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Dr. Evans Whitaker SC Independent Colleges & Universities

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HIGHLIGHTS OF CHE MEETING SEPTEMBER 3, 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.

CHE approved a recommendation advanced through the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing to move forward in seeking approval to join the State **Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA)**. SARA is a voluntary agreement among its member states and U.S. territories that establishes comparable national standards for interstate offering of postsecondary distance education courses and programs. SARA is intended to make it easier for students to enroll in online courses, clinicals, and internships offered by institutions based in other states. To join, a portal agency within a state must seek approval through its regional compact, which for South Carolina is the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB). Once approved, institutions within the state may voluntarily participate through application to the state's portal agency. CHE, the state's coordinating board and sole authority for the licensing of non-public postsecondary education, will seek approval as the state's portal agency. Entering the agreement is supported by all South Carolina public and independent colleges and universities. As of September 2015, 29 states have been approved through the regional compacts as SARA participants and many more states are anticipated to seek approval soon. For more information about SARA and letters of support by South Carolina's colleges and universities, **CLICK HERE.**

CHE approved new program proposals including:

- Coastal Carolina: M.Ed., Special Education with Concentrations in Twice-Exceptional
 (Learning Disabilities and Gifted and Talented); Twice-Exceptional (Emotional Learning
 Disabilities; Learning Disabilities; or Severe Disabilities and M.S., Information Systems
 Technology
- College of Charleston: M.F.A., Creative Writing
- Francis Marion University: <u>B.S., Healthcare Administration</u>
- MUSC: M.S., Cardiovascular Perfusion and M.S., Cardiovascular Perfusion, Post-Professional
- USC Aiken: B.S., Clinical Laboratory Science

CHE also approved a program modification for <u>SC State University to develop its B.S., Civil Engineering Technology into the B.S., Civil Engineering</u>

CHE approved changes to its policy for academic degree program productivity studies and program monitoring. For Information, <u>CLICK HERE</u>

<u>CHE approved interim capital projects for:</u> 1) Clemson University to establish a construction budget for Football Operations Facility Construction; 2) **The Citadel** to increase its budget for FY 2014-15 Maintenance Projects; and 3) **Trident Technical College** to revise the Phase I budget for building A&E for the Aeronautical Training Center.

CHE received several information reports and updates of interest:

- A report, <u>Higher Education Enrollment Projections</u>, <u>2015-2023</u>, was presented by CHE staff, Dr. Erica Von Nessen. The report considers projected enrollment at South Carolina's colleges and universities over the next nine years. A second report on the occupational outlook for various programs of study and completion trends in South Carolina higher education over the past five years will be available shortly.
- Annual Report on Terminated and Approved Programs, FY 2014-15: This
 report provides an overview of program activity during FY 2014-15, including information
 about academic degree programs terminated and approved; program modifications
 approved; changes to program concentrations; programs extended to specific sites or
 terminated from specific sites; and new and terminated certificates.

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(Information Reports, continued)

- Report on Approved Program Modifications, April 1 July 10, 2015
- Annual Report on SREB Academic Common Market (ACM), September 2015: The report details participation during 2014 and provides information on historical trends. Established in 1974 by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), ACM is a cooperative agreement among states that enables students to access programs at colleges and universities outside of their home state at in-state tuition and fee rates.
- Annual Report on Staff-Approved Institutional Mission Statement
 Modifications, FY 2014-15: CHE is required to approve mission statements of public
 institutions so as to ensure they are within the overall mission of the particular type of
 institution and within the overall mission of the State. The report details those mission
 statements processed at the staff level that include non-substantive or minor changes.
- Capital Projects & Leases Processed by Staff for June, July and August 2015
- A report on <u>Academic Year 2015-16 Tuition and Required Fees of SC Public Colleges and Universities</u> was provided for information. The information is reported by institutions as of fall 2015. The report and additional details are also available on CHE website, <u>HERE</u>.
- Reports on <u>CHE's budget and expenditures for the FY 2014-15 and for the first quarter of FY 2015-16</u> were presented for information. Budget reports are presented quarterly to the Commission.

CHE considered nominations for its recommended appointments to the Governor to a new committee, the Energy Independence and Sustainable Construction Advisory Committee, pursuant to §48-52-865 of the SC Code of Laws. The committee was authorized with the enactment of legislation in 2014. CHE voted to advance Dr. Susan Winsor, President of Aiken Technical College, as the representative for two-year technical colleges and two-year campuses of USC, and Dr. Ulrike Hein, Associate Professor in the School of Architecture at Clemson University, as the representative of research and comprehensive four-year teaching institutions.

Executive Director Search: Commissioner Allison Dean Love, chair of CHE's special committee for the purposes of the Executive Director Search, updated members on the search. The committee has been working since earlier this summer. They are continuing to interview potential candidates. Once interviews are concluded, a narrowed field of candidates will be recommended to the full Commission. It is anticipated that the committee will bring its recommendations within the next month. For information about the committee and its meetings, **CLICK HERE**

Transitions:

- Ms. Julie Carullo, who has been serving in the capacity of interim executive director since
 the resignation of the former executive director in April, had recently informed the
 Commission that she desired to step down from that role. The Commission acted to place
 Mr. Gary Glenn, CHE's Director of Fiscal Affairs, in the role of interim executive director
 until a permanent executive director is named. Ms. Carullo will continue in her role as
 CHE's Director of External Affairs.
- Following the Commission meeting, Brig. General John Finan, USAF (Ret.) announced his resignation to the Governor as CHE Chair. Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, CHE's Vice Chair, will serve as Acting Chair until the at-large appointment as chair is filled.

Upcoming Commission Meetings: CHE's next regularly scheduled meeting is **October 1**. Please note that CHE will begin its October meeting at 8:00 a.m. whereupon CHE is anticipated to immediately go into executive session for purposes of discussing personnel matters related to the Executive Director Search. The regular session of CHE will begin at 1:00 p.m. or an hour after the end of the Executive Session. CHE's standing committees which have scheduled meetings on October 1 will be rescheduled to accommodate the change in the CHE meeting time. For meeting information, Click Here.