

Agenda Item 3.05.C

Consideration of Common Schedule for Institutional Effectiveness Summary Reports

Explanation: As part of the Institutional Effectiveness reporting required by Chapter 59, Sections 101 and 104 of the SC Code of Laws of 1976 (as amended), South Carolina's institutions of higher education provide regular reports on four major aspects of their institution. These reports—Academic Advising, General Education, Library Resources, and Student Development—are provided on a four-year cycle and included as part of the Campus-Based Assessment section of A Closer Look at Public Higher Education in South Carolina.

While each institution must submit a report on each of these areas every four years, the past practice has been that each institution had its own schedule for reporting. Some institutions have chosen to meet the requirement by reporting on all four areas simultaneously every four years, some by reporting pairs every two years, and most by reporting on a different area each year. While each of these approaches meets the established requirements, the variety of reporting schedules greatly reduces the potential usefulness of the reports.

At the September 20th meeting of CAPA, staff introduced a common reporting schedule to the members for discussion. The schedule is designed such that each year the institutions will report on one of the four areas and, most importantly, they will all report on the same area. The only change being considered is to put all institutions on a common reporting schedule. The content of the reports remains unaffected, as does the four-year cycle. The plan was discussed by the institutional representatives and approved.

Recommendation: The Planning and Assessment Committee recommends for approval of the Commission the common Summary Report schedule for Institutional Effectiveness reporting.

A chart showing the recommended schedule is presented on the next three pages.