

MINUTES
State Board of Community Colleges
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Thursday, November 16, 2017 – 3:30 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lisa Estep	Scott Shook	Ann Whitford
Bill McBrayer	Bob Stephens	
Lynn Raye	Burr Sullivan	

* Attended via phone

Members Absent: Breeden Blackwell, Todd Johnson, Clark Twiddy and Jerry Vaughan

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Jennifer Haygood	Shanté Martin	Sondra Jarvis
Elizabeth Grovenstein	Jim Parker	Linda Suggs (Gates FND)
Bryan Jenkins	Mary Shuping	

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Shook called the meeting to order at 3:47 p.m. in the Dr. W. Dallas Herring State Board Room of the Caswell Building in Raleigh, NC.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Jenkins took the roll of the Legislative Affairs Committee members.

ETHICS STATEMENT

Mr. Raye read the Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest Statement and asked if there were any known conflicts. None were noted.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Shook asked for a motion to approve the agenda for the meeting on November 16, 2017. Mr. Raye made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, and the committee approved via voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chairman Shook asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the meeting on October 19, 2017 as presented. Mr. Stephens made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, and the committee approved via voice vote.

FOR INFORMATION

Ms. Shuping said both agenda items are in preparation for approval of the 2018 Legislative Agenda. The Non-Budget Proposals will come back for the Committee for a vote on recommending for the Board to approve.

Proposed Budget Requests will not be approved by the Legislative Committee, but the Finance Committee will vote on recommending for the Board to approve.

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NCACCP Draft Non-Budget Proposals 10-26-17 as Approved by Joint Legislative & Finance Committees (Attachment LEG 01)

The items represent what the Presidents' Association has worked on and considered through their legislative and finance committees and approved at their meeting on Wednesday, November 15, 2017. The non-budget items include several items that were not enacted by the General Assembly during the 2017 legislative session.

Exempt System Office Staff from Transfer to the Department of Information Technology (DIT)

– Currently the System Office must provide a transition plan to the General Assembly by October 2018. The legislative proposal is to exempt System Office IT staff from transferring to DIT.

The IT staff at the System Office make up about half of the staff and provide a variety of services directly to the colleges. The request to exempt System Office IT staff from transferring to DIT was included in the House Budget last session; however, it was not included in the final version of the budget. The IT employees in the UNC constituent institutions are not under DIT. The law was amended last year to pull the Department of Public Instruction IT employees under DIT, and DPI must provide a transition plan as well.

The committee discussed what the impact to the community colleges. Approximately eighty people (roughly half of the System Office staff) would be moved to DIT.

President Haygood stated that transferring the employees would slow the response rates and ability to react to the needs of local colleges. Ms. Shuping said that technology is often necessary to implement State Board policy; however, the IT staff needed to implement the policies would be housed in a cabinet agency outside the supervision of the Community College System Office. President Haygood stated her concern is that if we are not happy with the service, we would not have quite the same standing as a cabinet agency.

There seems to be understanding from DIT Secretary Boyette that education is a very different agency. The colleges would be the ones that would be impacted the most. Mr. McBrayer said that college presidents contacting their legislators should have an impact. Dr. David Johnson, President of Johnston Community College & President of the NC Association of Community College Presidents, stated that the intention is for the presidents to speak with their local legislators in support of the exemption.

Mr. Stephens said that when DIT was elevated to a cabinet agency it was to help eliminate the silos within state government. Ms. Shuping said that our arguments for exemption are unique and we align more with UNC than DPI in how we do business with IT. President Haygood said that DIT is the number one non-budget priority.

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Mr. Sullivan asked when the Board Members should start speaking to legislators. Ms. Shuping said that Board members could begin talking with legislators about the proposed legislative priorities. Ms. Estep said that she would also like to hear from System Office IT staff. Mr. Jim Parker, Senior Vice President for Technology Solutions and Distance Learning, said that he has worked with the State CIO and there are many areas where DIT is looking to establish efficiencies. The uniqueness of the way the colleges operate and our support of those college functions is different from other state agencies. Even if DIT were to transfer or transition everyone, they wouldn't have the knowledge of how to apply the resources to the needs.

The Committee also discussed if there would be an impact on students if the transition occurred. Mr. Parker said there could be. Mr. Sullivan asked if the System would be able to get the DIT secretary to support the request for an exemption from the transfer to DIT. President Haygood said the State CIO is not the one driving this consolidation. Chairman Shook said that it would be good to have him as an ally.

Allow Performance Based Funding Bonuses – This proposal would allow for colleges to use Performance Based funds for Performance Based bonuses.

Allow FTE for Instruction in Jails – This proposal would allow colleges to earn FTE for instruction in jails. Staff is working to estimate how much FTE would be earned.

Removing references to “NC Works” in CC Statutes – This proposal would delete the reference to “NCWorks” in the Career Coaches statute.

Modify Optional Retirement Program for State-Funded CC – This proposal would make the offering of optional retirement programs for community colleges presidents permissive instead of mandatory. Currently there is no vendor willing to provide an optional retirement program

Repeal the NC Community Colleges Instructional Trust Fund – This proposal repeals a program that was set up in 2003 and is no longer funded.

Repeal “Additional Support for Regional Institutions” – This proposal repeals a statute for a program that is no longer funded.

NCACCP Draft Proposed Budget Requests 10-26-17 Rev'd as Approved by Legislative & Finance Committees (Attachment LEG 02)

The NCACCP approved the legislative budget requests for the 2018 short session at their meeting held on Wednesday, November 15, 2017. The following approved items were presented to the Committee for their information:

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- **Investing in Short-Term Workforce Training Programs Leading to Industry Credentials**
- **Capping Tuition at 12 credit hours**
- **Modernizing ERP System.**
- **Multi-campus Funding**
- **Funding Professional Development for Career & College Ready Graduates Program**
Scaling – This proposal requests funds for professional development to provide professional development to high school faculty on teaching community college developmental English and math to certain high school seniors. President Haygood also shared that the recommendation by the System Office will be to request phasing-in the Career and College Ready Graduate (CCRG) Program statewide. President Johnson said that the Presidents are in favor of what the System Office has proposed.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Shuping shared what presentations to legislative committees that have occurred or are planned this month and next. Staff has requested to present to the Joint Legislative Information Technology Committee on the ERP funding request.

President Haygood stated that the State Fire Marshal wants to establish a training center in Albemarle. The State Fire Marshal's office has not contacted the System Office about the need for the facility or the involvement of the Community College System. President Johnson said that many of the firefighters do not want to travel far to train.

ADJOURN

There being no other business, Chairman Shook asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Raye made the motion, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, and the committee adjourned at 4:43 p.m. following a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Sondra Jarvis