

Ninth Meeting

Higher Education Study Committee

**Palmetto Conference Room and by Teleconference
SC Commission on Higher Education
September 4, 2008, 2:00 p.m.**

AGENDA

- 1) Call to Order and Introductions**
- 2) Consideration of Minutes of the June 5, 2008, Meeting**
See Attachment 1
- 3) Discussion of the Draft Report for Delivery September 15, 2008**
- 4) Update on the Goal Task Forces**
- 5) Scheduling Next Study Committee Meeting**
- 6) Other Business**
- 7) Adjournment**

NOTE: Information relating to the Study Committee is accessible on-line at www.che.sc.gov by selecting the link on the left for "Higher Education Study Committee" or directly at <http://www.che.sc.gov/InfoCntr/HiEdStudyComm.htm>. As applicable, meeting materials will be made available online.

**Minutes of
HIGHER EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
June 5, 2008 (Eighth Meeting), 2:30 p.m.
SC Commission on Higher Education Offices
Columbia, South Carolina**

In attendance:

Study Committee Members Present

Mr. Daniel Ravenel, *Chair*
Col. Claude Eichelberger
Dr. Doris Helms (by phone)
Mr. Scott Ludlow
Dr. Layton McCurdy
Mr. Bobby Marlowe
Dr. John Montgomery (by phone)

Study Committee Members Absent

Mr. Boone Aiken
Representative Jerry Govan

CHE Staff

Dr. Garrison Walters, Executive Director
Ms. Laura Belcher
Mr. Mike Brown
Ms. Julie Carullo
Mr. Gary Glenn
Dr. Mike Raley
Ms. Beth Rogers
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Guests:

Mr. Michael Hollings, Lander University

Agenda Item 1, Call to Order and Introductions

Mr. Daniel Ravenel called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. The names of all committee members, guests, and Commission on Higher Education staff in attendance were noted for the record.

Agenda Item 2, Consideration of Minutes of the January 18, 2008, Meeting

The minutes from the March 21, 2008, and April 4, 2008, meetings were approved.

Agenda Item 3, Consideration of "Quick Start" Process for Recommended Action Plan Goals

At Chairman Ravenel's request, Dr. Walters reviewed the document, *"Quick Start" Process for Advancing Recommended Action Plan Goals* (Attachment 1). He stated the objective in this process is to get small representative task forces to work on the structure and the core of each of the goals, create an outline which includes specifics with regard to course of action and necessary resources, and then circulate a full draft of those ideas to the colleges and universities and others for their reactions. The expected timeframe suggested was by mid-July. Dr. Walters noted the importance of these groups having strong representation from the colleges and universities, New Carolina, the Chamber of Commerce and other key constituents.

Chairman Ravenel then invited comments on this proposed structure. Comments shared included the following:

The Committee discussed the importance of these groups representing higher education as a whole as opposed to any individual sector and that each group be aware of what the others are doing. With regard to selection of institutional representatives for each of the groups, it was agreed that the presidents of each sector should appoint the individuals and that a slightly revised version of the *"Quick Start"* document will be sent to each of the presidents with a note summarizing what would be required of their appointees. It was agreed, too, that representatives from the independent institutions should be included in Goal Groups 1-3, but not Goal Group 4 as it involves determining the source of public funds needed to complete the plan.

Members also decided that the groups should include representation from the following organizations: 1) the Department of Commerce (Goal 1, 2, & 3); 2) the SCRA (Goal 2); the SC Department of Education (Goal 1); the State Chamber (Goals 1, 2 & 3), and the Arts Commission (Goal 3). Discussion took place about whether to include legislative representation on Goal 4. It was recommended that the appropriate time to bring legislators in will be after the initial stages of the plan are accomplished and the discussion about necessary resources begins.

It was noted that CHE staff has begun work on the scaling up of institutional capacity to accommodate the goal of increased enrollment. Data will need to be collected and the study of what other states have done will need to take place in order for a plan to be developed.

There was discussion about the deadline, and members decided to move the deadline to July 25 to provide additional time for the groups to be assembled and accomplish the work.

With the adjustments as noted above, the *"Quick Start"* plan was then unanimously approved. The revised document will be sent to the HESC members as soon as possible and will be distributed to institutions with a request for their assistance in staffing the task forces.

Agenda Item 4, Consideration of Timeframe for Action Plan

Conversation took place about choosing a date to start implementing the Action Plan. Areas of concern discussed were the availability of resources and the legislature's commitment to supporting the plan. The discussion concluded with a decision to make the start date July 1, 2009, which would allow the legislature time to consider it during the 2009 session.

Discussion took place about the timeframe of the plan. Upon conclusion of that discussion it was decided that the duration of the plan should be six years with an appropriate review and reporting during the cycle.

Agenda Item 5, Scheduling Next Study Committee Meeting

It was decided that the next meeting of the HESC will take place on Tuesday, August 5, 2008, at 1:30 p.m.

Agenda Item 6, Information, Request for Concept Paper Distributed May 20

Dr. Walters began conversation about the development of a request for concept paper which will demonstrate to the public in tangible and specific terms the importance of higher education. An invitation to develop this concept paper has been extended to institutional presidents and thus far one, from the Strom Thurmond Institute has been submitted. A sub-group consisting of HESC members Ravenel, Marlowe, and Eichelberger, will review the information provided by the Strom Thurmond Institute and decide how to move forward with it. Copies of this proposal will be provided to each of the HESC members for their review.

Agenda Item 7, Other Business

Mr. Ludlow reported he will make available his personal e-mail and phone numbers as he will be retired from SC Technical College System effective July 1, 2008. Dr. Helms called the committee's attention to an article in the May 29 issue of *Inside Higher Education* about the unintended consequences of state merit-based aid. She suggested that the group consider ways in which incentives may be provided for students to encourage them to remain in the more rigorous disciplines.

Agenda Item 8, Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.