



HIGHLIGHTS OF CHE MEETING FEBRUARY 5, 2015

The following information is intended to be a brief summary of Commission actions and should not be considered as any form of minutes for the referenced meeting. Blue underlined text is hyperlinked.

Commissioners **recognized Midlands Technical College President, Dr. Sonny White**, who will retire later this month, and thanked him for his service over the past nine years as president. Dr. White was presented with a framed resolution in recognition of his many accomplishments.

Chairman Finan **recognized two CHE staff members, Ms. Sandra Carr and Ms. Yolanda Myers, each of whom has worked at CHE for thirty years**. Commissioners thanked Ms. Carr and Ms. Myers for their dedication and contributions to the agency.

The Honorable Jim Hodges, former Governor of South Carolina, updated Commissioners on *Competing Through Knowledge*. *Competing Through Knowledge* (CTK) is driven by business leaders to make SC's working citizens ready for the emerging economy and the state more globally competitive by 2030. Through CTK, business leaders are developing measureable goals for improvements that will address key educational shortfalls focused on SC's needs for a qualified workforce and how its 2- and 4-year level colleges and universities are preparing for these needs. CTK released a report on SC's workforce needs for the 21st century in November 2013 commissioned with the USC Moore School of Business ([Full Report](#)) and is preparing to release new information on a poll of South Carolinians about workforce needs and the affordability, accessibility, and quality of our colleges and universities. To learn more about CTK, visit www.competingthroughknowledge.org.

Executive Director Dr. Richard Sutton updated Commissioners on recent activities. A copy of his report is available [Here](#).

CHE approved the following five new academic program proposals:

- 1) [University of South Carolina Columbia, M.S., Advanced Athletic Training](#)
- 2) [University of South Carolina Columbia, B.S., Pharmaceutical Sciences](#)
- 3) [University of South Carolina Beaufort, B.S., Mathematics, with Tracks in Mathematical Sciences and Secondary Teacher Education](#)
- 4) [University of South Carolina Aiken, B.S., Industrial Process Engineering](#)
- 5) [Coastal Carolina University, M.S., Sport Management](#)

CHE approved academic program modifications requested for the following:

- 1) [University of South Carolina Columbia, M.D., add clinical site in Florence, SC](#)
- 2) [South Carolina State University, B. S., Industrial Engineering Technology, Develop into B.S., Industrial Engineering](#)

CHE approved revised [policy recommendations for the process used in reviewing and approving eligible courses and programs \(majors\) for purposes of the Palmetto Fellows and LIFE enhancement awards](#). As background, the SC General Assembly in 2007 provided for award of monetary enhancements to the state's Palmetto Fellows and LIFE scholarships for students earning these awards and majoring in identified science, technology, engineering and mathematic (STEM) and related STEM disciplines. The enhancements are available to eligible students in the second year who have completed 14 hours in math and science coursework during the first year. ([Click Here](#) for additional details on the enhancements and the state's scholarship and grant programs.)

Brig Gen John L. Finan, USAF (Ret.)
Statewide At-Large, Chair

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Statewide At-Large

Vacant, *Appointment Pending*
Statewide At-Large

Vacant, *Appointment Pending*
Statewide At-Large

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1st Congressional District

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2nd Congressional District

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3rd Congressional District

Ms. Dianne C. Kuhl
4th Congressional District

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Mr. Hood Temple
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Ms. Leah B. Moody
SC Public Research Universities

Ms. Natasha M. Hanna
SC Public 4-Year Comprehensive
Universities

Vacant, *Appointment Pending*
SC Public Technical Colleges

Vacant, *Appointment Pending*
SC Independent Colleges &
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CHE approved an annual report on the evaluation of FY 2012-13 associate degree programs and recommendations (Full Report). Recommendations stressed encouragement by CHE of the State Technical College system to continue to explore ways to increase enrollments and retention to graduation in programs in Engineering Technology and to explore means to improve job placement and continuation to full-time studies for programs where needed, as well as encouragement of the USC campuses in Beaufort and Columbia to explore ways to increase enrollment, graduation and placement in their associate degree programs. The recommendations also stressed the importance that SC technical colleges and USC regional campuses work collaboratively to increase numbers of associate degree completers and prepare them for 4-year program entry.

CHE received several other information reports and updates of interest:

- [New Federal Improving Teacher Quality \(ITQ\) Competitive Grants Awards, FY 2015-16.](#) ITQ is a federal program CHE has administered since 1984. Under ITQ, CHE provides for a competitive award of federal funds to support professional development of teachers and strategies to increase student academic achievement.
- [Report on Academic Program Modifications processed at the staff level from August 1-December 31, 2014.](#)
- [Revised mission statement for Coastal Carolina University](#) that was approved at the staff level and brought forward for information. Under CHE's [policy for the approval of public college and university mission statements](#), staff is authorized to approve minor (non-substantive) revisions. The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing reviewed Coastal Carolina's proposed changes at its January meeting and affirmed that changes were not substantive and did not require approval of the full Commission.
- Report on updates to the [FY15 Tuition & Required Fees Summary to include spring increases.](#) -- [Click Here](#) for additional information on tuition and fees for SC's public colleges & universities.
- [Capital Projects & Leases Processed by Staff for January 2015](#)
- During the legislative update, Commissioners were briefed on recent activities including [CHE's presentation to Ways & Means higher education budget subcommittee.](#) Legislative updates relating to higher education are available [here](#).

Upcoming Commission Meeting: CHE meets next on **Thursday, April 2, at 10:30 am** in Orangeburg, SC on the campus of SC State University.

2015 College Goal South Carolina events are being held during February to provide assistance to students and their families with the second step of the college application process, filling out the federal Free Application for Student Financial Aid - FASFA. For more information and to find an event near you, [Click Here](#) or visit www.SCCANGO.org.

2014 Statistical Abstract for Higher Education in South Carolina is now available.

To access, [Click Here](#).

ABOUT CHE: CHE serves as the coordinating board for the state's thirty-three public institutions of higher education. Our mission is to promote quality and efficiency in the state system of higher education with a goal of fostering economic growth and human development in South Carolina. For more information about CHE, please visit our website: www.che.sc.gov. CHE meets regularly during the year, typically on the first Thursday of the month. For the schedule and additional details, [Click Here](#).