



Meeting of the South Carolina Commission
on Higher Education
1:00 p.m., March 2, 2023
1122 Lady St., Suite 400, Columbia, SC 29201
& Via Zoom Webinar

Members

Commissioner Wes Hayes, Chair
Commissioner Ben Satcher, Vice Chair
Commissioner Paul Batson
Commissioner Jenni Bryson
Commissioner Charles Dalton
Commissioner Edgar Dyer
Commissioner Bettie Rose Horne

Commissioner Hugh Mobley
Commissioner Terrye Seckinger
Commissioner Cleveland Sellers
Commissioner Doug Snyder
Commissioner Dino Teppara
Commissioner Patrick White

Members Excused

Commissioner Linda Dolny
Commissioner Mark Smith

Commission Staff Present

Rusty Monhollon
Laura Belcher
Corey Gheesling
Monica Goodwin
Gerrick Hampton
Kathryn Harris
Andrea Latouche
Alfie Mincy
Frank Myers
Yolanda Myers
Kenita Pitts-Howard

Christopher Robinson
Laverne Sanders
Christina Seale
Kara Smith
Yarley Steedly
Mark Swart
Ashton Talbert
Georges Tippens
Bunnie Ward
Tanya Weigold
Leslie Williams
Bryce Wilson
Karen Woodfaulk

Guests

Clay Barton, SC Department of Education
Beth Bell, Clemson University
Bridget Blackwell, University of South Carolina-
Palmetto College
Tanya Boone, University of South Carolina
Upstate
Teresa Burns, Coastal Carolina University
Will Carswell, Francis Marion University
John Catalano, University of South Carolina-
Palmetto College
James Colbert, Lander University
Dan Cooper, Tri-County Technical College
Timothy Druke, Winthrop University
Shirleatha Dunlap, University of South Carolina
Upstate
Lauren Ellis, Pearson Education
Daniel Ennis, Coastal Carolina University

Rob Essaf, Clemson University
Frederick Evans, SC State University
Jermaine Ford, Florence-Darlington Technical
College
Bennie Harris, University of South Carolina
Upstate
Katie Harrison, SC Tuition Grants Commission
Cynthia Hemphill-Reehling, Pearson Education
Trena Houpp, University of South Carolina
Columbia
Callum Johnston, Francis Marion University
Pamela Jones, SC Department of Employment
and Workforce
Jeremy King, Clemson University
Peter King, Francis Marion University
Lori Kinley, Clemson University
Elisabeth Kovac, SC Future Makers



Jeff Perez, SC Independent Colleges and Universities
Erin Paysinger, Lander University
James Ritter, SC Department of Education
Carol Routh, Clemson University
Allison Steadman, Francis Marion University
Pam Steinke, University of South Carolina Upstate

Eric Skipper, University of South Carolina Beaufort
Reinell Thomas-Myers, SC State University
Darren Timmons, University of South Carolina Aiken
Alexandra Weaver, University of South Carolina
Macey Webb, SC House of Representatives
Jennifer Wilbanks, Horry-Georgetown Technical College

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

Chair Hayes convened the meeting at 1:05 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 February 2, 2023, CHE Business meeting and asked whether there were any additions or corrections. Commissioner Satcher motioned to approve minutes as presented, and Commissioner Seckinger seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Chair's Report

Chair Hayes thanked CHE staff for coordinating and participating in a successful legislative breakfast. He also thanked Commissioners for their attendance and the SC Higher Education Foundation for funding the event.

4. President and Executive Director's Report

Chair Hayes called on President Monhollon to give his report. President Monhollon reiterated appreciation of staff for their planning and participation in the legislative breakfast. He said that the event was successful with notable legislative attendance.



President Monhollon reported agency-related new hires: Office of Academic Affairs and Licensing welcomed Dr. Jessica Berry, Program Manager and Dr. Maggie May, Program Manager and the Office of Strategic Initiatives and Engagement welcomed Ms. Yarley Steedly, Governmental and External Affairs Manager. He announced that Ms. Belcher has accepted a position within the agency of Senior Advisor to the President & Executive Director.

President Monhollon provided an update on the House Legislative Oversight Committee (HLOC) review. He said that the public comment period ends today and explained that it is a survey opportunity to solicit input on the agency's services. President Monhollon announced that on March 9, the CHE will give testimony before the HLOC addressing all questions posed by the Committee and responding to any notable comments from the public comment survey. He explained that Ms. Belcher is serving as the liaison for the agency, collecting requested information, which is due to the Committee by March 22. After the initial request for information has been received by the Committee, there will be a series of agency presentations before the Education and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee in the coming month.

President Monhollon reported that the agency received a request for information from the House Research Office regarding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) efforts and expenditures for each of the public higher education institutions. He said that the deadline to submit the requested information to the Research Office was March 1, which was met by the agency.

President Monhollon revealed that the CHE has taken on a new initiative, SC Military Credit Mobility Taskforce Initiative led by Dr. Woodfaulk. He explained that the goal of the initiative is to increase the number of academic credits obtained by veterans for their military training and service. He added that the agency is currently reaching out to institutions to increase representation on the taskforce.

President Monhollon reported on the Transfer Taskforce, which is composed of representatives from all sectors of higher education institutions. He announced that the taskforce released its report and identified six recommendations: appoint transfer liaison at participating institutions; convene regular meetings; develop and manage a statewide data system and dashboard; convene a stakeholder group to perform



various tasks; request public and institutions provide more information and resources about transfer; develop a plan to implement and incentivize reverse transfer; and advocate for state funding to support a statewide awareness campaign. He announced that the Council of Presidents met on March 1 and the taskforce's transfer recommendations were a key discussion during the meeting among other topics.

President Monhollon announced that H.4060 was filed yesterday, the second part of an omnibus workforce development bill. He explained that the bill addresses the education portion of the workforce development bill to include readiness and remediation in high school to prepare for college work, FAFSA completion, transfer and reverse transfer, dual enrollment, and return on investment for bachelor's degrees.

President Monhollon announced that the memorandum of understanding (MOU) has been executed with the SC Student Loan Corporation to help administer the Nursing Initiative. He reported that the House budget has allocated an additional \$10 million this year to continue funding the initiative.

President Monhollon reported that the SC Broadband Office, which is housed in the SC Office of Regulatory Staff, is working on an initiative to expand broadband access for South Carolinians. He explained that the Office will map the entire state to identify Wi-Fi strength with consideration of population. He said that funding was provided through federal dollars, through a program called Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD). This program will partner with the State to build the infrastructure where Wi-Fi needs to be further developed, President Monhollon explained. He said that a survey will be deployed, and various meetings conducted around the state to gather citizens' input. President Monhollon said that the CHE will advertise the survey on its website to encourage citizens to participate.

President Monhollon restated the objective of *Ascend 60x30*. By 2030, 60 percent of South Carolinians will hold a high-quality postsecondary credential, and achievement gaps, will be reduced by at least 75 percent.



5. Legislative Report

Chair Hayes called on Ms. Ward to provide the legislative report. Ms. Ward highlighted the following legislation: S.125 adds an enhancement for education majors to the scholarship; H.3325 impacts out-of-state tuition and the possibility of neighboring states receiving in-state tuition; CHE's implementation of the new sector classification, Doctoral Professional University; H.4060, a complimentary bill focused on education components and dual enrollment; and H.3726 that improves coordination between job seekers and employers.

6. Committee Reports

6.01 Report of the Executive Committee

Chair Hayes reported that the Executive Committee decided to forego the proposed two-day trial CHE Meeting in May as multiple Commissioners voiced concern with the proposal. He reported that the CHE does have a two-day campus visit scheduled in June, and the two-day meeting structure could be further discussed during the August Retreat.

Chair Hayes called for a motion to go into executive session to discuss a personnel issue, to which Commissioner Horne motioned and Commissioner Satcher seconded. Chair Hayes called for the vote and Commissioners went into executive session.

Commissioners returned from executive session, with no action being taken. Chair Hayes motioned to authorize President Monhollon to waive section 2, number 3 of CHE Bylaws for an employee for one semester. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the motion was approved unanimously.



6.02 Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

Bettie Rose Horne

Chair Hayes called on Commissioner Horne to provide a report on the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing (CAAL). Commissioner Horne reported that there were seven items for consideration from the Committee.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Program Proposals

- 1. Francis Marion University, M.Ed., Montessori Elementary Education**
- 2. Francis Marion University, M.Ed., Montessori Early Childhood Education**
- 3. Lander University, BS, Fitness and Wellness**
- 4. Medical University of South Carolina, MPH, Generalist**
- 5. University of South Carolina Upstate, Center for Justice and Society**

B. Consideration of Coastal Carolina University reclassification as a Professional Doctorate University

C. Consideration of University of South Carolina Upstate reclassification as a Professional Doctorate University and Proposal for Doctor of Nursing Practice

Commissioner Seckinger asked to remove items A.5, B., and C. from the consent agenda to be considered as separate items. Commissioner Horne motioned to approve the consent agenda less the three items. Chair Hayes called for the vote, and the consent agenda was approved unanimously.

Commissioner Horne summarized item A.5. Commissioner Seckinger expressed that the proposal was broad, and funding was unclear, therefore she is in opposition of the item. Chair Hayes called on Dr. Steinke from USC Upstate to address the concerns. Dr. Steinke said that there is minimal funding involved, but any funding will come from the Foundation at USC Upstate. She said that the Center's focus is promoting student success in the workforce. Chair Hayes asked whether there were any further questions. Commissioner Horne motioned for the approval of A.5. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the motion passed with Commissioner Seckinger voting against.

Commissioner Horne described item B. and motioned for its approval. Commissioner Seckinger said that the timing is not appropriate because there is not legislation in place and there may be an accreditation issue with this item. Chair Hayes explained that the action is supported by proviso and the Commission has approved two other similar items, which was supported by CHE's legal counsel. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the motion passed with Commissioner Seckinger voting against.



Commissioner Horne introduced item C. and motioned for its approval. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the motion passed with Commissioner Seckinger voting against. Commissioner Horne asked Mr. Tippens to explain the parameters of FOIA, to which Mr. Tippens summarized.

6.03 Report of the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services

Paul Batson

Chair Hayes called on Commissioner Batson to provide a report on the Committee on Access and Equity & Student Services. Commissioner Batson reported that the Committee has one item for action and two items for information.

CONSENT AGENDA
A. SC Program for the Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers (SC-PRRMT) FY2022-23 Fourth Quarter 1 and Quarter II Reports
FOR INFORMATION
B. S.C. Scholarships Appeals Cycle (For Information, no action)
C. College Goal SC: FAFSA Completion Update (For Information, no action)

Commissioner Batson summarized the consent agenda and motioned for its approval. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the consent agenda was approved unanimously. Commission staff provided a brief presentation on informational items, B. and C.

6.04 Report of the Committee on Finance and Facilities

Charles Dalton

Chair Hayes called on Commissioner Dalton to provide a report from the Committee on Finance and Facilities. Commissioner Dalton announced that the Committee toured a USC campus village project prior to the business meeting

CONSENT AGENDA
A. Permanent Improvement Project Approvals
1. Central Carolina Technical College
a. CCTC Main Campus Academic/Student Services Building Construction
– Increase Budget, Revise Scope (Phase II)
2. The Citadel
a. Fire Pump and Water Tank Replacement
– Increase Budget (Phase II)
3. Clemson University
a. Johnstone Hall/Core Campus Demolition
– Increase Budget (Phase II)





CONSENT AGENDA CONTINUED

4. College of Charleston
 - a. Berry Residence Hall and Honors Program Renovation
 - Increase Budget (Phase II)
 5. South Carolina State University
 - a. Sojourner Truth Hall Renovation
 - Establish Project (Phase I)
 6. Tri-County Technical College
 - a. Pendleton Campus Oconee Hall Renovation
 - Increase Budget (Phase II)
 7. Winthrop University
 - a. Margaret Nance Residence Hall Bathroom Renovations
 - Establish Project (Phase I)
 - b. Phelps Hall: Auxiliary Building Infrastructure & Building Envelope Upgrade
 - Increase Budget, Revise Scope (Phase II)
- B. Lease Approvals
1. Coastal Carolina University
 - a. The Cove Bedroom Units
 - New Five-Year Lease
 2. College of Charleston
 - a. Warren Place Housing
 - New Five-Year Lease
 3. Medical University of South Carolina
 - a. WestEdge Parking Garage
 - Five-Year Lease Renewal, with two five-year optional extensions

FOR INFORMATION

- C. Permanent Improvement Project Staff Approvals during February
- D. Study on Future Enrollment Impacts to Higher Education in South Carolina (For information, no action)

Commissioner Dalton reported that the Committee reviewed seven permanent improvement projects for consideration, with three lease proposals and had two items for information. Commissioner Dalton asked that three items be removed from the consent agenda, A.3, A.5., and A.7.b, then motioned for the approval of the consent agenda. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the consent agenda was approved less the three items. Commissioner Dalton summarized item A.3. and said that the Committee conditionally approved the project pending responses to questions posed by the Committee regarding funding and environmental concerns. He then motioned for the approval of A.3. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the project was approved unanimously. Commissioner Dalton summarized item A.5. and said that the Committee approved the project but asked South Carolina State University staff to verify that the fire suppression plan is compliant with the State's fire marshal before phase II consideration. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the project was approved unanimously. Commissioner Dalton said that Winthrop



University requested that item A.7.b. be removed from consideration. Commissioner Dalton called on Mr. Tippens to provide a brief overview of the Permanent Improvement Projects staff approved in February. Mr. Tippens reported that CHE staff approved 22 permanent improvement projects, with the majority funded by legislative appropriations and one project close-out. Relating to item D., Commissioner Dalton said that Commissioner Dyer requested that CHE staff research higher education enrollment trends and the impact the trends would have on their financial position.

6.05 Report of the Committee on Strategic Initiatives & Engagement

Doug Snyder

Chair Hayes called on Commissioner Snyder to provide a report on the Committee on Strategic Initiatives & Engagement. Commissioner Snyder reported that the Committee has three items for information only. He summarized the informational items and called on Mr. Swart to give a brief overview of social media and CHE website activity.

FOR INFORMATION

- A. Update on Current Legislation (For information, no action)
- B. Update on Communication and Engagement (For information, no action)
- C. Update on Transfer Initiative (For information, no action)

7. Other Business Announcements

Commissioner Satcher announced that the SC Higher Education Foundation sponsored the legislative breakfast this morning. He said that there are additional conferences that the Higher Education Foundation would like to assist with. Commissioner Satcher reported that a case for support has been developed and sponsorship levels for business and industry sector have been established, as well. He said that the Board will begin reaching out for donor support and asked that Commissioners make a financial contribution to the Foundation Board, which will be tax deductible.

8. Public Comment

Chair Hayes asked whether there was any public comment. There was no public comment.



9. End of Business Meeting

Chair Hayes and President Monhollon thanked everyone for their work. President Monhollon announced that there will not be a CHE meeting in April and the June CHE Meeting will be off-site. The meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

