

**Minutes**  
**Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing (CAAL)**  
**May 15, 2018**

**Members Present**

Chair Terrye Seckinger  
Ms. Allison Dean Love, via teleconference  
Dr. Louis Lynn  
Admiral Charles Munns

**Staff Present**

Dr. Argentini Anderson  
Mr. Clay Barton  
Ms. Lane Goodwin  
Dr. Falicia Harvey  
Ms. Trena Houp  
Dr. John Lane  
Ms. Julissa Nixon  
Ms. Tanya Rogers  
Dr. Regine Rucker  
Mr. Jeff Schilz  
Ms. Peggy Simons  
Dr. Lishu Yin

**Guests**

Dr. Paul Anderson, College of Charleston  
Dr. Mark Bebensee, The Citadel  
Dr. Bill Benson, Florence County School District 2, via teleconference  
Dr. Ralph Byington, Coastal Carolina University  
Dr. Lynn Cherry, College of Charleston  
Dr. Tena Crews, University of South Carolina Columbia  
Mr. Tim Druke, Winthrop University  
Senator Mike Fanning, Fairfield District 17  
Dr. Clif Flynn, University of South Carolina Upstate  
Dr. Godfrey Gibbison, College of Charleston  
Dr. J.R. Green, Fairfield County School District  
Dr. Katherine Grenier, The Citadel  
Dr. Hossein Haj-Hariri, University of South Carolina Columbia  
Ms. Mary Hipp, South Carolina Department of Education, via teleconference  
Dr. Tara Hornor, The Citadel  
Dr. Trish Hughes, Chamberlain University  
Dr. Kia James, Chamberlain University  
Dr. Harriet Jaworowski, Rock Hill School District Three of York County  
Dr. Yiming Ji, University of South Carolina Beaufort  
Dr. Marshall Jones, Winthrop University

Dr. Christopher Kennedy, Francis Marion University  
Dr. Jamil Khan, University of South Carolina Columbia  
Dr. Peter King, Francis Marion University  
Dr. Tracy Meetze-Holcombe, Francis Marion University  
Dr. Bo Moore, The Citadel  
Ms. Lisa Murphy, Southeastern University  
Dr. David Preston, The Citadel  
Dr. Jeff Priest, University of South Carolina Aiken  
Dr. Hari Rajagopalan, Francis Marion University  
Dr. Jennie Rakestraw, Winthrop University  
Dr. Alicia Ribar, University of South Carolina Columbia  
Dr. James Ritter, South Carolina Department of Education  
Dr. Hope Rivers, South Carolina Technical College System  
Dr. Darlene Shaw, Medical University of South Carolina  
Dr. Eric Skipper, University of South Carolina Beaufort  
Dr. Mary Slade, Winthrop University  
Dr. Kirsten Starnes Ott, University of South Carolina Columbia

**Guests continued.**

Dr. Joe Staton, University of South Carolina  
Beaufort

Dr. Sebastian van Delden, College of Charleston  
Dr. Michel van Tooren, University of South  
Carolina Columbia

Mr. Neal Vincent, Florence School District 2 (via  
teleconference)

Ms. Jacki Walsh, South Carolina Department of  
Education

**Welcome**

Chair Seckinger called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m. Ms. Nixon confirmed the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

**1. Minutes of February 8, 2018**

Chair Seckinger requested a motion to accept the minutes of February 8, 2018, as distributed. The motion was **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Lynn) and the Committee **voted unanimously to approve the minutes as presented.**

**2. SCCORE**

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and President Schilz explained CHE engaged individual institutions for input over the past few months, noting that in the coming weeks (following the end of the legislative session), CHE plans to contact institutions, and convene a work group of institutional representatives: provosts, registrars, enrollment management, and business officers to provide feedback. SCCORE is an evolving idea, so nothing about it is finalized, including hourly rates or number of courses.

Commissioner Munns suggested that the task force include a Palmetto College representative, and a planned outcome identified with metrics involved. He recommended that the work group keep in mind its intended audience and objectives. President Schilz stated SCCORE's primary audience is the adult market. Chair Seckinger mentioned ages 25-48 and President Schilz agreed.

Commissioner Lynn requested clarification on lessons learned from other states. President Schilz responded that CHE has had conversations with other states to identify the difficulties they have experienced, and that Dr. Catherine Watt will continue to manage SCCORE due to her experience and knowledge of institutional representatives.

Chair Seckinger stated that following precedent was advantageous to SC to minimize repeating mistakes. President Schilz agreed and commended SCTCS for their work in the area. He and the committee noted the need to engage adult learners vs. direct competition with traditional education. Chair Seckinger concluded that participation in SCCORE is voluntary.

**3. Amendment to Existing License to Add New Programs, New Site**

Southeastern University, Lakeland, FL: B.S., Business and Professional Leadership; B.S., Ministerial Leadership; and B.S., Worship Ministries at Seacoast Church, Mt. Pleasant, SC; Add Site at Christian Life Church, Columbia, SC

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Love) and **seconded** (Munns) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Ms. Murphy explained Southeastern University (Southeastern) began extension sites approximately two years ago. Southeastern began to partner with growing churches seeking formal training for their leaders. She stated the importance of enrollees cultivating soft skills. Ms. Murphy stated the ministerial leadership students need help finding where they can best minister. Ministerial leadership students would need music theory and marketing courses.

Commissioner Lynn commented that the worship portion of study sounds like seminary. Ms. Murphy replied that all Southeastern's degrees have a number of religious-related credits. When Commissioner Lynn asked whether the student body would be limited to Christians, Ms. Murphy responded there is no religious restriction on students.

Commissioner Munns requested clarification on the sites and delivery method. Ms. Murphy explained Southeastern plans to add the proposed programs to their SC sites at Seacoast Church and Christian Life Centers. Commissioner Munns asked whether these sites have classroom settings. Ms. Murphy confirmed there are classroom sites, along with music equipment and practice space. Commissioner Munns requested clarification on how content will be delivered to students. Ms. Murphy answered that introductory classes will begin online until there is a cohort of eight to 10. Since Southeastern already has confirmed cohorts for the proposed programs, there will be only one to two online courses.

Commissioner Munns asked whether the faculty live in the local area. Ms. Murphy clarified that the two sites will share some faculty, but each site will have a director to manage them. Commissioner Munns asked whether students have on-site access to academic counseling or need to call out-of-state for it. Ms. Murphy explained that academic counseling will be split between methods: An advisor in Lakeland and the on-site director. She stated that Southeastern is very hands-on with students to help ensure their success. Academic advisors communicate back to the individual site directors and alert them of any additional support students need. Ms. Murphy went on to say that individual sites have computer labs and students have access to the Lakeland library services online or through mail service.

Commissioner Munns asked about the one-year of default rate data provided in the proposal. Ms. Murphy stated that data is from the college navigator site. Commissioner Munns requested Ms. Murphy to comment on the default rate trend data. Ms. Murphy stated that she thinks a seven percent default rate is pretty good and she has not looked at Southeastern's default trend data. Commissioner Munns asked how Southeastern's students are financing their education. Ms. Murphy explained Southeastern is trying to create access for students to pursue an education and that almost all their programs require a practicum/internship. Due to the relationship Southeastern has with sites, students complete their practicum/internship at sites and then Southeastern refunds that tuition.

Commissioner Lynn asked about transferability and articulation agreements. Ms. Murphy explained Southeastern is fully accredited and therefore their coursework is transferable course-to-course or as an elective. She stated there are not articulation agreements in place. Commissioner Lynn asked Dr. Lane whether articulation agreements are necessary for transferability in the state. Dr. Lane explained the receiving institution determines course transfer based on their own policies. CHE advocates for articulation agreements, but they are not necessary.

Chair Seckinger stated she appreciated Southeastern's incorporation of soft skills into their curriculum. Ms. Murphy stated that employers in Florida have thanked Southeastern for that, so their graduates can move directly into some positions for which others require additional training

There was discussion about where the proposed coursework would be offered, as there are many Seacoast churches around the state.

Commissioner Lynn asked whether the proposed programs would be a threat to any of the other programs in the state. Dr. Lane explained staff researched comparable programs in the state. Staff determined the proposed programs are unique enough that the programs are not direct competition for other programs in the state.

Chair Seckinger commented that she liked Southeastern's out-of-the-box thinking and low tuition. Commissioner Love commended the market analysis in Southeastern's proposal and asked whether the institution looked at research from local chambers of commerce and how they fit in with the state's public agenda. Ms. Murphy replied that chamber of commerce data was not consulted. Southeastern did research local and national demand for ministry and found there are currently 62 open positions for worship leaders, with 13 open positions in SC. Ms. Murphy stated that Southeastern will contribute to degree completions in the state.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the Bachelor of Science in Business and Professional Leadership, the Bachelor of Science in Ministerial Leadership, the Bachelor of Science in Worship Ministries at Seacoast Church, Mount Pleasant and to add a site at Christian Life Church, Columbia.

Chair Seckinger requested and the Committee **moved** (Lynn) and **seconded** (Munns) a motion to amend the agenda to hear Winthrop University's proposals.

## 5. Program Proposals

### a. Winthrop University, M.Ed., Learning Design and Technology

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Rakestraw introduced Dr. J.R. Green, Superintendent of Fairfield County School District, and Dr. Harriet Jaworowski, Associate Superintendent of Rock Hill School District Three of York County.

Mr. Drueke explained Winthrop University (Winthrop) currently offers a concentration in Educational Technology that the institution would like to elevate to a full program. Dr. Rakestraw explained the concentration was the most popular in Winthrop's Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction program. P12 teachers, and others in the community with instructional roles, are the proposed program's target market. Students who complete the proposed program will earn a credential in online teaching.

The Committee and guests discussed the top reasons teachers leave the classroom, including lack of administrative support, low pay, and over-regulation.

Chair Seckinger inquired whether Winthrop would be willing to give SC students admissions priority. Dr. Rakestraw confirmed that SC students are the priority and mentioned the Olde English Consortium (OEC). Commissioner Lynn asked Senator Fanning for clarification on the OEC. Senator Fanning explained the OEC consists of the nine school districts in North Central SC, geographically between Winthrop and Chester. He said, for 40 years, Winthrop has been the service entity for the 160 schools in the OEC and those schools rely on Winthrop to help meet the staffing needs of the OEC districts. OEC school district employees receive discounted tuition. Senator Fanning explained Winthrop has done this with reading programs and *Read to Succeed* coursework as well. Dr. Rakestraw added that Winthrop faculty are in numerous OEC schools, that are either partner or professional development schools, regularly, which helps them hear what teachers need.

Commissioner Munns commended Winthrop's efforts to revitalize their programs. He thanked Winthrop representatives for answering the questions he sent prior to the Committee meeting. He asked Winthrop to confirm that the proposed program is just a conversion from an existing concentration to a full program. Dr. Rakestraw clarified that Winthrop included all the proposed program's courses, not just the new courses.

Commissioner Munns then mentioned the possible duplication objection the University of South Carolina (USC) raised at the ACAP meeting. He asked for confirmation that Winthrop's proposed program would be offered locally in response to demand and Dr. Rakestraw confirmed. Commissioner Lynn asked Dr. Rakestraw whether Winthrop had discussed possible duplication with Clemson University (Clemson) and other institutions. Dr. Rakestraw stated that Clemson's curriculum differs from the proposed program's. She also stated that University of South Carolina Aiken's (USC A) online program is similar, but Winthrop's program is mostly online, offers the online teaching endorsement, and proposes to serve Winthrop's local market. Dr. Rakestraw added that teachers attend class on campus twice a week and offering some online content helps that. The on-campus experience helps faculty know the students and builds on the cohort model.

Commissioner Munns referenced the financial support matrix on page 23 of the proposal. He asked whether the proposed program is a revenue center or will drive costs. Winthrop representatives and Senator Fanning explained Winthrop offers programs at half tuition to OEC cohorts. Commissioner Munns requested business model financial numbers in the financial support matrix.

Commissioner Lynn commented that there is a friends and family bias based on geographic location. Senator Fanning explained no school within the region is outside the OEC consortium. Mr. Drueke stated that while the goal is to build cohorts from teacher within the OEC, anyone outside the OEC can request written permission to enroll in the proposed program.

Chair Seckinger requested Winthrop provide CHE data on the program three years after implementation. Commissioner Lynn requested clarification on the proposed program's implementation date. Dr. Lane answered the proposed program's implementation date is August 2019.

Commissioner Love thanked Winthrop for providing CERRA data and asked Winthrop representatives to comment on the proposed program relationship to the CHE public agenda. Dr. Rakestraw confirmed Winthrop will consider the public agenda in future proposals.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the Master of Education in Learning Design and Technology at Winthrop University, to be implemented Fall 2019.

b. Winthrop University, M.Ed., Teacher Leadership

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Love) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Rakestraw explained the proposed program will allow teachers to add two endorsement fields to their teaching certificate: Teacher Leader and either Gifted and Talented or Project-Based Learning endorsements. Chair Seckinger commented that project-based learning is needed and Senator Fanning added there is a hunger for it in the public schools.

Commissioner Lynn asked for a summary of the proposed program's introduction at ACAP. Dr. Lane explained there was an engaged discussion about the proposed education programs and the need to combine recruitment and retention efforts to address the teacher shortage.

Mr. Drueke commented he thought the proposed program could be an important advancement for mid-career teachers who want to remain in the classroom. Dr. Jaworowski commented that teachers are more receptive to leadership from their peers than from the district office. The proposed program would provide the opportunity for more leaders to remain in the classroom. Dr. Lane added that the endorsement mentioned in this meeting is the same as the one district superintendents mentioned at the ACAP meeting.

Commissioner Lynn asked whether the Teacher Leader endorsement will bring SC up to par with neighboring states, GA and NC. Dr. Rakestraw affirmed the endorsement will help. She mentioned she was in GA for 20 years prior to coming to Winthrop. Dr. Rakestraw added that some states have teacher career paths and one of the recommendations of the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) committee she is on advocates providing opportunities for mid-career and long-term career teachers. Another recommendation advocates distributed leadership and micro-credentialing. She believes the proposed program will align with those recommendations. Commissioner Lynn asked what benefit Winthrop would receive in offering the proposed program. Mr. Drueke responded that graduates of the proposed program will be in the schools and can attract people into the teaching profession.

Chair Seckinger requested clarification on the definition of culturally responsive teaching. Dr. Rakestraw explained SC schools have increasing numbers of students from a variety of backgrounds and Winthrop would like to prepare teachers to differentiate instruction in a meaningful way. Dr. Jaworowski mentioned that the Rock Hill public schools have over 1500 ESOL students that represent 30 different languages and the schools are trying to meet the needs of all their students. Commissioner Lynn asked how many students are enrolled in the OEC schools. Senator Fanning stated there are 100,000 students in OEC schools.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the Master of Education in Teacher Leadership at Winthrop University, to be implemented Spring 2019.

**4. Amendment to Existing License to Add New Program (Recruiting)**

Chamberlain University, Addison, IL: Master of Public Health (online)

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Seckinger) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. A Chamberlain University (Chamberlain) representative explained the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree is the first in the institution's new college of health professions. She also said Chamberlain, with its fully-online generalist program, hopes to help serve the community in areas that do not have easy access to Columbia.

Commissioner Lynn stated the state public research institutions had concerns about Chamberlain's proposal and invited the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) representative to speak. Dr. Shaw stated MUSC objected to Chamberlain's proposal and stated MUSC has every intention of offering an online program. Dr. Shaw said Chamberlain's program would siphon off tuition dollars from MUSC's program. Commissioner Lynn invited the USC Columbia (USC C) representative to speak. Dr. Crews objected to Chamberlain's proposal and stated USC C's MPH is accredited while Chamberlain's is not. She also indicated that USC C's MPH is online with partners.

Commissioner Lynn asked about the MPH programs' current enrollment. A Chamberlain representative reported there are currently 25 students enrolled in their MPH program, with capacity for 35 students. Dr. Crews reported USC C's online MPH program has 150 students. She added that most of USC C's traditional MPH students remain in SC after graduation, while the institutions' online MPH students are dispersed. Commissioner Lynn asked for Chamberlain's MPH graduation rate. A Chamberlain representative indicated that the two-and-a-half-year-old program just graduated its first cohort December 2017. Dr. Crews explained USC C has years' worth of graduation information for the institution's MPH program. A Chamberlain representative went on to say that Chamberlain needed to graduate its first cohort before seeking accreditation, Chamberlain's MPH would not have as many students as USC C's program, and the institution is seeking to recruit 10 SC residents.

Commissioner Munns requested clarification on Chamberlain's capacity to accept students into the MPH. A Chamberlain representative explained that the institution's marketing and strategic planning departments calculate capacity based on state-specific demographics. The representative explained Chamberlain's programs currently licensed in SC do not siphon hundreds of students from other institutions: The RN to BSN program is Chamberlain's largest program, the DNP program has 12 students, and the MSN specialty track has 59 students. Commissioner Munns asked for confirmation that the enrollment cap is limited by student interest and not institutional capacity and the Chamberlain representative confirmed that fact.

Dr. Crews indicated that USC C has dual degrees with MPH and other master's programs. Commissioner Lynn suggested tabling the item.

Chair Seckinger asked whether the public research institutions have had trouble placing MPH students for clinical practica. The USC C and MUSC representatives indicated the public research institutions have had no problem with practicum placements.

Commissioner Munns commented that the Committee needs to remain mindful of its role with nonpublic programs. He said SC allows the free market to determine competition. Commissioner Munns said he would vote to table the item for three reasons: to better understand the proposed program's impact on

the other existing programs in the state; to understand the impact, but not judge it too strongly, to do what is best for the state; and he requested legal counsel review of the Committee's authorization to deny non-public programs. The Committee discussed proposed program quality and duplication in relation to non-public programs.

The Committee **moved** (Lynn) and **seconded** (Munns) to table the online Master of Public Health at Chamberlain University for further inquiry as specified. The Committee **voted unanimously to table** the proposal until the next scheduled CAAL meeting, August 2018.

## 5. Program Proposals continued

### c. University of South Carolina, B.S.E., Aerospace Engineering

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Crews explained the proposed program will be the first undergraduate degree program of its kind in the state. The proposed program will replace a minor in Aerospace Engineering. Dr. Crews noted that aerospace is the second-largest industry cluster in SC. She said USC C has established partnerships within the institution and with Boeing for the proposed program: Boeing noted USC C should become the University of Washington's equivalent on the East Coast. Dr. Crews Dr. Crews introduced Drs. Haj-Hariri, Khan, and van Tooren to provide additional information and answer questions.

Commissioner Munns commended USC C's financial support matrix for the proposed program and voiced his support for it. Commissioner Lynn asked USC C to provide the name of the proposed program's national accrediting body. Institutional representatives explained the master's program is Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) accredited; USC C will invite ABET to evaluate the proposed program for program accreditation after the first student is graduated.

Chair Seckinger requested clarification on the proposed program's implementation date. Dr. Crews stated the implementation date is Fall 2018 and USC C believes the proposed program will not constitute a substantive change as the institution already has a master's program. She stated there are not many new faculty hires or needs for the proposed program.

Commissioner Lynn asked how The Citadel and Clemson University (Clemson) would be affected by the proposed program. A USC C representative reported the proposed program would not affect either The Citadel or Clemson since neither institution has an aerospace engineering degree program. The USC C representative suggested a possible plus program to allow The Citadel and Clemson students to enter the proposed program after two years with the proper coursework. Chair Seckinger asked whether USC C has any articulation agreements for the proposed program. A USC representative explained Midlands Technical College is a matriculation institution into USC C. He went on to state that USC C is working on an agreement with South Carolina State University's (SC State) Bachelor of Technology.

Commissioner Lynn asked whether Boeing contributed financially to the proposed program. Representatives responded that Boeing has not contributed to the program financially, but the company wants to hire USC C graduates. Representatives then gave information on Boeing's feeder lines, with bachelor's graduates on the assembly line. He stated Boeing's North Charleston facility is looking to build a pipeline for the facility.

Commissioner Lynn requested information on institutions with undergraduate programs in aerospace engineering in neighboring states. Representatives answered that North Carolina State University (NC State), Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech), and at least one institution in Florida have undergraduate programs in aerospace engineering. Commissioner Lynn then asked USC C to explain how they will attract students from neighboring states' programs. USC C representatives explained SC loses undergraduate aerospace students to NC State and Georgia Tech, and that aerospace students are very special and the proposed program is a way to keep the best and brightest students in SC.

Dr. Lane thanked Dr. van Tooren for USC C's careful work designing and planning the proposed program. He corroborated USC's report that there is interest in undergraduate programs in aerospace engineering, as documented in [ACM's annual report](#). Dr. van Tooren added that students express significant interest in aerospace engineering when he attends the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics' college recruitment fair. Chair Seckinger suggested USC C prepare for greater than expected enrollment. A USC C representative agreed that demand for the program may be greater than projected in the program proposal.

Commissioner Lynn asked in which USC C department the proposed program would operate. Dr. Haj Hariri responded the proposed program will be managed by the Mechanical Engineering department with support from the Electrical Engineering and Integrated Information Technology departments. Commissioner Lynn then requested clarification on SC State's anticipated relationship with the proposed program. A USC C representative explained SC State students can complete three years at SC State's Engineering Technology program, then complete two years at USC C to earn an engineering B.S. from SC State. USC C and SC State need to complete course-by-course evaluation for this endeavor.

Commissioner Lynn questioned the rationale behind SC State students' ability to sit for the Professional Engineer certification in North Carolina but inability to do so in SC. Ms. Houpp explained 2012 legislation licensing regulations, a change in statute requiring licensed engineers in SC have degrees from accredited engineering programs. She continued that the Commission has worked with SC State to change their engineering technology programs to engineering programs.

Commissioner Love congratulated USC C on their wonderful proposal.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the Bachelor of Science Engineering in Aerospace Engineering at the University of South Carolina Columbia, to be implemented Fall 2018.

d. University of South Carolina, M.S.N., Nursing Informatics

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Crews explained no other institution in SC offers the proposed program and USC C plans to offer it online to serve the Southeast region and the nation. Dr. Crews quoted a 2017 workforce survey that projected a 24-60% increase in the nursing informatics area. She said students who complete the proposed program will be eligible to obtain an informatics specialty certification. Dr. Crews reported USC C's School of Nursing and College of Engineering and Computing will collaborate to deliver the proposed program.

Commissioner Lynn asked for an explanation of nursing informatics. Dr. Starnes Ott said nursing informatics provides the nursing-specific information that overlays the foundation of healthcare informatics. She continued that nursing informatics majors can navigate healthcare systems with electronic health records (HER) more efficiently and effectively. Commissioner Lynn asked whether graduates of the proposed program would provide direct care. Dr. Starnes Ott responded that students in the proposed program would be licensed baccalaureate-prepared nurses.

Chair Seckinger commented that graduates of the proposed program would become part of the frontline in patient care. Dr. Starnes Ott concurred with Chair Seckinger's statement. Commissioner Lynn asked whether graduates of the proposed program would be in more demand in public or private hospitals. Representatives concluded there would be no difference in demand based on hospital funding types. She continued that EHR has grown in the last 10 years. The proposed program would educate students who are already versed in clinical care on how to retrieve and evaluate data to inform care. She stated the proposed program is one small step to help improve healthcare in SC. Commissioner Lynn asked how the proposed program would help healthcare delivery in the rural portions of the state. Dr. Starnes Ott explained federal money comes to the state in proportion to the quality of the data provided to the federal government.

Commissioner Munns questioned the \$1600 student fee and asked why they must pay such a fee in addition to tuition. Dr. Starnes Ott explained the fee is to cover immersive experiences. Commissioner Munns inquired about the proposed program's geographic target market. Dr. Starnes Ott stated USC C hopes to have a large base of SC residents as students, but the program is open to the region due to its uniqueness. Commissioner Munns then asked whether the afore-mentioned fee would cover housing or travel for students, or just the immersive experience. Dr. Starnes Ott responded that the fee would cover the immersive experience, which includes malpractice insurance on all students, only. Commissioner Lynn asked whether the proposed program is fully online or blended. Dr. Crews explained the coursework is online, but the immersive experience is on USC C's campus. Chair Seckinger commented that human interaction is very important in nursing. Representatives added that student interaction with faculty is important for nursing education.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the Master of Science in Nursing in Nursing Informatics at the University of South Carolina Columbia, to be implemented Fall 2018.

e. University of South Carolina Beaufort, M.S., Computational Science

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Commissioner Munns) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Skipper explained the proposed program is designed to meet regional needs by training students with advanced knowledge in computational science and help fill positions regionally and nationally. He stated the proposed program's enrollment will cap at 20. Dr. Skipper noted University of South Carolina Beaufort (USC B) has the only undergraduate degree in computational science in SC. USC B boasts 100% placement of those undergraduates, in very high paying positions. He also explained a NSF-funded grant will fund the proposed program's faculty. Dr. Skipper introduced University of South Carolina Beaufort's (USC B) Math and Computation Science Department Chair Dr. Joe Staton and Dr. Yiming Ji, the proposal's author.

Commissioner Munns stated the proposed program is important and needed in SC. Commissioner Munns then asked whether USC B would accept an employer's or military commander's recommendation in lieu of two faculty recommendations. Dr. Staton confirmed USC B would accept an employer or military commander recommendation for the proposed program. Commissioner Munns raised concern about tuition and questioned whether USC B's first master's program would cause tuition to rise. He requested clarification on the projected cost to market the proposed program. Dr. Skipper responded that marketing the proposed program would not significantly add to the cost of the proposed program. Dr. Ji explained the budget for marketing the proposed program will be covered by the NSF grant.

Commissioner Munns asked Dr. Lane whether USC B's proposed first master's program would drive costs at the institution. Dr. Lane responded a master's degree program could drive costs, but the costs may not be significant. Dr. Lane stated CHE will work with USC B staff to determine the increased costs associated with the institution offering its first graduate degree program.

Commissioner Munns **amended his motion** to approve the proposed program provided CHE staff and USC B assess the possible additional cost for USC B's first master's program, and Commissioner Lynn **seconded** the amended motion.

Commissioner Lynn asked about USC B's distinction now that the institution has been approved to grant master's degrees. Dr. Lane explained with USC B's mission change, they were the last comprehensive institution in SC to add a graduate program. He also stated USC B's SACSCOC level will change from two to three.

Commissioner Munns commented that the proposed program is worthwhile and needed in the state. Commissioners, Dr. Lane, and USC B representatives discussed the amount of money that would constitute a significant increase in costs.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the Master of Science in Computational Science at the University of South Carolina Beaufort, to be implemented Fall 2019.

f. Francis Marion University, B.S., Healthcare Informatics

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. P. King explained the proposed program addresses regional needs and the public agenda due to healthcare industry needs. Dr. P. King introduced Dr. Hari Rajagopalan, Dean of Francis Marion University's (FMU) School of Business, Dr. Tracy Meetze-Holcombe, Dean of FMU School of Education and Dr. Christopher Kennedy, Associate Provost and Director of the FMU Graduate Program.

Dr. Rajagopalan explained FMU developed the proposed program in response to requests from FMU's local constituent hospitals' need for workers with strong computer science skills who can also work with clinical practitioners. The proposed program is an amalgamation of coursework from FMU's Schools of Health Science and Business, and therefore no new resources or faculty are required for it.

Chair Seckinger asked whether the proposed program would match local employers' requests. Dr. Rajagopalan confirmed the proposed would address local and broader employer need. Commissioner

Lynn requested FMU clarify the difference between the proposed program and USC Columbia's nursing informatics proposed program. Dr. P. King explained the proposed program is a bachelor's-level program while USC C's nursing informatics program is a master's level program for licensed nurses. Dr. Lane directed the Committee to the table on page 14 of the Committee notes which delineates some of the differences between healthcare informatics and nursing informatics. FMU representatives reiterated the proposed program is in line with employer needs and does not require any new resources, which is in line with CHE's recommendations that institutions become more efficient.

Commissioner Munns questioned the cost calculation presented in the proposal. A FMU representative explained the total FTE's noted on the proposal are all existing faculty. Commissioner Munns explained how proposal forms are interpreted by the Committee. Commissioner Munns requested FMU provide the FTE needed to support the projected student population and reflect the projected expenses on the financial page prior to the full Commission meeting. A discussion continued regarding indirect costs.

Commissioner Lynn asked whether FMU would incorporate artificial intelligence in the proposed program. Dr. Rajagopalan stated the proposed program would focus on people providing data analytics as opposed to artificial intelligence.

Commissioner Munns **amended his motion** to approve the proposed program provided FMU submit a revised proposal which reflects requested financial information, and Commissioner Love **seconded** the amended motion.

Dr. P. King explained the difficulty providing projected financial information on the costs of shared classes. Commissioner Lynn asked whether the proposed program is dependent on students remaining local after graduation. Dr. P. King denied students need to stay local. Commissioner Lynn then asked whether the regional hospitals near FMU had committed any funds to the proposed program and Dr. P. King denied the hospitals had committed any funds.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Informatics at Francis Marion University, to be implemented Fall 2018.

g. Francis Marion University, B.S., History, Secondary Education Option

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. P. King stated the proposed program was developed because of the teacher shortage. The proposed program will utilize existing faculty. Dr. P. King also introduced supporters of the proposed program, including Superintendent of Florence School District 2, Neal Vincent.

Commissioner Munns requested clarification on how the proposed program will improve teacher recruitment and retention. Dr. Kennedy explained during his eight years as chair of the History Department, parents and prospective students asked about History Secondary Education, a nonexistent program at FMU. Dr. Kennedy also stated FMU hopes to address teacher retention by growing their own; local graduates of the proposed programs will remain in local classrooms in one of the 19 surrounding school districts. Dr. Meetze-Holcombe added that 92% of FMU graduates stay in the region. She also stated that some districts in FMU's region are recruiting 50%+ internationally.

Commissioner Munns then asked about FMU's art history program and the numbers reported on page 11 of the proposal. Dr. Kennedy noted that art history is a critical needs area and the most recent data differ. Dr. Meetze-Holcombe explained students major in a content area and add education to that major, almost like a minor.

Commissioner Lynn asked whether FMU can import from surrounding schools, which Dr. Meetze-Holcombe affirmed. Commissioner Lynn requested confirmation that the proposed program's delivery mode is entirely face-to-face, which FMU representatives confirmed.

Commissioner Love complimented FMU's inclusion of poll results from a SurveyMonkey® survey of Pee Dee region superintendents as well as a teachers study report.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the Bachelor of Science in History with a Secondary Education Option at Francis Marion University, to be implemented Fall 2018.

The Committee and FMU representatives discussed foreign teachers in rural school districts.

h. Francis Marion University, M.Ed., Teaching and Learning

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Lynn) and **seconded** (Munns) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. P. King explained the proposed program will replace an existing master's program at FMU. The proposed program will allow individuals with a degree in the content area to enter education.

Dr. Meetze-Holcombe provided the following background information about the proposed program: There is a critical need for secondary teachers in FMU's region. She reported the Pee Dee region accounts for 17% of all teaching positions in SC, but has one-third of all teacher vacancies in the state. Dr. Meetze-Holcombe found there is no strong Program of Alternative Certification for Teachers (PACE) presence in the Pee Dee region; FMU is working on a MOU with the SC Department of Education (SCDE) to administer PACE in that region. FMU would offer courses toward the PACE requirement of nine graduate credit hours and hopes to retain PACE participants in the proposed program. Graduates of the proposed program who complete PACE would earn a pay raise in school districts. Dr. Meetze-Holcombe also stated FMU has over 1,000 current students with majors that would not lead to immediate employment.

Commissioner Munns requested FMU to give an overview of PACE. Dr. Meetze-Holcombe explained PACE allows participants to be employed as a teacher of record without an education degree. Dr. Harvey explained PACE is the SCDE-administered pathway to alternative certification which evolved from the 1984 critical needs program. She stated the program was instituted under the Education Improvement Act. She explained the program takes participants with at least a bachelor's degree who have passed a required exam, who can then receive training in education while working in the classroom. Dr. Harvey clarified the proposed program will support PACE participants in the Pee Dee region.

Chair Seckinger commented the idea behind the proposed program has very strong efficiency, and recommended FMU make explicit the stop-out option for individuals who choose not to complete the proposed program. Commissioner Munns recommended FMU add to the proposal how many FTEs will be needed to support projected enrollment. Commissioner Lynn requested clarification on what is necessary

for literacy preparation. Dr. Meetze-Holcombe and Dr. Lane explained it is a *Read to Succeed* requirement. Chair Seckinger requested FMU revise the proposal for clarity.

The Committee **moved** (Seckinger) and **seconded** (Munns) to table the Master of Education in Teaching and Learning at Francis Marion University to the May 24, 2018 CAAL meeting. The Committee **voted unanimously to table** the proposal to May 24, 2018.

i. College of Charleston, B.G.S. (Bachelor of General Studies)

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Cherry explained the proposed program is designed to help students with some college complete an undergraduate degree. She said College of Charleston (CofC) has a significant number of students in good standing who, for unknown reasons, choose not to complete a degree. CofC queried other degree completion programs about what they would add to their programs if they could – all the schools stated a supportive structure. Dr. Cherry introduced Dr. Godfrey Gibbison, Dean of CofC's School of Professional Studies.

Commissioner Lynn asked whether students who failed could enter the proposed program. Dr. Cherry explained students who were dismissed due to academic deficiency can apply for readmission to CofC.

Dr. Cherry said the program is open to any student. Chair Seckinger asked why CofC would open the proposed program to freshmen. Dr. Cherry responded CofC does not anticipate many freshmen will choose the program, but it is open to any student. Chair Seckinger expressed concern that the proposed program is open to any CofC student, instead of targeting degree completers. Dr. Cherry explained students in the proposed program would complete CofC general education requirements, two minors, and 24 credit hours at the 300-level or above. Dr. Gibbison explained that as quality control measures, students would be required to take an introductory course prior to declaring a major in the proposed program, and that student planning in the major would be advising-intensive.

Commissioner Lynn questioned whether the proposed program would be the easiest to pursue to complete college. Dr. Gibbison denied that and stated all students in the proposed program would have the same admission and general education requirements of all CofC students. Commissioner Lynn then requested clarification on the proposed program's delivery mode. Dr. Gibbison explained CofC wanted to make the proposed program flexible, as there are stop-out students all over the state of SC who could benefit from enrollment. Students from around the state can complete coursework online and students in the CofC area can do so online or on-campus.

Commissioner Munns asked whether CofC has an enrollment cap. Dr. Cherry affirmed CofC has an undergraduate cap on enrollment. Commissioner Munns inquired whether students in the proposed program would displace other students in the institution's undergraduate program. Dr. Gibbison explained the undergraduate cap is an understanding between the city of Charleston and CofC to manage student populations in downtown Charleston. He added that CofC has additional campuses in North Charleston and at Harbor Walk, where students can take courses without CofC breaching their understanding with the city of Charleston.

Chair Seckinger asked CofC representatives to explain how they assessed need for the proposed program through market research. Dr. Gibbison said CofC held two focus groups and conducted surveys to assess

market need. He said CofC found many participants were very excited about the proposed program and were especially interested in online coursework. Dr. Gibbison then relayed, "One young man said, 'I can see the wall coming and unless I have a bachelor's degree I will not be able to pass that wall.'"

Commissioner Munns inquired whether CofC surveyed employers about the employability of the proposed program's graduates. Dr. Gibbison explained many industries hire general studies graduates, as CofC's proposed program is not unique. Many employers' job postings show employers are looking for individuals with the ability to think critically in complex environments. There was a discussion about the decline and national resurgence of general studies programs at higher education institutions. Dr. Lane explained for many individuals with some college but no degree/credential, a general studies degree is their only avenue to completion. Dr. Gibbison gave an example of a 35-year-old working adult who cannot move forward in her industry without a degree. Chair Seckinger objected to underclassmen having access to the proposed program.

Chair Seckinger **amended the motion** to approve the proposed program provided CofC provide CHE an annual report on segmentation of students in the proposed program by classification and a report on its first graduates' employability, and Commissioner Munns **seconded** the amended motion.

Chair Seckinger and Commissioner Munns requested CHE contact other institutions with similar programs to request the same reports. Commissioner Lynn objected to the need for the proposed program. Dr. Lane suggested CofC add an assessment of need/history of general studies to the final version of the proposal. Commissioner Love thanked CofC for listening to the Commission's recommendations and commended the institution for its mention of the CHE public agenda in the proposal.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the Bachelor of General Studies at the College of Charleston, to be implemented Fall 2018.

j. College of Charleston, M.S., Data Science and Analytics

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Cherry explained the proposed program would be the first of its kind in the state. She said the proposed program would have two tracks, one a one-year professional track and a more research-oriented two-year track for students who would possibly pursue a doctorate. Dr. Cherry introduced Dr. Sebastian van Delden, Chair, and Dr. Paul Anderson, a professor in CofC's Computer Science department. Dr. van Delden stated employers in the CofC area have expressed a need for employees in the proposed program's area. He explained the proposed program is rigorous and different from a computer science degree such that students in the proposed program want to work with data as opposed to build software.

Chair Seckinger inquired whether CofC has an undergraduate program that would feed into the proposed program. Dr. van Delden responded CofC has an undergraduate computer science program, but the proposed program has not been designed for only computer science graduates. He explained the proposed program has an entrance exam to assess applicants' skills. Chair Seckinger requested clarification on the skills test. Dr. P. Anderson explained entrance exams are fairly standard across CofC graduate programs. Commissioner Lynn asked whether CofC has the computer infrastructure to service the proposed program. Dr. P. Anderson confirmed that fact and added that most of the data is on the cloud, so extensive hardware is unnecessary.

Commissioner Munns reiterated the huge need for the proposed program. He thanked CofC for answering his questions before the Committee meeting. Commissioner Munns asked whether the two courses which will become available Summer 2019 will delay graduation of students who begin the proposed program upon implementation Fall 2018. Dr. P. Anderson stated he hopes that will not be the case as students will have other prerequisites to satisfy the coursework requirement. Dr. van Delden explained all students in the proposed program will take two summer courses.

Commissioner Lynn inquired whether graduates of the proposed program could go on to pursue a doctorate at University of California Davis or a similar institution. Dr. van Delden affirmed that fact and stated the department's graduates go on to the best programs in the world, as well as obtain employment at places like Bosch and Boeing.

Chair Seckinger requested clarification on the projected enrollment in the proposal. Dr. van Delden explained CofC will market the proposed program in the coming year to ensure the proposed program meets enrollment projections. Chair Seckinger then asked whether only 0.33 FTE will be needed for the proposed program. Dr. van Delden stated the proposed program is primarily built on existing courses. Faculty will teach three new courses each semester and Dr. P. Anderson will teach two courses during the summer. Commissioner Munns clarified Chair Seckinger's question and requested information on how many FTEs are needed to teach adequately. Dr. P. Anderson responded accordingly and Commissioner Munns and Chair Seckinger discussed proposal submission and financial data it would like to review in future to determine better proposed programs costs.

Commissioner Lynn inquired whether the proposed program has an accrediting board. Dr. van Delden stated they have an elaborate industrial advisory board which meets yearly. Dr. P. Anderson stated once the proposed program moves forward, CofC may ask graduates to return as an advisory board.

Commissioner Love thanked CofC for preparing the list of companies that expressed an interest in the proposed program and asked when that list was generated. Dr. P. Anderson answered that the provided list was 18 months old and opined proposals take too long to get to the Committee.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the Master of Science in Data Science and Analytics at the College of Charleston, to be implemented Fall 2018.

k. The Citadel, M.A., Military History

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** and **seconded** a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Bebensee explained the proposed program is part of The Citadel's six-year strategic plan. The Citadel has prize-winning faculty with expertise in military history. He stated the proposed program makes sense for The Citadel as the state's military higher education institution. Dr. Bebensee cited many constituencies which may be interested in the proposed program.

Commissioner Munns stated the questions he sent ahead of time were answered and his hopes that The Citadel can get a MOU with state colleges to accept credits for the proposed program. Commissioner Munns commented that the world has changed and nations need individuals who can think about strategic competition with peers. He commended The Citadel on these elements in the proposed program

and suggested The Citadel market those elements. Commissioner Lynn asked whether the armed forces have their own institutions. Commissioner Munns affirmed that they do, but the proposed program has the experience that those institutions do not. Dr. Hornor assured the Committee that The Citadel will strategically market the proposed program.

Commissioner Lynn asked what institution(s) provide competition for the proposed program. Dr. Hornor cited another senior military college in Norwich, Vermont. Commissioner Lynn asked whether students would need to come to campus at any point during completion of the proposed program. Dr. Hornor stated students would have to opportunity to participate in online residences. She explained online residency allows students in an online program to come to campus and interact with the faculty. Chair Seckinger complimented The Citadel on the online residency idea. Dr. Bebensee added the online residency would also provide rare Charleston experiences for students who participate.

Commissioner Lynn inquired why military academies are not offering the proposed program. Commissioner Munns responded that the military academies are offering versions of the proposed program, but academies are teaching it at the undergraduate level while the proposed program is a graduate-level. Chair Seckinger asked whether The Citadel teaches military history in its military leadership program. Representatives from The Citadel affirmed military history is taught in the military leadership program.

Chair Seckinger then asked whether The Citadel could anticipate higher-than-projected enrollment in the proposed program. Dr. Hornor explained the projected enrollment numbers are conservative and with adjunct faculty, the numbers could double. Chair Seckinger asked The Citadel the implementation date. A representative of The Citadel confirmed the proposed program is set for Fall 2019 implementation. Commissioner Lynn asked whether the proposed program will have outside funding sources which representatives of The Citadel denied, but may pursue grants in the future. Commissioner Love commended The Citadel's hard work and commented that the institution is very proud of the proposed program.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the Master of Arts in Military History at The Citadel, to be implemented Fall 2019.

Commissioner Munns reported that he will not be able to attend the May 24, 2018 Committee meeting and indicated his support for the USC Aiken proposals.

## **6. New EIA Centers of Excellence Competitive Grants Awards, FY 2018-19**

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Lane and Chair Seckinger thanked Dr. Harvey for her collaborative work with constituents. Dr. Harvey gave an overview, explaining that one continuing funding request is for FMU's Center for College and Career Readiness' fourth year. Dr. Harvey explained there is a proviso for continued funding for The Center for Teaching Children of Poverty at FMU. The final continued funding request is for USC Columbia's Center for the Advancement of the Workforce and Knowledge Economy (AWAKE) in SC. The categories for new proposed centers came out of conversations with the Commission and the Education Oversight Committee (EOC). Dr. Harvey recommended funding for two new proposed centers: a Center of Excellence in Alternative Certification put forward by Columbia

College, and a Center of Excellence on Research in Teacher Education at USC C. All funding requests are pending the legislature's approval of a final budget.

Commissioner Munns requested clarification on how the various centers' findings are disseminated. Dr. Harvey explained the centers have websites, give presentations, and generate publications on their findings. The centers implement their work in the first two years and disseminate their findings the third through fifth years. Chair Seckinger asked whether Dr. Harvey has seen replication of programs which came out of centers' work. Dr. Harvey affirmed this, highlighting FMU's centers provision of training for both professors and P12 teachers. Dr. P. King added that FMU centers also provide training for middle-level and secondary students. Columbia College partnered with Richland School District 1 and Fairfield County School District to recruit teacher assistants into the proposed center's alternative certification program.

Commissioner Lynn asked whether the center application process was competitive, which Dr. Harvey affirmed, assuring the Committee of the high level of application scrutiny. In response to Commissioner Lynn's inquiry about first year spending objectives at Columbia College, Dr. Harvey stated Columbia College plans to use the proposed funding for course development and tuition remission. Commissioner Lynn then inquired if Columbia College's use of proposed funds is in line with previous centers. Dr. Harvey explained Columbia College's proposed center is the first of its kind and previous centers' funds were used for professional development and teacher retention activities. She added Columbia College's proposed center will attempt to bridge higher education institutions and alternative certification programs (How do higher education institutions get into "alt-cert" while retaining their accreditation?). Chair Seckinger suggested Columbia College gather retention data on their cohorts to traditionally-educated teachers. Dr. Harvey confirmed that Columbia College's proposed center will document every step and other school districts have already approached the institution to participate.

Dr. Harvey gave an overview of the proposed research center in teacher education. The proposed center would gather data on SC teacher education and would duplicate national research for the state. USC C proposes to work with six of seven partner school districts across the state to obtain SC-specific data to emulate the National Center for Education data. One of the other goals of the proposed USC C center is to build a database to store the SC-specific teacher education data. The proposed center will use the state-specific data to answer questions regarding teacher education and make the data available to other institutions to do the same.

Dr. Harvey stated Commission staff are working to bring a third proposed center regarding recruitment and retention of minority teachers to the Committee at a later date. The Committee and Commission staff discussed the upcoming proposed third center and its impact on existing programs across the state.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the *EIA Centers of Excellence* Competitive Grants Awards for FY 2018-19.

## 7. SmartState® Operating Budget, Revised FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Love) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Chair Seckinger commented that SmartState® is one of the best-kept secrets in the country. She explained the return on investment is incredible, with \$2.8 billion economic impact and \$755 million new labor income for SC.

Commissioner Lynn questioned whether SmartState® has its own board. Dr. Lane confirmed it does and the SmartState® board approved the budget to move forward to the Committee. He celebrated Dr. Argentini Anderson's operational leadership of the program. Chair Seckinger and Dr. Lane discussed the wonderful publicity SmartState® has received including the *CBS Morning News* from New York and a presentation at the White House.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the SmartState® operating budgets.

**8. Consideration of Revisions to the Policies and Procedures for New Academic Programs, Program Modifications, Program Notifications, Program Terminations, and New Centers for SC Public Colleges and Universities**

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Chair Seckinger referenced the five points returned to ACAP at the March 29, 2018 meeting. ACAP had no further comment on those five items. Dr. Lane stated ACAP voted overwhelmingly in favor of the revised document.

Commissioner Lynn referenced program productivity standards on page 51 and asked whether the standards infringe on individual institutions' boards of trustees. Dr. Lane explained Chair Seckinger requested Commission staff add the existing program productivity standards as an appendix to the document for ease-of-reference. The Committee and Commission staff discussed the Commission's authority in terms of program productivity.

Commissioner Munns referred to page 9, number 7 and asked whether new program proposals need to include assurance that they will teach to the SC standards. Ms. Houp responded institutions need to provide evidence they will teach the SC state standards. She added the institutions already need to show such alignment to obtain certification authority from the SCDE.

Chair Seckinger referenced the budget justification. Commissioner Munns commended USC Columbia's completion of the financial statement in the Aerospace proposal. Ms. Houp noted institutions can explain the financials provided in a program proposal in the budget justification section.

Chair Seckinger noted the expanded choices for distance education on page 24. Ms. Houp added the distance education choices have been amended to align with SACSCOC choices.

Commissioner Love objected to the program productivity requirements in the appendix. She stated that the program productivity numbers are unfair to smaller institutions. The Committee and Commission staff continued discussion of the existing program productivity policy.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted three to one** (Commissioner Munns, Chair Seckinger, and Commissioner Lynn voting in favor with Love voting against) to the revisions to the *Policies and Procedures for New Academic Programs, Program Modifications, Program Notifications, Program Terminations, and New Centers for SC Public Colleges and Universities*.

**9. Other Business**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.