



**POLICY TITLE**  
***Mission Review Policy***

**POLICY NUMBER**  
**6-004**

<b>Responsible Unit:</b> <i>Office of Strategic Planning, Policy, and Institutional Effectiveness</i>	<b>Effective Date:</b> 06/22/2018
<b>Responsible Official:</b> <i>Vice President for Strategic Planning, Policy, and Institutional Effectiveness</i>	<b>Last Reviewed Date:</b>
<b>Policy Classification:</b> <i>Governance</i>	<b>Origination Date:</b> 06/22/2018

**I. POLICY STATEMENT AND RATIONALE**

The Board of Supervisors of the Southern University and A&M College System (Board) formally approves and periodically reviews the mission statements of its institutions. The Board in its review may reaffirm the mission statements of its institutions or determine whether changes are made, thereby ensuring that institutional goals and outcomes remain compatible with the mission statements.

**II. POLICY SCOPE AND AUDIENCE**

The mission statements of the five campuses that make up the Southern University and A&M College System are eligible for regular review by the Board.

**III. POLICY COMPLIANCE**

In December 2017, the 2018 Edition of the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Colleges (SACS-COC) Principles of Accreditation – Foundations for Quality was adopted by the College Delegate Assembly. Implementation of the *Mission Review Policy* shall ensure that the Board is in compliance with SACS-COC Principle 4.2.a. that states the *Governing Board ensures the regular review of the institution's mission (Mission Review)*.

**IV. POLICY DEFINITIONS**

***Board of Supervisors of the Southern University and A&M College System:*** The Board is vested with the responsibility via the Louisiana State Constitution of 1974 and specific Louisiana Revised Statutes for the management and supervision of its institutions, statewide agricultural programs and other programs which comprise the Southern University and A&M College System.

***Southern Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Colleges (SACS-COC):*** SACS-COC is the regional body for the accreditation of degree-granting higher education institutions in the Southern states. The mission of SACS-COC is to assure the educational quality and improve the effectiveness of its member institutions: Accreditation by SACS-COC signifies that the institution (1) has a mission appropriate to higher education, (2) has resources, programs, and services sufficient to accomplish and sustain that mission, and (3) maintains clearly specified educational objectives that are consistent with its mission and appropriate to the degrees it offers and that indicate whether it is successful in achieving its stated objectives.

***Mission:*** The mission statement is a comprehensive statement addressing all aspects of institutional function. It is important that the institutional mission statement be formally adopted, published, implemented, and made available to all the constituencies of the institution and to the general public. Because the mission statement describes what the institution does, it is the foundation for planning and effectiveness processes. These processes validate that the institution does what it claims and evaluates how well it fulfills its mission statement. The mission statement thus provides the basis and context for evaluating institutional effectiveness. SACS-COC uses the term “mission” throughout its standards to be consistent in representing other terminology that may mean the same, such as purpose or vision.

***Policy Classification:*** Within the proposed Board Policy Manual, the Board’s *Mission Review Policy* will be listed under the *Governance Policy Classification*.

***Responsible Unit:*** The unit charged with oversight for the development, review, update, archive, and implementation of this Board policy.

***Responsible Official:*** The official that is responsible for the implementation of this Board policy.

***Policy Implementation Procedures:*** A series of interrelated steps or guidelines necessary to implement Board policies.

## **V. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES**

The implementation of this policy requires the Board to conduct an annual review of the mission statements of its institutions.

- Mission reviews shall occur annually, no later than August 31<sup>st</sup>.
- The Chancellors of each institution shall present their respective mission statements to the Board for review, analysis, and discussion.
- The Board, in its review, may reaffirm the mission statements and determine whether changes need to be made, thereby ensuring that institutional goals and outcomes remain compatible with the mission statements.
- Mission reviews further allow the Board to better assess the effectiveness of its institutions.

**VI. POLICY RELATED INFORMATION**

SACS-COC Principle 4.2.a. requires the Board to ensure the regular review of the mission statements of its institutions. This requirement is identified in the 2018 Edition of the SACS-COC Principles of Accreditation – Foundations for Quality located at [www.sacs.org](http://www.sacs.org).

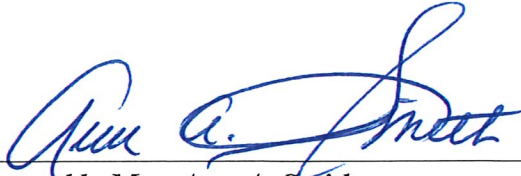
**VII. POLICY HISTORY AND REVIEW CYCLE**

This is a new policy. The effective date of this policy is determined by the approval date and signature of the Board Chair. This policy is subject to a five-year policy review cycle.

**VIII. POLICY URL**

This section identifies the Southern University System website where the Board policies are archived – [www.sus.edu](http://www.sus.edu).

**IX. POLICY APPROVAL**



*The Honorable Mrs. Ann A. Smith*  
*Chair - Southern University System Board of Supervisors*



*Effective Date of Policy*