



South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

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MEMORANDUM

To: Chairman John L. Finan and Members, S.C. Commission on Higher Education

From: Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Chair, and Members, Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

Information Report on Staff-Approved Mission Statement Modifications

In keeping with the Commission's *Policy and Procedures for Approval of New or Revised Mission Statements*, Commission staff reviewed proposed mission statement revisions from the following institutions since August 2012:

1. [Clemson University](#)
2. [USC Beaufort](#)
3. [Central Carolina Technical College](#)
4. [Horry Georgetown Technical College](#)
5. [Northeastern Technical College](#)
6. [York Technical College](#)

The changes were determined to be minor as defined by the policy, which reads “Minor revisions are those revisions which do not change the nature, function, type, or sector of the institution. Examples include revisions for clarity and grammar, changes in size, CHE-approved changes in program mix, board-approved name changes, and editorial changes.” As such, the proposed changes were considered and approved at the staff level.

In addition to the staff-approved changes, the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing and the Commission on Higher Education also approved mission statement changes in the 2012-13 year for Coastal Carolina University and Francis Marion University.

The revised statements are shown below. *Text highlighted is explanatory for CHE and not a part of the statements.*

Clemson University

Mission Statement

The following in shaded areas are brief explanations for CHE of the changes and are not part of the Mission Statement: *Changes make a focused mission statement followed by a University Description.*

Clemson University was established to fulfill our founder's vision of "a high seminary of learning" to develop "the material resources of the State" for the people of South Carolina. Nurtured by an abiding land grant commitment, Clemson has emerged as a research university with a global vision. Our primary purpose is educating undergraduate and graduate students to think deeply about and engage in the social, scientific, economic, and professional challenges of our times. The foundation of this mission is the generation, preservation, communication, and application of knowledge. The University also is committed to the personal growth of the individual and promotes an environment of good decision making, healthy and ethical lifestyles, and tolerance and respect for others. Our distinctive character is shaped by a legacy of service, collaboration, and fellowship forged from and renewed by the spirit of Thomas Green Clemson's covenant.

University Description

Moved from "Mission" to "Description" and updated numbers: Clemson University is a selective, public, research university in a college-town setting. Clemson's desire is to attract a capable, dedicated and diverse student body of approximately 20,000 undergraduate and graduate students, with priority to students from South Carolina. The University offers a wide array of high quality baccalaureate programs built around a distinctive core curriculum. Graduate, continuing education, doctoral and research programs contribute to the state of knowledge and to the economic future of the state, nation and world. The university provides bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in more than 100 majors through five academic colleges: the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences; the College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities; the College of Business and Behavioral Science; the College of Engineering and Science; and the College of Health, Education and Human Development.

Reworded; added teaching sites: Clemson combines the benefits of a major research university with a strong commitment to undergraduate teaching and individual student success. Students, both undergraduate and graduate, have opportunities for unique educational experiences throughout South Carolina, as well as in other countries. Experiential learning is a valued component of the Clemson experience, and students are encouraged through Creative Inquiry, internships, and study abroad, to apply their learning beyond the classroom. Electronic delivery of courses and degree programs also provide a variety of learning opportunities. Clemson's extended campus includes teaching sites in Greenville and Charleston, five research campuses and five public service centers throughout the state of South Carolina, as well as four international sites.

Paragraph added: The University is committed to exemplary teaching, research and public service in the context of general education, student engagement and development, and continuing education. In all areas, the goal is to develop students' communication and critical-thinking skills, ethical judgment, global awareness, and scientific and technological knowledge. The distinctive character of Clemson is reflected in the culture of collegiality and collaboration among faculty, students, staff, the administration, and the university board.

Approved by the Board of Trustees, October 19, 2012

Approved by the SC Commission on Higher Education, March 22, 2013

University of South Carolina Beaufort

Mission Statement

The University of South Carolina Beaufort (USCB) responds to regional needs, draws upon regional strengths, and prepares graduates to contribute locally, nationally, and internationally with its mission of teaching, research, and service. USCB is a senior baccalaureate campus (1,400 to 3,000 students) of the state's largest public university. It offers degree programs in the arts, humanities, professions, and social and natural sciences delivered through on-site instruction and distance education, along with an active program of co-curricular activities and athletics. It serves a racially and culturally diverse student body, including military personnel, veterans and their dependents, and draws students from the South Carolina Lowcountry, from around the country, and from around the world. USCB enriches the quality of life for area residents of all ages through its academic programs, continuing education, artistic and cultural offerings, community outreach, collaborations with regional initiatives, and life-long learning opportunities.

Approved by the USC Board of Trustees, December 18, 2012

Approved by the SC Commission on Higher Education, June 7, 2013

The following is a brief explanation for CHE of the changes and is not a part of the Mission Statement: *The changes update the number of students enrolled, describe USC Beaufort as a senior baccalaureate campus, expand the disciplines of programs (add arts, professions, and natural sciences), add program delivery by distance education, and reconfigure the description of partnerships.*

Central Carolina Technical College

Mission Statement

Central Carolina Technical College is a comprehensive, public, two-year institution of higher education dedicated to fostering a positive environment of teaching and learning for faculty, staff, and students. The College serves primarily the region of Clarendon, Lee, Kershaw, and Sumter counties in South Carolina and confers associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates. College programs, student support services, and resources provide citizens, businesses, industries, and communities with quality, affordable, accessible, customer-responsive post-secondary education through life-long learning and specialized training opportunities. These are designed to develop the foundation for personal growth, economic development, and an improved quality of life through multiple learning environments including traditional and electronic instructional methods.

The College's vast array of associate degree, diploma, and certificate programs prepares students to enter the job market, to transfer to senior colleges and universities, and to achieve their professional and personal goals. Specifically, Central Carolina offers academic programs in business, the health sciences, public service, industrial and engineering technology, and the arts and sciences. Through its comprehensive programs and support services, the College annually serves over 6,000 credit students and 1,400 continuing education students through traditional and non-traditional formats in multiple learning environments including online, electronic, and distance learning.

Approved by the Central Carolina Technical College Area Commission, January 17, 2013
Approved by the SC Commission on Higher Education, January 30, 2013

The following is a brief explanation for CHE of the change and is not a part of the Mission Statement: *The change updates the number of students the College serves in continuing education.*

Horry-Georgetown Technical College

Mission Statement

The mission of Horry-Georgetown Technical College is to provide accessible, affordable, high-quality, comprehensive two-year collegiate education and workforce development; to provide a student centered environment and inspire lifelong learning; to promote learning through teaching excellence; to promote community service and embrace diversity; to promote economic growth; and to embrace technological innovation in instruction and workplace applications.

Role and Scope

Since its creation in 1966, Horry-Georgetown Technical College has continued to provide post-secondary certificate, diploma, and associate degree programs leading directly to securing or continuing employment; degree programs which enable students to access other post-secondary education; and workforce development programs to meet the needs of job training, occupational advancement, licensing, and certification.

As a member of the South Carolina Technical College System, the College is a public, two-year technical college, enrolling 7,500 to 9,000 college credit curriculum students during the fall semester and providing non-credit courses and programs for workforce development and job training. The College primarily provides services to the individuals and employers of Horry and Georgetown Counties, but also offers programs to meet regional, national, and international needs. The College values partnerships with business, industry, community agencies, and other educational and governmental institutions which support the growth and development of the community.

The faculty's primary function is to ensure student learning and academic goal achievement through innovative teaching that integrates theory and application. The College provides student services to support individual and educational goals. The College endeavors to fulfill its mission by fostering the belief that all people should have equal opportunity for personal and professional growth in leading to a productive and meaningful life. The College respects every member of the college community and is committed to fairness in its educational endeavors.

Approved by the HGTC Area Commission, February 12, 2013

Approved by the SC Commission on Higher Education, March 22, 2013

The following is a brief explanation for CHE of the changes and is not a part of the Mission Statement: *The changes refine the description of programs, update number of students the College serves, and revise references to diversity.*

Northeastern Technical College

Mission Statement

The primary purpose of Northeastern Technical College is to prepare the workforce of Chesterfield, Marlboro, and Dillon Counties through education and training.

Detailed Mission Statement

Northeastern Technical College (NETC) provides occupational, technical, college transfer, basic academic skills, and continuing education programs with appropriate support services to meet the needs of individuals, businesses, and industries in a rural service area composed of Chesterfield, Marlboro, and Dillon Counties. . Within this focus, the College contributes to economic growth by enhancing the employability of service area residents in technology, business, health, arts, and sciences.

The College is dedicated to providing quality instructional programs which remain accessible to both traditional and nontraditional students through open admissions, reasonable costs, counseling, advisement, educational technology, financial assistance, and career development services. NETC also provides personal growth and enrichment opportunities through community services, continuing education, and social and cultural activities.

Northeastern Technical College, a member of the South Carolina Technical and Comprehensive Education System is an accredited post-secondary institution which grants associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates and is supported by county, state, federal, and student revenues. The average annual enrollment for NETC is approximately 1,220 students and 1,267 continuing education students.

Approved by the NETC Area Commission, June 26, 2012

Approved by the SC Commission on Higher Education, October 17, 2012

The following is a brief explanation for CHE of the changes and is not a part of the Mission Statement: *The changes describe the disciplines in which NETC offers programs and update the number of students NETC serves.*

York Technical College

Mission Statement

Building Our Community Through Maximizing Student Success

York Technical College, a member of the South Carolina Technical and Comprehensive Education System, is a public, two-year institution of higher education that offers a variety of associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates. Through maximizing student success, the College seeks to contribute to the economic growth and development of York, Lancaster, and Chester counties and of the State. York Technical College has an open admissions policy for qualified students and annually enrolls 8,000-10,000 credit students. Through excellence in teaching and learning, the College provides program offerings, in a variety of delivery methods, in the areas of engineering technology, industrial technology, information technology, business, health sciences, and public service and transfer to senior colleges and universities. In addition, the College offers a comprehensive selection of corporate and continuing education courses designed to promote occupational advancement, personal interest, and business and industry growth.

Approved by the York Technical College Commission, October 9, 2012

Approved by the SC Commission on Higher Education, October 22, 2012

The following is a brief explanation for CHE of the changes and is not a part of the Mission Statement: *The change rearranges a sentence so that it more clearly focuses on maximizing student success.*