

**Minutes of the SC Commission on Higher Education
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Meeting
February 28, 2019**

In attendance:

Executive Committee Members Present

Mr. R. Wes Hayes, Chair (phone)
Mr. Charles Munns, Vice Chair (phone)
Ms. Dianne Kuhl (phone)
Ms. Terry Seckinger (phone)

CHE Staff Present

Mr. Mike LeFever, Interim President & Exec.
Director
Ms. Laura Belcher, Operations Director
Dr. John Lane, Director of Academic Affairs
Mr. Andrew Roof, Administrative Coordinator
Mr. Georges Tippens, Program Manager
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk, Director of Student Affairs

Executive Committee Members Absent

Mr. Paul Batson

Chair Hayes convened the meeting at 10:03 a.m. It was confirmed that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Approval of Minutes (January 25th, 2019)

Wes Hayes

Commissioner Seckinger moved, and Vice Chair Munns seconded, to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2019 meeting as presented. The motion was unanimously carried, and the minutes were approved.

2. Review of the February 07, 2019, CHE Draft Meeting Agenda

Wes Hayes

Chair Hayes began reviewing the draft agenda for the Commission's upcoming meeting on March 7th. He asked Interim President and Executive Director Mike LeFever if there was anything of which he needed to bring to the Executive Committee's attention. Mr. LeFever advised incorporating an executive session into the meeting's schedule to consider legal counsel regarding the South Carolina Higher Education Foundation.

Commissioner Kuhl asked if time during the upcoming meeting had been apportioned for the Search Committee for the next President & Executive Director (Search Committee) to provide a brief report on its activities. Determining that time had not yet been designated, Vice Chair Munns requested that a report from the Search Committee be formally added to the agenda.

Chair Hayes noted the large number of academic programs being proposed for approval by the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing, and he asked if lengthy discussion is anticipated. Responding, Commissioner Seckinger did not expect any contentious debate concerning the programs, stating that the proposals were formulated well. She then asked Dr. Lane, director of the agency's Academic Affairs and Licensing division, to inform the Executive Committee of the percentage of programs returned to their submitters before reaching the committee level. Dr. Lane announced that 56% of programs submitted during the period from July 2016 through Mid-May 2018, and 50% of programs submitted from August through December 2018, were approved by the Commission. After a brief discussion, it was decided that these statistics would be displayed on the March 7th meeting agenda inside of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing's consent agenda.

As Commissioner Batson was unable to attend the meeting, Dr. Woodfaulk provided information about the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services' report for the upcoming Commission meeting. In addition to several items for Commissioners' information, she noted the Committee would put forward

one item for approval: the FY 2017-2018 Quarter I and Quarter II Reports from the S.C. Program for the Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers (SC-PRRMT).

Commissioner Kuhl stated the Committee on Finance & Facilities would recommend one lease approval to the Commission, and added that her committee, pending a separate discussion with Chair Hayes, would like to recommend a topic for the Commission to address in its executive session. Chair Hayes informed Commissioner Kuhl that he would be available the following day to engage her in discussion.

Chair Hayes expressed his desire for the Commission to devote some time to discussing S.298 at its upcoming meeting. He asked Mr. LeFever where on the agenda he thinks such a discussion should occur. Mr. LeFever stated that the discussion, which he noted was already designated on the draft agenda under the Legislative Report, should take place in open session. Chair Hayes expressed concern that holding the discussion during the Legislative Report would impede the progress of the subsequent committee reports. Commissioner Kuhl recommended Mr. LeFever briefly overview S.298 during his Legislative Report but also list near the end of the agenda a space for more thorough discussion by the Commission.

Commissioners Kuhl and Seckinger both expressed concern for some aspects of S.298 and wanted to deliberate those concerns. Vice Chair Munns cautioned that the Commission should not unduly contest the bill, as he believed in its overall benefits in addressing issues within higher education.

3. Other Business

There was no other business.

4. Adjournment

A **motion** was made and **seconded** for the Executive Committee to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 a.m.