

Consideration of Business Advisory Council's Recommendations

Background:

At the request of the Commission Chair several of the Commission's standing committees were assigned tasks made by the Commission relating to the Business Advisory Council's recommendations. The Committee of Planning and Assessment was assigned three tasks: 1) Work with business and education communities to develop strategic plan; 2) Publish technology standards; join IRC strategic plan; and 3) Form Council of Information Officers.

Staff recommendations follow:

Work with business community and educators to develop a strategic plan for higher education in South Carolina (Recommendation II.A). The Commission's taskforce recommendations regarding this suggestion are to review, update, and rewrite the existing CHE Strategic Plan for Higher Education. The updated plan should be concise and should address such relevant issues as required accreditation, degree warranties, etc.

Recommendations:

- A. Combine those recommendations of the Business Advisory Council that have been approved by the Commission on Higher Education with the goals identified in the Strategic Plan approved by the Commission in June 1998. The implementation strategies and time frames developed by the various Committees of the Commission will be added to the document. Once the Commission approves this plan, modify performance-funding indicators 1.D. and 1.E to link to the strategic plan for higher education.
- B. Establish an ongoing strategic planning process with input from business, the higher education institutions, and other entities as appropriate. The planning process would include consideration of economic and other environmental factors as well as demographic projections.

Timeframe:

- Staff recommendations for updated strategic plan and ongoing strategic planning process considered by the Planning and Assessment Committee at its November 16, 1999, meeting.

- Committee recommendations considered by the Commission Higher Education at its December 2, 1999, meeting.

Publish Technology Standards and have higher education join Information Resource Council strategic plan (Recommendation III.E.2): Form a Council of Information Technology Officers with representation from each of the following: higher education institutions, SCETV, IRC, and the business community (Recommendation III.E.4). The Commission's taskforce recommendations regarding this suggestion are to consider shared computer environments among public colleges and universities and to request appointment of a higher education representative to the IRC.

Recommendations:

A. Continue the representation of the Commission on Higher Education on the Information Council's Committee on Technology and Education and appropriate subcommittees and incorporate technology standards recommendations from the IRC, as appropriate, in the Strategic Plan for Higher Education.

B. Ask the Information Resources Council to appoint, or assign to, an appropriate subcommittee the task of working with the Commission on Higher Education, the higher education institutions, and other appropriate entities, to develop a higher education technology plan consistent with the State's other technology planning initiatives.

Time frame:

- Recommendations for the IRC incorporated in the Strategic Plan for Higher Education on an on-going basis, as appropriate, beginning with the Strategic Plan for 2000-2001 and following.
- Effective with the approval of this recommendation by the Commission on Higher Education