

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

1333 Main Street, Suite 200

Columbia, SC 29201

Minutes of the Meeting

April 5, 2007

Commission Members Attending

Dr. Layton McCurdy, Chairman
Dr. Doug Forbes
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne
Dr. Raghu Korrapati
Dr. Louis Lynn
Ms. Cyndi Mosteller
Mr. Dan Ravenel
Mr. Jim Sanders
Mr. Randy Thomas
Mr. Ken Wingate
Mr. Neal Workman
Dr. Mick Zais

Commission Members Absent

Col. John Bowden
Mr. Hood Temple

Staff Present

Ms. Rita Allison
Dr. Tina Anderson
Mr. Arik Bjorn
Mr. Michael Brown
Ms. Camille Brown
Ms. Julie Carullo
Ms. Lorinda Copeland
Ms. Sjanna Coriarty
Ms. Renea Eshleman
Mr. Gary Glenn
Ms. Alyson Goff
Dr. Paula Gregg
Ms. Deborah Henning
Ms. Yolanda Hudson
Ms. Lane Jeselnik
Ms. Marian Jones
Dr. Lynn Kelley
Ms. Lynn Metcalf
Mr. Clint Mullins
Dr. Mike Raley
Ms. De'Nitra Reese
Ms. Beth Rogers
Ms. Karen Wham
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Guests

Mr. Reggie Adams, S.C. State University
Ms. Candace Borchik, University of Phoenix
Ms. Donna Collins, USC - Columbia
Dr. Anthony Coyne, USC - Sumter
Mr. Dalton Floyd, S.C. Higher Education Foundation
Dr. Shirley Hauser, S.C. State University
Mr. Charles Jeffcoat, USC - Columbia
Ms. Karen Jones, Winthrop University
Mr. Scott Ludlow, State Technical System
Ms. Julie Lybrand, House Education & Public Works Committee
Mr. John Malmrose, Medical University of S.C.
Ms. Beth McInnis, Clemson University
Dr. Spike Metts, The Citadel
Mr. Steve Osborne, College of Charleston
Ms. Jennifer Pearce, Medical University of S.C.
Ms. Sandra Powers, College of Charleston
Ms. Susan Pryor, USC - Columbia
Mr. John Smalls, S.C. State University
Ms. Christine Smalls-Brown, Medical University of S.C.
Mr. Joe Taylor, S.C. Department of Commerce
Col. Don Tomasik, The Citadel
Dr. Aileen Trainer, USC - Columbia
Mr. Bob Wells, Clemson University
Mr. Bryce Wilson, S.C. Budget & Control Board
Dr. Dennis Wiseman, Coastal Carolina University

Members of the Press

none

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

1. Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Chairman McCurdy at approximately 10:30 a.m. Dr. Lynn Kelley introduced the guests all of whom are listed above and who were announced at the meeting.

2. Special Presentation

**Mr. Joe Taylor, Secretary,
S.C. Department of Commerce**

Dr. Layton McCurdy introduced and welcomed Secretary Taylor, noting that Secretary Taylor would be traveling to Charleston after leaving the Commission meeting for an event announcing the establishment of a \$600 million Google data center. In his presentation Secretary Taylor provided a snapshot on South Carolina's economy, citing several informative and impressive statistics. In summary, Secretary Taylor's remarks reflected on the importance of focusing on our strengths, accentuating our accomplishments, and developing ways to incentivize business development in South Carolina.

Chairman McCurdy thanked Secretary Taylor for his powerful message. He then introduced and welcomed new Commissioner, Randy Thomas, to his first meeting of the CHE.

3. Report on the Lightsey Society

**Dalton Floyd, President,
S.C. Higher Education Foundation**

Mr. Floyd began by encouraging a close relationship between the Commission and the S.C. Higher Education Foundation. He delivered a power point presentation (see **Attachment I**) which provided information about the purpose and function of both the Foundation and the Lightsey Society. Mr. Floyd commended Ms. Karen Wham for her hard work in planning and developing the Hall of Fame Banquet, at which the late Dr. Harry Lightsey will be honored. The banquet will take place on April 25, 2007. Chairman McCurdy thanked Mr. Floyd at the conclusion of his remarks, and he encouraged Commissioners to consider becoming members of the Lightsey Society.

4. Approval of Minutes

A **motion** was made (Horne), **seconded** (Workman), and **carried** to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2007, meeting.

5. Chairman's Report

- Layton McCurdy

Chairman McCurdy had no report, though he stated that the work of the CHE Executive Director Search Committee was moving forward.

6. Committee Reports

6.01 Report of the Executive Committee

- Layton McCurdy

The Executive Committee had no report.

6.02 Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

- Bettie Rose Horne

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing had no report.

6.03 Report of the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services

- Cynthia Mosteller

The Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services had no report, though Commissioner Mosteller commented that the Access & Equity Conference, which took place on March 28-30, 2007, was successful and well-attended. Chairman McCurdy noted that the Access & Equity and Student Services Committee would meet upon conclusion of the CHE meeting today, as would the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing.

6.04 Report of Committee on Finance and Facilities

- Daniel Ravenel

A. Consideration of Interim Capital Projects

1. Clemson University
 - ICAR Technology Neighborhood
 - One Plaza Construction
2. College of Charleston
 - 5 College Way Renovation
 - 7 College Way Renovation
 - 9 College Way Renovation
3. Medical University of S.C.
 - Hazardous Weather Upgrades
 - College of Nursing Clinical Teaching Lab Construction
4. S.C. State University
 - Lowman Hall Renovations
5. University of S. C. - Columbia
 - Athletic Master Plan Phase I Development
 - Band Hall and Dance Facility Construction
 - Patterson Hall Renovation
 - 1321 Pendleton Street Renovations
 - Omega II Research Facility Construction
 - Beta Research Facility Construction

B. Leases

1. Clemson University
 - Library Storage and Offices
2. Medical University of S.C.
 - 4295 Arco Lane

C. List of Staff Approvals for January 2006

Commissioner Ravenel reviewed the projects listed above, also described in **Attachment II**. He stated that each of the items had been unanimously approved by the Finance and Facilities Committee at their meeting on March 1, 2007.

Commissioner Forbes had a question about space utilization for the USC Band Hall and Dance Facility project. Ms. Lynn Metcalf then provided him with written information on that subject which had been considered at the March 1 committee meeting.

A **motion** was made (Ravenel) to collectively approve the following recommendation for each of the projects listed above with the exception of the Band Hall and Dance Facility Construction project:

The Committee on Finance and Facilities recommends approval of this project as proposed.

Commissioner Mosteller asked whether it is customary to have a guarantee letter on file as is the case with the USC Athletic Master Plan Phase I project. Ms. Lynn Metcalf responded that the Commission and the Budget and Control Board require a letter of guarantee for private funds or grant funds.

The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

Commissioner Ravenel asked Commissioner Forbes if he had had sufficient time to review the information given to him about the USC dance facility. Ms. Lynn Metcalf explained that the space will be highly utilized in that it will be used as a classroom facility as well as dance facility.

Commissioner Forbes had no questions for Mr. Charles Jeffcoat, one of the USC representatives present at the meeting, upon learning that the Finance Committee had unanimously approved this project.

This portion of the **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

Commissioner Ravenel described the lease renewals as noted on page 14 of **Attachment II**. A **motion** was made (Ravenel) and **carried** to collectively approve the following recommendation for each of the leases:

The Committee on Finance and Facilities recommends approval of this lease provided the rates and terms are approved by the Budget and Control Board.

Chairman McCurdy stated that the list of staff approvals for January 2007 as found on the last page of **Attachment II** was provided for information only.

7. Legislative Update

- Julie Carullo

Ms. Carullo noted she would be happy to answer questions Commissioners might have in response to weekly legislative updates and reported briefly on the status of the budget. She stated that the Senate Finance Committee will bring its recommendations forward next week and noted an amended schedule with the full Senate budget debate expected during the week of April 23 and Conference Committee during the week of May 14. Ms. Carullo also reported on the status of bills of interest. Ms. Carullo called to the Commissioners' attention an article and a report (**Attachment III**) included in their materials regarding the effect of tuition caps on an institution's bond ratings. She stated that the House has a provision in the budget which limits tuition increase to the higher education price index (HEPI) which is 5% and that full Senate Finance will consider this provision next week. It was noted that information about the April 26, 2007, Trustees Conference was included in their materials, and she encouraged Commissioners to attend. In conclusion, Ms. Carullo stated that a CHE newsletter and should be ready for distribution by mail shortly.

8. Other Business

(none)

9. Adjournment

A **motion** was made (**Ravenel**), **seconded** (Horne), and **carried** to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth B. Rogers

Beth B. Rogers

Recording Secretary

Attachments I - III

*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.