

**New Program Proposal  
Master of Science in Historic Preservation  
Clemson University**

**Summary**

Clemson University requests approval to offer a program leading to the Master of Science in Historic Preservation, to be implemented in August 2004. The program initially is to be offered "in cooperation with" the College of Charleston. The proposal indicates that the program is expected eventually to be offered as a "joint" program with the College of Charleston under conditions stipulated in the proposal.

The proposal was approved by the Clemson Board of Trustees on March 3, 2003, and submitted for Commission review on July 30, 2003. The proposal was reviewed without substantive comment and voted upon favorably by the Advisory Committee on Academic Programs at its meeting on October 8, 2003.

The purpose of the program is to prepare graduates for leadership positions in the rapidly growing field of historic preservation in its architectural, landscape, historic, construction science and engineering dimensions. At the time that the College of Charleston might become a joint participant in the offering of this program, the humanistic and fine arts aspects of the degree program will be strengthened in the program, according to information shared at the Advisory Committee meeting on October 8, 2003. The college projects that it is approximately a year away from being able to assume some teaching responsibilities in the program.

The emphasis in the program will be on preparing students to become preservation specialists needed for South Carolina's historic infrastructure and landscape and to take national leadership positions in this area, thereby generating research funding into the state for enhancement and protection of the historic "built environment" of South Carolina. The program is designed to meet emerging needs for specializations in historic aspects of the built environment, as recommended by the National Council for Preservation Education. The site of the program will be Clemson University's Architecture Center in Charleston. The need for the program is based upon the trillion-dollar "restoration economy" which already exists in the United States and the fact that 94% of all construction funds are said, nationally, to be currently invested in the built environment. Likewise, the program is needed to produce the knowledgeable, skilled professionals required to care for and enhance the historic environments in South Carolina which form the heart of the state's \$15 billion per year tourist industry.

The curriculum consists of a minimum of 54 credit hours. The program is designed to be completed, including a thesis, within four semesters. Students are required to take a core of courses in the first semester of the program. Students will design a preservation project in the second semester and experience a summer internship in the first year's summer term. At the beginning of the second year of the program, students experience lab-based 'conservation' studies and begin to do research for their thesis. In the final semester the student finishes the thesis for which a focus has been given to the particular research interests of the student.

There are no other programs of this type at this degree level in South Carolina or the Southern region. If approved, the proposal states that the program will be a "peer" of programs at the University of Pennsylvania, Columbia University, and the University of Oregon.

The proposal states that one new tenure-track faculty member (1 FTE) will be hired in the first year of the program. This person will join with an existing faculty member at the Architecture Center in Charleston to form the core of the new program's faculty. Additional faculty in History/Geography, History of Landscape, and Material Science at Clemson will support the program. In addition, a new full-time faculty member (1 FTE) from College of Charleston is anticipated to join as the program becomes a joint degree in approximately the third year of the program's operation. All faculty members will need to be credentialed for appropriate teaching of their disciplines at the graduate level. A total of three headcount (3 FTE.) faculty are anticipated to be working with the core of the program in the third year of the program's operation and beyond.

Enrollment in the proposed program is estimated to begin at 12 headcount (12 FTE) students in FY 2004-2005, rising to 24 headcount (24 FTE) students in the second year of the program's implementation. If the College of Charleston jointly offers the program in the third, fourth and fifth years of the program, there are anticipated to be 36 students (36 FTE) enrolled in it. Estimates are based on Clemson University's presumption of student demand for the program and the limitations to enrollment that this program will require. If the enrollment projections are met, the program will meet the current CHE program productivity standards for enrollment.

A unique feature of the program proposal is the envisioned relationship between Clemson University and the College of Charleston. This current status of "cooperation" and future status of an institutional partnership for joint offering of the program is dependent upon the College of Charleston approving funds for the hiring of faculty and other important investments in the proposal. In the meantime, the program is acknowledged formally and officially by both parties to be currently a program solely of Clemson University. If a future partnership emerges for the joint offering of the degree, representatives of the two institutions acknowledged at the October 8, 2003, meeting of

the Advisory Committee on Academic Programs that the joint degree's implementation will be outlined in a formal, written agreement between the two institutions included as part of the program modification which will be submitted to the Commission on Higher Education.

Also, in response to questions raised at the Advisory Committee on Academic Programs meeting on October 8, 2004, Clemson representatives indicated that there will be continuing cooperation (especially in thesis development work) with the faculty of the private, proprietary Charleston School for the Building Arts. The written proposal does not discuss this cooperative relationship.

The program will not be required to seek accreditation, but will request accreditation through the National Council on Historic Preservation Education. The Council "recognizes" programs which it has reviewed if they meet the Council's criteria of good practice.

There are no physical plant or equipment requirements for the proposed program. Although significant library resources necessary for the new program are currently available through Clemson and the College of Charleston's collections, additional library development for research purposes will be pursued through external funding. New costs for the program are estimated to begin at \$217,000 in the first year, \$198,000 in the second year, and \$273,000 in the third, fourth and fifth years of implementation. These costs over the first five years of the new program include program administration, faculty salaries, clerical/support personnel, supplies and materials, library resources, equipment, facilities, and travel, recruitment and professional development. Total estimated new costs for the program during the first five years will be \$1,234,000.

Shown below are the estimated Mission Resource Requirement (MRR) costs to the state and new costs not funded by the MRR associated with implementation of the proposed program for its first five years. Also shown are the estimated revenues projected under the MRR and the Resource Allocation Plan as well as student tuition.

Year	Estimated MRR Cost for Proposed Program	Extraordinary (Non-MRR) Costs for Proposed Program	Total Costs	State Appropriation	Tuition	Total Revenue
2003-04	198,792	0	<b>\$198,792</b>	0	57,262	<b>\$57,262</b>
2004-05	397,584	0	<b>\$397,584</b>	67,797	114,524	<b>\$182,322</b>
2005-06	596,376	0	<b>\$596,376</b>	135,594	171,056	<b>\$306,650</b>
2006-07	596,376	0	<b>\$596,376</b>	204,165	171,056	<b>\$375,221</b>
2007-08	596,376	0	<b>\$596,376</b>	204,165	171,056	<b>\$375,221</b>

These data demonstrate that if the institution meets the projected student enrollments and contain costs as they are shown in the proposal (including the addition of 12 more students in the program in the third through fifth years, assuming College of Charleston might jointly offer the degree), the program will still not be able to cover costs with revenues it generates by the fifth year of its implementation. Nevertheless, the institution remains committed to providing this degree and has indicated that external funding is being developed to meet those needs. Student interest and market demand for graduates appear to be high for the program. The program promises a combination of academic quality and significant professional employment opportunities for its graduates.

In summary, the institution will offer a Master of Science degree in Historic Preservation that will be unique in South Carolina and the Southern region at the graduate level. This degree will allow students to obtain the skills and knowledge needed to work in the growing field of historic preservation. The program is designed to produce graduates who can meet the needs of protecting and enhancing the historic environment in South Carolina and to assume leadership positions nationally in historic preservation so that research funding can be obtained to support this growing area of the economy. It is anticipated that the College of Charleston will jointly offer this degree by the third year of its implementation and will commit significant resources to that end.

### **Recommendation**

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve the program leading to the Master of Science in Historic Preservation by Clemson University, to be implemented in August, 2004, provided that

- no "unique cost" or other special state funding be required or requested;
- and provided further that at the time that the College of Charleston might seek to offer the program jointly with Clemson University, a formal, written agreement between the institutions will be signed and filed with the Commission in which the flow of state funding, the responsibility for student enrollment reporting, and faculty and facility utilization are clearly delineated.