



Minutes of the SC Commission on Higher Education
Executive Committee Meeting
May 24, 2022
Via Zoom

In Attendance:

Executive Committee Members Present

Mr. R. Wes Hayes, Chair
Mr. Ben Satcher, Vice Chair
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne
Mr. Charles Dalton

Executive Committee Members Excused

Mr. Paul Batson

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
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 April 26, 2022

Wes Hayes

Chair Hayes called for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2022, Executive Committee meeting. Commissioner Horne motioned and Commissioner Dalton seconded to approve the minutes. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Review of the June 2, 2022 CHE Draft Meeting Agenda

Wes Hayes

Chair Hayes called on President Monhollon to summarize his upcoming President's report. President Monhollon stated that his report will inform the Commission of a request received from the Cultural and Educational Ministry Republic of China (Taiwan) to sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in collaboration to promote educational and academic exchanges between Taiwan and South Carolina such as seminars, workshops, and conferences related to higher education. President Monhollon said that the SC House passed a resolution earlier this year encouraging connections with Taiwan. He also stated that he spoke with varying states who have signed similar MOUs and received feedback that the exchange is comparable to a ceremonial signing and did not involve any obligation or funding. President Monhollon explained that the MOU has not been drafted, but requested that the Commission endorse his engagement with Taiwan and signing the MOU when appropriate. President Monhollon stated that he



does not foresee any potential conflict, and requested Commissioners' feedback on the request. Chair Hayes requested an example MOU to gain a better understanding of how other states have collaborated with Taiwan, to which President Monhollon stated that he could provide an example during the CHE Meeting. Commissioner Horne expressed concern with the timeline given current events relating to Taiwan, to which President Monhollon stated that the House resolution supports the cultural exchange. Commissioner Dalton asked whether the request would be compliant with our national policy, to which Chair Hayes confirmed. Mr. Tippens suggested that President Monhollon reference the Sister State agreement that South Carolina has with Taiwan regarding educational partnerships already established.

President Monhollon reported that he will also announce events and activities during his report to include the Council of Board Chairs and the Council of Presidents meetings.

Chair Hayes asked President Monhollon to summarize Ms. Ward's legislative report in her absence. President Monhollon said that Ms. Ward's report will include an update on General Assembly deliberations to include a bill that directs the CHE to create an online report card for Educator Preparation Programs. He explained that the House version of the proviso listed the Department of Education as the lead agency, but the Senate version directs the CHE as the lead agency, which has been signed into law. President Monhollon said that no funding has been allocated to the mandate, but he plans to meet with senators to have this discussion in mid-June.

Dr. Woodfaulk said that there will also be an update on bill, H.3588, which allows students to earn the LIFE Scholarship only if they take a math and science course.

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 nine items for consideration: two from Coastal Carolina University; four from the College of Charleston; one from Francis Marion University; and two from University of South Carolina Columbia.

Commissioner Horne said that Francis Marion University's B.S., Forestry program was removed from the consent agenda, as it was approved at the Committee level contingent upon the university addressing a concern expressed by Commissioner Dolny. Commissioner Horne stated that concerns were addressed, therefore, the Committee will motion during the CHE meeting to add the program back to the consent agenda.

On behalf of Commissioner Batson, Commissioner Horne reported that the Committee on Access and Equity and Student Services would have one action item for consideration, Consideration of SC Student Loan Corporation FY2022-2023 Administrative Budget Request for the SC Teachers Loan Program, and three reports for information: SC Need-based Grant Report (College Transition and Need-based Grant), Palmetto Fellows Annual Report, and College Application Month.

Commissioner Dalton reported that the Committee on Finance and Facilities will meet prior to the CHE Business meeting to consider four permanent improvement proposals from three institutions: Coastal Carolina University, Indoor Practice Facility Construction; Horry-Georgetown Technical College, Diesel Engine Training Facility Expansion - Building and Land Acquisition; and two from University of South Carolina, Swearingen Infrastructure Replacement Renovation and Thornwell College Maintenance Renovation.

Commissioner Dalton said that the Committee will have an advisory meeting prior to the Committee on Finance and Facilities Meeting, at which Moody's Investors will present on credit, bonding rating, and credibility of higher education. He also reported one item will be presented for information, Permanent Improvement Project Staff Approvals during May.

4. Other Business

President Monhollon announced that the CHE Retreat is scheduled August 4 and asked for potential topics Commissioners were interested in covering, to which Commissioners made the following suggestions: status update on the Public Agenda and how we will advance the initiative; refresher on the Public Agenda; presentation on demographics post COVID-19 related to higher education from Moody's Investors; report updates from each CHE office director regarding current work and initiatives; and an update on the Higher Education Foundation.

5. Adjourn

The Executive Committee adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

