



Meeting of the South Carolina Commission  
on Higher Education  
12:30 p.m., November 7, 2024  
Gold Room, Winthrop University and Zoom Webinar

**Members**

Commissioner Wes Hayes, Chair  
Commissioner Paul Batson  
Commissioner Edgar Dyer, virtual  
Commissioner Jenni Bryson  
Commissioner Gene Fant, virtual  
Commissioner Hugh Mobley

Commissioner Terrye Seckinger, virtual  
Commissioner Oran Smith  
Commissioner Doug Snyder  
Commissioner Dino Teppara, virtual  
Commissioner Mick Zais

**Members Excused**

Commissioner Mark Masters  
Commissioner Cleveland Sellers

**Commission Staff Present**

Jeff Perez  
Argentini Anderson  
Jessica Berry  
Laura Belcher  
Kristin Brooks  
Stephanie Charbonneau  
Ende Clark  
Corey Gheesling  
Monica Goodwin  
Kathryn Harris  
Matthew Hartenstine  
Darnell Holland  
Ellan Jenkinson  
Maggie Mason Smith, PASCAL  
Mariana Manic

Diane McCree  
Emily McPheron, PASCAL  
Yolanda Myers  
Melissa Price  
Christopher Robinson  
Christina Seale  
Kara Smith  
Tracy Solet  
Yarley Steedly  
Mark Swart  
Tanya Weigold  
Leslie Williams  
Bryce Wilson  
Karen Woodfaulk  
Lishu Yin

**Guests**

Beth Bell, Clemson University  
Mary Bland, Francis Marion University  
Willie Bradley, SC Institutes of Innovation & Information  
Phillip Brigmon, University of South Carolina Aiken  
Teresa Burns, Coastal Carolina University  
Bonnie Carson Durham, University of South Carolina Upstate  
Will Carswell, Francis Marion University  
Cheryl Caution-Parker, SC Institutes of Innovation & Information  
James Colbert, Lander University  
Walter Collins, University of South Carolina Palmetto College  
Rob Essaf, Clemson University  
Frederick Evans, SC State University

Jason Ferguson, Graduation Alliance  
Jermaine Ford, Florence-Darlington Technical College  
Allen Geiger, Clemson University  
Jennifer Guinn, Northeastern Technical College  
Michelle Hare, Winthrop University  
Katie Harrison, SC Tuition Grants Commission  
Ashlin Hatcher, Moseley Architects  
Ayana Hernandez, SC Institutes of Innovation & Information  
Trena Houpp, University of South Carolina  
Jeremy King, Clemson University  
Gibbs Knotts, Coastal Carolina University  
Gwynth Nelson, SC Institutes of Innovation & Information  
Ashley Owens, Francis Marion University  
Al Panu, University of South Carolina, Beaufort

Craig Parks, University of South Carolina  
Erin Paysinger, Lander University  
Briana Peele, Clemson University  
Hope Rivers, Piedmont Technical College  
Karin Roof, The Citadel  
Jake Scoggins, SC Senate  
Andy Shain, University of South Carolina  
Eric Skipper, University of South Carolina  
Beaufort

Kimberly Smalls, SC Institutes of Innovation &  
Information  
Allison Steadman, Francis Marion University  
Pam Steinke, University of South Carolina  
Upstate  
Rosline Sumpter, SC Technical College System  
Abbie Thielke, McMillan Pazdan Smith  
Architecture  
Sebastian Van Delden, Winthrop University

All Attended either In-Person, by Phone, or via Video Conference

Chair Hayes convened the meeting at 12:13 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

**I. 1. Introductions and Roll Call to Establish Quorum**

Ms. Belcher introduced the Commissioners. She confirmed a quorum of the Commission and announced that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Chair Hayes introduced the draft minutes of the September 5, 2024, CHE Business meeting and asked for any additions or corrections. Commissioner Mobley motioned to approve minutes as presented, and Commissioner Zais seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**3. Chair's Report**

Chair Hayes thanked Winthrop University's leadership and staff for hosting the CHE. Chair Hayes reported that he has one item for consideration, Standing Committee Changes. He said that according to the CHE Bylaws, there would need to be a two-thirds vote to make any changes to the committees. He reported that there will still be four standing committees, however the missions and names will change. He announced the committee names: Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing; Committee on Student Services, Committee on Finance and Administration; and Committee on Strategic Planning and Accountability. Chair Hayes motioned and Commissioner Snyder seconded for the approval of the committee changes. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**4. President and Executive Director's Report**

Chair Hayes called on President Perez to give his report. President Perez thanked Winthrop University for hosting the CHE. President Perez welcomed new agency staff: Office of Student Services; Ms. Fran Brune, Operations Coordinator and Office of the President and Executive Director, Ms. Kesha Washington,

Receptionist/Administrative Assistant. President Perez provided an update regarding the Inspector General's (IG) recommendations, reporting that of 40 action items, 25 have been completed, 11 initiated, with four left to be initiated. President Perez reported that the House Legislative Oversight Committee (HLOC) met on October 23 and approved the report on the CHE. He said that the CHE will develop a tracker similar to the IG's to ensure that the HLOC recommendations are implemented.

President Perez reported that the CHE transmitted its Quarter 1 Budget Report to the General Assembly and the report will be reviewed by Commissioners during the December CHE Business Meeting. He announced that the CHE presented its Executive Budget request on October 24.

President Perez announced that he has consolidated some offices within the agency and summarized the new organizational structure. Commissioner Dyer asked whether the current outside counsel was assigned to the CHE through the Attorney General's (AG) Office, to which President Perez said that the counsel was approved by the AG's office and is employed on an hourly basis by the agency.

President Perez called on Ms. Manic, who gave a presentation on the FY 2025-26 Scholarship Projections. President Perez called on Ms. Steedly to give the legislative update. Ms. Steedly reported that there will be changes in the General Assembly's composition as some legislators have retired and some districts have been realigned. She described the House's and Senate's new composition and said that the House will start with pre-files on December 5. She reported that the Senate pre-files will begin on December 11.

## **5. Committee Reports**

### **5.01 Report of the Executive Committee**

Chair Hayes said that there were no items to be considered from the Executive Committee.

### **5.02 Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing**

**Edgar Dyer**

Chair Hayes called on Commissioner Dyer to provide a report on the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing. Commissioner Dyer reported that the Committee has four program proposals, one report and one new center proposal on the consent agenda for consideration. He asked Dr. Berry to give a summary of the REACH Act Report. Following Dr. Berry's summary, Commissioner Dyer briefly summarized the remaining items and motioned for approval. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the items passed unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. New Program Proposal**

1. Clemson University, DVM, Veterinary Medicine
2. University of South Carolina Beaufort, MAT, Secondary Education
3. Winthrop University, BS, Financial Technology
4. University of South Carolina Columbia, MS, Performance Nutrition and Dietetics

**B. AY 2023-24 REACH Act Report**

**C. New Center Proposal**

1. University of South Carolina Columbia, USC Collaborative for Health Equity Research (USC-CHEER)

**5.03 Report of the Committee on Student Services**

**Hugh Mobley**

Chair Hayes called on Commissioner Mobley to provide a report on the Committee on Student Services. Commissioner Mobley reported that the Committee has one item for consideration. He summarized the consent agenda item and motioned for approval. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the item passed. President Perez thanked staff for their collaborative work in creating the regulations.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. State Scholarship Regulations (For Approval)**

**5.04 Report of the Committee on Finance and Administration**

**Edgar Dyer**

Chair Hayes called on Commissioner Batson to provide a report on the Committee on Finance and Administration. Commissioner Batson said that there were no items to be considered from the committee and announced that the committee will next meet in December.

**5.05 Report of the Committee on Strategic Planning and Accountability**

**Doug Snyder**

Chair Hayes called on Commissioner Snyder to provide a report on the Committee on Strategic Planning and Accountability. Commissioner Snyder reported that there were no items for action. He reported that the committee will provide a timeline in December for drafting the agency's strategic plan, which will include input from various stakeholders and other CHE standing committees. Commissioner Snyder said that the committee will also draft its new charter and encourage other committees to work on their revisions, as well.

**FOR INFORMATION**

**A. Chair's Report (For information, no action)**

#### **6. Other Business**

There was no other business to consider.

#### **7. Executive Session**

There was not an executive session.

#### **8. End of Business Meeting**

The business meeting adjourned at 12:52 p.m.