



PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE REAFFIRMATION COMMITTEE

Statement Regarding the Report

The Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) is responsible for making the final determination on reaffirmation of accreditation based on the findings contained in this committee report, the institution's response to issues contained in the report, other assessments relevant to the review, and application of the Commission's policies and procedures. Final interpretation of the Principles of Accreditation and final action on the accreditation status of the institution rest with SACSCOC Board of Trustees.

Name of the Institution: **University of South Carolina - Aiken**

Date of the Review: **November 5-6, 2020**

SACSCOC Staff Member: **Dr. Denise Y. Young**

Chair of the Committee: **Dr. William R. Fannin - CHAIR**
Professor of Management
The University of Texas Permian Basin
Odessa, TX

Section 4: Governing Board

4.2 The governing board

- 4.2.d defines and addresses potential conflict of interest for its members.
(*Conflict of interest*)

Compliance

As public officials, members of the USC System Board of Trustees are bound by Article 7 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina. The code establishes the “rules of conduct” for all public officials in the state. These rules provide specific procedures for managing conflicts of interest. The board’s Conflicts of Interest and Commitment Policy governs conflicts of interest across all institutions in the USC System. Like the rules of conduct in the state’s Code of Laws, the Board’s policy is very detailed and prescriptive in addressing conflicts of interest.

Board members must file annually a statement of economic interests with the State Ethics Commission. That statement becomes a matter of public record and is available for public inspection. The Board's Bylaws require trustees to use a conflict of interest form as necessary; this form is used as evidence of compliance. Additional evidence consists of affirmations of board members that they received copies of the Board’s conflict of interest policy.

Orientation of board members and annual trainings are addressed in 4.2.g.