

Minutes
Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing
May 6, 2010

Members Present

Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Chair
Ms. Cindy Mosteller, via teleconference
Mr. Bill Scarborough
Mr. Hood Temple
Mr. Neal Workman

Members Absent

Staff Present:

Dr. Argentini Anderson
Ms. Laura Belcher
Ms. Julie Carullo
Ms. JoAnn Gardner
Ms. Lane Goodwin
Dr. Paula Gregg
Ms. Trena Houpp
Ms. Lucy Knox
Mr. Clint Mullins
Dr. Gail Morrison
Dr. T. Michael Raley
Dr. Garry Walters
Ms. Lorna Manglona-Williams

Guests

Dr. Joyce Blackwell, S.C. State University
Dr. Helen Doerpinghaus, USC-Columbia
Dr. Kris Finnigan, USC-Columbia
Dr. Doris Helms, Clemson
Dr. Debra Jackson, Clemson
Dr. Kenneth Lewis, S.C. State University
Dr. Martha Moriarty, USC-Beaufort, via teleconference
Mr. Tom Nelson, Lander
Ms. Sandra Powers, College of Charleston
Ms. Hope Rivers, S.C. Technical College System
Dr. Darlene Shaw, MUSC, via teleconference
Mr. Charles Warner, S.C. State University

Dr. Horne called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and stated that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

**1. Consideration of New Award for the Centers of (Teacher) Excellence
Competitive Grants Program, FY 2010-11**

Dr. Horne introduced the item and recognized Dr. Morrison. It was **moved** (Temple) and **seconded** (Scarborough) to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Morrison asked Dr. Gregg to speak about the grant. Dr. Gregg informed the Committee that CHE staff and the grant proposal Review Panel conducted two rounds of grant proposals because the first round of proposals did not meet the program's *Guidelines* in regards to quality. She explained that Newberry College submitted a strong revised proposal and further explained that CHE staff had received a revised budget for the Newberry College grant proposal..

Dr. Horne asked about the membership of the Review Panel. Dr. Gregg stated that the Review Panel is comprised of representatives from schools which run successful Centers of Excellence along with a representative of the S.C. Department of Education and the Education Oversight Committee. Dr. Horne asked whether there is any conflict of interest in the Review Panel's review of grant proposals. Dr. Gregg responded that if there is a conflict of interest for one of the panel members, then the particular panel member will recuse himself or herself from the voting process.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the Review Panel's recommendation and approve a new award to Newberry College to establish the Center of Excellence to Retain and Empower Teachers through Action, Innovation, and Networking (RETAIN) in the amount of \$150,000, pending submission of 1) a revised budget; 2) a plan of action to involve administrators in the activities; and 3) revised goals and objectives to reflect a focus on the transition of new teachers from the initial to continuing certificate.

The Committee also **voted unanimously to accept** the Review Panel's recommendation to accept the staff's recommendation and approve continued funding for Clemson University, the College of Charleston, and the University of South Carolina-Aiken, pending submission of formal budget requests for FY 2010-11 and final reports for FY 2009-10.

2. Consideration of Revised Mission Statement: South Carolina State University

Dr. Horne introduced the item and recognized Dr. Blackwell and Dean Lewis. It was **moved** (Temple) and **seconded** (Scarborough) to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Blackwell explained that in Spring 2005, S.C. State University revisited the institution's strategic plan and decided that the mission statement needed to be revised. Dr. Blackwell described the new mission statement as being abbreviated in comparison with the former one and containing the new language regarding engineering. Mr. Scarborough also pointed out the addition of mathematics in the revised mission statement.

Ms. Mosteller asked how the joint program with the University of Wisconsin was successful and why it was discontinued. Dean Lewis clarified that the University does not wish to discontinue the relationship with the University of Wisconsin but expand the relationship to include other universities. Dr. Morrison clarified that any joint program would have to come before the Commission on a case-by-case basis. She continued by stating that the mission change would allow SCSU to offer free-standing engineering programs but would not mandate it.

Ms. Mosteller asked whether the Nuclear Engineering program would still be a joint program after this mission change. Dean Lewis explained that the program would still be executed in collaboration with another institution, but S.C. State University alone would confer the degree. He explained that currently the program is only offered through a partnership with the University of Wisconsin and the degree is conferred by S.C. State University in conjunction with the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Ms. Mosteller asked what the standard entrance requirements would be for a student entering S.C. State's engineering program as compared to a student at Clemson. Dean Lewis informed the Committee that S.C. State executes aggressive recruitment for its Nuclear

Engineering program for students whose SAT scores are over 1100. Dr. Morrison further explained to Ms. Mosteller that Dean Lewis and Dr. Blackwell distributed materials which include a listing of SAT scores for the freshmen class. Dr. Morrison assured Ms. Mosteller that CHE would send the materials to her. Dr. Horne commented that GPA data is also included in the packet of materials provided by S.C. State.

Dr. Helms reported that the average SAT score for entering freshmen at Clemson is 1225 whereas the average SAT score for entering engineering students is 1260. She reiterated that the mission change does not grant blanket permission to S.C. State to offer engineering programs and mentioned the state's concern for duplication.

Dr. Helms encouraged S.C. State to pursue joint programs with USC, Clemson and The Citadel. Dean Lewis stated that S.C. State is attempting to initiate a joint program with Clemson in civil engineering. He explained that S.C. State is pursuing partnerships for its Nuclear Engineering program with schools such as Texas A&M and the University of Florida, both of which have a teaching nuclear reactor.

Dr. Horne inquired about the timing of bringing the mission statement forward and the need to call a special meeting. Dr. Morrison explained the various procedural circumstances leading to the special meeting and added that she did not want to delay the decision to the next CAAL meeting in September. Dr. Blackwell also stated that SACS was concerned about the mission statement change being delayed.

Dr. Horne asked about the difference between engineering and engineering technology. Dean Lewis explained that the differences lie in the level and number of math courses.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission approval of the revised mission statement for S.C. State University.

3. Consideration of Life and Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Enhancement Issues

Dr. Horne introduced the item and recognized Dr. Morrison. It was **moved** (Scarborough) and **seconded** (Temple) to accept the staff's recommendation for approval.

Dr. Morrison explained that the Life and Palmetto Fellows Enhancement program is described in legislation in very broad discipline areas. She further explained that USC-Columbia recently re-categorized its Exercise Science program within the CIP code system, so it now qualifies for enhancement scholarships. Dr. Morrison informed the Committee that these types of changes affect the scholarship fund and therefore the state budget. She recommended to the Committee that procedures be adopted to handle these changes. She stated that staff recommends that when a new program or a modified program qualifies for the enhancement scholarships, that the scholarship enhancement begin with entering freshmen only and that it be phased in as those freshmen progress through the program.

Dr. Morrison also informed the Committee that staff plan to analyze the broad categories as found in legislation to determine whether the categories need to be narrowed. She continued by stating that if categories are narrowed and programs which now qualify for enhancements are removed from qualification, then the changes will be enacted with entering freshmen.

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Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the procedure to phase in over four years student eligibility for LIFE/Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Enhancement Awards in programs added to the list of eligible programs and to phase out over three years student eligibility for LIFE/Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Enhancement Awards in programs which have been removed from the list of eligible programs.

Dr. Horne thanked those in attendance for their participation and staff for their work. Hearing no further business, Dr. Horne adjourned the meeting at 9:48a.m.