

South Carolina Commission on Higher Education
1333 Main Street, Suite 200
Columbia, SC 29201

Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College
Gulbrandsen Room
Building-S, First Floor

Access & Equity and Student Services Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
June 7, 2007

Commission Members Present

Ms. Cyndi Mosteller, Chairman
Dr. Bettie Horne
Dr. Raghu Korrapati

Commission Members Absent

Mr. Dan Ravenel
Dr. Mitchell Zais

Staff Present

Dr. Karen Woodfaulk
Dr. Gail Morrison
Mr. Michael Brown
Ms. Laverne Sanders
Ms. Karen Wham

Guests Present

Dr. Mary Cheeseboro, SC State University
Dr. Gayle Sawyer, Center for Educator
Recruitment, Retention and Advancement
Mr. Charlie C. Sanders, Jr., President &
CEO, Student Loan Corporation
Mr. Wayne Landrith, Vice President for
Governmental & Community Affairs
South Carolina Student Loan Corporation
James Clark, Student Support Services
Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College

1. Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Cyndi Mosteller. Introductions were made by all in attendance. Dr. Raghu Korrapati **moved** that the minutes of April 5, 2007 be approved and the motion was **seconded** by Dr. Bettie Horne. The motion was **approved**.

2. South Carolina Student Loan Corporation Teacher Loan Budget

Dr. Karen Woodfaulk presented the SC Student Loan Corporation Teacher Loan Budget and stated that there is a slight increase in the budget that due to increased insurance cost. The increases were not very large. Additionally, Dr. Woodfaulk informed everyone there was an increase in contractual services because there is an external provider.

Dr. Bettie Horne asked if the insurance was only assigned to the agency. Mr. Chuck Sanders responded that each individual organization had six cases last year and the

insurance company passed the cost on to the Student Loan Corporation. The Student Loan Corporation is looking at ways to reduce corporation cost or keep costs steady.

Chairman Mosteller asked if the budget projection was base lined. Mr. Sanders responded that they look at both. Dr. Bettie Horne asked about payroll. Mr. Sanders responded that they have a new payroll system which is outsourced.

Chairman Mosteller asked if there are similar organizations in every state. Mr. Sanders stated, there are about twenty states with organizations comparable to the SC Student Loan Corporation and he said the SC Student Loan Corporation does not market outside of South Carolina. Dr. Raghu Korrapati asked how comparable the Student Loan Corporation budget was compared to other states. Mr. Sanders replied, the operating costs are lower compared to other states.

Chairman Mosteller entertained a motion to accept the proposed SC Student Loan Corporation Teacher Loan FY 2007-2008 Budget. A **motion** was made (Korrapati), **seconded** (Horne), and **carried** to approve the proposed budget.

3. The Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement (CERRA) and The South Carolina Program for the Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers (SC-PRRMT) Updates

Dr. Gayle Sawyer stated that CERRA is growing and is partnering with the State Department of Education. She said CERRA is looking at ways to help schools with recruiting, teacher advancement, mentoring, and teacher retention. Chairman Mosteller asked where the pool of mentoring would come from. Dr. Sawyer said CERRA is looking at working regionally with schools. She stated that CERRA would like to build capacity. Chairman Mosteller asked if the state funded mentoring. Dr. Sawyer replied that there is no money in the budget for mentoring, but some districts have funds for mentoring. She also added that every teacher is going through a formal evaluation and troubled teachers are required to be mentored.

Chairman Mosteller asked how much of the program is recruitment and how much is retention. Dr. Sawyer replied it is both. She said the program is not getting enough teachers especially diverse teachers. Chairman Mosteller inquired about the flexibility of the State Department for the teachers who reach the age of 50 and want to teach half-time or do not want a full load. Dr. Sawyer stated that CERRA is working with diverse pathways. She said CERRA is identifying when teachers finish community college that they would not have to leave their jobs. Dr. Sawyer stated they would like to count experience or pick up their tab.

Dr. Mary Cheeseboro stated that SC State University's program is non-traditional. She said the program did not have problems initially. Dr. Cheeseboro stated the students lose payroll and benefits in the non-traditional program. She also stated that the program will have to find a way to help students gain more experience with testing.

Dr. Karen Woodfaulk stated the Committee discussed at the last meeting the possibility of CERRA and PRRMT meeting with the Call Me Mister Program to have a discussion and a plan for the recruitment of minority African American males. She said the three programs met as a group and are still in the midst of these discussions. Dr. Sawyer stated that the programs goals are very similar and will start with high school students and the Teacher Cadet program. She said that one of the service programs was ProTeam which was for seventh and eighth graders. Dr. Sawyer stated this program has not been as effective as the 9th grade academy. She said CERRA is moving to the 9th grade academy, freshman 101. Ms. Mosteller asked if the effort was in finding students going to college, the students would have gone to college anyway, and the students tend to go to college and tend to major in education. Dr. Sawyer replied they have not been able to track students. She said, South Carolina schools are just getting to the point where they can track students.

Dr. Gayle Sawyer stated that this is the first year CERRA has been actively recruiting. She stated that the programs would like to have a booth at selected career fairs across the state together. Ms. Mosteller asked what happens with CERRA once a student gets into college. Dr. Sawyer replied, the student is involved in the Teachers Fellow Program at the collegiate level. Ms. Mosteller asked if there was an extra initiative for the minority students. Dr. Sawyer replied that by that time FEA can attract the minority students, it would be left up to the institution.

5. Access & Equity

Mr. Michael Brown reviewed the Access and Equity initiatives. Ms. Mosteller inquired as to what the minority entity of the Access and Equity is. Mr. Brown stated the amount of \$678,000. He stated the institutions receive funding based on head count. Dr. Woodfaulk stated that Access and Equity has the same methodology as the Need-based Grant. Mr. Brown explained that in the new Proviso, any new money goes to the Commission instead of the institutions. He said the Commission will have more control over how the money is distributed. Mr. Brown stated the Commission can determine if the institutions are making progress; if the institutions are not making progress, they will not receive any money. He said that Access & Equity did not receive any additional money. Mr. Brown said he is concerned with the recruitment of minority students. He stated he would like to have partnerships with the school districts because everyone is competing for the same students. Ms. Mosteller asked what is the goal of Access and Equity. Mr. Brown replied the goal is to get more minorities into college and to complete college. Ms. Mosteller asked is it better to increase need-based or increase minority-based? Mr. Brown stated that more non-minorities receive need-based Grants. Dr. Woodfaulk said that a saleable point is taking out the perception of what the program is and adding and enhancing the program.

6. Other Business

Mr. Michael Brown explained he is working on the scholarship guidelines and they will be ready for September. Dr. Woodfaulk stated that Student Services Division will be working on regulations. Ms. Mosteller stated that she would like for CHE to have a

better idea of interfacing with EEDA and a commitment with the State Department of Education.

There being no other items for discussion or action, the meeting of the Committee was adjourned by the chairman at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laverne Sanders