

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Meeting held at
1122 Lady Street, Suite 300
Columbia, S.C. 29201
2:30 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting
February 1, 2018

Commissioners Attending

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

Commission Members Absent

Guests Attending

Ms. Beth Bell, Clemson University	Ms. Meredith Kennedy, Miller-Motte Technical College
Dr. Connie Book, The Citadel	Mr. Rick Moul, PASCAL
Dr. Tena Crews, University of South Carolina	Mr. Chris Nesmith, USC-Regional Campus
Ms. Jadae DiMaggio, Greenville Technical College	Mr. Paul Patrick, College of Charleston
Mr. Tim Drueke, Winthrop University	Mr. Rick Petillo, Clemson University
Ms. Sarah Eigleman, Miller-Motte Technical College	Dr. Jeff Priest, USC-Aiken
Ms. Kelly Epting, University of South Carolina	Ms. Carol Routh, Clemson University
Dr. Mary Anne Fitzpatrick, University of South Carolina	Dr. Jessica Sanders, Ancora Education
Mr. Derek Gruner, University of South Carolina	Mr. Eddie Shannon, S.C. Independent Colleges and Universities
Mr. Michael Hughes, Governor's EBO	Ms. Loleta Wilkerson, Miller-Motte Technical College
Mr. Rick Kelly, University of South Carolina	Ms. Helen Zeigler, University of South Carolina

Commission Staff Present

Mr. Jeff Schilz	Ms. Yolanda Myers
Ms. Lane Goodwin	Mr. Morgan O'Donnell
Ms. Anna Grubic	Ms. Katie Philpott
Ms. Elizabeth Jablonski	Mr. Andrew Roof
Mr. Michael Jackson	Mr. Keeran Sittampalam
Dr. John Lane	Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Chairman Hofferth convened the meeting at 2:33 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** (Jones), and **carried** to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2017, CHE meeting. A **motion** was made (Seckinger), **seconded** (Kuhl), and **carried** to go immediately into Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters. No motion resulted from Executive Session. At 3:04 p.m., the meeting resumed regular business.

3. Presentation

Interim President and Executive Director Schilz presented the agency's new website homepage, emphasizing the aesthetic and organizational improvements. Commissioners Seckinger and Horne made inquiries about specific features of the homepage: Seckinger asked if the institutional logos displayed on the homepage are linked to their respective homepages, and Commissioner Horne asked about the inclusion of an institutional map. Mr. Schilz affirmed both of their questions.

Subsequently, Mr. Schilz unveiled *GetSmartSC.com*, a new website administered by CHE for facilitating information of prospective students' higher education questions and aspirations. Mr. Schilz noted that this website was designed and engineered by students from within the state's higher education system, prompting Commissioner Horne to call for the Commission to commend their efforts. Mr. Schilz emphasized the necessity for this website to be as user-friendly as possible, a condition with which Chair Hofferth concurred. Chair Hofferth, furthermore, stated that he wanted families to be able to use the website for financial planning. Commissioner Seckinger asked about the occupational applications of *GetSmartSC.com*; Mr. Schilz stated that it is the intention for the website to serve such a purpose.

4. Chairman's Report

Tim Hofferth

Chair Hofferth reminded Commissioners to provide their schedule availability so that a meeting date for the strategic planning session may be determined. Seguing, he informed the Commission of USC Aiken's invitation to Commissioner Munns to give the University's commencement address. Continuing, he recognized the agency's staff for their service to the Commission. Commissioner Horne, speaking on the subject of town hall meetings, asked Chair Hofferth about the venue sites; he explained that venues will be selected on a case-by-case basis and with local commissioners' assistance in identifying and securing easily accessible venues.

5. Vice Chair's Report

Dianne Kuhl

There was no report provided by the Vice Chair.

6. Interim President and Executive Director's Report

Jeff Schilz

President Schilz stated that a list of the agency's accomplishments since April had been compiled for CHE's budget presentation to the House Ways & Means Committee. Mr. Schilz presented this list to the Commission and gave a brief overview of the items enumerated.

7. Legislative Report

Ms. Philpott reiterated President Schilz's notification that the House Ways & Means budget hearing took place earlier in the week; she then informed the Commission of the Representatives who serve on that committee and the matters discussed during CHE's hearing. Subsequently, she called Commissioners' attention to H.4182, the Education Enterprise Act, which devolves authority to vet and review projects not

funded through state appropriations or tuition, as well as procurement, back to institutions' boards of trustees. If this bill were to pass, Ms. Philpott concluded, CHE would be removed from the review process entirely.

The House Ways & Means Higher Education subcommittee met earlier on the morning of February 01, 2018, to deliberate H.4182, and during this meeting, extensive discussion of the CHE's involvement in the capital projects review process took place. Representatives of several public institutions expressed support for the bill, citing the onus of bureaucracy as an impediment to the advancement and economy of capital projects. Ms. Philpott reported to the Commission that a Representative serving on the subcommittee requested CHE's position on the legislation. The subcommittee ultimately adjourned debate on the bill. Commissioner Seckinger requested a copy of the bill and its sponsors be sent to each of the Commissioners.

Concluding discussion on the Education Enterprise Act, Ms. Philpott then proceeded to overview several other relevant bills: H.4391, which proposes to add student body presidents to boards of trustees as ex officio voting members; H. 4712, which makes certification contingent upon successful completion of an exam on the nation's founding documents; and S. 43, which focuses on the same subject as H. 4712 but with more specific language regarding higher education.

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

A. Consideration of Request for Initial License (Change of Ownership)

STVT-AAI Education, Inc. dba Ancora Education acquisition of Miller-Motte Technical College
(For Approval)

Commissioner Seckinger, speaking for the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing, discussed the item: Ancora's acquisition of Miller-Motte Technical College. She overviewed Miller-Motte's history, service offerings, and their areas of operation, and explained the specifications of STVT-AAI Education's sale. Furthermore, she explained that the license for the institution will be reviewed in the following year, to provide a sufficient evaluation based on a full-year's data. Commissioner Seckinger emphasized that Ancora is accredited. The item, which was proposed by the committee, was approved unanimously.

8.03 Report of Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services

Paul Batson

While the Committee had no items needing approval or reports to the Commission, President Schilz requested Commissioner Batson provide an update on the S.C. State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education's actions regarding Denmark Technical College. Commissioner Batson obliged, informing the Commission of all issues appertaining to Denmark Technical College of which he was aware. Concerned for the community and any hardships ensuing from the school's closure, Commissioner Horne inquired if any efforts would be made to relocate the faculty. Commissioner Seckinger wanted to ascertain the existence of a contingency plan for the S.C. State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education's assumption of operational control, which Mr. Schilz confirmed. Chair Hofferth asserted that CHE's role in the matter must be very clear. The agency must honor its fiduciary responsibility, he stated.

8.04 Report of Committee on Finance and Facilities

Dianne Kuhl

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Interim Capital Projects

1. Greenville Technical College
 - A. Greenville: Building 801 Roof Replacement and HVAC Upgrades
-Establish Construction Budget
2. USC-Columbia
 - A. Barnwell Exterior Renovation - Establish Project
 - B. Honors College Residence Hall Expansion - Establish Project
3. College of Charleston
 - A. City Bistro Interior Renovation - Establish Construction Budget
4. Medical University of South Carolina
 - A. Clinical Sciences Building High Risk Infectious Disease (HRID) Unit
-Establish Project

B. Lease Approval

1. USC-Columbia – Army National Guard Recreation Field

Vice Chair Kuhl discussed the purposes, costs, and funding sources of the proposed capital projects and lease approvals. Commissioner Horne, expressing concern about the proportion of in-state to out-of-state students, moved that Agenda Item 8.04.A.2.B, the University of South Carolina’s Honors College Residence Hall Expansion, be removed from the consent agenda, which Commissioner Seckinger seconded. After it was decided that the project would be considered for approval separately, the consent agenda passed unanimously. The Commission then deliberated and approved Agenda Item 8.04.A.2.B, with all Commissioners voting in favor except for Commissioner Horne voting against.

C. Other Business

1. List of Capital Projects and Leases Processed by Staff for December 2017
(For Information, No Action Required)
2. List of Capital Projects and Leases Processed by Staff for January 2018
(For Information, No Action Required)
3. 2017-2018 Tuition and Required Fees Report, Spring Update
(For Information, No Action Required)

Vice Chair Kuhl presented the items to the Commission for information.

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

Ken Kirkland

Having yet received the Inspector General’s report, which was requested sixteen months prior, Commissioner Kirkland stated that an attorney contracted by the Commission transmitted a letter to the Inspector General’s Office requesting a status update, which is expected within the next week.

9. Report of Special Ad Hoc Subcommittee--SCCORE

Commissioner Kirkland discussed developments of SCCORE resulting from the Subcommittee’s January 2nd meeting, where it was decided that President Schilz would be granted the latitude to gather facts, meet with institutions, and create program specifics to provide a framework for the initiative.

10. Other Business

There was no other business.

11. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

11. End of Business Meeting

A **motion** was made, **seconded**, and **carried** to adjourn the meeting at 4:37 p.m.