



## South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

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Mr. Gary S. Glenn  
Interim Executive Director

February 27, 2017

President Harris Pastides, Ph.D.  
University of South Carolina  
Osborne Administration  
Building, Suite 206  
Columbia, South Carolina 29208

Dear President Pastides:

Commission staff reviewed the proposed changes to the mission statement for the University of South Carolina Aiken. The proposed changes are non-substantive and are in compliance with existing mission statement guidelines. Therefore, the changes are subject only to staff review and approval.

A copy of the approved mission statement is attached. Published mission statements must include the date of Board of Trustee approval (December 13, 2016) and CHE approval (February 7, 2017).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary S. Glenn".

Gary S. Glenn  
Interim Executive Director

cc: Dr. Dr. Sandra J. Jordan, Chancellor, USC Aiken  
Dr. Jeffrey Priest, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs USC Aiken  
Ms. Joan T.A. Gabel, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, USC  
Dr. Tena Crews, Associate Provost, Academic Programs, USC

## **University of South Carolina Aiken Mission and Values Statements**

The University of South Carolina Aiken is a comprehensive institution that offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in the arts, humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and professional disciplines. All programs of study are grounded in a strong liberal arts and sciences curriculum.

USC Aiken is distinguished by its commitment to transformative teaching made possible through high impact learning practices, undergraduate research, small classes, and individual attention. The University encourages excellence in research and creative pursuits and prepares students for success by challenging them to think critically and creatively, to communicate effectively, to learn independently, and to acquire breadth and depth of interdisciplinary knowledge.

USC Aiken attracts students from South Carolina, the United States, and the world to form a diverse community of individuals engaged in educational experiences and service necessary for the pursuit of meaningful work in an enlightened, inclusive, and economically vibrant society. A progressive hub for innovation, collaboration, and creativity, USC Aiken contributes to the community by enriching the region's quality of life through a variety of activities including the visual and performing arts, intercollegiate athletics, continuing and distance education, educational outreach, and leadership.

### **USC SYSTEM**

As a comprehensive institution within the University of South Carolina System, the University of South Carolina Aiken combines the advantages of a smaller institution focused on individual learning with the resources of a major university system.

## **USC Aiken Academic Community Values**

USC AIKEN Our Academic Community embraces the following values:

### **1. Character**

We value integrity, honesty, and accountability. We encourage initiative and take pride in hard work and accomplishment.

### **2. Citizenship**

We value the rights and responsibilities associated with membership in a community. We embrace efforts to work for the common good and opportunities to enrich the lives of all community members.

### **3. Curiosity**

We value and embrace life-long learning and inquisitive pursuits. To that end, we endeavor to impart knowledge, skills, and wisdom in a high-quality learning environment.

### **4. Collegiality**

We value a nurturing community where people support one another, embrace diversity, and encourage mutual respect.