



January 19, 2016

David Cole, M.D.  
President  
Medical University of South Carolina  
179 Ashley Avenue  
MSC 001  
Charleston, SC 29425

Dr. Harris Pastides  
President  
University of South Carolina - Columbia  
206 Osborne Administration Building  
Columbia, SC 29208

Dear Dr. Cole and Dr. Pastides:

Thank you for the letter dated September 16, 2015, notifying SACSCOC of your intention to close the joint Doctor of Pharmacy degree program currently offered under the operational name of the South Carolina College of Pharmacy (SCCP), effective fall 2015.

In a letter dated October 7, 2005, the Medical University of South Carolina and the University of South Carolina – Columbia received approval from SACSCOC to each offer a united pharmacy curriculum and jointly award the Doctor of Pharmacy degree under an organizational entity called the SCCP. The SCCP was never accredited as a separate degree-conferring entity. Both USC and MUSC retained their approval from SACSCOC to confer the Doctor of Pharmacy degree.

Both MUSC and USC – Columbia now wish to terminate the joint degree program and dissolve the SCCP. Both institutions will seek separate professional accreditation approval from the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) to offer the Doctor of Pharmacy degree.

SCCP students enrolled in the program in the fall of 2015, were notified of the program closure in a letter dated August 7, 2015. Students enrolled under the auspices of the joint SCCP program will be allowed to complete all requirements through the end of academic year 2018-2019. MUSC College of Pharmacy and USC – Columbia College of Pharmacy students beginning in the fall of 2016, will be enrolled as MUSC or USC – Columbia College of Pharmacy students.

Your notification of the program closure does not indicate whether or not any faculty or staff members will be affected by the closure of the joint degree program. Nor does it indicate whether or not students will incur any additional charges as a result of the program closure. **Please indicate how faculty or staff will be redeployed or helped to find new employment (if any were affected by the closure) or if students incurred any additional charges as a result of the program closure.**





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**We defer action concerning the request for the joint program closure pending review of the above requested information.** Please provide this information by March 1, 2016. Please inform SACSCOC when you receive approval from the ACPE and the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Belle S. Wheelan".

Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.  
President

BSW/LCS:efk

cc: Dr. Suzanne Thomas, Director, Office of Institutional Effectiveness, MUSC  
Mr. Donald Miles, Executive Director of Institutional Research and Assessment,  
USC – Columbia  
Dr. Steven M. Sheeley  
Dr. Barry D. Goldstein