

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

October 3, 1968

The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education met on October 3, 1968, in the Board Room of the South Carolina National Bank in Columbia. Commissioners present were Messrs. Vance, Lumpkin, Cauthen, Coker, Osborne, Rogers, Schachte and Wall. Colonel Eugene C. Figg was present to represent the Board of Visitors from The Citadel in Colonel Holliday's absence. Dr. James A. Morris was also present at the meeting.

The meeting was opened by Chairman Vance, who welcomed Colonel Figg to the meeting. He then turned the meeting over to Dr. Morris.

Dr. Morris stated that the Commission has to face many problems and that he had discussed many of these with the Chairman. The staff has to work on long-range problems to make decisions for years to come, concurrently with actions to be taken this year which are of tremendous importance to higher education. It is clear that tasks of the Commission are limited by law. One area is review of budgets for which the Commission is not adequately staffed this year. Sitting in on the budgetary hearings before the Budget and Control Board this year will be very helpful. We need to develop systems and procedures for reporting from each institution and Mel Wilson will be helpful in this connection. The second major area is that of approval of programs of state institutions.

The first task of the Commission and its staff is the evaluation of the reports before us -- Moody, Thomas, Cresap and Lippard. Another task involves studies on special problems facing higher education in South Carolina. The Commission needs to coordinate institutional programs; for example, teacher education, marine science, and utilization of ETV. The Commission has to coordinate with other state educational agencies. Dr. Morris has met with Tom Barton and Cyril Busbee on common problems and plans to meet at least once a month. The staff should meet with regional and national educational groups ... SREB, American Council on Education, etc. The staff will be handling many problems for the Governor and the Legislature. The Higher Education Facilities Commission will likely be brought under the Higher Education Commission.

Coordination with private institutions in South Carolina is essential. The Commission has the responsibility of considering the role of the private institutions. We have been invited to meet with the Council of Independent Colleges on October 21. This role needs to be clarified.

The Staff will gather facts, information, thoughts for decision making, and will feed information to Commission throughout the month. On reports -- Moody and Lippard Reports disagree very little. Areas of agreement are large -- areas of disagreement are small.

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In November we should sit down with the issues and arrive at tentative conclusions. Then the Commission should get together with the Council of Presidents and discuss the Commission's conclusions. Also, we should talk to head of private college group. In December we should be prepared to give viewpoints to Budget and Control Board and Legislature before session begins.

Mr. Lumpkin asked whether the staff would be in a position to recommend to us by November a set of priorities on programs. Dr. Morris stated that our recommendations should be based on educational considerations. We have to consider financial position of the state, social and political problems. But these priorities should be established by us at that time. He will try to be as specific as the Commission wants him to be on recommendations.

Administrative questions were then raised by Dr. Morris: It is essential for us to be located in the center of educational activities, and space is available in Rutledge Building, which is adequate for time being. If the Commission has no objections, we will move in next week. More suitable space should be available in Rutledge Building in the spring. Mr. Cauthen moved that we make the move to Rutledge Building. Include in motion to write a letter of appreciation to ETV for the use of office space and equipment. Mr. Schachte seconded. Adopted unanimously.

Dr. Morris discussed purchase of automobile. Dr. Kinard has state automobile which we should keep which will be used by other people on the staff as they are added. Mr. Coker moved that the chief executive be authorized to proceed with purchase of automobile. Mr. Osborne seconded. Adopted unanimously. Mr. Vance added that Dr. Morris should have his own car - and that the one presently used by Dr. Kinard should be available for other staff members.

Dr. Morris then indicated the need to bring in an executive secretary-staff assistant. There should also be a person to do office management and serve as secretary to other staff people. Would like approval to bring in Mrs. Jumper as executive secretary-staff assistant. Mr. Osborne stated that he would like to give Chairman Vance and Dr. Morris authority to employ anyone they feel is needed and whenever they need them. The Commission indicated concurrence with this.

Mr. Coker pointed out that the Budget and Control Board approved the payment of the members of the Thomas Committee for serving as consultants to the Commission. Mr. Osborne then moved that the Chairman and chief executive discuss with Mr. Wilson a means of compensation as consultant. Mr. Lumpkin seconded. Adopted unanimously.

Dr. Morris indicated he would like to designate Dr. Kinard as Assistant Commissioner for Research. Mr. Osborne moved that this be approved. Mr. Schachte seconded. It was adopted. Mr. Lumpkin moved that Dr. Morris be designated as Commissioner of Higher Education. Mr. Osborne seconded. It was adopted.

Dr. Morris pointed out that the Commission is supposed to meet with the Council of Presidents twice a year, and that we should meet with them sometime in November. This would mean calling two meetings of the

Dr. Morris stated that the budget is sound for next year. This fiscal year we should have a full-time budgetary and financial man. Next year we will need more money for additional staff, travel and rent. We have to make budget recommendations to Budget and Control Board on October 30. We should ask for about \$181,500 for fiscal year 1969-70, and if the Commission approves, Chairman Vance and he could work out details for this. Mr. Osborne made a motion that two commissioners be appointed to work on the budget breakdown with Mr. Vance and Dr. Morris. Mr. Lumpkin seconded. It was adopted.

Mr. Cauthen announced he had released the Advisory Committees. He thought it only fair to release them from assignments they had accepted so graciously since he was no longer Chairman. Mr. Wall pointed out that he respected the character image of these people and the Commission needs their influence. Dr. Morris said he would report on this at the next meeting.

Mr. Cauthen said he had listened with great interest and was in general agreement with the future activities of the Commission. We have generally been in agreement on most things. What about policies? We are not supposed to be a policy making group - this has been brought up many times. There should be a definition as to whether or not we are to consider policies having to do with higher education in the state. Dr. Morris responded that we have to operate on policies. It is a matter of semantics. We are told to report to the Budget and Control Board and Legislature, and we have to make our views known on programs to proper authorities - views on what answers are desirable in these various areas of higher education in the state. Mr. Lumpkin added we will grow in respect in the years to come. We have to evolve into this. We have a great Commission. When we make a recommendation the proper authorities will know it has been fully studied.

Mr. Cauthen said the Legislature is interested in us now. This is how the newspaper publicity recently came about. They wanted to know if he had given up the chairmanship involuntarily, or if he had quit. It was interpreted by many people that he was giving up positions that he stood for. He indicated he expressed only three viewpoints ... (1) on Winthrop's becoming co-educational, (2) Greenville TEC - Clemson, (3) support of Medical College Board to establish university. Only three recommendations in three years, and the Commission has never acted on Lippard Report. He hopes he does not start any controversy. He has not criticized any report. He was glad to hear Dr. Morris say that we will study all reports. Mr. Lumpkin stated that Mr. Cauthen cleared a lot of air. We are in a position now on the basis of that fine presentation by him to rally together and go forward.

Mr. Wall discussed extension centers and stated the tax payers are questioning these, with duplicate facilities in same location costing a lot of money. Can we afford to coast along for another year and do nothing about this? Mr. Vance stated we will have some information on this next month. Dr. Morris indicated the Thomas Report contained a lot of facts on this. In creating these Branches, the University of South Carolina was trying to meet a genuine need. They did a good job overall. The important thing is that the State of South Carolina went out to meet local needs which existed. We are now in a position to study locations and effectiveness. Some will involve closing or relocating.

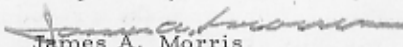
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Mr. Cauthen asked about the situation at College of Charleston. Mr. Schachte pointed out that Mr. Stern does not believe the College of Charleston is in as bad a financial position as previously thought. He says they will have it operating on a balanced budget next year. The State backed off from direct support. They are operating currently with the largest student body they have ever had. Colonel Figg added that the Governor had asked General Harris to look into the College of Charleston situation. General Harris made report to the Governor. Later President Stern met with them and asked that they forget about what they talked about.

Mr. Vance pointed out that the next meeting will be very important and wishes everyone could be there. Will be held on November 7 in Rutledge Building, 4th floor conference room. He indicated that the meeting following will be with the Council of Presidents. Important that you be at that meeting. Will also be in November.

Mr. Coker suggested that everyone read Dr. Coleman's article in the State that day. It would be a great tragedy if the very fullest utilization of private colleges was not made. They are performing a real service to the State of South Carolina. Before we go into any greatly expanded programs on new facilities, we should look into utilizing to the fullest extent the opportunities offered by the private institutions in the State. Mr. Osborne added that the State of South Carolina definitely needs private colleges. He does not feel that this Commission would do anything detrimental to private colleges.

Meeting adjourned around 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Morris
Commissioner