

September 5, 2002

TO: Mr. Dalton Floyd
Chair, Commission on Higher Education

FROM: Ms. Susan Cole, Chair,
Chair, Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services

**Consideration of Program Summaries and
Proposed Appropriation Requests/Budgets for FY 2003-2004
for EIA-Funded Teacher Recruitment Projects**

Introduction

In FY 1985-86, the General Assembly authorized the Commission on Higher Education to award grants to public and/or private colleges to improve the recruitment of teacher education candidates, allocating \$236,000 in EIA funds for this purpose. A consortium made up of a majority of the teacher training institutions in the State submitted one combined proposal to establish the S.C. Teacher Recruitment Center. The proposed Center was approved by the Commission and has been funded annually since FY 1986-87.

In FY 1986-87, separate appropriations to S.C. State College and to Benedict College were made by the General Assembly to improve the recruitment of minority teacher candidates. Since FY 1986-87, continuing appropriations to both institutions have been made, both through the EIA and the General Fund. Beginning in FY 1990-91, appropriations for all three entities were made solely through the EIA.

Beginning in FY 1988-89, the Commission on Higher Education was required, by a proviso in the General Appropriations Act, to "monitor the use" of these funds and to report on "the effectiveness of the programs" to the Senate and House Education Committees and to the EIA Select Committee. The Commission has done so since 1988-89.

The FY 1990-91 Appropriations Act included a more extensive proviso which instructed the Commission to "ensure that all funds are used to promote teacher recruitment on a statewide basis... ensure the continued coordination of efforts among the three teacher recruitment projects...review the use of funds and... have prior program and budget approval.

Annually, "the Commission...shall evaluate the effectiveness of each of the teacher recruitment projects and shall report its findings and its program and budget recommendations to the House and Senate Education Committees and the Education Improvement Act Select Committee by December 1."

Funds for Benedict College have not been appropriated since FY 2000-01. The attached reports from the SC Center for Teacher Recruitment and the Program for the Retention and Recruitment of Minority Teachers are to be submitted by the Commission in compliance with the above proviso to the Senate and House Education Committees and to the Education Oversight Committee.

Each project has submitted its 2001-02 annual report to Commission staff, along with its appropriations request for FY 2003-2004. Summaries of the annual reports are provided for this meeting. Should you wish to see the entire documents, please do not hesitate to let the staff know so that a copy of the annual report can be mailed to you.

The Access & Equity and Student Service Committee recommends \$467,000 for the S.C. Program for the Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers and \$4,507,891 for the SC Center for Teacher Recruitment (\$1,200,000 increase from FY 02-03).

Attachments