

MEETING OF COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

October 12, 1972
6:30 p. m. - 10:30 p. m.

The Commission on Higher Education held an informal dinner meeting at the Town House Motel on Thursday, October 12, 1972, at 6:30 p. m. to discuss budget requests of the colleges and universities prior to the regular Commission meeting with the Presidents the next day.

Following a summary and explanation of the individual budget submissions from the colleges and universities by Mr. Jennings, recommendations of the Executive Committee which had met on Tuesday, October 10, were presented. (See Minutes of Executive Committee, October 10, 1972)

After general discussion on all requests, Mr. Sheheen made the following motion which was intended to be a consensus of the Commission and not bind the Commission with respect to the budgets until after the Commission meeting with the Presidents on the next day:

(1) In those instances where the formula rendered an amount which mandated a cut in the budget, the previous year's appropriation is recommended; (2) in those instances where the formula rendered an amount in excess of what was requested by the institutions, the institution's request to the Budget and Control Board be granted in full; (3) in those instances where increases are mandated by the formula over the previous year's appropriation, 50% of the increase be recommended with all items under Step 15 of the appropriations formula approved in full. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scarborough.

Mr. Chapman asked that the motion be amended to state that 80% instead of 50% of the difference between the formula increase and the last year's appropriation be recommended for funding, including 80% of all items under Step 15. Mr. Sheheen accepted the amendment.

The motion was passed. Mr. Quattlebaum and Colonel Holliday were opposed.

Chairman Smith stated that the Executive Committee had withheld recommendations on the Medical University's budget request (the appropriation formula is not applicable to the Medical University) until an explanation was received on the requested 49 new administration and general positions, 45 new College of Medicine faculty positions, and the marked increase requested for the diagnostic laboratories. Dr. Smith talked with Dr. McCord who stated that 35 of the 49 new positions listed under administration and general would be in the computer division; the 45 new faculty positions were necessary because the increase in number of

students had disturbed the faculty-student ratio; and, the request for increased funds for the diagnostic laboratories was a matter of changing policy with regard to bookkeeping, paying for operational costs with state funds and returning to the state charges collected from patients.

A motion was made by Mr. Marchant, seconded by Mr. Scarborough and unanimously adopted that the budget request of the Medical University as submitted be recommended to the Budget and Control Board for approval.

Elizabeth T. Jumper

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Secretary