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The institution has a clearly defined, comprehensive, and published mission statement that is specific to the institution and appropriate for higher education. The mission addresses teaching and learning and, where applicable, research and public service.
(Institutional Mission)

The University of South Carolina Columbia provides a comprehensive, clear, published mission that addresses research and service, the role of distance education in instruction, degree levels offered, and the impact of the campus on higher education in South Carolina. This mission statement, revised and approved in August, 2010, is published on the USC web page as well as in various other publications.