

DRAFT

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

1122 Lady Street, Suite 300
Columbia, SC 29201

Minutes of the Meeting
January 9, 2014

Commission Members Attending

General John Finan, Chair
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Vice-chair
Ms. Elizabeth Jackson
Mr. Raghu Korraopati (phone)
Admiral Charles Munns
Mr. Bill Scarborough (phone)
Dr. Jennifer Settlemyer
Mr. Hood Temple
Hon. Lewis Vaughn

Commission Members Absent

Ms. Leah Moody
Mr. Kim Phillips
Hon. Lewis Vaughn

Staff Attending

Dr. Richard Sutton, Executive Director
Dr. Argentini Anderson
Ms. Courtney Blake
Ms. Camille Brown
Ms. Saundra Carr
Ms. Julie Carullo
Ms. Stephanie Charbonneau
Ms. Renea Eshleman
Mr. Gary Glenn
Ms. Lane Goodwin
Dr. Paula Gregg
Ms. Trena Houpp
Dr. MaryAnn Janosik
Ms. Yolanda Myers
Ms. Beth Rogers
Ms. Edna Strange
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Guests

Ms. Beth Bell, Clemson University
Mr. Barry Bolen, State Board of Education
Dr. Ralph Byington, Coastal Carolina University
Mr. Todd Carroll, Womble Carlyle Sandridge &
Rice, LLP (Infilaw)
Mr. Tim Drueke, Winthrop University
Dr. Kris Finnigan, USC Columbia
Ms. Joelle Forgeng, Florence, SC
Mr. Peter Goplerud, Infilaw
Mr. Reginald Greene, Southeastern Institute
Mr. Asher Hains, Keiser University
Mr. Kevin Hall, Womble Carlyle Sandridge &
Rice, LLP (Infilaw)
Dr. Debra Jackson, Clemson University
Mr. Mike LeFever, SC Independent Colleges
& Universities
Ms. Julie Lybrand, House Education & Public
Works Committee
Mr. Rick Moul, PASCAL
Mr. Craig Parks, Senate Finance Committee
Mr. Adam Taylor, Lander University
Mr. Hobart Trotter, Riley Pope & Laney, LLC
(Infilaw)

The meeting was held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Introductions

- Courtney Blake

Ms. Blake recorded and announced the names of all those in attendance as listed above.

To accommodate time constraints of the guest presenter, Chairman Finan asked that Mr. Parks begin the meeting with his presentation as referenced in **Agenda Item 3**. Mr. Parks' presentation, the theme of which was *Inflection*, focused on changes in budgets past, present, and future. Details about this presentation may be found in **Attachment I**.

2. Approval of Minutes

- John Finan

Following the Guest Presentation and Chairman's Report, described below, a **motion** was made (Horne), **seconded** (Temple) to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2013, CHE meeting.

3. Guest Presentation:

***State Budget Outlook*, Mr. Craig Parks, Senior Research & Budget Analyst, SC Senate Finance Committee**

As stated previously in these minutes, Mr. Parks delivered his presentation following the introductions.

4. Chairman's Report

- John Finan

Chairman Finan began his report with a progress update on the status Commissioner Phillips' recovery from a serious accident, inviting Commissioners to wish him well. He then reported on plans to increase the interaction between K-12 and higher education, which included representatives of each sector attending the other's monthly board meetings. He welcomed and introduced the Chair of the State Board of Education, Mr. Barry Bolen.

5. Guest Remarks: Mr. Barry Bolen, Chairman of the State Board of Education

Mr. Bolen provided information on the composition and function of the State Board of Education, which is charged with developing policy and regulations that govern K-12 and whose Chief Executive, the Superintendent of Education, is an elected official. Mr. Bolen referenced teacher certification, the development of curriculum standards, and high school completion requirements for college entrance as areas in which K-12 and higher education already currently interface. Mr. Bolen concluded his remarks by inviting all Commissioners to attend the State Board of Education meetings which take place the first Wednesday of each month. He also noted that Dr. Danny Varat, Chair of the State Board of Education's Educations Professions Committee, would be attending future CHE meetings.

6. Report of the Executive Director

- Richard Sutton

Dr. Sutton reported briefly that he had presented the CHE's FY15 budget request to the House Ways and Means Committee Higher Education Subcommittee on January 8. He stated he would be speaking to the Greenville Legislative Delegation at its meeting on January 13 and would also meet individually with members of that delegation on that same date. Dr. Sutton reported that continued work on recent CHE staff reorganization remains a priority for him in leading the agency forward in 2014, and that he was optimistic about 2014 marking a significant period in CHE's history. He thanked Mr. Bolen and Mr. Parks for their valuable presentations and stated that guest speakers would continue to be invited to deliver information about critical issues brought before the Commission. A copy of Dr. Sutton's remarks may be found in **Attachment II**.

**7. Recap of January 8 Presentation to House Ways and Means Committee
Higher Education Subcommittee - Richard Sutton**

Dr. Sutton delivered information about his January 8 presentation to the House Ways and Means Committee Subcommittee. A copy of his presentation to the subcommittee and summary information about CHE requests were provided to the Commissioners and may be found in **Attachments III, IV, and V**. Commissioner Horne, who had been able to attend the presentation, commented that Dr. Sutton had provided an excellent presentation which had been well-received and that positive follow-up conversation with legislators took place afterward. Chairman Finan encouraged Commissioners to communicate about matters related to higher education with elected officials at their local levels. Dr. Sutton then commented that a major focus of these conversations should be the establishment of a sustainable funding model.

Dr. Sutton reported that there had been good participation in his conference call with the public Presidents on January 7 regarding the January 8 presentation and that a meeting with them in Columbia would soon be convened to continue discussion about legislative and budget strategy. He also reported that a presentation similar to the one he delivered to the House Ways and Means Higher Education Budget Subcommittee would be delivered to the Senate at a date to be determined.

8. Update on Charleston School of Law - Richard Sutton

In his update on the Charleston School of Law, Dr. Sutton reported that CHE staff were continuing to evaluate Infilaw's application for initial licensing. A copy of Dr. Sutton's remarks may be found in **Attachment VI**.

9. Monthly Progress Report on CHE Strategic Agenda - Richard Sutton

Dr. Sutton provided information on the progress of priorities two and three of the CHE's Strategic Agenda, Developing New Higher Education Funding Models and Improving P-20 collaboration, respectively. A copy of Dr. Sutton's presentation may be found in **Attachment VII**.

10. Legislative Report - Julie Carullo

Ms. Carullo reported that the General Assembly was returning to session on Tuesday, January 14 and that the budget subcommittees of the House Ways and Means Committee had already begun their meetings. She provided information on the House budget schedule for 2014, details about which may be found in **Attachment VIII**. Ms. Carullo reported that the Senate would begin its budget hearings in February and move through a process similar to that of the House. She stated that the release of the Governor's proposed budget was anticipated during the week of January 13. Ms. Carullo also provided a list of House and Senate prefiled bills relating to higher education, details about which may be found in **Attachment IX**.

With regard to recent newspapers articles related to discussions taking place about the possible merger of the College of Charleston and the Medical University of South Carolina, Ms. Carullo stated it is anticipated that legislation related to this topic may be filed, and that Commissioners would be kept posted on developments as they become available. Chairman Finan commented that the CHE has not been asked to provide a position on this matter. In response to Chairman Finan's question about federal legislation related to student financial aid, Ms. Carullo requested that Dr. Woodfaulk provide information on student related bills. Dr. Woodfaulk commented on the Student Borrowers' Act which allows for students to make changes to their student loan repayment plans should extenuating circumstances arise in their lives and also on proposed federal legislation which will require that institutions with high default student loan rates pay a certain percentage of those defaults to the federal government.

11. Committee Reports

11.01 Report of the Executive Committee

- John Finan

Chairman Finan reported that the Executive Committee had met on Friday, January 3, 2014, for the purpose of preparing the agenda for this CHE meeting.

11.02 Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

- Bettie Rose Horne

There was no report from the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing.

11.03 Report of Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services

- Hood Temple

There was no report from the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services.

11.04 Report of Committee on Finance and Facilities

- Y. W. Scarborough

A. Project Approval Flowchart (For Information, No Action Required)

B. Quarterly Budget Report (For Information, No Action Required)

C. List of Capital Projects & Leases Processed by Staff for December, 2013 (For Information, No Action Required)

For Commissioner Scarborough who was unable to participate for the duration of this meeting, Mr. Glenn provided a summary of the material included in **Agenda Items 11.04 A, B, and C**, details about which may be found in **Attachment X**.

12. Other Business

There was no other business to consider.

13. Adjournment of Business Meeting

The Commission adjourned its business portion of the meeting at approximately 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth B. Rogers
Beth B. Rogers
Recording Secretary

Attachments (I - X)

*Attachments are not included in this mailing, but will be filed with the permanent record of these minutes and are available for review upon request.