



Minutes of the SC Commission on Higher Education (CHE)  
Executive Committee Meeting  
January 27, 2025  
10:00 a.m.  
Via Zoom

In Attendance:

**Executive Committee Members Present**

Mr. R. Wes Hayes, Chair  
Mr. Paul Batson  
Mr. Eddie Dyer  
Mr. Hugh Mobley  
Mr. Oran Smith

**Executive Committee Members Excused**

Mr. Doug Snyder

**Other Commissioners Present**

Mr. Mick Zais

**CHE Staff Present**

Dr. Jeff Perez, President and Executive Director  
Ms. Laura Belcher, Senior Advisor  
Dr. Jessica Berry, Interim Director of Academic  
Affairs and Licensing  
Ms. Kara Smith, Executive Assistant  
Mr. Bryce Wilson, Director of Finance and  
Operations  
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk, Director of Student Affairs

Chair Hayes called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Ms. Smith confirmed that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

**1. Approval of Minutes**

**Wes Hayes**

Chair Hayes called for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 22, 2024 Executive Committee meeting. Commissioner Mobley motioned and Commissioner Batson seconded to approve the minutes. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**2. Discuss Annual Bylaws Review**

Chair Hayes asked Commissioner Smith to lead the annual review of the CHE Bylaws, to which Commissioner Smith agreed. Chair Hayes said that he will inform the Board during the February meeting that the review is in process.

**3. Review of the February 6, 2025 CHE Draft Meeting Agenda**

Chair Hayes requested that Commissioner Smith serve as chair for the upcoming February meeting, as he plans to attend the meeting virtually. Commissioner Smith agreed to serve as chair.



Chair Hayes called on President Perez to summarize his forthcoming report to the Commission. President Perez said that his report will include an update on his recent activities to include a presentation to the House Ways and Means Higher Education Subcommittee and a presentation at the SC Credit Mobility Taskforce Conference.

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

Chair Hayes reported that Commissioner Smith will announce that he is leading the annual review of the CHE Bylaws.

Commissioner Dyer reported that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing (CAAL) would have its committee charter, two new programs and one mission statement for consideration. He summarized the items and said that staff will be present to provide an update on the two items listed for information.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing Charter Revision
- B. New Program Proposals
  - 1. College of Charleston, Executive Doctorate of Business Administration
  - 2. College of Charleston, Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)/A.B.B.
- C. Mission Statement Revision
  - 1. University of South Carolina, Beaufort, Mission Statement Revision
- D. Nursing Educator Initiative Report for FY 2023-24 (For information, no action)
- E. AY 2023-24 Academic Programs Annual Report (For information, no action)

Commissioner Mobley announced that he has asked Commissioner Bryson to chair the February meeting as he will not be present. Commissioner Mobley reported that the Committee on Student Services would have one item for consideration. He summarized the item. Commissioner Batson requested to adjust the Committee meeting times, with the Committee on Finance and Administration meeting at 10:00 a.m. and the Committee on Student Services meeting at 11:00 a.m. Commissioners agreed to the change.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Committee on Student Services Charter Revision

Commissioner Batson reported that the Committee on Finance and Administration would have one item for consideration and three items for information only. He summarized the items.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Committee on Student Services Charter Revision
- B. Quarter 2 CHE Budget Report (For information, no action)
- C. Proviso 3.6 Technology Funds Report (For information, no action)
- D. Statistical Abstract (For information, no action)

Ms. Belcher, on behalf of Commissioner Snyder, reported that the Committee on Strategic Planning and Accountability (CSPA) will have one item for consideration and three items for information, which she summarized. Chair Hayes asked whether the Board would receive an update on external studies, to which President Perez confirmed.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Committee on Student Services Charter Revision
- B. Chair's Report (For information, no action)
- C. Strategic Planning Timeline (For information, no action)
- D. External Studies Updates (For information, no action)

#### **4. Executive Session (If needed)**

Commissioners did not have an executive session.

#### **5. Other Business**

Commissioner Mobley recommended that the Commission begin a study on artificial intelligence (AI), as it is becoming more relevant.

Commissioner Dyer informed the Committee about a potential bill being filed by Representative McGinnis related to continuing education training for Board members and trustees.

Chair Hayes asked when the next campus visit will be scheduled, to which Commissioner Batson recommended a visit to Greenville Technical College. Commissioner Mobley recommended that a visit to the University of South Carolina, Columbia could also be an option. Commissioner Batson and President Perez agreed to continue the conversation.

#### **6. Adjourn**

The Executive Committee adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

