

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

May 6, 1977
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Dr. R. Cathcart Smith, Chairman
Mr. Howard L. Burns
Mr. Arthur J. H. Clement, Jr.
Mr. F. Mitchell Johnson
Mr. T. Eston Marchant
Dr. John M. Pratt
Mr. William F. Prioleau, Jr.
Mr. J. Clyde Shirley
Mr. I. P. Stanback
Mr. Arthur M. Swanson
Mr. T. Emmet Walsh

STAFF

Mrs. Clara W. Evans
Dr. Frank E. Kinard
Mr. Alan S. Krech
Mr. James R. Michael
Mrs. Gaylon Syrett
Mrs. Judi Tillman

GUESTS

Mr. H. Randall Bauknight
Mr. Joseph W. Davis
Mrs. Ann T. Hare
Mr. Thomas L. Hutto
Mrs. Barbara Jackson
Dr. Larry A. Jackson
Dr. William H. Knisely
Mr. J. Lacy McLean
Dr. William C. Moran
Dr. James R. Morris, Jr.
Ms. Janet Sipple
Dr. Gerald R. Swaim
Mr. Jerry Wilson
Mr. Neil C. Steifle, Jr.

MEMBER OF THE PRESS

Ms. Warren McInnis

I. Orientation to Lander College

President Jackson welcomed the Commission to Lander College and introduced Mrs. Jackson and members of the faculty and staff. After a presentation summarizing the history of the College and plans for future development, he invited Commission members to join him at lunch and on a tour of the campus.

II. Approval of Minutes of April 7, 1977, Commission Meeting

It was moved (Marchant) and seconded (Johnson) that the minutes of the April 7, 1977, Commission meeting be approved as written. The motion was adopted.

III. Consideration of Capital Improvement Request, Clemson University

In the absence of Mr. Howe, chairman of the Committee on Facilities and Federal Programs, Mr. Burns reported that Clemson University had submitted a request for construction of a new fire station on the campus, at a cost of \$135,000, to be funded from Tuition Bonds. The committee recommended approval. It was moved (Marchant) and seconded (Clement) that the recommendation of the committee be approved. The motion was adopted.

IV. Consideration of Academic Programs

In the absence of Mr. Quattlebaum, chairman of the Committee on Academic Program Development, Mr. Walsh reported on the following new program proposals:

- a. Master of Music in Musicology, USC at Columbia. The committee recommended that the program be approved. It was moved (Stanback) and seconded (Shirley) that the recommendation of the committee be approved. The motion was adopted.
- b. Bachelor of Science with Major in Government and Public Service, Winthrop College. The Committee recommended that the program be approved. It was moved (Marchant) and seconded (Pratt) that the recommendation of the committee be approved. The motion was adopted.
- c. Associate in Business Degree with Major in Food Service Management, Greenville Technical College. The committee recommended that the program be approved. It was moved (Walsh) and seconded (Prioleau) that the recommendation of the committee be approved. The motion was adopted.
- d. Associate in Business Degree with Major in Management, Tri-County Technical College. The committee recommended that the program be approved. It was moved (Walsh) and seconded (Stanback) that the recommendation of the committee be approved. The motion was adopted.

V. Other Business

Dr. Smith stated that legislation concerning the Commission on Higher Education (S.251) was passed by the Senate on April 28 and referred to the House Education and Public Works Committee on first reading in the House. Commission members were provided copies of the Bill prior to the meeting. Dr. Smith stated that because certain aspects of the Bill were of significant importance to the Commission and to the future of higher education in the State, he had added the subject to the agenda under "Other Business." Each Commission member was notified by telephone on May 5 that the subject would be on the agenda of the meeting. Dr. Smith read a letter (Exhibit A), dated May 3, from Mr. Michael to Representative Nick A. Theodore, Chairman of the House Education and Public Works Committee. An excerpt from the letter is quoted below:

"An amendment to S.251 provides that 'the presidents [of the public institutions of higher learning] or their designees and the chairman of the Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education or his designee shall attend and serve as ex officio, nonvoting members of the Commission and shall have the right to attend and participate in any and all regular meetings of the Commission serving as an advisory council . . . These members are in addition to eighteen appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate.

. . .

"Thus, in accordance with S.251 the Commission on Higher Education will include 53 fully participating members, of whom 18 will be appointed, 34 will serve ex officio representing institutions and one will serve ex officio representing the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education."

Dr. Smith stated that such a Commission would be unwieldy and cumbersome. Mr. Walsh stated that, while the composition of the Commission is not as important as the Commission's lack of authority to properly coordinate and control higher education in the State, the method proposed in S.251 would be unworkable and would not help in carrying out the primary objectives of the Commission. He noted that during his ten-year service on the Commission he has observed that the institutions have designated well-informed, competent, dedicated trustees to serve as ex officio members of the Commission. He suggested that the better way to obtain institutional representation would be to amend the Bill so as to permit the representatives of the existing eight governing boards to serve as ex officio nonvoting members of the Commission.

Mr. Clement stated that while he has seen no evidence of bias among Commission members, either ex officio or appointed, he is in accord with Mr. McAlister's original recommendation that ex officio members not have the right to vote. Dr. Smith stated that he has seen rare evidence of ex officio members not trying to be fair, and that in his opinion they bring expertise and knowledge of the institutions to the Commission. Mr. Shirley stated that although he has seen no partisanship among ex officio members, he will not vote on the matter of their retention on the Commission or on the matter of whether or not they should have the right to vote.

Mr. Michael stated that Mr. Theodore had agreed to a hearing on S.251, if desired. Mr. Marchant stated that the Commission should go on record as requesting that it be heard at a meeting of the Committee. It was moved (Marchant) and seconded (Pratt) that Mr. Theodore be requested to provide the Commission an opportunity to be heard concerning the legislation under consideration.

Dr. Knisely stated that in his view the chairmen of the governing boards of the institutions are less biased than are the presidents of the institutions. Dr. Jackson agreed that it would be more appropriate for the board chairmen, rather than the presidents, to represent the institutions on the Commission.

The motion was amended (Marchant) and seconded (Pratt) that, in furtherance of the letter of May 3 from Mr. Michael to Mr. Theodore, the Commission and the Council of Presidents of Public Senior Colleges and Universities be provided an opportunity to appear before the House Education and Public Works Committee to present their views on the pending legislation concerning the Commission. The motion was adopted.

Dr. Knisely expressed his concern and that of the other presidents regarding the moratorium while a study is made. In his view this could result in undesirable delay in implementing essential development.

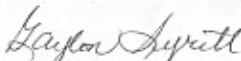
Mr. Clement commented that while the Commission was deliberating on the proposed tri-state school of optometry at its meeting on April 7, the Board of Trustees of MUSC was voting against it. Dr. Knisely stated that the Board Meeting was a regularly scheduled one and that the matter of the school of optometry was discussed and the Board made a responsible decision concerning it.

Dr. Smith announced that the Commission would meet briefly in executive session to discuss a personnel matter immediately following the regular meeting.

He expressed appreciation, on behalf of the Commission, to President Jackson and Mr. Johnson for the generous hospitality that had been extended.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gaylon Syrett".

Gaylon Syrett
Recording Secretary