

**Minutes  
Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing  
May 5, 2011**

**Members Present**

Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Chair  
Mr. Bill Scarborough  
Mr. Hood Temple, via teleconference

**Other Commissioners Present:**

Ms. Leah Moody

**Staff Present**

Dr. Argentini Anderson  
Ms. Laura Belcher  
Mr. Arik Bjorn  
Ms. Renea Eshleman  
Ms. JoAnn Gardner  
Ms. Lane Goodwin  
Dr. Paula Gregg  
Ms. Trena Houpp  
Mr. Clint Mullins  
Dr. T. Michael Raley  
Ms. Tanya Rogers

**Guests**

Dr. Lisa Benson, Clemson University  
Ms. Kimberly Bingaman, Strayer University  
Dr. Joyce Blackwell, S.C. State University  
Mr. Hugh Bland, Piedmont Technical College  
Dr. Patricia Bohannon, Coastal Carolina University  
Dr. Barbara Buckner, Coastal Carolina University  
Dr. Ralph Byington, Coastal Carolina University  
Dr. Helen Doerpinghaus, University of South Carolina Columbia  
Ms. Stephanie Frazier, S.C. Technical College System  
Dr. Juan Gilbert, Clemson University  
Dr. Linda Henderson, Coastal Carolina University  
Dr. Stanley N. Ihekweazu, S.C. State University  
Dr. Debra Jackson, Clemson University  
Mr. Keith Lasure, Piedmont Technical College  
Dr. Kenneth Lewis, S.C. State University  
Dr. Jim Luken, Coastal Carolina University  
Ms. Beth McInnis, Clemson University  
Dr. Tara McNealy, The Citadel  
Dr. Geoff Potvin, Clemson University  
Dr. Darlene Shaw, MUSC, via teleconference  
Dr. John F. Yanness, Coastal Carolina University

Dr. Horne called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. and stated that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act. Dr. Horne introduced a new Commissioner, Leah Moody, who was participating in the meeting as a visitor.

**1. Consideration of Minutes of February 14, 2011**

Dr. Horne requested a motion to accept the Minutes of February 14, 2011, as distributed. The motion was **moved** (Scarborough) and **seconded** (Temple), and the Committee **voted unanimously to accept the Minutes as distributed.**

## **2. Consideration of New Program Proposals**

### **a. A.A.S., Diversified Agriculture, Piedmont Technical College**

Dr. Horne introduced the item. It was **moved** (Scarborough) and **seconded** (Temple) to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Horne recognized Dr. Raley, and he provided background information about the program approval process for the technical college system. He explained that in the past any new program at a technical college would need to be approved by the technical college system as well as the Commission. He continued by stating that as a result of a recent policy change, if a program is already offered in the technical college system and a technical college wants to offer that program as new to its college, it needs to seek approval from the technical college system. The System Office then informs the Commission if the new offering is approved. However, if a program is new to the entire technical college system, a college needs to seek approval for the program from the technical college system first and then seek approval from the Commission. Dr. Raley informed the Committee that this proposed program is the first new program to the technical college system needing approval from the Commission since the change in the approval policy.

Dr. Horne thanked Dr. Raley for his explanation and recognized Ms. Frazier, Mr. Lasure, and Mr. Bland to speak on behalf of the proposed program. Ms. Frazier stated that the program is intended to prepare students for positions as upper level farm operators and for management positions. She informed the Committee that the degree is based on two successful certificate programs in agriculture at the College. Ms. Lasure explained that Saluda County approached Piedmont Technical College with the offer to upgrade the facility. He stated that a new county center was constructed and that the Diversified Agriculture program became the foundational program for the center. He explained that Saluda County is a main agriculture base and this program allows the College great opportunity to meet the County's needs in the agricultural arena. Mr. Bland reported to the Committee that this program will help students pursue a bachelor's degree at Clemson after obtaining their A.A.S. He explained that Piedmont is working with Clemson and Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College to create an agreement among the schools.

Mr. Scarborough asked about the impact of corporate farms and conglomerates buying out family farms. Mr. Bland expressed his opinion that the trend is not a good one, but he also stated that some family farms are growing so as to compete with corporate ones. Then, Dr. Horne asked for more information about the proposal's statement about promoting entrepreneurial opportunities. Mr. Bland stated that opportunities do exist dependent on the size and niche of the farming being pursued. He gave an example of a small berry farm providing opportunities for graduates to create new enterprises.

Mr. Lasure explained to the Committee that the College's facility has a 15-acre tract of land to be used by students. He stated that the land has been divided into three five-acre tracts; one tract to be used for animal science, one divided into five one-acre food plots, and one used as a wildlife area. He informed the Committee that many local farmers aid in the students' educational experiences by allowing them to work on their farms.

Dr. Horne asked whether students are encouraged to take Spanish courses. Mr. Bland answered that the College encourages students to take as many additional courses as their schedule permits. Dr. Horne asked whether the program's graduates would replace others in the job market or will the program be a part of creating new jobs in the industry. Mr. Lasure

answered by referring to the needs survey taken in which employers told of their inability to find individuals with the agricultural knowledge and management and leadership skills. He said that these graduates would be able to fill leadership positions with their breadth of knowledge. Dr. Horne then asked whether the farm employers are willing to hire these graduates at higher salaries. Mr. Lasure answered that the employers have committed to do so.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to the Associate in Applied Science degree with a major in Diversified Agriculture, to be implemented in Fall 2011, provided that no "unique cost" or other special state funding be required or requested.

#### **b. B.S., Health Administration, Coastal Carolina**

Dr. Horne introduced the item and recognized Dr. Luken, Dr. Yanessa, and Dr. Bohannan. It was **moved** (Temple) and **seconded** (Scarborough) to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Luken explained that the proposed program is a completion program to be offered in partnership with Horry Georgetown Technical College. He reported to the Committee that the degree program originated at MUSC and that the University offered the program to Coastal. Dr. Luken cited endeavors in the health promotion area at Coastal and informed the Committee of the new health sciences building under construction.

Mr. Scarborough asked whether the program was successful at MUSC. Dr. Luken answered that it was, but MUSC's decided to discontinue offering the program because it was not an area on which the University wanted to focus. In response to a question from Dr. Horne, Dr. Bohannan stated that the entire degree would be offered online. Dr. Horne asked how Coastal will ensure that students accepted into the degree program have the necessary computer skills and equipment to successfully complete an online degree program. Dr. Bohannan answered that Coastal clearly communicates upfront the necessary skills and equipment. Dr. Horne asked whether Coastal offers the option for a student to take the classes on campus if they find they cannot succeed by taking the classes online. Dr. Bohannan answered that the first nine courses can be taken on campus and she added that Coastal also offers the use of computer labs on campus for students.

Dr. Horne asked why the degree requires over 120 credit hours for completion. Dr. Bohannan stated that in the process of analyzing the degree as MUSC had offered it and analyzing Coastal's own areas of interest and expertise, the University decided to emphasize business courses as a foundation to health administration, which involved increasing the number of required credit hours. Dr. Bohannan continued to explain that the University envisions this program to be one which might feed into Master and Doctoral programs in Hospital Administration at MUSC as well as the M.B.A. program at Coastal.

Dr. Scarborough applauded Coastal for providing helpful costs information for the degree and stated that the program seems to have the potential to make a profit. Dr. Bohannan agreed. Dr. Luken explained that since the program is online, the major cost on the front-end is the type of platform. He informed the Committee that the University already has Blackboard in place and functional.

Dr. Horne asked whether the University is concerned about students in nursing who might leave the program in order to pursue this new degree. Dr. Bohannan stated that nursing students who are more interested in management would be good candidates for this degree

while those who desire advanced practice careers such as nurse practitioners or nurse anesthetists should remain in the degree program leading to the B.S. in Nursing.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Administration at Coastal Carolina University to be implemented in Fall 2011, provided that no “unique cost” or other special state funding be required or requested.

**c. B.S., Professional Land Surveying, S.C. State University**

Dr. Horne introduced the item and recognized Dr. Blackwell, Dean Lewis, and Dr. Ihekweazu. It was **moved** (Temple) and **seconded** (Scarborough) to accept the staff’s recommendation for approval. Dr. Blackwell informed the Committee that the University’s analysis made it clear that there is a need for additional land surveyors in S.C. and in the U.S. as a whole. She reported that the degree would be the only one of its kind in S.C.; that the degree fits the University’s mission as a land-grant university; and that the program builds off of the core curriculum of the University’s B.S. in Civil Engineering Technology. Dean Lewis commented that the average age of current land surveyors in the state is in the upper 50s. He also stated that a recent legislative change makes a four-year degree a necessity for taking the professional licensure exam.

Dr. Ihekweazu informed the committee that a land surveyor is needed for every 300,000 people in the state, making S.C.’s need 15 per year. Dr. Scarborough asked how many land surveys are executed per year. Dr. Ihekweazu did not know the specific answer but stated that a survey is executed every time a piece of property is sold.

Dr. Horne asked about the following statement: ‘the purpose of the proposed program is to provide an undergraduate education that prepares students for careers in land surveying in the state of South Carolina.’ She asked whether the program limits students’ careers to South Carolina. Dr. Blackwell stated that the program will prepare students for careers throughout the nation. Dr. Raley stated that he will remove the phrase “in the state of South Carolina” from the staff analysis prior to submitting it to the full Commission for review.

Dr. Horne asked for more information about the program requirement of 131 credit hours for graduation, citing that the eleven extra credit hours could be an entire semester’s worth of credit. Dean Lewis stated that the degree can be completed in four years and that requiring over 120 credit hours is a national trend not only for Professional Land Surveying degrees, but engineering degrees as well. He continued by stating that the continual introduction of new technologies leads to more required credit hours.

Dr. Horne asked about the number of students expected in the program, referring to a discrepancy found in the proposal. She stated that the proposal cites 90 students total in the program, with only 15 graduating per year. Dr. Ihekweazu explained that the numbers need to be corrected.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Professional Land Surveying at S.C. State University, to be implemented in Fall 2011, provided that no “unique cost” or other special state funding be required or requested.

**d. M.Acct., Coastal Carolina University**

Dr. Horne introduced the item and recognized Dr. Henderson and Dean Byington. It was **moved** (Scarborough) and **seconded** (Temple) to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Byington stated that the preference of companies hiring accounting graduates is to hire graduates with a Master of Accounting degree. He explained that Coastal currently offers an M.B.A. with an accounting track, but the University determined that offering a Master of Accounting degree would serve its students better. He reported to the committee that the 120 credit hour undergraduate degree coupled with the 30 credit hour graduate program would prepare students well to take the CPA exam after completion.

Mr. Scarborough asked whether the College of Charleston's M.Acc. program follows the same model as Coastal's. Dr. Henderson answered affirmatively. Dr. Horne asked about a statement in the proposal which describes potential students as place bound. Dr. Henderson informed the Committee that Coastal has a two to one ratio of in-state to out-of-state students and that many of the in-state students are local. She stated that graduates tend to stay in the area after graduation. Dr. Horne asked Dr. Raley whether there was an option for students who are place bound to obtain the M.Acc. degree online. Dr. Raley answered that a M.Acc. degree was not offered online in S.C. by a public institution.

Dr. Horne asked for more information regarding the proposals' statement that employment opportunities will increase by 22%. Dr. Henderson responded by stating that the statistic was derived from a survey taken of CPA firms in Horry and Georgetown counties regarding a five-year hiring span. She stated that the survey shows a significant growth in hiring especially predicted for 2012. Dr. Horne asked what type of salary increase would be expected for an individual with a graduate degree as compared with an undergraduate degree. Dr. Byington answered that there is not a large margin of difference at the hiring salary rate. He explained that the margin arrives with the ability to take and pass the CPA exam quickly and become licensed enhances an accountant's productivity and career.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to the Master of Accountancy degree at Coastal Carolina University, to be implemented Fall 2011 provided that no "unique cost" or other special state funding be required or requested and provided further that the institution terminate the existing accounting concentration within its Master of Business Administration program upon implementation of the proposed program.

**e. Ph.D., Engineering and Science Education , Clemson University**

Dr. Horne introduced the item and recognized Dr. Jackson, Dr. Benson, and Dr. Potvin. It was **moved** (Temple) and **seconded** (Scarborough) to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Jackson informed the Committee that this program will prepare individuals with backgrounds in engineering and science to become better teachers in STEM disciplines. She explained that the faculty involved in the program have already developed tools and techniques to improve how students in the classroom learn STEM disciplines.

Dr. Horne asked for more information regarding the need for the program. She asked for documentation and specific information as to potential employers. Dr. Jackson responded that this program is unique in that the degree has been separated from any particular discipline. She stated that Clemson surveyed current students about their interest in the program. She also

informed the Committee that the basis for a doctoral program begins with analyzing faculty members and the amount of faculty research grant funding, which determines the number of students initially admitted to the program. Dr. Benson stated that eleven students who are currently conducting education research have job opportunities.

Dr. Horne asked about the time limitations for the program. Dr. Jackson stated that Clemson sets time limits for students to obtain master's or doctoral degrees.

Dr. Scarborough asked how Clemson's International Center for Automotive Research is linked to the degree program. Dr. Jackson provided the example of the Deep Orange project in the Automotive Engineering Department as an innovative model that might be studied and copied in other educational areas because of its success. She cited the use of SCALE-UP classrooms, innovative immersive semesters, and organic tablet computers as techniques Clemson has utilized to improve learning throughout the campus.

Dr. Horne asked how faculty will be able to track and assess students' career paths and not violate privacy laws. Dr. Benson and Dr. Jackson stated that the students' will be asked for permission and as researchers will most likely be more than willing to permit assessment of their success.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Engineering and Science Education at Clemson University, to be implemented Fall 2011 provided that no "unique cost" or other special state funding be required or requested.

#### **f. Ph.D., Human-Centered Computing, Clemson**

Dr. Horne introduced the item and recognized Dr. Jackson and Dr. Gilbert. It was **moved** (Scarborough) and **seconded** (Horne) to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Gilbert described human-centered computing as an emerging interdisciplinary field which integrates multiple needs. He stated that graduates of the proposed program will be able to look at real-world problems and design, build, and evaluate technologies by integrating people with the technology and context. He stated that the field integrates people and technology. Dr. Raley informed the Committee of a comparison Dr. Gilbert used in a recent phone call in that the difference between computer science and human-centered computing is similar to the difference between chemistry and chemical engineering.

Dr. Horne asked why the chart lists equipment costs when the narrative states that no new equipment is required. Dr. Jackson answered that the cost listed on the chart is the cost of maintaining current equipment. Dr. Horne then stated that the paragraph addressing employment opportunities for graduates could be stronger and provide more specific information. Dr. Jackson stated that the information will be revised.

Dr. Scarborough asked about the high cost of \$15.9 million for faculty salaries. Dr. Jackson explained that Clemson currently spends that amount on faculty in the School of Computing. Dr. Raley suggested that the chart be revised to emphasize that the costs reflect not simply the one degree program, but the broader costs of the School of Computing. The Committee agreed.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to a Doctor of Philosophy in Human-

Centered Computing at Clemson University, to be implemented in Summer 2011 and offered on the Clemson campus, provided that no “unique cost” or other special state funding be required or requested.

**3. Consideration of Amendments to Existing Licenses to Add New Programs:** Strayer University, M.Ed. with four concentrations: Adult Education and Development; Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Teacher Leadership; and Instructional Technology to be offered at the campuses in Greenville, Charleston, and Columbia.

Dr. Horne introduced the item and recognized Ms. Bingaman. It was **moved** (Scarborough) and **seconded** (Horne) to accept the staff’s recommendation for approval. Ms. Bingaman briefly explained the proposed program. She informed the Committee that the Master in Education is not intended to lead to certification, but instead to offer working teachers the opportunity for professional development and growth. Dr. Horne asked whether Strayer verifies students’ teacher certifications. Ms. Bingaman clarified that Strayer does not require that students have certification but that the program does not lead towards it.

Dr. Horne expressed concern regarding Strayer’s default rate and asked how the school is addressing it. Ms. Bingaman reported to the Committee that Strayer is committed to keeping its default rate as low as possible and cited the poor economy as one influence in the default rate doubling. She explained that Strayer works with students to meet obligations and discusses financial obligations with applicants prior to admission.

Dr. Horne asked how Strayer is able to make its program competitive at \$26,000 when other institutions charge far less. Ms. Bingaman answered that since Strayer provides high quality education to working adults, the university is competitive. She cited the benefits of a Strayer education in online accessibility, flexible schedules, and the ability to serve those in diverse backgrounds.

Dr. Horne asked what percentage of the faculty are adjunct professors. Ms. Bingaman answered that she would research the information and submit it to CHE staff. Dr. Horne asked what percentage of Strayer’s students receive federal aid. Ms. Bingaman answered that she would research the information and submit it to CHE staff.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission approval of an amendment to the licenses of Strayer University to offer a program leading to the Master of Education degree with concentrations in 1) Adult Education and Development, 2) Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, 3) Teacher Leadership, and 4) Instructional Technology to be implemented in October 2011.

**4. Consideration of New Federal *Improving Teacher Quality* Competitive Grants Awards, FY 2011-12**

Dr. Horne introduced the item and recognized Dr. Raley. It was **moved** (Scarborough) and **seconded** (Horne) to accept the staff’s recommendation for approval. Dr. Raley explained to the Committee that the recommendation of the Review Panel is found on page two while CHE staff’s recommendation is on page three. He informed the Committee that the Panel and staff recommend approving a new grant to USC Aiken and to continue the projects listed on page six.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend**

**favorably** to the Commission approval of the new awards made under the Improving Teacher Quality Grants Program for FY 2011-12.

**5. Consideration of New *EIA Centers of (Teacher Education) Excellence* Competitive Grants Awards, FY 2011-12**

Dr. Horne introduced the item and recognized Dr. Raley. It was **moved** (Scarborough) and **seconded** (Horne) to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Horne reiterated the report's recommendation to award a new grant to Claflin University while continuing the projects listed on page thirteen.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission approval of the new awards made under the EIA Centers of (Teacher Education) Excellence Grants Program for FY 2011-12.

**6. Consideration of Revised Guidelines for Federal *Improving Teacher Quality* Competitive Grants Program, FY 2012-2013**

Dr. Horne introduced the item and recognized Dr. Raley. It was **moved** (Scarborough) and **seconded** (Horne) to accept the staff's recommendation for approval of the revised Guidelines. Dr. Raley informed the Committee that plans have been made for next year's cover memo to list the specific changes in the Guidelines using a bulleted list and to not use the Track Changes format. He explained that the largest change in this year's Guidelines regards the addition of mandatory technical assistance training. Dr. Gregg stated that more districts qualified to be served by an ITQ grant this year due to the rise of poverty in those districts.

Dr. Horne asked Dr. Gregg for more information on the 1975 Age Discrimination Act reference under the charter school definition found on page seventeen. Dr. Gregg could not provide any additional information but agreed to research the Act and provide the information to Dr. Horne.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission approval of the revised *Guidelines for Federal Improving Teacher Quality Competitive Grants Program, FY 2012-2013*.

**7. Consideration of Revised Guidelines for EIA Centers of (Teacher Education) Excellence Competitive Grants Program, FY 2012-2013**

Dr. Horne introduced the item and recognized Dr. Raley. It was **moved** (Scarborough) and **seconded** (Horne) to accept the staff's recommendation for approval of the revised Guidelines. Dr. Gregg explained that the themes were kept from last year's Guidelines and therefore there were not many changes beyond requiring technical assistance training to this year's edition of the Guidelines. Dr. Raley explained that on page five, the Guidelines have been revised to reflect Year Six in the timeline and chart. He informed the Committee that Item I on page nine has been revised to include a statement about providing evidence of collaboration with other Centers of Excellence in the planning and implementation of the proposed Center.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission approval of the Revised *Guidelines for EIA Centers of (Teacher Education) Excellence Competitive Grants Program, FY 2012-2013*.

**8. Other Business**

Dr. Horne thanked those in attendance for their participation and staff for their work. Hearing no further business, she adjourned the meeting at 3:11 p.m.