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CHE
5/5/16
Agenda Item 9.02.D

May 5, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman Tim Hofferth and Members, SC Commission on Higher Education

FROM: Chair Terrye Seckinger, and Members, Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

Role of The Citadel's Board of Visitors in the Program Approval Process

At the CAAL meeting on October 16, 2015, the Committee considered new programs from The Citadel, leading to a discussion about the role of The Citadel's Board of Visitors in the proposal review process. At the meeting, representatives from The Citadel verified that the Board is knowledgeable of and actively endorses forthcoming programs through its Strategic Planning process. However, the Board does not separately review nor approve program proposals prior to their submission to the Commission. Staff then verified that The Citadel's Board has been historically exempt from formal approval before proposal submission to the CHE. As a result of this discussion, the Committee directed the representatives from The Citadel to investigate its records for findings that may help to explain this exemption during future discussion about the nature of the Board's role.

Since the October meeting, The Citadel staff and Commission staff investigated numerous source documents including statutes, regulations, and Commission policy, along with policies The Citadel publishes, and found no explanation except a citation in the CHE [*Policies and Procedures for New Academic Programs, Program Modifications, Program Notifications, Program Terminations, and New Centers for SC Public Colleges and Universities*](#): "New program proposals from The Citadel, which does not require Board of Visitors approval for new programs, must meet all other institutional requirements for approval." (Policies, p.4). No explanation for this exemption is provided. At the April 7, 2016, CAAL meeting, representatives from The Citadel discussed the program approval process with the Committee and agreed that they could implement a process to provide evidence of Board review of proposals.

Recommendation

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission require The Citadel to provide evidence of its Board of Visitors' approval of proposal submissions.