

**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

8.1

Student Achievement

- 8.1 **The institution identifies, evaluates, and publishes goals and outcomes for student achievement appropriate to the institution’s mission, the nature of the students it serves, and the kinds of programs offered. The institution uses multiple measures to document student success.**

(Student achievement) [CR; Off-Site/On-Site Review]

Non-Compliance

The institution’s response is in violation of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) policy, “Reports Submitted for SACSCOC Review,” by including live links in its response and electronic documentation that is not consistently bookmarked, indexed, searchable, or readable.

The institution uses graduation rates, program reviews, retention, licensing exam success to demonstrate student success at the main campus. The institution also provided retention data for its regional campuses. However, the institution provided embedded tables as screenshots that were unreadable and directed the Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee to the Office of Institutional Research, Assessment, and Analytics (OIRRAA) website, and the Committee was unable to locate the specific information the institution expected the Committee to review. The institution used the six-year graduation rate as its measure of student success, but the source of this graduation rate is not specified. The institution stated that it supports at risk students by monitoring underrepresented minority students, Pell eligible students, first-generation students, and transfer students. The institution provided as an example the disaggregated data of underrepresented minority students but did not provide disaggregated data for the other populations mentioned by the institution that are monitored.