

**South Carolina Commission on Higher Education**  
**Access & Equity Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting**  
**CHE Large Conference Room**  
**February 15, 2005**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**Committee Members:**

Ms. Thelathia Bailey  
Ms. Sharon Bodrick  
Mr. Keith Britton  
Ms. V. Joann Diaz  
Mr. Mike Greene  
Mr. Layfayette Harrison  
Dr. Mary Holloway  
Ms. Sylvia Holmes  
Mr. Jerry Knighton  
Dr. Carol McMahan  
Ms. Francis McCollough  
Ms. Mary Newton  
Mr. Robert Pickering  
Dr. Wilhelmenia Rembert  
Ms. Lucille Skaggs  
Ms. Kena Steeple  
Ms. Lynwood Watts  
Mr. Carl Wells  
Ms. Jewel Whitney  
Mr. Reginald Wilburn  
Dr. Leon Wiles

**Guests:**

Ms. Angie Anderson  
Ms. Bea Beaty  
Ms. Patricia Ferguson  
Mr. Bobby Gist  
Mr. Curtis Harkness  
Ms. Hope Rivers

**Staff:**

Michael Brown  
Lorinda Copeland

1. **Introductions**

Mr. Michael Brown called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

2. **Adoption of Minutes**

The motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as written.

3. **Legislative Updates**

Mr. Brown reported the state of South Carolina is expected to have a 3% revenue increase for 2005 and that higher education was not expected to receive an increase. The Governor's budget recommended a 2% pay increase for state employees with higher education being exempt. Whether this exemption would apply to faculty or faculty and staff would be clarified.

Mr. Brown also reported that the culinary arts school for Trident Technical College and 4 year status for USC Sumter, which were a part of the Life Sciences Bill, had not been approved.

#### 4. **Review of Measurable Goals Budget Form**

Mr. Brown stated he would like for the A&E representatives to suggest agenda items for meetings because the representatives are working directly with the issues. Mr. Brown also stated if discussions are necessary prior to a meeting, a campus visit can be scheduled.

Mr. Bobby Gist stated that an outcome of the conference should be findings/recommendations for CHE to address. Mr. Brown responded although money may not be available, a list of findings and recommendations would indicate that the group is being proactive and this may enhance the opportunity of receiving money when it is available.

Mr. Brown reported that after two years of using the revised Budget Form, there are still problems with the information submitted. Mr. Brown gave an overview of the form and suggested revisions were made. Mr. Brown also stated that a computerized version of the budget form can be used as long as the version reflects the information CHE is requesting.

Mr. Brown addressed the issue of A&E program accountability. Mr. Brown stated that more money should be expended on retention versus expending money for larger groups participating in conferences, presentations, and black history month programs which have harder measurable outcomes. Mr. Brown gave an example of a recent institutional visit whereby the institution tracked high school students that were served and could report their status.

Dr. Wilhelmenia Rembert reported that she once had a very successful high school partnership wherein about 75% of the students went on to college. She would like to see these students invited back to show their outcomes. Mr. Keith Britton reported this idea had been suggested at the most recent PAAE (Professional Association of Access & Equity) meeting because the PAAE organization awards scholarships. PAAE would like to begin tracking these students and invite them back. Mr. Brown reported that A&E program participants can be invited for presentations during CHE commission meetings.

#### 5. **Access & Equity Database**

Mr. Brown reported that he would like to see more data collected from the A&E programs and especially data regarding scholarships. Currently, only the amount allocated for the GIS (Graduate Incentive Scholarship) is reported. Mr. Brown would like to see all scholarships reported with the number of recipients and the dollar amount awarded. This request will be an attachment to the Budget Form. Mr. Brown stated the move toward accountability may help budget cuts and be beneficial for auditing purposes. Because of privacy issues, it was recommended that social security numbers and names not be submitted with scholarship data.

Mr. Brown presented a draft report that reflected how he would like the data to be reported within 5 categories. The categories were recruitment/retention, mentoring/tutoring, scholarships, cultural awareness, and enrichment programs/college awareness. There was some concern about the categories being deceiving because some categories work hand in hand with others. Another concern was that institutions have programs that were not reflected on the report which isolates the A&E mission from the institution's overall mission. Mr. Brown stated that the report reflected A&E funded programs and that an institutional match report could be added. Mr. Gist stated that the primary issue is getting money for students to attend college because the purpose of the A&E program is to open doors for students and for funds to be available for these students. He further added that funding had declined and innovative ways to get more money is needed especially since the technical colleges receive an embarrassing amount of funding.

It was asked if A&E representatives could speak to businesses or legislators on their own. Mr. Brown stated that institutions should be doing this on an institutional level. One representative stated that individual faculty and staff do not speak with the legislature because there is a structure present on their campus. Ms. Hope Rivers suggested that the A&E group develop a “white paper” that would state the A&E issues. It was decided that an ad hoc subcommittee would be formed to develop the “white paper”.

Mr. Brown will speak with MIS regarding a database. He stated although data is reported through CHEMIS, it can only be retrieved as aggregate data. The names of students are needed so the students can be tracked. Mr. Brown stated his goal is to be able to show the impact of the A&E program. It was suggested that the group not diminish its accomplishments by focusing on numbers. Mr. Brown stated that the database is in the discussion stage and he is open to suggestions.

**6. Discussion of the SC PAAE Annual Conference to be held March 16-18,2005**

Mr. Britton reported that all A&E representatives should have received the electronic version of the registration form and requested that the form be circulated to other persons on campus. An update was provided on the various conference sessions.

The RFP for the 2006 conference is being developed and the plan is to have the conference in Charleston, Myrtle Beach, or Hilton Head.

**7. Discussion of the date and location of A & E Advisory Committee 2005 Annual Retreat**

Mr. Brown asked if any of the representatives from the coastal area would like to host the retreat or should it be held centrally in Columbia. It was decided to review options along the coast and the back up location would be Columbia.

**8. Other Business**

No additional business was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorinda Copeland  
Recording Secretary