

Advisory Committee on Academic Programs

Minutes of June 20, 2013

Members Present

Ms. Renea Eshleman, Acting Chair
Dr. Ralph Byington, Coastal Carolina University
Dr. Richard Chapman, Francis Marion University
Dr. Ron Drayton, Midlands Technical College
Dr. Donna Elmore, Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College
Dr. W. Franklin Evans, South Carolina State University
Dr. Charles Harrington, University of South Carolina Upstate
Dr. Sam Hines, The Citadel
Dr. Hope Rivers, S.C. Technical College System
Dr. Mark Sothmann, Medical University of South Carolina

Guests Representing Members

Mr. Tim Druke, Winthrop University, representing Dr. Debra Boyd
Dr. Kris Finnigan, University of South Carolina Columbia, representing Dr. Michael Amiridis
Dr. Lynne Ford, College of Charleston, representing Dr. George Hynd
Mr. Tom Nelson, Lander University, representing Dr. David Mash
Dr. Debra Jackson, Clemson University, representing Dr. Dori Helms, via teleconference

Staff Present

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| Dr. Argentini Anderson | Dr. Paula Gregg |
| Ms. Camille Brown | Mrs. Lane Goodwin |
| Ms. Saundra Carr | Ms. Trena Houp |

Guests

Dr. Bob Barcelona, Clemson University
Dr. Hanif Chaudhry, University of South Carolina Columbia
Dr. Daniel Ennis, Coastal Carolina University
Dr. Conseula Francis, College of Charleston
Dr. Andy Gillentine, University of South Carolina Columbia
Dr. Peter King, Francis Marion University
Dr. Patrick Koelling, Virginia Tech
Dr. Brian Mihalik, University of South Carolina Columbia
Dr. Jeannette Myers, Francis Marion University
Dr. Carol Osborne, Coastal Carolina University
Dr. David Peterson, Francis Marion University
Dr. Lisa Saladin, Medical University of South Carolina
Dr. Lisa Vernon-Dotson, Coastal Carolina University
Dr. Karen Wager, Medical University of South Carolina
Dr. Ron Welch, The Citadel
Dr. Jim Zoller, Medical University of South Carolina

1. Introductions

Ms. Renea Eshleman called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. She welcomed all in attendance and asked institutional representatives and visitors to introduce themselves. She then introduced Dr. Richard Sutton. Dr. Sutton stated his intentions to observe a portion of the meeting to become familiar with the ACAP meeting format. He explained that his 30-year

career in higher education has been mainly focused on academic affairs and therefore his interest in the work of the Committee is strong. He expressed his appreciation for the work of the Committee and, in turn, the whole process of reviewing and approving academic degree offerings in South Carolina. He announced that Dr. Rob Sheehan from Coastal is serving as chair of the search committee for a new director of academic affairs, with Dr. Jackson and Dr. Cox serving as search committee members along with three CHE staff.

2. Consideration of Minutes of March 21, 2013

Ms. Eshleman requested a motion to accept the minutes of March 21, 2013, as distributed. The motion was **moved** (Chapman) and **seconded** (Nelson) and the Committee **voted unanimously to accept the minutes as presented.**

3. Proposed Changes in Mathematics Curriculum

Ms. Eshleman introduced Dr. Gregg. Dr. Gregg stated that she hopes to have a representative from the Department of Education at the Fall ACAP meeting to present more details about the proposed changes to the high school mathematics curriculum. She explained that she received information from the S.C. Leaders in Mathematics Education group which she then distributed to the Committee via a handout. Dr. Gregg referred to the last two pages of the handout and asked the Committee to read through the information. She mentioned that the proposed changes include possible math integrated courses and that the proposed changes will most likely impact the high school pre-requisites for college.

4. Consideration of New Program Proposals

a. The Citadel, B.S., Mechanical Engineering

Dr. Hines introduced the program proposal from The Citadel. A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (Hines) and **seconded** (Chapman). Dr. Hines explained that this program proposal was prompted by conversations between The Citadel and the Charleston community. He stated that the program would be available for the Core of Cadets and evening undergraduate students.

Mr. Nelson asked for clarification on whether this program would qualify for the enhanced scholarship awards. Dr. Hines answered that it would. Mr. Nelson asked for clarification of the phrase “mechanical engineering sub-disciplines being stood up by Boeing” on page three. Dr. Hines explained that Boeing plans to roll out these engineering divisions in the future and this degree program will help train potential employees in these divisions. Mr. Nelson asked how this program is tied to the mission of The Citadel as the program states on page three. Dr. Hines responded that the mission of The Citadel is the education and development of principled leaders and this mission applies to all three educational components: S.C. Core of Cadets, evening undergraduate program, and the graduate college. He also described this program as being an example of The Citadel’s strategic initiative of outreach and economic development.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the new program proposal for The Citadel to offer a program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering, to be implemented in January 2014.

b. Clemson University, B.S., Youth Development Studies

Dr. Jackson introduced the new program proposal from Clemson University. A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (Jackson) and **seconded** (Drueke). Dr. Jackson explained that the program is designed to integrate the theory of youth development with the practical skills and competencies necessary to design, deliver, and assess intentional and effective youth-serving programs and organizations. She stated that the design of the bachelor's degree is based on Clemson's current and successful master's degree. She added that there is a need in the workforce for employees to be prepared at the baccalaureate level. Dr. Jackson described the program as targeted towards working adults even though traditional undergraduates can also enroll.

Mr. Nelson asked about the student learning outcomes. Dr. Jackson referred to a list of competencies on page nine. Dr. Rivers referred to comments on page seven regarding Clemson's interest in collaborating with other institutions, including technical colleges. She then expressed the technical college system's willingness to explore partnerships.

Dr. Elmore suggested that Clemson add in the articulation section information about the general education requirements necessary for successful transfer. Dr. Jackson explained that information regarding general education requirements and transfers is currently under the Curriculum section, but she expressed Clemson's willingness to also express that information under Articulation.

Dr. Ford suggested that Clemson speak to library resources as they relate to this online degree program and specifically add how students taking the program online can access library resources.

Ms. Eshleman stated that CHE staff concerns focused on available job opportunities and Clemson had submitted further information.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the new program proposal for Clemson University to offer a program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Youth Development Studies, to be implemented in August 2014.

c. Coastal Carolina University, M. A., Liberal Studies

Dr. Byington introduced the new program proposal from Coastal Carolina University. A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (Byington) and **seconded** (Chapman). Dr. Byington described the program as being designed to meet multiple needs including Coastal's undergraduate population as well as the region's demographics. He stated that a recent survey's results showed interest in the program. He referred to the student learning outcomes as critical thinking, writing, and communication skills necessary for success in the workplace.

Ms. Eshleman asked Mr. Drueke to comment on Winthrop's similar program. Mr. Drueke responded that Winthrop's program is successful and mainly attracts local residents, including retirees. Ms. Eshleman asked specifically about the number of enrolled students. Mr. Drueke answered that he did not know the current enrollment number.

Ms. Houpp asked whether Coastal will use this master's degree as a test for other potential graduate degrees. Dr. Byington stated that the degree program has specializations and that he

could foresee a strong and popular specialization being considered for a separate graduate degree program.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the program proposal for Coastal Carolina University to offer a program leading to the Master of Arts degree in Liberal Studies, to be implemented in Fall 2014.

d. College of Charleston, B.A., A.B., African American Studies

Dr. Ford introduced the new program proposal from the College of Charleston. A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (Ford) and **seconded** (Drueke). Dr. Ford described the proposed program as an interdisciplinary program that builds on a very successful and growing 18 credit-hour minor in African-American studies. She explained that the program is designed to be a good complement for almost any other major at the College and that the aims of the program are to provide students with an understanding of the history and culture of African-Americans and of race and diversity in the United States; to introduce students to the diversity of methodological approaches to these issues by studying them in a variety of disciplines; to promote the study of African-American history and culture in Charleston and the Lowcountry; and to make African-American studies an integral part of the intellectual life of the College.

Dr. Ford referred to a survey of students currently in the African-American Studies minor of which the majority of respondents indicated they would have pursued a major if it had been available. She added that students surveyed in other disciplines expressed interest in this program as a second major.

Dr. Ford explained to the Committee that an internship will be a requirement of the program which will provide students with hands-on practical experience in the workplace. She mentioned that the program will benefit from a plethora of resources found in two collections at the College: the Addlestone Library and the Avery Research Center for African-American History and Culture.

Mr. Nelson informed Dr. Ford of a double-verb typo on page ten in the second to last paragraph. Dr. Ford thanked him and assured the Committee that it would be corrected.

Dr. Rivers suggested that the College work diligently to create and facilitate the internships for this program. She stated that the internships will be crucial for students in their search for employment. She then suggested that the College expand on its explanation of internships. Dr. Francis responded and relayed several examples of the types of internships that will be available for students.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the program proposal for the College of Charleston to offer a program leading to the Bachelor of Arts and Artium Baccalaureatus degree in African American Studies, to be implemented in Fall 2014.

e. Francis Marion University, B.S., Industrial Engineering

Dr. Chapman introduced the new program proposal from Francis Marion University (FMU). A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (Chapman) and **seconded** (Drayton). Dr. Chapman explained that the program is a collaborative one between FMU and Florence-Darlington Technical College, and the Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing Technology facility. He stated that the program is designed to be accredited by ABET (formerly

the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology). He explained that FMU was aided in the development of the program by Dr. Koelling of Virginia Tech. He added that the program is intended to address economic development needs in Northeastern South Carolina and that businesses in the region are in support of this degree program.

Dr. Ford asked about the curriculum and specifically inquired as to how many of FMU students are able to succeed at taking Calculus 1 and 2 as freshmen. Dr. Peterson answered that the Math Department expects 50 freshmen to begin in Calculus I this fall. He added that the group includes math and physics majors. Dr. Hines added that The Citadel offers a summer college success institute, and that it serves many purposes including educational preparation. He stated that a pre-engineering course which assesses mathematical ability is now offered through the institute and has helped engineering retention rates between freshman and sophomore years from 65% to 84%. Dr. Hines recommended that FMU consider a similar program or way to assess mathematical ability in order to assure success of engineering students. Dr. Chapman thanked Dr. Hines for his suggestion. Dr. Ford asked whether FMU has a robust math placement process. Dr. Peterson answered affirmatively that FMU assesses each student as to their math capability.

Dr. Elmore asked that FMU consider partnering with other technical colleges in the state through transfer blocks. Dr. Chapman responded that FMU plans to pursue articulation agreements with other technical colleges including Horry-Georgetown Tech, Central Carolina Tech, and Orangeburg-Calhoun Tech. Dr. Rivers expressed her support for the program and specifically for the partnership with Florence-Darlington Tech which includes sharing space.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the program proposal for Francis Marion University to offer a new program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering, to be implemented in January 2014.

f. Medical University of South Carolina, M.S., Health Informatics

Dr. Sothmann introduced the new program proposal from the Medical University of South Carolina. A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (Sothmann) and **seconded** (Chapman). Dr. Sothmann explained that this program is important to the University in part because of the activation of the Affordable Care Act and the future of health informatics. He stated that the expectation for academic health centers to meet meaningful use criteria has created a need for graduate-level trained professionals in this field. He explained that MUSC is investing millions of dollars on an electronic health record system called EPIC which will require an increase in health informatics professionals. He then introduced Dr. Wager.

Dr. Wager described the health informatics field as one of the fastest growing fields in healthcare. She explained that the University is collaborating with USC Columbia and USC Upstate in the health informatics field. Dr. Finnigan asked Dr. Wager to explain how the MUSC degree will be different from both USC Columbia's and USC Upstate's degrees. Dr. Wager responded that after reviewing all three degree programs, she recognized portions of the degrees that are common to each other. She explained that MUSC's proposed program will have a greater emphasis on data analytics and preparing graduates who are able to mine large clinical databases and warehouses.

Dr. Hines asked whether the program intends to be a full-time program. Dr. Wager answered affirmatively but then added that MUSC is considering a part-time option. She explained that the program is targeted to working professionals and that all the coursework will

be delivered via distance education technology except for two courses which will require a face-to-face component.

Mr. Nelson asked about the definition of a FTE at MUSC as mentioned in the last paragraph on page 15. Dr. Sothmann responded that MUSC uses the term, “Full Time Equivalent,” to represent full-time faculty but that MUSC does not base full-time status on credit-hours taught because of the importance of research.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the program proposal for the Medical University of South Carolina to offer a new program leading to the Master of Science degree in Health Informatics, to be implemented in Fall 2014.

g. University of South Carolina Columbia, M.S., System Design

Dr. Finnigan introduced the new program proposal from the University of South Carolina Columbia. A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (Finnigan) and **seconded** (Rivers). Dr. Finnigan explained that the proposed program is focused on helping engineering and computer science professionals to improve their understanding and management of complex projects. She acknowledged Clemson’s certificate degree and Master of Engineering degree in this field, but added that the proposed USC program will require a thesis as compared to the Clemson degree. Also, Dr. Finnigan shared that the Clemson degree focuses on ecology, environmental engineering, transportation and information technology, while the USC program will focus on energy, aerospace, computer architecture and cyber-security.

Mr. Nelson asked why the University will not seek accreditation for the degree. Dr. Chaudhry explained that, since undergraduate programs prepare students to be licensed professional engineers, usually only the undergraduate programs are accredited by ABET. He added further that some engineering master’s degrees can similarly offer preparation for professional licensure but the proposed Master of Science in System Design does not prepare students for any type of professional license.

Mr. Nelson asked for USC to explain the definition of FTE faculty. Dr. Chaudhry explained that the University uses the standard definition backed by CHE.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the program proposal for the University of South Carolina Columbia to offer a new program leading to the Master of Science degree in System Design, to be implemented in Fall 2014.

h. University of South Carolina Columbia, Ph.D., Sport and Entertainment Management

Dr. Finnigan introduced the new program proposal from the University of South Carolina Columbia. A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (Finnigan) and **seconded** (Nelson). Dr. Finnigan explained that this degree program will be the first of its kind in the state. She added that in the last few years, undergraduate and graduate degrees in this field have been started in the state and this proposed degree will train faculty to teach in the emerging degree programs in the field. She stated that there are only 20 similar programs in the nation.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the program proposal for the University of South Carolina Columbia to offer a new program leading to the Doctor of

Philosophy degree in Sport and Entertainment Management, to be implemented in August 2014.

5. Consideration of Program Modifications

a. Coastal Carolina University, M.Ed., Learning and Teaching, add concentration in Special Education High Incidence Disabilities PreK-Grade 12 [Emotional, Intellectual, and Learning (ED, ID &LD)]

Dr. Byington introduced the program modification from Coastal Carolina University. A motion to approve the program modification was **moved** (Byington) and **seconded** (Hines). Dr. Byington explained that this modification would add a concentration to an existing degree. Mr. Drueke asked whether this program is designed for students seeking initial certification or add-on certifications. Dr. Vernon-Dotson explained that if a student takes a few extra selected courses, then he or she would meet the standards for an add-on certification. She stated that the program is not being advertised as a certification program, though.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the program modification for Coastal Carolina University to modify its program leading to the Master of Education degree in Learning and Teaching to add a concentration in Special Education High Incidence Disabilities PreK-Grade 12 [Emotional, Intellectual, and Learning (ED, ID &LD)], to be implemented in Fall 2013.

6. Presentation of Annual Report on Academic Common Market, 2013

Ms. Eshleman introduced this item as information.

7. Status of Notifications of Program Changes and Terminations, March-May, 2013

Ms. Eshleman explained that staffing challenges have contributed to the slow processing of notifications of change. She assured the Committee that acknowledgement letters are being developed, and that inventory changes will occur once staff are properly trained on the system.

8. Other Business

Mr. Nelson asked for an update on the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA). Ms. Eshleman responded that there are still many unknowns about the initiative. She explained that there was an invitation sent last week for individuals to serve on a national council. She further stated that Commissioners and CHE staff are continuing discussions as new developments are made known. She encouraged institutions to insure that they are complying with the current national licensing and regulation standards. She added that SHEEO has a comprehensive list of state requirements.

Ms. Eshleman thanked everyone for attending the meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:44am.