South Carolina
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CAAL
04/03/2008
Agenda Item 4b

April 3, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Chair, and Members, Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

FROM: Dr. Gail M. Morrison, Director of Academic Affairs and Licensing

Consideration of Request for Amendment of Existing License to Add New Program
B.S., Psychology
Troy University, Troy, AL, at its sites in Sumter, Charleston, and Rock Hill

Summary

Troy University (TU) <http://www.troy.edu/> requests approval of an amendment to its license to offer a program leading to the B.S. degree in Psychology at its sites in Sumter, Charleston, and Rock Hill, to be implemented as soon as enrollments justify. Courses will be taught on-ground and on-line.

Troy University is a public, non-profit institution, having been established February 26, 1887, by an act of the Alabama Legislature as the Troy Normal School. Troy University has developed into a worldwide educational system now serving approximately 18,000 students. The off-campus programs are offered at approximately 60 military installations and teaching sites located in 13 countries and 17 states, and four campuses in Alabama. The system now offers more than 70 associate's, bachelor's, master's, and education specialist degrees.

Since 1992 Troy has operated in South Carolina, beginning at the Shaw Air Force Base. CHE licensed Troy to offer programs off-base in Sumter and in Charleston in 2002 and approved an additional site in Rock Hill in 2007. The Commission currently licenses Troy University to offer programs in various curricula leading to bachelor's and master's degrees

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges (SACS) is the regional body which accredits Troy.

The following information from the U.S. Department of Education shows student loan default rates at Troy University.

OPE ID	School	Type	Control	PRGMS		FY2005	FY2004	FY2003
001047	Troy University University Avenue Troy AL 36082-0001	Master's Degree or Doctor's Degree	Public	Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL)	**Default Rate**	5.0	5.0	4.3
					No. in Default	300	181	93
					No. in Repay	5902	3614	2159

Troy makes available sufficient learning resources to support the courses and degrees offered. Each student receives a comprehensive library resource book that describes the procedures to access Troy's on-line resources, interlibrary loan, local library support, Internet hints, computer safeguards, and directions on citations. The TU Library System has subscriptions to nearly 70 databases that offer remote access. The Troy Southeast Regional office has a web site which links to the Troy Main Campus, faculty web sites, and the on-line library. Troy uploads syllabi and handouts to the Southeast Regional web site.

Each site has a director who handles the local operations and support of the site; the site directors report to the State director for South Carolina; the State director reports to the Southeast region director. The provost on the Troy campus is responsible for the various student services at University College (off-campus) locations. These services are geared to meet the needs of students at each location and include orientation, counseling, financial aid, transcript service, graduation ceremonies, library support, and alumni organizations. Through Trojan Web Express, an online tool, students review and perform academic and financial transactions including academic evaluations, financial aid information, course registration, and make tuition payments 24 hours a day.

Faculty who teach in the undergraduate programs must meet the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education licensing requirement that an appropriate number of faculty members hold terminal degrees, usually an earned doctorate, and that all others should hold master's degrees with at least 18 graduate semester hours in the teaching discipline, or a master's degree with a major in the teaching discipline. TU also requires that each faculty member have experience teaching at the college level. The institution will use a combination of core and adjunct faculty with a minimum of 25 percent of the

program taught by full-time faculty members.

High school graduates may be admitted into the undergraduate program as freshmen with a minimum 2.0 GPA, an ACT composite score of 18, or an SAT composite score of 870. Applicants who are 21 years of age or older are not required to submit ACT/SAT scores but must have earned a high school diploma or GED.

TU officials project enrolling 20 new students in the beginning term at each location. Total tuition for the B.S. degree in Psychology is $19,560, $489 for each three-semester-hour course.

The curriculum for the program leading to the B.S. in Psychology is a total of 120 semester credit hours and consists of 48 hours in general education, 36 hours in the core, 18 hours in a minor, and 18 hours of electives. The B.S. degree in Psychology will provide students with the foundation for further study at the graduate level leading to various careers in psychology or to study in the health professions and social work. Students gain skills for the pursuit of careers in mental health services, industry, human services or areas where the knowledge of behavior would be deemed beneficial. The program is not for licensure or certification. There is no specialized accrediting agency for undergraduate psychology programs. The program description and curriculum information is available in the Troy University online catalog at http://www.troy.edu/catalogs/0708undergrad/u14coe.html#PsychologyMajor.

Troy officials state that its program will be successful in Sumter, Charleston, and Rock Hill because of its appeal to working adults who seek a reasonably-priced, schedule-accessible bachelor's degree in psychology.

Undergraduate general psychology programs are offered in Charleston at Charleston Southern University, College of Charleston, and The Citadel and in Rock Hill at Winthrop University.

The program is not available through the Academic Common Market.

Recommendation

The staff recommends that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing commend favorably to the Commission an amendment to the license of Troy University to approve the offering of a program leading to the B.S. degree in Psychology at its sites in Sumter, Charleston, and Rock Hill, to be implemented as soon as enrollments justify.