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CAAL
9/3/2009
Agenda Item 5b

September 3, 2009

MEMORANDUM

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

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

Consideration of Request for Amendment to Existing License to Add New Program B.S., Human Services, with a concentration in Early Childhood Education Springfield College, Springfield, MA, at its branch in Charleston

Summary

Springfield College (www.springfieldcollege.edu) requests approval of an amendment to its license to offer at its branch in Charleston a degree-completion program leading to the B.S. degree in Human Services with a concentration in Early Childhood Education, to be implemented immediately following approval by CHE. All courses offered will be taught on-site at the facilities in Charleston.

Springfield College is a private, non-profit institution. In addition to its main campus in Springfield, Massachusetts, Springfield College maintains School of Human Services campuses in Tampa, Florida; San Diego and Los Angeles, California; Wilmington, Delaware; Boston, Massachusetts; Manchester, New Hampshire; Houston, Texas; St. Johnsbury, Vermont; and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In 2002 CHE licensed Springfield to offer programs leading to the B.S. degree and M.S. degree in Human Services at a site in Charleston.

In 1885 the Reverend David Allen Reed founded "A School for Christian Workers" to prepare youth for community service. Over its 116-year history, the name of the institution has changed (to the International Y.M.C.A. Training School in 1890; to the International Y.M.C.A. College in 1912; and finally to Springfield College in 1953.)

Springfield expresses its commitment to the education of the whole person – spirit, mind, and body – for service to humankind.

Springfield is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). The Board of Higher Education, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, authorizes Springfield College to offer programs leading to the bachelor's, master's, doctorate of physical education, and such honorary degrees as are usually conferred by colleges in the Commonwealth, excluding medicine.

The following information from the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) shows student loan default rates at Springfield College.

OPE ID	School	Type	Control	PRGMS		FY2006	FY2005	FY2004
002211	Springfield College 263 Alden Street Springfield MA 01109-3797	Master's Degree or Doctor's Degree	Private	Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL)	**Default Rate**	2.0	2.8	3.8
					No. in Default	47	62	69
					No. in Repay	2263*	2151	1788

The USDE sanctions a school when the school's three most recent cohort default rates are 25 percent or higher or if a school's current default rate is greater than 40 percent. Except in the event of a successful adjustment or appeal, such a school will lose Federal Family Education Loan, 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. Springfield College's default rates are far below this standard.

The Charleston campus is located in Ashley Overlook at 4390 Belle Oaks Drive, Suite 200, North Charleston, near the newly developed Centre Point area. The campus has approximately 23,600 square fee of leased space that includes 15 classrooms, a fully equipped computer lab designed to seat 24 students, 11 offices, a faculty resource room, and three conference rooms that accommodate groups of up to 25 individuals. No additional equipment or facilities are needed to implement the concentration in Early Childhood Education. The following table shows enrollments and graduates of the Charleston location.

SPRINGFIELD FTE ENROLLMENT AND GRADUATES				
Degree	Major	Concentration	FTE 8/1/2008	Graduates FY 7/1/08-6/30/09
BS	Human Services		61	29
MS	Human Services	Community Counseling Psychology	13	11
MS	Human Services	Organizational Management and Leadership	11	9

Library services are available through the main campus facility via electronic access to the Babson Library on-line services, electronic online catalog (Voyager), and over 25 bibliographic databases, including general databases, such as Expanded Academic ASAP, and more specialized databases, such as ERIC, PsycInfo, Sociological Abstracts and Social Work Abstracts. Each site has a master copy of guides, handouts, and descriptions of databases. The *Springfield College School of Human Services Undergraduate Catalog* describes academic advising, academic support, disabilities services, veterans' services, career services, and library services. Policies and Procedures are also available on-line at http://catalog.spfldcol.edu/content.php?catoid=30&navoid=429#stu_serv. Because the concentration is offered at other branches of Springfield, research/library resources are already available.

Springfield staff at the Charleston campus include a campus director who reports to the dean of the College of Human Services at Springfield's main campus. Other administrators at the Charleston campus are assistant director, admissions coordinator, and support staff.

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.

Applicants must demonstrate commitment to human services, have a high school diploma or G.E.D., and be able to either transfer in at least 30 credits from other accredited colleges or achieve credit for prior learning. The College accepts transfer credits, nationally scored tests such as College Level Examination Program (C.L.E.P.) and Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (D.A.N.T.E.S.), American Council on Education Military Evaluations Program recommendations, National Guide to Educational Credit for Training Programs recommendations, and course-based equivalency challenges in several formats. Evaluation for credit through the prior learning process is based on the policies and procedures consistent with the principles of good practice established by the Council on the Assessment of Experiential Learning

(C.A.E.L.). A maximum of 66 lower division semester hours may be transferred from a two-year institution and a maximum of 72 hours may be transferred into the program.

Springfield expects to enroll 24 students in the first year in the program leading to the B.S. degree in Human Services with a concentration in Early Childhood Education. Because the program is writing-intensive, applicants also take a writing assessment as part of the application process.

Tuition is $363 per credit hour. Students completing 48 semester hours will pay a total tuition to Springfield for this degree-completion program of $17,424.

The following table outlines the 120 semester-credit hour curriculum.

Springfield College B.S., Human Services, Early Childhood Education Curriculum Content	
General Education	42
Core Human Services major (must be taken at Springfield) Core I -- Education, Oppression, and Social Intervention (US History); Core II -- Mobilizing Resources, Political Economy; Core III -- Social Movements (US History); Human Services Portfolio Development (HSPD); Issues in Research; ECED 330, 331, 332 Group Project I, II, III; Senior Seminar	32
Core ECE concentration (must be taken at Springfield) Early Childhood Development, Ethical and Professional Standards for Early Childhood Educators, Early Childhood Education Internship, Foundations of Early Childhood Education, Children with Special Needs, Early Childhood Education Classroom Management, Assessment and Documentation in Early Childhood Education, elective	24
Electives	22
Total B.S., Human Services, Early Childhood Education	**120**

The Council for Standards in Human Service Education (CSHSE) accredits the School of Human Services, Non-Traditional Weekend Program. The institution will provide a disclosure to each applicant that the program does not lead to social worker or teacher certification.

Students enrolled in the Human Services program at Springfield typically work in human service or community development agencies, programs, or institutions. They may be from the fields of nursing, ministry, child care, law enforcement, teaching, community activism, or community service.

According to the proposal, the primary market for the program will be those who work in or are interested in working in Head Start programs. The requirements for Head

Start teacher qualifications are prescribed by the Federal "No Child Left Behind" legislation. By September 30, 2013, all Head Start education coordinators and at least 50% of Head Start teachers must have a baccalaureate or advanced degree in Early Childhood Education or a baccalaureate or advanced degree in any subject and coursework equivalent to a major relating to early childhood education with experience teaching preschool-age children. Coursework equivalent to a major relating to early childhood education includes but is not limited to courses that focus on child development, early childhood education and curriculum, early childhood teaching and assessment, psychology, family development, health and physical development, mathematics, science, and children's literature. In addition to the 24-semester-credit-hour core in early childhood courses, the curriculum includes three three-credit hour courses in which the students develop an early-childhood related group project and a three-credit-hour senior seminar.

The proposal included a letter of support from the program director of the Community Development Institute, a Head Start facility in Charleston. The letter refers to a critical need for an early childhood education concentration.

Programs that have early childhood education as the major are typically for teacher certification. Public colleges and universities in the state that offer programs leading to bachelor degrees in early childhood education are Clemson; Coastal Carolina; College of Charleston; Francis Marion; Lander; South Carolina State; U.S.C.-Aiken, Beaufort, and Winthrop. Independent colleges and universities in the state that offer programs leading to bachelor degrees in early childhood education are Anderson, Benedict, Bob Jones, Charleston Southern, Claflin, Coker, Columbia, Converse, Morris, Newberry, North Greenville, Presbyterian, and Southern Wesleyan. Colleges and universities that offer programs leading to bachelor degrees in human services are Limestone, U.S.C.-Beaufort, and Anderson. However, this concentration will not lead to teacher certification.

Recommendation

The staff recommends that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing commend favorably to the Commission an amendment to the existing license of Springfield College to offer at the Charleston campus the program leading to the B.S. degree in Human Services with a concentration in Early Childhood Education for implementation immediately upon approval by the Commission, and provided that the College includes a disclosure to each applicant indicating that the program does not lead to teacher certification in South Carolina.