



## South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

### Commissioners' E-Alert

## November 2009

Mr. Kenneth B. Wingate, Chair  
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Vice Chair  
Douglas R. Forbes, D.M.D.  
Mr. Kenneth W. Jackson  
Dr. Raghu Korrapati  
Ms. Cynthia C. Mosteller  
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Mr. Y. W. Scarborough, III  
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Mr. Hood Temple  
Charles B. Thomas, Jr., M.D.  
Mr. Neal J. Workman, Jr.  
Dr. Mitchell Zais

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Dr. Garrison Walters, Executive Director

### Commission Highlights - *This E-Alert brings highlights from the November meeting.*

The Commission on Higher Education (CHE) meets each month on the first Thursday. This E-Alert contains highlights from the November 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Commission meets next on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. An agenda and materials are typically posted online approximately one week in advance of the meeting. For copies, [CLICK HERE](#). To access CHE's website, please visit [www.che.sc.gov](http://www.che.sc.gov).

#### Special Presentation

#### "The Breach" -- Commission Received Budget Overview and Update

Mr. Mike Shealy, Budget Director, and Mr. Craig Parks, Senior Research Analyst, for the Senate Finance Committee, were invited guests and joined CHE to provide an update on the state budget outlook.

Details were shared concerning the status of the state's budget, historical perspectives on the shortfalls in state funding that have been experienced since FY 2008-09, and the future budget outlook. Information was also shared about the SC Taxation Realignment Commission (SC TRAC), the impact of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funding on the state's budget, and details concerning lottery funding and scholarships.

For a copy of the PowerPoint presentation titled "The Breach", please [CLICK HERE](#).

#### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Ken Wingate welcomed, introduced, and congratulated the 2009 Governor's Professors of the Year – Ms. Susan Anderson of the University of South Carolina Columbia, the four-year college and university winner, and Mr. Chris Thomas of Florence-Darlington Technical College, the two-year college winner. The recipients were surprised earlier by a visit to their classrooms by Chairman Wingate. Winners and finalists were also announced at a press conference held in the rotunda of the State House just prior to the CHE's November meeting and then honored after the meeting at a luncheon sponsored by the SC Higher Education Foundation and the McNair Law Firm. For additional information about the winners and to view the press release, [CLICK HERE](#).



Chairman Ken Wingate introduces Ms. Susan Anderson



Ms. Betty Davidson, Governor's Office, Mr. Chris Thomas, Ms. Susan Anderson, and CHE Chairman Ken Wingate



Florence-Darlington Technical College President Dr. Charles Gould, Mr. Chris Thomas, and Chairman Wingate

*Support for higher education is the lever by which the government can move the entire economy*

~Stanford/Hoover Institution Economist Dr. Paul Romer

Work on implementing the Higher Education Action Plan continues. For an updated activities report, [CLICK HERE](#). To learn more about the Action Plan, [CLICK HERE](#).

Chairman Wingate provided a brief update on recent presentations he and Dr. Garrison Walters, CHE's Executive Director, have made to Board of Trustees at The Citadel, the College of Charleston, Coastal Carolina University, Winthrop University, and a scheduled presentation at Francis Marion Board completed subsequent to the November CHE meeting.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Report of the Executive Committee:** Minutes from the Committee's monthly meeting at which the upcoming CHE meeting agenda is reviewed were shared for information.

**Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing:** There was no report from this Committee which is expected to bring forward recommendations at the December meeting.

**Report of the Committee on Finance & Facilities:** Commissioner Jim Sanders, Chair of the Finance and Facilities Committee, brought forward recommendations for the approval of several interim capital projects. The recommended projects were approved by CHE and included:

- For USC Columbia: phase one approvals to establish pre-design for Maxcy College renovation and Harper/Elliott renovations, and phase two approvals to establish construction budgets for the Jones PSC North Tower ceiling asbestos removal and DeSaussure fire protection/renovation;
- For The Citadel: phase two approval to establish a construction budget for repairs to Bond Hall;
- For Coastal Carolina: phase one approval to establish pre-design work for the construction of an academic office and classroom building, and phase two approvals to establish construction budgets for a facility to house a central cooling and heating plant as well as to construct an addition to the Commons Dining Room;
- For College of Charleston: phase one approval to establish pre-design to complete the design to finish space on the second floor of the School of Science and Mathematics building;
- For USC Upstate: phase one approval to establish pre-design for a renovation and addition project for Hodge Center and approval of an increase in budget

and revised scope for the Palmetto Villas renovation project;

- For Winthrop: phase two approval to establish a construction budget for renovations to Phelps Hall;
- For Midlands Technical College: phase two approval to establish a construction budget for the Northeastern Classroom/Engineering Science Facility;
- For Northeastern Technical College: phase two approval to establish a construction budget to construct a new building on the Dillon Campus; and

Three projects initially included on the agenda were withdrawn from consideration prior to the meeting. These included phase one approval requests from USC Columbia for the Horizon I and Discovery I projects and from York Technical College the Griffin Motors Property Acquisition project.

The Committee also presented to CHE as information the monthly activity report for October on staff-level capital project and lease approvals.

**Report of the Committee on Student Services and Access and Equity:** Commissioner Cyndi Mosteller provided a brief update on *College Application Week* activities and indicated that a more detailed report would be presented on this initiative at the December CHE meeting.

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**For details on the items in this section, [CLICK HERE](#)**

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## NEWS AND UPDATES FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Garrison Walters, CHE's Executive Director, congratulated Trident Technical College and the State Technical College System for the critical roles they played in attracting Boeing to South Carolina to establish operations in the North Charleston area. He also reported on his recent travels and presentations on higher education as well as ongoing conversations with Presidents and other institutional representatives about an overall budget strategy.

At Dr. Walters' request, Dr. Gail Morrison provided an update on the activities of the Centers of Economic Excellence Program (CoEE) and the recent convening of the CoEE Council of Chairs. Additionally, she took a few moments to thank all who worked on the 2009 Professor of the Year awards and luncheon.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS****CALL for NOMINATIONS****2010 Higher Education Hall of Fame Laureate**

Deadline for Submission is December 15, 2009

**The Harry M. Lightsey Jr. Society of the South Carolina Higher Education Foundation is seeking nominations for 2010 inductions into the SC Higher Education Hall of Fame. Nominations will be accepted through December 15, 2009, for consideration for the 2010 laureate.**

The purpose of the Hall of Fame is to recognize and honor worthy individuals for outstanding achievement on behalf of higher education in South Carolina. By recognizing these individuals, the Lightsey Society hopes to inspire others to excel in their efforts to advance higher education. Dr. Harry M. Lightsey Jr. was the inaugural inductee into the Society's SC Higher Education Hall of Fame. In 2009, the Society honored Secretary Richard Riley as the second inductee. The Lightsey Society will hold a banquet in fall 2010 to honor the next Hall of Fame laureate.

For a copy of the nominating form and selection criteria as well as to access information on the Lightsey Society and the SC Higher Education Foundation, Inc., please visit [www.schighered-foundation.org](http://www.schighered-foundation.org).

The Foundation hopes you will consider nominating someone for this prestigious honor. Should you have questions about the process, please call (803) 737-2275.

**CALL TO INFORM AND WORK TOGETHER FOR SUCCESS**

Higher Education for all our citizens has never been as important as it is today in the Knowledge Economy. To change our State we must make sure our citizens have the work skills and education they need to compete in the new world economy. They also must know how to access this education.

We are sharing this message with Chambers of Commerce, civic organizations, business organizations, parent and school organizations, and others. If you are interested in a program, please call us today.

**CONTACT**

**Rita Allison, Director of Communications,  
803-767-8352 or [rallison@che.sc.gov](mailto:rallison@che.sc.gov)**