

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
1333 Main Street, Suite 200
Columbia, S.C. 29201
Minutes of the Meeting
September 2, 2010
10:30 a.m.

Commission Members Attending

Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Vice Chair
Mr. Ken Jackson
Ms. Cyndi Mosteller
Mr. Jim Sanders
Mr. Bill Scarborough
Mr. Guy Tarrant
Mr. Hood Temple
Dr. Guy Thomas
Dr. Charles Thomas

Commission Members Absent

Mr. Ken Wingate, Chair
Dr. Doug Forbes
Dr. Raghu Korrapati
Mr. Neal Workman

Staff Present

Dr. Garrison Walters, Executive Director
Ms. Rita Allison
Dr. Argentini Anderson
Ms. Laura Belcher
Ms. Courtney Blake
Ms. Camille Brown
Mr. Michael Brown
Ms. Julie Carullo
Mr. Derrah Cassidy
Ms. Stephanie Charbonneau
Ms. Lorinda Copeland
Ms. Sjanna Coriarty
Ms. Renea Eshleman
Mr. Gary Glenn
Ms. Lane Goodwin
Dr. Paula Gregg
Mr. Gerrick Hampton
Ms. Rae McPherson
Mr. Clint Mullins
Ms. Yolanda Myers
Dr. Mike Raley
Ms. Beth Rogers
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Guests

Dr. Russ Bumba, SC Technical College System
Dr. Anthony Coyne, USC Sumter
Dr. Marsha Dowell, USC Upstate
Dr. Kris Finnigan, USC Columbia
Ms. Nicole Ford-Jennings, SC Budget & Control Board
Ms. Joy Gillespie, USC Columbia
Ms. Rachel Jones, Medical University of SC
Mr. Mike LeFever, SC Independent Colleges & Universities
Ms. Lisa McGill, Medical University of SC
Ms. Beth McInnis, Clemson University
Ms. Jennifer Pearce, Medical University of SC
Ms. Christine Smalls Brown
Mr. Adam Taylor, Lander University

Members of the Press

none

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

Ms. Carullo introduced all in attendance, all of whom are listed above. The meeting was chaired by Vice Chair Horne as a conflicting meeting of the Tax Realignment Commission (TRAC), of which Chairman Wingate is a member, prevented him from attending.

2. Approval of Minutes

- Bettie Rose Horne

A **motion** was made (Tarrant), **seconded** (Jackson), and **carried** to approve the minutes of August 4, 2010, CHE meeting.

3. Chairman's Report

- Ken Wingate

There was no report from the Chairman.

4. Report of the Executive Director

- Garrison Walters

Dr. Walters reported that his op-ed on the topics of tuition and reorganization of higher education, which had appeared recently in The State newspaper, had produced favorable comments. He stated that he and Commissioner Scarborough had met with the members of the Lowcountry Graduate Task Force, the purpose of which is to determine the demand and future need for graduate education in that area of the state. He reported on the progress of the culture change project, which will emphasize the critical importance of higher education with regard to economic success and quality of life as well as promote within communities the accessibility of higher education. Dr. Walters then reviewed the description and agenda for the 2010 Trustees' Conference (**Attachment I**). With regard to the expansion of the USC medical school in Greenville, Dr. Walters stated that the Commission would soon hold 2-3 hearings on this topic, ideally with video conferencing links to different areas of the state. Dr. Walters expects that the Commission would offer an opinion on the expansion at the conclusion of the hearings. Dr. Walters stated that this title of CHE staff member, Michael Brown, had been changed from Director of Access & Equity to Director of Planning & Access and that Mr. Brown's responsibilities will include determining how to accommodate institutional growth brought on by the implementation of the Higher Education Action Plan. Dr. Walters shared a letter about programs terminated he and Chairman Wingate had received from Dr. Harris Pastides, President of the University of South Carolina. The letter, which provided information about programs that had been terminated at the University (**Attachment II**), was written in response to some concerns Commissioners had expressed. He stated that Ms. Rita Allison was in the process of working on building stronger connections with local newspapers and other media, and that she would be actively engaging Commissioners in that endeavor. Commissioner Thomas then made reference to and encouraged the reading of 3 articles he distributed about medical education in South Carolina (**Attachment III**). Discussion followed about details related to the expansion of the USC medical school in the Greenville area and the role of the CHE in that regard. Discussion also took place about how the lack of state support for higher education has detrimentally affected a recent opportunity to acquire \$143 million in federal funding and may also greatly decrease our chances of obtaining a College Access Challenge Grant.

5. Legislative Report

- Julie Carullo

Ms. Carullo reported that planning was taking place in preparation for the upcoming legislative session. She stated that the TRAC Commission was expected to finalize their recommendations soon. Ms. Carullo also reported that the Senate Education Committee has convened a committee to consider issues related to formula funding for the K-12 education sector.

6. Presentations

No presentations were delivered at this meeting.

7. Report of the Higher Education Action Plan Ad Hoc Committee

- Bettie Rose Horne

The Higher Education Action Plan Ad Hoc Committee had no report.

8. Committee Reports

8.01 Report of the Executive Committee

- **Bettie Rose Horne**

Dr. Horne stated that the Executive Committee met on Thursday, August 26, 2010. The draft minutes of that meeting (**Attachment IV**) had been distributed to Commissioners for information.

8.02 Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

- **Bettie Rose Horne**

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing had no report.

8.03 Report of Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services

- **Cynthia Mosteller**

- A. Consideration of Palmetto Fellows Scholarship and Enhancement Regulations**
- B. Consideration of LIFE Scholarship and Enhancement Regulations**
- C. Consideration of HOPE Scholarship Regulations**
- D. Consideration of SC Need-based Grant Regulations**
- E. Consideration of Lottery Tuition Assistance Program Regulations**
- F. Presentation on College Application Month**

Commissioner Mosteller made reference to the proposed regulatory amendments for the 2011-12 Academic Year for the Palmetto Fellows, LIFE, and HOPE Scholarships, as well as the SC Need-based Grant and the Lottery Tuition Assistance Program, details about which may be found in **Attachments V-VIII**, respectively. Ms. Mosteller explained that these amendments will assist the higher education community in carrying out the mandates of Act 280, the SC Illegal Immigration Reform Act, by helping to verify a student’s lawful presence and legal status in the United States. The amendments will also help define as a separate part of the student’s award the state’s contribution to his or her financial aid incentive package offered by the college or university. Commissioner Mosteller stated that the amendments had been thoroughly reviewed by the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services, and were presented to the full Commission for approval.

Following additional information provided by Dr. Karen Woodfaulk about the reasons for separating out the state’s portion a student’s financial aid package, Commissioner Mosteller explained that as a result of an agreement between the Commission and the SC Department of Motor Vehicles, verification of legal residency status in the United States can be determined by checking a student’s driver’s license number. In response to Commissioner Horne’s question, Dr. Woodfaulk stated that South Carolina was ranked number 2 in the nation in terms examining immigration status for higher education purposes.

Commissioner Mosteller then provided an update on the status of College Application Month. She shared a letter (**Attachment IX**) she sent to former South Carolina Governor and U. S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley requesting his involvement in the expansion of this initiative. Commissioner Mosteller stated that Secretary Riley enthusiastically agreed to lend his support. A training video featuring Secretary Riley, which had been prepared for college student volunteers who will be assisting with College Application Month was then presented to all in attendance. Commissioner Horne commended Commissioner Mosteller as well as the CHE staff for their hard work on this initiative.

A **motion** to approve the regulatory amendments described in Agenda Items 8.03 A-E was then brought to the table and approved.

8.04 Report of Committee on Finance and Facilities

- **Jim Sanders**

CONSENT AGENDA	
A. Lease	
1. Medical University of South Carolina	- Charleston Center
B. List of Capital Projects & Leases Processed by Staff for July and August 2010 (For Information)	

Commissioner Sanders stated that the Committee on Finance and Facilities had approved the lease listed in Agenda Item 8.04 A1 at its meeting earlier in the morning, details about which may be found in **Attachment X**. This item was presented to the full Commission by consent.

A **motion** was made (Sanders) and **carried** to approve Agenda Item 8.04A1.

9. Other Business

Commissioner Temple requested and it was agreed that the meeting of the Committee on Academic Affairs & Licensing, scheduled for 1:00 p.m., be shifted to 12:30 p.m. with the provision that institutions that have items on the agenda for that meeting were present by 12:30 p.m.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:35 a.m.

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

Attachments (I-XI)

*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.