

# 2019 Conference of the South Carolina Association for Institutional Research

## *Raising the Bar on Institutional Success*



The 2019 Conference of the South Carolina Association for Institutional Research held in Greenville, South Carolina focused on “Raising the Bar on Institutional Success.” The conference workshops covered a range of topics on institutional research from collecting and reporting data for IPEDS and SACSCOC reports to how IR staff at individual institutions can better collect and utilize data for internal purposes. CHE’s Academic Affairs Director Dr. John Lane along with Dr. Christopher Robinson and Dr. Lishu Yin co-presented a general assembly session on the first day entitled *Data Reporting and Policy Implementation*.

The presentation covered CHE’s new efforts in reviewing institutional data in accordance with the mission of coordinating higher education for the “benefit of the State of South Carolina.” The presentation focused on the recent program productivity analysis as an example of how CHE utilizes data collected from SC institutions. The presenters highlighted the importance in CHE obtaining valid and reliable data by using this analysis to demonstrate the role of data in policy development and implementation. The presentation concluded with the CHE view of student success as program success to emphasize the collaborative relationship between CHE and SC higher education institutions.

CHE staff members’ participation for the entire two days of the conference provided multiple opportunities for direct engagement with the individuals at South Carolina institutions who are responsible for submitting data to CHE. Talking with these individuals allowed staff members to better understand the different data collection processes being utilized by SC institutions. Attending the conference was a valuable learning experience on the data collection issues facing SC institutions, provided CHE staff members an opportunity to meet the IR staff from the institutions and demonstrate the Commissions mission in working with member institutions to benefit South Carolina.

