

**SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

1333 Main Street, Suite 200

Columbia, SC 29201

*Minutes of the Meeting*

October 5, 2006

**Commission Members Present**

Dr. Layton McCurdy, Chairman  
Dr. Doug Forbes  
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne  
Dr. Louis Lynn  
Mr. Dan Ravenel  
Mr. Jim Sanders  
Mr. Hood Temple  
Mr. Neal Workman  
Mr. Ken Wingate  
Dr. Mick Zais

**Commission Members Absent**

Col. John Bowden  
Ms. Cyndi Mosteller

**Staff Present**

Ms. Rita Allison  
Dr. James Atkins  
Ms. Julie Carullo  
Ms. Renea Eshleman  
Ms. Alyson Goff  
Mr. Gary Glenn  
Dr. Paula Gregg  
Dr. Lynn Kelley  
Ms. Lynn Metcalf  
Dr. Gail Morrison  
Mr. Clint Mullins  
Ms. Beth Rogers  
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

**Guests**

Dr. Reginald Avery, USC - Upstate  
Dr. Rayburn Barton, USC - Beaufort  
Dr. Bob Becker, Clemson University  
Dr. Charles Bierbauer, USC - Columbia  
Ms. Rosemary Byerly, former Commissioner  
Dr. Stephen Byerly  
Ms. Kathy Coleman, Clemson University

Dr. David Farris, USC - Upstate  
Mr. Carl Fisher, Beta Tech  
Mr. Stephen Gosnell, Clemson University  
Dr. John Hakkila, College of Charleston  
Dr. Samantha Hastings, USC - Columbia  
Dr. Tom Higerd, MUSC  
Mr. Barry Hill, Beta Tech  
Dr. John Jackson, Clemson University  
Ms. Karen Jones, Winthrop University  
Dr. Richard LeBoeuf, USC - Upstate  
Ms. Angie Leidinger, Clemson University  
Dr. Sandra Lemoine, Lander University  
Mr. Scott Ludlow, State Technical System  
Dr. Leonard Lundquist, Lander University  
Ms. Beth McInnis, Clemson University  
Dr. Kay Poston, South University  
Dr. Jeff Priest, USC - Aiken  
Dr. Robert Schemel, South University  
Dr. Rita Teal, SC State University  
Ms. Kerrie Tobias-Roth, Miller-Motte Technical College  
Dr. Robert Schemel, South University  
Dr. Aileen Trainer, USC - Columbia  
Ms. Catherine Watt, Clemson University  
Mr. James Weaver, Miller-Motte Technical College  
Dr. Fran Welch, College of Charleston  
Ms. Debbie Wiggins, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
Dr. Susan Williams, USC - Beaufort  
Dr. Pat Zungoli, Clemson University

**Members of the Press**

none

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

**1. Introductions**

**- Lynn Kelley**

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

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Chairman McCurdy asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on September 7, 2006. A **motion** was made (Horne), **seconded** (Wingate), and **carried** to approve the minutes as written.

**3. Chairman's Report**

**- Layton McCurdy**

Commissioner Ravenel recognized former Commissioner, Rosemary Byerly, and her husband, Dr. Stephen Byerly. He thanked Ms. Byerly for her many years of dedicated work with the Commission and presented to her, on behalf of Governor Sanford, the Order of the Palmetto award. Ms. Byerly expressed her gratitude for the award and for the opportunity to have been of service.

Chairman McCurdy provided a report on the Commissioners' Retreat of the previous day. Priorities discussed at the retreat which need to be addressed in South Carolina, as well as nationally, include: 1) communication and collaboration between higher education and K-12; 2) adult literacy; 3) US college attainment rate; 4) per student higher education expenditures; and 5) the percentage of college graduates proficient in prose literacy.

Chairman McCurdy explained that the \$45 million which the CHE is requesting this year for the state's institutions, a topic discussed at the retreat, is the figure arrived at by taking the current appropriations and adding the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI) plus 1.5%. He stated that part of the reason for the increase is that, since FY 2000-01, state dollars appropriated for institutional operations have declined by 17%, while FTE enrollment has increased by 15%.

**4. Committee Reports**

**4.01 Report of the Executive Committee**

(No report)

**4.02 Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing**

**- Bettie Rose Horne**

**A. Consideration of New Program Proposals**

1. B.S., Soils and Sustainable Crop Systems, Clemson
2. B.A., Middle Level Education, USC - Aiken
3. B.S., Astrophysics/B.A., Astronomy, College of Charleston
4. B.S.N, Nursing, USC - Beaufort
5. B.S., Engineering Technology Management, USC - Upstate
6. B.S., Information Science, USC - Columbia
7. Center for Partnership to Improve Education, College of Charleston
8. Center for Montessori Education, Lander University

Commissioner Horne thanked all those at Clemson University, particularly Dr. Doris Helms, for the tour of the campus conducted earlier in the morning for Commissioners and CHE staff. She reported that her committee had rigorously reviewed all aspects of the academic programs referenced above and described in **Attachments I - VIII**, prior to bringing them to the full Commission.

Dr. Horne requested that for each program the institutional representatives briefly explain the program and then respond to any questions.

A **motion** was made (Horne) to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve Clemson University's proposed program leading to the B.S. degree in Soils and Sustainable Crop Systems to be implemented in Fall 2007, provided that no "unique cost" or other special state funding be required or requested.

Representing Clemson, Dr. Doris Helms provided a brief summary of this program. The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

A **motion** was made (Horne) to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve USC - Aiken's proposed program leading to a Bachelor's degree in Middle Level Education to be implemented in Spring 2007, provided that no "unique cost" or other special state funding be required or requested and provided further that the program be approved by the State Board of Education.

Representing USC - Aiken, Dr. Jeff Priest provided a brief summary of this program. The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

A **motion** was made (Horne) to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve the College of Charleston's proposed program leading to the B.S. degree in Astrophysics and the B.A. degree in Astronomy to be implemented in Fall 2007, provided that no additional "unique cost" or other special state funding be required or requested, and provided that the Astronomy concentration within the B.S. in Physics program will be terminated upon the implementation of this new program.

Representing the College of Charleston, Dr. John Hakkila provided a brief summary of this program. In response to Commissioner Ravenel's question, Dr. Hakkila stated that the relative emphasis on mathematics was the principal difference between the two degrees being proposed. The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

A **motion** was made (Horne) to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve USC - Beaufort's proposed program leading to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree with a major in Nursing through two tracks: the BSN-Completion track, to be implemented in Fall 2007; and the BSN-Generic track, to be implemented in Fall 2008, provided that no "unique cost" or special state funding be

required or requested; and provided also that the Generic track receives State Board of Nursing approval prior to the matriculation of students into it in Fall 2008; and provided further that the program of study receives Collegiate Council on Nursing Education (CCNE) accreditation within the first five years of its implementation.

Representing USC - Beaufort, Dr. Rayburn Barton provided a brief summary of this program. Chairman McCurdy inquired as to whether the program had been accredited yet. Dr. Barton responded it had not, but that USC - Beaufort's nursing consultant, Dr. Susan Williams, would be working on the accreditation process over the course of the next year. The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

A **motion** was made (Horne) to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve USC-Upstate's proposed program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Technology Management at the Spartanburg campus and the University Center in Greenville, to be implemented in Fall 2006, provided that no "unique cost" or special state funding be required or requested.

Representing USC-Upstate, Dr. Reginald Avery provided a brief summary of the program. Commissioner Lynn asked if graduates of this program would be eligible for certification as professional engineers. The response given was that this degree qualifies the graduate for a Tier B licensure in South Carolina and that it is geared toward producing managers as opposed to preparing students for graduate study. The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

A **motion** was made (Horne) to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve USC-Columbia's proposed program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Information Science, to be implemented in Fall 2007, provided that no "unique cost" or special state funding be required or requested.

Representing USC-Columbia, Dr. Charles Bierbauer and Dr. Samantha Hastings provided a brief summary of the program. The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

A **motion** was made (Horne) to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve the College of Charleston's proposed program for the Center for Partnerships to Improve Education at the College of Charleston to be implemented immediately upon Commission approval, provided that the Center delivers an annual report to CHE staff on outcomes and research.

Representing the College of Charleston, Dr. Fran Welch provided a brief description of the program. The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

A **motion** was made (Horne) to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission

approve the proposed program for the Center for Montessori Education at Lander University, to be implemented immediately upon Commission approval.

Representing Lander University, Dr. Leonard Lundquist provided a brief summary of the program. The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**. It was noted that Lander University has the only certified program of Montessori education at a public institution in South Carolina.

#### **B. Consideration of Initial Licenses:**

1. Initial License: A.O.S., Criminal Justice, Beta Tech, Columbia, SC
2. A.S., Professional Aeronautics and Technical Management; B.S. Aviation Maintenance Management, Professional Aeronautics, and Technical Management; Master of Aeronautical Science; and M.S., Management, Project Management, and Technical Management, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Greenville, SC

A **motion** was made (Horne) to approve the initial license of Beta Tech as listed above.

Representing Beta Tech, Mr. Carl Fisher provided a brief summary of its program, more detail about which may be found in **Attachment IX**. The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

A **motion** was made (Horne) to approve the initial licenses of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Representing Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Ms. Debbie Wiggins provided a brief summary of their programs, as described in **Attachment X**. The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**. It was noted that this is Embry-Riddle's first license in South Carolina.

#### **C. Consideration of Amendments to Existing License:**

1. M.B.A. and M.S., Criminal Justice, South University, Columbia, SC
2. A.A.S., Health Information Technology and Respiratory Therapy, Miller-Motte Technical College, Charleston, SC

A **motion** was made (Horne) to approve an amendment to the existing license of South University to permit the programs of study to be offered at the site listed above.

Representing South University, Dr. Kay Poston, and Dr. Robert Schemel provided a brief summary of their programs, as described in **Attachment XI**. The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

A **motion** was made (Horne) to approve an amendment to the existing license of Miller-Motte Technical College as listed above.

Representing Miller-Motte Technical College, Mr. James Weaver, and Ms. Kerrie Tobias-Roth provided a brief summary of the degree programs for which Miller-Motte

is requesting licensure, as described in **Attachment XII**. It was reiterated that their request is for two separate associate degrees. The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

**D. Consideration of Centers of Excellence (Teacher Education) Budget Allocations, FY 2006-07, and Appropriations Request, FY 2007-08**

A **motion** was made (Horne) to approve the above-referenced budget allocations and appropriations request which are described in **Attachment XIII**. Dr. Gail Morrison provided additional information about the process by which these figures are developed. It was noted that allocations are pro-rated if the monies provided are not adequate for full funding. The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

**E. Consideration of New *Guidelines* for Centers of Excellence (Teacher Education) Competitive Grants Program, FY 2007-08**

A **motion** was made (Horne) and **carried** to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve these *Guidelines* for Centers of Excellence Competitive Grants Program (Teacher Education), Project Year 2007-08.

Detailed information about these guidelines may be found in **Attachment XIV**. Discussion took place about whether the Committee should have the authority to approve these guidelines rather than the full Commission. Commissioner Ravenel stated that the Commission should have the opportunity to review changes in order to remain familiar with the guidelines.

**F. Consideration of New *Guidelines* for Improving Teacher Quality Competitive Grants Program, FY 2007-08.**

A **motion** was made (Horne) and **carried** to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve the Guidelines for Improving Teacher Quality Competitive Grants Program, FY 2007-08.

Detailed information about these guidelines may be found in **Attachment XV**.

**G. Consideration of Annual Report of English Fluency Act, FY 2005-06**

A **motion** was made (Horne) to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve this report and transmit copies of it, as required by law, to the appropriate chairpersons of the Education Committees of the General Assembly.

In keeping with the Commission's decision of October 6, 2005, copies of this report sent to the leaders of the General Assembly will include a request that the legislative leadership consider amending this law to make institutional reporting on this Act less

than once per academic year.

Detailed information about this report may be found in **Attachment XVI**. Discussion followed the presentation of the report and motion. Several Commissioners noted how few violations had been identified over the time period of the legislation's existence. It was noted that only two institutions were not in full compliance with the publication of the required student information under the law and Commission policy in the 2005-06 academic year. The **motion** was then brought to the table and **carried**.

#### **H. Report on Compliance Rates for First-Time Entering Freshmen Meeting All High School Course Prerequisites, FY 2005-06**

A **motion** was made (Horne) to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission require The Citadel, Coastal Carolina, Lander, South Carolina State, USC-Aiken, USC-Beaufort, USC-Upstate, and Winthrop to submit plans of action to increase the rates of compliance with the pre-college curriculum requirements for entering freshman classes of Fall 2007, Fall 2008, and Fall 2009, said plans of action to be approved and monitored for implementation and effectiveness by Commission staff.

Detailed information about this report may be found in **Attachment XVII**. Dr. Paula Gregg explained that this information was provided as a result of a report delivered in May 2006 and that the Commission will continue to work with the institutions to increase their rates of compliance. Dr. Horne noted that USC-Beaufort had done a particularly good job of analyzing what their problems in this regard are and has developed measurable steps to address them.

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

#### **I. Consideration of Revisions to College Course Prerequisites**

A **motion** was made (Horne) to approve the following **recommendation**:

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve the proposed revised College Preparatory Course Prerequisite requirements, to become effective for high school graduates entering as freshmen in Fall 2011 in South Carolina's public four-year institutions.

Dr. Gail Morrison explained the proposed changes as described in Attachment **XVIII**. Commissioner Horne stated that this was an important step in aligning South Carolina with the rest of the nation. She noted that President Hugine of SC State University had expressed serious concerns about the impact of these revisions on his students but with certain small adjustments in language had agreed with the final version reported here. Commissioner Horne thanked him for his endorsement and support of the proposed revisions. Commissioner Wingate inquired as to whether the Department of Education had been included in the development of these revisions, and Dr. Morrison stated that CHE had worked in collaboration with K-12. Commissioner Lynn asked why it was necessary to wait until 2011 to implement these revisions. Dr. Morrison explained that this will have to be phased in and applied to students entering as

freshman in 2007 due to course sequencing of students currently attending high school.

After all programs had been approved, discussion followed. Commissioner Forbes asked how many programs had been considered and rejected prior to the ones that had been presented for approval at today's Commission meeting. Commissioner Horne explained that programs with problems are usually eliminated by CHE staff prior to Committee review, and Dr. Morrison provided detail about staff participation in the process of program approval. She explained that the rigorous review of proposals results in some being withdrawn by the institution, rather than going forward to the Commission with a negative staff recommendation. Commissioner Horne recommended that the document containing guidelines for submitting new programs to the CHE be shared electronically with the Commissioners.

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

Commissioner Sanders commented that it appeared the programs presented at the meeting for approval were more closely aligned with their Mission Resource Requirements and inquired if there was a particular reason for that. Dr. Morrison replied, stating that these programs were all at the bachelor's level which generates more revenue because of larger participation. She further stated that increased tuition is a contributing factor and that at least two of these programs were also receiving outside funding.

#### **4.03 Report of the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services**

(No Report.)

#### **4.04 Report of the Committee on Finance and Facilities**

(No Report.)

### **5. Presentation from Strom Thurmond Institute on Projects and Opportunities**

#### **for Collaboration**

**- Dr. Bob Becker**

Dr. Becker began by emphasizing the importance of higher education to the wealth of South Carolina and stated that the attainment of higher education must be aggressively enhanced. He then introduced Ms. Catherine Watt, Director of a new group at the institute known as the Alliance for Research on Higher Education. Ms. Watt said the mission of this new group is to serve as a state, regional, and national resource for information on the relationship between higher education and the state's economy. Additional detail about the Alliance may be found in **Attachment XIX**.

Commissioner Forbes asked if there is a way to determine if institutional admissions requirements which require higher SAT scores are preventing South Carolina's high school graduates from staying in the state to attend college. He also asked if it was possible to project how many graduates of South Carolina's colleges remain in the state. Ms. Watt responded that Clemson's enrollment model can help determine the number of South Carolina high school graduates who go on to attend college in the state, though projecting the number of college graduates who remain in South Carolina is a bit more challenging. Dr. McCurdy stated that Dr. Becker had suggested giving tax credits to college graduates who remain in South Carolina as an incentive. Commissioner Ravenel emphasized the need to be able to track the state's college graduates. Commissioner Sanders inquired as to whether there are legal restraints on

tracking graduates. Ms. Watt replied that if aggregate numbers are considered, privacy concerns are not an issue. Commissioner Horne expressed her frustration about the creation of various task forces over the years which have studied the needs and concerns of higher education in South Carolina, yet have not really moved forward with any significant results. Ms. Watt replied that the Alliance plans to begin its work with the questions raised by the recent report of the 2006 Governor's Higher Education Task Force. Discussion followed.

## 6. Legislative Update

- Rita Allison

Ms. Allison reported that several legislative issues were discussed at the CHE retreat which took place on the previous day. She stated that the Governor's budget is in the process of being developed, and that Dr. Morrison would be meeting with the Governor's policy staff about CHE's budget requests next week. Ms. Allison reported that upcoming elections would bring changes and that the House of Representatives would be re-organizing in early December. She stated that an editorial in *The State* newspaper today positively reflected the work of the Governor's Higher Education Task Force. She commented that we are in a time in the legislative process where collaborative efforts should be made regarding the future of higher education in South Carolina. Ms. Allison also stated that the CHE's report on the status of state scholarships is forthcoming.

## 7. Report of the Executive Director

Dr. Morrison thanked Clemson University, President Barker, Provost Helms, Ms. Angie Leidinger, and Ms. Beth McInnis for their generous hospitality in hosting this meeting as well as the CHE retreat. She reflected on the tour of the Clemson campus, led by Dr. Helms, as a "walking through time" experience in which glimpses of unimagined places in the future were revealed.

## 8. Other Business

Commissioner Wingate asked for a brief report from the Executive Director Search Committee. A **motion** was then made (McCurdy), **seconded** (Horne), and **carried** for the Commission to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

## 9. Adjournment

CHE members returned to the meeting after Executive Session and no further action was taken. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Beth B. Rogers*

Beth B. Rogers  
Recording Secretary

Attachments I - XIX

\*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.