

Advisory Committee on Academic Programs

Minutes of July 14, 2011

Members Present

Dr. T. Michael Raley, Chair
Dr. Marsha Dowell, USC Upstate
Dr. Ron Drayton, Midlands Technical College
Dr. Sam Hines, The Citadel (via teleconference)
Dr. Gina Mounfield, Technical College of the Lowcountry (via teleconference)
Dr. Suzanne Ozment, USC Aiken
Dr. Hope Rivers, S.C. Technical College System
Dr. Carolyn Stewart, York Technical College
Dr. Harvey Varnet, USC Beaufort (via teleconference)

Guests Representing Members

Dr. John Beard, Coastal Carolina University, representing Dr. Robert Sheehan
Dr. Beverly Diamond, College of Charleston representing Dr. George Hynd
Dr. Kris Finnigan, USC Columbia, representing Dr. Michael Amiridis
Mr. Tim Drueke, Winthrop University, representing Dr. Tom Moore
Dr. Peter King, Francis Marion University, representing Dr. Richard Chapman
Dr. David Knox, Clemson, representing Dr. Doris Helms (via teleconference)
Mr. Tom Nelson, Lander University, representing Dr. Danny McKenzie

Staff Present

Ms. Laura Belcher
Mr. Arik Bjorn
Ms. Renea Eshleman
Dr. Paula Gregg
Ms. Lane Goodwin
Ms. Trena Houpp
Mr. Clint Mullins
Ms. Tanya Rogers

Guests

Dr. Robert Brookshire, USC Columbia
Dr. Hanif Chaudhry, USC Columbia
Dr. Jamil A. Khan, USC Columbia
Dr. Sheryl Kline, USC Columbia
Dr. Lynne E. Ford, College of Charleston
Dr. Charles Love, USC Upstate
Dr. Jim Luken, Coastal Carolina University
Dr. Martha Moriarty, USC Beaufort
Dr. Jeannette M. Myers, Francis Marion University
Dr. Jan Probst, USC Columbia
Dr. Ruth Wittmann-Price, Francis Marion University

Dr. Mike Raley called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. He welcomed all in attendance and asked the institutional representatives and visitors to introduce themselves.

1. Consideration of Minutes of March 18, 2011

Dr. Raley requested a motion to accept the minutes of March 18, 2011, as distributed. The motion was **moved** (Dowell) and **seconded** (Drueke). Dr. Beard requested a revision on page three, replacing his name with that of Dr. Sloan who was the speaker referenced. Then, the Committee **voted unanimously to accept the Minutes as revised.**

2. Consideration of Program Planning Summaries

Dr. Raley informed the Committee that the College of Charleston withdrew its planning summary for a Bachelor of Arts degree in Historic Preservation and the Traditional Building Arts from the current meeting. He then asked Dr. Diamond to make a few remarks about the reasons for doing so. Dr. Diamond explained that the summary acknowledged the College's work on the degree program with Charleston's American College of the Building Arts, which currently offers the program. She informed the Committee that due to financial difficulties, the American College of the Building Arts tentatively proposed that the College of Charleston offer the degree. She explained that since the writing of the planning summary, however, the financial status of the American College of the Building Arts improved so the College of Charleston chose to withdraw the summary.

a. Master's Degree in Health Information Technology, University of South Carolina Columbia

Dr. Finnigan introduced the planning summary from the University of South Carolina Columbia. It was **moved** (Finnigan) and **seconded** (Drayton). Dr. Finnigan cited the acknowledged need for well-trained employees in the health information technology field and referenced the goal of producing electronic health records for all by 2013. She stated that this program will aid in meeting that need and accomplishing that goal. She stated that the program consists of 36 hours; that the University expects 10-20 students in the first year; that the new costs are minimal; and that the University's deans and the School of Public Health support the program. She explained that MUSC offers a course on Health Information Technology within a different type of program, Bioinformatics. She also added that the University of South Carolina Upstate has an undergraduate program in Health Information Technology.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the planning summary for the University of South Carolina Columbia to develop a new program leading to the Master's degree in Health Information Technology, to be implemented in Fall 2011.

b. M.S./M.E., Aerospace Engineering , University of South Carolina Columbia

Dr. Finnigan introduced the planning summary from the University of South Carolina Columbia. It was **moved** (Finnigan) and **seconded** (Moriarty). Dr. Finnigan explained that the degree program would be a two-pronged program, offering a Master of Science or Master of Engineering in Aerospace Engineering. She referenced Boeing's expansion to Charleston and the expectation of new jobs in the industry as an impetus for creating the program. She stated that the target audience is individuals with undergraduate engineering degrees; that the University expects 15-20 students annually in class with 30-35 total with the distance education option;

that adequate facilities and faculty members are in place with the need to hire three new faculty members; and that the program would be housed in the Mechanical Engineering department. She also informed the Committee that the University looks forward to possible collaborations with Clemson and The Citadel.

Dr. Raley asked for more information regarding the dual degrees. Dr. Khan explained that the M.S. degree includes eight classes plus a thesis while the M.E. degree offers ten classes with no thesis option. He explained that the reason behind offering two tracks is that in offering distance education, students already employed would be limited in time to work with a professor on a thesis. Dr. Raley informed Dr. Finnigan that CHE staff will work with the University to best explain the reasoning which will be included in the full program proposal. He also mentioned the possibility of the degrees being identified by different CIP codes.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the planning summary for the University of South Carolina Columbia to develop a new program leading to the Master of Science/Master of Engineering degree in Aerospace Engineering, to be implemented in Fall 2012.

c. M.S., Engineering Management and M.S. Engineering Management with a concentration in International Engineering Management, University of South Carolina Columbia

Dr. Finnigan introduced the planning summary from the University of South Carolina Columbia. It was **moved** (Finnigan) and **seconded** (Rivers). Dr. Finnigan explained that the M.S. without the concentration would consist of 30 hours while the M.S. degree with the concentration would consist of 39 hours. She explained that no other degree in Engineering Management exists in South Carolina, but that The Citadel has a similar, but more technical program. She informed the Committee that the University has been working with The Citadel, which is in support of this program. She mentioned that the University might partner with The Citadel in a more formalized way and if so, the full program proposal will contain a Memorandum of Understanding. She told the Committee that the program will target practicing engineers and be offered in an executive format.

Dr. Raley asked Dr. Hines if The Citadel's program was new. Dr. Hines answered affirmatively and explained that The Citadel's degree focuses on project management. Dr. Hines then expressed The Citadel's support for USC's initiative and a possible collaboration between the two institutions.

Dr. Diamond asked about the curriculum. Dr. Chaudhry stated that three of the University's colleges will be involved in the creation of the curriculum. He explained that the degree is thirty hours plus six for completion of a thesis. Dr. Chaudhry explained that the International Engineering Management concentration would add nine hours and require the student to live in a foreign country. Dr. Diamond then asked whether the engineering courses would be management courses with an engineering focus. Dr. Chaudhry explained that the courses would be technical courses directed towards management, and that the management courses would be offered by the Moore School.

Dr. Beard asked whether the primary audience would be individuals with an engineering degree. Dr. Chaudhry answered affirmatively. Dr. Beard then asked if a student's engineering education and knowledge would be advanced along with his or her management knowledge. Dr. Chaudhry answered that more details will be found in the full proposal but an

example would be a more fine-tuned focus area such as the intersect between engineering and computer science regarding security.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the planning summary for the University of South Carolina Columbia to develop a new program leading to the Master of Science degree in Engineering Management and to the Master of Science degree in Engineering Management with a concentration in International Engineering Management to be implemented in Fall 2012.

d. M.S.N., Family Nurse Practitioner, Francis Marion University

Dr. King introduced the planning summary from Francis Marion University. It was **moved** (King) and **seconded** (Beard). Dr. King informed the Committee that the Pee Dee Health Education Partnership was formed in 2008 and consists of FMU, USC, and two regional hospitals. He reported that the Partnership has been studying health practice and cited Nurse Practitioners as its first priority. He explained that the Pee Dee has a high level of poverty and unemployment and is underserved by health practitioners. He cited a local nursing survey which indicated that 63% of the polled nurses are interested in further graduate work. Dr. King explained that this program would build on the expertise of the current nursing programs. He stated that FMU has acquired private funds for the initial implementation and that future costs would be covered by tuition.

Dr. Dowell asked where the students would complete their clinical experience if there is a shortage of primary care practices in the area. Dr. Wittmann-Price answered that both regional hospitals have agreed to host students for their practicum.

Dr. Beard asked whether the degree would increase a nurse's salary. Dr. Wittmann-Price answered that graduates would command a higher salary and added that nurse practitioners deliver healthcare at 85% of the costs of a primary care physician. Dr. Dowell asked what accreditation FMU is seeking. Dr. Wittmann-Price answered that the program would seek accreditation from the National League for Nursing. Dr. Raley then informed Dr. King that FMU will need to pursue a mission statement change to add nursing to the list of graduate programs it offers.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the planning summary for Francis Marion University to develop a new program leading to the Master of Science in Nursing degree in Family Nurse Practitioner, to be implemented in January 2013.

3. Consideration of Program Modifications

a. B.A., Mass Communications, Winthrop University

Mr. Drueke introduced the program modification from Winthrop University. It was **moved** (Drueke) and **seconded** (Dowell). Mr. Drueke explained that the current program has two concentrations, one in Journalism and one in Broadcasting. He stated that Winthrop seeks to eliminate the individual concentrations since the fields of journalism and broadcasting are blurring and merging. He informed the Committee that Winthrop plans to offer more variety in coursework and expand the core curriculum.

Dr. Beard asked whether Winthrop will hire new faculty members who might be more familiar with the changing landscape of the communications field. Mr. Drueke answered that through current faculty retirements, Winthrop has been able to hire new faculty members who have the training and expertise needed for the modification.

Dr. King asked whether Winthrop has polled employers about the demand for the program. Mr. Drueke answered affirmatively and stated specifically that journalism employers are looking for graduates with more video experience for use with blogs and websites while broadcast employers are seeking graduates with more experience with websites. Ms. Houpp then asked Mr. Drueke to verify that the degree program would be increased by one credit hour. Mr. Drueke answered affirmatively.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the program modification for Winthrop University for the program leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass Communications.

b. B.A., Science Teaching-Physics, Clemson University

Dr. Knox introduced the program modification from Clemson University. It was **moved** (Jackson) and **seconded** (Drueke). Dr. Knox explained that Clemson currently offers a B.S. in Science Teaching with a concentration in Physical Sciences. He stated that Clemson proposes to modify that degree to create a dual major in both science teaching and physics. He stated that Clemson currently has a dual major in biological sciences and science teaching and also a dual major in secondary education and mathematics. He informed the Committee that these degrees have been successful. He stated that with this new degree, students have the opportunity to pursue both physics and the possibility of a teaching career.

Dr. Diamond asked Dr. Knox why Clemson thinks this program will be successful, given the examples provided by Clemson in the planning summary of six public and five private institutions with similar degrees which have not been successful. Dr. Knox answered that he believes the program will be successful because current students majoring in physics will welcome and embrace the ability to gain expertise to teach, and therefore be provided with another career route. Dr. Diamond asked how many Physics majors Clemson graduates each year. Dr. Knox answered around forty.

Dr. Beard asked whether graduates are limited by this degree if a school wants a new teacher to teach other physical science classes, not just physics. Dr. Knox answered that graduates would not be limited, but would have more specialized knowledge and experience to better teach physics and that schools and school districts would respond favorably.

Dr. Gregg asked whether Clemson has studied data from the Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement (CERRA) in regards to Physics teaching positions. Dr. Knox acknowledged that he did not know but would inquire about the data. Dr. Gregg stated that she had a list of questions that she would send to the appropriate personnel at Clemson. Dr. Gregg informed the Committee that most high schools in South Carolina do not have specialized physics-only teachers. She expressed concern about available positions and asked that Clemson provide more explanation regarding the need to modify the program. Dr. Gregg also asked why Clemson chose to pursue a B.A. degree instead of a B.S. degree. Dr. Knox responded that Dr. Marshall would need to answer that question. Dr. Gregg reiterated that she would send her questions to Dr. Marshall.

Mr. Mullins commented that through the pilot implementation of the Course Alignment Project, a need for specialized physics teachers was discovered not only by the pilot implementers, but also by the national curriculum design experts working closely with the project. Dr. Raley encouraged Clemson to include any report regarding this need for the program modification analysis.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the program modification for the program leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree in Science Teaching-Physics at Clemson University.

c. B.S., Physical Education, Concentration in Exercise and Sport Science, University of South Carolina Upstate

Dr. Dowell introduced the program modification from the University of South Carolina Upstate. It was **moved** (Dowell) and **seconded** (Finnigan). Dr. Dowell explained that USC Upstate is requesting that its current B.S. in Physical Education with a concentration in Corporate Fitness be changed to a B.S. in Physical Education with a concentration in Exercise and Sport Science. She informed the Committee that the current degree is 125 hours, has very little flexibility, and does not conform to any standards for degrees in fitness, kinesiology, recreation, or exercise science. She stated that the primary purpose for the program modification is to bring the degree into conformity with national standards for exercise science. She added that the degree program would be reduced to 120 credit hours and that the modification would allow students to be eligible for certification.

Dr. Diamond asked a general question of CHE staff. She inquired how CHE determines whether a program change needs to be treated as a new program or a program modification. Dr. Raley answered that one sign of the need for a new program is if the program's CIP code changes. He explained that this specific modification does not alter the CIP code of the program. He informed the Committee that the policy states that if a program is changed by more than 18 hours, then it must be treated as a program modification.

Dr. Gregg asked why USC Upstate is not following the recent trend to move Exercise and Sport Science from a concentration under Physical Education to a separate degree program. Dr. Dowell stated that the University wanted to keep the education emphasis, rather than moving in a different direction towards kinesiology.

Dr. Raley followed up a previous comment and asked Dr. Diamond whether she thought that this program modification was approaching the need to be presented as a new program proposal. Dr. Diamond answered affirmatively, but stated that she supports allowing for flexibility. Dr. Raley reminded her that as a member of ACAP, she has the authority to request that the modification be presented as a new program proposal.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the program modification for the program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education at the University of South Carolina Upstate.

d. M.A.T., Addition of Chemistry, Winthrop University

Mr. Drueke introduced the program modification from Winthrop University. It was **moved** (Drueke) and **seconded** (Dowell). Mr. Drueke referenced recently approved program modifications to offer single year options to secondary education programs. He stated that the chemistry department is also interested in a single year option for the M.A.T. Mr. Drueke informed the Committee that the University terminated its B.S. in Chemistry Education, but the institution recognizes that students working towards their B.S. in Chemistry are interested in the M.A.T. option.

Dr. Beard asked for more information regarding the need for the single year option in Chemistry. Mr. Drueke referenced Winthrop's long-standing mission to prepare teachers to serve in S.C. He cited CERRA data as proving the need for more science teachers in the state. He explained that students in this degree program will also have the option of obtaining a general science education certification in addition to the chemistry certification.

Dr. Gregg asked Winthrop to provide more recent CERRA data. She also reminded Mr. Drueke that the program modification will need to be presented to the South Carolina Department of Education for approval. She informed Mr. Drueke that she would send questions via email to the appropriate personnel at Winthrop.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the program modification for Winthrop University for the program leading to the Master of Arts in Teaching degree.

4. Consideration of Annual Report for Advanced Placement Course Acceptance Policies, FY 2010-11

Dr. Raley introduced this item. It was **moved** (Drueke) and **seconded** (Dowell). Dr. Raley informed the Committee that the format of this report is dramatically different from previous ones. He referenced the report's recommendation to discontinue the report due to the full implementation of the SCTRAC initiative. He informed the Committee that current information regarding AP and IB courses is available through the SCTRAC portal.

Dr. Beard asked how the data in SCTRAC is updated. Ms. Houpp stated that course equivalency information is updated as equivalencies are added, removed, or changed either through the Equivalency Synchronizer or the Course Equivalency Management Center. She also stated that updating course information, equivalencies, articulation agreements, and transfer profile information is a topic of discussion at the upcoming Expanded ACAP meeting where CHE staff will recommend that institutions formally review and update the respective information at least annually. Mr. Mullins informed the Committee that the system does not automatically request updates from the institutions. He added that the Expanded ACAP members will discuss specifically how the update process should work. Ms. Houpp stated that CHE staff can generate a variety of reports through SCTRAC and will review this specific data through a system-generated report. Mr. Mullins then reminded the Committee that with the implementation of SCTRAC, a policy was approved stating that SCTRAC would be the official repository for all information regarding transfer and articulation between and among South Carolina public institutions of higher education.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the *Annual Report for Advanced Placement Course Acceptance Policies, FY 2010-11*.

5. Presentation of Annual Report on Terminated and Approved Programs, FY 2010-11

Dr. Raley introduced this item as information only. He specifically cited the table found on page seven entitled *Terminated and Approved Academic Degree Programs by Degree Level, July 2010 – June 2011*. He reported that slightly more programs were approved than were terminated. He added that in the past few years, there had been more of a balance between approved and terminated programs, with more programs terminated last year.

Dr. Rivers asked that the names of the technical college programs listed throughout the report be changed to reflect the appropriate terminology of Associate Degree in Applied Science or Associate Degree in Applied Arts. Dr. Rivers informed the Committee and CHE staff that three new associate degrees were not included in the report because they were not required to be presented for approval by CHE staff or Commission bodies. Ms. Houp answered that she would revise the report accordingly to add those programs.

Dr. Diamond cited the College's addition of a B.A. to the B.S. in Psychology degree as being listed both in the *Notifications of Change and/or Terminations, January –June 2011* report and this report. Ms. Houp explained that the program was included in both reports because one report is a quarterly report while this report is an annual report.

6. Presentation of Notifications of Change and/or Terminations, January-June 2011

Dr. Raley introduced the item as information. Dr. Finnigan referenced a mistake on the report. She informed CHE staff and the Committee that the degree concentration name change for the M.A. and Ph.D. in Linguistics programs should be listed under USC Columbia, not USC Upstate. Dr. Raley acknowledged the mistake and assured USC it would be corrected.

7. Review of 2011-2012 Project Plans for the South Carolina Course Alignment Project (SC CAP)

Mr. Mullins reported that the review of the 2011-2012 project plans for the SC CAP is taking place at the Expanded ACAP meeting immediately following this meeting. He asked whether any ACAP member would be unable to attend the Expanded ACAP meeting. Mr. Druke answered that he would not be able to attend but that Ms. Jones would be participating via conference call.

Mr. Mullins presented a brief overview on the topic of College and Career Readiness indicators. He explained that CHE received \$125,000 from the S.C. Department of Education for the original purpose of creating a definition of College and Career Ready. He continued by stating that after receiving feedback from secondary and postsecondary faculty as well as acknowledging the debate in S.C. regarding common course standards, CHE staff decided it might be best to ask the Coordinating Council for permission to use the funds to continue to expand the number of faculty involved in paired courses through the SC CAP.

Dr. Rivers asked whether Mr. Mullins would address which areas of the state are heavily involved with SC CAP at the Expanded ACAP meeting. Mr. Mullins answered that Dr. Ward would address the number of implementers added at each stage and the current status.

Dr. Ozment asked whether Mr. Mullins knew how many individuals were expected to attend the Expanded ACAP meeting. She referenced the dwindling number of participants in the previous meetings. Mr. Mullins acknowledged that two individuals reported their inability to attend, but CHE staff had not asked for responses from those planning to attend. Dr. Ozment expressed an opinion that better attendance is needed to support the work of the group. Dr. Raley agreed that the group needs more participants from the K-12 and business sectors.

8. Other Business

Dr. Raley informed the Committee that two reports would be emailed to members in the near future for review and comment. He stated the Academic Common Market report would be sent for revisions and feedback. He also stated that the Freshmen Admissions Report would be sent for review and specifically asked members to review it closely for several reasons. He asked members to review the provisional student references due to the various definitions used by the institutions. He also referenced data in the report regarding freshmen-to-sophomore retention for those freshmen who entered college having completed prerequisite requirements and for those freshmen who entered college having failed to complete those requirements. He reported that every institution reported a higher retention rate for students who entered college having completed the prerequisite requirements.

Dr. Raley thanked everyone for attending the meeting and reminded them that the next Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2011. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:47a.m.