



## Advisory Committee on Academic Programs (ACAP) Meeting Minutes June 12, 2025

### Attendees

Clemson University: Jeremy King, Rob Essaf, Brandon Lockhart, Michelle Cook

Coastal Carolina University: Teresa Burns

College of Charleston: Mark Del Mastro; Paul Schwager, David Wyman

Francis Marion University: Allison Steadman

Lander University: Erin Paysinger

Medical University of South Carolina: Suzanne Thomas

Piedmont Technical College: Keli Fewox

SC Department of Education: Jessica McLees

SC State University:

SC Technical College System: Aimeé Carter

The Citadel: Karin Roof

Trident Technical College: Laurie Boeding

University of South Carolina Aiken: Phil Bridgmon, Katie Smith

University of South Carolina Beaufort: Eric Skipper, Brian Mallory

University of South Carolina Columbia: Trena Houpp, Karen Edwards, Stephen Shapiro, Christeen Stephens

University of South Carolina Palmetto College: Walter Collins

University of South Carolina Upstate: Pam Steinke

Winthrop University: Sebastian van Delden, Tim Drueke, Cara Peters, Brad Tripp, Philip Gibson, Takita Sumter

York Technical College:

### Commission Staff

Jessica Berry

Melissa Price

Kenita Pitts

Darnell Holland

Corey Gheesling

Matthew Hartenstine

Endé Clark

Tracy Solet

Christopher Glenn

All attended In-Person or via Zoom

### 1. Welcome

Dr. Berry welcomed everyone to the meeting at 10:02 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. **The motion passed unopposed.**

#### 4. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Berry called for a motion to approve the April 17, 2025 meeting minutes. A motion was made and seconded. Dr. Berry called for a vote. **The motion passed unopposed.**

#### 5. New Program Proposals

a. College of Charleston, B.S./A.B. in Entrepreneurship

The institution representative moved approval of the program listed as agenda item 5.a., 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. Winthrop University, B.S. in Aviation and Business Management

c. Winthrop University, Master of Business Administration

The institution representative moved approval of both programs listed as agenda items 5.b. and 5.c., which was seconded.

The program listed as agenda item 5.b. 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.**

The program listed as agenda item 5.c. 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.**

d. Clemson University, M.S. in Finance

The institution representative moved approval of the program listed as agenda item 5.d., 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.**

e. Clemson University, B.S. in Science Teaching with Chemistry concentration

f. Clemson University, B.S. in Science Teaching with Physics concentration

The institution representative moved approval of both programs listed as agenda items 5.e. and 5.f., which was seconded. Both programs were presented, and the floor opened to questions. A question was asked if a student could obtain both chemistry and physics certifications. The representative explained the state requires students in science programs to certify in a single subject, but the curriculum allows students to add on general science so they can teach a variety of sciences. With no further discussion, Dr. Berry called for a vote to recommend both programs to CAAL for review. **The motion passed unopposed.**

#### 6. Program Modification Proposals

a. Clemson University, B.A. in Early Childhood Education

The institution representative moved approval of the program modification listed as agenda item 6.a., 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.**

b. Winthrop University, B.A. in Sociology

The institution representative moved approval of the program modification listed as agenda item 6.b., which was seconded. The program modification was presented, and the floor opened to questions. A comment was made noting the second concentration's likely reliance on teaching students about artificial intelligence ("AI") and how to work with AI, which is not included in the course descriptions for User Experience. The representative stated the curriculum is currently where it needs to be, based on feedback from career

professionals, but will monitor it as AI develops. Further, with the B.S. in Artificial Intelligence program offered, students may take courses as electives or toward a minor as this program does require a minor. Also, humanities and social sciences have frequent guest speakers and supplemental programs regarding AI. Hearing no further questions or comments, Dr. Berry called for a vote to approve the modification. **The motion passed unopposed.**

- c. University of South Carolina Columbia, Master of Sport and Entertainment Management  
The institution representative moved approval of the program modification listed as agenda item 6.c., 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.**

## 7. New Center

- a. University of South Carolina Columbia, Center for American Civic Leadership and Public Discourse  
The institution representative moved approval of the proposal listed as agenda item 7.a., which was seconded. The proposal was presented, and the floor opened to questions. A comment was made noting the center is timely and much needed. Hearing no further questions or comments, Dr. Berry called for a vote to recommend the proposal to CAAL for review. **The motion passed unopposed.**

## 8. Other Business / Discussion

- a. Scholarship Enhancement Eligibility Review (SEER) Policy Updates  
Dr. Berry called for a motion to approve the policy updates as previously provided to ACAP members for review and comment. A motion was made and seconded. Dr. Berry summarized the updates to the 2015 policy, which incorporate the new legislation regarding Education and Accounting majors. Further noting the review committee will now include someone with an accounting background. The floor was opened to questions. Discussion was had regarding the timing of the distribution of funds and if the phase-in practice is still needed as most eligible programs have been approved. Dr. Berry mentioned she had consulted with Dr. Woodfaulk, Director of the Office of Student Affairs, who confirmed eligibility will remain as of the year following program or course approval. Requests were made for changes to the CHE website to assist with locating the various documents related to SEER applications. Dr. Berry stated she would speak with CHE's communications manager regarding the website changes and noted the revised policy contains all necessary documents in the appendices and includes pertinent links. Appreciation was expressed for the consolidation of documentation and information, as well as for the expediency in which CHE staff was able to update the policy with the legislative changes. A request was made to add the SEER course comparison section to the application and for a comparison template to be incorporated in the updated policy document or posted on the website. Dr. Berry recapped the requests made and called for a vote to recommend the policy with the noted changes to CAAL for review. **The motion passed unopposed.**

Dr. Berry stated a revised version with the noted edits would be sent to ACAP members prior to submission to CAAL for review. Dr. Berry thanked Dr. Price for her hard work on SEER and her efforts to streamline the review process, which includes establishing a pool of application reviewers to serve on the SEER Review Committee. A pool of reviewers will help alleviate the burden of those few who have volunteered to serve on the committee. A form will be forthcoming asking ACAP members to identify qualified reviewers, especially those with STEM and accounting backgrounds. An education pool will also be helpful in the event additional opinions are needed. Dr. Berry thanked the members for their help as this will be very beneficial to Dr. Peters as she builds out the next phase of SEER reviews.

b. Farewells

Dr. Skipper mentioned this will be his last ACAP meeting as he is leaving the University of South Carolina Beaufort to begin his role as Provost at Southeastern Louisiana University. Dr. Skipper thanked Dr. Berry for her support and thanked the members of the committee. Dr. Berry expressed appreciation and Dr. Perez wished him well.

Dr. Berry stated this will be her last ACAP meeting as acting director but will continue at CHE as Senior Academic Program Manager. Dr. Berry thanked all members of the committee for their hard work and responsiveness during her time as acting director and stated she is looking forward to continuing to work with them, noting CHE will be welcoming the new director very soon. Members thanked Dr. Berry for her leadership and expressed appreciation for the Academic Affairs team's responsiveness during her time as acting director, especially with it being a new team.

c. REACH Act

Dr. Berry thanked the members for completing the recently distributed Excel spreadsheet with their REACH Act courses and apologized to those who had already submitted course lists. Dr. Berry explained the spreadsheet will help CHE staff with the review of data and with the randomization of the requests for syllabi. Members were also asked to ensure their institution's names are included on each syllabus submitted to ensure the information received is matched with the correct institution.

9. **Adjournment**

Dr. Berry asked Dr. Perez if he had anything to share as he recently joined the meeting. Having none and hearing no further comment, Dr. Berry called for a motion to adjourn, which was made and seconded. With no further discussion, **the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.**