception of the units of foreign language. The faculty took this action in the belief that the requirements proposed by the Commission represent a conflict with the State Board of Education requirements for a high school diploma, which do not include units of a foreign language.

Mr. Sheheen noted that President Holderman's letter enclosed a "Proposed Catalog Change in Admission Statement" which lists, among other things, "two units of the same foreign language" as high school units which freshman applicants "will be expected to have completed as a minimum" beginning with Fall Semester 1988. Dr. Borkowski noted that again the words "will be expected to have completed" were used.

Mr. Sheheen asked if the requirements will be applied uniformly to all freshmen entering the public senior colleges and universities in Fall 1988. It was moved (M. Smith), seconded (D. Smith), and voted that the Commission go on record as stating its intent that the prerequisites apply to all applicants* for freshman admission to the public senior institutions (including USC's two-year campuses), beginning in Fall 1988.

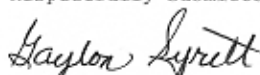
*including athletes

Mr. Sheheen noted that brochures are being printed for distribution to high school students and counselors with respect to these requirements. Mr. Wynn suggested that Dr. Borkowski ask the USC Faculty Senate to specify its intent with respect to this question. It was moved (Gallager), seconded (Gilliam), and voted that the Chairman and the Executive Committee, in conjunction with appropriate faculty, administrators, and members of the Board of Trustees at USC, attempt to resolve this question. Mr. Gallager suggested that printing of the brochures be deferred, if possible, until the question is resolved. Mr. Sheheen noted that some institutions approved the prerequisites contingent upon approval by the others. He expressed concern that the misunderstanding with USC might invalidate approval by other institutions. Dr. Borkowski stated that he believes the question can be resolved.

b. Meetings on Campuses. Mr. Gallager suggested that the Commission consider holding occasional meetings on campuses, as was done in the past. He requested that Dr. Boozer prepare a tentative schedule of such meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Gaylon Syrett
Recording Secretary