

Constituent Universities Appalachian State University

East Carolina University

Elizabeth City State University

Fayetteville State University

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

North Carolina Central University

North Carolina State University at Raleigh

University of North Carolina at Asheville

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

University of North Carolina at Charlotte

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

University of North Carolina at Pembroke

University of North Carolina at Wilmington

University of North Carolina School of the Arts

Western Carolina University

Winston-Salem State University

Constituent High School North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics

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The University of North Carolina

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MEMORANDUM

TO:

Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs

FROM:

President Thomas W. Ross

DATE:

August 5, 2013

SUBJECT:

Licensure of Saint Andrews University

The Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina is charged under North Carolina General Statute Section 116-15 with responsibility for licensing nonpublic educational institutions to conduct post-secondary degree activity in North Carolina. In November 2004, the Board of Governors approved revisions to the document, *Rules and Standards for Licensing Nonpublic Institutions to Conduct Post-Secondary Degree Activity in North Carolina.* This document provides the guidelines for interpreting the standards, and the rules, regulations, and procedures under which the Board issues licenses to institutions to conduct post-secondary degree activity in North Carolina.

Saint Andrews University has applied for a regular license to offer the following degree programs in Laurinburg, NC:

- Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Communication
- Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Middle Grades Education
- Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Special Education

Dr. Frank Prochaska reviewed the application and appointed a team of examiners to determine if Saint Andrews University complied with the licensure standards outlined in the *Rules and Standards*. On June 4, 2013, the team of examiners visited the Saint Andrews University campus in Laurinburg, NC. Following the site visit, the team of examiners issued its report which contained recommendations. For more details on the degree programs and report, please review the summary.

Thus, I recommend to the Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs of the UNC Board of Governors that a regular license be issued to Saint Andrews University to offer the above-named degree programs in Laurinburg, NC, subject to annual reports and review at any time. The programs will be reviewed within two calendar years of the initiation in North Carolina to judge whether the institution continues to maintain standards for licensure.

Enclosure: Summary

An Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action Employer

SUMMARY OF VISIT OF TEAM OF EXAMINERS FOR ST. ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

St. Andrews University (formerly St. Andrews Presbyterian College), a traditional private not-for-profit college located in Laurinburg, North Carolina, merged with Webber International University (Webber), a nonprofit, private educational institution located in Babson Park, Florida, on April 22, 2011. In August 2011, after a team of examiners visited the Webber campus in Florida, the UNC Board of Governors awarded Webber International University an interim permit to designate St. Andrews as an additional instructional location of Webber.

The history of St. Andrews began in 1896 with the founding of Flora Macdonald College in Red Springs, NC. In 1958, Flora Macdonald College merged with Presbyterian Junior College in Maxton, NC, to establish St. Andrews, which moved to its current location in Laurinburg in 1961.

Webber was originally established in 1927 as a women's college, with the exclusive purpose of teaching women about business. It was the first school chartered under the educational and charitable laws of the State of Florida as a non-profit organization. Webber International University has been in continuous operation since its founding in 1927, with students enrolled in degree programs each semester since its inception.

Webber International University and St. Andrews University, as a branch of Webber, are accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

THE APPLICATION AND SITE VISIT

St. Andrews University, as a branch of Webber International University, has applied for licensure to offer the following additional degree programs at its campus in Laurinburg, North Carolina:

- Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Communication
- Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Middle Grades Education
- Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Special Education

In accordance with the *Rules and Standards: Licensing Nonpublic Institutions to Conduct Post-Secondary Degree Activity in North Carolina*, Dr. Frank Prochaska, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at UNC General Administration, appointed a team of examiners to visit the institution on June 4, 2013 and evaluate its compliance with the licensure standards.

The team of examiners with expertise in the specific disciplines relating to the application was comprised of:

• Dr. Richard E. Neel (Chair), Dean Emeritus, Belk College of Business, and Professor of Economics Emeritus, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlotte, North Carolina

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- Dr. Betty Epanchin, Professor Emeritus, School of Education, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, North Carolina and Executive Secretary of the North Carolina Association of College and Teacher Educators
- Karen Gavigan, Assistant Professor, School of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina
- Dr. Randall G. Rogan, Professor of Communication and Senior Associate Dean for Academic Planning, Wake Forest College, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina
- Dr. John A. Swope, Associate Dean, College of Education, and Associate Professor of Education, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina
- Dr. Frank Prochaska, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, The University of North Carolina General Administration, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, *Ex Officio*

The team's task was to review the application and accompanying appendices and to participate in the site visit to determine if the institution demonstrated compliance with licensure standards. Either prior to the visit or during the visit, many additional items of documentation were reviewed by the team including curricula for the proposed degree program, course syllabi, faculty curriculum vitae, library and electronic resources, educational facilities, instructional resources, computer resources, the St. Andrews University 2012-2013 Academic Catalog, and the "Webber International University and St. Andrews University Institutional Effectiveness Plan for Annual Assessment and Planning in Academic and Administrative Areas," Third Edition (Revised), August, 2012.

During the visit, the team of examiners met with numerous administrators, faculty, staff, and students of St. Andrews University.

PROPOSED DEGREE PROGRAMS

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Communication

The B.A. in Communication degree program with a concentration in Public Relations is designed to prepare students to serve as public relations managers and public relations specialists in forprofit and non-profit organizations. The curriculum includes coursework in public speaking, communication theory, public relations writing, organizational communication, design applications, and public relations management. Students completing this 120 semester-hour degree program will be prepared to write and produce material for media releases and plan and direct public relations programs for their clients or employers.

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Middle Grades Education

The Middle Grades Education baccalaureate program at St. Andrews is designed to prepare teachers in the middle grades – which usually includes grades six through eight. The 120 semester-hour curriculum includes coursework in curriculum and instruction, education culture and diversity, child and adolescent development, educational psychology, technology for educators, classroom management, and student teaching.

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Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Special Education

The B.A. in Special Education: General Curriculum major at St. Andrews is designed to prepare special education teachers to work with students who have a wide range of learning, mental, emotional and physical disabilities. With students who have mild or moderate disabilities, they ensure that lessons and teaching strategies are modified to meet the students' needs. With students who have severe disabilities, they teach the students independent living skills and basic literacy, communication, and math. The degree program requires the completion of 120 semester hours of coursework.

RECOMMENDATIONS

After the site visit, the *Preliminary Report to the President of The University of North Carolina* from the Team of Examiners for the Visit to Review Three Proposed Bachelor of Arts Degree Programs at St. Andrews University was submitted. In the report, the team of examiners included two suggestions and seven recommendations. Suggestions, which are offered as suggested best practices by team members, do not indicate a lack of compliance with the Rules and Standards. A suggestion is written for the institution's benefit, and it does not need to be implemented; the recommendations, however, must be implemented by the institution. The recommendations addressed issues of program curricula, faculty staffing, and faculty credentials.

The team of examiners concludes its report by stating it would make its recommendation to the General Administration of The University of North Carolina regarding licensure of the proposed degree programs after it receives the response from St. Andrews University to the suggestions and recommendations contained in the report.

After receiving the team of examiners' report, St. Andrews University responded to the suggestions and recommendations. All of the recommendations have been implemented to the satisfaction of the team of examiners.

After reviewing the institution's response, the team of examiners recommends that St. Andrews University be licensed to offer the three baccalaureate programs requested.

Dr. Frank Prochaska agrees with the team's review and recommendations. Thus, General Administration recommends licensure of the three proposed degree programs listed above, to be offered by St. Andrews University at its location in Laurinburg, North Carolina.

A site visit will be performed within two calendar years of the initiation of the new degree programs, by a team of examiners with expertise in the field, to ascertain St. Andrews University's compliance with the *Rules and Standards*, including the recommendations contained in the report.