

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
of the
South Carolina Commission on Higher Education
held at
Coastal Carolina University
Conway, South Carolina
October 11, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Dalton B. Floyd, Jr., Chairman
Ms. Margaret M. Addison
Ms. Rosemary H. Byerly
Ms. Dianne Chinnes
Ms. Susan Cole
Dr. Larry Jackson
Gen. Thomas R. Olsen
Mr. Dan Ravenel
Mr. Carl Solomon

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ms. Lorraine Dimery
Ms. Cathy Harvin
Dr. Vermelle Johnson
Dr. Harry Lightsey, Jr.
Dr. David E. Shi

STAFF PRESENT

Dr. Rayburn Barton
Ms. Betsy Gunter
Ms. Bichevia Green
Ms. Sherry Hubbard
Mr. Walter Jackson
Ms. Lynn Metcalf
Dr. Gail Morrison
Mr. John Smalls
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

GUESTS

Dr. Dan Ball
Ms. Joren Bartlett
Ms. Denise Berres
Mr. John Bowman
Mr. Bill Brogdon
Ms. Karen Browder
Mr. Steve Byerly
Ms. Ann Byrd
Dr. Mary Cheeseboro
Mr. Joshua Chesson
Ms. Debbie Connor
Ms. Mary Jo Cook

Mr. Joe Cooper
Mr. Robert Cuttino
Dr. Val Dunham
Mr. David Fleming
Mr. Blake Floyd
Mr. Ford Floyd
Dr. Lynn Franken
Mr. Stan Godshall
Ms. Fanny Hall
Mr. Glen Hansen
Dr. Tom Higard
Dr. Sally Horner
Dr. Gill Hunt
Ms. Nila Hutchinson
Dr. Ron Ingle
Ms. Nancy Jeter
Mr. Jay Kispert
Dr. Carol Lancaster
Ms. Lena Lee
Mr. Russell Long
Mr. Scott Ludlow
Mr. Gary McCombs
Mr. J.P. McKee
Dr. Lila Meeks
Col. Spike Metts
Ms. Jackie Olsen
Col. Jim Openshaw
Ms. Pat Rohr
Mr. Charles Shawver
Mr. Gordon Shuford
Ms. Lindy Smith
Dr. Teresa Smith
Dr. Rod Sproatt
Dr. Lovely Ulmer-Sottong
Dr. Dennis Wiseman
Dr. Robert Zale

Members of the Press

Ms. Mary Katherine Craft

For the record, notification of the meeting was made to the media as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Chairman Floyd. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Coastal Carolina University for making their facilities available to us.

1. Introductions

Mr. Charlie FitzSimons was then asked to proceed with the introduction of guests.

Following the formal introductions, Chairman Floyd introduced his two sons, Dalton Floyd, III (Ford) and Blake. Blake has fully recovered from his injuries of last year and Mr. Floyd again expressed his appreciation for the thoughts and prayers during Blake's recuperation. He then introduced his Legal Assistant, Fanny Hall, and thanked her for all she does. Dr. Ron Ingle was then introduced.

Dr. Ingle welcomed everyone to Coastal Carolina and invited them to tour the new Humanities Building and to lunch following the meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made (Byerly), **seconded** (Ravenel) and **carried** to approve the minutes as submitted.

Chairman's Report

-Chairman Dalton Floyd

Chairman Floyd announced that the FIPSE Conference, postponed due to the tragic event of September 11, has been rescheduled for February 7-9, the location and the program to remain the same.

Chairman Floyd reported that:

1. Beginning with this meeting, the complete agenda and all supporting documents for the CHE meeting are available electronically on the Commission web page, eliminating the need to mail meeting materials to the institutions
2. In an effort to increase public awareness of CHE programs and services, he (Chairman Floyd), along with Drs. Barton and Woodfaulk and Messrs. FitzSimons and Jackson have met with the editorial boards of the *Charleston Post and Courier* and *The State* in Columbia primarily focusing on the HEAP and GEAR UP programs. Future meetings are planned for Greenville, Florence, and Myrtle Beach.
3. The Licensing Task Force, recently appointed to examine our current regulations, met for the first time on October 3, discussing purposes and objectives of the task force, reviewing licensing regulations in SREB states, and examining possible changes to strengthen South Carolina's licensing regulations.

3. Committee Reports

3.01 Report of the Executive Committee

-Chairman Dalton Floyd

(No Report)

3.02 Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

-Ms. Dianne Chinnes

(No Report)

**3.03 Report of the Committee on Access, Equity
& Student Services**

-Ms. Sue Cole

Ms. Cole reviewed the *Summary of South Carolina State Aid* (ATT I) sent out with agenda materials. This was an informational item in preparation for the following items brought to the Commission for consideration.

In the printed copies of the following Regulatory Amendments and new Regulations (ATT II – VII), specific changes appear in italics.

A. LIFE Scholarship Program Proposed Regulatory Amendments - 2002-03 Academic Year (ATT II).

According to the Education Lottery Act No. 496, several changes were made to scholarships in the state of South Carolina. The education lottery act amended the definition of institutions eligible to receive scholarships by deleting technical and two-year colleges. Students in the technical and two-year colleges may be eligible to receive the lottery tuition assistance, while the four-year institutions qualify for the LIFE scholarship. The eligibility requirements were revised so that now students are required to meet two of the three requirements, cumulative GPA, SAT and class standing. The award amount will increase for four-year public institutions from \$3000/yr for 30 credit hours to the cost of tuition, plus book allowance. The four-year independent institutions will be awarded the amount of scholarship based on the average amount of the previous year's tuition. There are GED recipients who may receive the LIFE scholarship (also offered to students participating in internships, cooperative programs, travel study programs and student exchange programs). There are presently 30 students in the state who have received their GED and are now using the LIFE scholarship. If approved, the recommendations before you will be submitted to the general assembly for approval in January.

On behalf of the Committee, a **motion** was made by Ms. Cole, **seconded** by Dr. Jackson and, after no further discussion, **carried** to approve the proposed regulations for submission to the General Assembly for consideration during the 2002 legislative session.

B. South Carolina HOPE Scholarship Program Proposed Regulations - 2002-03 Academic Year (ATT III)

The goal of the HOPE Scholarship is to provide merit scholarships to students

who achieve academically, but are not eligible for LIFE or Palmetto Fellows scholarships. It will provide funding for up to \$2000 for first-time freshmen for their first year. The student must have a 3.0 cumulative GPA, be a graduate of a South Carolina high school and be a legal South Carolina resident. As with all scholarships, we are awaiting funding from the SC Educational Lottery Act and this will be voted on in January by the General Assembly.

On behalf of the Committee, a **motion** was made by Ms. Cole, **seconded** by Gen. Olsen and, after no further discussion, **carried** to approve the proposed regulations for submission to the General Assembly under the Administrative Procedures Act for consideration during the 2002 legislative session.

C. Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Regulations (ATT IV)

It has been recommended that the award process be moved to an entitlement program rather than a competitive scholarship program. This will eliminate the division of available funds between public and independent institutions that have existed and will allow all applicants to be notified by the end of March of their senior year as to their selection as a Palmetto Fellow. Also, the Committee recommends that the award be increased to twice the amount of the previous year's average cost of tuition at a SC four-year public institution, but not to exceed the cost of attendance. This will eliminate any difference in the award amounts of the LIFE and Palmetto Fellows, even though Palmetto Fellows is more difficult to get.

A lengthy discussion followed, exploring the need to continue to revise the regulations as necessary in an attempt to retain the Palmetto Fellows students in South Carolina. On behalf of the Committee, the **motion** was made (Cole), **seconded** (Byerly) and **carried** to approve the proposed amendments to the Palmetto Fellows Regulations and submit to the General Assembly under the Administrative Procedures Act for consideration during the 2002 legislative session.

D. Need-based Grant Regulations (ATT V)

Ms. Cole gave a brief history of the SC Need-based Grant Program and the proposed definition of "*First professional degree program*."

As an added note, she also explained that this past year the General Assembly gave an "Award of the State" to students that were in the custody of the Department of Social Services. These are students with no mother or father. The maximum amount that these students can receive is \$2500. There are currently 70 students in our state in this program.

On behalf of the Committee, a **motion** was made by Ms. Cole, **seconded** (Olsen) and, after no further discussion, **carried** to approve the proposed regulations for submission to the General Assembly under the Administrative Procedures Act for consideration during the 2002 legislative session.

E. National Guard Student Loan Repayment Program Regulations (ATT VI)

As a result of 2001 legislation, a loan repayment program was developed providing incentives for those enlisting or remaining in a SC Army or Air National Guard in areas of critical need. To qualify for this, they must re-enlist; they must be a resident of SC; they must have satisfactory performance in the National Guard; and they need to submit an application each year. They may receive up to \$4500 per year for a maximum of four years. This is also included in the Lottery Education Act.

A **motion** (Ravenel) was made, **seconded** (Olsen) and **carried** to approve the provisions as stated in ATT VI.

F. SC Center for Teacher Recruitment Program Summary and Appropriations Request/Budget for FY 2002-2003 (ATT VII)

The Access & Equity and Student Services Committee has recommended an increase of \$1,332,556 over FY 2002-03, for a total appropriation of \$4,701,751 for FY 2002-03 (\$1,200,000 is for scholarship money for the Teaching Fellows Program).

A **motion** (Jackson) was made, **seconded** and **carried** to approve the request.

G. SC Program for the Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers Program Summary and Appropriations Request/Budget for FY 2002-2003 (ATT VIII)

A **motion** was made, **seconded** and **carried** to approve level funding of \$467,000 for the SC Program for the Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers for FY 2002-2003.

The following reports were provided in written form for information only and are, in their entirety, Attachments IX through XII..

H. 2000-2001 LIFE Scholarship Program Informational Report (ATT IX)**I. Need-based Grant Informational Report (ATT X)****J. Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Informational Report (ATT XI)****K. The Access & Equity Millennium Informational Report (ATT XII)****3.04 Committee on Finance and Facilities****-Ms. Rosemary Byerly****A. Exceptional Capital Project Requests (ATT XIII)**

Ms. Byerly reported that at the September 6 Commission meeting, it was decided not to accept any additional capital project requests; however, institutions had the option to substitute or replace a project if their priorities changed. They also could adjust for inflation or a change in the scope of the project. As the institutions began this process, inconsistencies were found in the criteria for scoring the projects over the past several

years; therefore, the need for development of a group of criteria to be used in scoring the projects already submitted became apparent. New criteria have been developed by staff and, as yet, have not been approved by the Funding Advisory Committee or the Facilities Advisory Committee. These committees are meeting October 17 and the Committee on Finance and Facilities has decided to delay action on these until the November Committee meeting.

The Committee voted to review and score the complete list of capital projects and bring them to the Commission for consideration at the January meeting. On behalf of the Committee, a **motion** (Byerly) was made, **seconded** (Chinnes) and **carried** to score the complete list of capital projects and submit to the Commission in January.

Referring to the lists of projects provided in the supporting materials (ATT XIII), a **motion** (Byerly) was made **seconded** and **carried** to approve all replacement projects and the two with significant changes in scope as illustrated in ATT XIII.

**3.05 Report of Committee on Planning, Assessment
and Performance Funding
(No Report)**

- Gen. Tom Olsen

4. Report of the Executive Director

Rayburn Barton

- ◆ Announcement of addition to the CHE staff: Dr. Lovely Ulmer-Sottong, Director of Institutional Research at USC Aiken has been offered and has accepted the position of Director, Planning, Assessment and Performance Funding and will begin her duties at the Commission on December 10.
- ◆ On September 28, a letter was sent to all agency directors in the state by Mr. Frank Fusco, Executive Director of the Budget and Control Board apprising us to be prepared for additional budget cuts. The Budget and Control Board meets again on October 30, but the letter speaks of another \$150,000,000 shortfall that has to be addressed. It indicates that \$100,000,000 may be dealt with from the capital reserve fund and the rest by across-the-board agency cuts. It appears that agency cuts will range between two and four percent with possible additional cuts in January.
- ◆ Superintendent Inez Tenenbaum has contacted us and is interested in working with the Commission in examining ways to jointly recommend funding for innovative models of teacher improvement. There is a statewide Title II Teacher Quality Grant that goes toward funding teacher education programs.
- ◆ At the last meeting, the Executive Committee recommended and the Commission agreed that, due to budget circumstances, the Commission move to an every-other-month format, with meetings of the Executive Committee between months if/when needed. A tentative schedule has been provided to you. In checking the calendar and meetings over the past two years, we have cancelled meetings in January. With our new schedule beginning in January, I would recommend to you that we not have a December meeting so that we can start the new schedule in January. Items that would have been discussed at the December meeting can easily be moved to January.
- ◆ At the last meeting, we announced that we would have a number of committee mini-retreats this year as the Executive Committee did in August. You will be kept informed about these as they are scheduled.

- ◆ Dr. Salley Horner was recognized and reported on the committee appointed to analyze ways in which efficiency may be improved and other ways in which we might conserve financial resources. A report from that committee will be forthcoming. The committee has one more meeting set up for November 1 either just before or immediately after the CHE meeting in Columbia. A semi-final draft of the report from this committee will be circulated later this month.

Presentation: There was a presentation on Coastal Carolina University, its history and progress, by Dr. Ron Ingle, President of Coastal Carolina University.

5. Other Business: None

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Betsy R. Gunter
Recording Secretary

Attachments I-XIII

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