

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

1122 Lady Street, Suite 300

Columbia, S.C. 29201

Minutes of the Meeting

November 3, 2011

Commission Members Attending

Mr. Ken Wingate, Chair
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Vice Chair
Ms. Natasha Hanna
Ms. Elizabeth Jackson
Dr. Raghu Korrapati (by phone)
Ms. Leah Moody
Admiral Charles Munns
Mr. Kim Phillips
Mr. Guy Tarrant
Dr. Jennifer Settlemyer
Mr. Hood Temple
Hon. Lewis Vaughn

Commission Members Absent

Mr. Bill Scarborough
Mr. Rodney Smolla

Staff Present

Dr. Garrison Walters, Executive Director
Dr. Argentini Anderson
Ms. Courtney Blake
Ms. Camille Brown
Mr. Michael Brown
Mr. Tony Brown
Ms. Julie Carullo
Ms. Elizabeth Caulder
Mr. Jason Cone
Ms. Renea Eshleman
Mr. Gary Glenn
Ms. Lane Goodwin
Dr. Paula Gregg
Ms. Trena Houp
Mr. Clint Mullins
Mr. Frank Myers
Ms. Yolanda Myers
Dr. Mike Raley
Ms. Beth Rogers
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Guests

Mr. Jeff Beaver, Lander University
Dr. Anthony Coyne, USC Sumter
Dr. Kris Finnigan, USC Columbia
Mr. Derek Gruner, USC Columbia
Ms. Nancy Jeter, SC State University
Mr. Mike LeFever, SC Independent
Colleges & Universities
Ms. Beth McInnis, Clemson University
Mr. Tom Quazny, USC Columbia
Mr. Adam Taylor, Lander University
Ms. Reinell Thomas-Myers, SC State
University
Ms. Jane Turner, Center for Educator
Recruitment, Retention & Advancement

Members of the Press

none

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

1. Introductions

- Julie Carullo

Ms. Carullo introduced the guests in attendance, as listed above.

2. Approval of Minutes

- Ken Wingate

A **motion** was made (Tarrant), **seconded** (Korrapati), and **carried** to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2011 CHE meeting.

3. Chairman's Report

- Ken Wingate

Chairman Wingate deferred his report to that of the Executive Director.

4. Report of the Executive Director

- Garrison Walters

Dr. Walters referred to letters exchanged between Chairman Wingate and the Attorney General (**Attachment I**), written subsequent to the Attorney General's January 5, 2011 and opinions deeming the expansion of the USC medical school as an addition to an existing program. He stated that the outcome of this exchange, together with other communication with the Attorney General and his staff points to the uniqueness of the USC/Greenville medical school expansion in the opinion of the Attorney General's office. This leads to the conclusion that CHE will continue to review new degree programs and exercise its existing authority in the same manner as has been in practice for several decades.

Dr. Walters then referred to a Requests for Qualifications document (**Attachment II**) pertaining to the SC Competing Through Knowledge initiative which was distributed to Commissioners for their review. He provided a brief description of the initiative, the purpose of which is to raise among South Carolina opinion leaders the level of awareness of the importance of higher education to the state's economy. He stated that the Request for Qualifications had been advertised and circulated, and that responses from interested firms were due by November 8, after which it is anticipated that a selection will be made by Mr. Craig Garner, President of the SC Higher Education Foundation, the initiative's fiscal agent; a small group of presidents and private sector leaders will assist. It is expected that activities related to this effort will be in place in early January, 2012.

Commissioner Horne then commented on the use of the word "unique" in the October 7, 2011 letter from the Attorney General's office (included in **Attachment I** referenced above) with regard to the expansion of the USC medical program in Greenville, after which complimentary remarks were made about the Competing Through Knowledge initiative and possible efforts to publicize it were discussed.

Dr. Walters referred to the CHE and Task Force Recommendations Draft Accountability Based Funding (ABF) Report (**Attachment III**) as well as the SC Technical College System Success Measures Task Force ABF Recommendations (**Attachment IV**), which had been distributed to Commissioners, and provided a brief update on the status of the (ABF) initiative. He stated that a conference call about this would take place with university presidents at 1:00 p.m. following the Commission meeting, and that next steps in this effort will be taken at the direction of the Governor's office. Chairman Wingate stated that ongoing communication about ABF is taking place with the Governor's staff, who anticipate they will soon begin drafting legislation which will be included in the Governor's budget presentation to the General Assembly when it reconvenes in January of 2012. Dr. Walters reiterated that the work on ABF has been a collaborative effort between the Governor's office and the universities and technical colleges with the CHE serving as an active supporter.

Dr. Walters also described a plan to have a panel of college and university presidents brief the Commission on the current national “reform” movement in higher education at the December 1, 2011, CHE meeting, and documents related to this topic would be forwarded to Commissioners for their review in advance of that meeting.

In response to Dr. Walters’ invitation, CHE staff members provided updates on various initiatives: Dr. Mike Raley briefed Commissioners on the October 22 statewide forum for the SC Course Alignment Project and also invited them to attend the December SmartState National Conference to take place in Charleston, SC, December 4-6, details about which may be found in **Attachment IV**; Mr. Gary Glenn reported that work progressed on the 2012-2013 CHE Budget Request and that a proposal intended to help streamline the facilities approval process will be brought to the Commission by consent agenda for their approval at the December 1 CHE meeting; Dr. Woodfaulk reported on the outcome of the recently completed College Application Month activities and provided information about and invited Commissioners to attend the 2012 Linda B. Floyd Campus Safety Conference which will take place at the Marina Inn in Myrtle Beach, February 15-17; Mr. Michael Brown reported that the Carolina Certificates program and adult education efforts were progressing well in Cherokee County, Florence County, and the Charleston area and that more details about this program will be presented at the December 1 CHE meeting.

5. Legislative Report

- Julie Carullo

Ms. Carullo reported that the House and Senate will pre-file legislation for the 2012 legislative session in late November and early December. She stated as a reminder that because we are in the second year of a two-year continuing session, legislation from the 2011 session will be brought forward, retaining its status, in the 2012 session. She will provide more information on legislation at the December 1 CHE meeting. Ms. Carullo stated that the state’s revenue situation continues to improve and that it is anticipated when the Board of Economic Advisors (BEA) meets in November to provide the first preliminary FY 2012-13 estimate, it is likely to also increase the revenue estimate for FY 2011-2012. She reported that additional information about the BEA’s preliminary revenue estimates will be shared in December.

6. CHE FY 2012-2013 Budget Request

- Garrison Walters

Chairman Wingate referred to the November 3, 2011 draft letter to the Governor regarding the CHE’s FY 2012-2013 Budget Request (**Attachment VI**) which had been distributed to Commissioners. At Dr. Walters’ request, Ms. Julie Carullo and Mr. Gary Glenn briefed Commissioners on the content of the letter, stating that the information it contains outlines the request for the overall needs of higher education in South Carolina as well as for the CHE as an agency. Ms. Carullo stated that the request for the CHE was for level funding except for a \$551,554 increase in recurring funds to maintain level participation in Southern Regional Educational Board (SREB) programs, more information about which may be found in **Attachment VII**. Mr. Glenn reported that the request also included a few increases in federal and other funds related to the statewide longitudinal data system, the College Access Challenge Grant (CACG), and the Partnership for the Alliance of South Carolina Academic Libraries (PASCAL). Mr. Glenn stated that, upon approval by the Commission, the FY 2012-2013 budget request would be submitted to the Governor’s office for consideration.

Following brief discussion, a **motion** was made (Horne), **seconded** (Tarrant), and **carried to** approve the FY 2012-2013 Budget Request as presented.

7. Report of the Higher Education Action Plan Ad Hoc Committee - Ken Wingate

There was no report from the Higher Education Action Plan Ad Hoc Committee.

8. Committee Reports

8.01 Report of the Executive Committee - Ken Wingate

There was no report from the Executive Committee.

8.02 Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing - Bettie Rose Horne

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing had no report.

8.03 Report of Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services - Hood Temple

CONSENT AGENDA

A. FY 2010-2011 Annual Reports and Appropriation Requests for FY 2012-2013 For EIA Funded Teacher Recruitment Projects – EOC Budget Report

1. Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, & Advancement (CERRA)
2. SC Program for the Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers (PRRMT):
SC State University

Commissioner Temple provided information on the FY 2012-2013 Appropriation Requests for both CERRA and SC PRRMT as listed above and described in further detail in **Attachments VIII, IX, and X**. He noted that the FY 2012-2013 appropriations requests for both programs remained unchanged from the FY 2011-2012 levels with the exception of an \$18,320 increase request to restore the CERRA Teacher of the Year salary/fringe line to \$50,000.

A **motion** was then made and **carried** to approve the FY 2012-2013 appropriations request in the amount of \$3,954,044 for CERRA.

Commissioner Temple then stated that CERRA had been able to accumulate approximately \$2 million in collected penalty funds from former Teacher Fellows Scholarship recipients who, after graduating from college, failed to serve in teaching positions for the agreed upon length of time. He reported that these funds will be used to help grant Teaching Fellows awards earlier in the calendar year than has traditionally been the case due to the process involved in the disbursement of these state funds, thus allowing the recipients to make critical decisions about their college choices on a more timely basis. Ms. Jane Turner, Executive Director of CERRA, also provided details, stating that the accumulated funds will be used when the next Teaching Fellows awards are distributed in the spring of 2012.

Commissioner Temple then invited Ms. Reinell Thomas-Myers to address a concern that had been raised about the effectiveness of the SC PRRMT. Ms. Thomas-Myers explained that decreased enrollment in the program had resulted due to budget cuts which have limited the program's ability to recruit new students or expand its program sites. She stated further that the program's graduation rates and effectiveness had remained the same. Brief discussion followed about ways to underscore the need for continued and increased funding for this much-needed program.

A **motion** was then made and **carried** to approve the FY 2012-2013 appropriations request in the amount of \$339,482.

8.04 Report of Committee on Finance and Facilities

- Guy Tarrant

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Interim Capital Project

1. Clemson University - Highway 93 Pedestrian Safety Improvements (Phase II)

B. List of Capital Projects & Leases Processed by Staff for October 2011 (For Information, No Action Required)

Commissioner Tarrant reported that the Committee on Finance and Facilities had met earlier in the morning and had considered and approved the projects described in **Agenda Items 8.04 A (Attachment XI)**. Mr. Gary Glenn then summarized details about the project, as well as the projects and leases processed by staff for October 2011. Commissioner Hanna shared information about her recent visit to and tour of some of the facilities on the Clemson University campus, and encouraged other Commissioners to take advantage of such opportunities as they become available to them. Commissioner Tarrant noted only \$1,063,200 of the \$3,752,000 total funding of the Clemson project came from institutional capital project funds, with the remainder of the funds being provided by other sources.

Agenda Item 8.04 A was then voted on and **approved**. The capital projects and leases listed in **Agenda 8.04 B (also described in Attachment XI)** were accepted as information.

9. Other Business

A. Executive Session to Consider a Personnel Matter

A **motion** was made (Temple), **seconded** (Tarrant), and **carried** to go into Executive Session at 11:45 a.m.

10. Adjournment

The Commission concluded its Executive Session at 12:10 p.m., after which Chairman Wingate immediately adjourned the meeting.

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

Attachments (I - XI)

*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.