



Advisory Committee on Academic Programs (ACAP) Meeting Minutes October 17, 2024

Attendees

Beaufort Memorial Hospital: Joy Solomon

Clemson University: Rob Essaf, Allen Geiger III

Coastal Carolina University: Teresa Burns

College of Charleston: Mark Del Mastro

Fountain Inn High School: Katlyn McCormick

Francis Marion University: Alissa Warters, Allison Steadman, Will Carswell

Greenville Technical College:

Lander University: James Colbert, Jr.

Medical University of South Carolina: Suzanne Thomas

Piedmont Technical College:

SC State University:

SC Technical College System: Aimeé Carter

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, Christina Beall

University of South Carolina Columbia: Trena Houp, Craig Parks, Bill Mustain, Jenelle Peoples

University of South Carolina Palmetto College: Walter Collins

University of South Carolina Salkehatchie: Sarah Miller

University of South Carolina Union: Maggie Aziz, Ada Kitchens

University of South Carolina Upstate: Pam Steinke, Kim Purdy

Winthrop University: Sebastian van Delden, Tim Drueke, P.N. Saksena, Michael Whitney, Beth Costner, Lisa Harris

York Technical College:

Commission Staff

Jessica Berry

Melissa Price

Kenita Pitts

Darnell Holland

Kristin Brooks

Mark Swart

Endé Clark

All attended in-person or via Zoom

1. Welcome

Dr. Berry welcomed everyone to the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

2. Introductions, Quorum, and Freedom of Information Act

Dr. Price 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 September 26, 2024 meeting minutes. A motion was made and seconded. Dr. Berry called for a vote. **Motion passed unopposed.**

5. Academic Common Market Program and Regional Contract Program

Ms. Pitts gave a summary of the annual reports regarding the Academic Common Market Program (ACM) and the Regional Contract Program (RCP) for the 2023-2024 academic year and provided a list of undergraduate programs no longer being offered out-of-state to South Carolina residents at in-state tuition rates. Ms. Pitts encouraged the institutions to consider adding some of these programs or concentrations to their catalogs to encourage students to stay in South Carolina. Ms. Pitts explained the Optometry RCP will continue for South Carolina students attending out-of-state institutions but waivers for those currently attending out-of-state veterinary programs will only be honored through 2029 with Clemson University's Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine program expected to open in Fall 2026. Discussion was had regarding the possible reasons for states no longer offering these programs and it was requested Ms. Pitts provide the number of South Carolina students currently participating in each of the closing programs.

6. New Program Proposals

a. Winthrop University, Doctor of Education in Leadership and Innovation; and

b. Winthrop University, Mission Statement Change

The institution moved approval of the program (Item 6.a.), combined with its proposed Mission Statement change (Item 6.b.), which was seconded. Both were presented. The institution acknowledged receipt of a list of concerns and questions from the University of South Carolina (USC) and assured the comparison table in its proposal would be updated to reflect USC's concern of overlap of the program's intended audience. Further, the institution explained it intends to focus on the immediate area around Rock Hill with likely only 10-15 students per cohort, while USC graduates 75 or more a year. The institution will also offer in-state tuition to graduate students residing in Mecklenburg and surrounding counties. USC expressed appreciation for the acknowledgement but remains very concerned with the number of Ed.D. programs in the state, especially this one as it will be offered 100% online, as is USC's Ed.D. program. The College of Charleston expressed support of the program. With no further discussion, Dr. Berry called for a vote to recommend the program and the Mission Statement change to CAAL. **With no opposition, and abstention from USC Columbia and USC Beaufort, the motion passed.**

c. Medical University of South Carolina, Master of Science in Pathologists' Assistant Studies

The institution moved approval of the program, which was seconded. The program was presented and the floor opened to questions. With no further discussion, Dr. Berry called for a vote to recommend the program to CAAL. **Motion passed unopposed.**

d. Winthrop University, Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence

The institution moved approval of the program, which was seconded. The program was presented and the floor opened to questions. USC Beaufort expressed support of the program. With no further discussion, Dr. Berry called for a vote to recommend the program to CAAL. **Motion passed unopposed.**

7. New Center Proposal

a. University of South Carolina Columbia, Carolina Institute for Battery Innovation

The institution moved approval of the center, which was seconded. The center was presented and the floor opened to questions. USC Beaufort expressed support of the

center. The institution was asked if it currently has or plans to have any academic programs associated with the center, with the response there may be several engineering, supply chain, and logistics programs in the future. With no further discussion, Dr. Berry called for a vote to recommend the center to CAAL. **Motion passed unopposed.**

8. Program Modification Proposal

- a. University of South Carolina Beaufort, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, pre-licensure track
The institution moved approval of the program modification, which was seconded. The program modification was presented and the floor opened to questions. Discussion was had regarding when enrollment would begin and what, if anything, was needed from Beaufort Memorial Hospital. It was noted the proposal incorrectly lists Lander University as a private institution, which the institution confirmed will be corrected. With no further discussion, Dr. Berry called for a vote to approve the program modification. **Motion passed unopposed.**
- b. University of South Carolina Salkehatchie, Associate of Arts and Associate of Science in General Liberal Arts and Sciences; and
- c. University of South Carolina Union, Associate of Arts and Associate of Science in General Liberal Arts and Sciences
The institution moved approval of both program modifications, which was seconded. The program modifications were presented and the floor opened to questions. With no further discussion, Dr. Berry called for a vote to approve the program modification for Item 8.b. **Motion passed unopposed.** Dr. Berry called for a vote to approve the program modification for Item 8.c. **Motion passed unopposed.**

9. For Information / Discussion

- a. AY 2023-2024 REACH Act Report
Dr. Berry advised the report will be presented to CAAL at its October 24, 2024 meeting and will be posted on the CHE website today.
- b. New Math Standards Survey
Dr. Berry advised the South Carolina Department of Education (DOE) has approved new math standards, which will go into effect in 2025. CHE's college preparatory course prerequisite requirements were approved in 2015. A survey will be provided to the institutions to offer feedback regarding admissions policies in relation to the new DOE standards. Questions were raised regarding the two (2) pathways for math, to which Dr. Berry stated she will share the fact sheet from the DOE, as well as any additional information obtained going forward.
- c. AY 2023-2024 Approved Academic Programs Report
Dr. Berry stated a first draft of the report will be provided to the institutions for review and revision, with the intent to present to CAAL at its November 21, 2024 meeting.
- d. AY 2023-2024 Academic Common Market Annual Report and AY 2023-2024 Regional Contract Program Annual Report
Dr. Berry stated both reports will be presented to CAAL at its November 21, 2024 meeting.
- e. Proposal Revisions
Dr. Berry expressed appreciation to the institutions for their responsiveness to CHE staff's requests for clarification and/or revisions to academic proposals.
- f. Agenda Proposals
Dr. Berry invited the institutions to provide suggestions for ACAP agenda items which may benefit the group.

10. Adjournment

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.