

November 7, 2002

MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Dalton B. Floyd, Jr., Chairman, and Members, Commission on Higher Education

From: Ms. Dianne Chinnes, Chairman, Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

**Consideration of Request for Amendment of License
Troy State University, Troy, AL, at Sumter and Charleston to
(1) Add a Location at Greer
(2) Add Executive M.B.A. to Licensed Locations**

Summary

Troy State University (TSU) <<http://www.troyst.edu/>> requests approval of an amendment to its license to add a location in Greer and to offer a program leading to the Executive M.B.A. degree at its licensed locations as demand, administrative capability, and faculty are established. At its meeting on May 2, 2002, the Commission approved initial licensure for TSU to open locations in Sumter and Charleston. The institution also initially requested a campus in Greenville. As a result of the objection of Clemson University based on the availability of programs at the Greenville University Center, TSU officials withdrew the request for a Greenville campus. It has offered classes on Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter since 1992. While TSU has not yet begun offering classes off-base in Sumter, it is in the process of negotiating for space and expects to begin in January classes in downtown Sumter and will seek an appropriate site in Charleston within the next year.

Established in 1887 as the Troy Normal School, Troy State University has developed into a worldwide educational system now serving approximately 18,000 students. It is a non-profit, public institution. The off-campus programs are offered at 50 military installations, metropolitan teaching locations in 13 states and four nations, and two independently accredited universities located in Dothan and Montgomery, Alabama. The system now offers more than 70 associate's, bachelor's, master's, and education specialist degrees. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) accredits

Troy State, and it anticipates achievement of Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation within the next two years.

Troy State University offers education programs to the full-time employed working adult population who find it difficult, if not impossible, to further their educations through the traditional college setting. Most Troy State University students are “non-traditional.” They tend to be older and have family and outside commitments. These individuals find it difficult to acquire advanced education during the typical day class. These same students are interested in an accelerated program where they have some flexibility in choosing evening or weekend formats.

The institution will initially lease facilities at a Greer location with a minimum of 2,000 square feet to include two offices, two regular classrooms that will comfortably hold up to 25 students, and one classroom that will comfortably hold a 12-station networked computer lab with Internet access. Classrooms, offices, and common areas will be appropriately equipped and furnished to meet the needs of the students, faculty, and staff.

Library services are provided through local and other resources. The TSU Library System has subscriptions to several databases that offer remote access. Some are INFOTRAC, ProQuest Direct, Grolier Online, EBSCOHost, SilverPlatter, and WebSPIRS. Each student receives a comprehensive library resource book that describes the procedures to access TSU online resources, interlibrary loan, local library support, Internet hints, computer safeguards, and directions on citations. At each site TSU provides access to basic reference and bibliographic works in each field and major journals and serial sets for maintaining currency in each discipline.

The courses are offered in ten-week terms in three different formats: 1) bi-weekly for two weekends on Friday evenings, Saturday all day and Sunday half day; 2) once each week for ten four-and-one-half hour sessions; or 3) through electronic delivery. Courses taught on weekends will be limited to those approved by the faculty for weekend teaching. Tuition is \$265 per credit hour, or \$795 per course.

Faculty who teach in the programs must meet the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education licensing requirement that, with rare exception, graduate faculty members must hold a terminal degree, usually an earned doctorate, in the field in which they teach. TSU also requires that each faculty member have experience teaching at the college level. The institution will use a combination of core and adjunct faculty with a minimum of 25 percent of each program taught by full-time faculty members. TSU currently employs three full-time faculty at Shaw. Initially, full-time faculty members will come from Shaw Air Force Base and Augusta. Full-time faculty members will be employed at the local sites when enrollments are sufficient.

The programs leading to the Executive MBA are designed for graduates of baccalaureate programs who meet a stipulated professional experience prerequisite. The program is organized to support specific and general needs of professionally diverse groups of students. It provides advanced study in business administration to students who have acquired a common body of knowledge through education and professional experience.

Each EMBA program requires 36 semester hours. Admission requirements include (a) five years of professional, post-baccalaureate experience or five years of managerial experience beyond first line supervision; (b) a letter of recommendation from current or previous employer; (c) completion of a prerequisite course, MAN5501, Survey of Business Concepts; (d) a bachelor’s degree with a cumulative 2.5 GPA or 3.0 GPA on the last 30 hours and GRE (850 minimum) or GMAT (450 minimum) scores. Students not satisfying both the test score and GPA requirement may be admitted conditionally. They must earn a “B” or better average on their first four graduate courses or be dropped from the program. Students may transfer from regionally accredited institutions a maximum of six hours with a grade of “B” or better.

Curricula content for the EMBA programs is shown in the following table.

Course Number	Course Name	Criminal Justice	General Management	Health - care	Info Systems
ACT6691	Managerial Accounting	3	3	3	3
BUS6611	Business Strategy	3	3	3	3
FIN6631	Managerial Finance	3	3	3	3
MAN6674	Ethics in Business	3	3	3	3
MGT6671	Organizational Behavior	3	3	3	3
MKT6661	Strategic Marketing Management	3	3	3	3
CJ6620	Current Trends in Criminal Justice	3			
CJ6624	Court Administration	3			
CJ6625	Specialized Study in Admn CJ	3			
ECO6651	Managerial Economics	3	3	3	3
IS6679	Management Information Systems	3	3	3	3
QM6640	Quantitative Analysis for Mgrs	3	3	3	3
BUS6625	Specialized Study in Business		3	3	
HRM6603	Human Resources Management		3	3	
MAN6673	Operations Management		3		
PA6880	Health Care Administration			3	
IS6672	Info Sys & Bus Strategy				3
IS6674	Information Systems Management				3
IS6676	E-Commerce for Global Business				3
	Total Semester Credit Hours	36	36	36	36

Recommendation

The staff suggests that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing commend favorably to the Commission an amendment to the license of Troy State University which would allow TSU to develop a campus in Greer and to offer programs leading to the EMBA at its locations in South Carolina as demand, administrative capability, and faculty are established. The Committee will consider this item at its meeting on November 6 and will make its recommendation to the Commission on November 7.