

DRAFT
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
1122 Lady Street, Suite 300, Columbia, SC 29201

Minutes of the Meeting
March 7, 2013

Commission Members Attending

Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Vice Chair
Ms. Natasha Hanna
Ms. Elizabeth Jackson
Dr. Raghu Korrapati (phone)
Admiral Charles Munns
Ms. Leah Moody
Mr. Bill Scarborough
Mr. Rodney Smolla (phone)
Mr. Hood Temple
Hon. Lewis Vaughn

Commission Members Absent

Mr. Kim Phillips
Dr. Jennifer Settlemyer

Staff Attending

Ms. Julie Carullo, Acting Executive Director
Dr. Argentina Anderson
Ms. Laura Belcher
Ms. Courtney Blake
Ms. Camille Brown
Mr. Michael Brown
Ms. Saundra Carr
Ms. Stephanie Charbonneau
Ms. Renea Eshleman
Mr. Gary Glenn
Ms. Lane Goodwin
Mr. Clint Mullins
Mr. Frank Myers
Ms. Beth Rogers
Ms. Tanya Rogers
Ms. Edna Strange
Ms. Catherine Team
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Guests

Ms. Cassie Castleberry, Central Carolina
Technical College
Mr. Joshua Castleberry, Central Carolina
Technical College
Mr. Tim Drueke, Winthrop University
Dr. Tim Hardee, Central Carolina Technical
College
Dr. Kris Finnigan, University of SC Columbia
Mr. Henry Giles, Spartanburg Community
College
Mr. Reginald Greene, Southeastern Institute
Mr. Asher Haines, Southeastern Institute
Dr. Charles Harrington, USC Upstate
Dr. Robert Jesselson, University of SC Columbia
Mr. Mike LeFever, SC Independent Colleges
& Universities
Ms. Beth McInnis, Clemson University
Dr. Hope Rivers, SC Technical College System
Ms. Sara Schoeman, University of SC Columbia
Mr. Adam Taylor, Lander University
Mr. David Taylor, University Center of
Greenville

The meeting was held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Introductions

- Courtney Blake

Ms. Blake introduced the guests in attendance as listed above.

2. Approval of Minutes

- Bettie Rose Horne

A **motion** was made (Scarborough), **seconded** (Temple), and **carried** to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2013, CHE meeting.

3. Introduction of Governor's Professors of the Year

- Bettie Rose Horne

Commissioner Horne provided background information on the Governor's Professor of the Year (POY) Award, which is given annually to one faculty member from a four-year institution and one faculty member from a two-year institution. She then welcomed, introduced, and congratulated the two winners of the 2013 POY Award. She also stated that the winners would be recognized at a 1:00 p.m. luncheon on the campus of USC Columbia as would the other distinguished professors who had been nominated for this award by their respective institutions. The recipients, Dr. Robert Jesselson of USC Columbia and Mr. Joshua Castleberry of Central Carolina Technical College, had been recognized earlier in the morning at a 9:30 press conference in the Rotunda of the Capitol Building. A description of each of the winners and their accomplishments may be found in the related press release, a copy of which is included in **Attachment I**. At Commissioner Horne's request, each winner provided brief comments and expressed appreciation for having been chosen for this award.

4. Acting Chair's Report

- Bettie Rose Horne

Commissioner Horne reported that she was presiding over the meeting due to the fact that Chairman John Finan has been asked by Governor Haley to serve in an interim capacity managing the SC Department of Education and Workforce on a temporary basis and in doing so would temporarily step down from the Commission. She stated that she had represented the CHE at the inauguration of Dr. Sandra Jordan, Chancellor of USC Aiken on Friday, March 1. She also commented briefly on the POY awards ceremony which had taken place at 9:30 a.m. in the Rotunda of the Capitol Building and reported that Commissioner Munns would be delivering an update from the CHE Executive Director Search Committee later in the meeting.

5. Report of the Acting Executive Director & Legislative Report

- Julie Carullo

In response to Ms. Carullo's request, Dr. Woodfaulk provided a report on the February 23 College Goal South Carolina activities which had taken place at several locations throughout the state and at which approximately 430 high school students and their families received guidance and assistance with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Also at Ms. Carullo's request, Ms. Eshleman provided information on efforts to implement interstate reciprocity for the regulation of distance education. She reported she would be attending a national conference of state representatives to consider this initiative on April 16-17, 2013, details about which may be found in **Attachment II**, a memorandum from the State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) organization. Discussion followed in which Ms. Eshleman explained that this proposed reciprocity would be applicable to for-profit, not-for-profit, and public institutions with recognized accreditation. Additional discussion took place about details related to the implementation of this reciprocity agreement as well as about the entities, which along with SHEEO are responsible for convening the national conference. Ms. Carullo reported that as more information on this topic is gathered, Commissioners will be kept apprised and that attendance at the conference, as Ms. Eshleman indicated, was for the purpose of fact finding and not endorsement.

Ms. Carullo reported on sequestration and that the items within the CHE budget that are funded with federal money (Improving Teacher Quality (ITQ), GEAR UP Grant, Veterans' Education and Training, College Access Challenge Grant, State Longitudinal Data System) will not be affected by federal sequestration for the current year, though it's possible that ITQ and the GEAR UP grant could be affected in the next year. She also reported on proposed statute changes to the SC National Guard College Assistance Program (SCNG CAP), details about which may be found in **Attachment III**. Ms. Carullo

reported that Dr. Woodfaulk is heading up a task force of institutional representatives who are considering the ramifications of distributing state scholarship program awards during the summer months. She stated that further information on that topic would be brought to Commissioners as the task force progresses in its work. Ms. Carullo provided an update on Senate and House activities related to Accountability Based Funding (ABF) as well as on a March 28 meeting regarding that topic which took place in Columbia and was sponsored by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB). She stated she would forward to Commissioners for their information copies of PowerPoint presentations delivered at that meeting. In response to Commissioner Munns' question concerning similarities in the House and Senate ABF bills, Ms. Carullo reported that the bills essentially mirror each other in that they both focus on the research and comprehensive universities and they both require CHE to come back with a report to the General Assembly by the end of the calendar year as well as work with the institutions in the development of recommendations, noting the date for providing recommendations differed and the House resolution included language which makes reference to the CHE Action Plan. Ms. Carullo also mentioned an upcoming meeting of the Governor with the institutions on the topic of ABF.

Ms. Carullo then provided information on activities related to higher education legislation. She reported on the status of a Senate bill which would give in-state tuition to recipients of GI Bill benefits and their dependents who are non-residents of SC. She reported on the status of a House bill which would waive for discharged military personnel and their dependents the current twelve month physical presence requirement to establish SC residency. She also reported on the status of a House bill which would transfer the responsibility for adult education from the SC Department of Education to the SC Technical College System as well as on proposed legislation which would create a new program within the LIFE scholarship program to provide for scholarships for students with intellectual disabilities. Ms. Carullo provided some highlights on the status of state budget deliberations, including information on the House Ways and Means Committee budget recommendations, details about which may be found in **Attachment IV**. She provided information on new provisos in the Ways and Means recommendations, one of which would require the CHE to conduct a study on parity funding and bring forth recommendations in January of 2014 as well as on another proviso that would give the USC Board discretion to work on the parity issue within the USC System campuses. In response to Commissioner Munns inquiry regarding facilities processes and funding, Ms. Carullo referenced the special Senate subcommittee that had been established to explore that topic. Mr. Glenn then responded that although this subcommittee had expressed some sensitivity to facilities projects going forward with additional debt, most projects are being approved. Ms. Carullo also provided information on a proviso that had been initially adopted in Ways and Means and was later withdrawn concerning a change to the present the institutional GPA of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale used for the purpose of continued eligibility for scholarships. The concern is that the institutional scales may vary and a numeric GPA of 80 on a 100 point scale was offered as a requirement instead. Ms. Carullo noted that it is anticipated this issue would be discussed again during the House deliberations.

Concluding her report, Ms. Carullo reviewed the budget schedule. She stated that the House budget debate would begin during the week of March 11 and commented that the Senate Finance Higher Education budget subcommittee would begin their higher education budget hearings during the week of March 19 with the CHE hearing taking place on March 20. She reported that the House and Senate would be on furlough during the last week of March and the first week of April.

6. Committee Reports

6.01 Report of the Executive Committee

- Bettie Rose Horne

Commissioner Horne reported that scheduling conflicts prevented the Executive Committee from meeting on Thursday, February 28.

6.02 Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

- Natasha Hanna

There was no report from the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing.

6.03 Report of Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services - Hood Temple

There was no report from the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services.

6.04 Report of Committee on Finance and Facilities - Bill Scarborough

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Interim Capital Projects

- 1. Greenville Technical College - Greer Campus Land Acquisition

B. Consideration of New Policy for Inclusion of Updated Building Condition Survey with Project Close-outs

C. List of Capital Projects & Leases Processed by Staff for February 2013

Commissioner Scarborough reported that the meeting of the Committee on Finance and Facilities had taken place earlier in the morning at 9:30. He explained that the Committee had withdrawn the Greenville Technical College Greer Land Acquisition interim capital project from February CHE meeting agenda due to a lack of necessary information about the project. He reported that since then the information had been received and reviewed by the Committee. He then stated that the Committee on Finance and Facilities now brought the project back to full Commission as a **motion** for approval (**Agenda Item 6.04 A**) by **Consent Agenda**, along with **Agenda Items 6.04 B**. Details about these agenda items may be found in **Attachment V**. The **motion** was then voted on and **carried**.

Commissioner Scarborough reported that **Agenda Item 6.04 C**, details about which may also be found in **Attachment V**, was provided for information only.

7. Executive Director Search Committee Update - Charles Munns

Commissioner Munns provided an update on the status of the work of the Executive Director Search Committee, stating that the qualifications of approximately 50 applicants had been reviewed after which several had been interviewed, and that a recommendation from the Search Committee was soon anticipated. At approximately 11:45 a.m., a **motion** was made (Temple), **seconded** (Scarborough), and **carried** for the Commission to go into Executive Session. The Commission returned to General Session at approximately 12:34 p.m. at which time it was reported that there were no action items to be considered following the Executive Session.

8. Other Business

There was no other business to consider.

9. Adjournment

Commissioner Horne adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth B. Rogers
Beth B. Rogers
Recording Secretary

Attachments (I-V)

*Attachments are not included in this mailing, but will be filed with the permanent record of these minutes and are available for review upon request.