

MEETING MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
MAY 1, 2025

The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education's Committee on Finance and Administration met on May 1, 2025. This meeting was held in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Oran Smith, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Upon Commissioner Smith's request, Scheri Eichelberger acknowledged Committee members, noted there was an absence of a quorum, and introduced guest attendees.

In addition to Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Mark Masters was also in attendance.

CHE President and Executive Director, Dr. Jeff Perez was present along with his staff: Bryce Wilson, Anthony Brown, Christina Seale, Scheri Eichelberger, Brett Mills, Monica Goodwin, Christopher Glenn, Leslie Williams, Christopher Robinson, Mark Swart, Laura Belcher and Kallu Bharath.

2. Approval of Minutes

In the absence of a quorum, the March 6, 2025, meeting minutes could not be approved.

3. Chair's Report

Commissioner Smith thanked everyone for attending the meeting and noted that Chair Batson and Commissioner Dyer had excused absences. He reported there were no action items for this meeting. He acknowledged CHE Office of Fiscal Affairs and Operations (OFAO) newest addition, Mr. Brett Mills, who was hired to fill Ms. Myer's position after she retired in January 2025.

4. Office of Fiscal Affairs and Operations Updates (for information only, no action)

The following items were presented the OFAO, Mr. Bryce Wilson, Director:

A. Quarter 3 CHE Budget Report

Mr. Wilson provided an update on the agency's expenditures in the third quarter that ended on March 31, 2025.

Mr. Wilson first addressed the operating and programs area, noting 71.35% expenditures as of the end of the third quarter. He noted that once the FY 25-26 executive budget is approved funding will be transferred from the Ascend 60x30 allocation to administrative for salaries and associated expenses. Mr. Wilson next addressed the other agencies and entities area, noting 86.3% expenditures as of the end of the third quarter. Next, Mr. Wilson addressed the student scholarship and grant programs area, noting 51.2% as of the end of the third quarter. Lastly, Mr. Wilson addressed the FY25 administrative operations by General, Earmarked, Restricted and Federal funds.

B. Merit Scholarship Expenditure Update

Mr. Wilson provided an update on the merit scholarship expenditures and explained the projection and lottery cash updates.

5. Office of Information Technology and Data Analysis Updates (for information only, no action)

The following items were presented by the CHE Office of Information Technology and Data Analysis (OITDA), Dr. Christopher Robinson, Assistant Director:

A. Presentation "SAT Impacts"

Dr. Robinson spoke about the assessment of CHEMIS SAT data reporting, which followed up on some questions and concerns related to the statistical abstract presentation from the last Committee meeting.

6. Other Business

There was no other business.

7. Adjournment

When there were no more comments or remarks, Commissioner Smith motioned for adjournment, and Commissioner Masters seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 p.m.