

**EXCERPT FROM THE PRELIMINARY REPORT
OF THE REAFFIRMATION COMMITTEE**

Statement Regarding the Report

The Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) is responsible for making the final determination on reaffirmation of accreditation based on the findings contained in this committee report, the institution's response to issues contained in the report, other assessments relevant to the review, and application of the Commission's policies and procedures. Final interpretation of the Principles of Accreditation and final action on the accreditation status of the institution rest with SACSCOC Board of Trustees.

Name of the Institution: **University of South Carolina - Columbia**

Date of the Review: **November 3-4, 2020**

SACSCOC Staff Member: **Dr. Linda Thomas-Glover**

Chair of the Committee: **Dr. Timothy S. Brophy**
Director, Institutional Assessment
and Professor, Music Education
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32606

7.3

Administrative Effectiveness

- 7.3 The institution identifies expected outcomes of its administrative support services and demonstrates the extent to which the outcomes are achieved.
(Administrative effectiveness)

Non-Compliance

The institution's response is in violation of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) policy, "Reports Submitted for SACSCOC Review," by including live links in its response and electronic documentation that is not consistently bookmarked, indexed, and searchable.

It is not clear to the Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee how the institution identified administrative units based on its organizational structure. The institution directed the Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee to a live website that presented blueprints for some administrative units. The institution provided some examples in the document itself for two years, however these documents were insufficient to support the institution's case for compliance. The Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee could not determine that the institution identifies expected outcomes and demonstrates the extent to which the outcomes are achieved because the documentation lacked evidence of a consistent, meaningful effectiveness system. For instance, the institution provided the 2019-20 Finance Blueprint as evidence. It was not clear what were the goals of this administrative unit and what was achieved based on these goals.