

**EXCERPT FROM THE 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 - Columbia**

Date of the Review: **November 3-4, 2020**

SACSCOC Staff Member: **Dr. Linda Thomas-Glover**

Chair of the Committee: **Dr. Timothy S. Brophy**
Director, Institutional Assessment
and Professor, Music Education
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32606

10.1 Academic Policies

- 10.1 The institution publishes, implements, and disseminates academic policies that adhere to principles of good educational practice and that accurately represent the programs and services of the institution.
(Academic policies)

Compliance

The Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee found support for the institution's case for compliance.

The main campus and the regional campuses have established, elected bodies that produce academic policies for senior administrator approval. Faculty manuals for all sites, the Policies and Procedures Manual, and the academic bulletins from various academic units are all readily available online. The institution's UNIV 1.00 Policy on Policies: Development and Oversight of University Policies, which has been recently updated, provides clear guidance for how policy approval processes work. The institutional policies website documents policies that are under review and offers campus constituents the opportunity to comment.

Policies are published both by central administration and by colleges and schools, which have authority to develop policies that are relevant to their programs. The institution references the applicability of policies to distance education and dual enrollment. Dissemination of policies is documented in the minutes of the Senate. Processes for policy implementation and dissemination are in alignment with those of peer institutions.

The commitment to representing the programs and services of the institution through academic policies is underscored by the ability of the regional campuses to have individual bulletins that address their concerns.