CS 3.2.12 - Fund-raising Activities

The institution’s chief executive officer controls the institution’s fund-raising activities exclusive of institution-related foundations that are independent and separately incorporated.

Compliance finding: In Compliance

Narrative:

The University of South Carolina Board of Trustees Bylaws give the President ultimate control over the fiscal management of the University. The Chancellor of the University of South Carolina Beaufort (USC Beaufort) reports directly to the President of the University of South Carolina, who administers all USC system campuses. The Chancellor is given fiscal responsibility for USC Beaufort fundraising activities by the Board of Trustees Bylaws [i], which state that the Chancellor shall "bear responsibility for fund raising, intercollegiate athletics, auxiliary enterprises, and alumni activities.

The Chancellor is directly responsible for the orderly management of fundraising, fiscal affairs and the auxiliary enterprises, and for the maintenance and development of USC Beaufort’s financial resources. The Chancellor has the power necessary to discharge this responsibility, specifically to:

- prepare, submit for Presidential and Board of Trustees approval and administer annual operating budgets;

- administer appropriate funds, the collection and expenditure of student fees and tuition, subject to the specified provisions of respective University of South Carolina policy;

- solicit and receive funds on behalf of the University of South Carolina Beaufort.

Moreover, the Chancellor’s position description [ii] includes the following qualifications:

- Experience in the development of a resource base consistent with the highest priority needs and aspirations of the institution by enhancing established relationships and by forging new bonds of confidence and support with the local community, state and national public officials, and any other individuals who can assist the University of South Carolina Beaufort in its funding goals in order to enhance its position as a regional leader in higher education.

- Ability to recognize the crucial importance of the institution's endowment to the long-term financial stability of the University and a demonstrated ability to successfully raise significant funds from both private and public sources to ensure the growth of the University of South Carolina Beaufort’s endowment fund.

- Ability to build enduring, mutually enriching and rewarding relationships with the University’s Alumni and Foundations supporters that continue to
develop their enthusiastic support of the University’s academic and financial goals.

As outlined in the USC Beaufort organizational structure [iii], the Vice Chancellor for University Advancement reports directly to the Chancellor. Reporting to the Vice Chancellor for University Advancement and heading USC Beaufort’s Office of Development [iv] is the Director of Development. The role of the Director includes working with the Chancellor to oversee fundraising at USC Beaufort, providing counsel and assistance to the USC Beaufort community and coordinating ways to procure and establish private gift support, grants and contracts.

The fundraising activities of USC Beaufort follow the policies and procedures of the University of South Carolina Development Office[v]. Funds received from donors are designated by the donor for deposit with either the University of South Carolina or the USC Foundations [vi] that manages endowments and development accounts on behalf of the campus. Financial activity for the entire University of South Carolina system is audited annually [vii] by an independent auditing firm and periodical internal audits are also conducted. Fiscal activity of the foundations is also audited by an independent firm. Audit reports for the University of South Carolina system are presented to the USC Board of Trustees and audit reports for the foundations are presented to the respective boards of directors for each foundation.

The Chancellor, in consultation with the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Operations and the USC Beaufort Budget Committee, proposes an annual budget and a financial overview of the USC Beaufort to the President, including recommendations for funding of the yearly operational plans and financing of its long-term capital needs. The Chancellor also recommends to the President funding options for facility construction/acquisition plans. These plans are reviewed and approved by the President and the Board of Trustees.

Supporting Documentation

i  Board of Trustees Bylaws -- Fiscal Responsibility
ii  Chancellor’s Position Description
iii USC Beaufort Organizational Structure
iv USC Beaufort’s Office of Development
v University of South Carolina Development Office
vi USC Foundations
vii University of South Carolina Financial Audit