

**The S.C. Commission on Higher Education
1333 Main Street, Suite 200
Columbia, SC 29201**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 12, 2007**

**Contact: Rita Allison
Director of Communications
Phone: 803-767-8352 (cell)**

Garrison Walters Named Executive Director of the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

Dr. Garrison Walters has accepted the position of Executive Director of the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education. Walters will assume his new responsibilities at the Commission beginning July 9, 2007.

Dr. Walters brings to the state a wealth of experience in administration and academia. Since 1985, he has worked at the State of Ohio Board of Regents serving as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Economic Development and more recently as Interim Chancellor. In spite of its title, the Ohio Board is a coordinating body for higher education much like the Commission. Before working for the Ohio Board, Dr. Walters served in a variety of academic and administrative positions. Over the past five years, Dr. Walters has served on the South Carolina Centers of Economic Excellence On-Site Review Panel, chairing the Panel for the past three years. A copy of Dr. Walters' curriculum vitae will be posted on the Commission's website at www.che.sc.gov.

Dr. Layton McCurdy, Chairman of the Commission on Higher Education, stated: "During Dr. Walters' twenty-plus years of experience as an administrator in the Ohio higher education system, he has demonstrated significant success in working with the universities and colleges, state government and the business community. We are very fortunate to have recruited him."

In accepting the position, Dr. Walters remarked that he has become aware through recent visits to South Carolina of the exceptional leadership in the state's higher education system as well as in its political and business communities. He noted that South Carolina has made many highly effective choices in recent years and is looking forward to helping to leverage these decisions to move the state toward leadership in the 21st Century knowledge based economy. Dr. Walters is enthusiastic about beginning a partnership with the Commission, with college and university leaders, and with South Carolina's government and business communities as we shape new ideas and initiatives to improve the state's economy and quality of life in the coming years.

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 web site, www.che.sc.gov.