

Minutes
Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing
January 12, 2017

Members Present

Chair Terrye Seckinger
Dr. Louis Lynn
Ms. Allison Dean Love
Mr. Kim Phillips, via teleconference

Members Absent:

Admiral Charles Munns
Dr. Evans Whitaker

Staff Present

Mr. Clay Barton
Ms. Laura Belcher
Ms. Carrie Eberly
Ms. Lane Goodwin
Dr. Paula Gregg
Ms. Anna Grubic
Ms. Trena Houpp
Dr. John Lane
Ms. Tanya Rogers
Ms. Peggy Simons
Dr. Kimberly Walker

Guests

Dr. Alexander Alekseyeuko, Medical University of South Carolina
Ms. Beth Bell, Clemson University, via teleconference
Dr. Connie Book, The Citadel
Dr. Ralph Byington, Coastal Carolina University, via teleconference
Dr. Lynn Cherry, College of Charleston
Dr. Tena Crews, University of South Carolina Columbia
Mr. Tim Druke, Winthrop University
Mr. Tim Ellis, University of South Carolina Upstate
Dr. Kristia Finnigan, University of South Carolina Columbia
Dr. Clif Flynn, University of South Carolina Upstate
Dr. Stephanie Frazier, S.C. Technical College System, via teleconference
Dr. Ron Gimbel, Clemson University
Dr. Debra Jackson, Clemson University
Dr. Christopher Kennedy, Francis Marion University
Dr. Peter King, Francis Marion University
Dr. Eileen Kraemer, Clemson University
Dr. Rob McCormick, University of South Carolina Upstate
Dr. Jihad Obeid, Medical University of South Carolina
Dr. Jennie Rakestraw, Winthrop University
Dr. Hope Rivers, S.C. Technical College System, via teleconference
Dr. Darlene Shaw, Medical University of South Carolina
Dr. Suzanne Thomas, Medical University of South Carolina
Dr. John Vena, Medical University of South Carolina
Dr. John Wagner, Clemson University
Mr. Tyler Ward, Clemson University

Welcome

Chair Seckinger called the meeting to order at 10:09 am and announced the meeting was being held in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Consideration of Minutes of November 10, 2016

Chair Seckinger requested a motion to accept the minutes of the November 10, 2016 meeting. The motion was **moved** (Lynn) and **seconded** (Love) and the Committee **voted unanimously to accept the minutes as submitted.**

Dr. Lane suggested a change in the agenda and Commissioner Love moved to consider Agenda Item 2c before Agenda Item 2b to facilitate a better understanding of the two degree programs. Commissioner Lynn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Program Proposals

a. Clemson University, Center, Product Lifecycle Management

Chair Seckinger introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Love) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Jackson explained the Center will be a multidisciplinary virtual academic center hosted by the mechanical engineering department; funded by a \$357 million grant from Siemens Corporation; and accessed at multiple Clemson campuses which will be equipped with appropriate hardware and software. Commissioner Lynn asked about funding use and Dr. Wagner replied the grant will cover the costs of software updates for several years. After that time, Clemson will be responsible for any maintenance of the software. Dr. Wagner explained the software will be used in the classroom to teach and train students. He informed the Committee that the General Electric Company wants all employees trained on the software and if Clemson students are familiar with the software, they will acclimate seamlessly into that work environment. Commissioner Love asked whether University representatives contacted Purdue University specifically, which houses a similar Center. Dr. Wagner noted that Clemson faculty engaged in continued dialogue with the Purdue Center director, which aided in the development of the proposed Center.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the Center in Product Lifecycle Management at Clemson University, to be implemented in Fall 2017.

b. Clemson University, M.S., Biomedical Data Science and Informatics

[Please note that Item 2c was discussed prior to Item 2b. See note under Item 1.]

Chair Seckinger introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Lynn) and **seconded** (Love) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Clemson representatives continued discussing Biomedical Data Science and Informatics by specifically addressing Clemson's proposed M.S. degree. Dr. Jackson explained that the degree will serve as a "stop-out" Master's degree for the joint Ph.D. program and provide an opportunity for individuals working in the profession to obtain a graduate degree while enrolled as a part-time student. Commissioner Lynn asked why MUSC is not involved in offering this program. Dr. Jackson responded that MUSC already has a similar program at the Master's level. Dr. Jackson also informed the Committee that

the program will be offered at multiple sites, including the Zucker Graduate Building in Charleston. The Committee discussed enrollment expectations and curriculum with Clemson representatives. Commissioner Love asked whether Clemson plans to offer the Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) in this field in the future and she asked about other similar programs. Dr. Kraemer responded that Clemson did investigate similar M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in creating the proposed program. Dr. Gimbel replied that Clemson does not plan to offer a M.P.H. but will continue to refer interested students to MUSC or USC.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the Master of Science in Biomedical Data Science and Informatics at Clemson University, to be implemented in Fall 2017.

- c. Clemson University, Ph.D., Biomedical Data Science and Informatics (Joint with MUSC)
Medical University of South Carolina Columbia, Ph.D., Biomedical Data Science and Informatics (Joint with Clemson)

Chair Seckinger introduced the items, and the Committee **moved** (Love) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Jackson described the innovative, inter-disciplinary and collaborative joint program between Clemson and MUSC, specifically highlighting the joint admissions committee and the use of synchronous technological learning. She stated MUSC has expertise in biomedical health sciences and public health while Clemson has expertise in computer engineering and public health sciences. She explained the new healthcare models and the exponential growth in demand for biomedical data scientists who can leverage the information in ways that improve health. Dr. Jackson referred to the Memorandum of Understanding; explained that students will be required to take courses from both institutions; and stated the program will have joint admissions and curriculum committees, though institutional finances will remain separate based on each school's course offerings. Commissioner Lynn asked about institutional names on diplomas and Dr. Gimbel responded that diplomas will include both institutions but students will choose the institution for participating in commencement.

Commissioner Lynn asked about specialized accreditation. Dr. Jackson responded while no program accreditation is currently available or required, the American Medical Informatics Association is considering accrediting programs. Commissioner Lynn expressed concern about cybersecurity and Dr. Obeid responded that data security is incorporated into the curriculum of the program. Dr. Obeid shared that a few similar programs exist in the Southeast, but there is no joint program. Dr. Thomas informed the Committee that there will be one tuition rate and therefore no in-state versus out-of-state tuition rates. Commissioner Lynn referred to CHE's program productivity review and Dr. Lane replied that CHE will begin to implement program-specific review for new programs six years after implementation of a doctoral degree. In terms of meeting program productivity requirements, Dr. Jackson stated that the program will meet the enrollment numbers but might not meet the completion numbers after six years. Commissioners expressed support for this collaborative and innovative program. Commissioner Lynn asked about employment opportunities. University representatives referred to many opportunities in healthcare, federal and state government, university settings, and health-related corporations.

Commissioner Love shared submitted questions regarding budget expectations, similar programs, and available data for the state. She commented that the questions have been answered. She then asked about the differences between the proposed program and USC's Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences. Dr. Thomas replied that the proposed program focuses on big data and also includes the integration of computer engineering.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to the joint Doctor of Philosophy degree in Biomedical Data Science and Informatics at the Medical University of South Carolina and Clemson University to be implemented in Fall 2017.

- d. University of South Carolina Upstate, Bachelor of Applied Science, Advanced Manufacturing Management

Chair Seckinger introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Love) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Flynn explained that this program will be the first B.A.S. in the state. He stated the program is a technologically focused program developed to meet the needs of the manufacturing base in the Upstate and is a highly specialized applied professional degree. He referred to letters of support from BMW, the S.C. Department of Commerce and the Upstate Workforce Investment Board. He expressed the University's excitement over its partnership with technical colleges for this degree.

Commissioner Seckinger expressed support for the proposed 2+2 program and partnership between S.C.'s technical colleges and four-year institutions. Dr. Flynn shared about the University's Direct Connect program, which provides seamless transition for technical college students. Commissioner Love commended the program and specifically expressed support for the proposal's assessment of need and employment opportunities sections. She asked about the potential for a Master's degree in the field and about similar programs. Mr. Ellis shared that University research uncovered various programs nationally, including those offered at Indiana University, East Tennessee State, Montana State, and Texas A&M. Commissioner Seckinger asked about the University's conversations with industry. Mr. Ellis replied that USC Upstate consulted with industry representatives who will continue to be involved as the program progresses. Dr. Flynn stated the University is not currently planning a Master's degree in the field but might consider the idea in the future. Commissioner Phillips expressed support for the program. Commissioner Lynn asked whether the program will be accredited. Mr. Ellis replied that this program will not require discipline-specific accreditation.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission approval of the Bachelor of Applied Science in Advanced Manufacturing Management at the University of South Carolina Upstate to be implemented in Fall 2017.

- e. University of South Carolina Upstate, B.A., Urban and Regional Studies

Chair Seckinger introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Love) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Flynn explained the program was developed partly in response to the growth in population, land usage, urbanization, economic development, and infrastructure in the Upstate. He continued by stating that 85% of the University's students originate in the Upstate and then choose to stay in the Upstate after graduation. Commissioner Lynn asked about traditional versus non-traditional students. Dr. Flynn responded that the University enrolls a mixture of traditional and non-traditional students. He referred to data included in the proposal from an independent firm that shows the potential success of the program. He informed the Committee of the University's conversations with other institutions regarding the proposed B.A. in Urban Studies and Regional Studies serving as a feeder program for graduate programs at Clemson and at College of Charleston. He explained that the program will be offered at the University's new location in Greenville.

Commissioner Love referred to four questions she submitted. She asked whether local employers expressed need for the program and Dr. Flynn answered "yes." She then asked whether the University could provide the raw numbers in regards to the *SCWorks* percentage data on page eight. Dr. McCormick responded that the University could not find the raw numbers. Commissioner Love asked about student surveys. Dr. McCormick described student feedback as organic over the last four years as students increasingly enrolled in more courses in this field. Commissioner Love asked whether the University anticipates a decline in Political Science majors with the creation of the proposed program. Dr. McCormick replied that there may be a small decline in the short term, but the Political Science department is strong and can bear the weight of a small number of students choosing another major. Commissioner Love asked about the high enrollment projections, especially compared with the Urban Studies program at the College of Charleston. Dr. McCormick responded that projections were created by a consulting firm that studied the potential demographic for the University's program and that the College of Charleston's program is more Charleston-specific than the University's proposed program. Dr. Cherry explained that the program is not expected to be in conflict with the College's program, but is actually compatible with it.

Chair Seckinger asked why the proposed program is designated as a Bachelor of Arts instead of a Bachelor of Science program. Dr. Flynn answered that based on the coursework, and because the program is inter-disciplinary and well-rounded, the Bachelor of Arts designation is best. Commissioner Lynn asked about the use of the word "regional" in the program title and asked whether the degree can be applied to areas outside the Upstate region. Dr. McCormick responded that the use of the word "regional" conveys a focus on rural development and redevelopment in addition to urban areas, so the degree can be applied to any area or state.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree in Urban and Regional Studies at the University of South Carolina Upstate, to be implemented in Fall 2017.

f. Winthrop University, B.S., Human Development and Family Studies

Chair Seckinger introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Love) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Mr. Druke explained that both this proposed program and the proposed program in Special Education are not completely new programs but programs which have been revised and improved. He informed the Committee that the program in Human Development has changed to the point where its Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) code is different, which automatically prompts a new program proposal according to CHE's policies. He stated that this program has a long history, beginning with a focus on home economics and then on family consumer science.

Chair Seckinger asked whether these programs are being re-tooled throughout the country. Dr. Rakestraw answered affirmatively. Chair Seckinger asked about enrollment in the current program. Dr. Rakestraw answered between 90 and 100 students are enrolled. Chair Seckinger asked for the sunset process of the current program. Dr. Rakestraw replied that students will be given a choice to continue in the current program or switch to the new program. Commissioner Love thanked Mr. Druke for providing more information on the program's total budget. The Committee members then discussed the limitations in presenting accurate budget projections, whether total or new costs, due to the many different processes used by different institutions for budgeting.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Development and Family Studies at Winthrop University, to be implemented in Fall 2017.

g. Winthrop University, B.S., Special Education, Multi-Categorical with Severe Disabilities

Chair Seckinger introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Love) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Chair Seckinger expressed her support for the program and commented on the great need for the program. Mr. Druke reiterated that the program is not new but has been re-tooled and improved with a new teacher education certification designation in multi-categorical. Dr. Rakestraw explained that the changes in the degree program will allow graduates to be trained and certified to serve students with different disabilities, including autism spectrum disabilities. Chair Seckinger asked whether employment opportunities beyond teaching are possible, such as a consultant to special education teachers. Dr. Rakestraw replied that it depends on the size and needs of the individual school district. Committee members discussed teacher education certification and what Winthrop requires of students in the teacher education fields, especially in their senior years. Commissioner Love thanked Mr. Druke for providing more information on the program's total budget.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to a Bachelor of Science degree in Special Education, Multi-Categorical with Severe Disabilities at Winthrop University, to be implemented in Fall 2017.

3. Revised Annual Report on Admissions Standards for First-Time Entering Freshmen, Fall 2014

Chair Seckinger introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Lynn) and **seconded** (Love) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Lane explained that the original submission of this Annual Report for Fall 2014 included inaccurate data provided to CHE. He stated Commission staff in Academic Affairs and Fiscal Affairs worked diligently with institutional representatives at the University of South Carolina for resubmission, debugging, and review of data. As a result, the revised version contains the corrected data. Commissioner Lynn asked for a description of inaccurate data. Dr. Gregg responded that the data about USC Aiken and USC Beaufort included in Tables 3a, 3b and 3c was inaccurate. Dr. Lane added that although an apparent decision was made in years prior to present the report directly to CAAL, CHE staff would resume presenting the report to ACAP members prior to review by CAAL as staff had for this revised report in order to ensure accuracy and garner feedback. Chair Seckinger expressed her interest in the report's content.

Dr. Gregg shared different aspects of this report, including the section on provisional students and compliance with college course prerequisites set by CHE in collaboration with the S.C. Department of Education. She informed the Committee that institutions use different terminology in reference to provisional students and therefore comparing data is difficult. In order to provide consistent data regardless of differing definitions, she suggested CHE revise the report in the future to replace the table on provisional students with data regarding students whose full admittance is contingent in some way. Dr. Gregg explained Table 3c which shows the retention between freshmen and sophomore years in relation to college course prerequisite compliance. She also stated that the purpose for the college course prerequisite list is not to ensure high school graduation but to help prepare high school graduates for success in college. Commissioner Lynn asked whether the data in Table 3c can be separated to show only freshmen who received

lottery scholarships. Dr. Gregg replied that CHE staff would research that question to see whether that data can be extricated. Chair Seckinger asked the origin of the rule included on page 14 that states: "Four-year teaching universities should limit provisional admissions to no more than 15% of the first-time entering freshman class." Dr. Gregg responded that she did not know when that rule was established and asked Ms. Belcher to research it. Ms. Belcher agreed to do so.

Commissioner Love expressed concern about recommending the report for approval to the Commission since the Committee has no mechanism to ensure all the statistics in the report are correct. Dr. Lane responded that institutions are responsible for submitting correct data in response to CHE's report questions, and institutional representatives from USC Aiken and USC Beaufort noticed after the original submission to CAAL that the data concerning their campuses was incorrect. He continued by stating that USC submitted revised data which ACAP and representatives from USC Aiken and USC Beaufort in particular confirmed as correct. As noted, re-instituting ACAP review prior to CAAL consideration is a vital additional quality control measure.

Commissioner Lynn expressed concern about the lag time between the data period, Fall 2014, and the review of the report. Dr. Lane expressed concern as well, noting that since CAAL consideration of the original Fall 2014 report, time from then to now was needed primarily to receive, test, and confirm accurately submitted data from the institution. Dr. Gregg commented that data is not always submitted in a timely manner by the institutions and therefore the analysis of the data is delayed.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the revised *Annual Report on Admissions Standards for First-Time Entering Freshmen, Fall 2014*.

4. 2017-18 Meeting Dates and Program Review Cycles

Chair Seckinger introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Lynn) and **seconded** (Love) to approve the meeting dates and program review cycles. Dr. Lane thanked Ms. Houpp and Ms. Belcher for studying and then recommending the schedule included in the agenda item. He summarized the document by stating CHE staff and ACAP members recommend returning to three cycles per year from the current four cycles per year schedule. He then referred specifically to determining the best dates for CAAL's May meetings for the next three years in light of the fact that Commission meetings are scheduled for the second weeks of May as compared to its normal first week of the month meetings. Chair Seckinger suggested the motion be revised to allow the Committee to approve all dates except for the May meetings which will be studied more carefully by staff, and that suggested dates be submitted to Committee members for feedback in the next few weeks. Commissioner Love seconded the revised motion.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to approve** the meeting dates and program review cycles except for the May meetings in 2017, 2018, and 2019, which will be finalized in the near future.

5. Annual Report on Academic Common Market, 2016

(For information, no action required)

Chair Seckinger introduced the item for information. Dr. Lane thanked Ms. Carr for her work in developing the report and explained that the report shows the number of S.C. resident college students who participate in academic degree programs in other states that are not currently offered in S.C., and college students who are residents of other states who participate in academic degree programs in S.C. that are not offered in their home states. Dr. Lane added that S.C. institutions enroll more students from other states in unique programs than S.C. residents who have to find institutions out-of-state to meet their own unique program needs. He noted that overall, certifications both ways were down compared to last year, but that the trend was still overwhelmingly favorable to S.C. institutions.

6. Report on Program Modifications, August 31-December 15, 2016

(For information, no action required)

Chair Seckinger introduced the item for information only.

7. Revised Mission Statement for Francis Marion University

Chair Seckinger introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Phillips) and **seconded** (Lynn) to recommend changes to the mission statement of Francis Marion University (FMU). Dr. King presented the request from FMU to revise its mission statement in anticipation of submitting a proposed Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree for CHE approval in the near future. He continued by stating that FMU seeks to change its mission statement to include the ability to offer professional doctorate degree programs. He further clarified that the American Association of Colleges of Nursing is recommending institutions move from granting graduate degrees to granting professional doctorates in the field of nursing practice. Chair Seckinger clarified that CHE approval of the mission statement revision would be contingent on the General Assembly granting permission for FMU to offer doctoral programs.

Commissioner Lynn expressed concern about institutional mission creep and referred to the statute which allows only research universities in the state to offer doctoral programs. Chair Seckinger and Dr. Lane explained that three four-year comprehensive institutions have specific permission from the legislature to offer certain doctoral programs, while only two offer them. Ms. Belcher and Ms. Houpp explained that the Commission approved the revised mission statements for those institutions only after the legislature approved the institutions' ability to offer doctoral programs.

Dr. Finnigan relayed Dr. Book's concerns about the need for another doctoral granting institution in the state. Dr. Finnigan asked, on Dr. Book's behalf, why FMU does not seek to revise its mission statement to reflect the lone degree program it seeks to offer. Dr. King commented that FMU does not seek to become a research university and is not planning to offer any research-based doctoral programs, only professional doctorates. Dr. Byington stated that there is a national trend for comprehensive institutions to offer a limited number of doctoral degrees and SACSCOC provides an accreditation level which allows institutions the ability to offer a limited number of doctoral programs:

"Level V	Offers three or fewer doctorate degrees as highest degrees
Level VI	Offers four or more doctorate degrees"

Mr. Drueke suggested FMU include a qualifier in the revision to reflect it intends to only offer a limited number of doctoral programs, noting that the language now suggests FMU might offer many programs at that level. Committee members also discussed the differences between a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree and a professional doctorate degree such as the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP).

Commissioner Phillips made a motion and Commission Lynn seconded it to recommend approval of the Francis Marion University mission statement change to offer professional degrees at the baccalaureate, master's, specialist and doctorate levels as requested, pending legislative authority from the General Assembly according to §59-103-45(6) of the *South Carolina Code of Laws 1976 as amended*, which authorizes the Commission to "review and approve each institutional mission statement to ensure it is within the overall mission of that particular type of institution as stipulated by Section 59-103-15 and is within the overall mission of the State."

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission to recommend approval of the Francis Marion University mission statement change to offer professional degrees at the baccalaureate, master's, specialist and doctorate levels as requested, pending legislative authority from the General Assembly according to §59-103-45(6) of the *South Carolina Code of Laws 1976 as amended*, which authorizes the Commission to "review and approve each institutional mission statement to ensure it is within the overall mission of that particular type of institution as stipulated by Section 59-103-15 and is within the overall mission of the State."

8. Other Business

Chair Seckinger thanked those in attendance for their participation and staff for their work. Hearing no further business, she adjourned the meeting at 1:17 p.m.