

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

1333 Main Street, Suite 200
Columbia, SC 29201

Minutes of the Meeting

September 1, 2005

10:30 a.m.

Commission Members Present

Ms. Rosemary Byerly, Acting Chairman
Mr. Larry Durham
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne
Dr. Vermelle Johnson
Mr. Jim Konduros
Ms. Cynthia Mosteller
Mr. Jim Sanders
Mr. Neal Workman
Dr. Mick Zais

Commission Members Absent

Dr. Doug Forbes
Mr. Miles Loadholt
Dr. Layton McCurdy

Staff Present

Ms. Camille Brown
Ms. Julie Carullo
Ms. Arlene Criswell
Ms. Renea Eshleman
Dr. Conrad Festa
Mr. Gary Glenn
Ms. Alyson Goff
Ms. Deborah Henning
Ms. Yolanda Hudson
Dr. Lynn Kelley
Dr. Esther Kramer
Ms. Rae McPherson
Ms. Lynn Metcalf
Dr. Gail Morrison
Dr. Mike Raley
Ms. Sandra Rhyne
Ms. Beth Rogers
Ms. Jan Stewart
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Guests

Dr. Pete Barr, Coastal Carolina University
Ms. Betty Boatwright, S.C. State University
Mr. Bill Bragdon, U.S.C. – Columbia
Ms. Kathy Coleman, Clemson University
Ms. Donna Collins, U.S.C. - Columbia
Dr. Anthony Coyne, U.S.C. - Sumter
Ms. Kelly Dawkins, York Technical College
Ms. Nicole Ford-Jennings, House Ways & Means
Ms. Kimberly Herndon, York Technical College
Mr. Craig Hess, Midlands Technical College
Colonel Curt Holland, The Citadel
Mr. Braden Hosch, U.S.C. – Aiken
Dr. Sally Horner, Coastal Carolina University
Dr. David Hunter, U.S.C., Regional Campuses
Dr. Elise Jorgens, College of Charleston
Ms. Dorcas Kitchings, Midlands Technical College
Mr. Keith Laisure, Piedmont Technical College
Mr. Tom Ledbetter, Midlands Technical College
Mr. Scott Ludlow, State Technical System
Ms. Linda Lyerly, Coastal Carolina University
Ms. Beth McInnes, Clemson University
Ms. Candace Morgan, University of Phoenix
Ms. Diane Newton, Lander University
Ms. Rose Pellatt, Spartanburg Technical College
Ms. Jody Ploessel, University of Phoenix
Ms. Susan Prior, U.S.C. – Columbia
Mr. Ron Rhames, Midlands Technical College
Mr. Charlie Schawver, S. C. Budget & Control Board
Dr. Jackie Skubal, Denmark Technical College
Ms. Christine Smalls, Medical University of S.C.
Dr. John Sutusky, Medical University of S.C.
Dr. Aileen Trainer, U.S.C. - Columbia
Dr. Richard Weldon, Coastal Carolina University
Mr. Warren Yarbrough, Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College

Member of the Press:

no members of the press attended

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

1. Introductions

As Chairman McCurdy was out of the country and unable to be in attendance, the meeting it was called to order by Acting Chairman, Byerly. Dr. Lynn Kelley introduced the guests attending the meeting, all of whom are listed above.

2. Approval of Minutes

Acting Chairman Byerly asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting on June 2, 2005. The **motion** was made (Horne), **seconded** (Durham) and **carried** to approve the minutes as written.

3. Chairman's Report

- Rosemary Byerly

- Acting Chairman Byerly made reference to the mail ballot on interim capitol projects which took place in July due to the fact that there was no Commission meeting that month. The projects were approved by a majority of the Commissioners. See **Attachment I**.

4. Committee Reports

4.01 Report of the Executive Committee

(No Report)

-Layton McCurdy

4.02 Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

(No Report)

-Vermelle Johnson

4.03 Report of the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services

- Dan Ravenel

A. Service Learning Engagement Program Presentation Dr. Pete Barr, Provost, Coastal Carolina University

Commissioner Ravenel introduced Dr. Barr. His presentation included a video that showed responses of the Coastal and K-12 students involved in this program of service learning and mentoring. Approved by the Commission and funded by the General Assembly, the three year pilot program began with 100 student volunteers in Spring 2005. Fourteen classes are presently offered at Coastal which incorporate the mentoring aspect. Coastal's goal is to eventually have a course in each discipline at the sophomore, junior, and senior levels. Dr. Barr entertained and answered questions from the Commissioners. This revealed information on how the mentors and mentees are selected, details on how the program is structured, and whether verifiable data on the performance of the Coastal students involved in the program has been collected.

4.04 Report Committee on Finance and Facilities

A. Consideration of Interim Capital Projects

- 1. College of Charleston - Maybank Hall Renovation**
- 2. U.S.C. – Columbia - Steam Line Replacement/Repair**
- 3. Midlands Technical College - Campus Accelerator, Northeast Exterior Lighting Upgrades**
- 4. Coastal Carolina University - Replacement Lease for Myrtle Beach Higher Education Center**

Acting Chairman Byerly reported that the projects and lease listed above and described in **Attachment II** had all been reviewed, discussed and approved by her committee.

Ms. Byerly noted that the Midlands Technical College Campus Accelerator project was exceptional in that it encourages collaboration between institutions and promotes economic development. Ms. Byerly then introduced Mr. Tom Ledbetter, Director of Corporate Services for Midlands Technical College, who described the project in more detail. In summary, the Accelerator will provide space and resources for small businesses emerging from incubators at the research institutions as they grow to full capacity and become a source of quality jobs. An outline of Mr. Ledbetter’s presentation is found in **Attachment III**. Dr. Morrison suggested that communication with the S. C. Research Authority might prove to be beneficial to this project. Commissioner Workman inquired as to how the viability of a potentially marketable product would be extracted. Mr. Ledbetter responded that internal resources, instructors and staff members engaged in the activities, and independent investment counselors would be consulted for that purpose.

A **motion** was then made (Durham), seconded (Workman), and carried to approve the above-mentioned projects and lease as recommended. Commissioner Sanders pointed out that deferred maintenance on infrastructure is not included in the amounts listed for each of these projects.

5. Legislative Update

- Rita Allison

Ms. Allison reported that property tax will be a big issue in the next legislative session and that the education segment of property tax will need to be addressed. A Result Team, of which Dr. Horne and Dr. McCurdy are a part, is currently reviewing the Commission’s budget. The team will meet again next week to go over activity reports for U.S.C., the State Technical Board, and the Commission. On September 13th, a budget hearing for the Commission, the State Technical Board, and the S. C. Tuition Grants Commission will take place at Winthrop University. The location may change, however, due to the current situation with gas shortages caused by the effects of Hurricane Katrina. The Governor has urged all cabinet and state agencies to conserve as much as possible and to eliminate any non-essential travel. Commissioner Sanders inquired as to how much South Carolina’s lottery proceeds would be reduced when a lottery goes into effect in

North Carolina and the answer was 12-17%. Ms. Allison stated that North Carolina's lottery will not be as expansive as South Carolina's and therefore we may not feel a huge impact from it initially, though concern about its effect on our scholarship programs is valid. That issue is currently being considered by the CHE's Division of Student Services as well as the General Assembly.

6. Report of the Executive Director

-Conrad Festa

Dr. Festa reported on his attendance at the July 11-15 service-learning conference in Denver, CO, sponsored by the Education Commission of the States. He stated that South Carolina has become very visible in this initiative, which has been closely linked with retention and performance of K-12 students. Dr. Festa reported that the work of the Presidents' Accountability Group has reflected an emphasis on service-learning. He reported that the Commission has worked together with the State Department of Education on its High School Reorganization Committee and that recommendations from that group are under development. Progress is also taking place in his work with the Chamber of Commerce and Department of Commerce in terms of pathways to success in the K-12 area as well as with regard to transfer, articulation, and smooth movement through the pipeline to the college level. Much effort has been put forth into the development of the Commission's budget request which will be considered by the Governor on September 13th. Dr. Festa provided information on the National Accountability Conference which will take place in Charleston September 22-24, 2005, and encouraged the Commissioners to attend. In response to Dr. Horne's inquiry about the status of the Presidents' Accountability Plan, Dr. Festa stated that with the development of a few more specifics, the plan will be ready to be presented to legislative leaders. Conversation took place about the mission specific objective portion of the plan which allows each institution to assert its strength in its individual mission by working on a goal of that mission. Additional conversation followed regarding how this accountability plan would interface with performance funding. At this point no financial components have been developed as a part of the new plan, as the appropriate measures to develop the link between accountability and funding are still being determined. Ultimately it is hoped that this will replace performance funding. When the Presidents have developed the plan further, it will be brought to the Commission for review. Commissioner Konduros then made reference to the state of Arkansas' June 2004 Report of the Blue Ribbon Committee on Higher Education, a copy of which had recently been sent to all Commissioners (**Attachment IV**). Although Mr. Konduros stated that he was not fully supportive of the idea of a central state authority for education as advocated in the report, he does encourage continued dialogue between the Commission and the institutions for the betterment of education in South Carolina. Dr. Festa remarked that, though it is often misunderstood, there is a lot of accountability already in place, and that data reveals that South Carolina's institutions of higher education have done well in husbanding the stewardship of their resources. Acting Chairman Byerly recommended that the discussion of these issues continue at the Commissioners' Retreat on September 14th. Ms. Byerly then reminded the Commissioners to make sure they respond as to whether they'll be able to attend the retreat events of the September 13th and 14th. The Commissioners were also reminded that the October 6, 2005 meeting of the Commission would take place at Winthrop University.

7. Primers on Mission Resource Requirements and Performance Funding

In the interest of time and due to the fact that the Academic Affairs and Licensing Committee

was scheduled to meet at 1:00 p.m., it was determined that the educational presentations on Mission Resource Requirements and Performance Funding would be delivered at a later date.

8. Other Business

(None)

9. Adjournment

Acting Chairman Byerly adjourned the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Rogers

Recording Secretary

Attachments I - IV *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.