



HIGHLIGHTS OF CHE MEETING JANUARY 8, 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 former College of Charleston President George Benson and thanked him for his service from February 2007 through June 2014 as the 21st president. Dr. Benson was presented with a framed resolution in recognition of his many accomplishments.

Dr. Richard Sutton, Executive Director, delivered his inaugural address on the state of the system of higher education in SC. His remarks are available [HERE](#)

Panel discussion on the Higher Education Efficiency, Effectiveness and Accountability review Study Committee: In the FY 2014-15 Appropriations Act, provisions and funding were included to initiate review of SC's universities and the appointment of a 13-member committee to oversee the process. The committee members include three appointed by CHE representing a university trustee, president, and finance officer. CHE's appointees The Honorable David Wilkins, Chair of Clemson University Board of Trustees, President Fred Carter of Francis Marion University, and Mr. Ed Walton, USC Senior Vice President for Administration and Chief Operating Officer joined Commissioners for a discussion of the Study Committee and higher education. The members commented on meetings held during the fall, noting the committee's realization of the need to extend the February deadline for the review. They reported that the committee has discussed consideration of the engagement of a third party to assist with the work and has determined that the work will benefit from a proposed higher education summit designed as a working meeting to share across the system and assist in informing needs of an outside review that may be conducted. The members noted that the committee conducted a comprehensive survey of the higher education institutions to determine efficiency studies conducted to date. They each stressed the importance of taking a systemic, system-wide approach rather than focusing on individual institutions. Commissioners engaged the panel in a discussion about higher education, its public perception, the relationship between higher education and future workforce needs, and the importance of engaging the business community. CHE offered its support and assistance with respect to the summit as the committee discussion and activity evolve. Information about the Study Committee, its membership and recent meetings, is available on the General Assembly website, [HERE](#).

CHE approved interim capital project requests of the following colleges and universities:

- College of Charleston: [11 Glebe Street Renovation](#) and [2014-15 Maintenance Needs](#)
- Horry Georgetown Technical College: [Construction of Advanced Manufacturing Center](#)
- Piedmont Technical College: ["B" Building Renovation](#)
- Tri-County Technical College: [Veterinary Technology Animal Care Facility](#)

The interim capital project requests approved by CHE are next considered by JBRC. CHE staff presented for information, a [report on capital projects and leases process by CHE staff in November and December 2014](#)

CHE received several other information reports and updates of interest:

- [FY 2013-14 Maintenance and Repair Appropriation Report](#) submitted recently to the chairman of the House and Senate finance committees pursuant to a requirement in the FY2013-14 Appropriations Act for a report on the use of funds appropriated to colleges and universities for facilities maintenance and repair needs.
- [CHE Quarterly Budget Report, FY2014-15 expenditures through December 31, 2014](#)
- [Results for CHE of the Office of Human Resource Audit of Hire above Minimum Delegation Authority for the period of July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2014](#)
- [Legislative Update](#). CHE staff also provides routine legislative updates and information regarding higher education and activities of the General Assembly available [here](#).

Upcoming Commission Meeting: CHE meets next on Thursday, February 5, at 10:30 am.

Other Item of Note: CHE recently announced **2015 College Goal South Carolina** events to be held during February. College Goal events are hosted at high schools and colleges and universities across the state 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.

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](#).

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