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Governor Mark Sanford has announced the appointment of Charles Brannon Thomas, Jr., MD, representing the Research Institutions, as the newest Commissioner to the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education.

Dr. Thomas has practiced orthopaedic surgery in Greenville for the past twenty years. He graduated from the University of South Carolina with a BS in Psychology. He received a BS in Pharmacy and an M.D. in addition to completing residency in orthopaedic surgery at the Medical University of South Carolina. He has served on the Board of Trustees of Medical University of South Carolina since 1996 and is the current chairman. He is the Chief Medical Officer of the Village Hospital of Greer, South Carolina and the medical director of the Ambulatory Surgery Center at Pelham.

The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education serves as the state's coordinating board for higher education. Its mission is to promote quality and efficiency in the state system of higher education with the goal of fostering economic growth and human development in South Carolina. Information about current activities of the Commission and higher education in South Carolina can be found on the agency's website: [www.che.sc.gov](http://www.che.sc.gov)

