

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
S. C. COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
November 27, 1990
11:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. William J. Whitener, Chairman
Dr. D. Glenburn Askins, Jr.
Mr. Tom Moore Craig
Mr. Fred L. Day
Mr. Robert C. Gallagher
Ms. Reba A. Kinon
Mr. Lewis Phillips
Dr. Raymond C. Ramage
Mr. Edwin E. Tolbert, Sr.

STAFF

Ms. Sandra Carr
Dr. Jeanette Deas
Mr. Alan S. Krech
Ms. Lynn Metcalf
Dr. Gail Morrison
Mr. Fred R. Sheheen
Mr. John E. Smalls
Ms. Janet K. Stewart
Dr. Aileen C. Trainer
Ms. Julia E. Wells

GUESTS

Dr. Susan Bridwell
Mr. Henry J. Cauthen
Dr. Leroy Davis
Ms. Naomi H. Dreher
Dr. Betsy Dyches
Dr. Conrad Festa
Mr. Robert Frierson
Dr. Donald Gardner
Mr. Lee Goodman
Mr. Larry L. Hucklebee
Dr. Vermelle Johnson
Mr. Jerry Keeter
Ms. Bobbi Kennedy
Ms. Cindy Konduros
Dr. Kenneth Kyre
Ms. Ruth Marshall
Dr. David Maxwell
Dr. George Meenaghan
Mr. Robert Mellon
Mr. Jack W. Newton
Mr. John Olsgaard
Dr. Walton Owens
Dr. Terry Peterson
Mr. Charles Poole
Dr. George M. Reeves
Mr. Marty Solomon
Dr. DeWitt Stone

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

I. Report to the Information Technology Policy and Management Division of the Budget and Control Board, Pursuant to Legislative Proviso

Mr. Whitener reported on the following:

The General Assembly, by proviso, instructed the Information Technology Policy and Management Division of the Budget and Control Board, the Educational Television System, and the Commission on Higher

Education to report on long-range organization and plans for distance learning in the postsecondary system only.

The genesis of the proviso was a cause of concern at the Budget and Control Board that the expansion of delivery systems for distance learning be undertaken only after study and in accord with a long-range plan for additional State investment which would be required. This concern was prompted by the intent of the ETV system to request funding for an expansion of its delivery systems, by the development by the Budget and Control Board of a statewide voice and data network (which might be used for instructional purposes), and by the intent of one or more public institutions to establish independent systems for the delivery of instruction at a distance.

At present, ETV's closed-circuit system is the principal mechanism by which public institutions provide televised instruction in the State. The system has four channels, two of which are allocated in afternoon and evening hours to higher education. Occasional use is made of open-circuit broadcast for credit courses.

Mr. Sheheen stated that representatives from ETV, the Budget and Control Board, and CHE have met numerous times during this year. Mr. Huckabee, Director of the Information Technology and Planning Division of the Budget and Control Board, stated that there should be a centralized statewide system to manage and coordinate video needs without interfering with the primary mission of that agency. He noted that higher education is the premier user of ETV services, and that there is a great deal of growth and demand in this area in higher education.

The staff recommended that the Commission recommend to the ITPM Division of the Budget and Control Board new legislation containing the following elements insofar as higher education is concerned:

- 1) that a State agency selected by the Board, either the ETV Commission, the Office of Information Technology Management and Policy, or the Commission, be designated as the State agency responsible for coordination of distance learning activities of public institutions of higher education;
- 2) that the State agency utilize the services of the CHE's Advisory Committee on Academic Programs as the advisory body to advise on the selection of courses to be offered by each public institution, to determine whether and to what extent any expansion of the existing delivery system or systems may be needed and when, to advise on the assessment of the quality and effectiveness of programs and courses offered via mediated instruction off-campus, and to carry out such other studies as the agency may request;
- 3) that each public institution offering a course or courses by means of mediated instruction off-campus but for in-State audiences be assessed a fixed charge per credit hour earned, such charge not to be levied against students enrolled in the form of tuition and fees, such charges to be remitted to the State treasurer and to be held and

maintained as an offset against the State expenses to be incurred in an expansion of the ETV delivery system for higher education only and as an offset for the additional State appropriations necessary for the State agency to administer the program.

Mr. Cauthen, President and General Manager of the Educational Television Network, noted that he has had lengthy discussions with Mr. Sheheen and representatives from the institutions on the assessment of needs and the plan for the future of ETV. However, he objected, stating the board did not have time to prepare a formal response to the Commission's recommendations.

Since USC is the primary user of ETV services, Dr. Reeves objected to the recommendation of a fixed charge per credit hour earned for the in-State audiences. He stated that if the charge is levied, USC would pay most of it. Mr. Gallagher stated that the State should look for another source of revenue.

It was moved (Gallagher), seconded (Jones), and voted that the recommendations be amended to read:

The Executive Committee recommended that the Commission recommend to the ITPM Division of the Budget and Control Board new legislation containing the following elements insofar as higher education is concerned:

- 1) that the General Assembly designate a State agency to be responsible for coordination of distance learning activities of public institutions of higher education, and
- 2) that the designated State agency utilize and provide staff for the Commission on Higher Education's Advisory Committee on Academic Programs so as to coordinate the selection of courses to be offered by each public institution, to determine whether and to what extent any expansion of the existing delivery system or systems may be needed and when, to advise on the assessment of the quality and effectiveness of programs and courses offered via mediated instruction off-campus, and to carry out such other studies as the agency may request.

II. Evaluation of EIA Statewide Teacher Recruitment Activities - FY 1989-90 Annual Report

Dr. Morrison stated that the Commission has been assigned the responsibility of monitoring the use of the funds appropriated by the General Assembly for Statewide teacher recruitment activities and of reporting on the effectiveness of these efforts.

The Committees recommended to the Commission:

- 1) that Benedict College's MATE program be continued during FY 1991-92, provided that:
 - a) Benedict College collect the longitudinal data elements suggested by the FY 1989-90 external evaluation as well as

data on participant graduation rates and whether or not project participants actually become certified and teach;

- b) The FY 1990-91 evaluation report due to the Commission on September 1, 1991, include discussion of the items identified on p. 11 of this report with respect to the effectiveness of the forgivable loan program; and
 - c) Any defaulted loan funds recovered by the institution be returned to the State, plus interest accrued, if appropriated during a previous fiscal year. Any defaulted loan funds distributed from FY 1990-91 appropriations may be reissued during FY 1990-91 provided that any interest accrued on these funds be returned to the State. The September 1, 1991, annual report should include a summary of any activity in this area.
- 2) that the S.C. Center for Teacher Recruitment be continued during FY 1991-92, provided that the Center schedule a comprehensive evaluation of all project activities to be conducted by an out-of-state consultant and completed not later than June 30, 1991. The results of the evaluation should be submitted to the Commission as a part of the Center's annual report, which is due September 1, 1991.
- 3) that S.C. State College refocus its recruitment efforts during FY 1990-91 and develop a new project proposal for FY 1991-92 which includes measurable goals and objectives. This proposal should be submitted to the Commission not later than February 1, 1991. Included in that proposal should be a proposed evaluation plan which includes specific elements for the collection of longitudinal data and for the qualitative evaluation of proposed activities.

It was moved (Craig), seconded (Gallager), and voted that the recommendation of the Committee be adopted.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet K. Stewart
Recording Secretary