

Advisory Committee on Academic Programs

Minutes of March 18, 2011

Members Present

Dr. T. Michael Raley, Chair
Dr. Richard Chapman, Francis Marion
Dr. Marsha Dowell, USC Upstate
Dr. George Hynd, College of Charleston (via teleconference)
Dr. Danny McKenzie, Lander University (via teleconference)
Dr. Suzanne Ozment, USC Aiken
Dr. Hope Rivers, S.C. Technical College System
Dr. Harvey Varnet, USC Beaufort

Guests Representing Members

Dr. Sally Boyd, USC System, representing Dr. Chris Plyler
Dr. Barbara Buckner, Coastal Carolina University, representing Dr. Robert Sheehan
Dr. Kris Finnigan, USC Columbia, representing Dr. Michael Amiridis
Mr. Tim Drueke, Winthrop University, representing Dr. Tom Moore (via teleconference)
Dr. Debbie Jackson, Clemson, representing Dr. Doris Helms (via teleconference)
Dr. Tara McNealy, The Citadel, representing Dr. Sam Hines
Ms. Melissa Price, Midlands Technical College, representing Dr. Ron Drayton
Dr. Darlene Shaw, MUSC, representing Dr. Mark Sothmann (via teleconference)

Staff Present

Ms. Laura Belcher
Mr. Arik Bjorn
Dr. Paula Gregg
Ms. Lane Goodwin
Mr. Clint Mullins

Guests

Dr. John Beard, Coastal Carolina
Mr. Jimm Cox, USC Upstate
Dr. Gary Lickfield, Clemson (via teleconference)
Dr. Dirk Schlingmann, USC Upstate
Dr. Donald Sloan, Coastal Carolina

Dr. Mike Raley called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. He welcomed all in attendance and asked the institutional and audience members to introduce themselves. Dr. Raley recognized Dr. Barbara Buckner who is leaving Coastal Carolina to become Dean of the College of Education and Health Professions at Columbus State University in Columbus, Georgia. He thanked her for her faithful service to South Carolina and the education of its citizens.

1. Consideration of Minutes of January 20, 2011

Dr. Raley requested a motion to accept the minutes of January 20, 2011, as distributed. The motion was **moved** (Varnet) and **seconded** (Chapman), and the Committee **voted unanimously to accept the Minutes as distributed.**

2. Consideration of Program Planning Summaries

a. B.A., Theatre, USC Upstate

Dr. Dowell introduced the planning summary from USC Upstate. It was **moved** (Dowell) and **seconded** (Varnet). Dr. Dowell stated that USC Upstate currently has a minor and a concentration in Theatre. She explained that the increase in cultural events and venues in the Upstate has helped increase students' interest in the field of study. She also added that USC Upstate recently formed a partnership with the Rose Theater in London.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the planning summary for USC Upstate to develop a new program leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre, to be implemented in January 2012.

b. B.S., Foreign Language Education, College of Charleston

Dr. Hynd introduced the planning summary from the College of Charleston. It was **moved** (Hynd) and **seconded** (Chapman). Dr. Hynd explained that the College currently offers a minor in foreign language education, but seeks approval to change it to a major. He informed the Committee that the College seeks to provide this degree so that graduates will be certified to teach in grades Pre-K through 12.

Dr. Dowell asked why the College seeks a Bachelor of Science degree instead of a Bachelor of Arts. Dr. Hynd answered that the College believes that offering the proposed program as a Bachelor of Science degree will promote more rigor. Dr. Raley requested that the full proposal include a sound explanation for offering the program as a Bachelor of Science degree, given that most language programs are offered as Bachelor of Arts degrees. Dr. Hynd asked whether the College would need to return to the Committee with a revised planning summary if the College decided to offer the proposed program as a Bachelor of Arts instead. Dr. Raley answered no; the full proposal could go forward to CAAL if the College decided to offer the proposed program as a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Dr. Raley asked Dr. Hynd how the College's language education programs are approved by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). Dr. Hynd responded that he did not know the answer. Dr. Buckner commented that the programs might receive recognition and not certification.

Dr. Buckner suggested that the College add within the Justification of Need section a statement about the shortage of certified language teachers and the need for those teachers. She also stated that a needs assessment of the lower region of the state might be helpful to include.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the planning summary for the College of Charleston to develop a new program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Foreign Language Education, to be implemented in Fall 2012.

3. Consideration of Program Modifications

a. B.A., Music, Addition of Three Concentrations in General Music, Performance, Teacher Preparation, Coastal Carolina

Dr. Buckner introduced the program modification from Coastal Carolina University. It was **moved** (Buckner) and **seconded** (Dowell). Dr. Buckner explained that Coastal recently obtained a National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) accreditation and that during the accreditation process, NASM recommended the three tracks be added to the degree. She introduced Dr. John Beard, Interim Dean of Fine Arts, and Dr. Don Sloan, Chair of the Music Department.

Dr. Raley expressed concern about current Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement (CERRA) data which illustrates only two open positions in the state for music teachers. He continued by asking whether those students who concentrate in teacher preparation will be able to obtain employment after graduation. Dr. Beard answered that the University does not anticipate more students for the program, but hopes to better prepare the students who are in the program. He added that the University does not want all teaching methods to be covered only in the one-year M.A.T. program. Dr. Beard stated that the University surveyed Horry and Georgetown counties, projecting three to five years in the future and discovered more potential open positions. Dr. Raley asked that the proposal to be updated with the current CERRA data and survey results.

Dr. Raley asked more specific questions about the interaction between the teacher performance track and the M.A.T. program. He inquired how the teaching methods course in the track will affect the methods courses taught in the M.A.T. Dr. Beard answered that the M.A.T. curriculum will be revised. He explained that the University thought the concentration addition should be approved before any changes were made to the M.A.T. curriculum. He added that some courses will be moved from the M.A.T. program to the undergraduate concentration, while some methods courses would remain in the M.A.T. program. Dr. Beard continued by stating that the University plans to add a few courses such as Marching Bands Methods to the M.A.T. program.

Dr. Raley discussed the subject of alternative certification routes for teachers, such as South Carolina's Program of Alternative Certification for Education (PACE). He stated that with alternative route options, students might bypass the M.A.T. altogether. He asked whether this possibility might hurt the University's M.A.T. program. Dr. Gregg commented that both federally and statewide alternative certificates are being promoted and that music is a discipline in which individuals with two years of work experience can pursue certification. Dr. Beard responded that the M.A.T. program at the University is small, but that the University will monitor any possible consequences as a result of this program modification.

Dr. Raley asked how Coastal will be able to offer 19 new courses without hiring new faculty members. Dr. Sloan explained that several classes have been integrated into a Basic Musicianship which necessitated retooling the rest of the sequence including Intermediate Musicianship and Advanced Musicianship. He stated that ten of those 19 courses have simply been re-numbered. He informed the Committee that there is one brand new course in Basic Music Technology while the rest of the new courses are methods courses. Dr. Raley asked Dr. Sloan to add a paragraph to the full proposal outlining the course changes.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the program modification for Coastal Carolina University for the program leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree in Music.

b. B.S., Material Science and Engineering, Addition of Two Concentrations in Polymeric Materials and Inorganic Materials, Clemson

Dr. Jackson introduced the program modification from Clemson University. It was **moved** (Jackson) and **seconded** (Buckner). Dr. Jackson informed the Committee that Clemson has been in the process of merging the fields of ceramic engineering and polymer and textile fibers. She explained that the field is expanding to include the study of chemicals and materials beyond the basic study of textiles. She stated that Clemson's graduate programs merged a few years ago; enrollment in the undergraduate polymer and fiber program has been terminated this year; and the undergraduate ceramic materials engineering degree was re-named to Materials Science and Engineering. Dr. Jackson continued by explaining that Clemson seeks to name two concentrations within this newly re-named degree program: one in inorganic materials and one in polymeric materials.

Dr. Raley commented that the Commission lacks documentation for the termination of the Textile Management program which is mentioned in the modification proposal. Dr. Jackson responded by stating that the termination was completed three years ago and she would send a copy of the documentation.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the program modification for the program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Material Science and Engineering at Clemson.

4. Consideration of Revised Guidelines for Federal *Improving Teacher Quality* Competitive Grants Program, FY 2012-13

Dr. Raley introduced this item. It was **moved** (Ozment) and **seconded** (Finnigan). Dr. Raley commented on one change, explaining that in order for institutions to apply for the program, representatives must attend a technical workshop two weeks after the letter of intent deadline in order to be eligible for consideration.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the Revised Guidelines for Federal *Improving Teacher Quality* Competitive Grants Program, FY 2012-12013.

5. Consideration of Revised Guidelines for EIA Centers of (Teacher Education) Excellence3 Competitive Grants Program, FY 2012-2013

Dr. Raley introduced this item. It was **moved** (Chapman) and **seconded** (Rivers). Dr. Raley commented that similar to agenda item 4, in order for institutions to apply for the program, representatives must attend a technical workshop two weeks after the letter of intent deadline in order to be eligible for consideration.

Dr. Raley explained that Superintendent of Education Zais removed funding for the EIA Centers of (Teacher Education) Excellence from the SC Department of Education budget request, but the House Ways and Means Committee added funding back in the overall budget for the program.

Mr. Drueke asked about the process of approval for these Guidelines. Dr. Raley answered that the Guidelines will be submitted for approval to the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing and the Commission. At Mr. Drueke's request, Dr. Raley asked Dr. Gregg to send to ACAP members an electronic copy of the tracked changes version of the revised Guidelines.

The Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the Revised Guidelines for EIA Centers of (Teacher) Excellence Competitive Grants Program, FY 2012-2013.

6. Update on Guidelines for Notifications for Graduate Programs

Dr. Raley introduced the discussion on this topic. He explained that the changes suggested by CHE staff would need to be submitted to the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing and the full Commission for approval. He then asked for feedback from the members.

Dr. Buckner expressed support for the changes. Ms. McNealy commented that The Citadel agrees that the 18-hour threshold is too high but is concerned that the nine-hour threshold is too low. Dr. Chapman asked how the nine-hour threshold was chosen. Dr. Raley explained that staff analyzed the average program and determined average percentages.

Dr. Jackson commented that most of Clemson's graduate programs, except for the Master's degrees in Education or Nursing, are very flexible and self-developed. She inquired how revised program modifications procedures might affect these types of programs. Dr. Raley responded that these changes will mainly affect the more uniform or organized graduate programs. Dr. Shaw asked whether these changes would affect certificate programs and Dr. Raley replied that certificate programs would not be affected by these changes.

Dr. Ozment stated that the nine-hour threshold is too low. She expressed support for more flexible options, whereby the university could propose various options before submitting a full program modification proposal. Dr. Jackson expressed support for the nine-hour threshold and commented that the credit hour requirement for most master's degrees is 30 credit hours, making nine credit hours 30% of the coursework. Dr. Varnet stated that he does not support the nine-hour threshold

Dr. Chapman recommended that the threshold be 12 hours. Dr. Raley expressed support for the compromise and commented that with this change CHE staff seeks to be good stewards

of the Commission's responsibilities while balancing the burden placed on institutions. He asked the Committee whether any member had an objection to setting the threshold at 12.

Dr. Finnigan asked for clarification regarding modifications whereby the program is decreased by a certain number of hours. Dr. Raley answered that these procedure revisions would cover any program which is changed by 12 credit hours regardless of whether the hours are added to or subtracted from the program. Dr. Finnigan asked about the language used for modifications of certificate programs in CHE policy. Dr. Raley answered that CHE staff would check the language and follow up with an explanation.

Dr. Raley summarized the discussion and explained to the Committee that CHE staff would test the use of the 12-hour threshold and analyze the results. He continued by stating that if the policy revision meets the needs of both staff and the institutions, then the formal policy recommendation would go forward to the Commission for approval.

7. Other

Dr. Raley informed the Committee of the changes to the membership of the Commission. He stated that of the 14 Commission member positions, six replacements have been recommended. He stated that the President of Furman University will serve as the member for the independent institutions and that Mr. Sanders and Mr. Workman would not return as Commissioners. He added that final decisions about all members have not been made and that the transition is in process.

Dr. Raley notified the Committee that the April 7th meetings of CHE and CAAL will be postponed at least a week. He stated that ACAP members will be informed of the correct date as soon as it is determined.

Dr. Raley introduced Mr. Mullins to present a new initiative and provide updates on various CHE projects. Mr. Mullins described the status of the SC TRAC and SC Course Alignment projects. He stated that the first user group conference for SC TRAC was held in February, with all institutions represented and more than 100 people in attendance. Mr. Mullins added that Dr. Bruce Chaloux of the Southern Regional Education Board presented the keynote address. He also informed the Committee that the S.C. Lottery Commission agreed to extend its statewide public service announcements for SCTRAC for another year.

Mr. Mullins then distributed a brochure regarding the SC Course Alignment Project containing testimonials from business and education leaders as well as faculty members involved in the project. He informed the Committee that the SC Course Alignment Project also held a training workshop February for new and returning project implementers and 69 implementers attended the all-day training event.

Mr. Mullins announced a proposed initiative associated with the SC Course Alignment Project to be aided by additional funding from the SC Department of Education. He first explained a little-known initiative called the Student Potential Performance Snapshot (SPPS) which is an early warning system for students at risk of dropping out of high school that is scheduled to be deployed by the SC Department of Education in all K-12 districts during the 2011-12 school year. Mr. Mullins explained that CHE will use the additional funding to research and develop indicators for college and career readiness which can be integrated by the SC Department of Education into the existing SPPS system in order to provide an automated early

warning system that will help educators gauge students' preparation for postsecondary education and the workforce. He stated that we will first need to determine the state's definition of college and career ready in order to develop indicators for such a system. Mr. Mullins notified the Committee that the funds will be used to engage EPIC to assist with determining the indicators that will be used to signal whether students are college and career ready. He stated that the EEDA Coordinating Council supports this initiative.

Mr. Mullins informed the Committee that a message requesting participants to serve on a taskforce for this initiative will be sent to Committee members in the future. He encouraged all members to consider serving. Dr. Ozment asked about funding and Mr. Mullins replied that the Commission expects to receive \$125,000 from the SC Department of Education for this scope of work.

8. Other Business

Dr. Raley thanked everyone for attending the meeting and reminded them that the next Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for July 14, 2011. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:19 a.m.