



Minutes of the SC Commission on Higher Education
Executive Committee Meeting
February 22, 2022
Via Zoom

In Attendance:

Executive Committee Members Present

Mr. R. Wes Hayes, Chair
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Vice Chair
Mr. Paul Batson
Mr. Charles Dalton

Executive Committee Member Excused

Mr. Charles Munns

CHE Staff Present

Dr. Rusty Monhollon, President & Executive Director
Ms. Laura Belcher, Operations Manager
Dr. Mariam Dittmann, Director of Academic Affairs
and Licensing
Ms. Monica Goodwin, Director of Data-Research &
IT
Ms. Shakara Smith, Executive Assistant
Mr. Georges Tippens, Deputy Director & General
Counsel
Ms. Bunnie Ward, Director of Governmental Affairs
& Communications
Mr. Bryce Wilson, Director of Fiscal Affairs
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk, Director of Student Affairs

Chair Hayes called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. It was confirmed that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Approval of Minutes January 21, 2022

Wes Hayes

Chair Hayes called for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2022 Executive Committee meeting. Commissioner Horne motioned and Commissioner Batson seconded to approve the minutes. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Review of the March 3, 2022 CHE Draft Meeting Agenda

Wes Hayes

Chair Hayes said that during his report elections for the vice chair position will be held, as the current vice chair, Commissioner Horne, will resign and become the new chair of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing.

Chair Hayes called on President Monhollon to summarize his upcoming President's report. President Monhollon stated that his report would include updates on CHE activities related to proviso compliance. He said that Ms. Ward will provide an update on the CHE's legislative budget presentation.



Chair Hayes called on Ms. Ward to summarize her report. Ms. Ward stated that her report will include an update on bills related to higher education. Chair Hayes asked whether there was an update regarding the critical race theory (CRT) proposed legislation, to which Ms. Ward said that full House committee heard testimony from approximately 30 speakers, to include three higher education representatives and that the testimonies were well received. Ms. Ward reported that there will be another session for testimony regarding CRT, but the date has not been provided yet. Chair Hayes asked whether there was any feedback on the CHE's academic statement, to which Ms. Ward said that there has not been any response on the statement. President Monhollon said that meetings are currently being arranged with the Senate Finance Higher Education Committee and staff to have conversations ahead of the CHE's budget presentation, which is scheduled March 31.

The Committee Chairs reviewed their committee reports for the CHE meeting.

Chair Hayes said that there would not be a report from the Executive Committee.

Commissioner Horne reported that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing would have eight program proposals for consideration: five from Francis Marion University: B.S., Environmental Science and B.A., Environmental Studies; M.A.T., Early Childhood Education; M.A.T., Elementary Education; M.A.T., Multi-Categorical Special Education Program; O.T.D., Occupational Therapy; two from Lander University: M.S., Exercise Science and B.S. Medical Biology; and one from College of Charleston: B.S., Management.

She explained that one Commissioner voiced concern of noncompliance with the REACH Act as it relates to the B.S. Management program proposed by the College of Charleston. President Monhollon clarified that CHE is ensuring compliance with the REACH Act at the course level, rather than at the degree level. Commissioner Horne said that an update on the REACH Act will be provided during the meeting.

Commissioner Batson reported that the Committee on Access and Equity and Student Services would have one item for consideration, SC Program for the Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers (SC-PRRMT) FY2020-2021 Quarter I and Quarter II Reports and one item for information, SC Scholarships Appeals Cycle 2021-22. Commissioner Batson said that staff planned a series of five Committee meetings with institutions regarding potential revisions to the needs-based grants formula and that the Committee will make a final recommendation to the full board during the May CHE meeting.

Commissioner Dalton shared that the Committee on Finance and Facilities will meet prior to the CHE Business meeting at 11:00 a.m. to consider eight permanent improvement proposals from four institutions: Clemson University, Lehotsky Hall Replacement, Tillman Hall Auditorium Renovation; and Women's Sport Program; Coastal Carolina University, Land Donation for Future Capital Improvement Projects and PGA Golf Management Program Academic Learning Lab Construction; College of Charleston, Electrical Grid Infrastructure Upgrades and Stern Student Center Renovation; and Medical University of South Carolina, College of Medicine Office and Academic Building; and one item for information, Permanent Improvement Project Staff Approvals for February. Commissioner Dalton said that staff will convene the Finance and Facilities advisory committee in March, and will have action items for consideration during the May meeting.

3. Other Business

President Monhollon announced that election of the vice chair will occur during the Chair's report at the March meeting.

Commissioner Horne asked whether there is a date in which institutions must be complaint with the REACH Act, to which Dr. Dittmann said that the report will be filed by May 1. Dr. Dittmann reported that

there are a few syllabi in which staff are working with institutions to become compliant. Commissioner Horne asked whether institutions would meet the deadline, to which Dr. Dittmann confirmed that its expected that all institutions will be compliant by May 1.

Commissioner Hayes asked for an update regarding logistics for March campus visits, to which Ms. Smith provide an overview of the agenda and plans.

4. Adjourn

The Executive Committee adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

