

MINUTES
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION MEETING
June 6, 1968

The regular monthly meeting of the Commission was held on Thursday, June 6, at the ETV Center, Columbia. Present were Messrs. Cauthen, Coker, Grier, Furman, Lumpkin, Osborne, Pollock, Vance, Wall and Walsh; and Dr. Kinard.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 10 A. M. Dr. Kinard introduced visitors present for the meeting, including Dr. W. B. Smith, Col. Powell Fraser, Dr. J. A. Morris and Dr. Harrison Jenkins, all of the Research and Planning Council; Mr. Robert S. Davis, of the Special Assignment Group on Two-Year Colleges; Drs. Thomas, Cooper and Pulley of the Committee to Study Two-Year Post High School Education; Mr. James Konduros, Executive Assistant to Governor McNair; and Mr. P. C. Smith, State Auditor.

On motion by Mr. Osborne, seconded by Mr. Grier, it was adopted that the Minutes of the April 17 meeting be approved as previously submitted to the members.

The Chair noted that the first item on the agenda called for a discussion of the Commission's role this year in the review of the budgets for each of the state-supported institutions, and introduced Mr. Smith.

Mr. Smith noted that, in view of the legal responsibilities laid upon the Commission some comments with respect to budgets would be expected. He observed, however, that the separate budgets were of secondary importance, and that the primary concern was the role and scope of each institution. Mr. Smith said that the state was belatedly coming to necessity of long-range planning, for periods of three to five years, and that he felt that such plans must of necessity be revised and updated at least annually. Specifically on the question of budgets of the institutions Mr. Smith said, an important time factor was present. He noted that the colleges have a difficult problem because of the cyclical nature of their operations; and that their budgets were normally submitted to the Budget and Control Board in late September. The Board has tried to be as lenient as possible in this regard, recognizing that the colleges needed the latest enrollment figures for the current year before submitting budget requests for the next.

Mr. Smith stated that, in his opinion, a policy needed to be established as to whether the Commission will just comment on budgets, or will carry out a thorough review. For the current year, Mr. Smith suggested that the Commission work out an appropriate arrangement with each institution so that the budgeting process would not be delayed. He noted that Mr. Cauthen, Dr. Kinard and himself had met recently with the Governor on this point, and at this meeting it had been agreed that the Commission should review budgets with the Council of Presidents and then with the business executives of all the institutions. It was tentatively planned that this be done during the summer months, so that no undue delays would occur in the process, but recognizing that this timing may mean that the budgets reviewed would be subject to changes required by unexpected developments in fall enrollments.

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Mr. Smith was thanked for his advice and counsel, and was excused from the balance of the meeting.

The Chair introduced Item Two of the agenda, a proposal submitted by the University of South Carolina for the establishment of a graduate program in German, within the Department of Foreign Languages, leading to the Master of Arts degree. Mr. Coker asked if this proposed program was designed to fulfill a definite need, and Dr. Kinard indicated that in his opinion it did. On motion by Mr. Osborne, seconded by Dr. Vance, it was adopted that this proposed new program be approved, provided that sufficient funds for institution of the program be approved by the Budget and Control Board for FY 67-68.

Item Three of the agenda called for discussion of the needs of the Medical College in order to meet Recommendation One of the Lippard Report. Dr. Kinard noted that he had written to Mr. Schachte on this point, noted that Mr. Schachte was not able to attend today's meeting due to a conflict with Medical College commencement exercises and read a letter received from Mr. Schachte dated June 3, 1968. Considerable discussion on the situation in Charleston ensued, in which Mr. Cauthen stated that some definite plans needed to be worked out, with the assistance of the Medical College, to bring the institution up to first rank, and that Mr. Schachte's suggestion should be followed up. Mr. Walsh noted that it may not be necessary to wait on the final version of the Moody report, and that the judgement of the Special Assignment Group on Medical Education should be sought, and Dr. Vance noted that the Medical College should have university status.

Mr. Grier moved, and it was seconded by Mr. Coker and adopted, that the Special Assignment Group on Medical Education be requested to meet with the Commission at its next regular meeting.

General Pollock stated that the College of Charleston has asked the Governor to arrange operation of the College by The Citadel for the next two years, and that the Governor has written to General Harris asking him to investigate this possibility and report to him. General Pollock indicated that General Harris has met with the Board of the College of Charleston, and will report to the Governor, who will make the decision as to whether or not this should be done. Dr. Cauthen noted that none of this had been brought to the attention of the Commission previously, and that the Commission has heard nothing from the Board of the College of Charleston since March.

On motion by Mr. Osborne, seconded by Mr. Walsh, it was adopted that the existing subcommittee consisting of Messrs. Cauthen, Lumpkin and Wall contact the College of Charleston to ascertain the current plans there, to pursue Mr. Schachte's suggestion given in his letter to Dr. Kinard; and to work with the Medical College in developing plans for upgrading the institution.

The Chair noted that the next agenda item called for presentation to the Commission of the report of the Committee to study Two Year Post High School Education, but noted that requests had been received from the press to be present for this portion of the meeting. Mr. Coker inquired of Dr. Thomas as to whether his Committee would object to a public discussion of the report, to which Dr. Thomas replied that he would have no objections. Mr. Konduros stated that he was attending at the specific request of the Governor. Mr. Konduros noted that advance copies of the report had been made available to the Governor on Thursday, May 30, and the Governor had met with the Committee on Friday, May 31, and while the Governor had had time for only a cursory review of the report so far that the Governor was opposed to all of the recommendations in the report. Mr. Konduros added that he had been requested by the Governor to make known the Governor's wish that the report not be released to the public until such time as the Governor has had time to review the report and to consult with others as to the recommendations.

Mr. Lumpkin moved, and it was seconded by Dr. Vance and adopted, that the report of the Thomas Committee be received as information and for study in executive session, and that there be no release of the report at this time, directly or indirectly, to the press. The members of the press waiting outside the meeting room were notified of this action.

Dr. Jenkins, asking for permission to speak from the standpoint of an editor and not as Chairman of the Research and Planning Council, noted that the probability was very high that, with more than one copy of any report extant, it would be virtually impossible to keep the entire contents a secret from the press; and, further, that he felt the Commission, and other agencies of state government, was open to criticism for conducting all business in executive session. Mr. Coker noted that it was not the intention of the Commission to withhold any information the public ought to have, and that he felt the Thomas Committee report should be made public as soon as the Commission has had a chance to study it.

Mr. Lumpkin moved, and it was seconded by Mr. Furman, that the report of the Thomas Committee be made public no later than the next meeting of the Commission. After some discussion, this motion was withdrawn.

Mr. Walsh voiced his objections to not having had copies of the report available to members of the Commission prior to the meeting. Dr. Kinard stated that the two advance copies available May 30 had gone to the Governor's office, and that the bulk of the copies had not been available until June 3; and that it was his further understanding that the report was to be given to the Commission at this meeting for study and review, not necessarily for any final action unless the Commission wished it otherwise. Mr. Walsh moved that any report be put in the hands of the Commission at least two weeks before it is to be discussed. An amendment to strike the phrase "at least two weeks" and to substitute therefor the phrase "as soon in advance as possible" was proposed and accepted by Mr. Walsh. The motion as amended was seconded by Mr. Coker and adopted.

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Mr. Konduros stated that the Governor had expressed the wish to meet with the Commission at its next meeting, and it was agreed that this be done. It was further agreed that the next meeting would be held on July 11, 1968, or at such date near that date which would be mutually acceptable to the Governor and the Commission.

Dr. Thomas, speaking for his Committee, gave a brief synopsis of the Committee report to the Commission. He first expressed the thanks of his Committee to the Commission for allowing the Committee to proceed with its study with freedom to make whatever recommendations the Committee deemed to be in the best interests of the state, pointed out that the recommendations embodied in the report differed in only one aspect from his understanding of the Moody report recommendations as outlined for the Commission by Dr. Rovetch at the April 17 meeting of the Commission, and also pointed out that the University and Clemson were to be commended for bringing many of their off-campus operations to the point where they might be considered ready to stand on their own.

The recommendations were summarized as follows:

- (1) A system of Regional comprehensive two-year Colleges should be established as soon as the necessary legislation can be enacted. The system should be made up of some of the colleges already in existence, or through a merger of those institutions already in existence, or through the creation of new colleges, as needed and approved.

Regions should be designated by factors which include assessed evaluation of the region (by counties), the number of high school graduates and the numbers entering college, and the projections of population growth.

- (2) The system of Regional Colleges will be under the Commission on Higher Education as are other institutions in the State; it should have a Board of Governance for Regional Colleges with one representative from each Region elected by the Legislature, and three members-at-large appointed by the Governor, all serving in staggered terms. The chief executive officer of the system should be a Chancellor, who, with a central staff, will coordinate, plan, and administer the individual colleges with the President of each institution.

The Technical Education Colleges, and those portions of the programs in the comprehensive Regional Colleges which are technical or occupational, will be governed under the Commission on Higher Education by a Board of Governance for Technical Education; the chief executive officer will be an Executive Director whose staffing and procedures will be comparable to that of the Regional Colleges' organization.

Support will come from the State and from the Region served. Support shall be a continuing responsibility.

- (3) The Regional Campuses of the University of South Carolina and Centers of Clemson University should become a part of the Regional College System. Two Regional Campuses and one Center should be merged with existing Technical Education Centers to form Regional Colleges; three existing Regional Campuses should become Regional Colleges offering two-year college parallel and terminal degrees; three Technical Education Centers should be organized as Regional Colleges; five Technical Education Centers should continue two-year programs of technical-occupational content. Three campuses should be discontinued.
- (4) Regional Colleges should concentrate their efforts on meeting the two-year educational needs of the Region.
- (5) Criteria for establishment of new two-year comprehensive Regional Colleges should be adopted by the Commission on Higher Education.
- (6) A Chancellor for the proposed system of Regional Colleges should be employed at the earliest possible date.
- (7) The tax support record of Horry County in support of USC/Coastal Carolina should be studied as a possible model for providing substantial operating funds for the Regional Colleges.
- (8) The advice of Academic Deans of public higher education institutions should be sought by the Commission on Higher Education, with the establishment of Regional Colleges, to provide a basic core of general academic work. This work, when offered at the Regional Colleges during the first two years of study, shall be transferred freely among all public higher education institutions in the State of South Carolina.
- (9) The Higher Education Facilities Commission Advisory Committee, and Co-ordinator, should report to the State Budget and Control Board through the Commission on Higher Education for purposes of administering the State's participation in the Higher Education Facilities Act of 1963.

Following Dr. Thomas' presentation of the Committee report, the thanks of the Commission for the exceptionally fine and thorough job done by the Committee in the performance of its original charge were expressed to the Committee in the form of a motion made by Mr. Osborne, seconded by Mr. Wall and adopted.

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All visitors not members of the Commission were thanked for their presence and comments and excused from the balance of the meeting.

Dr. Kinard requested and received permission to mail copies of the Thomas Committee report to absent members of the Commission, the Research and Planning Council, the Special Assignment Group on Two-Year Colleges, and to the members of the Council of Presidents of the state-supported institutions.

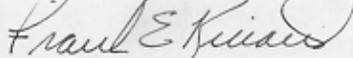
Dr. Kinard noted that pursuant to instructions given to him at the last meeting, he had obtained an opinion from the Attorney General that payment of consultant fees to state employees could only be made with concurrence of the Budget and Control Board; and that such approval had subsequently been granted by the Budget and Control Board as stated in a letter from Mr. Smith dated May 24, 1968. On motion by Mr. Grier, seconded by Mr. Coker, it was adopted that the payment of fees to the Thomas Committee as recommended at the last meeting be authorized, with the thanks of the Commission.

Dr. Kinard stated that he had also found that additions to the staff required approval, by name, by the State Budget and Control Board, for all state agencies, and requested, now that the appropriations bill for the next fiscal year had been adopted, approval of the Commission to seek Budget and Control Board approval to extend an offer of employment to Dr. Thomas as Assistant Director for Research. On motion by Mr. Coker, seconded by Mr. Osborne, it was adopted that this authority be granted.

Dr. Kinard noted that General Pollock's term as Chairman of the Board of Visitors of The Citadel expired on June 30 of this year, and that General Pollock would be succeeded in that office by Colonel J. M. Holiday. General Pollock was thanked by the Chair and the Commission for his good and faithful service to the state through his service on the Commission.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 3 P. M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Frank E. Kinard
Executive Director