

AGENDA ITEM

A-8. Authorization Related to the Commission for Public Higher Education (CPHE) Dan Harrison

Situation: The Commission for Public Higher Education (CPHE) is a consortium of higher education systems from several states, including North Carolina, offering a new accreditation model that will focus on academic excellence, student outcomes, process efficiency, and the pursuit of quality assurance for public postsecondary education.

Background: CPHE is a Florida nonprofit corporation whose Articles of Incorporation provide that the State University System of Florida is the initial corporate member of the corporation and that other founding university systems may join as corporate members by making such a request to the State University System of Florida.

On March 26, 2026, the Board of Governors of the State University System of Florida authorized the CPHE Board of Directors to receive requests from founding university systems, including the University of North Carolina, to become corporate members. Consistent with the president's responsibilities under *The Code*, Section 501B, to serve as the official administrative medium of communication between the Board of Governors and all officials, agencies, and organizations, this action authorizes the president to request to become and maintain status as a corporate member of CPHE.

Assessment: This resolution, as adopted by the full Board of Governors through the consent agenda, will authorize the president to take all such actions necessary to request, establish, and maintain member status with CPHE. Specifically including the authorization to request to become a member of CPHE to the Board of Governors of the State University System of Florida, by and through the CPHE Board of Directors, or other authorized representatives; provide established membership fees through financial or in-kind contributions; have delegated authority to exercise all such rights and obligations attendant to such Member status in CPHE; and periodically report back to the Board of Governors on such activity as may be necessary to keep the Board of Governors appropriately informed.

Action: This item requires a vote by the committee, with a vote by the full Board of Governors through the consent agenda.



**RESOLUTION OF
THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
May 21, 2026**

**Resolution to Authorize the University of North Carolina
To Become a Member of the
Commission for Public Higher Education's Board of Directors**

The duly acting and appointed Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina (the "Board of Governors") at a meeting held pursuant to notice requirements and a quorum being present, do hereby make the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, the Board of Governors is a body politic and corporate, responsible for the general determination, control, supervision, management and governance of all the affairs of the constituent institutions...and may adopt such policies and regulations as it deems wise; N.C.G.S. § 116-11(2);

WHEREAS, the Board of Governors may delegate any part of its authority over the affairs of the University of North Carolina to the President in any case where such delegation appears necessary or prudent to enable the University of North Carolina to function in a proper and expeditious manner; N.C.G.S. § 116-11(13); Section 200.6 of the UNC Policy Manual, *Policy on Delegated Authority to the President*;

WHEREAS, in addition to such powers specifically delegated to the President, the President shall be the chief administrative and executive officer of the University of North Carolina; N.C.G.S. § 116-14; Section 100.1 of *The Code*, Section 501A of the UNC Policy Manual;

WHEREAS, the President shall be the official administrative medium of communication between the Board of Governors and all individuals, officials, agencies, and organizations, both within and without the University and its constituent institutions; Section 100.1, of *The Code*, Section 501B of the UNC Policy Manual;

WHEREAS, the Commission for Public Higher Education, Inc. ("CPHE"), was organized under section 617.01011, Florida Statutes, as a not-for-profit corporation, formed and operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;

WHEREAS, CPHE's Articles of Incorporation provide that the "Corporation may act as an accrediting agency for state public colleges and universities, receive bequests of property and funds for scientific, educational and charitable purposes, all for the advancement of the Founding University Systems, as defined in Article VI, and their objectives";

WHEREAS, the CPHE Founding University Systems includes the University of North Carolina and CPHE is a preferred accrediting agency under North Carolina law; N.C.G.S. § 116-11.4;

WHEREAS, CPHE's purpose is to "advance the quality and improvement of higher education by accrediting and pre-accrediting state public colleges and universities that are incorporated, chartered, licensed or authorized in the United States";

WHEREAS, CPHE's Board of Directors may allow for the addition of Founding University Systems, including the University of North Carolina, upon written consent of the Board of Governors of the State University System of Florida;

WHEREAS, by duly adopted resolution on or around March 26, 2026, the Board of Governors of the State University System of Florida authorized the CPHE Board of Directors to receive requests from Founding University Systems to become Members...provided the requesting University System meet a total contribution of \$2.35 million, including cash or in-kind services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Governors believes it would be in the best interest of the University of North Carolina to serve as a Member of CPHE, and delegates authority to the President of the University of North Carolina to exercise all rights and obligations attendant to such Member status.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the President, by and for the Board of Governors, is authorized to:

1. Request to become a Member of CPHE to the Board of Governors of the State University System of Florida, by and through the CPHE Board of Directors, or other authorized representatives;
2. Provide established Member fee(s) through financial or in-kind contributions;
3. Have delegated authority to exercise all such rights and obligations attendant to such Member status in CPHE; and
4. Periodically report back to the Board of Governors on such activity as may be necessary to keep the Board of Governors appropriately informed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Governors supports and accepts the Authorization for the University of North Carolina to Become a member of the Commission for Public Higher Education's Board of Directors

CERTIFICATE OF THE CORPORATE SECRETARY

The undersigned, Corporate Secretary of the Board of Governors, does hereby certify that the above resolution relating to authorizing the University of North Carolina to request to become a Member of the Commission for Public Higher Education and delegate the authority to the President of the University of North Carolina to take all such actions as necessary to achieve the same, is a true and accurate copy as adopted by the Board of Governors on May 21, 2026, and said resolution has not been modified or rescinded and is in full force and effect on the date hereof.

This the _____ day of _____ 2026

Wendy F. Murphy, Chair

Meredith R. McCullen, Secretary