



Minutes of the SC Commission on Higher Education (CHE)
Executive Committee Meeting
August 26, 2025
10:00 a.m.
Via Zoom

In Attendance:

Executive Committee Members Present

Mr. Oran Smith, Vice Chair
Mr. Paul Batson
Ms. Jenni Bryson
Mr. Eddie Dyer
Mr. Doug Snyder

Executive Committee Members Excused

Mr. R. Wes Hayes, Chair

CHE Staff Present

Dr. Jeff Perez, President and Executive Director
Ms. Laura Belcher, Senior Advisor
Ms. Monica Goodwin, Director of Information
Technology and Data Analysis
Dr. Angela Peters, Director of Academic Affairs and
Licensing
Ms. Shakara Smith, Executive Assistant
Mr. Bryce Wilson, Director of Fiscal Affairs
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk, Director of Student Affairs

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He announced that he would chair the meeting on behalf of Chair Hayes, who was excused due to travel. Ms. Smith confirmed a quorum and announced that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Approval of Minutes

Wes Hayes

Chair Smith called for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 29, 2025, Executive Committee meeting. Commissioner Bryson motioned and Commissioner Dyer seconded to approve the minutes. Chair Smith called for the vote and the minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Review of the September 4, 2025 CHE Draft Meeting Agenda

Chair Smith stated that the Chair's Report would include the election of the Vice Chair, noting that this annual election was deferred from August to September due to timing constraints.

Chair Smith called on President Perez to summarize his forthcoming report to the Commission.

President Perez said that his report will include an agency operational update as well as a preliminary outlook on enrollment data.

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

Chair Smith said that the Executive Committee would not have any items to report.



Commissioner Dyer reported that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing (CAAL) would not have any items to report.

Commissioner Bryson reported that the Committee on Student Services would have five items for action and three items for information only.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. SC PRRMT Quarter 3 Report (For information, no action)
- B. SC PRRMT FY 2026-27 Budget Request (For Action)
- C. College Transition Program Scholarship Report (For Action)
- D. Emergency and Proposed Palmetto Fellows Regulations (For Action)
- E. Palmetto Fellows Year-Round Application Timeline (For information, no action)
- F. Centers of Excellence Grant Program FY 2025-26 Budget Request and Request for Proposals (For Action)
- G. SC III Report (For information, no action)
- H. FY 26-27 Budget Request for Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention and Advancement (CERRA) (For Action)

Commissioner Batson reported that the Committee on Finance and Administration would have one item for action and three items for information only to include one additional added item, *CHEMIS 2.0 Update*. He summarized the items.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. 2026-27 CHE Executive Budget Request (For Action)
- B. Compliance Audit Update (For information, no action)
- C. Battelle Year End Update (For information, no action)

Commissioner Snyder reported that the Committee on Strategic Planning and Accountability (CSPA) would add two items for information only, *External Studies Update and Accountability*.

3. Executive Session (If needed)

There was no executive session.

4. Other Business

Commissioner Bryson requested that President Perez include an update on swatting incidents in his forthcoming report, noting its growing relevance in higher education. President Perez agreed to include the update in his monthly report.

President Perez also explained that a three-fourths vote would be required to waive the 48-hour rule between committee and Commission actions to consider the CHE Executive Budget Request. He noted that the FY 2026–27 budget request, effective July 1, 2026, is expected to be relatively straightforward and will build upon the prior year’s support from the General Assembly, with no urgent matters anticipated.

5. Adjourn

The Executive Committee adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.