



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 6: Faculty

6.2 For each of its educational programs, the institution:

- 6.2.c Assigns appropriate responsibility for program coordination.
(*Program coordination*) **[Off-Site/On-Site Review]**

Non-Compliance

The Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee reviewed the Faculty Manual sections pertaining to responsibilities for academic deans, which includes review of curricula and programs, and the responsibilities for department chairs, which includes responsibilities for reviewing curricula and conducting program assessment. Supporting documentation included the appointment letter for the Art Program Director which assigns responsibility for program curricula modifications and analysis of assessment data.

The institution's compliance narrative includes Table 6.2.c Program Descriptions, Appointment Letters, CVs, and Qualifications of Program Coordinators. In addition, letters of appointment for departmental chairs who administer departments offering programs in more than one discipline indicate program coordination responsibility is assigned to the department chair for all programs offered by the department. The Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee found further information is needed to support appropriate credentials for the program coordinators listed below:

- Bachelor of Arts (Biology) and Bachelor of Science (Biology); Coordinator has PhD in Immunology
- Bachelor of Arts (Political Science); Coordinator has PhD in History
- Bachelor of Arts in Education (Early Childhood Education); Coordinator has EdD Education
- Bachelor of Arts in Education (Early Childhood Education); Coordinator has PhD Teacher Education
- Bachelor of Science (Applied Computer Science and the Applied Computer Science online program); Coordinator has PhD in Mathematics
- Bachelor of Science (Clinical Laboratory Science); Coordinator has PhD in Immunology
- Master of Education (Educator Leadership); Coordinator has PhD in Learning and Design Technology

The Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee could not find an institutional policy or job description related to the qualifying credentials and expected activities of program coordinators.