

COLLEGE of  
CHARLESTON  
FOUNDED 1770

P. George Benson, President

November 3, 2009

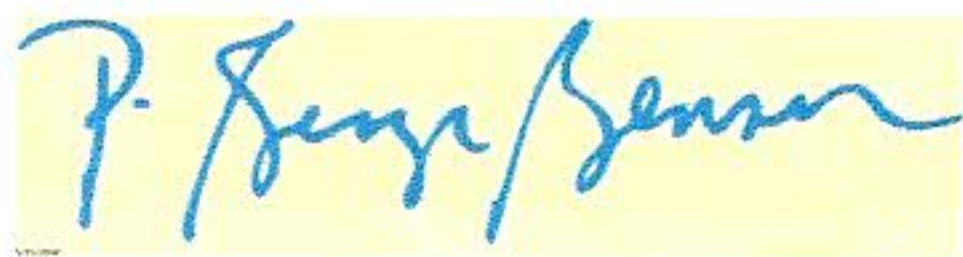
Dr. Gail M. Morrison, Deputy Director  
Academic Affairs and Licensing Division  
South Carolina Commission on Higher Education  
1333 Main Street, Suite 200  
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Dr. Morrison,

Enclosed you will find a program planning summary for the major in Archaeology within the School of Languages, Cultures, and World Affairs. The College of Charleston is uniquely situated to take advantage of this timeless and timely discipline. History and archaeology are woven into the very fabric of the City of Charleston and the landscape. Archaeological research is a dynamic field of inquiry and is becoming increasingly relevant to sustainable economic growth of developed and developing countries alike.

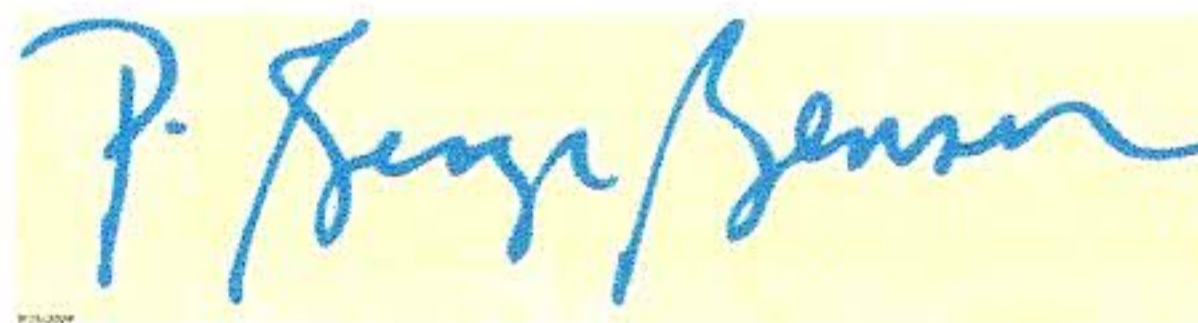
Looking forward to a favorable review from the Commission staff and please let me know if there are any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "P. George Benson", is displayed on a yellow rectangular background.

**Program Planning Summary**

**Archaeology Major  
School of Languages, Cultures, and World Affairs**



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P. George Benson, President  
November 3, 2009

**Contact Information:**

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**Designation of New Program and Implementation Date:** Bachelor of Arts in Archaeology at the College of Charleston to be implemented in Fall of 2010.

**Number of Hours in New Major and Program length:** 32-39 (dependent on elective choices of students) in a 4 year program.

**STEM Scholarship Applicability:** The Archaeology Major itself will not qualify students for any of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs, healthcare programs and Math/Science teacher education programs regarding qualification for supplemental Palmetto Fellows Scholarship and LIFE Scholarship awards. However, if the current demographic of Archaeology Minors continues into the Archaeology Major, we would expect that a quarter to a third of the students would be majoring in a science such as Biology or Geology and would thus be eligible for many of the science and technology programs.

**Justification of need for the proposed program;**

While many undergraduate Archaeology Major granting curricula are available to South Carolina students at out of state colleges, there are currently no Archaeology Major Programs available to students at any of the S.C. Colleges and Universities. The lack of an undergraduate Archaeology major or certificate among the S.C. Colleges and Universities poses a potential loss of intellectual capital to other states like North Carolina and Georgia, which have Archaeology Majors or Certifications in many of their schools and departments. Several inquiries have been made to the Archaeology program by students interested in attending the College regarding the availability of Archaeology as a Major. While some of those students came and are working on an Archaeology minor, many have been lost to other schools which we presume were able to offer them the major they desired. Previously, those interested in Archaeology in South Carolina have completed majors in a specific discipline such as Anthropology or Classics with a minor (where offered) or with independent work, which does not prepare them for the workforce or graduate work in archaeology as well as would a full archaeology major.

Archaeological research is inherently interdisciplinary and global. It is a dynamic field of inquiry, requiring an increasingly diverse set of techniques and understandings derived from a host of disciplines in the natural sciences, humanities, and social sciences. As population swells and the desire to take advantage of cultural resources for economic development increase worldwide, the field of archaeology is becoming increasingly relevant to sustainable economic growth of developed and developing countries alike. Archaeologists today need a wide variety of tools and knowledge that are not obtainable within the confines of a related major program without the guidance and classes offered in an Archaeology major. Furthermore, the presence of a strong interdisciplinary minor program at the College of Charleston, consisting of 41 Archaeology Minors in the Spring of 2009, demonstrate an interest, need, and support by the student body for an Archaeology Major.

Archaeology is a timeless and timely discipline, especially in a place like Charleston where history and archaeology are woven into the very fabric of the city and the landscape. The College of Charleston is uniquely situated to take advantage of this

