



CHE
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Agenda Item 6.02.H

South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

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Executive Director

October 2, 2014

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 approved mission statement revisions from the following institutions during FY 2013-14:

- College of Charleston
- Medical University of South Carolina
- University of South Carolina Aiken
- Aiken Technical College
- Central Carolina Technical College
- Tri-County Technical College
- Williamsburg Technical College

The changes were determined to be minor as defined by the policy, which reads "Minor revision 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. The revised statements are attached.

College of Charleston

The College of Charleston is a state supported comprehensive institution providing a high quality education in the arts and sciences, education and business. Consistent with its heritage since its founding in 1770, the College retains a strong liberal arts undergraduate curriculum. Located in the heart of historic Charleston, it strives to meet the growing educational demands primarily of the Lowcountry and the state and, secondarily, of the Southeast. A superior quality undergraduate program is central to the mission of the College.

The College of Charleston seeks applicants capable of successfully completing degree requirements and pays particular attention to identifying and admitting students who excel academically. The College of Charleston serves a diverse student body from its geographical area and also attracts students from national and international communities. The College provides students a community in which to engage in original inquiry and creative expression in an atmosphere of intellectual freedom. This community, founded on the principles of the liberal arts tradition, provides students the opportunity to realize their intellectual and personal potential and to become responsible, productive members of society.

In addition to offering a broad range of baccalaureate degree programs, the College currently provides an increasing number of masters' degree programs, which are compatible with the community and the state. As a prominent component of the state's higher education system, the College encourages and supports research. Its faculty is an important source of knowledge and expertise for the community, state, and nation. Additionally, the College provides an extensive credit and non-credit continuing education program and cultural activities for residents of the Low country of South Carolina.

This Mission Statement (also called the Statement of Purpose) has been approved or revised by the Board of Trustees of the College of Charleston on March 12, 1986; January 16, 1991, February 15, 1994; and on July 13, 2006
Approved by the SC Commission on Higher Education on June 11, 2014

Medical University of South Carolina

The Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) is South Carolina's only comprehensive academic health science center. Our purpose is to preserve and optimize human life in South Carolina and beyond. MUSC provides an interprofessional environment for learning, discovery, and healing through (1) education of health care professionals and biomedical scientists, (2) research in the health sciences, and (3) provision of comprehensive health care

As a public institution of higher learning, MUSC provides a full range of educational programs in the biomedical sciences and actively engages in community service and outreach. The campus is located on more than 50 acres in the city of Charleston. A diverse student population of more than 2,750 students in six colleges (Dental Medicine, Graduate Studies, Health Professions, Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy) study for degrees at the baccalaureate, masters, doctoral, and other professional levels. MUSC has academic programs that employ traditional and distance education methods. The University also provides residency training for over 750 graduate health professionals and is comprised of approximately 1,425 full-time and 300 part-time faculty.

Approved by Board of Trustees August 9, 2013
Approved by the SC Commission on Higher Education on February 6, 2014

University of South Carolina Aiken

Founded in 1961, the University of South Carolina Aiken (USCA) is a comprehensive liberal arts institution committed to active learning through excellence in teaching, faculty and student scholarship, research, creative activities and service. In this stimulating academic community, USCA challenges students to acquire and develop the skills, knowledge, and values necessary for success in a dynamic global environment.

The University offers degrees in the arts and sciences and in the professional disciplines of business, education, and nursing. All courses of study are grounded in a liberal arts and sciences core curriculum. USCA also encourages interdisciplinary studies and collaborative endeavors.

Emphasizing small classes and individual attention, USCA provides students with opportunities to maximize individual achievement in both academic and co-curricular settings. The institution challenges students to think critically and creatively, to communicate effectively, to learn independently, and to acquire depth of knowledge in chosen fields. The university values honesty, integrity, initiative, hard work, accomplishments, responsible citizenship, respect for diversity, and cross-cultural understanding.

USC Aiken attracts students of varying ages and diverse cultural backgrounds who have demonstrated the potential to succeed in a challenging academic environment. In addition to serving the Savannah River area, USCA actively seeks student enrollment from all parts of South Carolina as well as from other states and countries.

As a senior public institution of the University of South Carolina, USCA combines the advantages of a smaller institution with the resources of a major university system. Located in beautiful, historic Aiken, South Carolina, USCA is an institution of moderate size (2,500-5,000 students) that offers baccalaureate degrees in a number of disciplines, completion baccalaureate degrees at University of South Carolina regional campuses, and master's degrees in selected programs.

USCA endeavors to apply knowledge, skills and wisdom in ways that promote the common good. Accordingly, the University seeks to build strong community ties. The institution enriches the quality of life not only on campus but also throughout the surrounding region through a variety of activities including the fine and performing arts, athletics, continuing education, distance learning, and community service. In fulfilling its role as an institution of higher learning, the University of South Carolina Aiken is a community of individuals engaged in broadly based educational experiences necessary for an enlightened society.

Approved by the USC Board of Trustees on June 23, 2005

Approved by the SC Commission on Higher Education on June 26, 2014

Aiken Technical College

Mission

Aiken Technical College is a public, open-door, two-year, comprehensive institution of higher education established to provide citizens of greater Aiken County opportunities for educational, economic, professional, civic and personal development. Through its focus on teaching and learning, the college supports economic growth and community development by educating and training students for entry into the workforce or for further higher education.

Vision

We envision Aiken Technical College as a catalyst for developing educated, engaged and employable individuals whose collective energy will be the driving force for prosperity and the quality of life in our diverse communities.

Values

ATC's core values define the College and provide the environment for all decisions and actions.

These core values are:

Education - Education is the key to individual, community, and economic development in a complex technological society.

Commitment to Students - Students deserve the finest instruction, resources and services to enhance their growth and development.

Excellence - The College promotes excellence in personnel, programs and work environment while encouraging integrity, accountability and respect for individuals.

Community - Partnerships that develop solutions to community challenges are important to economic vitality and quality of life.

Diversity - Respect for diversity is an important part of the educational process.

Approved by the SC Commission on Higher Education on June 11, 2014

Central Carolina Technical College Mission

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 6,300 credit students and 2,200 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 on January 16, 2014

Approved by the SC Commission on Higher Education on February 5, 2014

Tri-County Technical College

Mission

Tri-County Technical College, a public community college, focuses on teaching, learning, and helping students reach their goals. The College supports economic development for Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties in South Carolina by preparing a highly-skilled workforce.

Role and Scope

- An open-door institution of higher education, the College offers affordable, accessible, collaborative, and learner-centered instruction. Offerings include university transfer associate degree programs and applied technical associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates in more than 70 majors associated with business, health, public service, and industrial and engineering technologies. The College also offers developmental courses for students who need to improve their basic academic skills.
- The College promotes economic development in the region through customized education and training for local businesses and industries through credit and continuing education offerings and a variety of workforce training programs.
- The College has campuses located in Pendleton, Anderson, Easley, and Seneca, as well as learning centers in Honea Path and Sandy Springs. The College also offers online classes and a variety of academic and support services.

Vision

Passionate people transforming lives and building strong communities; one student at a time.

Approved by the Tri-County Technical College Commission on October 14, 2013

Approved by the SC Commission on Higher Education on January 3, 2014

Williamsburg Technical College

Williamsburg Technical College, a member of the South Carolina Technical College System, is a public, two-year, associate degree, diploma, and certificate granting institution serving Williamsburg County. The mission of Williamsburg Technical College is to offer quality, affordable, and accessible educational opportunities and experiences that enable students to acquire the knowledge and skills to achieve their goals and to encourage economic development in Williamsburg County.

The College offers to residents of Williamsburg County with varying academic skill levels the opportunity for postsecondary vocational, technical, and occupational programs leading directly to employment or maintenance of employment in any of the area's manufacturing firms specializing in textiles, plastics, or metal fabrication. Additionally, Williamsburg Technical College offers postsecondary vocational programs leading directly to employment or maintenance of employment in many of the county's service industries to include cosmetology, nursing, and automotive repair. Associate degree programs are also offered which enable students to gain access through transfer to other postsecondary education.

Through curricular programs and extensive continuing education and special programs and in cooperation with business and industry, the College attempts to produce ethical and skilled employees with leadership abilities who are also competent in their fields, capable of adjusting to change, and knowledgeable of current technological advances. Williamsburg Technical College affirms the following values as guides for the institution to fulfill its mission, goals, philosophy, and operational procedures.

The College is committed to:

Students: belief in the capacity of individuals to be productive, to grow, and to achieve their highest potential.

Quality Education: commitment to high standards for educational programs that enhance the personal, social, and economic potential of the individual.

Access: commitment to educational access for all who are eligible and who have the desire and ability to benefit from program offerings.

Contribution to Community: recognition of a partnership with and respect for cultural diversity in the community which supports local civic, economic, educational and cultural needs, and enriches the quality of community life.

Quality Work Environment: commitment to instructional and organizational development which results in open communication and involvement in planning and decision making in an ethical environment.

Approved by the Area Commission on May 3, 2010; reaffirmed August 5, 2013

Approved by the SC Commission on Higher Education on January 3, 2014