## University of South Carolina Aiken Focused Report - 2021

## **STANDARD 6.2.A FACULTY QUALIFICATIONS**

For each of its educational programs, the institution justifies and documents the qualifications of its faculty members.

## **Institutional Response**

The 16 faculty members identified by the Off-site review committee are listed on the Faculty Roster form [S2] which provides links to supporting documents such as course syllabi, transcripts, curriculum vitae, and certifications. As shown on the Faculty Qualification Decision Process, [S3] the institution places primary emphasis on the educational credentials of its faculty. In a few exceptional cases (i.e., for less than 1% of the classes taught), adequate justification of alternative professional experience and demonstrated contributions to the teaching discipline are approved in lieu of formal academic preparations. All faculty who do not explicitly meet minimum SACSCOC guidelines for degree and coursework are certified on an individual basis by providing documentation of alternative credentials and exceptional expertise in the field. Two administrators – a chair and a dean, or a dean and the Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs – must agree that a faculty member with alternative credentials is qualified to teach an assigned course.

## **Additional Supporting Documentation**

- S1. Request for Justifying and Documenting Qualifications of Faculty
- S2. <u>Faculty Roster form</u>
- S3. Faculty Qualification Decision Process