

Minutes
Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing
September 8, 2016

Members Present

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

Members Absent:

Dr. Evans Whitaker

Staff Present

Mr. Clay Barton
Ms. Laura Belcher
Ms. Sandra Carr
Ms. Lane Goodwin
Dr. Paula Gregg
Ms. Anna Grubic
Ms. Trena Houpp
Dr. John Lane
Ms. Peggy Simons
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Guests

Dr. Jennifer Altieri, Coastal Carolina University
Ms. Beth Bell, Clemson University
Dr. Connie Book, The Citadel
Dr. Ralph Byington, Coastal Carolina University
Dr. Lynn Cherry, College of Charleston
Dr. Jeanne Cobb, Coastal Carolina University
Dr. Stephanie Davis, Clemson University
Mr. Galen DeHay, Tri-County Technical College
Dr. Carolyn Dillian, Coastal Carolina University
Dr. Brian Dominy, Clemson University
Mr. Tim Drueke, Winthrop University
Dr. Daniel Ennis, Coastal Carolina University
Dr. Kristia Finnigan, University of South Carolina Columbia
Dr. Debra Jackson, Clemson University
Dr. Ed Jadallah, Coastal Carolina University
Ms. Amy Hill, Gallivan, White, and Boyd, P.A.
Dr. Christopher Kennedy, Francis Marion University
Dr. Peter King, Francis Marion University
Dr. Peter Laurence, Clemson University
Dr. Kristine Lundgren, Francis Marion University
Dr. Eric Muth, Clemson University
Dr. Jeff Priest, University of South Carolina Aiken
Dr. Darlene Shaw, Medical University of South Carolina, via teleconference
Ms. Rosline Sumpter, South Carolina Technical College System
Dr. Holley Tankersley, Coastal Carolina University
Ms. Jane Turner, CERRA
Dr. Kathleen Valentine, Clemson University
Dr. Margaret Wetsel, 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 April 7, 2016; April 22, 2016; and May 24, 2016

Chair Seckinger requested a motion to accept the minutes of the April 7, 2016 meeting; April 22, 2016 meeting; and May 24, 2016 meeting. The motion was **moved** (Lynn) and **seconded** (Love) and the Committee **voted unanimously to accept the minutes as presented.**

2. Presentation by The Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement (CERRA)

3. CERRA FY 2017-18 Appropriation Request and FY 2015-16 Annual Report

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Love) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. She introduced Jane Turner, Executive Director of CERRA. Dr. Lane informed the Committee that a hardcopy of the report was distributed at each member's setting and posted online to facilitate discussion with an updated data table. Ms. Turner provided a folder to Committee members with additional information regarding CERRA's work. She added that the compiled FY 2015-16 information will be approved as the comprehensive annual report by the CERRA Board in the near future and an electronic copy will be forwarded to Dr. Lane. Commissioner Lynn asked whether these reports can be found on CERRA's website. Ms. Turner answered affirmatively. Chair Seckinger asked whether the CERRA annual report is submitted to the General Assembly. Ms. Turner responded that CERRA's EOC submitted report is provided for the General Assembly.

Ms. Turner provided highlights of CERRA's work from the last year. She described the Teacher Cadet program, which has been in operation for 30 years. She also cited a new study with CHE released this past year that provided a twelve-year projection of South Carolina's teaching needs and concluded the state was not producing enough teachers, especially in select fields. Chair Seckinger commented that the study indicates the teacher shortage becomes more acute in the future. Ms. Turner answered "yes" and added there are not enough students interested in the teaching field.

Chair Seckinger asked about the recruitment of retirees to the teaching field. Ms. Turner replied that several years ago the General Assembly made it possible for school districts to re-hire retired school teachers. She stated school districts are also utilizing retired teachers to serve as training mentors to younger teachers. Commissioner Lynn asked about the recruitment of teachers from out-of-state and internationally. Ms. Turner stated the SC Department of Education has an international placement program that allows international teachers to be employed in the state. Chair Seckinger asked about recruitment of retired military. Ms. Turner replied the Troops to Teachers program is geared towards retired military and offers loan forgiveness.

Ms. Turner informed the Committee that CERRA extensively re-wrote the mentor training program, including adding information about mentors' role of observing and giving feedback and providing appropriate training for the mentors. She stated the re-writing process is described in a white paper included in the handout.

Commissioner Lynn asked about CERRA's relationship with the *Call Me MISTER* program. Ms. Turner replied that CERRA is responsible for the Teacher Loan Advisory Committee and the *Call Me MISTER* program has been added to that Committee as a partner. She commented that the Teacher Loan Advisory Committee seeks to improve marketing to possible recipients including those students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities. She added the Teacher Loan Advisory Committee is seeking legislative change, allowing the teacher loan forgiveness to apply to all teachers, not just those serving in selected high-need areas. Chair Seckinger suggested backloading loan forgiveness, equating the number of service years with a certain percentage of forgiveness, to encourage teachers to stay in the profession longer.

Ms. Turner responded that the teacher shortage must be addressed in many different ways and from many different angles in order to affect change. Chair Seckinger asked whether it would help if university teacher education programs mentored recent graduates. Ms. Turner commented that CERRA is working diligently to convince school administrators to understand the importance of teacher mentoring by providing training for them. Chair Seckinger agreed that mentoring is key and asked whether stipends are provided for mentors. Ms. Turner answered that it varies across the state and depends on school district funding. She also described a new rural initiative that will supplement stipends up to \$2500.

Commissioner Lynn asked whether these types of training are offered online. Ms. Turner responded that some programs offer videos and online tutorials. Commissioner Love asked whether others states with similar shortage issues have been successful with finding a solution. Ms. Turner replied that many states have alternative certificates such as SC's PACE program and that states focus on retention and provide year-long internships and fellowships to more effectively orient students to the profession.

Chair Seckinger asked Ms. Turner to keep CHE informed of updates and ways that CHE might help in CERRA's efforts. Ms. Turner expressed the need for ways to encourage undergraduate students who have not decided upon a career to consider teaching. Chair Seckinger suggested CERRA develop an attention-grabbing informational video to send to academic advisors on campus who have access to those types of students.

Ms. Turner explained that CERRA is requesting an increase in its budget for this year to phase in an increase in the teaching fellowship award amount. She added the award would increase for the first time since 2000 from \$6000 to \$7500 beginning in Fall 2018. Commissioner Love asked about revenues. Ms. Turner responded that CERRA usually only reports the EIA funds but the agenda item includes a funding chart which has percentage of funds that derive from revenue. She explained that revenue sources include the Teacher Cadet curriculum and training that is sold to 35 other states and program paraphernalia such as t-shirts and workbooks.

Commissioner Munns asked about the decrease in online employment applications from 31,000 to 18,000. Ms. Turner responded that some applicants bypass the CERRA website and apply directly to a school district. Commissioner Munns asked how CHE could help advocate for CERRA. He suggested a one-page summary be created and distributed to legislative committees and college presidents about the need for more teachers. Chair Seckinger expressed support for Commissioner Munns' suggestion. Commissioner Love expressed concern for the budget increase over the last four years. Ms. Turner explained that the Teacher Fellows program is a successful and competitive program and encourages top students to pursue a teaching career and the increase in the budget provides more incentive for those students to continue on the path by providing more funds to them for a college education.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission approval of the FY2017-18 appropriations request in the amount of \$15,164,635 for the Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention and Advancement (CERRA) with the addendum that staff create a one-page summary about the teacher shortage crisis in SC and distribute it to stakeholders.

4. CAAL Statement of Purpose and Responsibilities

Chair Seckinger initiated a conversation about the agenda item. She explained that Commissioners have been reviewing policies and procedures related to the Commission and its work, adding that Chairman Hofferth asked each committee to summarize its purpose and responsibilities based on statute. Committee members discussed the statement's origins, background, recommendations for edits, and steps toward approval. Chair Seckinger noted the content is derived from authorizing language in statute, and that continued discussion of edits to improve the draft under consideration is welcome. In response to committee questions, Dr. Lane confirmed that the present committee consideration was the first forum about the statement as part of the normal approval process culminating in full Commission consideration. In addition, he verified that the statement, when approved, would replace the 1979 CAAL statement; that the activities listed in the statement are operationalized already; and that Commissioner Munns' comments and edits should be considered and possibly incorporated, as could Commissioner Love's comments about assuring quality of programs and verifying compliance with all pertinent higher education requirements.

Chair Seckinger concluded the discussion by stating that members' edits will be considered and legal counsel will be able to meet with Committee members to discuss the statement, with the goal of consideration of a revised statement at the next CAAL meeting.

5. Program Proposals

- a. Clemson University, D.N.P., (Doctor of Nursing Practice), with concentrations in Nurse Practitioner & Clinical Nurse Specialist

Chair Seckinger introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Lynn) and **seconded** (Love) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Commissioner Lynn asked about Clemson's interaction with similar programs in the state. Dr. Jackson answered that both USC and MUSC have similar programs. Dr. Wetsel responded that Clemson faculty are working closely together with the other programs and that the programs will accept transfer credit from each other. Commissioner Lynn asked whether the Clemson program will compete with the other institutions for the same pool of students. Dr. Wetsel answered since Clemson's program is a post-master's program, it will target a different niche of students as compared to USC and MUSC, which target students with a baccalaureate degree seeking to earn a DNP. Commissioner Love asked whether Clemson tracks its baccalaureate-trained nurses after graduation. Dr. Wetsel answered affirmatively and informed the Committee that approximately 70% of graduates stay in the state. Commissioner Seckinger asked how Clemson determined the market niche for the DNP program. Dr. Wetsel and Dr. Davis explained the initial white paper and subsequent needs survey that was conducted.

Commissioner Munns referred to questions about the program sent earlier via email. Dr. Jackson responded that online delivery is sufficient and students are only required to attend orientation

and end-of-program presentations on campus. Commissioner Munns asked whether those caveats are explained clearly in the admissions application. Dr. Jackson answered affirmatively.

Commissioner Munns asked about jointly delivered courses. Dr. Wetsel explained that the three programs will allow up to 12 credit hours to be transferred. Commissioner Munns asked why the three programs do not collaborate and combine resources to offer one course instead of three courses. Dr. Jackson responded that Clemson considered that option early in the planning process but since the program would be a post-master's program, Clemson realized it would be difficult to align curriculum to offer joint courses. Commissioner Munns asked how the degree is able to train graduates for two completely different careers, yet remain one program. Dr. Jackson replied that students can choose from one of two paths which will lead to either the university faculty option or a healthcare professional option.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at Clemson University, to be implemented in Spring 2017.

b. Clemson University, M.R.U.D., (Master of Resilient Urban Design)

Chair Seckinger introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Love) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Commissioner Love asked why Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification and the U.S. Green Building Council are not mentioned in the program proposal. Dr. Laurence responded that the program is less about individual buildings, which are LEED-certified, and more about designing neighborhoods. He commented that LEED now has a new neighborhood development program that will dovetail with this program. Commissioner Love asked whether Clemson will partner with groups such as the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety. Dr. Laurence responded that the program will consider possible collaboration with other groups and that students will learn of the various initiatives in the field. Commissioner Lynn asked about national or international organizations regarding this topic. Dr. Laurence replied that the program consulted with the Rockefeller 100 Resilient Cities program. Commissioner Lynn asked about similar programs in the state. Dr. Laurence stated the proposed program will be the only one in the state and that there are only 20 urban design programs in the country.

Commissioner Love asked whether Clemson will collaborate with The Citadel. Dr. Book expressed The Citadel's support for the program and that the proposal notes The Citadel's engineering students will be able to take seminar courses. She also referred to the standing MOU between Clemson and The Citadel in regards to engineering. Commissioner Munns asked about faculty costs. Dr. Jackson explained the revenue model and informed the Committee that the program will be self-supporting.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to a Master of Resilient Urban Design degree at Clemson University, to be implemented in Summer 2017.

c. Coastal Carolina University, B.A., Anthropology and Geography

Chair Seckinger introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Love) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Byington explained that the proposed program will consist of a merger of two separate minors: one in Geography and one in Anthropology. He highlighted a MOU with Brookgreen Gardens and a 2+2 program with Horry-Georgetown Technical College. He also informed the Committee that the proposed program is unique in combining the two subject matters.

Commissioner Munns referred to his questions and summarized that the questions focus on jobs and costs. Dr. Dillian spoke to potential employment opportunities and referred to the employment opportunities found in a table on page eight. She stated that one employment area would be cultural resource management and last year's job openings included 30 jobs in South Carolina. Commissioner Munns asked whether the program is redundant given the similar programs already offered in the state. Dr. Byington responded that the proposed program is an enhanced program with anthropology and geography combined into one degree and this facet will enable graduates to be more competitive in gaining employment in the state. Commissioner Munns asked about costs and revenue, including questions about tuition. Dr. Byington then led a discussion on Coastal's revenue model.

Commissioner Seckinger asked about the program's projected demographics, specifically the number of out-of-state students. Dr. Byington answered that the University expects roughly half the number of students to be out-of-state. Commissioner Lynn asked why the program is a Bachelor of Arts degree as compared to a Bachelor of Science degree. Dr. Dillian responded that similar programs in the field offer the Bachelor of Arts because the Bachelor of Science degree would be highly technical. Commissioner Seckinger asked whether the two minor programs will provide a target audience for the program. Dr. Ennis responded that the two minor programs have been growing in size and will help to drive students to the new program. Commissioner Lynn asked whether the graduates will receive a professional certificate. Dr. Dillian answered that they would not. Commissioner Love commented positively on the proposal's survey data and on the endorsement letters provided.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission approval of the Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology and Geography at Coastal Carolina University to be implemented in Spring 2017.

d. Coastal Carolina University, M.Ed., Language, Literacy and Culture

Chair Seckinger introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Munns) and **seconded** (Love) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. Byington explained this proposal is one of three similar proposals, of which two have already been approved. He stated that Coastal is creating three new stand-alone programs by elevating existing concentrations of the M.Ed. in Teaching and Learning. He shared with the Committee about receiving additional funding from the Horry County Higher Education Commission which will be used to renovate a building to house the program and a child development center. Commissioner Munns asked about additional faculty. Dr. Byington responded that the proposal calls for two additional hires, of which one position search is currently active and will replace an existing FTE and the hiring of the second faculty member will be based on the growth of the program. Commissioner Lynn asked whether graduates will be able to progress to a Ph.D.-level program such as the one offered by Clemson.

Dr. Jadallah answered the transition to both the USC and Clemson doctoral programs will be seamless and that Coastal is in conversation about collaboration with both the USC and Clemson programs. Commissioner Love commented positively on the survey data included in the proposal. She asked about the return on investment for the program. Dr. Byington spoke to the greater need of providing training and knowledge to educators in the local region beyond the profit margins.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to a Master of Education degree in Language, Literacy and Culture at Coastal Carolina University, to be implemented in Fall 2017

e. Francis Marion University, M.S.P., (Master of Speech Pathology)

Chair Seckinger introduced the item, and the Committee **moved** (Love) and **seconded** (Lynn) a motion to accept the staff's recommendation for approval. Dr. King explained the University developed the program in response to local needs and with the help of a consultant from the University of North Carolina Greensboro. He added the program was created according to the standards of the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech Language Pathology (CAA) of the American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA). Commissioner Munns asked about projected enrollment and tuition revenue. Dr. King responded that with two other similar programs (MUSC and SCSU) in the state and the limited practicum slots, Francis Marion projected twenty students for the program. Commissioner Munns asked whether twenty students have expressed interest for the program. Dr. King replied that the other programs are not able to meet the students' interest in the field and there is a shortage of speech pathologists locally and nationally. Commissioner Munns asked whether the program will be a "costs" center or a "revenue" center. Dr. King replied that the S.C. General Assembly appropriated funding to help this program get started but that in future years, twenty students a year will cover the costs of the program. Commissioner Seckinger asked about practicum placement and whether Francis Marion is collaborating with the other programs to work on this aspect. Dr. King answered that Francis Marion is in discussion with the other programs.

Without further discussion, the Committee **voted unanimously to commend favorably** to the Commission the program leading to a Master of Speech Pathology degree at Francis Marion University, to be implemented in Fall 2018.

Executive Session

Commissioner Munns made and Commissioner Love seconded a motion to adjust the agenda, moving Agenda Item Seven, *Annual Report on Licensing Activities, FY 2015-16* to the Agenda Item Six location and to place an Executive Session on the agenda. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the change in the agenda. Commissioner Munns then made and Commissioner Love seconded a motion to enter Executive Session for legal advice related to licensing activity. The Committee voted unanimously to move into Executive Session, which began at 12:45 p.m. At 1:47 p.m., the Committee ended Executive Session and returned to regular session.

6. Annual Report on Licensing Activities, FY 2015-16
(For information, no action required)

Chair Seckinger introduced the agenda item for information. Dr. Lane introduced Ms. Goodwin. Ms. Goodwin explained that the licensing of non-degree programs is always in flux as programs begin and end. She informed the Committee the degree-granting licensing institutions have decreased due to the implementation of SARA. She referred to a question by Commissioner Munns regarding the small number of student complaints in relation to the sheer number of students at licensed institutions. She responded to the question by stating that CHE staff mediate complaints on the front end and a formal complaint filing is avoided and that in some cases, students who complain do not complete a complaint form. Dr. Lane referred to another question by Commissioner Munns regarding the impact of licensed institutions on public institutions in the three metropolitan areas (Greenville, Columbia, and Charleston). He continued by stating that staff could pursue the possibility of a poll or survey to determine the impact.

7. Annual Report on Terminated and Approved Programs, FY 2015-16
(For information, no action required)

Chair Seckinger introduced the item for information. Dr. Lane introduced Ms. Houpp. Ms. Houpp summarized the report and commented on a new section of the report. She explained Table 11 which shows the change in academic degree programs terminated or approved and the change in enrollment post-recession, from FY 2009-10 to FY 2015-16. She referred to questions submitted by Commissioner Munns, including one about the termination of the A.A.S. in Health Information Management at Horry-Georgetown Technical College. She informed the Committee that HGTC decided not to implement the program since its certificate program is successful and allows students to enter the field faster than an associate degree would. She also addressed a question regarding online education best practices by stating that many organizations such as SREB have best practices. She explained the increase in certificates as ways for institutions to experiment with a new field or subject without committing the resources needed for a full degree program. Ms. Houpp also referred to questions submitted by Commissioner Love, one of which focused on analysis regarding the number of new programs. She explained that the report addresses new components of programs such as concentrations along with CHE-approved full programs. She commented that institutions are continuing to bring new programs forward and that new programs are needed in four broad disciplines (business/management, education, engineering, and health professions) to meet workforce demands in the state. Chair Seckinger commented positively on the report and specifically Table 11.

8. Annual Report on Staff-Approved Mission Statement Modifications, FY 2015-16
(For information, no action required)

Chair Seckinger introduced the agenda item for information.

9. Report on Program Modifications October 1, 2015-March 30, 2016

Chair Seckinger introduced the agenda item for information.

10. Other Business

Chair Seckinger informed the Committee that the Commission will begin to examine the processes for academic affairs and licensing to ensure that the Committee is asking the right questions. She mentioned the development of a “dashboard.” Chair Seckinger thanked those in attendance for their participation and staff for their work. Hearing no further business, she adjourned the meeting at 2:03 p.m.