

**New Program Proposal  
Bachelor of Arts– Major in Dance  
University of South Carolina – Columbia**

**Summary**

USC-Columbia requests approval to offer a program leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree with a Major in Dance, to be implemented in Spring 2005. There will be two tracks: Dance Performance/Choreography and Dance Education.

The proposal was submitted for Commission review on August 16, 2004. The proposal was reviewed without substantive comment and voted upon favorably by the Advisory Committee on Academic Programs at its meeting on September 30, 2004. The Board of Trustees approved the proposal at its meeting on October 22, 2004.

The purpose of the program is to provide professional training in performance and pedagogy, and it will also prepare students for graduate work and advanced studies in dance. The program will have a strong emphasis on classical ballet, making it unique in the state. The proposal states that the program will qualify graduates for employment in areas such as dance performance, choreography, teaching, production and stage management, arts design and administration, music, dance therapy, dance history, dance criticism, dance theory and research, physiology and medicine, movement analysis, arts management, history and anthropology, criticism and philosophy, research, photography, film, video, and technology.

Dance majors will follow the general education and elective requirements as defined by the College of Liberal Arts. The curriculum for the choreography track consists of 120 credit hours. Of these, 90 credits are in general University requirements, 18 credits are in required dance courses, and 12 are in dance electives. The curriculum for the dance education track consists of 126 credit hours. Of these, 75 credits are in general University requirements, 28 credits are in required dance courses, six credits are in dance electives, and 17 credits are in required physical education and education courses required to meet teacher certification requirements.

Three institutions in the state offer dance majors, but the only public university offering a dance major is Winthrop. Two private colleges, Columbia College and Coker

College, offer the major. All three of these institutions focus on modern dance rather than classical ballet, and only two of them, Winthrop and Columbia College, offer K-12 dance education certification. In addition, the College of Charleston offers a dance minor which does concentrate on classical ballet.

The program will require no new space for teaching or performance areas, as existing facilities are sufficient to support the program.

The proposal states that current library holdings in video (125 titles) and print (over 900 volumes) are adequate to support the program. In addition, there is existing funding to support material acquisition due to the strength of the existing dance minor. No new funds are included for library materials.

No new full-time faculty will be required in 2004-05. A full-time faculty position in dance education will be added in 2005-06, and a full-time faculty position in classical ballet and two part-time (1 FTE) positions will be added in 2006-07. A part-time (.25 FTE) faculty position will be added in 2007-08. A full-time clerical position will be added in 2008-09. In 2004-05 the program will have 13 headcount faculty (4.75 FTE), in 2005-06 it will have 14 headcount faculty (6.75 FTE), in 2006-07 it will have 17 headcount (9.25 FTE), and in 2007-09 it will have 18 headcount (9.75 FTE) faculty positions.

According to the proposal, enrollment in the proposed program is estimated to begin at 22 (headcount and FTE) in the Spring 2005 and increase to 28 (headcount and FTE) in Fall 2008. This is based on four to five dance courses being offered in 2004-05 and six to eight in subsequent years. The projected enrollment figures are based on surveys of advanced dance students and South Carolina Summer Dance Conservatory students. These surveys indicated that 34% of the 98 advanced dance students and 47% of the 250 Conservatory students would be interested in majoring in dance at USC if such a major were offered.

Four years after the proposed degree is implemented, the University of South Carolina will seek accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD). This accreditation process will entail a comprehensive effort by administrators, faculty and students to evaluate the program. The USC dance major will meet the standards published by NASD and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

No new costs for the program will be accrued when the program is implemented in Spring 2005. In Year 2, they increase to \$64, 290, including faculty salaries (\$45,000),

fringe benefits (\$10,790), clerical salary (\$7,000), and equipment (\$1,500). By the fifth year, new costs increase to \$161,561, including faculty salaries (\$100,000), fringe benefits (\$27,411), clerical salary (\$27,000), supplies and materials (\$1,500), marketing (\$1,600), and equipment (\$4,050). The proposal anticipates that the primary source of funding for the program will be through student tuition. The total new cost to the institution over the first five years of the program is estimated in the proposal to be \$492,775, including faculty salaries (\$335,000), fringe benefits (\$88,825), clerical salary (\$57,000), supplies and materials (\$1,500), marketing (\$3,400), and equipment (\$9,150).

Because the dance education track leads to initial teacher certification, the program will have to be approved by the State Board of Education. In keeping with customary procedure, staff has forwarded a copy of the proposal to State Department of Education staff, and the University is in the process of developing additional materials demonstrating how the curriculum supports the NASD and NCATE standards for submission to the Department staff.

Shown below are the estimated Mission Resource Requirement (MRR) costs to the state and new costs not funded by the MRR associated with implementation of the proposed program for its first five years. Also shown are the estimated revenues projected under the MRR and the Resource Allocation Plan as well as student tuition.

Year	Estimated MRR Cost for Proposed Program	Extraordinary (Non-MRR) Costs for Proposed Program	Total Costs	State Appropriation	Tuition	Total Revenue
Year 1	\$236,856		<b>\$236,856</b>	\$0	\$139,576	<b>\$139,576</b>
Year 2	\$467,310		<b>\$467,310</b>	88,046	\$275,329	<b>\$363,375</b>
Year 3	\$537,726		<b>\$537,726</b>	173,729	\$317,380	<b>\$491,109</b>
Year 4	\$665,756		<b>\$665,756</b>	199,727	\$392,902	<b>\$592,629</b>
Year 5	\$915,415		<b>\$915,415</b>	247,295	\$540,124	<b>\$787,419</b>

These data demonstrate that if USC-Columbia can meet the projected student enrollments and contain costs as they are shown in the proposal, the program will not be able to cover new costs with revenues it generates by the fifth year of its implementation.

In summary, USC-Columbia is proposing a program that will lead to a Bachelor's degree in Dance. The program will have two tracks: Performance/Choreography and Education. Students in the education track will complete the necessary courses to allow them to be certified as teachers in South Carolina. Those in performance/choreography will be prepared for a wide variety of performance-related occupations, with a heavy emphasis on classical ballet.

### **Recommendation**

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve USC-Columbia's proposed program leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree in Dance with tracks in Performance/Choreography and Education for implementation in Spring 2005, provided that no "unique cost" or other special state funding is requested or required, and that the dance education track be approved by the State Board of Education prior to its implementation.