

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

1122 Lady Street, Suite 300

Columbia, SC 29201

12:00 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting **November 3, 2016**

Commission Members Attending

Mr. Tim Hofferth, Chair
Ms. Dianne Kuhl, Vice Chair
Mr. Paul Batson
Mr. Devron Edwards
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne
Mr. Kenneth Kirkland
Ms. Allison Dean Love
Dr. Louis Lynn
Mr. Charles Munns
Mr. Kim Phillips
Ms. Terrye Seckinger
Dr. Jennifer Settlemyer
Dr. Evans Whitaker (phone)

Guests

Ms. Amber Barnes, USC Columbia
Ms. Beth Bell, Clemson University
Mr. Billy Boan, USC Columbia
Mr. Tim Druke, Winthrop University
Dr. Kris Finnigan, USC Columbia
Dr. Lewis Gossett, SC Manufacturers Alliance
Ms. Lil Hayes, House Education & Public Works
Mr. Michael Hughes, Executive Budget Office
Mr. Rick Kelly, USC Columbia
Dr. Tom Layzell, Consultant
Mr. Mike LeFever, SC Independent Colleges & Universities
Dr. Jeff Priest, USC Aiken
Dr. Rich Rhoda, Consultant
Dr. Hope Rivers, SC Technical College System
Ms. Carol Routh, Clemson University

Staff Attending

Mr. Gary Glenn, Interim Executive Director
Dr. Argentini Anderson
Mr. Clay Barton
Ms. Laura Belcher
Ms. Lorinda Copeland
Ms. Carrie Eberly
Ms. Lane Goodwin
Ms. Monica Goodwin
Ms. Anna Grubic
Mr. Gerrick Hampton
Ms. Sarah Hearn
Ms. Devon Hollimon
Ms. Trena Houpp
Ms. Elizabeth Jablonski
Mr. Michael W. Jackson
Dr. John Lane
Mr. Morgan O'Donnell
Ms. Vickie Pratt
Ms. Tanya Rogers
Ms. Laverne Sanders
Ms. Peggy Simons
Ms. Tanya Weigold
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Chairman Hofferth convened the meeting at 12:08 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. It was confirmed that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Introductions

Elizabeth Jablonski

There were no guests present in the room at the start of the meeting.

A motion was made (Seckinger) seconded (Munns), and carried to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel and legal issues.

No action was required as a result of the Executive Session. The regular business meeting reconvened at approximately 1:20 p.m.

Ms. Jablonski announced the names of the guests in attendance as listed above.

2. Approval of Minutes

Tim Hofferth

An amendment was discussed to clarify that Commissioner Lynn was excused from the meeting on October 24, 2016. A **motion** was made (Horne), **seconded** (Munns), and **carried** to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2016 CHE meeting as amended.

3. Presentation

Lewis Gossett

Commissioner Kuhl introduced Mr. Lewis Gossett, the President and CEO of the South Carolina Manufacturer's Alliance. Mr. Gossett gave a presentation (**Attachment I**) which discussed the following topics: 1) the Education and Economic Development Act; 2) the current state of manufacturing in South Carolina; 3) statistics regarding students and four-year institutions; 4) the education lottery; 5) student debt; and 6) the South Carolina Future Makers program.

After the presentation, when asked about the possibility of placing a career counselor in high schools, Mr. Gossett said that the state should evaluate the placement of the career specialists to ensure the placement is adequately funded. Discussion occurred regarding career specialists helping students find the best fit, whether it is a four-year institution or a certificate program. Mr. Gossett then encouraged institutions' career departments to take advantage of the STEM Premiere platform offered through the SC Future Makers program because it directly links students to employers, most similar to LinkedIn but with a direct line of communication between employers and prospective candidates. Chairman Hofferth stated his appreciation for Mr. Gossett's presentation and invited him to help with the Public Agenda.

4. Chairman's Report

Tim Hofferth

Chairman Hofferth discussed a letter which was sent to CHE stakeholders, the General Assembly, and the appropriate parties following the October 25, 2016 Joint Bond Review Committee meeting in response to questions raised relative to CHE's project vetting process. Information regarding the planned meetings with Presidents across the state followed. It was established that the meetings would focus on four items: 1) the draft of the Financial Indicator Matrix; 2) the newly established Special Ad Hoc Subcommittee for the purpose of creating Best Practices for Boards of Trustees; 3) the Public Agenda; and 4) anything of importance to the institutions. The meetings would take place throughout the month of November and would conclude by December 1. Increased efforts to communicate with all stakeholders were mentioned, to include the Public Agenda, the CHE website, and the ability to communicate with the press.

Speaking to the Special Ad Hoc Subcommittee for Boards of Trustees Best Practices, Commissioner Lynn stated that there was some angst toward CHE among boards and suggested that CHE recognize the 300 citizens who serve as members on institutions' Boards of Trustees.

Chairman Hofferth provided an update on the Higher Education Foundation. The Foundation would transition to a new board consisting of five individuals on November 8, 2016. Work had been done to make the transition possible over the course of a year, including work with legal representatives to ensure the transition was done correctly. Through that process, it was decided that the existing board would resign at their meeting on November 8, 2016 and three members would be added in addition to Chairman Hofferth's Ex-Officio membership on the board and an appointee of his choice. The purpose of this transition was to retool the Foundation's bylaws to refocus its mission on advancing higher education in South Carolina by augmenting CHE with key stakeholders in the state. Commissioner Kirkland would be confirmed as Chairman Hofferth's appointee to the Foundation, and Mr. Albert Bueno and former Commissioner Hood Temple would be nominated for election to the board at the November meeting. The fifth seat on the board was to be determined.

5. Vice Chair's Report

Dianne Kuhl

Vice Chair Kuhl stated that she hoped to enlist the help of a public relations entity to make changes to the CHE website for the purpose of making it more user-friendly and productive to students and citizens. She then briefly reviewed CHE's internal communications policy in order to ensure that proper protocol was being followed when staff was asked to complete a task on behalf of a Commissioner.

6. Interim Executive Director's Report

Gary Glenn

Regarding staffing, Mr. Glenn announced that the Academic Affairs Program Manager position had been filled and the new employee would be introduced at the December CHE meeting. An update on the IT initiative for the Main Conference Room was requested, and Ms. Monica Goodwin confirmed that the new technology, which would enable video-streaming of CHE meetings, would be installed by February. Commissioner Batson asked that institutions be informed of the platform that would be chosen prior to the final decision being made, and Ms. Goodwin stated that the technology would use an internet-based platform in order to enable anyone with an internet connection to join meetings in the future. It was then confirmed that the initiative that asked universities to help fund the implementation of the technology was abandoned and that CHE would be funding the upgrades using internal (carryover) funds.

7. Committee Reports

7.01 Report of the Executive Committee

Tim Hofferth

The committee had no report.

7.02 Report of Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

Terrye Seckinger

The committee had no report.

7.03 Report of Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services

Jennifer Settlemyer

The committee had no report.

7.04 Report of Committee on Finance and Facilities

Dianne Kuhl

The Committee on Finance and Facilities met briefly prior to the CHE meeting for the purpose of electing a new Chair and Vice Chair following Mr. Hood Temple's resignation from the Commission at the October 24, 2016 CHE meeting. Commissioner Kuhl was elected Chairwoman and Commissioner Kirkland was elected Vice Chair of the committee, both unanimously. There were two information items brought forth at the meeting. The first item was the quarterly budget report update and the second item was the list of staff-approved capital projects for the month of October.

7.05 Report of Special Ad Hoc Subcommittee—Public Agenda

Allison Dean Love

Commissioner Love began her update by reminding all in attendance that the foundation of the Public Agenda would be the 2009 Higher Education Study Committee report. The subcommittee would meet with its staff following the CHE meeting to ensure all were on the same page and members would also have a guest speaker present to discuss the system and educational attainment goals in the future. The subcommittee planned to look at gaps and needs in the workforce, including what the K-12 system and the business community needed of higher education, and vice versa. Action items were set to be established in order to streamline the large amount of data the subcommittee possessed, with the purpose of building upon the 2009 HESC plan to make it more relevant for the future.

Dr. Tom Layzell and Dr. Rich Rhoda, who are helping the subcommittee with the agenda, were present at the meeting. They planned to seek Commissioners' input on the baseline draft of the document and would be

discussing educational attainment goals next month. It was confirmed that Mr. Gossett would be a partner in creating the agenda moving forward. Commissioner Kuhl encouraged the subcommittee to share information as it was learned that could be beneficial for she and Chairman Hofferth to know as they developed talking points to use when meeting with other stakeholders. Dr. Layzell stated that in the weeks following the meeting, the subcommittee was tasked with figuring out what data was already accessible. The importance of inviting community members such as Mr. Gossett to speak at CHE meetings was highlighted. The power of Commissioners to convene was discussed, in terms of bringing stakeholders together to hear their stance on critical issues. Commissioner Love stated the need to include the Council of Presidents and to include representation from Boards of Trustees for this purpose, as they had the ability to make the agenda flourish.

Commissioners were given time to ask Dr. Layzell and Dr. Rhoda questions regarding the agenda. When asked about balancing the need for work and the need for education, Dr. Layzell stated that the competition for skilled workers in local economies needed to be answered whether it was agreed with or not. The importance of having the ability to convene was reiterated, as that platform could be used to ask questions relative to what is needed of higher education for the community. Commissioner Kuhl asked what direction the Public Agenda was headed in terms of access and what was being done to reach out to social services and other areas that could help CHE understand the best way to make education accessible to more citizens. Dr. Layzell explained that a very broad net was being cast in order to bring those citizens into the discussion in the near future. Dr. Rhoda brought forth the idea of institutionalizing the GEAR UP program to make it fit that purpose even more than it currently did. Discussion occurred regarding the best way to gather information about students' lives post-high school graduation and post-college graduation in order to analyze what areas need to be retooled, which resulted in the understanding that the process of gathering that information would be difficult but would be best developed outside of the meeting.

Chairman Hofferth thanked Drs. Layzell and Rhoda for their presence at the meeting and encouraged all Commissioners to attend the next Public Agenda meeting. Commissioner Edwards stated the need to understand the importance of the information presented to CHE by the Manufacturers Association and highlighted that Mr. Gossett was asking for candidates to fill jobs when usually it seemed to be the other way around.

8. Other Business

There was no other business brought forth.

9. End of Business Meeting

A **motion** was made (Settlemyer), **seconded** (Munns), and **carried** to adjourn the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah R. Hearn
Sarah R. Hearn
Recording Secretary

Attachment (I)

**Attachment is not included in this mailing, but will be filed with the permanent record of these minutes and is available for review upon request.*