

***2.8** The number of full-time faculty members is adequate to support the mission of the institution and to ensure the quality and integrity of its academic programs. **(Faculty)**

USC Columbia employs full-time 1,343 instructional, 118 research, and 2 service faculty members for a campus with 28,481 students (fall 2009). The student /faculty ratio for USC Columbia is 18: 1, which is on the upper end (range = 17: 1 to 20: 1) of 10 of the University's public research university peers in the Southeastern Athletic Conference. The University is appropriately served by an active Faculty Senate and meets instructional standards of programmatically accredited programs. USC Columbia appears to provide a number of full-time faculty members adequate to support the mission of the institution and to ensure the quality and integrity of its academic programs. The institution provided adequate information by program and for distance education sites.

The On-Site Review Committee conducted interviews and reviewed pertinent documentation in support of the institution's case for compliance and sustained the OffSite Reaffirmation Committee's findings.