

DRAFT

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

1122 Lady Street, Suite 300
Columbia, SC 29201

Minutes of the Meeting
December 5, 2013

Commission Members Attending

General John Finan, Chair
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Vice-chair
Ms. Elizabeth Jackson (phone)
Dr. Raghu Korrapati
Admiral Charles Munns
Mr. Bill Scarborough
Dr. Jennifer Settlemyer (phone)
Mr. Hood Temple
Hon. Lewis Vaughn

Commission Members Absent

Ms. Elizabeth Jackson
Ms. Leah Moody
Mr. Kim Phillips

Staff Attending

Dr. Richard Sutton, Executive Director
Dr. Argentini Anderson
Ms. Courtney Blake
Ms. Camille Brown
Ms. Elizabeth Caulder
Ms. Saundra Carr
Ms. Julie Carullo
Ms. Renea Eshleman
Mr. Gary Glenn
Ms. Lane Goodwin
Dr. Paula Gregg
Mr. Gerrick Hampton
Dr. MaryAnn Janosik
Mr. Rick Moul
Ms. Yolanda Myers
Ms. Beth Rogers
Ms. Tanya Rogers
Ms. Catherine Team
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Guests

Ms. Beth Bell, Clemson University
Mr. Tim Drueke, Winthrop University
Dr. Kris Finnigan, USC Columbia
Mr. Reginald Greene, Southeastern Institute
Dr. Cameron Howell, USC Columbia
Mr. Mike LeFever, SC Independent Colleges
& Universities
Dr. Ed Miller, USC Columbia
Dr. Hope Rivers, SC Technical College System
Mr. Scott Verzyl, USC Columbia

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

1. Introductions

- Tanya Rogers

Ms. Rogers recorded and announced the names of all those in attendance as listed above.

2. Approval of Minutes

- John Finan

A **motion** was made (Korrapati), **seconded** (Horne) to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2013, CHE meeting.

3. Chairman's Report

- John Finan

Chairman Finan reported that the CHE's Study of Summer Scholarship Award report had been submitted to the Office of the Governor by the required date of December 1. He stated that the report was generally supportive of this initiative and also found it to be feasible as well as affordable. He stated further that additional input on this topic from the institutions will continue to be received.

Chairman Finan reported that he and Ms. Carullo had met on November 22 with members of the Governor's staff about the CHE's legislative priorities and budget requests. He stated that feedback from Commissioners as to their legislative priorities had produced a consensus and that information would be forthcoming about which of those priorities Commissioners should emphasize and support when communicating with their local representatives. He reported that the CHE's compiled legislative priorities would also be shared with the Governor's staff.

4. Report of the Executive Director

- Richard Sutton

Dr. Sutton began by recognizing the hard work of Ms. Carullo, Dr. Woodfaulk, and Ms. Caulder who were instrumental in preparing the Study of Summer Scholarship Award report. He then reported on his activities as Executive Director since the November 7, 2013, CHE meeting. His report included preliminary information on fall 2013 enrollment data, an update on the status of the sale and licensure of the Charleston School of Law (CSOL), and a briefing on his draft presentation to the K-16 Facilities Need and Utilization Study Committee of the House Ways and Means Committee which had been scheduled to be delivered on December 4 but has been postponed to a to-be-determined future date. A complete copy of Dr. Sutton's remarks may be found in **Attachment I**.

During the course of Dr. Sutton's report, Chairman Finan inquired about how the timing of the licensing of the CSOL might affect students who are determining whether to attend CSOL in the 2014-15 academic year. Dr. Sutton noted that, if the timeline for this process proceeds as anticipated, it will be completed by May or June, 2013, which should allow students adequate time to decide to attend CSOL or transfer to another institution.

Following Dr. Sutton's briefing on his draft presentation to the K-16 Facilities Need and Utilization Study Committee, Commissioners offered comments and suggestions which included: 1) making the point that the business model of institutional facilities funding has changed in that tuitions have increased due to the decrease in recurring state support; 2) providing information on total cost per student graduating from SC institutions in comparison with the same data from other states; 3) including information on other important drivers of institutional costs such as headcount and salaries; 4) providing information on the maintenance costs of leased buildings as well as owned buildings; and 5) consolidating data rather than providing it by sector. Concluding this discussion, Chairman Finan encouraged Commissioners to continue to provide Dr. Sutton with any other input they may have on this topic as this draft presentation is further developed.

5. Monthly Progress Report on CHE Strategic Agenda

- Richard Sutton

Dr. Sutton delivered a monthly progress report on the CHE's Strategic Planning Agenda, details about which may be found in **Attachment II**.

6. Legislative Report

- Julie Carullo

A. Briefing on Reports: Inventory of State-Mandated Higher Education Reporting, Study of Summer Scholarship Awards

B. Discussion of CHE Legislative Priorities

Ms. Carullo presented information about revenue projections for FY 14-15, an update on the Inventory of State-Mandated Higher Education Reports and the Study of Summer Scholarship Awards Report, and an overview of legislation to be considered during the upcoming session of the General Assembly. Details about Ms. Carullo's report may be found in **Attachment III**.

With regard to the outcome of the Inventory of State-Mandated Higher Education Reports, Chairman Finan projected that the results will likely determine which reports should continue to be required and which should be eliminated. With regard to the Study of Summer Scholarship Awards Report, brief discussion took place about the availability of the state scholarships during the summer months, how that may lead to the transformation of higher education to a year-round system, and the benefit of the possibility that students might complete four-year degree programs within a much shorter timeframe.

In response to Chairman Finan's inquiry as to whether activities related to higher education at the national level are being monitored by CHE staff, Dr. Sutton reported that they are and soon will be even more closely followed when a new CHE staff member whose position description will include that responsibility is hired. He stated further that updates on those matters could be presented to Commissioners periodically.

7. Committee Reports

7.01 Report of the Executive Committee

- John Finan

A. Consideration of a New Standing Committee: Committee on Governmental and Administrative Affairs

Chairman Finan reported that the Executive Committee had met on Friday, November 22, to prepare for this meeting. He stated that the consensus of the Executive Committee was to approve the formation of a new CHE standing committee as referenced in **Agenda Item 7.01A**, a copy of which may be found in **Attachment IV**. A **motion** then was made (Scarborough), **seconded** (Temple) to establish the Committee on Government and Administrative Affairs. Chairman Finan stated that the committee's responsibilities will include consideration of legislative and administrative matters and that he, as Chairman, would appoint the committee's initial Chair and members with those positions becoming elected ones as the initial members rotate off. He invited those Commissioners interested in participating on the committee to inform either him or Dr. Sutton.

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

7.02 Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

- Bettie Rose Horne

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Revised Guidelines for EIA Centers of Excellence

Commissioner Horne reported that **Agenda Item 7.02A**, details about which may be found in **Attachment V**, was brought to the full Commission for approval by consent agenda. She commented briefly on this item, after which the **motion** was voted on and **carried**.

7.03 Report of Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services

- Hood Temple

There was no report from the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services.

7.04 Report of Committee on Finance and Facilities

- Y. W. Scarborough

A. List of Capital Projects & Leases Processed by Staff for November 2013 (For Information, No Action Required)

Commissioner Scarborough reported that the Committee on Finance & Facilities had met earlier in the morning and had considered the committee's agenda for today's meeting. Also considered and discussed was the timing for the Comprehensive Project Improvement Plans (CPIP) approval process and a list of information items for the University of South Carolina, as well as a few other projects, staff approvals, and closeouts. He stated further that conversation had taken place about the possibility of streamlining the timeline for the process whereby institutions bring a project from concept to fruition. Also noted as a topic of discussion during the committee's meeting was the issue of institutions submitting capital project requests directly to the Governor for inclusion in her budget recommendations without submitting them to the CHE initially as required by law. Chairman Finan suggested that a reminder of that required process be sent to both the institutions as well as to members of the General Assembly.

Commissioner Scarborough then stated that the Committee on Finance and Facilities presented as information only **Agenda Item 7.04A** as listed above and described in detail in **Attachment VI**.

Commissioner Scarborough referenced a white paper produced by the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce which he had distributed to Commissioners for their review and consideration. A copy of this white paper entitled, *Creating a Comprehensive Research University in the Charleston Region*, may be found in **Attachment VII**. Commissioner Scarborough also reported that the Lowcountry Graduate Center had hired Dr. Nancy Muller as their new Executive Director.

With regard to the possibility of the establishment of a Francis Marion University presence in Mt. Pleasant, Dr. Sutton reported that conversations on that topic are moving forward in a positive manner.

8. Other Business

There was no other business to consider.

9. Adjournment of Business Meeting

The Commission adjourned its business portion of the meeting at approximately 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth B. Rogers
Beth B. Rogers
Recording Secretary

Attachments (I - VII)

*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.