



South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

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Dr. Richard C. Sutton
 Executive Director

December 5, 2013

MEMORANDUM

To: Members, S.C. Commission on Higher Education

From: Chairman John Finan, and Members, Executive Committee

Consideration of a New Commission Standing Committee

At the November 7, 2013, Commission meeting, Commissioners discussed the addition of a standing committee for the purpose of developing a formal process for recommending Commission priorities and actions with respect to legislation and related policy and activities. The Commission requested that the Executive Committee, in consultation with staff, consider the topic at its next regularly scheduled meeting prior to the December 5 CHE meeting.

South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, §59-103-25 provides that the Commission shall create from among its membership such standing committees as it may deem necessary and that the creation of the committees and their duties shall be prescribed by a two-thirds vote of the membership of the Commission. Per the Commission's by-laws, members of standing committees are appointed by the chair annually and may be reappointed. The standing committee chairs are to be named by the Commission chair initially, and thereafter each standing committee elects its own chair.

The present committees of the Commission include the Executive Committee that is composed of the chair, vice-chair and chairs of the standing committees and three existing standing committees, the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing, the Committee on Access and Equity and Student Services, and the Committee on Finance and Facilities.

Recommendation

The Executive Committee recommends approval by the Commission of the addition of a fourth standing committee to be named the Committee on Governmental and Administrative Affairs. It is recommended that the Committee include at least three members and not more than four. The members and inaugural chair of the new standing committee shall be appointed by the Commission's chair. The Committee will thereafter select its own chair. The Committee is charged with responsibility of the functional areas as delineated in its title and other related matters as may be referred to it by the Commission. In carrying out its responsibilities, the Committee on Governmental and Administrative Affairs will make recommendations to the Commission in providing guidance and policy oversight for state and federal legislative matters, coordinating policy activities relating to external relations of the Commission, and maintaining favorable relations with the Governor, General Assembly, officers of the state, state and federal agencies, and other external constituencies. The Director of External Affairs will serve as the staff liaison in support of the Committee on Governmental and Administrative Affairs.