

September 27, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Layton McCurdy, Chair, and Members
Commission on Higher Education

FROM: Conrad Festa

SUBJECT: Alternate Procurement Code

Act 187, also referred to as the Life Sciences Act, allows the research universities to develop an alternate procurement code for infrastructure associated with economic development and research.

The alternate procurement code is to be developed in conjunction with the State's Chief Procurement Officer, submitted to the Commission, and forwarded to the Budget and Control Board for review and Approval. The Commission received and forwarded the University of South Carolina alternate procurement code in June. The Commission expressed its concerns about the development of three separate alternate codes in its transmittal letter.

Since that time, the State's Chief Procurement Officer and the research universities have completed the development of a standard alternative procurement code to be used by all three institutions for research infrastructure projects. The standard code, South Carolina Research University Procurement Code for Research Infrastructure, has been approved by the Chief Procurement Officers and the three institutions. A copy of the code and the approval letter are attached. On behalf of the Commission, the attached information will be forwarded to the Budget and Control Board for its review and approval.

cc: Dr. James F. Barker
Dr. Raymond S. Greenburg
Dr. Andrew Sorensen
Mr. Richard W. Kelly
Dr. Gail M. Morrison
Mr. Voight Shealy