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**SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

***Annual Report***

*February, 1968*

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION  
ON  
HIGHER EDUCATION

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THE SOUTH CAROLINA  
**COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

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TO: HIS EXCELLENCY, GOVERNOR ROBERT E. McNAIR  
AND  
THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education  
herewith respectfully submits for your consideration this report  
summarizing its activities since its inception, in July, 1967,  
to date.

Sincerely,

John K. Cauthen  
Chairman

February 23, 1968

## I. SUMMARY

The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, established by action of the General Assembly in 1967, is pleased to present to His Excellency, Governor Robert E. McNair, and to the General Assembly, this report summarizing its activities and recommendations to date.

The Commission welcomes its role of providing a mechanism wherein rational planning for a quality system of higher education, that the state can afford, can be provided on a continuing basis.

Although the Commission has been in full operation for less than a year, it has found it necessary to take several early steps, all of which it believes to be in the best interests of all the citizens of South Carolina. These recommendations of the Commission have all been made after mature and thoughtful consideration of many aspects of the present and future of higher education in the state.

Two of the most important of these many aspects have to do with the quality of the educational opportunity offered, if the recommendations made to date are adopted, and with the financial ability of the state to support them. Accordingly, the Commission has relied on the advice of some of the most highly qualified educators, and private citizens, of the state in formulating the

recommendations set forth; and has established a highly fruitful and close liaison with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The Commission has also borne firmly in mind, in all of its deliberations, the current financial picture of South Carolina. None of the recommendations the Commission now makes, if put into effect within the limits recommended, will therefore call for increased appropriations for higher education in the coming fiscal year, beyond those funds already requested by the various state institutions and agencies.

The principal recommendations embodied in this report may be summarized as follows:

- (1) The Commission recommends that an autonomous two-year, comprehensive institution be brought into being in Greenville, to be supported by the state and by the area served. This college should combine the technical and vocational program of the Greenville Technical Education Center, and a separate college parallel and associate degree program, under one administration. It should be operated by a Board of Trustees named for the purpose.
- (2) The Commission recommends that the existing two-year Regional Centers of the University of South Carolina at Florence and at Conway remain, for the time being, in their present status, and does not recommend that either be authorized to proceed now to three- or four-year status.

- (3) The Commission recommends that, in accordance with action taken by the Winthrop College Board of Trustees, authorization be granted to allow Winthrop College to admit male degree-credit students, on a non-resident basis.
- (4) The Commission recommends that the Medical College of South Carolina be authorized to seek University status; and has authorized a subcommittee of its own members to enter into study, with appropriate authorities of the Medical College and of the College of Charleston, as to recommendations which may be made later as to acceptance by the state of the College of Charleston as a part of a University located in Charleston.

Details of these and other recommendations made by the Commission are given in the paragraphs below.

## I I. DETAILS

### A. History and Organization

The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education was brought into being by unanimous action of the 1967 General Assembly in approving Act Number 194 (1967). Acting under the authority given by this Act, Governor Robert E. McNair appointed, in July, the seven appointive members of the Commission including the chairman. A list of the full commission, with terms of office for the appointive members, is given on page 1.

The Commission's first full meeting was held in August, 1967, at which time the establishment of a Research and Planning Council was agreed upon. The function of this Council is to assist the Commission in defining problems to which the Commission's attention should be directed. Accordingly, the Council membership is drawn from the public and from the public and private colleges of the state. A list of those distinguished citizens who have agreed to serve on this Council is given in Table I.

Act 194, in addition to establishing this Commission, repealed Act 811 of 1962, which had established the Advisory Commission on Higher Education. In the five years of its existence, the predecessor Advisory Commission served the state well, and it was partly on the recommendation of the Advisory Commission that the new Commission was established. Six of the seven appointed members, including the Chairman, of the new Commission served for two years on the Advisory Commission.

In addition, the Advisory Commission had established Special Assignment Groups in a number of specific areas of higher education. These groups, who served the Advisory Commission since 1965, remained as members of the same groups to provide counsel and assistance for the new Commission as well. Members of the Special Assignment Groups are given in Table II.

The services of an Executive Director, and of a secretary, were secured by October, 1967. The Commission will require, in order to carry out its specific duties and responsibilities efficiently, a professional staff of somewhat larger size. Accordingly the Commission's requested budget for 1968-69 calls for the addition of two more professional staff members. Although the average number of professional staff in the 21 sister states who have established coordinating bodies for higher education such as this is in excess of six, the Commission prefers to add to its own staff only as needs dictate.

The Commission has directed its early attention to two specific areas of higher education which, in its opinion, were of high priority. These were the area of two-year post high school education and the area of medical education.

B. Two-Year Post-High School Education

To assist the Commission in gathering the necessary state-wide data, a committee of five distinguished educators was formed with the advice and consent of the Research and Planning Council. This Committee consists of Dr. Glenn G. Thomas, Medical College of South Carolina, Chairman; Dr. David C. Pulley, Director of Graduate Studies, Furman University; Dr. J. Robert Cooper, Director of Institutional Research, Winthrop College; and Presidents John F. Potts, Voorhees College, and O. R. Reuben, Morris College.

This Committee to Study Two-Year Post-High School Education in South Carolina is charged with developing information, data and recommendations for consideration by the Commission as a whole as to all two-year higher educational programs within the state. The complete state-wide study by this committee is not yet finished, but is expected to be received by the Commission within a few months.

However, the committee has, at the direction of the Commission, directed early attention to several proposals which were brought to the Commission by local educational authorities for action:

1. In response to a request from the Greenville County Commission on Higher Education, the Commission has endorsed the research committee's recommendation that an autonomous two-year institution be brought into being in Greenville. This college should combine the existing program of the Technical Education Center at Greenville, and a new college parallel academic program. The latter would replace that which has been operated at Greenville by Clemson University for the past two years, and which will be discontinued in June of this year. Suitable safeguards to assure the continued success of the technical and academic programs on a balanced basis are included in the recommendation. It is expected that the synergistic effect of the two under one administration would be beneficial to the college, all of its students and to the community which it serves.

A Board of Trustees should be brought into being to operate the College.

With elements of local and federal financial support added, the Commission believes that this institution could readily be developed without additional state appropriations, provided that the state funds previously allocated to the Technical Education program at Greenville, and to Clemson University for its Greenville program, are made available to the new college.

Commission approval of this request was formally made at the December meeting of the Commission.

2. In response to separate requests from the Pee Dee Education Foundation that the Florence Regional Campus of the University of South Carolina and from the Coastal Carolina Foundation that the Coastal Carolina Regional Campus of the University of South Carolina at Conway be authorized as four-year colleges, the Commission has reviewed subcommittee recommendations as to each, but itself has recommended that neither institution be authorized to proceed to four-year status at this time.

3. In response to a request from the county delegation in Georgetown for establishment of a Regional Campus of the University of South Carolina in Georgetown, the Commission has suggested instead that appropriate authorities in Georgetown explore the feasibility of further cooperation with the existing Coastal Carolina Center at Conway.

4. In response to a request from authorities in Colleton County for a Regional Campus of the University of South Carolina to be located at Walterboro, the Commission, with the help of its research committee, is looking more deeply into the possibilities of a compact of several counties in this area. There is the possibility that one central institution, serving all of these counties within reasonable commuting distance, might later be recommended.

Legislative authorities in these several counties are aware of this possibility and are cooperating fully with the Commission in this study.

In compliance with instructions from the General Assembly of 1967, the Commission recommended to the State Budget and Control Board that \$125,000 be allocated to the Clemson University Center at Sumter, and a total of \$450,000 be allocated to six regional campuses of the University of South Carolina, the six to be selected by the University's Board of Trustees. The purpose of these special allocations was specifically for providing books, reference works and other library materials, in order that a beginning could be made toward reaching accreditation standards as to libraries in such institutions. The survey of library needs in these centers and branches also called for by these instructions of the General Assembly, will be included as a part of the overall survey of two-year post high school education now being conducted.

C. Medical Education

Another area to which the Commission addressed early attention is that of medical education. In this field, the Commission has:

1. Recommended that the Medical College be authorized to formalize a School of Liberal Arts within its administration;
2. Recommended that legislation be introduced changing the charter of the existing Medical College at Charleston to that of a University, and
3. Initiated negotiations between appropriate authorities at the Medical College and the College of Charleston as to the state's acceptance of the College of Charleston's offer of itself as a part of a University based in Charleston, and
4. Accepted for study the report of a special team of nationally recognized medical educators employed at the direction of the Legislature to make recommendations as to the need for a second medical college in South Carolina.

Commission approval for the formation of a School of Liberal Arts within the Medical College was made in response to a request made of it by authorities of the College. The approval recognizes, in the judgement of the Commission, the fact that the College has for many years operated such undergraduate programs within four of its six existing Schools. This recommended move, it is believed, will result in more efficient administration. The

request that this be authorized was accompanied by assurances on the part of the College that such reorganization was to be carried out within the budgetary support requested of the state for FY 1968-69.

The recommendation that legislation be introduced authorizing the Medical College to change its charter to a broader University status was made in response to a request of authorities of the Medical College. The Commission's approval of this request, granted in December, was based on a stated need for a University in the Charleston area, and on repeated assertions by medical educators that medical colleges must no longer exist in academic isolation. In endorsing the request of the College to expand its charter, the Commission recognized the fact that the College operates already six Schools -- Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Allied Health Sciences, Dentistry and Graduate Study -- and thus, administratively, already bears a strong resemblance to a university. The Commission is also aware that some years may elapse before such a University in Charleston might be fully developed, depending upon the resources, financial and human, of the state; and of the state's overall needs.

It is the conviction of the Commission that the revised charter for the Medical College should make inter-institutional cooperation, or possible union of any of the institutions in Charleston desiring it, more feasible from both the academic and the legal standpoints.

Subsequent to this December action of the Commission with respect to a proposed University in Charleston, the Board of Trustees of the College of Charleston has made an offer of the College to the state. The College's offer is predicated upon the formation of a University in Charleston, and exploratory talks with the Boards of Trustees of the Medical College and of the College of Charleston have been initiated. The Commission, in accord with its December action relative to the formation of a University in Charleston, has indications that this matter may be resolved, and that recommendations as to the acceptance of the College of Charleston offer may be made, before the adjournment of the current session of the General Assembly.

Also before the Commission is the offer to the state of the Palmer College operations, and property, in both Charleston and Columbia. No recommendations have yet been made on this proposal, at least part of which, in the judgement of the Commission, should await resolution of the larger question of a University in the Charleston area.

Also in the area of medical education, the Commission, acting under authority of the Legislature, arranged for a committee of three nationally recognized medical authorities to study existing and proposed medical education in South Carolina. The team of experts was chosen with the assistance of a committee of three

distinguished South Carolina physicians -- Dr. William C. McCord of Charleston, Dr. Donald E. Saunders, Jr. of Columbia, and Dr. Frank Wrenn of Greenville. This committee chose for the study Dr. Vernon W. Lippard, Chairman, Yale University; Dr. W. Reece Berryhill, University of North Carolina; and Dr. Joseph C. Hinsey, New York Medical Center, Cornell University. Dr. Lippard and his colleagues submitted a final report early in January. The Commission has accepted the report for study, and has not acted on either of the report's principal recommendations, which were two:

1. That first priority be given to completing the expansion of the Medical College in Charleston, and to providing adequate financial support for its successful operation, and
2. That immediate steps be taken to establish a Division of Health Sciences within the University of South Carolina, with the objective of opening a second medical college as part thereof, by 1975.

Copies of the report of the consultants have been provided to each member of the General Assembly, and to the executive branch.

D. Other Areas

Although a study of the senior institutions in South Carolina has not yet been initiated, the Commission feels that the two senior universities, Clemson and South Carolina, should be encouraged

to concentrate most of their efforts on quality upper division and graduate and professional schools. This is not to say that either could or should become wholly a graduate institution, but it does imply that the emphasis on both campuses should be directed toward quality rather than quantity.

As a logical step in the development of a quality system which will bring higher education geographically closer to larger numbers of prospective students, and in agreement with a resolution submitted to the Commission by the Board of Trustees of Winthrop College, the Commission recommends to the General Assembly that action be taken as soon as feasible to authorize the admission of male students on a regular, but non-resident, basis at Winthrop College.

E. Future Programs

The Commission inherited the results of over a century of uncoordinated educational growth in the state--growth which had in some respects been remarkably successful, but which in many other respects had led to a disarray of academic efforts, to unnecessary duplication of programs and to sometimes inefficient use of the scant funds provided.

The Commission recognizes and encourages the spirit of educational adventure in our institutions of higher learning, but recognizes as well that their ambitions must fit into a rational system of higher education that the state can support and which

will contribute most effectively to the overall progress of South Carolina. The Commission knows that there have been and are many faithful and capable administrators and educators who have performed and are performing great service despite obvious weaknesses in coordination and in resources.

The Commission believes that a state system of higher education should consist of a wisely-distributed system of two-year institutions including technical centers, a system of four-year colleges, and that it must include institutions for graduate and professional research and education of the highest quality. This system must embrace both its public and privately supported elements in proper proportion. The goals of such a system should be to provide to the individual citizen the opportunity for maximum development of his abilities; to educate citizens responsive to the social, economic and political needs of their time; to achieve excellence in teaching and research; to accelerate the economic and cultural progress of the state; and to maximize the return on each dollar of public money invested in the enterprise.

The Commission also is determined to make only those recommendations which can lead to programs of high educational quality, and which are fully in accord with minimum standards established by recognized accrediting agencies. Accordingly, the Commission has already established full and frank liaison with

the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The cooperation and counsel of the Southern Association's staff continues to be of the utmost importance to the Commission.

The Commission looks forward to fulfilling its mission in higher education in South Carolina with enthusiasm and with confidence. With the full support of the academic community, both public and private, the legislative and executive branches of government, and of all the citizens of South Carolina, the Commission believes that the monumental task of implementing a higher educational system of quality can be achieved. We shall be satisfied with nothing less.

TABLE I

RESEARCH AND PLANNING COUNCIL

H. Harrison Jenkins, Chairman  
The Columbia Record, Columbia, S. C.

Dr. A. S. Belcher  
S. C. State College, Orangeburg, S. C.

Dr. Francis W. Bonner  
Furman University, Greenville, S. C.

Major General J. W. Duckett  
The Citadel, Charleston, S. C.

Colonel Powell A. Fraser  
Presbyterian College, Clinton, S. C.

Anthony Harrigan  
News and Courier, Charleston, S. C.

Dr. Victor Hurst  
Clemson University, Clemson, S. C.

Dr. James A. Morris  
University of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

Dr. John F. Potts  
Voorhees College, Denmark, S. C.

W. F. Robertson  
410 Byrd Boulevard, Greenville, S. C.

Dr. Walter B. Smith  
Winthrop College, Rock Hill, S. C.

Dr. Glenn G. Thomas  
Medical College of South Carolina, Charleston, S. C.

TABLE I I

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT GROUPS

FINANCE:

W. Harold Butt  
Charleston, S. C.

Alester G. Furman, III  
Greenville, S. C.

Russell A. Graham  
Easley, S. C.

Hugh C. Lane  
Charleston, S. C.

John F. McGee  
Columbia, S. C.

J. William Medford  
Lancaster, S. C.

Robert B. Russell  
Charleston, S. C.

TWO-YEAR COLLEGES:

James A. Chapman, Jr.  
Spartanburg, S. C.

Robert S. Davis  
Columbia, S. C.

L. M. Gressette, Jr.  
St. Matthews, S. C.

W. W. Johnson  
Columbia, S. C.

William A. Kimbel  
Myrtle Beach, S. C.

John H. Lumpkin  
Columbia, S. C.

Buck Mickel  
Greenville, S. C.

E. Craig Wall  
Conway, S. C.

EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION:

John K. Cauthen  
Columbia, S. C.

Dr. George Curry  
Columbia, S. C.

David G. Ellison  
Columbia, S. C.

Dr. James L. Flatt  
Clemson, S. C.

William H. Southworth  
Columbia, S. C.

Dr. R. Wright Spears  
Columbia, S. C.

TABLE I I - SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT GROUPS

MEDICAL EDUCATION:

J. Willis Cantey  
Columbia, S. C.

John K. Cauthen  
Columbia, S. C.

Walter G. Edwards  
Columbia, S. C.

William H. Grier  
Rock Hill, S. C.

John H. Lumpkin  
Columbia, S. C.

J. E. McCaffrey  
Georgetown, S. C.

J. Kelly Sisk  
Greenville, S. C.

GOALS AND MISSIONS:

Robert C. Blair  
Aiken, S. C.

Francis M. Hipp  
Greenville, S. C.

William G. Lyles  
Columbia, S. C.

E. S. McKissick, Jr.  
Easley, S. C.

W. P. Overbeck  
Aiken, S. C.

Thomas R. Waring  
Charleston, S. C.

Robert M. Vance  
Clinton, S. C.

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