

USC Lancaster Faculty Committee Assignments, 2026-2027

Local committee descriptions are taken from the Bylaws of the USCL Faculty Organization, Article V, Section 4, as amended April 2025.

Division Chairs

Name	Division	Term
Angela Neal	BBCEL	2023-2026
Nick Lawrence	Humanities	2025-2028
Fernanda Burke	MSNPH	2024-2027

Local Committees

Academic Advisory Council

Membership: One representative per division, the Academic Dean, and a library representative.

Purpose: The Academic Advisory Council examines, discusses, and attempts to resolve faculty concerns regarding academic responsibility and behavior.

Name	Division
Suzanne Penuel	Humanities
Evan Johnson	BBCEL
McKenzie Lemhouse	Library
Liz Easley - CHAIR	MSNPH
David Roberts	Interim Academic Dean

Academic Honor Code Council

Membership: One representative elected from each academic division, as well as one staff member and one student representative, both administratively appointed. One alternate elected by each academic division, as well as one alternate staff and student representative, both administratively appointed.

Purpose: The Academic Honor Code Council is charged with hearing and reviewing cases involving USC Lancaster students charged with violations of the Code of Student/Faculty Academic Integrity & Responsibility and will recommend sanctions based on USC and USCL policies and procedures.

Name	Division
Claudia Heinemann-Priest	Humanities
Kim Richardson	Humanities Alternate
Brandon Newton	BBCEL
Kate Holland	BBCEL Alternate
Jill Castiglia	MSNPH

Samantha Etim
Jose Guruceaga Burgos - CHAIR
Andrea Campbell
Open

MSNPH Alternate
Staff
Staff Alternate
Student

Admissions, Petitions, and Grade Change Committee

Membership: One representative per division, the Academic Dean, a representative from the Office of Admissions and Records, the Director of Student Success and Retention, and up to two additional faculty members (administrative appointments).

Purpose: The Admissions, Petitions, and Grade Change Committee reviews general admissions policy. It recommends appropriate faculty action on all requests for changing any grade recorded for more than one year. It decides all petitions for readmission. This committee will also function as the University's Campus Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (FASAP) appeals committee. This committee reports and makes recommendations to the faculty and to the Dean of the University.

Name	Division
Kim Richardson	Humanities
Jerrod Yarosh	BBCEL
Jason Holt - CHAIR	MSNPH
David Roberts	Interim Academic Dean
Anita Bhandari Sharma	Administrative Appointment
Barry Hinson	Office of Admissions
	Director of Student Success and Retention

Athletics Advisory Committee

Membership: One representative per division, the Dean of the Campus or designee, one student representative appointed by the Dean, and one representative each from the athletics program, the Gregory Family YMCA branch of the YMCA of Upper Palmetto, TRIO, and Admissions.

Purpose: The Athletics Advisory Committee serves as a liaison between the athletics department and faculty/staff at USCL, oversees the academic, public-image, and athletic development of the student-athlete at USCL, promotes proper advisement for the student-athlete at USCL, and ensures that proper policies and procedures are upheld. The chair is elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected.

Name	Division
Darris Hassell	Humanities
Angela Neal	BBCEL
Lauren Thomas - CHAIR	MSNPH (2026-2028)
Pernell Lewis	Administrative Appointment
Courtney Catledge	Dean of the Campus
Spencer Brandt	Student
Open	Athletics Program
Troy Love	Gregory Family YMCA
Matt Williamson	TRIO

Open

Admissions

Curriculum Committee

Membership: One representative per division, the Academic Dean, a library representative, Director of Enrollment Management or designee, and up to two administrative appointments.

Purpose: The Curriculum Committee reviews new academic programs or proposed curriculum changes and recommends approved changes to the USCL faculty. Additionally, the committee will annually review and update the lists of Carolina Core courses offered at USCL that appear in certain USCL degree plans. The committee may also investigate various other issues concerning the curriculum at USCL.

Name	Division
Sahar Aghasafari	Humanities
McKenzie Lemhouse	BBCEL
Logan Cocklin	Library
Annette Golonka	MSNPH
Shekhar Singh	Administrative Appointment
David Roberts	Interim Academic Dean
Ken Cole	Director of Enrollment Management

Disciplinary Committee

Membership: Academic Dean (ex-officio chair), Director of Campus Security, one faculty representative, one staff representative, one student representative (all administratively appointed to one year terms).

Purpose: The Disciplinary Committee hears and reviews cases involving USCL students charged with violations of the USCL Code of Student Conduct and will impose sanctions based on USC and USCL policies and procedures.

Name	Division
Nahid Swails	Faculty
Melissa Cruz Zapata	Student
Tyrie Rowell	Staff
David Roberts - CHAIR	Interim Academic Dean
Antonio Seats	Director of Campus Security

Evaluation Committee

Membership: One representative per division, the Academic Dean, and faculty chair appointment(s).

Purpose: The Evaluation Committee determines methods of evaluation of faculty. This committee proposes or revises formal procedures and instruments for review as needed, offering guidelines for all levels of review in accordance with local campus procedures and the Palmetto College Campuses Faculty Manual.

Name	Division
Tania Wolochwianski	Humanities
Kate Holland	BBCEL

Andy Yingst - CHAIR

David Roberts

MSNPH

Interim Academic Dean

Executive Committee

Membership: The faculty chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary, elected yearly by the faculty organization.

Purpose: The Executive Committee represents the interests of the faculty in all matters related to the campus community. The committee initiates action when appropriate and responds to questions and concerns directed its way. The chairperson presides over faculty meetings and consults with the other officers on an as-needed basis.

Name	Position
Deborah Rowell	Chair
Rebecca Freeman	Vice-Chair
Chris Bundrick	Secretary

Free Expression and Academic Freedom Committee

Membership: One faculty member from each academic division and up to three staff members (elected by the Staff Organization), all to be elected for a term of one year, as well as up to three student representatives and no more than two administrative appointees (appointed by FO Chair), who shall also serve one-year terms.

Purpose:

Procedures: The committee shall draft and seek to ratify a set of procedures for the implementation of campus and system free-speech policies outlined in UNIV 6.00 and in other places. Once this procedure is drafted and adopted, the committee will periodically review it to determine whether changes are necessary and appropriate and, as needed, pursue revisions to the procedures.

Policies: The committee will consult and advise the faculty organization and academic dean as needed on relevant free-speech and academic freedom policies applicable on the USCL campus, including but not limited to UNIV 6.00.

Free Expression and Academic Freedom Incidents on Campus: The committee will meet at the request of individual faculty, staff, or students or at the request of the academic dean to consider cases where faculty, staff, or students affiliated with USCL feel their rights to free expression and/or academic freedom have been infringed and where good faith efforts to resolve the dispute have failed or reached an impasse. In such cases, the committee will hear testimony and consider evidence submitted by all parties involved. The committee will then deliberate over the evidence, determine an appropriate resolution, and compose and submit a recommendation report to the Academic Dean.

Free Speech Concerns on Campus: The committee will meet at the request of the faculty organization, staff organization, the academic dean, or the committee chair to consider issues relevant to free expression and academic freedom on campus. The committee will consider relevant questions of policy, procedure, and principles and report to the faculty organization on its findings and recommendations as necessary.

Name	Division
Claudia Heinemann-Priest	Humanities
Evan Johnson	BBCEL
Allan Pangburn	MSNPH
Patrick Lawrence - CHAIR	Administrative appointment (1)
Logan Cocklin	Administrative appointment (2)
Lainey LeGrand	Student
Kennedy Bumbrey	Student
Matt Williamson	Staff

Hiring Priorities Committee

Membership: One representative per division, a library representative, a representative from Human Resources, and up to two administrative appointments.

Purpose: The Hiring Priorities Committee studies campus hiring priorities for the short and long terms, and makes recommendations that address the staffing implications of retirements, and changes in academic programs and enrollments.

Name	Division
Sahar Aghasafari	Humanities
Jerrod Yarosh - CHAIR	BBCEL
Rebecca Freeman	Library
Anita Bhandari Sharma	MSNPH
Tracey Mobley-Chavous	Human Resources
Bettie Obi Johnson	Administrative Appointment
Stephen Criswell	Administrative Appointment

Instructor Peer Review Committee

Membership: Six members elected by the faculty. Each member must be at the rank of instructor with at least five consecutive years' full-time experience at USC Lancaster. No one who participates in administrative review of candidates may be elected to this committee.

Purpose: The committee conducts the annual peer review of instructors reviewed without scholarship, a process designed to document the professional development of the faculty member and to provide regular and constructive evaluations of the performance of the faculty member. In addition, the committee will review files submitted by candidates for appointment to Senior Instructor. This review will follow the USCL Office of the Dean's Policy and Procedures for Senior Instructor Appointment and the USC Lancaster Senior Instructor Appointment Procedures. Using the candidates' files for support, the committee will vote and forward the names of recommended candidates to the Dean for consideration. The minimum number of senior instructors necessary for voting on a candidate is six. In the event that there are not six senior instructors available, additional members shall be appointed by the instructor peer review committee, in consultation with the local dean.

Name
Claudia Heinemann-Priest
Jill Castiglia

Allan Pangburn
Darris Hassell - CHAIR
Phillip Parker
Tania Wolochwianski

Library Committee

Membership: One representative per division, librarians, a representative from the Academic Success Center, and up to two administrative appointments.

Purpose: The Library Committee acts as an advisory body on matters such as library hours, security, computer policies and procedures, and materials budget allocations.

Name	Division
Allison Jobe - CHAIR	Humanities
Kate Holland	BBCEL
Jason Holt	MSNPH
Patrick Lawrence	Academic Success Center
Angela Neal	Administrative appointment (1)
Evan Nooe	Administrative appointment (2)
Rebecca Freeman	Library (1)
McKenzie Lemhouse	Library (2)
Logan Cocklin	Library (3)

Local Tenure and Promotion Committee

Membership: Six tenured members elected by the faculty. No one who participates in administrative review of candidates or who serves on the Palmetto College Campuses Tenure and Promotion Committee or Palmetto College Campuses Grievance Committee may be elected to this committee.

Purpose: The Local Tenure and Promotion Committee has several primary responsibilities. The first duty is the consideration of tenure and promotion applications from our campus, using the Palmetto College Campuses Faculty Manual for the procedures to follow. Secondly, the committee conducts the annual peer review of tenure-track faculty and instructors with scholarship, a process designed to document the professional development of the faculty member and to provide regular and constructive evaluations of the performance of the faculty member. Finally, the other responsibilities are to conduct first-year review, third-year review, and post tenure review of the faculty.

Name
Li Cai – CO-CHAIR
Brittany Taylor-Driggers – CO-CHAIR
Annette Golonka
Steven Campbell
Kate Holland
Kim Richardson

Native American Studies Advisory Committee

Membership: One representative per division, the Native American Studies Director and up to three of his or her appointments, and up to two administrative appointment(s). With the approval of the Director, faculty teaching within the NAS cognate or holding positions within the NAS center can be added as non-voting advisory members of the committee.

Purpose: Native American Studies Advisory Committee advises the Native American Studies Director.

Name	Division
Ernest Jenkins	Humanities
Deborah Rowell	BBCEL
Allan Pangburn	MSNPH
Stephen Criswell	NAS Director
Claudia Heinemann-Priest	NAS Director appointment (1)
Lauren Thomas	NAS Director appointment (2)
Evan Nooe - CHAIR	NAS Director appointment (3)
Brittany Taylor-Driggers	NAS Director appointment (non-voting)
Suzette Taylor	Administrative appointment (1)
Angela Neal	Administrative appointment (2)

Residency Appeals Committee

Membership: The Associate Dean (ex-officio Chair), Director of Student Success and Retention, Director of Student Life, one representative per division, and administrative appointments.

Purpose: The committee hears appeals from administrative decisions determining eligibility or lack thereof for payment of tuition at resident rates.

Name	Division
Darris Hassell	Humanities
Mark Coe	BBCEL
Jill Castiglia	MSNPH
Jason Holt	Administrative Appointment
Phillip Parker	Administrative Appointment
David Roberts - CHAIR	Interim Academic Dean
Open	Director of Student Success and Retention
Jeff Rammage	Director of Student Life

Scholarships and Special Awards Committee

Membership: Two representatives per division, Academic Dean, administrative appointments, and one student representative.

Purpose: The Scholarships and Special Awards Committee selects scholarship recipients on the basis of criteria established by members of the committee. All prospective scholarship recipients are interviewed by the committee membership or by a special interview panel. The committee supports activities of the Development Officer designed to increase the amount of monies available. The committee also selects the members of Who's Who and the recipients of certain other awards.

Name	Division
Sahar Aghasafari	Humanities (1)
Kim Richardson	Humanities (2)
Stan Emanuel	BBCEL (1)
Mike Sherrill	BBCEL (2)
Li Cai	MSNPH (1)
Liz Easley	MSNPH (2)
Gulzar Jalal	Administrative Appointment
Shana Dry	Administrative Appointment
Ashely Stevenson	Administrative Appointment
Matt Williamson	Administrative Appointment
McKenzie Sherrill	Student
David Roberts	Interim Academic Dean

Student Affairs Committee

Membership: One representative per division, the Academic Dean, the Director of Student Services, up to one administrative appointment, and one student representative.

Purpose: The Student Affairs Committee monitors and reviews policies and practices in student development and extracurricular activities on the USCL campus, approves applications for travel study courses, judges submissions to the annual Elliott White Springs Writing Contest, and recommends changes to the administration in an attempt to meet the needs of the USCL community.

Name	Division
Kim Richardson	Humanities
Susan Cruise - CHAIR	BBCEL
Suzette Taylor	MSNPH
David Roberts	Interim Academic Dean
Peter Seipel	Administrative Appointment
Mark Ammons	Administrative Appointment
Hannah Davis	Student
Jeff Rammage	Director of Student Services

Welfare and Grievance Committee

Membership: Four members elected for a term of one year or until a successor is elected; Vice- Chair of the USCL Faculty Organization is the chairperson.

Purpose: The Welfare and Grievance Committee considers grievances brought before the committee by members of the USCL faculty. If a grievance is determined to exist, the committee attempts to resolve the matter through mediation or other appropriate action. This committee also considers university policies and the enforcement of policies regarding the welfare of the faculty, such as faculty salaries, other compensation and benefits, and any matters affecting the workplace environment. The committee may recommend appropriate changes or the enforcement of existing policy, propose new policies, or comment upon proposed university action affecting faculty welfare. This committee serves to enhance faculty welfare. Specific duties include updating the campus description for external review,

facilitating the application process for the John J. Duffy Excellence in Teaching award, and coordinating classroom observations. This committee also considers other matters that may be assigned by the Executive Committee of the Faculty Organization.

Name

Rebecca Freeman (Chair)

Evan Nooe

Liz Easley

Fernanda Marques Burke

Stephen Criswell

Administrative Committees

USCL Research and Productive Scholarship Executive Committee

Membership: Appointed by Dean of Campus

Purpose: The committee manages the USCL RPS proposals, sets deadlines, and makes recommendations to the Dean for funding.

Name

Shana Dry

Pat Lawrence

Sarah Sellhorst

Jerrold Yarosh

USCL RPS Review Panel

Membership: Previous year's RPS grant recipients, along with the Research and Productive Scholarship Executive Committee (see above).

Purpose: Reviews grant proposals and makes recommendations to the Dean for funding.

Name

Chris Bundrick

Stephen Criswell

Claudia Heinemann-Priest

Evan Nooe

Pat Lawrence

Tyrie Rowell

Peter Siepel

Nahid Swails

Amy Gerald

Jason Holt

Dana Lawrence

Dean's Advisory Council

Membership: Three members elected from the Faculty Organization, Faculty Organization Executive Committee, and the Academic Dean.

Purpose: Facilitate communication of faculty needs and concerns to the Dean of Campus and Academic Dean.

Name	Role
Dana Lawrence	Elected
Liz Easley	Elected
Brittany Taylor-Driggers	Elected
Deborah Rowell	Faculty Organization Chair
Rebecca Freeman	Faculty Organization Vice-Chair
Chris Bundrick	Faculty Organization Secretary
David Roberts	Interim Academic Dean

System Committees

Columbia Faculty Senate

USCL Membership: Elected from faculty for a term of three years or until a successor is elected. The number of senators is determined by the Columbia Faculty Manual.

Purpose: The University Faculty has legislative powers in all matters pertaining to standards of admission, registration, requirements for and the granting of earned degrees, curriculum, instruction, research, extracurricular activities, discipline of students, educational policies, and standards of the university, and all other matters pertaining to the conduct of faculty affairs, including the discipline of their own members. The Faculty Senate of the University of South Carolina, having been created by direction of the University Faculty to act by and for that body, is endowed with all the powers and authority of the University Faculty except for those powers specifically reserved by that body to itself, provided that the University Faculty may amend or repeal any general policy decisions adopted by the Faculty Senate.

Name	Term
Jerrold Yarosh	2026-2029
Anita Bhandari Sharma	2026-2029
Steven Campbell	2024-2027
Deborah Rowell	2024-2027
Logan Cocklin	2025-2028

Palmetto College Campuses Academic Advisory Committee

USCL Membership: One member elected by the faculty to serve a two-year term. The Chair of this committee will be the Director of the BOL/BLS programs. The committee will meet twice per semester or as needed and will report to System Affairs before each Senate meeting.

Purpose: This committee considers academic policy and curriculum issues concerning those associate and baccalaureate degree programs that are offered across all the Palmetto College Campuses. The committee advises the Chancellor and/or Associate Provost on matters pertaining to academic policy for these programs, such as student grievances, readmission petitions, and other policy items. The committee will also consider matters pertaining to the curricula for these associate and baccalaureate programs and will make recommendations for curriculum changes to the Faculty Senate, via the System Affairs committee. Since the Baccalaureate degree programs are offered under the auspices of the Provost's Office, the Columbia Faculty Senate must approve any curriculum changes for the baccalaureate degree programs as well.

Name	Term
Jerrold Yarosh	(elected) 2026-2028

Palmetto College Campuses Faculty Senate

USCL Membership: Elected by faculty for a term of three years, or until a successor is elected. Alternates are elected for a one-year term. The most current version of the Palmetto College Campuses Faculty Manual describes specific requirements for membership.

Purpose: The Palmetto College Campuses Faculty Senate has authority to establish minimum educational standards for the Palmetto College Campuses, to include review and approval of any changes to the curriculum requirements for the common degrees awarded by the USC Palmetto College Campuses; it also has authority in matters pertaining to the conduct of faculty affairs, except where that authority has been specifically reserved for the Palmetto College Campus Faculties. These policies will be generally consistent with the educational policies and standards of the University and will differ only in meeting specific requirements of the Palmetto College Campuses.

Senators

Name	Committee	Term
Allison Jobe	System Affairs	2026-2029
Anita Bhandari Sharma	Welfare	2026-2029
Brittany Taylor-Driggers	Rights and Responsibilities	2024-2027
Claudia Heinemann-Priest	Rights and Responsibilities	2024-2027
Suzanne Penuel	System Affairs	2025-2028
Dana Lawrence	Rights and Responsibilities	2025-2028
Sahar Aghasafari	Welfare	2025-2028

Senate Alternates (alternates serve a one-year term)

Name	Term
Evan Nooe	2026-2027
Nahid Swails	2026-2027

Executive Committee – Lancaster Members

Name	Role	Term
Fernanda Marques Burke	Member-at-Large	2026-2027

Palmetto College Campuses Grievance Committee

USCL Membership: One tenured member elected by faculty for a one-year term or until a successor is elected. Members cannot be persons who are serving on the local or Palmetto College Campuses Tenure and Promotion Committee.

Purpose: The Grievance Committee considers individual grievances brought before the committee by members of the faculty. The committee examines alleged grievances, and when, in the judgment of the committee, a grievance is determined to exist, it attempts to resolve the matter through mediation or other appropriate action. Individual USC faculty members have the right to grieve any administrative decisions affecting their employment. Grievance procedures are detailed the Palmetto College Campuses Faculty Manual.

Name	Term
Fernanda Marques Burke	2026-2027

Palmetto College Campuses Policy Advisory Committee

USCL Membership: One member elected by the faculty and a student representative chosen from one Palmetto College campus on a rotating basis.

Purpose: The Palmetto College Policy Advisory Committee consults with university offices on proposals for new, revised and repealed policies to consider whether they are necessary and aligned with institutional mission, goals and priorities; that policies are concise, consistent in format and scope, and easy to understand; to identify constituencies and other policies that may be affected; and to make recommendations to appropriate offices. The Palmetto College Policy Advisory Committee (PCPAC) shall also assist with dissemination and sharing feedback regarding policies. This committee will meet on an ad hoc basis as determined by the Palmetto College Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

Name	Term
Suzanne Penuel	2026-2027

Palmetto College Campuses Research and Productive Scholarship Committee

USCL Membership: Two members elected by faculty on alternate years for a term of two years or until a successor is elected.

Purpose: This committee advises the Vice President for Research on strategies to encourage and support research and productive scholarship performed by faculty members of the Palmetto College Campuses. The committee submits reports to the Palmetto College Campuses Faculty Senate. The Palmetto College Campuses representative to the Columbia Research and Productive Scholarship Committee is also a member of the PCC RPS Committee.

Name	Term
Stephen Criswell	2026-2028
Bettie Obi-Johnson	2025-2027

Palmetto College Campuses Tenure and Promotion Committee

USCL Membership: Two tenured members elected by the faculty for a term of one year or until a successor is elected. No one who participates in administrative review of candidates or who serves on the local Tenure and Promotion Committee or Regional Campuses Grievance Committee may be elected to this committee. No member shall serve for more than three consecutive years. At least one representative shall be at the full professor level. No faculty member may serve on the committee during the year in which the member's case receives active consideration. If a campus is unable to meet the membership rules exceptions may be made subject to approval by the local faculty organization, the Palmetto College Campuses Faculty Senate Executive Committee and the Office of the Palmetto College Chancellor.

Purpose: The Palmetto College Campuses Tenure and Promotion Committee receives from the Vice Provost all files of faculty and professional librarians being considered for promotion or tenure. The PCCTP committee reviews each file and determines whether it supports the conclusions and recommendations of the campus tenure and promotion committees and campus deans. This review includes an examination of decisions to determine consistency with the criteria published in the Manual.

Name	Term
Chris Bundrick (full)	2026-2027
Dana Lawrence (full)	2026-2027

Provost's Palmetto College Campuses Advisory Committee

Membership: Two representatives elected from the faculty on alternate years for a term of two years or until a successor is elected.

Purpose: The Provost's Palmetto College Campuses Advisory Committee is constituted and its business conducted at the will of the Provost. The purpose of this committee is to provide recommendations regarding the academic mission of the University and academic and academic support issues affecting the Palmetto College Campuses to the President, Provost, or other committees and governing bodies.

Name	Term
Stephen Criswell	2025-2027
Claudia Heinemann-Priest	2026-2028