

**Minutes
Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing
May 1, 2014**

Members Present

Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Chair
Admiral Charles Munns
Ms. Natasha Hanna
Ms. Leah Moody
Mr. Kim Phillips

Other Commissioners Present:

Mr. Hood Temple
General John Finan

Guests

Dr. Gina Barton, Lander University
Ms. Ashley Batson, C.S.O.L. Alumni
Dr. Abdel Bayoumi, U.S.C. Columbia
Ms. Cameron Blazer, Savage Law Firm
Ms. Richardine Brown, C.S.O.L. Alumni
Dr. Truman Brown, M.U.S.C.
Dr. Mary Ann Byrnes, U.S.C. Columbia
Dr. David DeCenzo, Coastal Carolina University
Ms. Megan Dell, C.S.O.L. Alumni Board
Dr. Warren Carson, U.S.C. Upstate
Dr. Fred Carter, Francis Marion University
Mr. Dwight Cauthen, Keiser University
Dr. Richard Chapman, Francis Marion University
Ms. Alissa Collins, C.S.O.L. Alumni Board
Mr. Tim Druke, Winthrop University
Dr. Mick Fekula, The Citadel
Dr. Kris Finnigan, U.S.C. Columbia
Dr. Marilyn Murph Fore, Horry Georgetown Technical College
Mr. Peter Goplerud, InfiLaw
Mr. Kevin Hall, InfiLaw
Mr. Daniel Hannah, Lander University
Ms. Carolyn Hills
Ms. Jennifer Hills
Dr. Sam Hines, The Citadel
Dr. Debra Jackson, Clemson University
Dr. Arthur Keiser, Keiser University
Mr. Mark Knight, FIT/ Project Hope
Dr. Martine Laberge, Clemson University

Staff Present

Dr. Argentini Anderson
Ms. Laura Belcher
Ms. Camille Brown
Ms. Julie Carullo
Ms. Renea Eshleman
Ms. Lane Goodwin
Dr. Paula Gregg
Ms. Trena Houp
Dr. MaryAnn Janosik
Ms. Tanya Rogers
Ms. Edna Strange
Dr. Rick Sutton

Dr. James Lyon, Parent of C.S.O.L. Student
Ms. Sallie Lyon, Parent of C.S.O.L. Student
Dr. John Masterson, U.S.C. Upstate
Mr. Mike McCauley, C.S.O.L. Alumni
Dr. Melissa Moss, U.S.C. Columbia
Dr. Mike Murphy, Coastal Carolina University
Mr. Tom Nelson, Lander University
Dr. Judith Neufeld, Lander University
Mr. Chris Presley, U.S.C. Columbia
Dr. Jeff Priest, U.S.C. Aiken
Dr. Hope Rivers, S.C. Technical College System
Dr. Michael Roberts, Coastal Carolina University
Mr. John Robinson, C.S.O.L. Alumni
Mr. Andy Shain, The State Newspaper
Mr. Eddie Shannon, S.C. Independent Colleges and Universities
Dr. Darlene Shaw, M.U.S.C.
Dr. Tarek Shuzly, U.S.C. Columbia
Dr. Susan Simonian, College of Charleston
Dr. John Sites, Keiser University
Dr. Hank Weddington, Lenoir-Rhyne University
Dr. Fran Welch, College of Charleston
Dr. Byron Wine, Florida Institute of Technology
Mr. TC Wolfe, Keiser University
Ms. Kayle Wright, U.S.C. Columbia

1. Introductions

Dr. Horne called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. and stated the meeting was being held in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

2. Consideration of Minutes of January 9, 2014, and January 27, 2014

Dr. Horne requested a motion to accept the minutes of the January 9, 2014, and January 27, 2014, meetings as distributed. The motion was **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Phillips), and the Committee **voted unanimously to accept the minutes as distributed.**

3. Consideration of New Program Proposals

a. The Citadel, M.S., Leadership

Dr. Horne introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Moody) and **seconded** (Phillips) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Hines introduced Dr. Fekula, the Director of Academic Leadership programs and future Chair of a new interdisciplinary department of Leadership Studies at The Citadel. Dr. Fekula explained the creation of the program and described various elements of the program: leadership ethics, leadership of change; leadership principles; personal self-appraisal and development; and coaching and leading teams. Dr. Hines added that Leadership is an emergent discipline which The Citadel is ready to pursue given its experience with the cadet leadership program. He stated that The Citadel currently offers a minor in Leadership, a graduate certificate in Leadership, and a concentration of Leadership in the M.A. in Social Science degree program. He explained that the concentration of Leadership in the M.A. in Social Science program will be terminated if the proposed program is approved. Dr. Hines informed the Committee that the proposed program has generated much interest among alumni and that The Citadel anticipates alumni will represent a significant portion of the first students in the program.

Ms. Moody asked whether the online program is strictly geared to law enforcement and the military. Dr. Hines responded that law enforcement and the military are initial targets but the program is not restricted to those two constituent groups. Admiral Munns asked about program assessment. Dr. Fekula answered that The Citadel plans to analyze the program by studying the demographics of the jobs graduates are performing and the levels of leadership obtained. He further stated that the goal for the program is for 75% of graduates to be employed in a leadership position. Dr. Fekula explained that the second marker of program assessment is analyzing the academic success of graduates. Admiral Munns asked about the process of assessment. Dr. Hines responded that The Citadel conducts a survey of employers of Citadel graduates every three years in order to obtain information.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to a Master of Science in Leadership at The Citadel to be implemented in Fall 2014.

b. Clemson University, M.E., Biomedical Engineering

Dr. Horne introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Moody) and **seconded** (Phillips) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Jackson asked the Committee if Clemson and the University of South Carolina Columbia could present their complementary

programs together. Dr. Horne approved the request. Dr. Jackson explained that both institutions are interested in how the programs will complement, not duplicate each other. She stated that both schools have been working together to develop their respective programs. She explained that Clemson offers bioengineering programs at its main campus, at its Patewood campus, and at MUSC. Dr. LaBerge informed the Committee that the creation of this program is part of a long tradition at both schools in growing biomedical and bioengineering options. She explained the difference between the current Master of Science degree and the proposed Master of Engineering by stating that the M.S. degree is research-focused whereas the M.E. is targeted towards working professional for practical applications in the field.

Dr. LaBerge reported to the Committee the growing medical device industry in S.C., especially along the I-85 corridor, and specifically referred to Clemson's discussion with Bausch and Lomb which is expanding its manufacturing capability and does not have trained engineers with practical skills and tools. She stated that there is no duplication between the M.S. and M.E. and that currently S.C. does not have a M.E. in Biomedical Engineering in the state. Dr. LaBerge added that both programs will have an advisory board, partially comprised of industry representatives, in order to continue to insure the programs are current and viable.

Dr. Finnigan then presented to the Committee the differences between the Clemson and USC programs and how they complement each other for the good of the state. She explained that Clemson's program will focus on biomaterials and bioelectrical, while USC's will focus on biomechanics and biochemical. Dr. Bayoumi presented information regarding USC's bioengineering programs, highlighting a new organizational structure and introducing a new director: Dr. Moss. He emphasized the state's need for a different type of bioengineering program that will meet industry needs.

Mr. Phillips expressed his support for both programs, specifically citing the need for employees to have correct skill sets for industry. Admiral Munns asked about the limitations of sub-specializations. Dr. LaBerge answered that the core curriculum is strong and broad and only after the core curriculum is completed do students pursue specializations. Ms. Hanna expressed her support for the collaboration between the two programs.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to a Master of Engineering degree in Biomedical Engineering at Clemson University to be implemented in Fall 2014 and the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to a Master of Engineering degree in Biomedical Engineering at the University of South Carolina to be implemented in Fall 2014.

c. Coastal Carolina University, B.S., Information Technology

Dr. Horne introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Phillips) and **seconded** (Munns) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. President DeCenzo shared a brief description of the program and highlighted Coastal's partnership with Horry Georgetown Technical College (HGTC) as shown in the program's Memorandum of Understanding. He further emphasized that the collaboration allows for lower costs for students as they are able to transfer 76 credit hours from HGTC and then complete three semesters at Coastal to obtain a Bachelor's degree. He then introduced Dr. Roberts, Dean of the College of Science, and Dr. Murphy, Assistant Professor. Dr. Roberts explained that the program developed out of a number of initiatives, including the initiative to complement two existing programs. He described computer science as the study of the design of operating systems and how deep internal

systems of a computer operate; described information systems as the study of the interface of external world data and the computer; and described information technology as the study of designing the technological components such as the server, switches, and networks in order to connect the deep functioning of the computer and the information systems of the external world. Dr. Murphy presented the three-pronged approach of the planned program assessment: 1.) creating the program with the goal of ABET (formerly known as the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology) accreditation and therefore following the national standards set by ABET; 2.) using an advisory board to obtain local feedback on the program; and 3.) accessing feedback from the collaboration with HGTC and its industry partners.

Admiral Munns suggested that Coastal consider extending its partnership to other technical colleges in the state by leveraging the South Carolina Transfer and Articulation Center (SC TRAC).

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Information Technology at Coastal Carolina University to be implemented in Fall 2014.

d. College of Charleston, M.S., Child Life

Dr. Horne introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Moody) and **seconded** (Phillips) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Simonian explained the role of a Child Life Specialist in the healthcare industry as one who works directly with doctors, nurses, and therapists to help children and family who face acute and chronic medical needs in a hospital setting. She explained that graduates will work with children in a clinical setting and provide developmentally appropriate preparation for medical procedures; engage in interactive play and other types of modalities to foster normal development within a hospitalized setting; help children and families to deal with the stress of medical procedures and hospital stays; and help transition children to long-term care for chronic illnesses or back to "normal" life at home and school. Dr. Simonian explained that the program, if approved, will be the only master's program in the state in this field, and only one of three in the Southeast.

Admiral Munns asked whether the program will be able to offer an adequate number of clinical spots for students. Dr. Simonian responded that there are three components of clinical training for students: 1.) ongoing training throughout the program in every course; 2.) an organized practicum offered collaboratively with MUSC only offered to the program's students; and 3.) the possibility of national internships, accessed through application.

Admiral Munns asked about the role of a regulatory body in raising the profession's training requirements from a bachelor's degree to a master's degree. Dr. Simonian responded that the master's degree positions students for research which will aid the profession. Dr. Horne then asked why the College is not planning to offer the program part-time in addition to full-time. Dr. Simonian answered that the program involves such an emphasis on practical training that it needs to immerse students in full-time study.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to the Master of Science degree in Child Life at the College of Charleston to be implemented in Fall 2014.

e. Horry Georgetown Technical College, A.A.S., Sports Tourism

Dr. Horne introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Moody) and **seconded** (Munns) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Fore described the program as the first A.A.S. in Sports Tourism in the state and stated that the program was developed in part due to a feasibility study in 2009 in the Grand Strand. She continued by stating that Myrtle Beach decided the city would only consider building an indoor sports facility if Coastal and HGTC would provide appropriate programming. She highlighted the internship feature of the program and stated that interns would participate in facilities management and sports event planning.

Ms. Hanna expressed her support for the program and stated that the program will serve as a natural complement to current activities. She asked about the number of initial students expected to enroll. Dr. Fore answered that HGTC expects between 30 and 35 students initially and that 20 students have indicated they want to enroll as soon as the program is approved.

Dr. Fore explained that HGTC expects to partner with Coastal in a 2 plus 2 agreement with Coastal's Recreation Sports Management program. Admiral Munns asked about the program's delivery mode. Dr. Fore answered that the sports courses will be traditional but some of the general education courses can be taken online. Admiral Munns compared the internships to nursing clinical sites and asked about the possibility of an inadequate number of internship slots. Dr. Fore responded that there is a fair amount of internship opportunities and she does not anticipate an inadequate number of slots for students.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to the Associate of Applied Science degree in Sports Tourism at Horry Georgetown Technical College to be implemented in Fall 2014.

f. Lander University, M.S., Athletic Training

Dr. Horne introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Moody) and **seconded** (Hanna) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Mr. Nelson explained that Lander terminated an undergraduate degree program in Athletic Training in order to focus on the proposed professional master's degree. Mr. Hannah informed the Committee that the athletic training profession is relatively young in the area of healthcare, but it is growing. He further stated that the profession is moving to a place where master's degrees will be required to work in the field. He stated that the program will be an accelerated program whereby a student can commit to a five year undergraduate program and graduate with a master's degree. Mr. Hannah explained that there are no professional master's programs in South Carolina or Georgia in this field and that the closest institutions which offer a professional master's degree are located in North Carolina and Tennessee. He further commented that institutions that offer similar programs reported they have more applications for the program than they can fill. Mr. Nelson reported to the Committee that Lander has discussed the opportunity of collaborating with USC Upstate. Mr. Hannah added that Lander could have a 3 plus 2 program with USC Upstate.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to the Master of Science degree in Athletic Training at Lander University to be implemented in Fall 2014.

g. Medical University of South Carolina, Ph.D., Biomedical Imaging

Dr. Horne introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Phillips) and **seconded** (Munns) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Shaw informed the Committee that the proposed program will be housed in the College of Graduate Studies and that the program will provide students with skills in research design, data analysis, and imaging-acquisition skills using tools such as pet scans and MRI scans. She stated that the field of biomedical imaging is growing and that graduates could be employed as independent researchers in academia, in industry with product design, or in government organizations. Dr. Shaw clarified the launch date for the program as Fall 2015.

Dr. Horne expressed her praise for the proposal's section on program outcomes and specifically mentioned the program's thorough and useful themes. She suggested one small edit to the proposal to list S.C. students first before international students in addressing the program's recruitment of students.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Biomedical Imaging at the Medical University of South Carolina to be implemented in Fall 2014.

h. University of South Carolina Columbia, B.A., Chinese Studies

Dr. Horne introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Moody) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Finnigan presented the program as one which focuses on the proficiency in Chinese language and culture. Dr. Byrnes explained that learning the Chinese language cannot be accomplished without learning the Chinese culture and the Chinese mindset. She further described the program as interdisciplinary, involving courses in other departments including the History department.

Admiral Munns asked whether the employable emphasis of a graduate is the language. Dr. Byrnes answered that the language and the culture are interwoven. Admiral Munns asked why the study abroad element of the program is not mandatory. Dr. Byrnes answered that USC strongly encourages the study abroad opportunity but decided against requiring that element due to cost concerns. She added that she expects the vast majority of students in this program to choose to study abroad.

Dr. Horne and Admiral Munns asked that the University add more information to the proposal regarding the justification of need for the program and job opportunities for graduates.

The Committee **voted to not recommend** to the Commission approval of the program leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree in Chinese Studies at the University of South Carolina Columbia to be implemented in Fall 2014.

i. University of South Carolina Columbia, M.E., Biomedical Engineering

[See discussion and vote under Agenda Item 3b.]

j. University of South Carolina Upstate, B.S., Exercise and Sport Science with tracks in Exercise Science, Medical Fitness, and Strength and Conditioning

Dr. Horne introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Phillips) and **seconded** (Munns) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Masterson informed the Committee that the University is terminating the Exercise and Sport Science concentration in the Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education and proposing it as its own degree program. He explained that the new degree program will be grounded in science which demonstrates the increasing educational requirements in the healthcare industry. He stated that students may take all three national certification exams, but they are required to take one of two. He added that passing an examination is not required for graduation even though the University has designed the program to prepare graduates to pass the exams and exam passage rates will be an element of program assessment. Dr. Masterson explained that students who are admitted into this degree program are eligible to receive the LIFE and Palmetto Fellows scholarship enhancement because the program is classified under a certain Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) code.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to the Bachelor of Science in Exercise and Sport Science with concentrations in Exercise Science, Medical Fitness, and Strength and Conditioning at the University of South Carolina Upstate to be implemented in Fall 2014, provided that the existing concentration in Exercise and Sport Science in the Bachelor of Science in Physical Education be terminated.

4. Consideration of Applications for Initial License

a. J.D., LL.M., InfiLaw Corporation, Change of Ownership of Charleston School of Law, Charleston, SC (NOTE: Item discussed from 9:17 a.m. to 10:28 a.m. on 5/1/2014)

Dr. Horne introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Phillips) and **seconded** (Hanna) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Janosik presented the process by which CHE evaluated InfiLaw's licensure application to operate the Charleston School of Law (CSOL). She explained that Academic Affairs staff analyzed all submitted application materials as well as unsolicited feedback from the public between July 2013 to January 2014 in order to develop the preliminary staff review that was prepared in January 2014. Dr. Janosik also informed the Committee that CHE called for public comments from January 24-February 10, 2014, and these comments were subsequently reviewed by Academic Affairs staff. She continued to explain that staff also organized an external review team visit to CSOL on February 12-14, 2014, and prepared documents for the external review team to analyze. Dr. Janosik informed the Committee that all documents were analyzed in accordance to the four criteria for licensing set forth by state law and regulations which include academics/curriculum, facilities, finance, and reputation/character. She added that staff provided the external review team with a review report template which presented the four criteria in detail. She stated that the team submitted its report on March 26, 2014, and staff requested additional information, including a business plan and an enrollment strategy, from InfiLaw as a result of the external team report. Dr. Janosik shared with the Committee that InfiLaw responded to the request for more information and provided corrections to factual errors in the report on April 3 and April 11, 2014. She stated that staff reviewed all the pertinent documents and information to prepare the final

staff recommendation presented to the Committee. Dr. Janosik then highlighted the different sections of the staff recommendation and presented the staff recommendation overall:

Based on the documents reviewed and on information gathered for its due investigation of InfiLaw's application for initial license: J.S., L.L.M., InfiLaw Corporation, Change of Ownership of Charleston School of Law, Charleston, SC, the staff recommends that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing commend favorably to the Commission initial licensure to InfiLaw Corporation to offer J.D., and L.L.M. in Admiralty and Maritime Law degrees at the Charleston School of Law, Charleston, SC, with the following conditions, as allowed by SC Reg. 62-6(S):

- 1) Pursuant to SC Reg. 62-6(A), approval of acquiescence by the American Bar Association for transfer of ownership and continuous satisfaction of ABA accreditation standards
- 2) Pursuant to the "Nonpublic Postsecondary Institution License Act," (Section 58-59-50(F)), licensure be limited to a period of three years, beginning 1 May 2014 and ending 30 April 2017, with an option to renew, assuming no violation of the licensing criteria or conditions has occurred during that time (SC Reg. 62-4).
- 3) Pursuant to SC Reg. 62-6(B), 62-6(C), 62-6(N), and 62-8(E), development of an on-going three-year business plan submitted to CHE annually that includes the following:
 - Enrollment management projections not to exceed 750 total students, no more than 10% AAMPLE® admits annually (or not to exceed 25 students per entering class), and a student-faculty ratio not to exceed a ratio of 20:1
 - Planned investments in facilities and maintenance, including investments in instructional technologies and academic resources.

Annual business plans must be submitted to the Commission no later than 1 January each year, with the first report due 1 January 2015. CHE will arrange a meeting with InfiLaw leadership subsequent to the submission of these documents to discuss its review and make recommendations, where appropriate.

- 4) Consistent with CSOL's initial license to operate (2004), the following conditions are included:
 - No state funding can be required or requested
 - No attempt by the school, its officers or agents, may be made to merge CSOL with the College of Charleston or any other public institution.

Failure to comply with any of these conditions or any other violation of regulatory provisions governing the licensure may result in CHE revoking InfiLaw's license to operate CSOL (SC Reg. 62-28).

Dr. Horne thanked Dr. Janosik for her review and the staff's hard work in the multi-month process of evaluating InfiLaw's application for licensure. She explained the process by which a license is granted: review by staff, review by CAAL, and review by the full Commission. Dr. Horne then thanked the Commissioners who serve the state and higher education voluntarily through analysis and review.

Ms. Hanna stated she is uncomfortable making any type of decision today because Committee members were not given enough time to review the documents. She expressed appreciation for the staff's excellent work but called attention to the responsibility held by the Commissioners in making the final decision and further stated that the Committee needs more time to adequately analyze the information. She suggested that this decision be deferred a few weeks in order to provide ample time to review the information but also allow it to go forward to the Commission by June 2014.

Admiral Munns explained three parameters for the Committee in considering InfiLaw's licensure application: 1.) provision of time for Commissioners to review materials; 2.) determination about whether CHE provided sufficient time for public comments; and 3.) opportunity for InfiLaw to provide answers to multiple questions from Committee members. He commented that the staff recommendation provided the best information he has seen on a licensing decision and he thanked Dr. Janosik for her hard work.

Dr. Horne asked whether Committee members had ample time to read and study the material provided. Admiral Munns answered he had enough time, while Mr. Phillips, Ms. Moody and Ms. Hanna stated they did not have enough time.

Dr. Horne asked staff about the details of the public comment period and the comments submitted. Ms. Carullo explained that the call for public comment was posted online on January 24, 2014, and was advertised through the CHE distribution list and through a press release. She added that all comments were to be submitted by February 10, 2014. Admiral Munns responded that the process for public comments was sufficient. Dr. Horne asked whether the legal profession was contacted and invited to comment during the public comment period. Ms. Carullo answered that no specific attempt was made to contact the legal profession but many legal professionals took the opportunity to submit comments.

Ms. Hanna asked about the type of information received through public comments and asked specifically to review the comments. Dr. Janosik responded that all the information received through public comment can be made available to Commissioners. She further explained that public comments were not included in the staff recommendation agenda item because the public comments did not provide evidence related to the four criteria and therefore were not considered in creating the staff recommendation. Ms. Hanna asked staff to make the public comments available for Commissioners to review.

Ms. Moody asked how many pages of public comment were received. Ms. Belcher answered approximately 250-300. Mr. Hall from InfiLaw corrected her by stating that there are 360 pages of public comment. Mr. Hall reminded the Committee that the standards for licensure are objective and that expressions of emotion should not be considered in the deliberation. Admiral Munns asked that the Commissioners be able to review all materials related to the InfiLaw licensure application.

Admiral Munns presented questions to InfiLaw, and the Committee determined that InfiLaw must answer these questions either in writing prior to the next meeting or at the next meeting.

Admiral Munns expressed confusion about the governance model presented. He asked which entity will make decisions regarding academics, faculty hiring/firing, and admission policies. He asked what InfiLaw's intentions are in regards to improving facilities. He commented on passages in the proposal about InfiLaw reviewing the facilities, but noted that no future action was stated. He asked how InfiLaw plans to accommodate the increase in enrollment to 750 which will overload current facilities. He also asked CHE staff how they calculated the enrollment cap at 750.

Admiral Munns asked whether the school will set a minimum LSAT score for admission and if so to provide that score. He asked why the stipulation regarding a merger with a public school was included in the recommendation when Charleston School of Law's license was revised to remove that same requirement in October 2013. He asked about transfer numbers at InfiLaw-owned schools as compared to the Charleston School of Law and the University of South Carolina Law School.

Admiral Munns also asked for more information regarding InfiLaw schools' high attrition rate. He expressed concern regarding statements in Appendix A of the Agenda Item which show that InfiLaw schools' student debt is higher than normal and that InfiLaw forecasts a lower than average salary for graduates. He asked for more information as to how graduates would be expected to pay off loans given the forecasted circumstances.

Admiral Munns asked about the consequences for the Charleston School of Law if the Commission denies licensure. He asked whether InfiLaw plans to continue to offer the LL.M., Admiralty and Maritime Law at the Charleston School of Law.

Dr. Horne asked Committee members what other information they seek. Ms. Moody asked that Committee members have the opportunity to read and study all materials related to the application. Mr. Phillips expressed concern about salaries of graduates and debt load as well as tuition costs. Mr. Hall responded that tuition at other InfiLaw schools is similar to CSOL's current tuition. He also commented that currently CSOL student debt is higher than InfiLaw's Charlotte School of Law. He summarized by stating that any concerns Committee members have about debt load and tuition are concerns about the current operation of CSOL which has been licensed by CHE for years. He stated that the student debt load and tuition costs will not substantially change under InfiLaw's ownership. Dr. Horne asked InfiLaw to provide additional information on the topic in preparation for the next CAAL meeting.

Ms. Hanna expressed concern regarding the fourth criteria of reputation and character and specifically over pending lawsuits against InfiLaw. Mr. Goplerud responded that summary judgment and judge assignment are pending in the Casey vs. Florida Coastal School of Law case. He continued by stating that the other litigation addressed in the original application has been dismissed. Ms. Hanna asked if the Casey vs. Florida Coastal School of Law is successful and InfiLaw is ordered to pay out \$100 million, then what is InfiLaw's business plan moving forward with CSOL. Dr. Horne commented that an answer to this question needs to be provided at or before the next CAAL meeting.

Committee members discussed next steps and agreed to meet as a Committee to consider InfiLaw's application on Monday, May 19, 2014. Dr. Horne asked staff to provide all materials related to the application to Committee members and any other Commissioners who request the information. Dr. Janosik agreed to do so. Dr. Horne reminded Committee members that if three or more Committee members are in communication whether on the phone, through email, or in

person, then that interaction is considered a public meeting and should have a posted agenda in advance of the meeting.

Ms. Hanna moved that a decision on InfiLaw's application for licensure to operate the Charleston School of Law be deferred until a special CAAL meeting on May 19, 2014. Ms. Moody seconded the motion.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to defer consideration of InfiLaw's application for licensure to operate the Charleston School of Law until May 19, 2014.**

- b. B.A., Business; B.A., Legal Studies; B.S., Cyber Forensics/Information Security; and M.B.A., Business, Keiser University, Fort Lauderdale, FL, branches in Charleston and Columbia**

Dr. Horne introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Moody) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Keiser explained that Keiser University is proposing to offer three bachelor's programs and one master's program in Columbia and Charleston. He informed the Committee that Keiser University is a 38-year-old SACS-accredited institution based in South Florida and is the second largest independent institution in Florida. Dr. Sites briefly described the four programs proposed in the licensure application.

Ms. Hanna presented questions about the Legal Studies program. She asked how Keiser determined the number of vacant paralegal positions in Charleston and Columbia as found in the proposal. She referred to the national median pay for paralegals found in the proposal but then asked about the median pay in South Carolina. Dr. Sites responded that Keiser has a successful track record with the degree program in other locations, placing 90% of graduates in job positions in the past year with 78% in positions in the field. Ms. Hanna asked why the program is not accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA). Dr. Keiser responded that the ABA does not accredit programs offered through distance education. Ms. Hanna responded that employers in S.C. which will offer salaries allowing graduates to successfully pay off their loans are going to require a four-year degree and a paralegal certificate from an ABA-approved program.

Admiral Munns questioned the differences between the placement data in the proposal and the placement data presented by Dr. Sites. He referred to page two of the summary which lists the placement rate of the Legal Studies program graduates in the field as 23 out of 41 students which equates to 56%, not 78% mentioned by Dr. Sites. Admiral Munns also expressed concern about faculty credentials and asked for a more in-depth faculty plan. Dr. Sites responded that the University has not hired faculty yet but will follow the same plan as in other locations. Admiral Munns then asked if Keiser will provide the faculty credentials of faculty at other sites. Dr. Sites answered that the University will submit the requested information.

Ms. Hanna clarified that the University used to be a for-profit institution but now is a non-profit institution. She further stated that Dr. Keiser used to be the owner. Dr. Keiser confirmed the statements presented by Ms. Hanna.

Dr. Horne complimented Dr. Sites on his career as a quality educator and past Vice President of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. She then commented that the assessment plan presented in the proposals is excellent.

Mr. Phillips asked Dr. Keiser why a student would choose to spend \$65,000 for a degree program at Keiser University when he or she could receive the same degree for free or substantially less at a public institution in S.C. Dr. Keiser responded that 68% of Keiser's 17,000 students have experience at state and community institutions but have decided to finish their education at Keiser. He emphasized Keiser's small classrooms and student-centered faculty members. Dr. Sites referred to several personal statements made by students about their reasons for choosing Keiser. He stated that students choose Keiser because they are treated uniquely, feel engaged, and because of retention and placement rates.

Ms. Moody expressed concern about graduates' debt loads, specifically graduates of the B.A. in Legal Studies.

Admiral Munns moved to modify the motion to recommend the program to the Commission pending the submission within two weeks of additional information on faculty credentials, debt load of graduates, and justification of need for the B.S. in Legal Studies. Ms. Moody seconded the modified motion.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted to commend favorably with a vote of four to one** (Admiral Munns, Ms. Moody, Ms. Hanna and Dr. Horne voted to commend favorably while Mr. Phillips voted to not commend) to the Commission initial degree-granting licensure for five years for Keiser University to offer in Charleston and Columbia programs leading to the B.A. degree in Business; B.A. degree in Legal Studies; B.S. degree in Cyber Forensics/Information Security; and the M.B.A. degree in Business, to be implemented as enrollments justify, provided that no state funding be required or requested, pending the submission of a faculty credentials plan, the average debt load of similar programs from Keiser, and a strengthened justification of need for the B.S. in Legal Studies.

5. Consideration of Application for Initial License to establish a Clinical Site: M.A., Professional Behavior Analysis, Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, FL, clinical site in Greenville, SC

Dr. Horne introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Moody) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Wine explained that the degree program is partly due to the increase in autism in the country and that the best therapy for autism is behavior analysis. He further stated that there is a need for more practitioners trained in the therapy. He informed the Committee that the Florida Institute of Technology has been offering programs in this area for 16 years. Dr. Wine added that the school offers two master's programs: the Master of Science which focuses on research and the Master of Arts which is required for practitioners. He stated that the program is designed for online delivery in the first year with traditional delivery through clinical training during the second year. Dr. Knight presented information about his background, Hope Reach, the clinical site located in Greenville, and his role as Clinical Director.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission initial licensure to Florida Institute of Technology, to offer a program leading to the Master of Arts degree in Professional Behavior Analysis at a clinical site in Woodruff, SC, to be implemented in August 2014. The staff further recommends that the Committee designate to staff authority to approve additional second-year clinical sites as requested by the Institute,

contingent upon presentation of workforce need and compliance with other relevant site application criteria.

6. Consideration of Request for Amendment to License to offer programs leading to the: M.A., Community College Administration, Human Services, and Leadership, Lenoir-Rhyne University, Hickory, NC, at its Center for Graduate Studies, Columbia

Dr. Horne introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Moody) and **seconded** (Phillips) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Weddington updated the Commission on a program approved by the Commission in March 2012: a Master of Arts in Counseling. He specifically stated that Lenoir-Rhyne is in discussion with Columbia College about partnering with the Counseling degree program and hopes to partner with other local institutions. He also added that Lenoir-Rhyne received the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP) accreditation for the master's degree for an initial eight years. Dr. Weddington then presented brief information regarding the three proposed programs.

Admiral Munns asked about faculty for the M.A. in Human Services and questioned the need for only one new faculty member for the program's 16 courses. Dr. Weddington answered that the new faculty member will direct the program and teach the majority of the courses initially. He further stated that once the program has twenty students enrolled, Lenoir-Rhyne will provide the courses by hiring adjunct professors who have the proper credentials.

Dr. Horne expressed concern about the school's default rate which has increased in the last several years.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission an amendment to the license of Lenoir-Rhyne University to offer programs leading to the Master of Arts degree in (1) Community College Administration, (2) Human Services, and (3) Leadership, at its Center for Graduate Studies in Columbia, provided no "unique cost" or other special state funding be required or requested. Further, that the institution seek Council for Standards in Human Services Education (CSHSE) accreditation for the M.A. degree in Human Services.

7. Discussion with President Luther F. Carter regarding Francis Marion University's plans to offer select academic programs in Mt. Pleasant, SC (NOTE: Item moved to beginning of the 1:00 meeting)

Dr. Horne introduced Dr. Carter to present to the Committee. Dr. Carter explained briefly Francis Marion's plans for programming in Mt. Pleasant, SC. He informed the Committee that the Mayor of Mt. Pleasant first approached Francis Marion in January 2013 about offering programs in the town and then later specifically invited the University to offer programs and agreed to provide affordable facilities and input as to programming. Dr. Carter continued by stating that the University's Board of Trustees chose to carefully consider the opportunity and the University communicated with various colleges and universities in Charleston regarding the opportunity. He explained that the University's Board approved the endeavor in November 2013 and the University began planning the details of the first program to be offered: the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, RN to BSN Completion. He informed the Committee that Francis Marion will grow the number of program offerings over time but that the Nursing degree program would begin in Fall 2014 or Spring 2015. He specifically stated that any programs Francis Marion

would start in the Mt. Pleasant area would supplement degree offerings already available in the area rather than duplicate local programs. Dr. Carter added that the University has begun planning a close partnership with Trident Technical College.

Given the Committee's role in monitoring costs and unnecessary duplication, Admiral Munns asked Dr. Carter to more specifically address costs of the program. Dr. Carter answered that the University must make decisions that are revenue-enhancing because they cannot risk losing additional money. Admiral Munns asked whether this new program and future programming will affect tuition. Dr. Carter responded that there will be no increase in tuition in regards to offering programs in Mt. Pleasant and that no funding will be moved from main campus endeavors to the new endeavor in Mt. Pleasant. He added that the program in Mt. Pleasant will be offered to students at a comparable price. He also explained that Francis Marion will not use any private funding raised in the PeeDee area for the programming in Mt. Pleasant.

Dr. Horne commented that she respects the unstated philosophy of comprehensive colleges and universities not encroaching on another institution's geographical area. She added though that with the rise of distance education, institutions and the state must adopt a broader view of duplication. She supports institutions providing offerings if there is a need in a given area but would discourage duplicated offerings in an area where needs are met. She expressed support for public institutions seeking to fill the needs of given areas because they can usually do that at more reasonable rates of tuition.

8. Consideration of Preliminary Request to Seek Legislative Change to Participate in State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA)

Dr. Horne introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Moody) and **seconded** (Hanna) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Janosik provided an overview of the reciprocity agreement, SARA, and opportunities available to South Carolina and the Commission. She referred to the March 6, 2014, Commission meeting where she and Dr. Jackson from Clemson presented information on SARA. She described SARA as a voluntary consortium of states that establishes national standards for institutions offering postsecondary distance education courses and programs, making access to online programs easier for students. She explained that there is a national council of SARA, which consists of four regional compacts, including the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) of which S.C. is a member. Dr. Janosik stated that in order for South Carolina to participate in SARA, the legislative statute regarding the Commission must be changed to reflect the ability to enter into reciprocity agreements. She emphasized that staff are currently asking for preliminary permission to move forward towards application by working on revised statutory language.

Dr. Horne asked about dues and fees for the consortium. Dr. Janosik responded that those details are being worked on but the National Consortium will set the fees for institutions, SREB will require fees from CHE, and CHE might determine fees which the universities will pay to CHE for monitoring of the program. Admiral Munns then expressed support for exploring participation in SARA, but he urged caution to ensure all options are open for the state and the Commission. He further expressed concern about the costs to monitor the program and potential funding from licensing fees that might be lost.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission authorization of the staff to move forward with preparations to seek the legislative

change necessary to allow South Carolina to join SARA, so that CHE is eligible to submit its application to SARA in spring 2015, if it chooses to do so at that time.

9. Consideration of Annual Evaluation of Associate Degree Programs, FY 2010-11

Dr. Horne introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Moody) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Janosik explained the content of the report. Dr. Horne asked why reports for two different fiscal years are being presented at the same meeting. Dr. Janosik answered that staff were late in creating the report for FY2010-11.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission this report's designation of programs for the current reporting year as shown in Tables 1, 3, 6, 7, and 8. Because of the importance of certain associate degree programs to economic development in South Carolina, the Committee further commends that the Commission encourage the State Technical College system to continue to explore ways to increase enrollments and retention to graduation in programs in Engineering Technology.

10. Consideration of Annual Evaluation of Associate Degree Programs, FY 2011-12

Dr. Horne introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Moody) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Janosik explained the content of the report. Admiral Munns mentioned that a typographical error in the table on page five needs to be corrected. Dr. Horne asked about the AA/AS degrees offered at USC Beaufort and the reasoning behind sustaining a program which has decreased enrollment in five years from 24 to 3. Dr. Anderson responded that USC Beaufort is working to recruit additional students by creating new initiatives.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission this report's designation of programs for the current reporting year as shown in Tables 1, 3, 6, 7, and 8. Because of the importance of certain associate degree programs to economic development in South Carolina, the Committee recommends that the Commission encourage the State Technical College system to continue to explore ways to increase enrollments and retention to graduation in programs in Engineering Technology.

11. Consideration of New and Continuing EIA Centers of (Teacher Education) Excellence Competitive Grants Awards, FY 2014-15

Dr. Horne introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Moody) and **seconded** (Phillips) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Admiral Munns asked about the length of the Francis Marion Center. Dr. Gregg explained that the Education Oversight Committee worked with staff to award a special Center with additional funding to last seven years.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission acceptance of the Review Panel's recommendation to approve a new Center of Excellence (Teacher Education) award to Francis Marion University to establish the Center of

Excellence in College and Career Readiness in the amount of \$250,000. The award is contingent upon allocation of funding from the General Assembly.

The Committee further commends favorably to the Commission approval of the continued funding for the existing centers at Newberry College, Anderson University, and Claflin University pending submission of formal budget requests and continuation request for funding for FY 2014-15 and final reports for FY 2013-14.

12. Consideration of Revised Guidelines for Federal Improving Teacher Quality Competitive Grants Program, FY 2015-2016

Dr. Horne introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Moody) and **seconded** (Phillips) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Admiral Munns asked about language referencing "Common Core state standards." Dr. Gregg responded that staff is prepared to change that language to "state standards" if action is taken by the General Assembly to terminate the state's commitment to Common Core.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission approval of the *Guidelines for the Improving Teacher Quality Higher Education Grant Program* for FY 2015-16.

13. Consideration of Revised Guidelines for EIA Centers of (Teacher Education) Excellence Competitive Grants Program, FY 2015-16

Dr. Horne introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Moody) and **seconded** (Phillips) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission approval of the *Guidelines for Centers of Excellence (Teacher Education)* for FY 2015-16.

14. Presentation of Report on Program Modifications, January 1-April 30, 2014

Dr. Horne presented the item for information only. Admiral Munns asked about the modifications of S.C. State and the costs associated. Ms. Houp answered that the concentrations for the S.C. State programs were already in place at the University and the modifications served as official communication regarding those specific concentrations. Ms. Houp continued by explaining that staff identified these discrepancies between the University's offerings and what CHE's Inventory of Programs showed when improvements were made to the SC TRAC system. Ms. Houp added that no additional costs are associated with these modifications. Dr. Horne expressed former Commissioner Vaughan's concern that these modifications were approved by staff as compared to being analyzed and approved by the Committee, especially with decisions made about additional sites for programs and the perception of encroachment of an institution's local territory. Ms. Moody responded by stating that universities are seeking to be innovative as they continue to lose state funding and therefore seek funding in creative ways, such as adding new sites and new concentrations.

Dr. Horne thanked those in attendance for their participation and staff for their work. Hearing no further business, she adjourned the meeting at 4:34 p.m.