Dear USC Aiken Colleagues:

I am pleased to announce that USC Aiken has demonstrated continuing compliance with the standards set by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) following the Fifth-Year Review. The Fifth-Year Review is based on a lengthy self-evaluation process that acts as mid-point check prior to full accreditation reviews every ten years. The Fifth-Year Interim Report was developed to respond to the U.S. Department of Education’s requirements that accrediting bodies continuously monitor institutions to ensure compliance.

After the initial review, USC Aiken was asked to submit a Referral Report to clarify our responses to two standards and provide additional evidence for compliance with assessment of student learning across all academic programs. Acceptance of the Referral Report signifies that our institution is in compliance with all standards and that no monitoring or follow up reports are required. The official letter from SACSCOC should arrive in July, but I wanted you to know about our collaborative achievement today!

A reaccreditation decision by SACSCOC, made every ten years, is the highest level of accreditation that can be given to a university or college and indicates our university’s substantial conformance to the standards through a rigorous peer-review process. Before we know it, we will be preparing for our decennial review, but meanwhile, hats off to our deans, faculty, department chairs, and all faculty members for their commitment to the principles of continuous improvement of student learning and success, and to the mission of the institution. Special thanks to Dr. Lloyd Dawe and the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Research, and Compliance for completing the University’s Referral Report.

Congratulations TEAM USC Aiken!!

Best,
Sandra Jordan
Chancellor