

**Palmetto College Faculty Senate
Blackboard Collaborate
Friday, November 20, 2020**

Morning Session	11:00 - 11:45 AM
Welcome, Dr. Ernest Jenkins	
Report from the Chancellor, Dr. Susan Elkins (See Appendix 1)	
Report from the Associate Provost, Dr. John Catalano (See Appendix 2)	
Reports from Palmetto College Campus Deans	
Dean Ron Cox, USC Palmetto College Columbia (See Appendix 3)	
Dean Walt Collins, USC Lancaster (See Appendix 4)	
Dean Chris Nesmith, USC Salkehatchie (See Appendix 5)	
Dean Michael Sonntag, USC Sumter (See Appendix 6)	
Interim Dean Randy Lowell, USC Union (See Appendix 7)	
Break	11:45 - 12:15 PM
Standing Committees	12:15 - 1:45 PM
I. Rights and Responsibilities	
II. Welfare	
III. System Affairs	
Executive Committee	12:15 - 1:45 PM
Deans Meeting	12:15 - 1:45PM
Break	1:45 - 1:50PM
Afternoon Session	1:50 - 4:00PM

Agenda for Afternoon Session

I. Call to Order at 1:50

II. Attendance

(In attendance: Ernest Jenkins, Steve Lownes, David Dangerfield, Bianca Rowlett, Christina Sixta-Rinehart, Andy Yingst, Shelley Jones, Patrick Saucier, Julia Elliot, Brittany Taylor-Driggers, Jerrod Yarosh, Peter Seipel, Bettie Obi Johnson, Li Cai, Stephen Criswell, David Hatch, Sarah Miller, Francis Burns, Justin Mogilski, Santosh Nandi, Blane DaSilva, Mark Roberts, Katie Klik, Matthew Holley, Kristina Grob, Lee Morris, Jennifer Emswiler, Greta Bailey, Kevin Torres)

III. Correction/Approval of Minutes: September 4, 2020 through Blackboard Collaborate Minutes Approved

IV. Reports from Standing Committees

A. Rights and Responsibilities – Professor Sarah Miller

Rights and Responsibilities Committee Report:

1. The committee continued work on the Grievance Procedure in the manual. Two additional steps were added for administration and the Provost's step was removed since the Chancellor answers directly to the President except in cases involving tenure or promotion. We want to clarify one more point and hope to present this motion at the next meeting.
2. The committee was charged at reviewing the Post-Tenure section in the manual. The committee decided that it was adequate and that any addition to the process should be done on the campus level.
3. We also discussed the issue of split tenure and promotion voting on files and will continue with this in the spring.

B. Welfare – Professor Bettie Obi Johnson (See Appendix 8)

C. System Affairs – Professor David Hatch

Discussed the following:

1. Curriculum Process-changes go to Columbia-dissemination of curricular changes
2. What have we learned from our online teaching-CTE facilitating shared resources
3. Blackboard Tweaks and Inadequacies

V. Executive Committee

A. Chair - Professor Ernest Jenkins

Mentioned Columbia Faculty Committees and next EC Meeting October 30th

B. Palmetto College Faculty Manual Liaison Officer – Professor Andy Yingst

Nothing to report

VI. Reports from Special Committees

A. Committee on Libraries – Professor Rebecca Freeman

Not in attendance, no report

B. Committee on Curricula and Courses – Professor Lee Morris

Nothing to report

C. Committee on Faculty Welfare – Professor Shelley Jones

Columbia's extension for tenure did not include PC campuses. There should be a statement regarding COVID, Employee Ethical Manual-code of conduct being developed. Welfare on Columbia campus description does not include PC senators on committee.

D. Faculty-Board of Trustees Liaison Committee – Professor Ernest Jenkins

Nothing to Report

E. Palmetto College Research and Productive Scholarship Committee – Professor Lee Morris

Nothing to report

F. Palmetto College Academic Advisory Council – Professor Steve Lowe (See appendix 9)

They have met three times. Discussed changes to BLS major (thoughts on lower-level courses, but not changes for now); Foreign Language requirement will not change for now; Possible creation of Cultural Studies to be pushed through-needs to investigate further; Legal Studies requires a Needs Assessment; Advisors were hired on the PC Columbia campus to advise all BLS and BOL students for all campuses, the role of advisors on local campuses has changed; PALM 401 has the perception of being too difficult, currently investigating that.

G. Other Committees

Provost Advisory Committee- Professor Christina Sixta-Rinehart will have list of questions for provost.

Conflict of Interest Committee – Professor Noni Bohonak

No report

VII. Unfinished Business

None

VIII. New Business

None

IX. Announcements

None

X. Adjournment at 2:47pm

PALMETTO COLLEGE CAMPUSES FACULTY SENATE

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT – NOVEMBER 20, 2020

- Thank YOU for your service to the PCC Faculty Senate, especially in this unprecedented year of 2020!
- **COVID-19 Mitigation Activity/Fall Semester Monitoring/Spring Semester Planning**
 - **Number One Priority:** *Safety, health, and well-being of faculty, staff, and students.*
 - **Planning and Preparation:** Successful completion of Fall 2020; Spring 2021 planning for same protocol as Fall 2020; PC Faculty, Staff, and Student surveys in progress; PC Tenure and Promotion timeline extended in alignment with UofSC Columbia due to COVID-19 impact.
 - **Risk Mitigation and Reopening Plan:** PC Risk Mitigation/Reopening/Monitoring Plan will continue for Spring 2021; PC Town Hall early Dec.
 - **Decision Matrix/Dashboard/Campus Conditions:** Continual monitoring of key conditions for decision making; adjustments as needed; weekly reporting through PC Dashboard in Chancellor's Friday Updates; number of cases primarily in single digits throughout Fall 2020.
- **Enrollment Update**
 - **Palmetto College Headcount Enrollment at Preliminary Census:**
 - **Overall Palmetto College:** Increase +2.63% from 6,355 F19 to 6,522 F20
 - **Palmetto Colleges Campuses:** Increase +.57% from 5,117 F19 to 5,146 F20
 - **Course Delivery Fall Semester:** 47.3% Online, 43.9% F2F, 8.8% Hybrid
 - **Palmetto College On-Campus Degree Completion Programs:** Decrease -6.31% from 111 F19 to 104 F20
 - **Palmetto College Columbia:** Palmetto Pathways-49 (54-F19); Ft. Jackson-285 (342-F19); BLS-146 (166-F19); BOL-151(148-F19)
 - **Palmetto College Online Programs:** Increase +13.57% from 1,120 F19 to 1,272 F20
- **Fall Semester Priorities/Spring Semester Planning**
 - 1. Campus Reopening, 2. Risk Mitigation, 3. Recruitment/Retention/Budget, 4. SACSCOC, 5. PC Strategic Plan to align with UofSC Strategic Plan – *For South Carolina: A Path to Excellence.*



FALL SEMESTER ACCOMPLISHMENTS – CONGRATULATIONS!

- **USC Lancaster, Salkehatchie, and Sumter - TRIO Program Grants Awarded**
 - The U.S. Department of Education has awarded more than \$1 Million to the TRIO Programs across USC Lancaster, USC Salkehatchie and USC Sumter in support of their work with income-challenged and first-generation students. In honor of the accomplishment, Pres. Caslen awarded the UofSC President's Coin of Excellence to Matt Williamson (USC Lancaster), Latoya Robinson (USC Salkehatchie) and Lisa Rosdail (USC Sumter).
- **USC Union – Timken Foundation Grant Purchases Virtual Reality Lab Microscopes**
 - Twenty-four new Zeiss microscopes were recently purchased for the Virtual Reality Lab in the Science & Nursing Building with grant funding from a local Timken Foundation grant in the amount of \$100,000. The laboratory resources will support the new Bachelor's of Science in Nursing Program offered in partnership with USC Aiken.
- **Palmetto College Columbia – Students and Faculty Inducted into Alpha Sigma Lambda Adult Honor Society**
 - The Alpha Sigma Lambda Virtual Induction Ceremony was held on October 22nd, inducting ten students and five honorary inductees from the faculty and professional staff from across Palmetto College. Thanks to Dean Ron Cox and Ms. Jean Carrano for planning and executing an outstanding virtual event on behalf of Palmetto College.
- **Palmetto College Central Support – 2020 Rural Utilities Service Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Awarded**
 - Palmetto College was awarded the \$431,278 grant that will be used to purchase new technology to update the two-way video classrooms at Palmetto College Columbia, USC Salkehatchie, USC Lancaster and USC Union. This is the second such grant received for a total of nearly \$1 Million, allowing all PC distance learning classrooms to be updated. Special thanks to Bob Dyer and the IT teams on the Palmetto College Campuses and here in Columbia for a great job.
- **Thank YOU!!!**
 - **PCCFS Chair Jenkins, Senate Executive Committee, Members of the Senate, Deans, Faculty, Staff, and PC Central Support – ONE Great Palmetto College TEAM!**



John Catalano

Associate Provost, Palmetto College

Report to PCFS, November 20, 2020

Regular meetings have been ongoing with the SC CHE, CAAL, CAD, ACAP, F&F, APL, AAC, the Chancellor's Cabinet, and the Academic Deans. Jean Carrano keeps the agendas and meeting notes on file for each of these groups and you are welcome to see any of the above. Again, thanks to the faculty of all of PC for working through recent difficulties in such a professional and selfless way so that our students can continue to receive an excellent university education. Please continue to help our students and continue your willingness to accommodate our students' needs. These special accommodations can make the difference between a student dropping out and graduating.

The T&P yearly update is as follows: 2 applications for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor and two applications for promotion to Professor. The files are currently with the local T&P committees. The candidates will receive notice of the committee's recommendation by December 1st. The files will then be reviewed by the deans before moving on to the Palmetto College T&P Committee in January.

The T&P workshop will be held on Friday, January 22. Dr. Obi Johnson has indicated it will be held virtually and more information will be forthcoming.

Chris Rinehart is in her second year working on PC Assessment. She and Bob Dyer are testing the new PC Carolina Core Assessment Program, working with artifacts from GSS, GHS, and ARP. We will assess AIU, GFL, and VSR in the Spring 2021. If your course is randomly selected, we greatly appreciate your help with assessment. Chris Rinehart is the person to contact with any questions or concerns.

Please thank Bob Dyer when you see him. For the second straight year Bob has successfully written and been awarded technology grants that will bring IT improvements to every Palmetto College classroom. This year's grant of approximately \$450K will finish the improvements begun last year. As you teach using the latest equipment think of Bob.

Please feel free to contact me with your questions and concerns on any of this.



M. Ron Cox, Jr., Ph.D., Dean
USC Palmetto College Columbia

**REPORT TO THE PALMETTO COLLEGE CAMPUSES FACULTY SENATE
20 November 2020 C.E.**

Greetings, Palmetto College Senators. Thank you for the opportunity to report to this body, both in my capacity as Campus Dean for Palmetto College Columbia, as well as Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion for Palmetto College.

- I. Palmetto Pathway
 - Palmetto Pathway cohort remains at 49. Students are currently being advised (virtually) for their SPRING 2021 schedules.
 - Thank you to faculty from all of the Palmetto College campuses who have taught (or who will be teaching) in this important bridge program.

- II. BLS/BOL
 - Fall 2020 – enrollment in BLS & BOL stood at 297 (146 & 151, respectively). 46 students have applied for December 2020 graduation.
 - SPRING 2021 – current enrollment stands at 120 (57 BLS & 63 BOL)
 - The Academic Advisory Council (AAC) has met several times and will be submitting a report to the Senate at this afternoon’s session.

- III. Lexington Transfer Center
 - We are still in discussions with Lexington School District 1, which has expressed interest in working with Palmetto College to offer upper-level foreign language (FREN & SPAN) courses for dual credit in the district’s language immersion program. Issues to be resolved include logistics regarding placement testing and faculty course approval.

- IV. Fort Jackson
 - The revised MOU with Fort Jackson is still in the approval process.
 - The Chancellor has approved the change to Fort Jackson program’s description in the UofSC *Undergraduate Bulletin*, which this Senate approved at its last gathering. The change will be submitted to the Provost’s office for inclusion in the 2021 *Bulletin*.
 - Student enrollment in the 21 courses being offered at Fort Jackson in FALL 2020 was 285 (mostly UofSC Columbia students).
 - 19 courses are scheduled at Fort Jackson for SPRING 2021. Current enrollment stands at 276 students.
 - The Veterans’ Service Center ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on 11 November on the UofSC Horseshoe. The Center is located on the first floor of the James F. Byrnes building.

V. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- The Council of Academic Diversity Officers continues to meet regularly. CADO is currently attempting to arrange a meeting with representatives from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, noting that our capacity to support the University's diversity efforts are intertwined with (and impacted by) what goes on in our admissions offices.
- Each Palmetto College Campus has now established its local DEI committee. We are still waiting for one campus to identify its representative to the central PC DEI Council.
- Palmetto College has submitted several initiative funding requests to the USC administration, based on priorities noted in the President's strategic plan.

VI. REACH Act

- 2019 – REACH Act introduced into the General Assembly (to replace law originally passed in 1924, which required instruction in the documents, an examination on the documents, and a loyalty oath). Law would apply to all students in SC public colleges completing a baccalaureate degree. (Requirement is explained below.)
- As currently written, the law's requirements do not apply to associate's degrees (and thus not to the technical colleges) so there is concern about how to ensure compliance with the law for students who enter UofSC with transfer credit from other institutions. (This potentially will be of concern to us for students entering Palmetto College bachelor's degree programs from the technical colleges.)
- At its meeting on October 7, the UofSC Faculty Senate approved the following proposal to meet requirements of the REACH Act:

Insert the following blurb right after Carolina Core Courses and before Special Academic Opportunities in the Undergraduate Bulletin.

Other Requirements

All undergraduate students must take a 3-credit course or its equivalent with a passing grade in the subject areas of History, Political Science, or African American Studies that covers the founding documents including the United State Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation and one or more documents that are foundational to the African American Freedom struggle, and a minimum of five essays from the Federalist papers. This course may count as a requirement in any part of the program of study including the Carolina Core, the major, minor or cognate, or as a general elective.

- According to Dr. Sandra Kelly, a grants program will be implemented for faculty to apply to revise courses. More information on this will be shared as it is made available.

VII. Center for Integrative & Experiential Learning (CIEL)

- Committee met virtually on November 16. Major items noted:
 - Challenges due to COVID (e.g., travel study, internships, etc.)
 - QEP Update – new name for QEP: “Experience By Design” – branding will become more official as the March 2021 SACS visit approaches.
 - One of the priorities is going to be to focus on PELL-eligible, first generation, and other underrepresented student groups.
 - Much discussion of preparation for the SACS visit, including plans for assessment of the QEP outcomes.

VIII. Faculty & Staff News

- On September 3, 2020, Dr. Julia Elliott's short story "Hellion" was featured on the NPR *Selected Shorts* Podcast "Coming of Age," a segment hosted by author Tayari Jones. The podcast is a recording of actress Donna Lynne Champlin's reading of Julia's story at "Selected Shorts: Best American Short Stories 2019 with Anthony Doerr," at Symphony Space, a theater in New York City. The podcast may be found on Symphony Space's website: <https://www.symphonyspace.org/selected-shorts/episodes/coming-of-age>.
- For the last two years, Dr. Elliott's service learning SC Honors College class has worked with Nickelodeon Theatre to promote a feminist horror series. This year, the students have produced all content for a SCHC-hosted virtual series that can be streamed with your USC ID and password. The course is listed in the SCHC "Cool Courses" section. This year's theme is "Haunted Moms: Motherhood, Monstrosity, and Horror." The film series and creative promotional materials may be found online at: https://sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/honors_college/study/take_cool_courses/mothers_daughters_fatales/monstrous_mothers/index.php
- Dr. Shelley Jones' article titled "The Power of Gossip from Mary Robinson's Tabitha Bramble to *Lyrical Tales*" has been accepted for publication in *Essays in Romanticism* (Liverpool University Press), forthcoming Fall 2021.
- On October 22, Ms. Melissa Lowe, student services manager for BLS & BOL, was inducted into the Alpha Sigma Lambda National Honor Society, in recognition of her many years of dedicated work on behalf of all, but especially non-traditional, students.
- Palmetto College has hired two professional academic advisors – Jacob Bratcher and Chelsea Corbett – who began their duties (virtually) on October 01. They will work primarily with students in the BLS and BOL programs on all PC campuses.
- At its Faculty Organization meeting on 04 November, the PC Columbia Faculty unanimously agreed to adopt an annual evaluation procedure based on the calendar, not academic year.
- Dr. John Abdalla, Instructor of History, has announced that this Fall 2020 semester will be his swan song and that he will not be returning to Palmetto College after the winter break. We offer our sincere thanks and deep appreciation to him for his many years of service to the students of Palmetto College (in its many different incarnations and manifestations), as well as for his collegiality, his warmth, and his gentle good humor.

My appreciation to the Senate for permitting me this time to report on some of the happenings at UofSC Palmetto College Columbia.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Ron Cox, Jr.

M. Ron Cox, Jr., Dean
Palmetto College Columbia



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Dr. Walter P. Collins, III
Regional Palmetto College Dean

Report to the Palmetto College Campuses Faculty Senate
hosted virtually by USC Sumter
November 20, 2020

COVID-19

Campus Status: The campus is operating under guidelines set forth in the following documents:

[USC Lancaster Campus Reopen Plan](#)

[Palmetto College Risk Mitigation Document](#)

Palmetto College COVID-19 Case Dashboard:

https://www.sc.edu/about/system_and_campuses/palmetto_college/internal/announcements/2020/covid_dashboard.php

Related Items:

Regular on-campus testing: Student Health Services at USC Columbia will come to USCL every other Wednesday for the rest of the semester to administer free COVID testing for students, faculty, and staff. Remaining dates include: 12/2 and 12/16.

People

Enrollment

As of the freeze date of October 22, 2020, 1810 students (headcount) are registered for Fall 2020. This represents increases of 10.37% in headcount and 4.41% in FTE.

Athletics

From the AD: All athletic teams at USCL completed their fall practice seasons successfully despite the challenges presented by COVID-19. The NJCAA has mandated that in order to hopefully have a successful competition year, all of our sports will compete in the spring. The NJCAA has also approved a blanket waiver for athletic eligibility for all athletes competing in all sports for the 2020-2021 school year. We are looking forward to having a safe and successful spring for all teams.

Searches:

Assistant Librarian (tenure track, first round of interviews, all campus interviews/visits will be virtual in Spring 2021)

Director of Student Success and Retention (offer extended and accepted; see below)

Our new **Director of Student Success and Retention** has been named. We are excited to welcome Ms. Asheley Schryer to USC Lancaster. She is currently the Associate Director of Student Services in the Office of Undergraduate Research at USC Columbia. Ms. Schryer will begin her duties here on Monday, December 7, 2020.

Faculty Accomplishments:

Dr. Todd Lekan, Associate Dean, has organized a Recent Faculty Accomplishments webpage that is updated regularly and can be accessed at this [link](#).

Recent faculty accomplishments include:

Dr. Lisa Hammond (English): Several of her poems have been published and recognized for their excellence. Her poem “Hydrangeas” was selected from more than 400 submissions as the winner of the Saluda River Prize for Poetry from the Jasper Project and will be published in *Fall Lines* later this year. The poem and an interview with Dr. Hammond was featured on the Jasper Project blog, and also included a new poem, “Elizabeth Warren Dreams of Kissing Babies.” Her poem “many moons” was chosen by the Poet Laureate of the City of Columbia to be published in the booklet, *Poetry on the COMET: Write on Time*, and featured on buses on the Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority. In addition, her poem “To a Son Leaving Home for College” was published this summer in *Sheltered: South Carolina Artists Respond During the 2020 Pandemic*.

Professor Fran Gardner (art): Recently Prof. Gardner was invited to be a part of a media campaign by the National Association of Women Artists. She will be the featured Artist of the Day on April 7, 2021 and will be featured on NAWA’s Instagram and Facebook platforms for that day with images of her work, her bio and photos.

Her piece titled “Alpha-Beta” won first place in the juried exhibition, Small Chapters, at Coastal Discovery Museum in Hilton Head, SC. The show runs now through November 30, 2020. And Prof. Gardner has five pieces accepted for the exhibit, Textile Impact, at the Anderson Arts Center in Anderson, SC. This exhibit showcases “a range of textile works highlighting the diversity of processes, materials, and presentation within this wide medium and industry.” The show will be open from December 8, 2020- January 28, 2021.

Here are a few other of Gardner’s noteworthy achievements:

- “Some Like it Hot,” National Association of Women Artists SC Chapter, includes artists from SC, FL and MA (online only) opened in August and still accessible online.
- 131st Members Exhibition, National Association of Women Artists, includes artists from across the United States (online only but traditionally held in New York) October 2020.

- “Inspirational Journeys,” The Vendue Art Hotel in Charleston, SC and National Association of Women Artists SC Chapter, includes artists from all NAWA chapters (face-to-face through November 30th and online).

Professor Chris Judge (archaeology and anthropology): Prof. Judge has coauthored a paper entitled “Wateree Bug Ceramic Motif” which was published in *Legacy* (The South Carolina Institute of Archeology and Anthropology), 8-11. The paper examines the possible origin and cultural significance of images of the bug on ceramic vessels.

Archaeological Society of South Carolina features Prof. Judge in its [“Ask an Archaeologist” interactive video](#).

Judge served as curator of “Share a Little of that Human Touch”: [The Prehistory of South Carolina Exhibit](#).

Professor Marybeth Berry (theatre and speech) has produced two distanced/virtual theatrical productions in Fall 2020: a student production of *The Scarlet Letter* in October and an original, two-person production entitled *On the Spectrum* in November.

Dr. Todd Lekan (philosophy and Associate Dean) “The Mask as Metaphor: Deweyan Reflections in the Time of a Pandemic.” *Dewey Studies*, Vol 4. No. 1, 2020, pp. 96-101. This is a special volume of invited authors with a goal of short and timely pieces on the pandemic and police violence written from a Deweyan perspective.

Dr. Steven Campbell (political science), Ms. Danelle Faulkenberry (Palmetto College Coordinator), Mr. Brandon Newton (campus outreach and adjunct instructor of business), and Ms. Ryleigh Waiters (Director of Student Life) who were awarded an Arras Foundation Horizon Grant for their proposal “CLEVER (Campaign Literacy Educates Voters to Encourage Responsibility) which encourages voter education, registration, and responsibility.

USC Lancaster in our Communities

The **Town-Gown Advisory Group** will meet again on December 3.

Corporate Partnership and Engagement

Updates from Albert Blackmon:

- We now have a membership presence in the Rotary Club of Indian Land (Lunch Club).
- The USCL Indian Land Business Advisory Board is being established, and we hope to have our inaugural meeting later this month.
- While we continue to gain input for the business community regarding training and development needs, we are in talks with Microburst and should have a custom initial offering under construction by the end of the year.

The USCL related **Lancaster County Capital Project Sales Tax Program proposals** were approved in the referendum vote earlier this week. USC Lancaster had 2 projects on the list: one in the amount of \$1,000,000 for safer and better connections/surface crossings across Highway 9 between our campus and the community and the second, also

in the amount of \$1,000,000, on behalf of the Educational Foundation for facility and infrastructure enhancement to support the expansion of BSN nursing at USC Lancaster.

Budget

The **updated Campus Master Plan** is available [here](#).

Legislative update:

We have submitted our initial budget request (Governor's Budget Request) of the new legislative session which would take effect for FY22 with requests for funding initiatives for campus safety, deferred maintenance, and an increase to recurring operating funds.

Other items...

- The next virtual **Lunch & Learn at the NASC** is December 11 at noon with a talk entitled "Native Beads and Burials" by seniors at the South Carolina Governor's School Camryn Brown and Emily Geraghty. Please use this email address to register for the virtual presentation: usclnasp@mailbox.sc.edu

Also, the 15th annual **Native American Studies Week** concludes today with this year's theme: Native American Humor, Satire, and Parody. The flyer with scheduled events can be found [here](#).

- **USC Lancaster's Research Club is sponsoring a year-long Virtual Research Conference**. Everyone across Palmetto College is invited to participate and attend. Here is information related to the events associated with the conference:
 - **What is it?** – This is a Virtual Conference to help with student engagement and education across the campus and community during the era of social distancing and COVID-19.
 - **Why is it important?** - This will give us a platform to reach students through social media to further our mission of educating and engaging students and the community about scholarly work, undergraduate research, and the Graduation with Leadership Distinction program.
 - **Opportunities for Students** – Weekly, we will be announcing various beyond the classroom activities and presentations that students can engage in to further their knowledge about a vast array of scholarly work and productions. All of the material is prerecorded and available to the students at any time.

Where do you access the conference? Starting November 1st.

Instagram: @uscl_research_club_

Facebook: @usclresearchclub

Website: sites.google.com/view/usclresearchclub

Dr. Sarah Sellhorst and Dr. Liz Easley (exercise science) are the faculty sponsors for the Research Club, and here is their video introducing the conference:

<https://fb.watch/1w4k5-Y7DM/>



USC Salkehatchie Dean's Report

November 20, 2020

COVID update

USC Salkehatchie has had 14 cases since classes started; 12 students; 2 staff. No outbreaks and no evidence of spread within classrooms or on campus. We have held several on-campus testing events with both DHEC and with USC Columbia Student Health on both campuses.

Enrollment

Overall headcount was down this fall, but many of those were due to non-degree classes that we could not offer due to COVID. Full-time enrollment was up slightly over Fall 2019.

Campus News

USC Salkehatchie hosted the USC System Academic Leadership program in Walterboro on November 6.

We are involved in a Rural Broadband initiative to bring hi-speed internet access to Allendale. We will provide a WiFi antenna on top of the ETV tower on our campus, and provide a free public WiFi hotspot on campus for the community too.

New and existing grants programs: new STEM coordinator position search is active; new Leadership Institute Director position search next spring.

Assistant Dean of Student Services Jane Brewer has announced her retirement Dec. 31, after 42 years of service to the Salk campus. Dean Brewer's service to the campus has been legendary--and her absence next year will be felt by all. We have a search for a new Assistant Dean for Student Success and Retention active. Baseball Coach Jeremy Joye has been named as Athletics Director starting in January.

Development and Grants

- USDA Rural Development grants for forensic chemistry equipment in process.
- Grant received with PC to do some tech upgrades (USDA DLT Grant)

- We received a gift in the amount of \$190,000 from the Daley family to create the Bernard N. Daley Endowed Scholarship fund.

Faculty Accomplishments

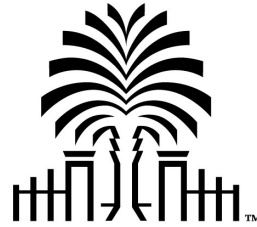
Dr. Bryan Lai, Professor of Mathematics, and former Salk student John Risher presented some of their work at the virtual Fall Indiana Mathematical Association of America Section Meeting on October 3. The title of their presentation was "Generalizing Inequalities Using Power Series Approach".

Dr. Lokendra Paudel, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, was a session organizer and presented work at the virtual Fall Southeastern Sectional Meeting hosted by American Mathematical Society, October 10 - 11, 2020. His presentation was titled "Some Results on Star Operations"

Dr. Justin Mogilski, Assistant Professor of Psychology, published a book chapter titled "Parental investment theory." in *The SAGE Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology*. Moreover, Dr. Mogilski spearheaded and organizes the Salkehatchie Scholarly Research Forum, which hosted four events over the past couple of months.

Presented by:

Dr. C. Bryan Love
Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs



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Faculty Accomplishments

Since last Senate meeting (September 4, 2020), 13 faculty produced 22 publications, presentations, or other scholarly works, or won awards and other recognition for scholarly work or service:

Sher Chhetri

- Invited Speaker (November 5, 2020): "Virtual Fall 2020 Seminar Series" organized by Department of Mathematics, and Computer Science, Alabama State University, Montgomery, Alabama, Presented a paper about stock price models.
- Poster Presentation: Turner**, A. & Chhetri, S. (November 7, 2020). Performance of the Marascuilo Procedure for Comparing Multiple Proportions. Presented virtually in the Undergraduate Mathematics Symposium hosted by the University of Illinois at Chicago. (**Turner is an undergraduate student at USC Sumter).

Pearl Fernandes

- Kiernan, D. & Fernandes, P. (2020, October 25). Virtual science camp: maintaining community connections during the COVID-19 pandemic [Conference Presentation]. Association of College & University Biology Educators (ACUBE) Conference, International (Zoom).
- Fernandes, P. & Kiernan, D. (2020, October 25). Face-Face to Online: Reflections during the COVID-19 Pandemic [Conference Presentation]. Association of College & University Biology Educators (ACUBE) Conference, International (Zoom).

Kristina Grob

- Op Ed Published - "Want a Good Job? Major in Philosophy" in *America: The Jesuit Review* August 6, 2020
- She presented 2 sessions at the Oktoberbest Teaching Symposium on October 9, 2020: (1) "Low-Budget High Impact Practices for Transformative Education" and (2) "It's Not Magic--It's Metacognition!"

Margaret Hughes

- Teaching yoga at Ft Jackson in a National pilot program to see if yoga reduces PTSD and injuries among new recruits

Austin Jenkins

- Currently creating nature [videos](#) for the South Carolina Wildlife Federation.

Daniel Kiernan

- Kiernan, D. & Fernandes, P. (2020, October 25). Virtual science camp: maintaining community connections during the COVID-19 pandemic [Conference Presentation]. Association of College & University Biology Educators (ACUBE) Conference, International (Zoom).
- Fernandes, P. & Kiernan, D. (2020, October 25). Face-Face to Online: Reflections during the COVID-19 Pandemic [Conference Presentation]. Association of College & University Biology Educators (ACUBE) Conference, International (Zoom).

Christina Lunsmann

- Manuscript Published - Beck, J. S., Lunsmann, C. J., & Garza, T. (In press). "We Need to be in the Classroom More": Veteran Teachers' Views on Teacher Preparation and Retention. *The Professional Educator*.
- Received two grants for her non-profit, Bike Box Project - Lunsmann, C. J. Equal Access to Exercise Programs for Individuals with Parkinson's Disease. (2020). Submitted to CarolinaEast Foundation (\$3,100) and Bate Foundation (\$16,200). Total amount: \$19,300

Ray McManus

- Four new poems are forthcoming in the James Dickey Review: "Calculus for a Disappearing South," "How to Stay Bent," "A Beautiful Wreck," and "One Way to Tame a Dog"
- The poem "Dick Hole" published in the 2000 Winter issue of Birmingham Poetry Review has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize

Santosh Nandi

- Nandi, S., Sarkis, J., Hervani, A., & Helms, M. (2021). Redesigning Supply Chains using Blockchain-Enabled Circular Economy and COVID-19 Experiences. *Sustainable Production and Consumption*. Vol. 27 (2021), pp. 10-22. (DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.spc.2020.10.019>).
- Nandi, M.L., & Nandi, S. (In Press). ERP Implementation at ABC Mining Company: Making a Business Case. *Emerald Emerging Markets Case Studies*. (DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1108/EEMCS-04-2020-0133>).

Damien Picariello

- Book Review Published: Review of Steven Johnston, *Wonder and Cruelty: Ontological War in It's a Wonderful Life*, in *VoegelinView* (October 3, 2020).
- Op-eds Published:
 - "On Constitution Day, Looking Forward to the Election," *The Sumter Item*, September 17, 2020
 - "While We Wait for the 2020 Election Results," *The Sumter Item*, November 5, 2020
- Hosted "virtual" Constitution Day

Michele Reese

- Her poem "Growing Up" was published in [The Citron Review](#).

Bianca Rowlett

- Presented a paper at "[Since Suffrage](#)", a symposium sponsored by the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts and Humanities at Auburn University on Friday, October 23, 2020. Her paper was entitled "From Democrat to Neoconservative: The Politics of Ambassador Jeane J. Kirkpatrick". She also moderated and commented on a panel entitled "Women's Politics Today".

Daniel Stanforth

- Stanforth, D., Santana Rodriguez, A., & Salgado Fernandez, J.A. "Reflexiones sobre la evolución legislativa y jurídica de los derechos de las mujeres en España: Desde la Segunda República hasta la actualidad." *Anales de la Facultad de Derecho (Universidad de La Laguna)*, 36, septiembre 2019, pp. 29-83. <https://www.ull.es/revistas/index.php/derecho/issue/view/89>
 - English Translation: Stanforth, D., Santana Rodriguez, A., & Salgado Fernandez, J.A. "Reflections on the Legislative and Judicial Evolution of Women's Rights in Spain: From the Second Republic to the Present." *Annals of the Faculty of Law (University of La Laguna)*, 36, September 2019, pp. 29-83.

Faculty Campus Recognition

- Austin Jenkins - SGA Teacher of the Year
- Carolina Cruz - Hugh T. Stoddard, Sr. Faculty Member of the Year Award
- Damien Picariello - Jean Luc Grosso Outstanding Faculty Award
- Santosh Nandi - Jean Luc Grosso Outstanding Faculty Award



Campus & Athletic Activities

- Hosting Bigger Wednesday golf tournament today. Sponsorships are up this year. Fundraiser will help support scholarships for students.
- Education students volunteered in October at a pumpkin patch and helped children paint pumpkins.
- SGA has been very active this semester, led by president Kara Samuels.
 - Using Facebook and Instagram accounts to help disseminate important information to students regarding services including tutoring and counseling.
 - Created an initiative called “Look Out Reach Out” to raise awareness about mental health among the student body.
 - Currently hosting a gift drive for Operation Christmas Child which collects gifts for underprivileged children.
- Hired new Men’s Soccer Coach – Brett Gould
- Hosted clinics for women’s soccer and softball for high school athletes.
- Men’s Golf team hosted a golf tournament fundraiser in September.
- Hired new Director of Buildings and Grounds – Jeffrey Davis



Nursing and Education

Nursing with Aiken

- 133 applicants for 2020-21
- 67 admitted and enrolled

Education with Aiken

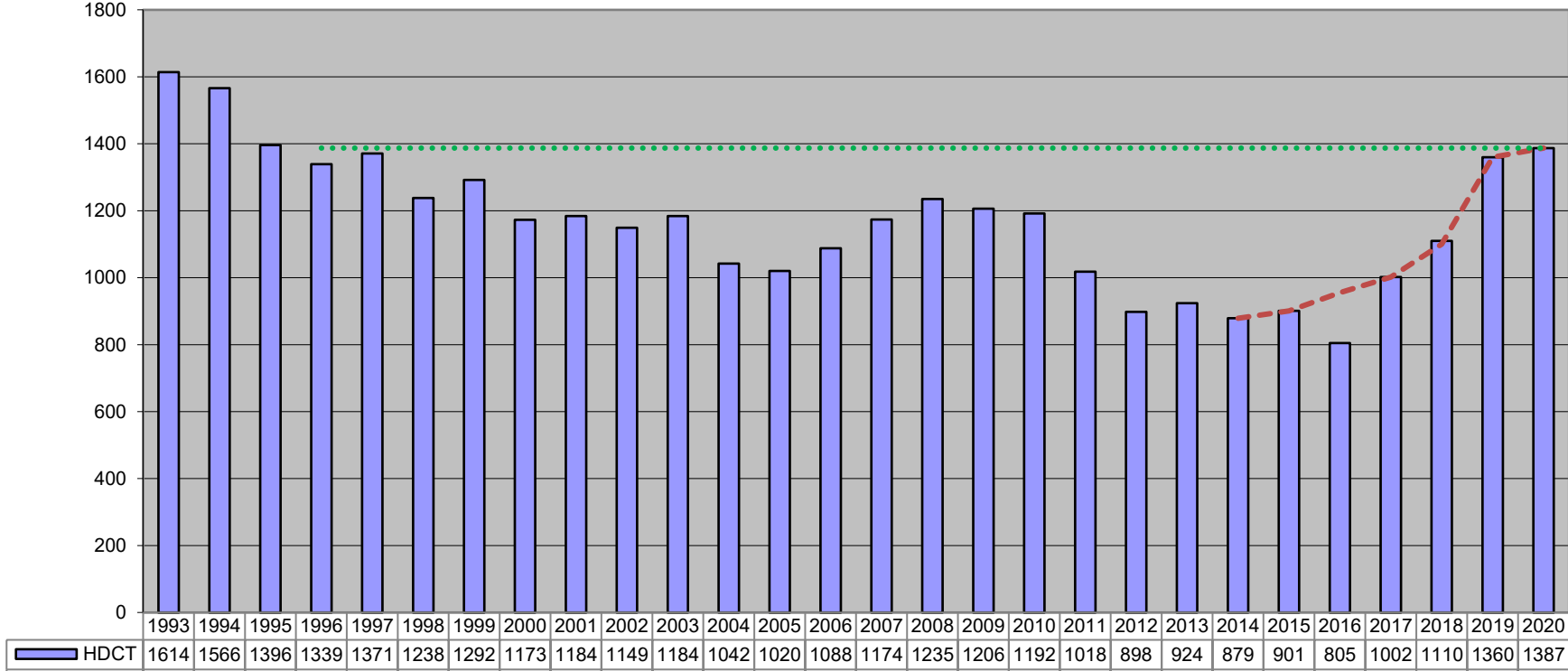
- 69 applicants for 2020-2021
- 52 admitted and enrolled
- Kristina messaged us from Aiken this morning, where we had our first USC Aiken at Sumter student pinned and will graduate this evening.



Our first Aiken at Sumter Student



Enrollment



Central Carolina Technical College adjusts classes amid pandemic

Like national trends, technical college's enrollment is down

... however, "across the hedge" ...

USC Sumter - Bucking national trends

University enrollment is not down to the degree of community colleges. Still, fall 2020 undergraduate enrollment nationally is 4% below last year's level. However, University of South Carolina Sumter's official fall enrollment is actually up 2% from fall 2019. Current enrollment is 1,387 students, compared to 1,360 in fall 2019, according to the university.

CCTC FALL OFFICIAL ENROLLMENT TRENDS:

2018: 3,491

2019: 3,361

2020: 2,900*

* College estimate currently, not official.

USC SUMTER FALL OFFICIAL ENROLLMENT TRENDS:

2018: 1,110

2019: 1,360

2020: 1,387



Graduation and Student Success



Graduation Rate = % of students earning an Associate's degree within 150% of program time

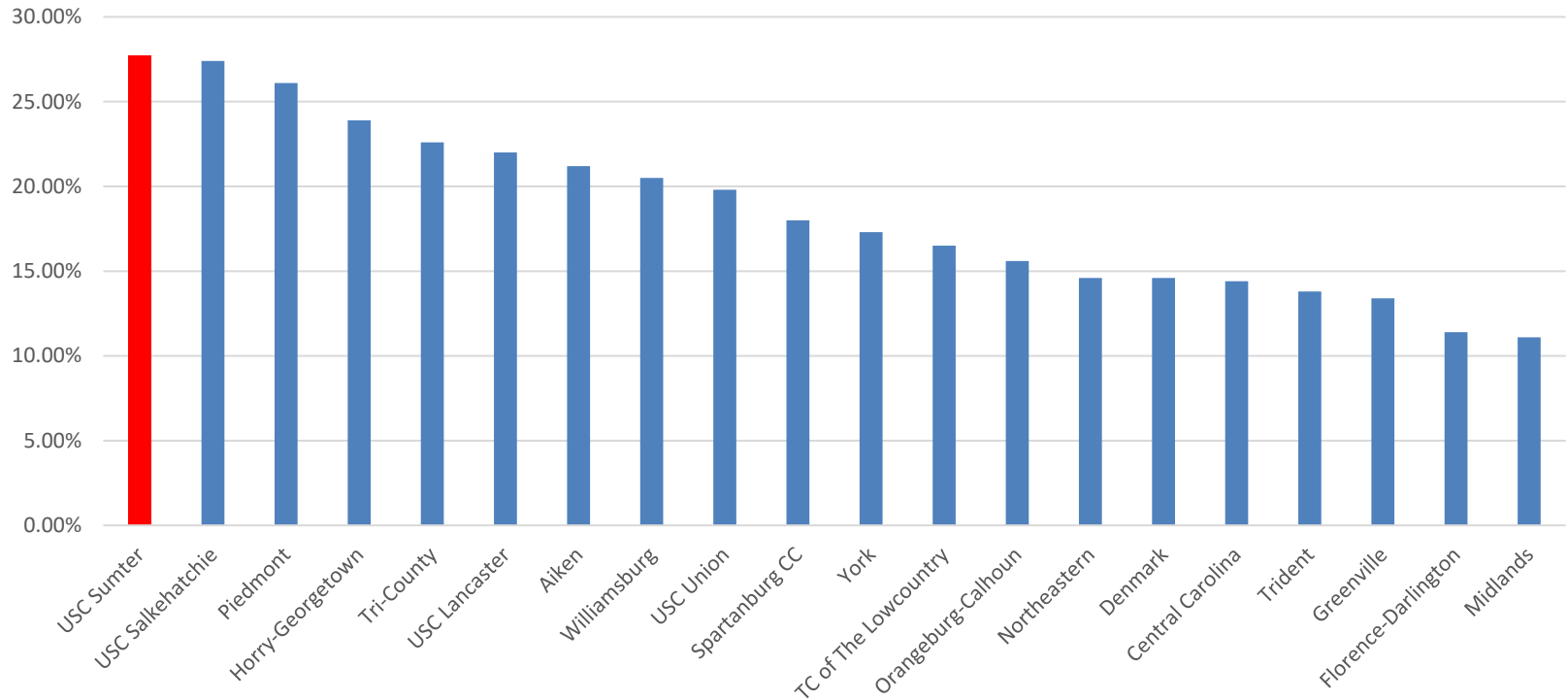


Success Rate = graduation, transfer, or continuing studies after 150% of program time

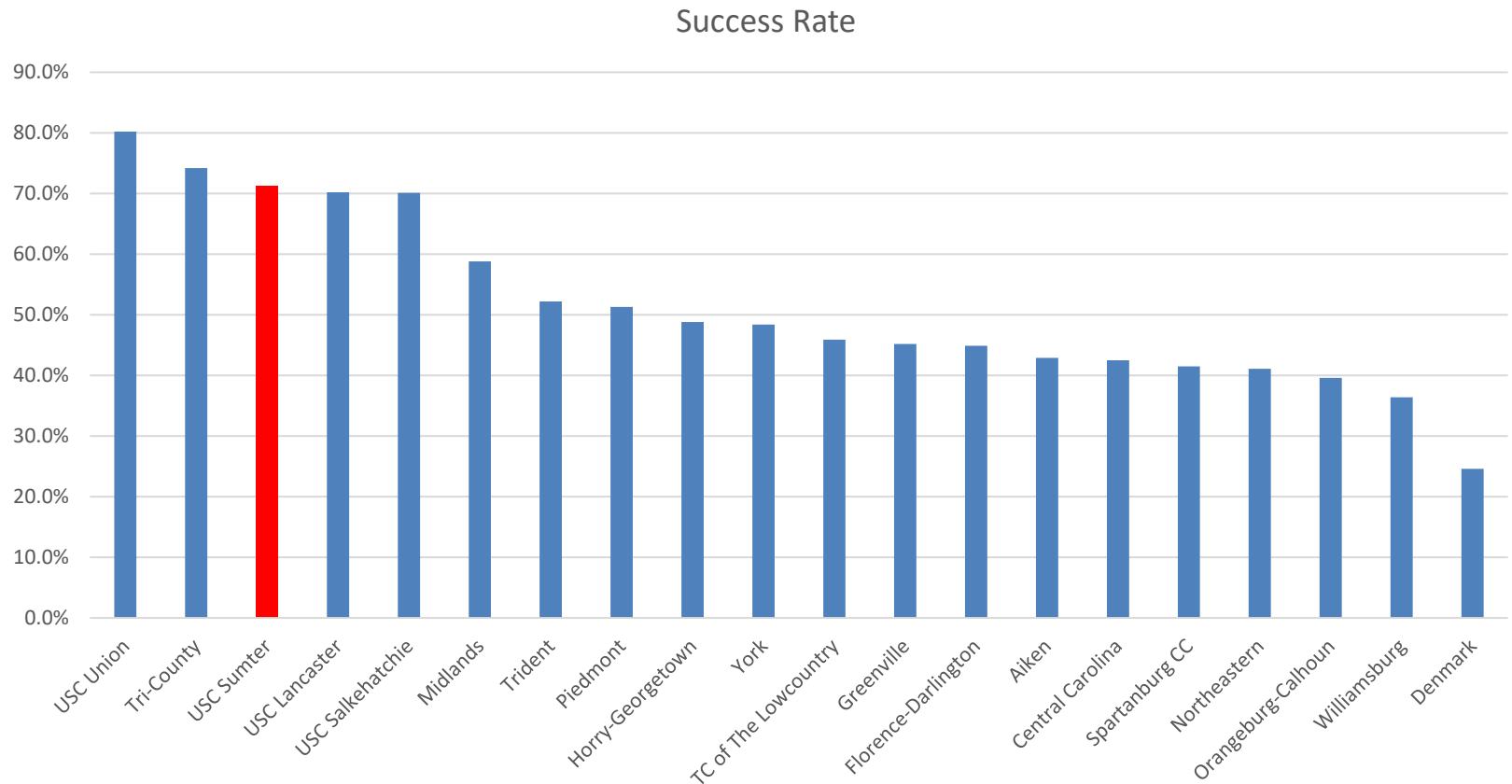


Graduation Rate

Graduation Rate



Success Rate



Physical Plant

- Upgrading Schwartz/Nettles parking lots and planning for others across campus
- Nursing renovations almost complete - \$500,000+ raised in grants and private donations
- Undergoing mechanical replacement and upgrades of HVAC in Student Union Building
- Beginning Phase 2 of Science Building Renovation



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USC Sumter's Veterans Affairs.

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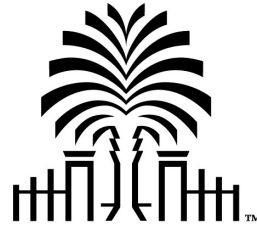
FALL II BEGINS OCT. 19

A Full Semester of Classes in Only 8 Weeks

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- <https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/5a632d9a-424b-4ccf-8ed2-253389b96223>





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UNIVERSITY OF
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A Regional Palmetto College

Randy Lowell, USC Union
Dean's Report
November 20, 2020

Students

- Fall 2020 preliminary freeze data showed Union headcount at 1,071 and FTE at 633. This includes increases in key metrics of continuing students and new freshmen on campus in Union. And this builds on the trends of a 29% increase in first-time full-time freshmen in terms of 5-year change; and a 68% increase in terms of 10-year change.
- Our athletic teams have been able to compete in some limited scrimmages this Fall and look forward to competing in the Spring. This includes the new addition on campus of women's volleyball who will elevate to NJCAA next Fall from club level.
- Students Tomi LaChance and Caden Jackson presented on their research during USC Union Research Club's Virtual Fall Colloquium and will be included in USC Lancaster Research Club's virtual conference programming as part of a Union Takeover the week after Thanksgiving.
- Looking ahead, Spring schedule features approximately 67% of classes in person, with enrollment expected to be at least flat, if not up from last Spring.

Faculty & Staff

- Congrats to Assistant Professor of Fine Arts, Jennifer Emswiler, for her recent artwork being included in Fusion Art's online international juried art exhibition, alongside submissions from all over the world (<https://www.fusionartps.com/5th-anniversary-art-exhibition-november-1-2020-october-31-2021/>). She also shared her creative process for that work during our Research Club's Virtual Fall Colloquium, which will be featured during the Union Takeover week (see above).
- Congrats to Full-Time Instructor of Spanish/French/Italian, Kevin Torres, as he has been accepted into an MBA program to advance his knowledge and expand on his repertoire of course offerings for the campus. Kevin also presented on his research on the Holocaust during our Research Club's Virtual Fall Colloquium, which will also be featured during the Union Takeover week (see above).
- New student organization launched on campus, the Bantam Health & Fitness Club, by faculty co-supervisors, Jennifer Emswiler and Dr. Emily Schafer (Assistant Professor of Psychology).
- Milestone celebrated by Financial Aid Director, Bobby Holcombe, who crossed the threshold for 30 years of service on the Union campus.
- The Union County Carnegie Library, which we partner with to house/staff our USC Union Library as well, has been named the winner of the InnoVision Award in Community Service category due to their efforts to expand broadband access in Union County.

Facilities

- New Student Services Building on Main Street next to Bookstore is up and running, with Admissions and Financial Aid.
- New Lactation Room on campus ready for use, on third floor of Main Building, for students/faculty/staff.

- The old library renovation project is on schedule to be completed by early January, with four new classrooms and four new faculty offices. The classrooms will feature two active learning classrooms designed specifically for world language instruction.
- New carpeting and paint in the Academic Affairs suite in the Main Building to be completed over the holiday break.
- Project to create new Sim Labs for the Aiken BSN program on the Union campus in preliminary stages with anticipated completion in summer 2021, in old post office building.
- Preliminary planning begun for conversion of Founders House on campus into a Fine Arts space, connecting to campus garden.
- ADA restroom and security hardware projects also in preliminary stages, aiming to launch immediately following conclusion of Spring semester.

Budget

- As of October 31, we were 33% of the way through the budget year. Our expenses at that point were at 32.6%, so well on target. This includes expenditures for COVID related items that we have been reimbursed for or will be reimbursed for at a later time.
- Fall PC revenue is estimated to be \$342,831, which will put us ahead of our tuition projections for Fall. Additionally, we have received 54% of our projected tuition revenue for Summer – which would have us needing \$123,549 for Summer 21 (May/June courses) – last year’s May/June summer revenue was \$189,146, so we are also ahead on overall summer revenue.

Also excited to have Success Rate of 80.2% for first-time full-time freshmen entering in Fall 2015, which is the best rate in the state of South Carolina among all 2-year institutions.



PCC Welfare Committee Report

November 20, 2020

Duffy, Plyler, and Shaw Awards

- ▶ December 7, 2020: Campus nominations due to chair of PCCFS Welfare Committee
 - ▶ Received nominees from Union and Sumter
- ▶ December 9, 2020: Nominees contacted by the PCCFS Welfare Committee
- ▶ **January 31, 2021: Due dates for nominees to submit PDF files to PCCFS Welfare Committee Chair**
- ▶ February 2021: PCCFS Welfare Committee votes on files, committee decision is forwarded to the chancellor's office
- ▶ April 2021 (last PCCFS Meeting of the academic year): Award winner announced

T&P Workshop - January 22, 2021

- ▶ Meeting will be virtual through Blackboard Collaborate Ultra
- ▶ Committee updated the agenda today
 - ▶ 10:00 am - 2:30 pm with 30-minute lunch break
- ▶ Speakers / session coordinators will be invited by December 9.
- ▶ Asking speakers to send presentations 1 week ahead to provide to attendees.
- ▶ Provide links for online tutorials on technology (i.e. Adobe, hotlinks, BB, etc.)

Welfare Survey

- ▶ This will go out in March 2021.
- ▶ Committee will make changes to previous surveys based on feedback from faculty.
- ▶ Survey will be finalized at February 2021 Meeting.

Palmetto College Academic Advisory Committee

Report to the PC Senate

November 20, 2020

This semester the committee has discussed the following issues

- I. BLS major changes
 - a. Adding African American Studies (AFAM) to major options list for BLS
 - b. Accepting lower-level CAS major courses
 - II. Reviewing the foreign language requirement
 - III. New programs, such as Cultural Studies
 - IV. The currently on-hold Legal Studies BLS major option
 - V. The hiring of professional advisors for BLS/BOL
 - VI. Possible changes to PALM 401
-
- I. The committee decided to hold course on changes to the BLS major while continuing to allow exceptions for individual students as warranted
 - II. The committee also decided to hold the course on the foreign language requirement
 - III. We are hoping that the provost gives the green light for new program development within Palmetto College so that programs like cultural studies can proceed through the approval process
 - IV. Legal Studies continues to be on hold
 - V. The hiring of two new professional advisors for BLS and BOL led to a long discussion at our second meeting and to a special meeting on November 19. Discussions primarily revolved around the roles of campus advisors in the new advising schema, and those discussions are ongoing
 - VI. Discussions about revising PALM 401 to reduce perceptions of the course being disproportionately difficult are also ongoing. Initial talks started with the faculty teaching the course out of PC Columbia but will expand to include other faculty who teach the course