



South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

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Ms. Julie J. Carullo
Acting Executive Director

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RICHARD C. SUTTON NAMED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Columbia, S.C. --- The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (CHE) today selected Richard C. Sutton to become its new Executive Director. Sutton is expected to assume his responsibilities at the Commission beginning May 1, 2013.

Dr. Sutton has been engaged in higher education administration and academia for over three decades. He has held leadership positions at statewide governing boards in Wisconsin, Iowa, and Georgia. His accomplishments include a broad range of initiatives and projects, including distance education, faculty workload and development, retention and graduation rates, learning outcomes assessment, international education, institutional and sector mission review, comprehensive program review, and strategic planning. Trained as a Russian historian, he earned his undergraduate degree from Duke University and his graduate degrees from Indiana University. Dr. Sutton's resume and picture are available on CHE's web site at www.che.sc.gov.

Acting Commission Chair, Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, led the search committee that narrowed the field of finalists. She extended her thanks to all of the candidates, members of the search committee, staff and others who participated in the thorough vetting and hiring process.

Dr. Horne stated, "The CHE Commissioners are delighted to have identified an Executive Director who is both an excellent scholar and educator, as well as a skilled administrator. We look forward, working together under his leadership, to enhancing higher education in South Carolina and to promoting opportunities for citizens across the state."

In accepting the position, Dr. Sutton remarked, "I am honored by the Commission's confidence in my ability to guide South Carolina's higher education enterprise. With the support of the Commissioners, our presidents, and our elected officials, we will build a network of educational opportunities to serve every student who aspires to a brighter future."

Sutton succeeds Ms. Julie Carullo, who has served as Acting Executive Director for the past thirteen months. Dr. Horne expressed her appreciation on behalf of the Commission to Ms. Carullo for her excellent job of leading the agency during this extended time of transition. Carullo will resume her duties as the Commission's Deputy Director and Director of Governmental Affairs and Special Projects.

The Commission on Higher Education serves as the state's coordinating board for South Carolina's thirty-three public institutions of higher learning. Its mission is to promote quality and efficiency in the state system of higher education with the goal of fostering economic growth and human development in South Carolina. Each year, nearly 250,000 students are served by the state's higher education system. For additional information, please visit the agency's web site, www.che.sc.gov.