



MICHAEL D. AMIRIDIS
VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND PROVOST

MEMORANDUM

TO: Harris Pastides, President

FROM: Michael Amiridis, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

DATE: October 30, 2009

SUBJECT: Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Athletic Training at the University of South Carolina, Columbia

Attached is a new program planning summary for the Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Athletic Training at the University of South Carolina in Columbia. The planned program addresses curricular needs in the discipline, and is in keeping with the mission and goals of the USC system.

I write to request your approval of the summary, as indicated by your signature on its cover sheet and on an accompanying memo to the Executive Director of the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education. My staff will transmit the signed documents to CHE.

MA/mbf
Attachment

c: Kristia H. Finnigan, Assistant Provost for Academic Programs

APPROVED

Signature/Date
HARRIS PASTIDES
PRESIDENT



October 30, 2009

HARRIS PASTIDES
PRESIDENT

Dr. Garrison Walters
Executive Director
South Carolina Commission on Higher Education
1333 Main Street, Suite 200
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Dr. Walters:

Accompanying this letter please find a new program planning summary for the Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Athletic Training, College of Education, University of South Carolina Columbia. The suggested CIP code is 51.0913.

The planned program addresses curricular needs in the discipline, and is in keeping with the mission and goals of the USC system. I write to request that the summary be submitted for discussion at the next Commission on Higher Education Advisory Committee on Academic Programs meeting.

Sincerely,

Harris Pastides

MDA/ba
Attachment
c: Kristia H. Finnigan, Assistant Provost for Academic Programs

PROGRAM PLANNING SUMMARY
FOR NEW PROGRAM

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COLUMBIA

Bachelor of Science
With a major in Athletic Training

August 13, 2009



Harris Pastides, President

Date

**Commission of Higher Education Program Planning Summary
Submitted by the College of Education at
the University of South Carolina Columbia Campus
Bachelor of Science with a major in Athletic Training**

Designation: A Bachelor of Science with a major in Athletic Training, leading to eligibility to sit for the Board of Certification exam for certification in athletic training.

Number of hours: 129-135 undergraduate hours

CIP Code: 51.0913 (Athletic Training/Trainer)

Proposed Date of Implementation: Fall 2010

Justification:

The Athletic Training Education Program at the University of South Carolina was initially approved as a track emphasis within the B.S. in Physical Education by the University of South Carolina Faculty Senate in 1985. The Athletic Training Education Program was the first athletic training education program in South Carolina to obtain accreditation. Accreditation was first received in 1997 (CAHEA, first accrediting body). Since that time, the athletic training education program has been re-accredited by the national agency (CAAHEP, 2000). In the spring of 2009, CAATE, the new accrediting body for athletic training conducted a site visit and accreditation review. One of the major citations by CAATE was the name of the major. CAATE standard I1 requires that the athletic training program must offer an undergraduate or graduate degree in athletic training..

To meet the new accreditation standards, the faculty in the Department of Physical Education and Athletic Training submitted a proposal to the USC Faculty Senate to change the present status of the B.S. degree in Physical Education. Currently, there are two track emphases in the B.S. in Physical Education; one track emphasis in teacher certification in physical education and a second track emphasis in athletic training. The proposal submitted to the USC Faculty Senate was to create separate degrees: a B.S. in Physical Education (teacher certification) and a separate degree named, a B.S. in Athletic Training. This change did not involve any changes to the curriculum of either degree. The change was primarily made to meet accreditation standards of CAATE by changing the name of the degree for the athletic training track emphasis to a B. S. in Athletic Training. The proposal was approved by the USC Faculty Senate in the spring of 2009. We understand that a CIP code change is also appropriate so that the code matches the new degree name.

CAATE, the athletic training accrediting agency, cited our athletic training program for noncompliance with standard I1 that requires the degree to be named a Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training. We will remain in noncompliance with this standard until

the South Carolina Commission of Higher Education approves the change in the name of the degree. Lack of action threatens to delay the re-accreditation of the program.

Essentially, the degree will retain the curriculum of the former track within the Physical Education degree, which encompasses a) 55-61 general education requirements, b) 49 hours of core athletic training requirements, and c) 24 hours of departmental requirements. We have maintained all other standards for accreditation of the athletic training education program since 1997. We request the name of the program be changed to a Bachelor of Science with a major in Athletic Training to fulfill the standards of the accrediting agency.

Anticipated Program Demand and Productivity:

The athletic training education program has consistently enrolled 70-85 students for the past 4 years. We anticipate the enrollment in the future to remain consistent with between 70 and 85 students every year.

Assessment of Extent of Proposed Program Duplication:

The athletic training education program at the University of South Carolina was the first undergraduate athletic training education program in South Carolina. Since the development of the program at USC, athletic training education programs have been initiated and approved by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education at the College of Charleston, Lander, Winthrop, and Erskine. However, the athletic training program at the University of South Carolina is uniquely able to provide its students with clinical education experiences in a Division 1 athletics program in the Southeastern conference. Clinical opportunities are available for students to gain athletic training skills with elite collegiate athletes in over 22 Division One sports. Students are also provided with unique clinical learning environments within the seven athletic training facilities across USC's campus, including the new multi-million dollar sports medicine complex located in Williams-Brice Stadium. The athletic training program at USC currently utilizes over 30 Approved Clinical Instructors (ACI's), who assist in the clinical education of students in a variety of settings. During the Spring 2009 CAATE site-visit, a major strength of the program was identified as "knowledgeable ACIs at a wide variety of on and off campus clinical sites". An additional strength was noted as a "strong working relationship and positive collaboration between the athletic training program and the USC athletic department and USC School of Medicine". A clear strength to USC's athletic training program is current resources within a high profile athletic department, current expansion of athletic facilities across USC's campus, as well as current academic programs (e.g., physical therapy, motor learning, physical education) that foster critical collaborative efforts.

Relationship of Proposed Program to Existing Programs at USC:

Students in the athletic training education program take courses from other academic units at USC. This includes general education requirements, courses in physical education and exercise science that complement athletic training, and specialized coursework in athletic training. There are several academic programs at USC that fall under realm of “sports medicine”. Currently, the athletic training profession credentials its professionals at the bachelor’s level, while many of the other academic programs within sports medicine are post-baccalaureate. It is common to have many students in the athletic training program who aspire to obtain post-baccalaureate degrees and certifications in physical therapy, medicine, exercise science, physician assistants, teacher education, and occupational therapy. A large percentage of certified athletic trainers currently work in secondary and collegiate settings. Some athletic trainers seek MAT degrees to obtain teacher certification and enhance their employment opportunities in secondary schools. Recent National Athletic Training Association (NATA) statistics suggest that over 70% of all certified athletic trainers currently have a Master’s degree or higher. This suggests that BS programs in athletic training eventually feed into master’s level programs in similar sports medicine disciplines (all found at USC).

Relationship of Proposed Program to Other Institutions:

The athletic training education program at USC-Columbia was the first athletic training education program initiated in South Carolina and the first program to gain national accreditation. There are currently 6 other CAATE-accredited athletic training programs in the state of South Carolina. Other schools with athletic training programs include, the College of Charleston, Charleston Southern, Lander, Winthrop, Limestone, and Erskine. There are no collaborative programs between these institutions. USC typically has the highest enrollment of students among these programs (e.g., 83 students Fall 2008 in the Athletic Training option in the BS in Physical Education at USC-Columbia). Each spring there is a South Carolina collegiate athletic trainers workshop hosted by the University of South Carolina.

Total New Costs:

There are no additional costs associated with renaming the degree. The current athletic training education program involves four full time faculty members, space and equipment to accommodate athletic training education, and administrative support of the program.