



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 5: Administration and Organization

- 5.3 For any entity organized separately from the institution and formed primarily for the purpose of supporting the institution or its programs:
- (a) The legal authority and operating control of the institution is clearly defined with respect to that entity.
 - (b) The relationship of that entity to the institution and the extent of any liability arising from that relationship are clearly described in a formal, written manner.
 - (c) The institution demonstrates that (1) the chief executive officer controls any fund-raising activities of that entity or (2) the fund-raising activities of that entity are defined in a formal, written manner that assures those activities further the mission of the institution.

(Institution-related entities)

Compliance

The institution has two affiliated, legally separate entities supporting it and its programs. One is a research foundation and the second is an educational foundation. The South Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act outlines the statutory and fiduciary duties. Bylaws were provided for each. Also, a written affiliation agreement between the foundation and the institution exists for each foundation. Each affiliation agreement was approved by the institution's Board of Trustees and the individual foundation Board of Directors. These agreements thoroughly described the relationship between the institution and each foundation. For the research foundation, the most recent agreement was entered into on August 12, 2020, for five years beginning on July 1st. For the educational foundation agreement was entered into July 24, 2020, for five years beginning on July 1st.

Each affiliation agreement confirms that fund-raising activities are designed to further the mission of the university. The South Carolina Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act outlines asset management, and each affiliation agreement includes sufficient detail to substantiate those elements were included. The foundations are audited each year by an independent public accounting firm.