



Meeting of the South Carolina Commission
on Higher Education
12:30 p.m., May 4, 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 Mark Smith

Commission Staff Present

Rusty Monhollon
Laura Belcher
Shardai Figgures
Gerrick Hampton
Kathryn Harris
April Jones
Andrea Latouche
Mariana Manic
Alfie Mincy
Kenita Pitts-Howard

Christopher Robinson
Christina Seale
Kara Smith
Yarley Steedly
Mark Swart
Georges Tippens
Bunnie Ward
Tanya Weigold
Leslie Williams
Bryce Wilson
Karen Woodfaulk
Lishu Yin

Guests

Beth Bell, Clemson University
Bridget Blackwell, University of South Carolina-
Palmetto College
Teresa Burns, Coastal Carolina University
Bonnie Carson Durham, University of South
Carolina Upstate
Will Carswell, Francis Marion University
Lewis Carter, SC House of Representatives
John Catalano, University of South Carolina-
Palmetto College
James Colbert, Lander University
Mark Del Mastro, College of Charleston
Kathryn Fore, Horry-Georgetown Technical
College
Douglas Gantt, South Carolina State University
Pat Greene, University of South Carolina
Beaufort
Katie Harrison, SC Tuition Grants Commission

Trena Houpp, University of South Carolina
Columbia
Whitney Jett, SC Department of Education
Pamela Jones, SC Department of Employment
and Workforce
Peter King, Francis Marion University
Hank Morrow, Clemson University
Gwynth Nelson, SC Institutes of Innovation and
Information
Jeff Perez, SC Independent Colleges and
Universities
Carol Routh, Clemson University
Pam Steinke, University of South Carolina
Upstate
Eric Skipper, University of South Carolina
Beaufort
Abbie Thielke, McMillan Pazdan Smith
Architecture



Macey Webb, SC House of Representatives
Jehan Wills, McMillan Pazdan Smith
Angela Williams, Midlands Technical College

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

Chair Hayes convened the meeting at 12:35 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. He announced that Vice Chair Satcher will chair the meeting as he has another obligation later in the afternoon.

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

Vice Chair Satcher introduced the draft minutes of the March 2, 2023, CHE Business meeting and asked whether there were any additions or corrections. Commissioner Horne motioned to approve minutes as presented, and Commissioner Dalton seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Chair's Report

Chair Hayes announced that three Commissioners; Dalton, Dolny, and Satcher have stepped down from the CHE Board and thanked them for their service to the Commission and to the State. Chair Hayes and President Monhollon presented Commissioners with a plaque recognizing their service.

Chair Hayes and Commissioner Satcher provided an overview of their recent attendance at the Association of Governing Boards (AGB) National Conference on Trusteeship. Chair Hayes said that it was a good experience and encouraged other Commissioners to attend a future conference.

4. President and Executive Director's Report

Vice Chair Satcher called on President Monhollon to give his report. President Monhollon provided a highlight of recent events he attended: Midlands Technical College graduation ceremony and the investitures of President Edward Serna, Winthrop University and President Boone Hopkins, Converse





College. President Monhollon reported agency-related new hires: Office of Fiscal Affairs welcomed April Jones, Compliance Auditor; PASCAL welcomed Emily McPheron, Business and Internal Operations Manager; and Office of Internal Operations and Administration welcomed Mariana Manic, Senior Research Analyst.

President Monhollon called on Ms. Ward to give an update regarding transfer progress. Ms. Ward reported that the CHE in collaboration with all sectors of higher education, the State Higher Education Officers Association (SHEEO), John N. Gardner Institute for Excellence in Undergraduate Education (JNGI) and others developed a report on recommendations to improve transfer in the State.

Ms. Ward summarized the taskforce's recommendations: appoint transfer liaisons 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 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. Ms. Ward reported that stakeholders were convened on April 3, with over 140 attendees of which 45 higher education institutions were represented.

Ms. Ward reported on a general legislative update relating to transfer. She explained that there are two separate transfer provisos, House Proviso 117.166 and Senate Proviso 117.15., noting that the House iteration is more prescriptive, while the Senate version is more general and directs CHE to work with institutions to implement the recommendations from the taskforce.

Ms. Ward described next steps: work to identify a transfer manager; assessment of the SC Transfer and Articulation Center (SCTRAC); review and evaluation of the 86 SC universally transferrable courses; and finalization of the SC Transfer Promising Practices. She said that a leadership council will be established to implement recommendations. Commissioner Mobley asked if there was any resistance to the recommendations, to which Ms. Ward said that generally there was not resistance within the legislature. Commissioner Batson asked how to gauge the progress of the transferability of courses between two-year



and four-year institutions, to which Ms. Ward said that it will include looking at the data. Commissioner Bryson asked whether the CHE is working with the Department of Education (DOE) to offer more dual enrollment courses, to which Ms. Ward confirmed. President Monhollon thanked Ms. Ward and team for their work on transfer.

President Monhollon provided an update on the House Legislative Oversight Committee (HLOC) review. He said that the agency had a public comment hearing on March 9. He reported that the initial request for information was submitted to the committee on March 22, which consisted of several documents fully summarizing the agency and its various functions. President Monhollon said that the agency also submitted to the HLOC a list identifying any laws, statutes, and regulations that should be revised, and identifying any new legislation to propose. He requested that Commissioners review the list and provide any feedback on the recommendations to be further discussed during the June CHE Business Meeting ahead of the conversation with the HLOC in August. President Monhollon announced that the first presentation to the HLOC is scheduled on May 9. President Monhollon reported that the Senate has sent its initial request for information and most of the information is in line with the House's request and is due May 19.

President Monhollon provided an update on the Inspector General's investigation. He reported that the initial request was received on March 24 and included the following areas of review: employee turnover; qualifications; organizational structure; telecommuting; implementation of REACH Act; and third-party review of transfer courses. He reported that he and other CHE staff have been interviewed and a report is anticipated to be complete by the end of the month.

President Monhollon reported that CHE staff reached out to the State's Human Resources Office for a survey template to conduct an agency-wide survey. He explained that the survey is anonymous and gives the staff opportunity to their opinions and perspectives on being agency employees. Commissioner Dyer asked that the results from the survey be shared with the Commissioners, as well as, the Inspector General's, HLOC, and SLOC reports.



President Monhollon shared highlights on Higher Education Day at the State House, reporting that over 120 college students representing public and independent, two-year, and four-year institutions. He said that students were given the opportunity to meet with their legislators and thank them for their support of need-based grants. President Monhollon also shared highlights from College and Career Decision Day. He reported that 1,700 students attended the event, representing 38 high schools. He thanked Dr. Woodfaulk and her team for coordinating the event and thanked CHE staff who volunteered to help execute the day.

President Monhollon announced that PASCAL hosted a Textbook Affordability Conference at which there were 33 institutions represented. He explained that it was a summit of higher education leaders about improving student outcomes through utilization of open and affordable course materials, thus cutting cost for students. President Monhollon thanked Mr. Moul for his work.

Regarding the Nursing Initiative, President Monhollon reported that a Memorandum of Understanding had been signed with the SC Student Loan Corporation and next steps will include marketing and outreach development. He said that there is a proviso this year that will include an additional \$10 million for advancing this initiative.

President Monhollon announced that the agency is moving forward with a data migration update, with the goal of having the ability to upload, retrieve, connect, and analyze higher education data more seamlessly. He also announced that the CHE is securing a satellite office located at 220 Stoneridge to accommodate additional staff space needs. He said that there will be adequate parking, nine offices, seven cubicles, a breakroom and conference room.

President Monhollon reported that Dr. Oran P. Smith and Dr. Mick Zais had been nominated to join the CHE Board. He said that another appointment is expected. President Monhollon provided an update on Commissioner Mark Smith.

President Monhollon shared a schedule of upcoming events and said that he would like to discuss August Retreat topics at the June meeting.



5. Legislative Report

Vice Chair Satcher called on Ms. Steedly to provide the legislative report. Ms. Steedly highlighted the following legislation: S.138 states that any grade from a dual enrollment course will not negatively affect LIFE scholarship eligibility; Doctoral Professional University (H 3857) bill passed and is going for a second reading; competency-based education bill (H 3295); and workforce development bill (H 3726) passed Senate Committee with a favorable report. She said two House bills regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion programs were introduced and summarized Senate and House budget highlights relating to higher education.

6. Committee Reports

6.01 Report of the Executive Committee

Vice Chair Satcher reported that the Executive Committee did not have any items for consideration.

6.02 Report of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

Bettie Rose Horne

Vice Chair Satcher called on Commissioner Horne to provide a report on the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing (CAAL). Commissioner Horne reported that the Committee did not have any items for consideration.

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

Paul Batson

Vice Chair Satcher called on Commissioner Batson to provide a report on the Committee on Access and Equity & Student Services. Commissioner Batson reported that the Committee did not have any items for consideration. He announced that the CAESS will meet immediately following the CHE Business Meeting today.

6.04 Report of the Committee on Finance and Facilities

Charles Dalton

Vice Chair Satcher called on Commissioner Dalton to provide a report from the Committee on Finance and Facilities. Commissioner Dalton expressed gratitude for his time at the CHE and thanked Commissioners and staff for working together. He reported that Commissioner Batson was elected as the new chair of the Committee and Commissioner Dyer will continue to serve as the vice chair.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Permanent Improvement Project Approvals
 - 1. Clemson University
 - a. Jervy Athletic Center Renovations and Performance & Wellness Center Addition
 - Establish Project (Phase I)
 - b. Chiller Plants Expansions and Upgrades
 - Increase Budget (Phase II)
 - 2. Coastal Carolina
 - a. PGA Golf Management Program Academic Learning Lab Construction
 - Increase Budget (Phase II)
 - b. Shift Western End of University Boulevard
 - Increase Budget (Phase II)

CONSENT AGENDA CONTINUED

- 3. Horry-Georgetown Technical College
 - a. Construction of GT Workforce Training Center
 - Establish Project (Phase I)
- B. Lease Approvals
 - 1. Clemson University
 - a. One Research Drive
 - New Five-Year Lease w/ five-year extended term

C. Permanent Improvement Project Staff Approvals during March & April (For information, no action)

D. CHE Quarter 3 Budget Report (For information, no action)

Commissioner Dalton reported the committee reviewed five permanent improvement projects and one lease. He motioned for the approval of the consent agenda. Vice Chair Satcher called for the vote and the motion passed. Commissioner Dalton called on Mr. Tippens to provide a brief overview of the Permanent Improvement Projects staff approvals in March and April. Mr. Tippens reported that CHE staff approved 21 permanent improvement projects, with the majority, or 17, funded by legislative appropriations. The remaining consisted of three project closures, one lease request from the University of South Carolina Columbia, and one scope revision. Commissioner Dalton called on Mr. Wilson to provide the CHE budget summary. Mr. Wilson reviewed the CHE Quarter 3 Budget Report.

6.05 Report of the Committee on Strategic Initiatives & Engagement

Doug Snyder

Vice Chair Satcher called on Commissioner Snyder to provide a report on the Committee on Strategic Initiatives & Engagement. Commissioner Snyder reported that the Committee did not have any items for consideration.



7. Other Business Announcements

Vice Chair Satcher thanked Commissioners for their donation to the Higher Education Foundation Board. He reported that the Board recently met and welcomed four new members. He said that the Board has developed a sponsorship level structure. Vice Chair Satcher thanked Commissioners and staff for their work and dedication.

8. Public Comment

Vice Chair Satcher asked whether there was any public comment. There was no public comment.

9. End of Business Meeting

Vice Chair Satcher and President Monhollon thanked everyone for their work. The meeting adjourned at 2:54 p.m.