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Agenda Item 3.02 B

Dr. Conrad Festa  
Executive Director

**Commission on  
Higher Education**

November 13, 2003

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Mr. Dalton B. Floyd Jr., Chairman, and Members, Commission on Higher Education

**From:** Dr. Vermelle Johnson, Chairman, and Members, Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing *VJ/jaw*

**Consideration of Centers of Excellence Annual Report (Teacher Education), FY 2002-03**

**Background**

The Education Improvement Act of 1984 provided for the establishment of a contract program to foster the development of Centers of Excellence in teacher education in public and private colleges in South Carolina. Program *Guidelines* define annual reporting requirements for ongoing Centers and the constitution of a review panel that includes external reviewers to make recommendations concerning the funding of any new Centers should funds be appropriated by the General Assembly. The Committee approved an awarding of a new Center of Excellence to the USC-Columbia and USC-Aiken at its meeting on April 30, 2003.

This report summarizes the annual reports submitted by each of the four Centers that received State funding in FY 2002-03. These summaries also include the overarching goals for each of the four Centers. If you wish to receive a complete annual report for any or all of the Centers, please let the staff know and these will be made available to you.

The summaries of the achieved goals from the annual reports for each Center funded during FY 2002-03 are included as **Attachment 1**. **Attachment 2** summarizes the impact Center activities have had on various components of the K-16 system.

### **Recommendation**

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve this report for transmission to the EIA Select Sub-Committee of the Educational Oversight Committee.

### **Attachments**

cc: Center Directors  
Dr. Joanne Anderson, Executive Director, EOC  
Mr. Jack Kresslein, Research Staff, Senate Education Committee  
Ms. Lena Lee, Research Staff, House Education and Public Works Committee