

MINUTES
COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS
Zucker Family Graduate
Education Center
1240 Supply Street
North Charleston, SC 29405
May 1, 2024
1:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Notification as required by the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act was given at least twenty-four hours before the meeting by posting the notice and agenda on the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education's website.

After notification as required by the Freedom of Information Act, Dr. Jim Clements, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. with the following present:

Dr. Jim Clements, *Chair, presiding*
Dr. Luther (Fred) Carter, Francis Marion University
Dr. David Cole, Medical University of South Carolina
Dr. Walter Collins, University of South Carolina Lancaster (Virtual)
Dr. April Cone, University of South Carolina, Salkehatchie
Col. Alexander Conyers, South Carolina State University
Dr. Galen DeHay, Tri-County Technical College (Virtual)
Dr. Susan Elkins, University of South Carolina, Palmetto College (Virtual)
Ms. Christen Engel, University of South Carolina-Aiken (Virtual)
Dr. Tim Hardee, SC Technical College System (Virtual)
Dr. Bennie Harris, University of South Carolina Upstate (Virtual)
Dr. Andrew Hsu, College of Charleston
Dr. Patricia Lee, Williamsburg Technical College (Virtual)
Dr. Randy Lowell, University of South Carolina Union
Dr. Forrest Mahan, Aiken Technical College (Virtual)
Dr. Keith Miller, Greenville Technical College
Dr. Jeff Perez, SC Independent Colleges and Universities
Dr. Kevin Pollock, Central Carolina Technical College (Virtual)
Dr. Hope Rivers, Piedmont Technical College (Virtual)
Dr. Michael Sonntag, University of South Carolina-Sumter (Virtual)
Dr. Walt Tobin, Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College (Virtual)
Dr. Willie Todd, Denmark Technical College (Virtual)

CHE Staff
Dr. Gregory Little, Interim President and Executive Director

Guests:

Angie Leidinger, Clemson University

Beth Bell, Clemson University

Julio Hernandez, Clemson University

Chair Clements asked participants to introduce themselves.

Chair Clements noted a quorum was present.

Chair Clements noted that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

Chair Clements introduced the draft minutes for the February 7, 2024 meeting and asked whether there was any discussion. Dr. Carter made the motion to accept the minutes as drafted. The motion was seconded by Col. Conyers. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Presentation

Dr. Clements introduced Dr. Belle Wheelan, President of SACSCOC for a presentation.

Discussion Topics

CHE Updates

Dr. Greg Little

1. IG report update
2. CHE leadership transition
3. FAFSA update
4. Expressed thanks to the Council of Presidents and the work the group has done.
5. CHE plans to continue visits to campuses for at least two meetings per year.
6. Discussed CHE's top priority, Workforce Development and announced efforts by CHE to improve dual enrollment, course transfer. Commended Clemson and USC on their work in this area.

Legislative Update

Angie Leidinger

Discussion centered around several current legislative topics

1. Higher Education Study
1. S.314/Permanent Improvement Proviso
2. Tenure
3. Name, Image and Likeness (NIL)
4. FORUM Act/Campus free speech
5. Diversity Statements
6. Tuition justification proviso

Discussion continued around higher education-specific issues and that governmental affairs representatives from institutions should resume meeting and collaborating, as was consistently achieved for a number of years, to develop common messaging.

Nomination and Election of CoP Chair for Academic Year 2024-25

Chair Clements announced that it was time to elect a Chair for the upcoming academic year from the comprehensive sector. Dr. Carter was nominated by Chair Clements. Col. Conyers moved that

nominations be closed and that Dr. Carter be elected by acclamation.

Old Business

No old business to discuss.

New Business

Dr. Perez asked the group for their thoughts on new overtime rules.

Adjourn

There no being no further business, Chair Clements adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.