



SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

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TO: Members, Commission on Higher Education

FROM: Frank E. Kinard

Semi-Annual Progress Report on Cooperative Institutional Arrangements
in Sumter and in the Spartanburg AreaI. Introduction

At its meeting on June 5, 1975, the Commission gave its final approval to the change in operation of the regional campus at Sumter from Clemson University to the University of South Carolina. In doing so, the Commission requested that the staff provide semi-annual reports on cooperative arrangements to be developed between USC-Sumter and the Sumter Area Technical College. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the initial complement of baccalaureate degree programs at USC-Spartanburg, and accompanied that approval with a similar request for semi-annual reports on specified cooperative arrangements among institutions in the Spartanburg area: USC-Spartanburg, Spartanburg Technical College, and Converse, Limestone and Wofford. This constitutes the fourth such semi-annual progress report to be submitted for your information and approval.

As agreed at your meeting on January 7, 1977, future reports in this series will be required on an annual rather than a semi-annual basis. The next report will be submitted in June, 1978.

II. Cooperative Arrangements in the Sumter Area

During the past six months, librarians at Sumter Area Technical College and at USC-Sumter have examined the feasibility of combining lists of holdings at the two institutions into a joint Union Card Catalog, to facilitate interlibrary usage by faculty and staff. Their conclusion, agreed to by the administrations at both institutions, was that the cost of compiling this Catalog would be excessive in view of the anticipated benefits. Students and faculty at both institutions are free to use the library at each institution.

Consultation on an informal basis between librarians in purchasing new books or periodicals continues, to reduce duplication.

In April, the institutional directors appointed a "Standing Joint Committee on Cooperative Effort". This consists of five representatives from each institution representing the areas of academic affairs, student services, continuing education, libraries and faculty. This Committee will hold its first meeting in Fall, 1977.

III. Cooperative Arrangements in the Spartanburg Area

As indicated in the third semi-annual report, formal contractual agreements for the sharing of students, or faculty, have been abandoned in favor of ad hoc arrangements, each covered by a separate less formal agreement. Some examples of these are:

- (1) Twenty-four students registered at USC-Spartanburg are enrolled in Wofford Colleges' Army R.O.T.C. program;
- (2) Bi-lateral student exchange between Wofford and Converse continues with, in 1976-77, an average of 27 Wofford students enrolled for courses at Converse totalling 146 student credit hours per semester, and an average of 33 Converse students enrolled for courses at Wofford totalling 130 student credit hours per semester;
- (3) USC-Spartanburg and Converse continue a joint faculty appointment in the fine arts area, with this year Converse responsible for 25% of the salary and a corresponding portion of the teaching time.

Librarians in the area, including those from the public library and some industrial concerns in the vicinity, continue to pursue joint activities. During the past six months, a union list of periodical holdings in five institutional libraries (excluding only Limestone), three industrial libraries--Cryovac Engineering, Deering-Milliken Research Laboratory, and Hoechst Fibers--and in the Spartanburg County Library has been completed and distributed.

During the spring, a regional placement program was held for graduating seniors, at Converse College. Participating institutions were these seven senior colleges: Coker, Columbia, Converse, Limestone, USC-Spartanburg, Winthrop and Wofford. Interviews were arranged with employment representatives from 24 private firms and governmental agencies. In addition, all Spartanburg-area institutions and the Spartanburg city schools cooperated in a "college and careers day" program at a downtown location.

Wofford and USC-Spartanburg are coordinating security and safety arrangements, utilizing emergency radio links through the city's Metropolitan Central Communications Center. USC-Spartanburg and Spartanburg Technical College have submitted an application for federal funding of a Career Development Program that may, if successful, be later expanded to include all area institutions.

Although the chief executives of all six of the Spartanburg-area institutions have been meeting at least on a quarterly basis, no such meeting has taken place in the six months since the last semi-annual report was submitted.