



Advisory Committee on Academic Programs (ACAP) Meeting Minutes December 12, 2024

Attendees

Clemson University: Rob Essaf

Coastal Carolina University: Teresa Burns, Drew Kurlowski

College of Charleston: Mark Del Mastro, Suzanne Austin, Ron Magnuson, Paul Schwager, Rafael Teixeira, Wes Dudgeon

Francis Marion University: Will Carswell, Allison Steadman

Greenville Technical College:

Lander University: Erin Paysinger, Lucas McMillan

Medical University of South Carolina: Suzanne Thomas, Shannon Jones

Piedmont Technical College:

SC Department of Education: Susan Ammons, Janelle Wilson-Mills, Lorraine Jackman, Jessica McLees

SC State University:

SC Technical College System: Rosline Sumpter

The Citadel: Karin Roof

Trident Community College: Laurie Boeding

University of South Carolina Aiken: Phil Bridgmon

University of South Carolina Beaufort: Eric Skipper, Brian Mallory

University of South Carolina Columbia: Trena Houp, Jenelle Peoples

University of South Carolina Palmetto College: Walter Collins

University of South Carolina Upstate: Pam Steinke

Winthrop University: Sebastian van Delden, Tim Drueke

York Technical College: James Thomas

Commissioners

Edgar Dyer

Terrye Seckinger

Commission Staff

Jessica Berry

Jeffrey Perez

Argentini Anderson

Kenita Pitts

Darnell Holland

Kristin Brooks

Corey Gheesling

Matthew Hartenstine

Endé Clark

Ellen Jenkinson

Diane McCree

Leslie Williams

Tracy Solet

Christopher Glenn

All attended in-person or via Zoom

1. Welcome

Dr. Berry welcomed everyone to the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

2. Introductions, Quorum, and Freedom of Information Act

Ms. Solet announced attendance, established quorum, and confirmed the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

3. Approval of Agenda

Dr. Berry called for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. A motion was made and seconded. Dr. Berry called for a vote. **Motion passed unopposed.**

4. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Berry called for a motion to approve the October 17, 2024 meeting minutes. A motion was made and seconded. Dr. Berry called for a vote. **Motion passed unopposed.**

5. Presentations

a. SC Department of Education: Curriculum Pathways

Representatives from the department explained the upcoming changes to the 2025 South Carolina College- and Career-Readiness Mathematics Standards. An institution representative inquired as to the level of input the department had received from colleges in developing these pathways and the requirements for college readiness. The department indicated it had some input from colleges but not a lot. Concerns were expressed regarding the current lack of readiness for students considering a STEM field and how this curriculum change will further impact this outcome. Students without higher-level math will not be accepted into a four-year institution. The department was asked how students are being advised in the high schools regarding the requirements for acceptance into four-year institutions. The department explained it is working with the Office of Career and Technical Education, which works with school counselors, to ensure the counselors' understanding of the four-year requirements. Further, it is working to determine if the changes will impact acceptance by two-year colleges, which has not been confirmed. A representative from the South Carolina Technical College System (SCTCS) explained open admissions in the technical college system and the determination of course placement for the students. Further, SCTCS is looking at math pathways internally and will work with the department and the four-year institutions to ensure smooth transitions. A representative from USC Columbia confirmed its commitment to do the same with SCTCS. Contact information for the department was provided to attendees.

b. A Companion Guide to the REACH Act

Dr. Kurlowski explained the background and reasoning for the compilation of the guide and believes it would be useful to the institutions. An institution representative asked if this would be an open education resource which institutions could print on demand. Dr. Kurlowski explained it may be possible, but some institutions do not have the resources to print such documents and the compilation of resources into one bound publication would likely have a better outcome for students and institutions. Commissioner Dyer asked for this item to be placed for discussion on the agenda for the upcoming Committee for Academic Affairs and Licensing (CAAL) meeting. Discussion was had regarding some institutions have similar resources on their websites, as well as the desire for institutions to have flexibility in curriculum, which falls within the REACH Act requirements.

c. PASCAL

An overview of the Partnership Among South Carolina Academic Libraries (PASCAL) was presented and a request was made for support of PASCAL from the institutions as it benefits student, faculty, and researcher outcomes with support for assignments, grant applications, and accreditations for the institutions.

6. New Program Proposals

a. College of Charleston, Executive Doctorate of Business Administration

The institution moved approval of the program, which was seconded. The program was presented, and the floor opened to questions. Hearing none, Dr. Berry called for a vote to recommend the program to CAAL for review. **The motion passed unopposed.**

- b. College of Charleston, Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)/A.B.
The institution moved approval of the program, which was seconded. The program was presented, and the floor opened to questions. MUSC expressed support of the program and requested clarification regarding MUSC's credit hours and program differences referenced in the proposal. Coastal Carolina University, USC Columbia, USC Upstate, and Winthrop University asked for corrections and clarifications regarding credit hours, modalities, and the suggested the use of common language regarding SACS requirements to graduate. The institution was appreciative of the suggestions and will incorporate them into the proposal. With no further discussion, Dr. Berry called for a vote to recommend the program to CAAL for review. **The motion passed unopposed.**

7. Program Modification Proposal

- a. Medical University of South Carolina, Doctor of Pharmacy / Master of Public Health Generalist
The institution moved approval of the program modification, which was seconded. The program modification was presented, and the floor opened to questions. Hearing none, Dr. Berry called for a vote to approve the modification. **The motion passed unopposed.**

8. Mission Statement Revision

- a. University of South Carolina Beaufort, Mission Statement Revision
The institution moved approval of the mission statement revision, which was seconded. The revision was presented, and the floor was opened to questions. Hearing none, Dr. Berry called for a vote to recommend the revision to CAAL for review. **The motion passed unopposed.**

9. Other Business / Discussion

- a. **Workforce Development: Program Inventory and State Portal**
Dr. Gheesling asked if there were any questions regarding the academic program inventory request submitted to the institutions. Discussion was had regarding costs of academic programs, program credit hours, and other information needed for the state portal project. Based on the questions, Dr. Gheesling explained the purpose and goals of the portal and why the information is being requested. Concern was expressed regarding the integrity of the information based on how each institution is responding to the questions and the consistency of information.
- b. Reminders
 - i. Dr. Berry stated any edits to program proposals are due by January 9 for the upcoming CAAL meeting.
 - ii. Dr. Berry expressed appreciation for the review of and responses to the AY 2023-2024 Academic Program Report, which will appear on the January 9, 2025 ACAP agenda.
 - iii. A memorandum will be forthcoming with a new form for use when requesting corrections to the academic program inventory. Dr. Berry asked the institutions to use one form per request and to submit the CHE approval letter and proposal with the form. Dr. Berry explained the IT Department does an annual cleanup of the inventory and anything outside of that will need to be submitted through Academic Affairs using the new form.

10. Adjournment

Dr. Berry called for a motion to adjourn, which was made and seconded. With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.