



2009

Commission on Higher Education Update Vol 4, Issue 1, July

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A Note from the Executive Director

Dr. Garrison Walters

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Dates to Remember

CHE Meetings: The full Commission meets regularly the first Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m. unless otherwise noted. The agenda and materials are posted prior to the meetings and are available at www.che.sc.gov. The remainder of the 2009 schedule follows:

- August 5 & 6 *
- September 3
- October 1
- November 5
- December 3

* CHE Meeting and College and University Presidents' Presentations.

Release of Report on the Return on Investment in South Carolina Higher Education
August 19, 2009

The 2009 S.C. Conference for Trustees Conference (by Invitation)
September 29, 2009

2009 Professor of the Year Awards
November 5, 2009

The Linda B. Floyd Campus Safety Conference, Charleston, S.C.
February 17-19, 2010

Creating an Education Culture

A recent report by the College Board, *Coming to Our Senses: Education and the American Future*¹, is one of the best documents that I've read in several decades of working in higher education at the state level. The report avoids the hand-wringing and overwrought rhetoric that is too common these days, instead zeroing in on the key issues, providing precise, pragmatic, and carefully described prescriptions for change. These characteristics, together with the fact that the study is lavishly documented, are sure to make it a touchstone in our country's struggle to compete in the knowledge economy. I encourage you to read it.

Despite my unreserved praise for *Coming to Our Senses*, there is one additional recommendation I wish had been included: the need to create a pervasive education culture.

The data advanced in this report clearly demonstrate that America, to borrow from C.P. Snow, has become a country of two cultures. The first believes deeply that education is essential for success in a world where knowledge is the principal currency.

In the second culture, the conviction that education can make a real difference is far weaker. America's second culture is woven from many threads of which two predominate.

A first group comprises those who want the best for their children, but whose experience is that opportunity for social and economic advancement through education is more abstract than real. In this first group are people whose ancestors endured generations of poverty and discrimination and who in consequence continue to fear that their children are unlikely to get a fair chance in society, whatever their level of education.

People in this part of the second culture are under chronic, crushing financial stress. Because every income is critical to survival, they often see even poorly paid work as a more secure option than the distant and (to them) unlikely chance that their children will have a real opportunity to graduate from college with a higher earning potential. Their fears are magnified when they face the debt that comes with student loans. To illustrate, a recent study shows that minority parents have about the same understanding of the importance of college as those in the majority, but have a far lower belief that college is truly a feasible option for their children.

The other major part of the second culture is found in our widely distributed manufacturing communities. Despite the fact that the United States' decline in manufacturing began over twenty years ago, many in these communities still believe that the good old days of stable, well-paid work at the factory or mill will somehow come back. To educated people who have read *The World is Flat*, this kind of thinking seems surprising. But, in the millions of families where generation after generation prospered in manufacturing and related industries (including mills), this worldview is real and pervasive. To a considerable extent, it is the perspective of manufacturing areas that has given the United States one of its most serious problems: the separation of learning from schooling. Americans were among the first to require education of all children and, as the length of compulsory schooling was extended in the early twentieth century, the rationale in manufacturing areas was often not to impart more learning but instead to

(Continued on Page 2)

Executive Director's Message Continued from Page 1 . . .

keep young people out of the workforce. As a result, unlike almost all other nations, we Americans have schools that are preoccupied with their role as social centers for youth. Far too many Americans of both cultures think it is important for children to complete school but don't seriously believe that learning is the most important thing they will do there—consider as evidence the large numbers of high school graduates from affluent communities who are consigned to remedial courses when they enter college.

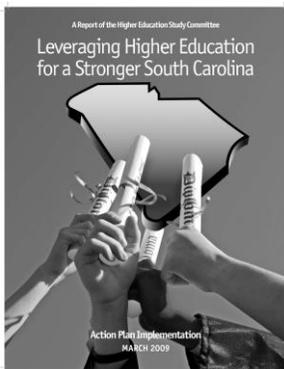
So, if the *Coming to Our Senses* report had an eleventh recommendation, how might it read?

#11 Create a pervasive education culture, one where learning is considered among the highest social values. The recommendation could go on to suggest activities that are known to work and research for areas where we must learn more.

Following through on the ten recommendations advanced by the *Coming to Our Senses* report is essential to America's future. Unfortunately, success in these ten areas is dependent on our achieving the eleventh—the creation of a pervasive education culture. CHE is deeply engaged in this issue—more on that in an upcoming issue.

¹ *Coming to Our Senses: Education and the American Future* is a report of the College Board's Commission on Access, Admissions and Success in Higher Education that was released in December 2008. A copy is available at <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/profdownload/coming-to-our-senses-college-board-2008.pdf>

Higher Education Study Committee Releases its Final Report



At a press conference in April, the Higher Education Study Committee (HESC), released its final report, *Leveraging Higher Education for A Stronger South Carolina: Action Plan Implementation*, to the General Assembly and passed the baton to CHE for implementation.

The HESC, which was authorized in 2007 with the passage of proviso FY 2007-08 Appropriations Act and continued in FY 2008-09, was a nine-member committee appointed by the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the chairs of the Senate and House finance and education committees. Mr. Daniel Ravenel of Charleston chaired the committee and was joined by Mr. J. Boone Aiken, III, Esquire, of Florence; Colonel Claude Eichelberger of Camden; The Honorable Jerry N. Govan, Jr., House District 95, Orangeburg County; Dr. Doris R. Helms of Clemson; Mr. Scott Ludlow of Liberty; Mr. Robert W. Marlowe of Charleston; Layton McCurdy, M.D., of Charleston; and Dr. John E. Montgomery of Columbia.

The Committee's work represents the culmination of efforts that have involved hundreds of committed citizens representing education, the military, government, and business and industry who have invested thousands of thoughtful hours to considering what the collective goals of our higher education system should be and what strategies might be pursued to attain them. The final report builds on the Committee's initial framework report, *Leveraging Higher Education for a Stronger South Carolina: The Action Plan Framework*, that was released in September and outlined four goals for higher education and provided the context for the importance of achieving these goals for the future success and competitiveness of South Carolina. The four goals are:

- Goal 1: Making South Carolina One of the Most Educated States
- Goal 2: Increasing Research and Innovation in South Carolina
- Goal 3: Increasing Workforce Training and Educational Services in South Carolina
- Goal 4: Realizing South Carolina's Potential Resources and Effectiveness



Mr. Daniel Ravenel presents the final HESC report at the April press conference. Mr. Otis Rawl, President and CEO of the State Chamber of Commerce, (shown left of Mr. Ravenel) made welcoming remarks.



House Education & Public Works Chairman, Philip Owens, makes remarks at the April press conference. Mr. Ken Wingate, CHE chair (shown at left), and Senate Education Chairman, John Courson, (shown next to Mr. Wingate) also participated in the event by making remarks in accepting the report.

The Committee's final report provides clear direction for higher education in the *Action Plan's* six-year time frame by outlining specific strategies and recommendations for achieving the goals. These strategies include implementing now or in the near future those parts of the plan that involve little or no additional expenditure of state appropriations.

Information is also provided in the Committee's final report on the striking payoff for South Carolina if we forge ahead to increase significantly the education levels of the state's citizens. Additional details will be available on **August 19** when the Moore School of Business, which undertook a study in conjunction with HESC, will release its final study on *The Return on Economic Investment in South Carolina Higher Education*. Stay tuned for more information on the upcoming release.

For a copy of the report and additional information. Please visit CHE's website at http://www.che.sc.gov/HigherEd_ActionPlan.htm.

CHE News of Note . . .

★ CHE welcomed a new chair and three new Commissioners during the year. **Mr. Kenneth B. Wingate** of Columbia was appointed **Chair**. **Mr. Wingate** succeeds Layton McCurdy, M.D. of Charleston who resigned after completing his four-year term as chair. **Mr. Charles “Chuck” Talbert III** of Spartanburg joined the Commission as the 4th Congressional District Representative succeeding Mr. Randy Thomas. **Mr. Guy C. Tarrant** of Charleston was appointed to the Statewide At-Large seat which Mr. Wingate held prior to his appointment as chair. **Charles B. Thomas, Jr., M.D.**, was appointed as the Research Institutions’ Representative. Dr. Thomas, who is the current chair of the Medical University of S.C. Board of Trustees, replaces Dr. Louis Lynn, a Clemson Board of Trustees member. Members of the Commission are appointed by the Governor upon recommendation of a Congressional District delegation or confirmation of the SC State Senate.

★ **2008 Professors of the Year** were announced at a press conference in November. Dr. Sharon Howell Thompson, Professor and Coordinator of Health Promotion at Coastal Carolina University was recognized for four-year colleges and universities, and Charles Wilson of Greenville Technical College was recognized for two-year colleges. The S.C. Higher Education Foundation sponsored a luncheon in honor of the Professors and the Distinguished Professors who were nominated for the award by their institutions. Institutions have been invited to submit nominations for the 2009 Professors of the Year. Awards will be presented November 5, 2009. The S.C. Higher Education Foundation will again sponsor a luncheon in honor of the professors. For additional details see www.che.sc.gov/AcademicAffairs/POY/Professor.htm.

★ **2008-09 Service Learning Awards** were presented in March. Awarded annually, CHE’s Service Learning Award recognizes institutions in the state that best represent the integration of student learning with community service. Award winners are chosen in three categories: public four-year institutions, public two-year institutions, and independent institutions. This year’s winners are: Lessons of the Heart (dental clinic program), Greenville Technical College in Partnership with the Medical University of S.C.; Advancing Rural Community Health Program, Francis Marion University; and Student Volunteer Income Tax Program, Voorhees College. For more information about these awards, including descriptions of award winners and the nomination form for the upcoming year, please visit www.che.sc.gov/AcademicAffairs/SerLrnAwd/default.htm.

Nominations for the Service Learning Award for the 2009-2010 year will be accepted until January 15, 2010.

★ **Licensing Activities:** CHE licenses institutions that operate or solicit students in the state. Generally, institutions fall into one of three categories: (1) they are chartered in South Carolina; (2) their main campus is out-of-state and they have an on-ground branch in South Carolina; or (3) they are out-of-state and recruit South Carolina residents. In the fiscal year 2008-09, CHE licensed 12 new institutions, three of which were degree-granting institutions, and also approved new degree programs at five previously licensed institutions.

★ CHE’s Division of Academic Affairs and Licensing created a **Dual Enrollment Guidance Brochure or a transfer guide for dual enrollment students** that lists only the courses that will transfer to any public institution in the state. This guide will help ensure that high school students taking college courses will select courses that will count toward a degree program rather than as electives. This guide will be distributed to high schools in the fall and is available at www.che.sc.gov/AcademicAffairs/TRANSFER/DualEnroll.pdf

★ CHE plans to launch a pilot program for **College Application Week** in November 2009 to assist students at seven high schools around the state with the college application process. Specific attention will be given to low-income and first-generation college students. A statewide College Application Week is being planned for November 2010.

★ On May 13, 2009, the **Centers of Economic Excellence (CoEE)** Review Board granted awards totaling \$11 million for the creation of three new Centers of Economic Excellence: Tissue Systems Characterization CoEE at Clemson University (\$3 million, 1 CoEE chair); Lipidomics, Pathobiology and Therapy CoEE at Medical University of South Carolina (\$5 million, 2 CoEE chairs); and Nuclear Science Strategies CoEE at USC (\$3 million, 1 CoEE chair). To date, the CoEE Review Board has awarded \$183.6 million for the creation of 45 Centers of Economic Excellence and 79 unique CoEE endowed professorships—of which 22 have already been appointed, including the only two members of the National Academy of Science and the National Academy of Engineering working in the state. Thus far, the institutions have raised more than \$142 million in non-state matching pledges for the CoEE program, of which more than \$100 million has entered the state economy. An additional \$122 million in extramural research awards has entered the state as the direct result of CoEE research. To learn more about CoEE, visit www.sccoe.org.

★ CHE Student Services staff worked during the year with colleges and universities in implementing provision of the SC Illegal Immigration Reform Act of 2008. CHE and the Department of Motor Vehicles are working in cooperation to develop and implement a verification process for use in assisting institutions in determining the legal status of many students.

★ The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) and the **State Approving Agency for Veterans’ Education and Training**, which is staffed by CHE, worked with the approved colleges and universities in conducting three mini conferences to provide further understanding regarding the new Chapter of the GI Bill post-9/11 (Chapter 33). These conferences, hosted regionally by USC-Upstate, Charleston Southern University, and South University, provided Veteran Administrators from Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL), Non-College Degree Institutions, and local/county Veterans Affairs Offices an overview of the new GI bill Educational Benefits. As of June 17, 2009, thirteen colleges and universities have a contract with the DVA to participate in the Yellow Ribbon program. For a state by state listing of the colleges and universities that are approved for the Yellow Ribbon Program please see the website: http://www.gibill.va.gov/GI_Bill_Info/CH33/yrrp/yrrp_list.htm.

★ **SC GEAR UP** has recently partnered with Central Carolina Technical College, Clemson University, Coker College, Florence-Darlington Technical College, Francis Marion University, Midlands Technical College, Technical College of the Lowcountry, Trident Technical College, and USC Columbia to provide a variety of programs/workshops for our SC GEAR UP schools. Trident Technical College held its annual GEAR UP Career Day in March. The event was attended by approximately 1800 students and chaperones from 30 area high schools, five of which were SC GEAR UP schools. SC GEAR UP, in partnership with Governor’s School for Science and Math, recently sponsored a Summer Academy for teachers and tutors in the 17 SC GEAR UP high schools. The purpose of the Academy is to offer high quality professional development to GEAR UP teachers in Algebra I, Geometry, Science Inquiry and Technology, English/language arts, and Tutor/Mentoring content. Based on South Carolina Curriculum Standards, all course content and instruction will provide relevant and current information to aid teachers in their schools. Recent data on SC GEAR UP schools show that compared to similar surrounding schools, SC GEAR UP schools have proven success with participating students. To learn more about SC GEAR UP and for additional information on these items and other GEAR UP news, please visit www.scgearup.org.

Legislative News



The 2009 session of the General Assembly marked the first year of the two-year continuing session. The session ended two weeks early on May 21 after work on the state's FY 2009-10 budget was completed. The General Assembly returned for one day on June 16 before adjourning the session under provisions of a sine die resolution, [S.834](#). The following provides highlights for higher education from the 2009 session.

Appropriations

The state's budget, both the 2008-09 fiscal year and the 2009-10 year under consideration, predominated discussions as the state and nation's economy faltered. Federal legislation, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), aimed at getting the U.S. economy back on track also received considerable attention. The ARRA was signed into law by President Obama on February 17 and provides states with the opportunity for significant federal funds across various areas of government, including education, over the next two years.

In FY 2008-09, state agencies faced budget reductions almost from the start of the fiscal year. By October, the General Assembly returned to Columbia for a special session to address diminishing state revenues and passed a budget rescission bill amending the FY 2008-09 appropriations. The October rescission bill contained targeted reductions to state programs including higher education. Colleges and universities, which had already experienced a 3 percent reduction in state general funds heading into FY 2008-09, saw funding reduced in October by an additional 15 percent. CHE and other higher education programs that flow through CHE as well as Tuition Grants administration experienced similar reductions. Further reductions followed including an across-the-board cut of 7 percent in December and an additional 2 percent reduction in March. In all, the cuts left state general funds for colleges and universities down \$181 million or 24% from the prior year and at a level of \$577 million (a funding level not experienced since 1994). A nationwide report released in January showed S.C. colleges compared to other state colleges had experienced the largest drop in state funding.

Spared in cuts were the state's merit- and need-based scholarship and grant programs. While funding for state scholarships and grants was exempted from cuts, the CoEE program was not. In order to provide for LIFE scholarships, a shift in a portion of funds for LIFE from general funds to lottery funds resulted in the elimination of the CoEE FY 2008-09 lottery appropriation of \$10 million. It was noted in the deliberations that the choice to eliminate funding to this important program was difficult and done so in light of 2008 statutory changes that enable accrued program interest to be used for new centers.

The General Assembly struggled with FY 2009-10 considerations as revenue expectations fell. A lengthy debate ensued between the General Assembly and Governor over the appropriation of federal ARRA funds, in particular those available to states for education and government services (federal state fiscal stabilization funds). In the end, state appropriations included these funds in Part III of the budget which prompted lawsuits including one filed by the Governor. After losing legal challenges and given a mandate by the State Supreme Court, the Governor submitted S.C.'s application which was approved on July 1. The approved application provides S.C. with \$625 million of its expected \$694 million stabilization fund allocation. The remainder will be made available to S.C. based on an application to be submitted later this fall.

In light of federal stabilization fund eligibility requirements pertaining to K-12 and higher education funding levels, recurring base funding appropriated for FY 2009-10 for higher education was not reduced

further from March FY 2008-09 levels. In FY 2009-10, the federal stabilization funds will provide approximately \$100 million to colleges and universities with additional funds made available next year. The funds were distributed relative to the budget shortfalls.

Also in the FY 2009-10 budget, state scholarship and grant programs continue to be fully funded. Merit-based programs (Palmetto Fellows, LIFE and HOPE scholarships) received level funding, which coupled with anticipated program carry forward is expected to meet predicted growth. The merit programs are open-ended in that eligible students who qualify are guaranteed funding. Lottery Tuition Assistance and the state's need-based grant programs for public and independent institutions (Need-Based Grants and Tuition Grants) also received funding consistent with last year. In addition, the Need-Based Grant program will receive a one-time boost of \$1.5 million. However, available funding for Need-Based Grants and Lottery Tuition Assistance continues to be of concern. These programs help afford access to college for students who might not otherwise be able to attend financially. The growing need without increased appropriations results in fewer dollars shared across an increasing number of eligible students.

Other higher education lottery-funded programs including technology at public two- and four-year colleges, Higher Education Excellent Enhancement Program, S.C. State University, the Critical Needs Nursing Initiative for Simulation Technology, and the Technical College Allied Health Initiative also received allocations at last year's level. Lottery funding was not restored for the CoEE program. Additionally, restoration of PASCAL's Higher Education Electronic Library funding that had been requested by colleges and universities was not provided. This important statewide project provides an effective cost-sharing program for college library resources and in FY 2008-09 had lost over \$1.8 million of its \$2 million annual appropriation, jeopardizing services and its continuation.

Difficulties with the state's budget continue. Already, state agencies are facing potential across-the-board reductions for FY 2009-10 after the state's Board of Economic Advisors (BEA) met on July 16 and lowered predictions for the state's FY 2009-10 general fund revenues for a second time since June, setting up the likelihood of across-the-board reductions for state agencies when the Budget and Control Board meets next on August 13. The BEA noted in July that the state may be at the bottom of the economic downturn but it was not expected that revenues would rebound during the year, particularly as the state's unemployment is expected to increase.

Legislation

Key among legislation considered during the session for the state's colleges and universities were bills introduced to reduce regulatory burdens and help free up limited resources in areas such as human resources, facilities construction, procurement and administration. The regulatory reform bills debated during 2009 included H.3365 for research and four-year institutions and H.3841 for technical colleges. Both bills passed the House but remained under Senate consideration at session end. Colleges and universities will continue to seek passage of the much needed reforms in 2010. For additional details on these bills and other legislation affecting higher education, see the link below to access a more comprehensive session summary.

Also of note during the session and as reported on page 2, a higher education study committee tasked by the General Assembly to study higher education issues and make recommendations for a strategic plan completed its work and released its recommended Action Plan in April. CHE is now working with colleges on its implementation.

MORE NEWS on SOUTH CAROLINA'S COURSE ALIGNMENT PROJECT

The design teams of the **South Carolina Course Alignment Project (SC CAP)** developed 17 paired courses in English/Language Arts, mathematics, and science. The design teams, composed of content experts from secondary and postsecondary education in South Carolina and content experts from secondary and postsecondary education outside South Carolina, met weekly from January to May 2009 to develop these paired courses.

The term “paired courses” refers to a sequential set of courses: an exit-level high school course and an entry-level college course. Each course is aligned with its pair and with the South Carolina College Readiness Reference Standards. These paired courses will increase the ability of students to transition “seamlessly” from an exit-level high school course into an entry-level college course in the same curricular area. For example, an English paired course would allow students to progress from English IV in high school to Composition I in college and complete the college course successfully.

The paired courses will be implemented by local implementation teams in a pilot session during the 2009-2010 academic year. Pilot implementers will use the materials developed by the design teams in their classrooms and provide feedback on ways to improve the courses. Pilot implementers are paired with each other in geographical clusters according to types of institutions. All clusters contain at least one high school and one institution of higher education. After the pilot, we hope to encourage the use of the paired courses statewide because the long-term goals of the paired courses component of the SC CAP are to:

- improve high school-college alignment so students have a more seamless transition from secondary to postsecondary education;
- develop a bank of courses well aligned with the South Carolina Curriculum Standards and with college readiness;
- promote greater student success;
- reduce remediation; and
- teach a design process by developing paired courses that may be used in other high school-to-college partnerships.

**For more information about these paired courses and this project,
please visit the SC CAP website: www.epiconline.org/south_carolina .**

South Carolina Awarded The College Access Challenge Grant

In August 2008, CHE was awarded the federal College Access Challenge Grant (CACG). Over the course of two years, the United States Department of Education will award CHE nearly \$2 million in grant funds. The CACG program in South Carolina will involve a statewide grassroots, community-based approach based on the belief that **college success** is possible for students who prepare academically and graduate from high school. Implementation of the grant is well underway. CHE staff member, Derrah Cassidy, is coordinating CACG participation. The following is a partial listing of CACG activities and initiatives expected to be accomplished during the two-year grant period.

- Expand College Goal Sunday into a statewide initiative
- Enhance the outreach capacity of the state's 12 Regional Educational Centers (RECs) by funding “high profile” guest speakers and by creating partnerships with RECs to assist in expanding college awareness and access
- Develop a guidance counselor course on postsecondary advisement
- Create a statewide college access media campaign
- Establish a website that encapsulates all of South Carolina's college awareness programs
- Collaborate with S.C. ETV to provide a series of television programs on college awareness and attainment
- Produce an extensive guidance counselor resource manual that describes all resources, activities, courses, and other applicable support available to guidance counselors postsecondary



IMPORTANT NEW ELECTRONIC SERVICES



The following new services will soon be available statewide:

SC COURSE ARTICULATION AND TRANSFER SYSTEM

Implementation of the **South Carolina Course Articulation and Transfer System** began in March 2009. This statewide, web-based system will display detailed and up-to-date information on degree pathways; provide students with an easy way to access transfer agreements developed between public institutions in a searchable database; and enable students to compare current courses against equivalent courses at another institution and learn how those courses meet degree requirements for a specific major. As such, the South Carolina Course Articulation and Transfer System will facilitate student transitions and the portability of academic credits between and among South Carolina's public institutions of higher education.

The South Carolina Course Articulation and Transfer System is a multi-year project divided into several phases. The first three phases which will be completed by July 31, 2010, are:

- Tool Implementation – Institutions will receive tools that will enable them to publish their transfer agreements, codify them and promote them to prospective students; map courses at other institutions to their courses, record them in the database as course equivalencies and provide updates; and promote their programs and services.
- Development and Deployment of the Customized Web Portal – The portal will serve as the main interface for S.C. institutions to communicate with students; extend to the institutions the capabilities of the CollegeTransfer.net portal, including web content management; and be customized to meet South Carolina's needs.
- Institutional Systems Interface – Institutions will be provided with an interface for their systems and associated data and the South Carolina Course Articulation and Transfer System.

ELECTRONIC TRANSCRIPT (E-TRANSCRIPT)

Earlier this year, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) entered into an agreement with Docufide, Inc. to begin the **Electronic Transcript (referred to as *e-Transcript*) Project**. The project will allow all secondary school districts in the state to send and receive electronically a student's complete educational record which contains student contact information, course history and school information. Implementation of the *e-Transcript* system will also allow the electronic delivery of high school transcripts to colleges and universities throughout South Carolina and to the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education.

The *e-Transcript* system will provide many benefits to higher education institutions by:

- making academic records from previously attended South Carolina schools quickly accessible;
- reducing time, effort and expense associated with handling student records and transcript requests;
- providing admissions counselors, academic advisors, scholarship committees, and other authorized users a legible and consistent transcript for easy review and distribution; and
- easing the review process by providing a standardized format for the transcript.

The *e-Transcript* Project is divided into two phases: transcript delivery to higher education institutions and records exchange between secondary schools. The first phase of the project will be completed in November 2009, at which time all high schools in the state will be able to send transcripts electronically.

News from the**Secretary Richard W. Riley Inducted into
Lightsey Society's Higher Education Hall of Fame**

The Lightsey Society was created by the South Carolina Higher Education Foundation in 2006 to identify and honor those individuals who have contributed in extraordinary ways to education in South Carolina. The Society held its second annual Higher Education Hall of Fame Banquet in September. At the banquet, Secretary Richard W. Riley was honored as the second inductee into the Higher Education Hall of Fame.

David Stanton, formerly of WIS TV, served as Master of Ceremonies and Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP, hosted the event at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center.

Stephen Morrison, Partner, Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP, welcomed the large crowd and spoke of the personal and professional admiration that he has for the honoree and the great contribution he has made to this state and nation.



The Honorable Richard Riley (right) and
Mr. Dalton Floyd, Foundation President

Secretary Riley was honored in a special video presentation developed by SC ETV and introduced by the Honorable Alexander Sanders, Jr. The special presentation featured Dr. Milton Kimpson, Governor Riley's Executive Assistant for Education, who spoke of him as, "One of the true statesmen of this State." The Honorable Ernest A. Finney, Jr., former Chief Justice of the S.C. Supreme Court said, "He was committed to making South Carolina a better place for all people." President of Furman University, Dr. David Shi, expressed, "His integrity is first and foremost what people notice" and The Honorable Jean Toal, Chief Justice of the S.C. Supreme Court said, "He combines brilliance and vision and tough determination." Mr. Erskine B. Bowles, President of the University of North Carolina and former Chief of Staff for President Clinton capped the presentation with, "I can't think of anybody who has done more to help the kids of this country to get the knowledge they will need to compete in this new world of work and knowledge-based economy we live in."

Nominations for the next Laureate, who will be honored at a banquet in fall of 2010, are currently being accepted. For a nomination form or additional information, please call (803) 737-2275 or (803) 788-7001 or visit the Foundation's website for a nominating form.



HARRY M. LIGHTSEY JR. SOCIETY
THE SOUTH CAROLINA HIGHER EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The **SC Higher Education Foundation** is a not-for-profit organization founded in 2000 to advocate for and support higher education statewide. Partnering with CHE, the Foundation seeks to enhance the quality of higher education in SC and foster institutional collaboration through various activities it sponsors.

For additional information, please visit the Foundation's website at www.schighered-foundation.org. If you are interested in supporting the Foundation or joining the Lightsey Society, please call Ms. Gail Ginsberg at (803) 788-7001 or gail@schighered-foundation.org.

"We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give." ∞ Sir Winston Churchill

Meet Our Commissioners

CHE has 14 members who are appointed by the Governor for 4-year terms including, 1 at-large appointee serving as Chair; 3 at-large, statewide appointees; and 1 appointee from each of the six Congressional Districts, and 2-year terms including, 1 representative each from the Board of Trustees of a Research Institution, a Comprehensive 4-year Institution, and a Technical College and 1 (*ex officio, non-voting*) President of an Independent Institution. Members are appointed by the Governor upon the advice and consent of the Senate, except for Congressional District Representatives who are appointed by the Governor upon recommendation of their legislative delegations.



Mr. Kenneth B. Wingate
Statewide At-Large,
Appointed Chair



Dr. Raghu Korrapati
2nd Congressional District



Charles B. Thomas, Jr., M.D.
Research Institutions Representative
(*Trustee and Chair, Medical University of SC*)



Dr. Douglas R. Forbes
Statewide At-Large



Dr. Bettie Rose Horne
3rd Congressional District



Mr. Kenneth W. Jackson
Four-year Institutions Representative
(*Trustee, Francis Marion University*)



Ms. Cynthia C. Mosteller
Statewide At-Large



Mr. Charles L Talbert III
4th Congressional District



Mr. J. Neal Workman Jr.
Technical Colleges Representative



Mr. Guy C. Tarrant
Statewide At-Large



Mr. James Sanders
5th Congressional District



Dr. Mitchell Zais
Independent Colleges Representative
(*President, Newberry College*)



Mr. Y.W. Scarborough III
1st Congressional District



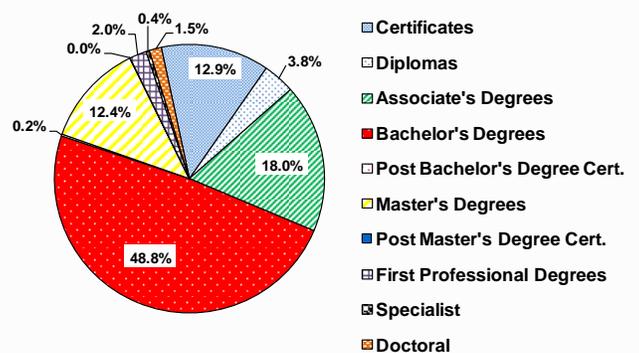
Mr. Hood Temple
6th Congressional District

Higher Education Quick Facts

By the Numbers – Degrees Awarded in 2007-08

- Of the **41,492** degrees awarded in 2007-08 at SC's Public and Independent Colleges:
 - 5,365** Certificates
 - 1,586** Diplomas
 - 7,449** Associate's
 - 20,252** Bachelor's
 - 91** Post Bachelor's Certificates
 - 5,130** Master's
 - 11** Post Masters Certificates
 - 834** First Professional
 - 171** Specialists
 - 603** Doctoral
 - 81%** of the degrees were awarded at Public Colleges and **19%** at Independent Colleges
 - 62%** were awarded to females and **38%** to males
 - 26%** were awarded to minorities
 - 10%** were awarded in the STEM* disciplines
- *Sciences, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

SC Public & Independent Colleges Degrees Awarded by Level, 2007-08



Did you know? The number of degrees awarded each year continues to grow at a steady pace. Over the past 5 years, there has been a 12% increase in degrees awarded.

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