

CHE  
9/30/2009  
Agenda Item 8.02.J

September 30, 2009

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Mr. Ken Wingate, Chairman, and Members, Commission on Higher Education

**From:** Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Chairman, Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

**Informational Report on Staff-Approved Mission Statement Changes**

In keeping with the Commission's *Policy and Procedures for Approval of New or Revised Mission Statements*, Commission staff has reviewed proposed mission statement revisions from the following institutions since August 2008:

- South Carolina State University
- University of South Carolina

In the case of USC, the proposed changes were determined to be minor as defined by the policy, which reads "Minor revisions are those revisions which do not change the nature, function, type, or sector of the institution. Examples include revisions for clarity and grammar, changes in size, CHE-approved changes in program mix, board-approved name changes, and editorial changes." As such, the proposed changes were considered and approved at the staff level. The proposed changes were refined at staff request prior to final approval.

In the case of SCSU, the proposed changes were determined to be substantive as defined by the policy, which reads "Substantive revisions are those revisions which change the nature, function, type, or sector of the institution. Examples include, but are not limited to, changes in sector, degree levels offered, program offerings, and service area." Staff is currently working with SCSU to determine the form and content of the revised mission statement which will ultimately be considered for approval by the Commission.