

**SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

Meeting held at  
1122 Lady Street, Suite 300  
Columbia, S.C. 29201  
12:00 p.m.

***Minutes of the Meeting***  
**December 7, 2017**

**Commissioners Attending**

Mr. Tim Hofferth, Chair	Mr. Richard Jones	Mr. Kim Phillips
Ms. Dianne Kuhl, Vice Chair	Ms. Allison Dean Love	Ms. Terry Seckinger
Mr. Paul Batson	Dr. Louis Lynn	
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne	Mr. Charles Munns	

**Commission Members Absent**

Mr. Devron Edwards (excused)  
Mr. Kenneth Kirkland (excused)

**Guests Attending**

Ms. Beth Bell, Clemson University	Dr. Forest Mahan, Aiken Technical College
Dr. Connie Book, The Citadel	Mr. Rick Petillo, Clemson University
Ms. Christine Brown, Medical University of South Carolina	Ms. Carol Routh, Clemson University
Dr. Nancy Carson, Medical University of South Carolina	Mr. Eddie Shannon, S.C. Independent Colleges and Universities
Ms. Lynn Cherry, College of Charleston	Mr. Trey Simon, S.C. Student Loan Corporation
Ms. Jadae DiMaggio, Greenville Technical College	Dr. Eric Skipper, USC Beaufort
Mr. Tim Drueke, Winthrop University	Dr. Suzanne Thomas, Medical University of South Carolina
Dr. Susan Elkins, USC Palmetto College	Ms. Jane Turner, CERRA
Dr. Mary Anne Fitzpatrick, University of South Carolina	Dr. Craig Velozo, Medical University of South Carolina
	Cpt. Jacinda White, U.S. Army

**Commission Staff Present**

Mr. Jeff Schilz	Dr. John Lane
Ms. Laura Belcher	Ms. Katie Philpott
Ms. Carrie Bundrick	Ms. Tanya Rogers
Ms. Saundra Carr	Mr. Andrew Roof
Ms. Anna Grubic	Dr. Regine Rucker
Dr. Falcia Harvey	Mr. Keeran Sittampalam
Ms. Elizabeth Jablonski	Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Chairman Hofferth convened the meeting at 12:31 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. It was confirmed that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

**1. Introductions**

**Elizabeth Jablonski**

Ms. Jablonski introduced the guests in attendance.

## 2. Approval of Minutes

Tim Hofferth

A **motion** was made (Horne), **seconded** (Love), and **carried** to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2017, CHE meeting. A **motion** was made (Jones), **seconded** (Seckinger), and **carried** to go immediately into Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters. No motion resulted from Executive Session. At 1:13 p.m., the meeting resumed regular business.

## 3. Presentation

Chair Hofferth introduced Interim President and Executive Director Schilz, who presented information about the 10-year trends of high school graduates moving into higher education or the armed services. He noted the data in the presentation originated from the South Carolina Department of Education and the South Carolina Research and Fiscal Affairs Office. Director Schilz addressed the various paths chosen by South Carolina's high school students after graduation, including matriculation at either in-state or out-of-state institutions (public or private) and enlistment in the military services.

Several Commissioners expressed concern for the trends found in the data, and inquired about various aspects. Commissioner Lynn asked if the presented figures accounted for online attendance. Mr. Keeran Sittampalam, Policy Analyst at CHE, clarified Dr. Lynn's question and then stated the data focused only on physical attendance. Commissioner Horne inquired about the difference between the University of South Carolina's Palmetto College and SCCORE. Director Schilz differentiated the two, explaining that Palmetto College is a degree-completion initiative, whereas SCCORE is intended to provide access to general education courses.

Director Schilz stated his belief that data shows in the future colleges and universities within the state would be competing amongst themselves for in-state students, a diminishing group incapable of fulfilling institutional enrollment needs. Commissioner Seckinger inquired if any outliers were represented in the comprehensive schools' five-year enrollment data, as she noted the decline in enrollment over the period. Vice Chair Kuhl, likewise, expressed concern about this finding. Chair Hofferth addressed the trends illustrated by Director Schilz's report, citing a report issued by Moody's, the credit rating company, which downgraded the vitality of the higher education industry. When institutions begin to feel constrained by a shrinking pool of prospective students, Chair Hofferth commented, increased competition might lead to financial hardship for institutions.

The Commission revisited the presentation, *Issues in Higher Education*, given at a previous meeting to demonstrate emphatically that one school's recruitment practices could affect another's. Vice Chair Kuhl asked about the status of the graduates who did not matriculate at an educational institution or enlist in the military. Director Schilz responded that the present data did not attempt to explain the status of those high school graduates. Chair Hofferth noted the importance of SCCORE as a means of expanding the pool of people who can feasibly attend college. Commissioner Seckinger commented on the possibility that research institutions may inadvertently damage enrollment at comprehensive schools, as their academic and non-academic popularity could be too strong an attractant for the latter to overcome. Director Schilz concluded the recruitment policies of the state's public institutions are correlated, and aggressive recruitment at one level (or institution) can adversely affect each subordinate level (or institution).

## 4. Chairman's Report

Tim Hofferth

Chair Hofferth confirmed on behalf of Commissioner Kirkland, who was not present, that the newly formed SCCORE Ad Hoc Subcommittee would meet before the next CHE meeting. Subsequently, Chair Hofferth addressed upcoming Commission meetings, emphasizing the town halls proposed at the previous CHE meeting.

**5. Vice Chair’s Report**

**Dianne Kuhl**

Vice Chair Kuhl discussed the logistical aspects of coordinating an off-site town hall. She expressed the necessity of disseminating information about the meeting to local residents who have stakes in the subject matter. The Commission debated whether to hold a January 2018 meeting and ultimately decided to hold a meeting on January 4, 2018, in consideration of an upcoming Joint Bond Review Committee (JBRC).

**6. Interim President and Executive Director’s Report**

**Jeff Schilz**

There was no report provided by the Interim President and Executive Director.

**7. Legislative Report**

Ms. Philpott, the Government Affairs Manager, updated the Commission on important legislative-related events pertaining to the Commission’s activities and functions. Ms. Philpott stated that a budget was presented in November to representatives of the Governor’s Office and the Executive Budget Office. Furthermore, she stated progress was being made on a budget presentation to be put before the House Ways & Means Committee on January 9, 2018. She continued her report by overviewing several meetings held during the last month. She informed the Commission of the events and attendees of the Senate’s Education Tuition and Scholarships subcommittee meeting; the meeting between CHE and the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), in which Director Schilz presented *Issues in Higher Education* and the Public Agenda; and the Council of Presidents Scholarship Task Force, which examined the effect of grade-scale changes on scholarships. Ms. Philpott concluded her report by notifying the Commission of important upcoming meetings. Chair Hofferth requested the CHE’s Comprehensive Permanent Improvement Plan (CPIP) submission to the JBRC and the State Fiscal Accountability Authority (SFAA) be placed on the Commission’s website.

**8. Committee Reports**

**8.01 Report of the Executive Committee**

**Tim Hofferth**

The Committee had no report.

**8.02 Report of Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing**

**Terrye Seckinger**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Program Proposals**

1. The Citadel, B.S., Construction Engineering
2. Medical University of South Carolina, Occupational Therapy Doctorate (O.T.D.), Entry Level
3. Medical University of South Carolina, Occupational Therapy Doctorate (O.T.D), Post-Professional
4. University of South Carolina Beaufort, B.A., English, Secondary English Language Arts Licensure
5. University of South Carolina Beaufort, B.S., Secondary Teacher Education, Biology

Commissioner Seckinger addressed universities’ program proposals, commenting on their purposes and necessity. The Commissioners briefly discussed the state’s academic standards after Vice Chair Kuhl’s asked about the interstate applicability of the University of South Carolina-Beaufort’s teaching degrees.

The consent agenda, which was brought forward as a motion from the Committee and therefore did not require a second, **passed** unanimously.

**B. Annual Evaluation of Associate Degree Programs, FY 2013-14**

*(For Information, No Action Required)*

**C. Report on Program Modifications, September 1-October 19, 2017**

*(For Information, No Action Required)*

**D. Consideration of Additional Student Success Measures**

*(For Approval)*

Commissioner Seckinger ceded the floor to Dr. Lane, who explained the reasons for and intended effects of developing a methodology that accounts for transfer students in student achievement measures. Director Schilz informed the Commission of his teleconference with Presidents DeCenzo and Carter, of Coastal Carolina University and Francis Marion University, respectively, who expressed their support for the use of the student success measure. Director Schilz noted that the additional measure put before the Commission did not alter, but rather supplemented, the calculation of graduation rates. He added that in the future, the graduation rate will continue to be reported, but the success rate will now be reported as well. Commissioner Seckinger voiced her support for incorporating the measure in reporting. A **motion** was made by Vice Chair Kuhl, **seconded** by Commissioner Phillips, and was **approved** unanimously.

**8.03 Report of Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services**

**Paul Batson**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. SC Teachers Loan Program**

**B. SC National Guard College Assistance Program**

Commissioner Batson noted the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services met via telephone on November 27, 2017. Proposed modifications to the SC Teachers Loan Program are designed to recruit more students to teaching programs and retain the current teachers corps, Commissioner Batson commented. He explained some proposed revisions to the program including: increasing the loan amount during junior and senior years to \$7500; providing loan forgiveness for all teachers who teach in public schools. Following his overview of revisions to the SC Teachers Loan Program, Commissioner Batson discussed proposed recommendations for the SC National Guard College Assistance Program. Stating the current cap of 130 hours restricted degree completion, Commissioner Batson recommended removing the hour cap imposed on the College Assistance Program while continuing the \$18,000 maximum qualification. The consent agenda, which was brought forward as a motion from the committee and therefore did not require a second, **passed** unanimously.

**8.04 Report of Committee on Finance and Facilities**

**Dianne Kuhl**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Interim Capital Projects**

1. Aiken Technical College

A. Final Land Donation

2. Greenville Technical College

A. Greenville: Benson Campus Amphitheater and Student Plaza

– Establish Project

Vice Chair Kuhl stated the Finance and Facilities Committee had two items on the Consent Agenda: a project at Aiken Technical College and one at Greenville Technical College. She discussed the purposes, costs, and funding sources of the proposed capital projects. The consent agenda, which was brought forward as a motion from the committee and therefore did not require a second, **passed** unanimously.

**B. 2018-2022 Comprehensive Permanent Improvement Plan (CPIP)**

*(For Information, No Action Required)*

Vice Chair Kuhl explained the process used to produce the Comprehensive Permanent Improvement Plan (CPIP), which she noted was presented to the JBRC earlier in the week. Director Schilz elaborated on the process, reasons, and stipulations that affected the Commission's production of the CPIP.

**C. Other Business**

1. Staff Capital Project Approvals, October & November 2017

*(For Information, No Action Required)*

Vice Chair Kuhl presented the item for information only.

**8.05 Report of Special Ad Hoc Subcommittee—Boards of Trustees Code of Conduct**

**Ken Kirkland**

The Committee had no report.

**9. Consideration of Proposed 2018 CHE Meeting Calendar** *(For Approval)*

Chair Hofferth restated the Commission's decision from earlier in the meeting to hold a meeting January 4, 2018, and he proposed maintaining the first Thursday of each month as the Commission's meeting day, as in previous years. He also proposed deferring a July meeting. Vice Chair Kuhl declared the Finance and Facilities Committee would continue holding its meeting the same day as the Commission's meeting. At Vice Chair Kuhl's statement, Commissioner Phillips inquired about the possibility of holding all Committee meetings the same day as the Commission's meeting. The Commission discussed this possibility but did not decide to change the current meeting process. A **motion** was made by Admiral Munns, **seconded** by Commissioner Seckinger, and was **approved** unanimously to approve meeting dates as presented with two exceptions, changing the January 11, 2018 meeting date to January 4, 2018 and determining that there will be no July 2018 meeting.

**10. Public Comment**

There was no public comment provided.

**11. End of Business Meeting**

A **motion** was made, **seconded**, and **carried** to adjourn the meeting at 3:04 p.m.