

**Advisory Committee on Academic Programs
Minutes of September 12, 2019**

Members Present

Dr. John Lane, Chair
Dr. S. Vinson Burdette, Aiken Technical College
Dr. John Catalano, University of South Carolina Palmetto College
Ms. Donna Elmore, Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College (via teleconference)
Dr. Clif Flynn, University of South Carolina Upstate
Dr. Scott Jones, Lander University
Dr. Peter King, Francis Marion University
Dr. Learie Luke, South Carolina State University
Dr. Adrienne McCormick, Winthrop University
Dr. Sally Selden, The Citadel
Dr. Eric Skipper, University of South Carolina Beaufort
Dr. Daren Timmons, University of South Carolina Aiken
Dr. Jermaine Whirl, Greenville Technical College

Member Designees

Dr. Tena Crews, University of South Carolina Columbia, representing Dr. Tayloe Harding
Dr. Jeremy King, Clemson University, representing Dr. Robert Jones
Dr. Darlene Shaw, Medical University of South Carolina, representing Dr. Lisa Saladin
Ms. Rosline Sumpter, South Carolina Technical College System, representing Dr. Hope Rivers

Staff Present

Dr. Samuel Grubbs
Ms. DaVaris Hatten
Ms. Whitney Jett
Ms. Julissa Nixon

Ms. Stacey Price
Ms. Tanya Rogers
Dr. Regine Rucker
Ms. Peggy Simons
Dr. Lishu Yin

Guests

Dr. Jean Bertrand, Clemson University
Dr. Heather Bonilha, Medical University of South Carolina
Dr. Amir Bhochhibhoya, Lander University
Dr. Floyd Bowles, Midlands Technical College
Dr. Nancy Carson, Medical University of South Carolina
Dr. James Colbert, Lander University
Mr. Rob Dedmon, University of South Carolina Columbia
Mr. Tim Drueke, Winthrop University
Dr. Godfrey Gibbison, College of Charleston
Ms. Sandra Hackley, Midlands Technical College
Dr. Althea Hagan, Clemson University
Dr. Thomas Hodges, University of South Carolina Columbia
Ms. Taylor Johnston, Lander University

Dr. Martin Jones, College of Charleston
Ms. Christina Joseph, Midlands Technical College
Dr. Liz Jurisich, College of Charleston
Dr. Toshua W. Kennedy, University of South Carolina Upstate
Dr. Gerald McDermott, University of South Carolina Columbia
Dr. Lucas McMillan, Lander University
Dr. Robert Mignone, College of Charleston
Dr. Peter Moyi, University of South Carolina Columbia
Dr. Holly Pae, University of South Carolina Upstate
Dr. Karin Roof, The Citadel
Dr. Rick Segal, Medical University of South Carolina (via teleconference)
Mr. Jim Slagle, Lander University

Dr. Kristen Starnes-Ott, University of South Carolina
Mr. David A. Taylor, University Center of Greenville
Dr. Sebastian van Delden, College of Charleston

Dr. Holisa C. Wharton, Lander University
Dr. Bill Whitaker, South Carolina State University
Dr. Rose Ylimaki, University of South Carolina Columbia

Welcome

Dr. Lane called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Ms. Nixon welcomed all in attendance, took attendance via teleconference and confirmed Freedom of Information Act compliance.

1. Minutes of March 28, 2019

Dr. Lane requested a motion to recommend approval of the minutes of March 28, 2019, as distributed. The motion was **moved** (Flynn) and **seconded** (Whirl) and the Committee **voted unanimously to recommend approval of the minutes as presented.**

Dr. Lane welcomed Committee members to the first meeting of the new academic year and invited institutional representatives to provide introductions and affiliations.

2. Program Proposals

a. University of South Carolina Upstate, B.S., Cybersecurity

Dr. Lane introduced the item. A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (Flynn) and **seconded** (Timmons). Dr. Flynn explained the proposed program was developed in response to strong employment demand and would be the first undergraduate cybersecurity program in the upstate region. He continued, noting the University of South Carolina Upstate (USC U) would support the proposed program with upgraded facilities. Dr. Lane and ACAP members inquired about program accreditation and whether USC U considered attrition of computer science majors who may matriculate into the proposed program. USC U representatives expressed interest in pursuing accreditation for the proposed program and explained its projected enrollment accounts for current computer science majors changing to the proposed program major. ACAP members suggested USC U pursue articulation agreements with local technical colleges and requested USC U add the University of South Carolina Aiken's and South Carolina State University's (SC State) similar programs to the proposal.

Upon concluding deliberation, the Committee **voted unanimously to recommend approval of** the new program proposal for University of South Carolina Upstate to offer a program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Cybersecurity to be implemented Fall 2020.

- b. University of South Carolina Upstate, M.S.N., Nursing (RN-MSN)
- c. University of South Carolina Upstate, M.S.N., Nursing Leader
- d. University of South Carolina Upstate, M.S.N., Nursing Education

Dr. Lane introduced the items for concurrent consideration. A motion to approve the proposed programs was **moved** (Flynn) and **seconded** (Timmons). Dr. Flynn explained the proposed programs would prepare registered nurses to teach or assume leadership roles in academic and clinical settings, including staff development, and position graduates to fill the gap as academicians to educate future and current nurses and replace nurses retiring from the field. ACAP members asked how students in the proposed programs would fulfill general

education requirements and requested clarification on the difference between Clinical Nurse Leader and Nursing Leadership tracks. USC U representatives explained students would have completed their general education requirements prior to entering the proposed programs. USC U representatives explained Clinical Nurse Leaders would provide direct patient care in healthcare settings and Nurse Leaders would serve in academic settings. Dr. Crews expressed the University of South Carolina Columbia's (USC C) concern about program duplication but supported the proposed programs as a possible collaboration source for USC C's Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

Upon concluding deliberation, the Committee **voted unanimously to recommend approval of** the new program proposals for University of South Carolina Upstate to offer a program leading to the Master of Science in Nursing degree in Nursing (RN-MSN), the Master of Science in Nursing degree in Nursing Leader, and the Master of Science in Nursing degree in Nursing Education to be implemented to be implemented Spring 2020.

e. University of South Carolina Columbia, Ed.D., Educational Practice and Innovation

Dr. Lane introduced the item. A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (Crews) and **seconded** (P. King). Dr. Crews explained a new program proposal was brought forward for USC C's existing Doctorate of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction in accordance with Commission policy due to the aggregate of program changes, including a program CIP code change and name change, and the addition of a concentration. USC C representatives explained the proposed program changes are to align the existing program with the USC C College of Education's mission and innovations in the field of education.

Dr. J. King expressed concern about potential program duplication and program productivity of Clemson University's (Clemson) Doctorate of Education degree in Education Improvement Systems. ACAP members discussed Clemson's concern. Dr. Lane asked Dr. Luke if USC C's proposed program would adversely affect SC State's Doctorate of Education degree in Educational Administration and Dr. Luke responded the proposed program proposal did not raise any concerns for SC State. Dr. J. King **amended the motion** to delay consideration of the proposed program's Education Systems Improvement concentration and Dr. Ennis **seconded** the amended motion. Upon concluding ACAP deliberation of the amended motion, the Committee **voted against the amended motion** by a vote of one in favor (Clemson) and 15 opposed.

ACAP members commended USC C for the proposed program's innovations and agreed both the USC C program and Clemson's program will serve the state's needs.

Upon concluding deliberation, the Committee **voted to recommend approval of** the new program proposal for University of South Carolina Columbia to offer a program leading to the Doctorate of Education degree in Educational Practice and Innovation to be implemented Fall 2020 by a vote of 15 in favor and one opposed (Clemson).

f. University of South Carolina Columbia, M.S.N., Master's Entry Practice Nursing

Dr. Lane introduced the item. A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (Crews) and **seconded** (Jones). Dr. Crews explained the proposed program prepares students with a previously earned bachelor's degree but without prior nursing experience to provide direct care as a nurse in various settings. The proposed program also provides adult learners choosing nursing as a second career to become a nurse in a shorter amount of time while earning a master's degree rather than a second baccalaureate degree. USC C representatives discussed the benefits of direct entry online nurse practitioner programs for professionals from other fields, including the proposed program. USC U expressed support for the proposed program.

Upon concluding deliberation, the Committee **voted unanimously to recommend approval of** the new program proposal for University of South Carolina Columbia to offer a program leading to the Master of Science degree in Master's Entry Practice Nursing to be implemented Fall 2020.

g. Midlands Technical College, A.A.S., Engineering Fundamentals

Dr. Lane introduced the item. A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (Sumpter) and **seconded** (Jones). Ms. Sumpter explained the proposed program was designed to streamline the credits necessary for the first two years of an engineering degree to allow students to transfer to a senior institution. Ms. Sumpter continued, stating Midlands Technical College (MTC) has an articulation agreement with USC C to allow its students to transfer into USC C's engineering program and discussions have begun with other four-year institutions as well. ACAP members inquired about the 95% completion rate reported for MTC transfers to USC C's engineering program and Francis Marion University (FMU) and The Citadel representatives expressed interest in developing articulation agreements with MTC.

Upon concluding deliberation, the Committee **voted unanimously to recommend approval of** the new program proposal for Midlands Technical College to offer a program leading to the Associate of Applied Science degree in Engineering Fundamentals to be implemented Spring 2020.

h. Medical University of South Carolina, M.S., Speech-Language Pathology

Dr. Lane introduced the item. A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (Shaw) and **seconded** (Skipper). Dr. Shaw explained the proposed program was designed to develop speech-language pathologists (SLPs) for employment in medical settings, including treatment of medically-complex communication and swallowing disorders. Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) representatives clarified the proposed program's resources include its new Children's Hospital and other medical facilities which would allow for an integrated clinical experience to optimize student learning. MUSC representatives concluded the proposed program would create a career pathway for graduates from undergraduate Communication Sciences and Disorders programs, and that the proposed program would help address the need for SLP care in medical settings. ACAP members inquired about the total number of credit hours required for a terminal SLP doctorate, and USC C objected to the proposal due to potential program duplication. MUSC representatives explained 90 post-baccalaureate credits are required for a doctorate in the field and the institution might plan to offer such a doctorate in the future. MUSC representatives responded to USC C's objection to the proposed program by highlighting its focus on training SLP's to work in medical settings, but graduates would also have the breadth of training to work in educational settings.

Upon concluding deliberation, the Committee **voted to recommend approval of** the new program proposal for Medical University of South Carolina to offer a program leading to the Master of Science degree in Speech-Language Pathology to be implemented Fall 2021 by a vote of 15 in favor and one opposed (USC C).

i. Lander University, B.Des., Graphic and Interactive Media

m. Lander University, M.F.A., Visual Art

Dr. Lane introduced the items for concurrent consideration. A motion to approve the proposed programs was **moved** (Jones) and **seconded** (Selden). Dr. Jones explained the proposed undergraduate program was developed to provide graduates a foundation in art, design, new media, and technology to make students competitive in a changing design industry. ACAP members requested clarification on the difference between the proposed

undergraduate program and a traditional fine arts program, the job market for graduates, and program accreditation. Dr. Lane asked about program uniqueness and statewide need and suggested Lander University (Lander) provide letters of support for the proposed undergraduate program. Lander representatives explained the proposed undergraduate program does not have as many studio art requirements as traditional fine arts degrees and that Lander is interested in pursuing program accreditation. Lander representatives reported the proposed degree will become the new standard for the design field.

Lander representatives explained the proposed graduate program was developed for students in the region through a rigorous, studio-focused curriculum which will encourage students to explore the relationship between multiple disciplines and develop a sustainable studio practice. Dr. Lane and ACAP members inquired about admission criteria for the proposed graduate program and degree completion resources for existing students who fail to meet retention grade requirements. Lander representatives clarified that students in Lander's existing Bachelor of Fine Arts program and, if implemented, the proposed undergraduate program, would need to present their senior portfolio in addition to satisfying general admissions criteria. Lander representatives suggested there would be remediation opportunities and intervention or transition plans for students who are unable to sustain satisfactory academic progress once enrolled in the program.

Upon concluding deliberation, the Committee **voted unanimously to recommend approval of** the new program proposal for Lander University to offer a program leading to the Bachelor of Design degree in Graphic and Interactive Media and the Master of Fine Arts degree in Visual Art, both to be implemented Fall 2020.

- j. Lander University, B.S., Health Promotion and Wellness
- k. Lander University, B.S., Human Services

Dr. Lane introduced the items for concurrent consideration. A motion to approve the proposed programs was **moved** (Jones) and **seconded** (McCormick). Dr. Jones explained the proposed Health Promotion and Wellness program was developed to help graduates pass the national certification exam and help alleviate the national nursing shortage. He explained the proposed Human Services program was developed in collaboration with Greenville Technical College as a bachelor's degree pathway for its, and Piedmont Technical College's, human services graduates. ACAP members inquired about Lander's choice of bachelor of science degree designation. Lander representatives clarified that a bachelor of science signifies less of a liberal-arts focus at Lander. ACAP members also discussed the need for degree completion programs, of which the proposed programs can potentially fill education gaps, which are a critical economic need.

Upon concluding deliberation, the Committee **voted unanimously to recommend approval of** the new program proposal for Lander University to offer a program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Health Promotion and Wellness and the Bachelor of Science degree in Human Services, both to be implemented Fall 2020.

- l. Lander University, B.S., Paralegal Studies

Dr. Lane introduced the items for concurrent consideration. A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (Jones) and **seconded** (Whirl). Dr. Jones explained the proposed program was developed in response to student interest, stakeholder support, and employer feedback and would prepare graduates to provide enhanced research, writing, and critical-thinking skills to work in the legal profession and match technical colleges' American Bar Association accreditation. Lander representatives noted employment data illustrate the need for bachelor's-level skills to assist attorneys with casework and research. ACAP members inquired about the earning potential of the proposed program graduates compared to associate's degree completers and

graduates' return on investment in the program. A College of Charleston representative stated the salary difference for a four-year versus a two-year paralegal degree is approximately \$5000 and the competence in writing and critical thinking is important to graduates' employability. It was also noted that many law offices provide tuition reimbursement or pay for the student's tuition during the junior or senior year.

Upon concluding deliberation, the Committee **voted unanimously to recommend approval of** the new program proposal for Lander University to offer a program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Health Promotion and Wellness, the Bachelor of Science degree in Human Services, and the Bachelor of Science degree in Paralegal Studies, all to be implemented Fall 2020.

n. Horry-Georgetown Technical College, A.A.S., Teacher Education

Dr. Lane introduced the item. A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (Sumpter) and **seconded** (Ennis). Ms. Sumpter explained the proposed program would be a 2+2 pathway to streamline preparation of students for professions at educational settings to address the issue of teacher shortage in the state through an articulation agreement with Coastal Carolina University. She continued the proposed curriculum would prepare graduates to become teaching assistants and paraprofessionals. ACAP members commended the partnership between the technical college system and four-year institutions to increase pathways to address the critical needs in the state. Dr. Lane asked whether the proposed program, once approved, will become a model for the rest of the technical college system and Ms. Sumpter confirmed it will become a template to help alleviate the teacher shortage in the state.

Upon concluding deliberation, the Committee **voted unanimously to recommend approval of** the new program proposal for Horry-Georgetown Technical College to offer a program leading to the Associate of Applied Science degree in Teacher Education to be implemented Spring 2020.

o. College of Charleston, Ph.D., Mathematics with Computation

Dr. Lane introduced the item. A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (Welch) and **seconded** (Selden). Dr. Welch explained the proposed program was developed as a result of feedback from College of Charleston's (CofC) Mathematics department's Industrial Advisory Board. CofC submitted its level-change application to SACSCOC and revised its mission statement with the Commission in 2014. She explained the proposed program includes an entrance qualifying examination prior to admission, and CofC has 28 doctoral-level faculty in its Mathematics department. ACAP members inquired about projected program enrollment, and clarification on the computation portion of the proposed program. Dr. Lane asked for clarification on the balance between coursework and dissertation. CofC representatives responded the proposed program is in response to external stakeholder request, noted the inexpensive implementation cost, and stated the computational aspect would integrate use of software. They also confirmed the balance between coursework and dissertation is modeled on Bryn Mawr's program.

Upon concluding deliberation, the Committee **voted unanimously to recommend approval of** the new program proposal for College of Charleston to offer a program leading to the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Mathematics with Computation to be implemented Fall 2020.

p. Clemson University, M.W.F.R., Wildlife and Fisheries Resources

Dr. Lane introduced the item. A motion to approve the proposed program was **moved** (J. King) and **seconded** (Selden). Dr. J. King explained the proposed program would re-structure the non-thesis option of Clemson's

Master of Science degree in Wildlife Fisheries and Biology to a standalone program. He stated the student population of non-thesis option of the existing program is overwhelmingly composed of working professionals and a standalone degree would solidify the value of the credential for students and employment. Clemson representatives noted there are only modest marketing expenses for the proposed program. Dr. Lane thanked Clemson for the clarity of the proposal.

Without further deliberation, the Committee **voted unanimously to recommend approval of** the new program proposal for Clemson University to offer a program leading to the Master of Wildlife and Fisheries Resource degree program to be implemented Spring 2020.

3. Program Modifications

- a. University of South Carolina Upstate, B.S.B.Admin., Business Administration, Add Entrepreneurship and Innovation concentration

Dr. Lane introduced the item. A motion to approve the proposed program modification was **moved** (Flynn) and **seconded** (Skipper). Dr. Flynn explained the proposed concentration consists of the addition of four courses in addition to three existing courses to USC U's existing program. He also provided information on USC U's business incubator which is available to the community.

Without further deliberation, the Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the program modification for University of South Carolina Upstate to modify its program leading to the B.S.B.Admin., Business Administration degree to Add Entrepreneurship and Innovation concentration, to be implemented Fall 2019.

- b. University of South Carolina Columbia, Ph.D., Business Administration, Dual Degree with La Universidad Austral, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Dr. Lane introduced the item. A motion to approve the proposed program modification was **moved** (Crews) and **seconded**. Dr. Crews and other USC C representatives explained the proposed dual degree program is the same as other dual degree programs previously brought before the Committee and stated the program is designed to attract international students to USC C. USC C representatives continued such students will attend their home institution for two semesters and USC C for three semesters and their dissertation work will be overseen by faculty at both institutions. Dr. Lane inquired about the institutional approval date and USC representatives responded the program modification would go before the USC Board of Trustees on September 13, 2019. Dr. Lane requested USC C provide the Commission confirmation of USC Board of Trustees approval prior to Commission approval.

Upon concluding deliberation, the Committee **voted unanimously to accept** the program modification for University of South Carolina Columbia to modify its program leading to the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Business Administration Dual Degree with La Universidad Austral, Buenos Aires, Argentina, to be implemented Fall 2019.

4. **Notifications of Program Changes and/or Terminations, March 22 – September 5, 2019** (For information, no action required)

Dr. Lane introduced the item and Ms. Nixon explained the report is for information only.

5. Other Business

a. Dr. Lane reminded the Committee the next Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing meeting be on November 6, 2019.

b. Cambridge International

Dr. Lane invited Committee members to participate in a meeting to further discuss policy planning with Cambridge International (CI) at 10:00 a.m. on September 30, 2019 in the Commission's Main Conference Room. He reminded the Committee that CI representatives and representatives from the Aiken County School District previously presented on CI's coursework, similar to AP and IB, at the November 2018 ACAP meeting.

c. *Project Lead the Way*

Dr. Lane thanked Committee members for their delegate referrals who participated on the *Project Lead the Way* (PLTW) advisory group. He stated he will provide additional documentation through a follow-up memo to the Committee. Dr. Lane added PLTW enjoys robust advocacy and presence at the state's technical colleges and encouraged a senior-level institution's partnership participation by the November 2019 ACAP meeting. Dr. Crews stated she put the USC C College of Education in touch with Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College. Dr. Lane commended the referral and encouraged USC C representative to follow up on partnership progress.

d. US Army Cyber Command

Dr. Lane expressed gratitude for the Fort Gordon Cyber Command presentation at the June 20, 2019 ACAP meeting, and expressed gratitude for Committee engagement. He stated the Commission is in possession of, and reviewing, a draft Memorandum of Understanding from Fort Gordon Cyber Command, to support SC public and independent institutions' anticipated collaboration with Fort Gordon.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:26 p.m.