

**Minutes**  
**Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing (CAAL)**  
**October 25, 2018**

**Members Present**

Chair Terrye Seckinger  
Admiral Charles Munns

**Staff Present**

Dr. Jennifer Almeda  
Mr. Clay Barton  
Dr. Sandra Carr  
Ms. Lane Goodwin  
Ms. Whitney Jett  
Dr. John Lane  
Ms. Julissa Nixon  
Ms. Peggy Simons  
Dr. Lishu Yin

**Guests**

Dr. Kim Alexander, Clemson University  
Dr. Ellen Breazel, Clemson University  
Dr. Ralph Byington, Coastal Carolina University  
Dr. James Colbert, Lander University  
Dr. Michelle Cook, Clemson University  
Dr. Cynthia Deaton, Clemson University  
Dr. Jack DeRochi, Winthrop University  
Ms. Sandra Farley, York Technical College  
Ms. Linda Weaver Griggs, York Technical College  
Mr. Tim Druke, Winthrop University  
Dr. Debbie Jackson, Clemson University  
Ms. Taylor Johnston, Lander University  
Dr. Chris Kennedy, Francis Marion University  
Dr. Jeremy King, Clemson University

Dr. Peter King, Francis Marion University  
Dr. Adrienne McCormick, Winthrop University  
Dr. Jim Mensch, University of South Carolina  
Columbia  
Dr. Ruth Wittmann-Price, Francis Marion  
University  
Dr. Eric Skipper, University of South Carolina  
Beaufort  
Ms. Rosline Sumpter, SC Technical College  
System  
Dr. Debi Switzer, Clemson University  
Dr. Barbara Wheeling, Lander University  
Ms. Terecia Wilson, Clemson University

**Welcome**

Chair Seckinger called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Ms. Nixon confirmed the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. Chair Seckinger explained Commissioner Phillips stepped down from the Commission due to other civic responsibilities. Then she explained that since the committee lacked a quorum, present members would deliberate on the action items for future consideration.

**1. Minutes**

a. **May 24, 2018**

Not Discussed

b. **August 30, 2018**

Not Discussed

**3. Consideration of Greenville Technical College Mission Statement Change**

Dr. Lane gave an overview of the item and noted the change in Greenville Technical College's (GTC's) mission statement that enabled the institution to offer an applied bachelor's degree in advanced manufacturing technology. Commissioner Munns asked whether the South Carolina Technical College System (SCTCS) approved the mission statement change. Ms. Sumpter explained CHE approves mission statement revisions and there are no SCTCS objections to GTC's mission statement change. Dr. Lane explained the GTC local area commission (the GTC "Board of Trustees") approved the mission statement change as does CHE, but SCTCS does not need to.

**4. Program Proposals**

a. Clemson University, B.S., Middle Level Education

Chair Seckinger introduced the item. Dr. Cook explained Clemson University's (Clemson's) proposed program will offer two certification areas, as local school districts currently search out-of-state for graduates certified in two areas. Committee members asked whether students from other major tracks can transfer into the proposed program, whether the proposed program is cost-neutral, whether Clemson anticipates students will have trouble with Praxis Core, whether students can earn stackable credentials while in the proposed program, and what school districts will be served by the proposed program. Dr. Cook explained students who complete other majors can obtain a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) in Middle Level Education. She verified the proposed program is cost-neutral due to Clemson's existing MAT. Dr. Cook stated most Clemson students test out of the Praxis Core due to SAT scores of at least 1100 or ACT scores of at least 22. She explained there are no micro-credentials in the proposed undergraduate program, and then explained the proposed program will place students in Clemson's regional area, to ease faculty supervisors' travel.

b. Clemson University, M.A.T., Teacher Residency in Middle Level Education

Chair Seckinger introduced the item. Committee members asked whether students from the previously discussed bachelor's in middle level education can move into the master's program, the proposed program's enrollment capacity, requested clarification on the teacher residency programs' structure, and asked whether other institutions in the state have residency programs. Clemson representatives explained students from the middle level education bachelor's program can matriculate into the proposed program and the proposed program will have an enrollment capacity of 20 students. Dr. Jackson proposed students in the teacher residency programs will receive the same instruction, but their classroom placement will be the differentiating factor for Commission-required program productivity requirements. Clemson representatives explained the similar programs listed in the proposal are not like Clemson's

teacher residencies. For instance, Furman University's program's students are teachers-of-record and Clemson's students are not and are unpaid. Committee members and Clemson representatives discussed collaboration between other institutions in the state to replicate the proposed program and Clemson's other teacher residency programs.

c. Clemson University, M.A.T., Teacher Residency in Special Education

Chair Seckinger introduced the item. Committee members stated their discussion of the middle level teacher residency program also included questions and commentary for the proposed program. Chair Seckinger commended all three of Clemson's education program proposals.

d. Clemson University, M.S., Data Science and Analytics

Chair Seckinger introduced the item. Dr. Breazel gave an overview of the proposed program, which will be fully online and is a collaboration between Clemson's School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences and its Department of Management. She stated the goal of the program, after discussion with industry partners, is to provide industry with practitioners who speak both data and management languages. Committee members requested clarification on the program proposal's delayed transmittal to the Commission, on how online students will feel affiliated with Clemson, whether students will have access to data sets, and on whether the proposed program is cost-prohibitive. Clemson representatives explained the proposed program needed time to matriculate through two approval processes within Clemson, and that the process has been streamlined at the institution. Dr. Breazel stated there are built-in mechanisms and coursework to align students with Clemson. She confirmed industry partners have offered to provide de-identified data sets for student work. Dr. Jeremy King explained Clemson determined the cost of the proposed program are in line with market factors, including cost for faculty hires, and salary of graduates. He confirmed Clemson would re-evaluate the proposed program's cost if necessary. Both commissioners commended Clemson on the proposed program.

e. Clemson University, M.T.S.A., Transportation Safety Administration

Chair Seckinger introduced the item. Mrs. Wilson explained the proposed program was developed in conjunction with Clemson's Institute for Global Road Safety and Security and brings existing courses at Clemson, together with three new courses, under one curriculum. She stated there is a need for an advanced degree in traffic safety; SC has the highest mileage death rate in the country. Committee members asked the following: whether there are any similar programs to the proposed program, whether the curriculum would address autonomous vehicles, for clarification on the proposed program's degree designation, whether there is any duplication of South Carolina State University's (SC State's) existing program, and where Clemson will recruit for the proposed program. Mrs. Wilson explained there is no similar program in the country. She confirmed the proposed program's curriculum would include autonomous vehicles and traffic safety. Dr. Lane and Dr. Jeremy King explained the degree designation conforms to precedent with existing programs and will not cause any accreditation issues. Mrs. Wilson clarified SC State's program focuses on engineering and only has about 15% traffic safety curriculum. Mrs. Wilson stated the institution will market to the state agencies with personnel who are responsible for traffic safety and to national traffic directors and associations around the country and plans to recruit students from a broad range of disciplines.

f. Lander University, M.S.M., Management

Chair Seckinger introduced the item and asked for verification that Lander University (Lander) surveyed its community regarding proposed program need. Dr. Whelan confirmed that Lander surveyed current Lander undergraduates, Lander business school alumni, a human resources organization, and Greenwood county's 30 largest companies. Committee members asked whether the proposed program would only be marketed regionally and where the institution would obtain its enrollment pool, whether the curriculum included soft skills development, and if there was any duplication of Clemson's existing program. Dr. Whelan explained the proposed program's curriculum focuses on manufacturing processes' quality control and quality management and believes Lander students would matriculate the proposed program. Dr. Whelan confirmed the curriculum emphasizes soft skills and Lander will highlight soft skills in the promotional material. Lander representatives explained the difference between the proposed program's focus on manufacturing and healthcare quality control and Clemson's existing program.

g. University of South Carolina Columbia, M.S., Athletic Training

Chair Seckinger introduced the item. The Committee expressed concern regarding the accreditor requiring a level change for athletic trainer certification. Dr. Mensch stated that per the accreditor 2022 is the last year students can enroll in the bachelor's program for athletic training.

h. University of South Carolina Columbia, M.H.I.T., Health Information Technology

Chair Seckinger introduced the item. Dr. Crews explained the program proposal is to change the existing program's CIP code in accordance with Commission policy. Chair Seckinger asked for an update on the program since its original implementation. Dr. Regan stated the program has accomplished more than what USC C anticipated, with all the program's graduates placing in great jobs. Commissioner Munns requested clarification on the difference between students who take the program through traditional delivery or online delivery. Dr. Regan explained the majority of the program's online students are working professionals and no data show a difference in any learning outcomes based on delivery mode.

i. Winthrop University, B.P.S. (Bachelor of Professional Studies)

Chair Seckinger introduced the item. Mr. Drueke explained Winthrop University (Winthrop) has partnered with York Technical College (YTC) to help increase degree attainment in the state, which ties into the Commission's public agenda. He stated students must be over age 25 or have military experience to enter the proposed program. Committee members inquired about the potential student pool near Winthrop, how Winthrop will market the proposed program, and the proposed program's tuition. Winthrop representatives provided community letters of support for the proposed program and explained how the proposed program is part of the institution's re-branding campaign. They stated there are 90,000 to 100,000 adults with some college in York County and emphasized potential students will go elsewhere, if the proposed program is not available. Winthrop representatives clarified Winthrop's tuition is the same across the institution and is working on a variety of strategies to offset cost for individual students. Mr. Drueke explained increasing Winthrop's student pool will offset institutional cost in the long run.

j. York Technical College, A.A.S., Surgical Technology

Chair Seckinger introduced the item. YTC representatives explained the proposed program moves the existing program from a diploma to a degree. Committee members asked whether the proposed program level change originated with the accreditor and whether the proposed level change will add burdensome cost to students. YTC representatives clarified the proposed program is a result of SC legislation. They explained the additional 19 credit hours will add two semesters to students' completion time, but the proposed program will provide employment promotional opportunities for its graduates, including management in sterile processing. Chair Seckinger requested YTC add the sterile processing certification to the proposed program.

k. Francis Marion University, M.S.N., Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner track

Chair Seckinger introduced the item. Committee members expressed their understanding of the demographic need for the proposed program. They also requested clarification on the proposed program's delivery mode, how the program compares to USC C's existing program, the pool of potential students, and clinical placement for students in the proposed program. Francis Marion University (FMU) representatives explained the proposed program's blended delivery will include 70% online delivery and 30% traditional delivery. Dr. Wittmann-Price explained FMU and USC C's BSN to DNP credit requirements are the same and the Level 1 trauma procedures USC C listed do occur at the two hospitals in the Pee Dee region. Furthermore, she stated USC C's third and fourth year medical students are placed in those hospitals, and that FMU is willing to place students in a Level 1 facility if necessary. FMU representatives explained 60-70% of FMU's nurse practitioner program students are FMU undergraduates and stated the institution has not had difficulty with clinical placements for students.

**5. Consideration of Francis Marion University, Baruch Institute for South Carolina Studies (Joint with Coastal Carolina University)**

Chair Seckinger introduced the item. Dr. P. King and Dr. Byington gave a brief overview of the Belle Baruch Foundation's history and its purpose to study the cultural heritage of the state. Committee members asked whether the proposed institute would seek state funding and how much of individual students' tuition would be used to support the proposed institute. Dr. P. King affirmed the proposed institute would not seek state funding, but faculty could pursue federal grants in the future. Dr. Byington explained the proposed institute's cost estimate is based on two faculty members' course release and Coastal Carolina University students can sign up for a separate summer course at the proposed institute, which would generate revenue for the institution.

**6. 2018-19 Meeting Dates and Program Review Cycles**

Chair Seckinger introduced the item. Ms. Nixon explained ACAP committee members discussed and approved their meeting dates and the item contained proposed Committee meeting dates. Mr. Druke explained ACAP committee members requested an additional meeting after the academic year-end to consider program modifications. Ms. Nixon confirmed such a meeting would not affect the Committee's schedule. Committee members had no objection to the proposed meeting dates.

**7. Annual Report on Licensing Activities, FY 2017-18**  
*(For information, no action required)*

Chair Seckinger introduced the item. Ms. Goodwin explained the footprint for multi-state proprietary schools is changing, with public and non-profit institutions expanding their presence. She stated there has been little change in enrollment numbers for licensed institutions. Committee members inquired about the complaints recorded in the report and Ms. Goodwin explained licensing staff handle all higher education complaints and record them accordingly. Chair Seckinger expressed concern about licensed institutions' completion rates.

**8. Annual Report on Terminated and Approved Programs, FY 2017-18**  
*(For information, no action required)*

Chair Seckinger introduced the item. Committee members discussed the origin and purpose of the ratio of approved to terminated programs in the report and whether such a ratio is a correct mechanism to measure the marketplace. Committee members suggested removal of the ratio in future reports.

**9. Report on Program Modifications, August 24, 2018 – October 18, 2018**  
*(For information, no action required)*

Chair Seckinger introduced the item for information only.

**10. Other Business**

Ms. Goodwin gave an overview of the Art Institute and Virginia College closings progress. Virginia College notified CHE in September 2018 they will close the Columbia and Spartanburg locations due to low performance. Committee members asked whether the two campuses have teach-out plans and whether CHE can obtain a list of students to send to public institutions. Ms. Goodwin confirmed the Virginia College campuses will teach out and the Commission has a procedure in place to help students of closed institutions continue their education at another institution.

Committee members requested Commission staff research with accreditors their practice of raising professional entry levels.

Present Committee members agreed to present the agenda items discussed in this meeting as a consent agenda at the special meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 1, 2018.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:19 p.m.