South Carolina
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CAAL
Agenda Item 3c
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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 to Existing Licenses to Add New Programs
A.A., Criminal Justice
B.S., Criminal Justice
Strayer University, Charleston, Columbia, and Greenville

Summary

Strayer University (www.strayer.edu) requests approval of an amendment to its licenses to offer programs leading to the Associate in Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in Criminal Justice. The programs will be delivered on-site at Strayer's branches in Charleston, Columbia, and Greenville and will also be available on-line. The proposed date of implementation is April 2009.

Strayer University is a private, proprietary entity that is a wholly owned subsidiary of Strayer Education, Inc., a publicly traded corporation. Strayer offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs in business administration, accounting, information technology, education, and public administration to over 38,000 adult students at 60 campuses. In September 2002 the Commission approved initial licensure for Strayer to establish campuses in Charleston, Columbia, and Greenville and delegated to the staff authority to issue licenses as the sites were developed. The Greenville campus was licensed in March 2004, the Columbia campus in May 2005, and the Charleston campus in September 2006.

The Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Higher Education (MSA-CHE) has accredited Strayer since 1981. The institution's main campus in the District of Columbia is licensed by the Education Licensure Commission of the District of Columbia. Additionally, Strayer is approved by the appropriate higher education agency in each of the 12 states in which it operates. Strayer has received approval from MSA-CHE and the Education Licensure Commission of the District of Columbia to offer the criminal justice programs.

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

OPE ID	School	Type	Control	PRGMS		FY 2006	FY 2005	FY 2004
001459	Strayer University 1133 15th Street NW Washington DC 20005-2603	Master's Degree or Doctor's Degree	Proprietary	Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) /Federal Direct Loan (FDL)	**Default Rate %**	3.8	3.9	4.5
					No. in Default	440	347	258
					No. in Repay	11297	8829	5700

The U.S. Department of Education sanctions a school when the school's three most recent cohort default rates are 25% or higher or if a school's current default rate is greater than 40 percent. Except in the event of a successful judgment or appeal, such a school will lose FFEL, Direct Loan, and Federal Pell Grant program eligibility for the remainder of the fiscal year in which the school is notified of its sanction and for the following two fiscal years.

Strayer leases its South Carolina campus facilities on a long-term basis. Each campus maintains computer labs, administrative offices, lecture classrooms, and a learning resource center.

The learning resource center at each campus provides basic resources, computer labs, and audiovisual support. The director of libraries at the Wilkes Library, located at the main campus, coordinates library services and collection development for all campus resource centers. A regional librarian, who holds a minimum of a master's degree in library science, is assigned to each region of campuses. Combined library holdings include approximately 71,000 books available through inter-campus lending, 600 periodicals, and 1,500 audio-visual resources.

Strayer employs at each branch a campus director, a campus academic dean, and admissions, financial aid, student support and learning resources personnel. Career services and facilities support services are also available to each campus location and are

shared by campuses in the same geographic region. Strayer University has appointed a university-wide department chair for the criminal justice program. The department chair works closely with the Criminal Justice internal committee composed of faculty and regional and campus deans to ensure program quality. Faculty committees review each course every three years; the Academic Curriculum Committee, comprised of the academic deans and department chairs, evaluates programs at its quarterly meetings.

Faculty members teaching general education courses must have a master's degree from a regionally accredited college with 18 hours in the teaching discipline or must hold a master's degree with a major in the teaching discipline. A terminal degree in the subject area is preferred. Faculty members teaching core courses will be expected to hold a terminal degree in criminal justice or a related field or may hold a juris doctor degree or master's degree in criminal justice with significant and recent professional experience.

Applicants must hold a high school diploma or General Education Development certificate. Prior to their first term, students will be evaluated for proficiency in fundamental math and English. Students who transfer collegiate math or English credit from an accredited college or university, graduate from an undergraduate or graduate program, receive satisfactory scores on the SAT or ACT, or score above the established minimum levels on the placement tests may waive the required fundamental courses. College Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams and Dantes Subject Standardized Tests (DSST) may be evaluated for credit towards a degree. Strayer is also a member of the Service Members Opportunity Colleges network that allows active duty members of the military and their families to complete undergraduate degrees regardless of where they are stationed.

Strayer projects initially enrolling 10 students in the associate's degree program and 10 students in the bachelor's degree program at each of its locations in South Carolina. Tuition is $1,435 per four and one half quarter credit hour course for full-time students (enrolled in three or more courses per quarter) and $1,510 per course for part-time students. Total tuition for a student enrolled full-time in the associate's degree program is $28,700 and for the bachelor's degree program, $57,400.

The programs leading to the Associate in Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in Criminal Justice are designed to provide students with current and relevant knowledge regarding the prevention, adjudication, and correction of juvenile and adult crime. Students in the bachelor's level program will further explore the theoretical, operational, and legal components of the criminal justice system. Four specializations are offered in the bachelor's degree program: Criminal Justice Administration, Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Homeland Security Technology, and Computer Security and Forensics. Employment in most federal law enforcement agencies requires completion of a bachelor's degree program.

The curricula for the program leading to the A.A. and B.S. degrees in Criminal Justice are shown below:

A.A., B.S. in Criminal Justice Curriculum		
Courses	Quarter Credit Hours	
	A.A.	B.S.
ENG 215 Research and Writing	4.5	4.5
ENG 240 Communication for Business and the Professions		4.5
HUM 100 Introduction to Art, Music, and Literature		4.5
HUM 101 The Origins of Western Culture	4.5	4.5
HUM 200 Logic **OR** MAT 200 Precalculus	4.5	4.5
HUM 300 History and Methods of Science **OR** MAT 310 Calculus I		4.5
HUM 400 Religion and Philosophy		4.5
MAT 300 Descriptive Statistics		4.5
POL 300 Contemporary International Problems **OR** ECO 405 Economic Problems and Issues		4.5
PSY 100 The Individual and Society **OR** PSY 105 Introduction to Psychology	4.5	4.5
SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology	4.5	4.5
SOC 300 Sociology of Developing Countries		4.5
Total General Studies component	22.5	54
PSY 110 Social Psychology		4.5
CRJ 100 Introduction to Criminal Justice	4.5	4.5
BUS 100 Introduction to Business	4.5	4.5
CIS 105 Introduction to Information Systems	4.5	4.5
ENG 115 English Composition	4.5	4.5
MAT 105 Introduction to College Mathematics	4.5	4.5
Total Core component	22.5	27
PSY 110 Social Psychology	4.5	
CRJ 105 Crime and Criminal Behavior	4.5	4.5
CIS 170 Information Technology in Criminal Justice	4.5	4.5
CRJ 180 Juvenile Delinquency and Justice	4.5	4.5
CRJ 220 Ethics and Leadership in Criminal Justice	4.5	4.5
LEG 220 Criminal Law	4.5	4.5
SOC 205 Society, Law, and Government	4.5	4.5
CRJ 330 Comparative Criminal Justice	4.5	
Total Major component	36	27
Total Elective component	9	
Total Concentration component		27
Total Elective component		45
Total curriculum hours	90	180

There is no specialized accrediting agency for criminal justice programs. Practitioner licensure or certification is not required for employment.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Occupational Outlook Handbook,* protective service occupations such as correctional officers, police, detectives, investigators, security guards, and gaming surveillance officers are high growth occupations with excellent job opportunities available for those with college degrees.

Thirteen of the state technical colleges offer an associate's degree program in criminal justice, as well as U.S.C.-Lancaster, Forrest Junior College, Miller-Motte Technical College, and Spartanburg Methodist. Other colleges and universities in the state that offer a bachelor's degree program in criminal justice are The Citadel, Lander, South Carolina State, U.S.C.-Columbia, U.S.C.-Upstate, Anderson, Benedict, Claflin, Coker, ITT Technical, Limestone, Morris, Voorhees, Remington, Saint Leo, South, Troy, Virginia College, and University of Phoenix. Also for consideration by the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing (CAAL) at its December 4 meeting is a proposal from Virginia College to add a site in Charleston at which it will offer programs leading to the A.A.S. and B.S. degrees in Criminal Justice.

Recommendation

The staff recommends that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing commend favorably to the Commission an amendment to the licenses of Strayer University to offer programs leading to the Associate in Arts degree and Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice for implementation in April 2009 in Charleston, Columbia, and Greenville.