

**RESOLUTION TO RE-INSTATE PRIOR POLICIES AND PROCEDURES REGARDING
NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS PERTAINING TO THE APPROVAL OF EXTENDING
PROGRAMS TO NEW SITES BY ALL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

*Approved by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (CHE)
on this day of _____, 2012, and effective immediately*

WHEREAS, CHE has authority with respect to academic program approval pursuant to §59-103-35, §59-101-150, and related of the S.C. Code of Laws, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, CHE exercises its authority with the approval and enforcement by CHE and its staff of *Policies and Procedures for New Academic Program Approval and Program Termination (The Policy)*; and,

WHEREAS, CHE adopted significant revisions to *The Policy* on March 5, 2009, in the spirit of regulatory relief for the institutions and CHE staff given financial exigencies confronting the state at the time; and,

WHEREAS, prior to March 2009, CHE exercised its authority to require institutions to obtain CHE approval of a program modification if an institution proposed to offer 50 percent or more of any existing approved degree program off-site by traditional instruction within a three-year period for an associate's, baccalaureate, specialist, master's programs, and first professional programs or within a five-year period for doctoral programs; and,

WHEREAS, CHE modified the *Policy* on March 5, 2009, to allow for the expansion of approved programs to new sites with only a *Notification of Change* required to be submitted to the CHE; and,

WHEREAS, not requiring a program modification to be submitted for CHE approval for such expansion of approved programs has produced unforeseen and unintended consequences which are in the best interest of neither the State nor the institutions and, as a result of which, certain policy changes approved in March 2009 now warrant reconsideration;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

THAT concerning the transfer or expansion of an approved program to a new site, CHE is re-instating the requirements applicable to all public colleges and universities in place before March 5, 2009, to be effective and enforced immediately; and,

THAT CHE staff shall revise *The Policy* approved by CHE on March 5, 2009, in order to incorporate necessary and reasonable changes to meet the spirit of this resolution; and,

THAT CHE staff shall undertake a review of *The Policy* and present recommendations for a modified *Policy* to the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing on or by its September 6, 2012 meeting; and

THAT upon approval of a modified *Policy* by the full CHE, this Resolution shall be considered fulfilled and no longer in force.

RECOMMENDATION

That the above Resolution be approved by the full Commission.

May 3, 2012