

USC Lancaster Faculty Meeting Minutes October 4, 2024

Please note: Faculty Organization meetings are recorded. To access the recordings of previous Faculty Organization meetings, follow these steps:

1. Log into Blackboard and go to Organizations.
2. Select USCLFO.
3. Click FO Documents on the left-hand menu.
4. Click on the folder labeled "FO Meeting Documents and Recordings"
5. Select the date of the meeting.
6. View recording in browser or download mp4 file.

Please note that chat messages are preserved in the Teams meeting record but are not necessarily reported in the minutes. Minutes are not verbatim and as such, pronouns may be mixed in the comment sections.

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USC Lancaster Faculty Meeting Minutes October 4, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: 12:35 PM, D. Lawrence

CORRECTION/APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the September 6, 2024 faculty organization meeting were approved.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Dean of the Campus – Dr. Courtney Catledge, report submitted (Appendix 1).

- Current enrollment is 2572
- Followed up on Dual Enrollment discussion at September's FO meeting and shared some personal impacts of dual enrollment
- Highlights from her report:
 - Faculty/staff searches for open Indian Land coordinator and Instructor of Statistics
 - Encourages faculty/staff turnout at Athletics events
 - Encourages fac/staff turnout at upcoming events
 - Noted Scholarship Luncheon (watch for email invitation, RSVP is important)
 - Noted funding/grants
 - Discussion with Columbia campus about free speech (policies, reactions to demonstrations, etc.), she wants USCL to have a say in how we handle on our campus
 - 30 internship stipends have been approved for the semester
 - Reminder to RSVP for Palmetto College social in November
 - Celebrate record enrollment, thanks to faculty and staff
- Thanks to fac/staff who were flexible and offered support to the campus community and to those affected by Hurricane Helene recently

Questions and/or Comments:

S. Alhaddad – Who designated the Rose Garden as the campus free speech zone?

C. Catledge – This has not been widely communicated. We should not wait until we have a challenge to identify policies and places. We should have more discussions about this.

*This question prompted discussion of campus free speech and policies. Questions included whether security should have been able to interfere with student

demonstrations by relocating demonstrations if there are no clear, written policies or rules in place, as well as what constitutes “protest.”

C. Bundrick – Any updates about the campus Dean search?

Courtney: The position has gone through the development and approval process, has been approved, the posting should be up within 2-3 weeks

A. Golonka – Regarding the publicized student-organization sponsored event in Columbia, what do we do when students feel threatened by others’ expressions of free speech?

C. Catledge: Those events probably prompted the current system-wide conversation about free speech. More discussion is needed.

Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs – Dr. Todd Lekan, report submitted (Appendix 2).

- Highlights from his report including:
 - Encouraging fac/staff to attend the scholarship luncheon, extend grace to students late to class because of the luncheon
 - AI is a big conversation. Perhaps a need for an ad hoc committee on how we handle this
 - Reminder to use the Early Alert notices. Think about students who might need to get out of full-term classes and into 8-week classes.
 - Oct. 21 is registration for Spring and Fall 2 start date.
 - Sarah Sellhorst is taking on additional duties re: USCL Dual Enrollment curricula and high school instructors, onboarding, etc.
 - Our BIT CARE Team is here for students who need more support, but remember that immediate crises should be routed to emergency services (then follow up with a BIT CARE Team report)
 - Faculty searches
 - Faculty Expert “Speakers Bureau” – a list of topics that faculty would be willing to present on for community groups (see his report for details)
 - Expect a survey about faculty advising – do those who already do it want to continue, do others want to take part?
 - Shout out to Zoe Byrd for being selected to serve on the Discovery School board
 - Highlighted our many faculty and staff accomplishments! See the Service Spotlights and Faculty Teaching/Scholarship accomplishments in his report

Questions and/or Comments: None

Director of Academic Success Center — Dr. Patrick Lawrence, report submitted (Appendix 3)

- The ASC is doing well, the charts in his report show that trends are holding (including a new chart that breaks out athlete and dual enrollment student use)
- Highlights that now is the time for ASC to recruit tutors: Instructors are encouraged to refer exceptional students to help
- ASC is partnering to help travel-study students with applications for their Gilman Scholarship. Faculty are encouraged to reach out with ideas or opportunities for similar partnerships.

Questions and/or Comments:

T. Scarlet: Does the ASC offer help with reading comprehension? Or could you offer an event to address that concern?

P. Lawrence: Attendance may be a concern for a special event with that focus, but the ASC does tutor in study skills so we could develop that further.

S. Alhaddad (follow-up question): If a student has a question about reading comprehension in a specific class, should they book with a content-area tutor or a writing tutor?

P. Lawrence: Suggests opting for writing or study skills. Those sessions do not teach discipline-specific material, but help students build their study skills to learn in the future.

B. Obi-Johnson: Is there a procedure where the ASC might reach out to a corresponding faculty member to inform them that tutors were unable to help a student?

P. Lawrence: We can help connect students to faculty, but we encourage students to advocate/communicate for themselves.

J. Castiglia: Students have said that tutors are booked for prolonged periods, how can we request those specific disciplines?

P. Lawrence: Some subjects are in extremely high demand. The ASC's scheduler only makes appointments 2 weeks in advance to avoid no-shows or cancellations, so it looks like appointments are unavailable beyond that window.

J. Castiglia (Follow-up question): Is it possible to create a waitlist for high-demand subjects?

P. Lawrence: Will need to explore options.

Director of Human Resources – Tracey Mobley Chavous, report submitted (Appendix 4)

- October is Open Enrollment. She will send many updates. If you do not want changes to your coverage, you do not need to do anything, except for flexible spending accounts.
- Most changes can go through MyBenefits website except for changes to optional life insurance coverage, which must be made on paper
- Visit the PEBA website (linked in her report) for information
- The next observed holiday is Election Day. Campus will be open but there are no classes. Please remind students that they do not need to come to campus (unless they want to), and to remember the Polling locations will be open 7 AM to 7 PM. All employees are encouraged to vote before or after work, but there is some leeway available for employees at a significant distance that would prevent them from voting
- Reminder that we are prohibited from using University resources for the promotion of political candidates or campaigns (employees can absolutely do this privately, but should not use university emails or other resources)
- Reminder of the campus closure for Thanksgiving, winter break, etc. (see her report for details on the changes to class schedules this year)

Questions and/or Comments:

B. Newton: SC Voting registration deadline was extended to October 14 due to the hurricane

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

USC SYSTEM COMMITTEES:

Rights and Responsibilities – Dr. Dana Lawrence

- One of the charges to R&R committee was to have campus ad hoc committees examine campus policies and align with PC faculty manual

System Affairs – Dr. Jerrod Yarosh

- Looking at use of AI (student and faculty), expect updates in the future
- Investigating whether academic deans should participate in T&P process
- Looking at transferability of tenure within PC
- Working to draft a universal process for instructors to become Senior Instructors

Questions and/or Comments:

N. Lawrence: Clarified that the point about tenure transferability within PC refers to faculty transferring tenure status from one campus to another.

S. Penuel supported holding out about instant transfer due to surprising differences between campus expectations for T&P.

C. Bundrick expressed concern regarding the point about academic deans in T&P procedures given how complex and time-intensive the process already is; and offered a reminder that charges do not always have to be accepted.

LOCAL COMMITTEES:

Academic Advisory Council – Dr. Jerrod Yarosh

- Council met on Sept 25, discussed addressing AI and student cheating; hope to offer a student event (a panel with student participation, emphasis on educating what constitutes cheating/misconduct)
- Discussed how to get students to stay on campus longer, campus culture. We need more feedback about what students want and need. We'd like to have a faculty listening session to gather faculty feedback
- Discussed a possible new policy to limit student summer hours so they don't overload themselves during those short semesters. There would be an option for an override with approval

Questions and/or Comments: None

Athletics Advisory Committee – Dr. Nick Lawrence

- Met Sept. 27 but cut short by weather
- Encourages attendance at soccer games, volleyball home games
- Process to hire a student worker position: Content creator for USCL athletics

Questions and/or Comments:

N. Bohonak: Commented on the hard work expected of students on the soccer team

Curriculum Committee – Rebecca Freeman, report submitted (Appendix 5)

- Expect a proposal to update associate in business – Science to make CMS requirement more flexible
- Expect a proposal to update course listings for CHEM classes with requisite labs
- Expect a proposal to update the associate in science degree plan

Questions and/or Comments:

S. Alhaddad: Clarified that the request to update the associate in science degree would be to allow students to receive credit for both MATH 111 and MATH 111i.

Evaluation Committee – Dr. Chris Bundrick, report submitted (Appendix 6)

- Committee has met a couple of times; making progress to update and clarify post-tenure procedures and hope that FO can hear/vote on this before the end of the year (and then on to Peer Review)
- Please share feedback with Chris or Division chairs)

Questions and/or Comments: None

Tenure & Promotion Committee – Dr. Nick Lawrence

- Committee met just before the FO meeting, no written report.
- Post-tenure is an item of discussion on campus and PC Senate. Keeping the process as minimal/straightforward as possible

Questions and/or Comments: None

Native American Studies Committee – Dr. Stephen Criswell, report submitted (Appendix 7)

- Committee is working on a proposed PCAM course: Intro to Native American Studies – please reach out if you have developed a PCAM course before

OTHER SYSTEM COMMITTEES:

Columbia Faculty Senate – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

SPECIAL ORDERS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- E. Moon Kelly: Shared recent and upcoming performances, including The Winds of Time Woodwind Quintet at Octoberfest at Brewers in Charlotte, NC and “Broadway on Display” concert with Charlotte Concert Band on October 19
- R. Freeman: Shared that the Medford Library Read-A-Thon ends October 18 and prize winner will be contacted the following week
- S. Criswell: October 26 will be NASC family day featuring activities and performances
- D. Lawrence: Noted Hurricane Helene’s impact locally and in Western NC and the importance of keeping donations local.

ADJOURNMENT: 2:15 PM

ATTENDING:

Sahar Aghasafari, Shemsi Alhaddad, Connor Austell, Noni Bohonak, Christopher Bundrick, Jill Castiglia, Courtney Catledge, Logan Cocklin, Stephen Criswell, Annette Duker-Golonka, Elizabeth Easley, Blake Faulkenberry, Rebecca Freeman, Darris Hassell, Claudia Heinemann-Priest, Jason Holt, Ernest Jenkins, Mary Allison Jobe, Christopher Judge, Dana Lawrence, Nicholas Lawrence, Patrick Lawrence, Todd Lekan, McKenzie Lemhouse, Lynette Martek, Fernanda Marques Burke, Tracey Mobley Chavous, Erin Moon-Kelly, Angela Neal, Brandon Newton, Evan Nooe, Bettie Obi-Johnson, Suzanne Penuel, Bridgett Plexico, Jeff Rammage, Kim Richardson, David Roberts, Deborah Rowell, Todd Scarlett, Asheley Schryer, Peter Seipel, Sarah Sellhorst, Nahid Swails, Jerrod Yarrosch

ABSENT:

Marybeth Berry, Dwayne Brown, Li Cai, Steven Campbell, Mark Coe, Kimberly Covington, Susan Cruise, Stan Emanuel, Garane Garane, Amy Gerald, Lisa Hammon, Alissa Kate Holland, Howard Kingkade, Tamika Lewis, Vincent Lewis, Sue Mazullo, Allan Pangburn, Phillip Parker, Leigh Pate, Michael Sherrill, Suzette Taylor, Brittany Taylor-Driggers, Richard Vanhall, Tania Wolochwianski, Andrew Yingst

Faculty Secretary: Document submitted by M. Lemhouse on October 25, 2024, for faculty and staff review.

UNIVERSITY OF
South Carolina
LANCASTER

Dr. Courtney B. Catledge
Regional Palmetto College Interim Dean

Report to the Faculty Organization of USC Lancaster
October 4, 2024

People

Enrollment

Fall 2024 enrollment is at an historic high and up in both traditional on-campus students and dual credit students. **As of October 3, we are at 2559 for headcount enrollment.** Thanks to all who assisted with setting this record.

Staff searches:

Director of Outreach and Coordinator of the Indian Land location
Admissions Counselor

Faculty searches:

Assistant Professor/Instructor of Statistics

Athletics

Women's and men's soccer seasons as well as volleyball season are underway. **Check out their schedules here:** <https://usclathletics.com/> Gratitude to the members of the Athletics Advisory Committee for their ongoing work.

USC Lancaster in our Communities

- USC Lancaster's Dr. Pat Lawrence and Dr. Dwayne Brown will provide an **ACT/SAT Workshop for LHS students** as part of the Lancaster Promise Neighborhood program. The sessions, offered in October and November, will be offered on 4 Saturdays on campus.
- **USC Lancaster and the Lancaster County Sheriff's Department recently established an internship opportunity for USC Lancaster students.** Dr. John Rutledge, Prof. Debbie Rowell, and Bridgett Plexico are working to recruit students.
- USC Lancaster will be competing in the **United Way's Bed Race Fundraiser**. The race will take place on Saturday (10/12) at 1:30 on the 700 block of S. Main St. Join us for the fun.

Other items...

- The next **Lunch and Learn at the Native American Studies Center** is scheduled for October 27 at noon with a talk entitled "Zooarchaeological Residues of Feasting at the Mississippian Mound Complex, E8KE12, South Carolina" by Emily Sykora, Indiana University Pennsylvania. To attend via Zoom, register via this link: <https://bit.ly/3kwSXCI>
- The annual **Richard Gannaway Scholarship Luncheon** has been scheduled for Wednesday, November 6 at noon in the Arnold Special Events Room. Invitations for faculty will be emailed.
- We just received notification of the award of **federal earmark funding of \$2,800,000 from the Department of Health Resources and Services Administration** for a major renovation of the upstairs of Hubbard Hall for the development of the USC Lancaster Center for Healthcare Workforce Development. The project must be completed by Fall 2027.
- The faculty/staff **Holiday Luncheon** is scheduled for Tuesday, December 10 from 11:30 to 1:30 in the Arnold Special Events Room. The call for RSVPs is forthcoming.
- USC Lancaster's annual **Clery Report** has been completed and submitted. Many thanks to **Dr. John Rutledge** for his dedication in completing the report and to various faculty and staff who assisted with data and information collection. Updated information has been posted to the USC Lancaster website.

Enjoy your upcoming Fall Break!

Palmetto College Campuses
Faculty Senate

**SAVE THE
DATE**

Faculty Social

Hosted by USC Lancaster



Friday, November 15, 2024



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
LANCASTER

Todd Lekan, Associate Dean for Academic & Student Affairs

REPORT TO THE FACULTY ORGANIZATION
October 4, 2024

1. **USCL Scholarships.** Faculty are invited to attend our **Scholarship Luncheon** on November 6 at noon in the Arnold Special Events Room in the Bradley Building. This special event honors the recipients of USCL's most prestigious scholarships and includes many donors from the community. Invitations have been distributed to mailboxes in Hubbard Hall. Please RSVP by Monday, October 21; 803-313-7008; drys@sc.edu. Students who are being honored that day might be late to their 1:00 classes. Thanks in advance for extending patience to those students.

This year's scholarship committee is Stan Emanuel (Chair), Mike Sherrill, Sahar Aghasafari, Ernest Jenkins, Li Cai, Bettie Obi Johnson, Todd Lekan, Shana Dry, Kim Covington, Ken Cole, Ashley Stevenson, and Matt Williamson. Thanks to Ashley and Stan for their great work in organizing the scholarship process.

2. **Artificial Intelligence and Academic Integrity.** I have noticed an increased number of integrity violations based on student usage of AI. For example, AI was cited by professors reporting 11 of the 12 findings in the 2024 summer terms. The USC Office of Student Conduct & Academic Integrity continues to look closely at issues related to the use of Artificial Intelligence in courses and has developed a page with some helpful FAQs. Please see the resources there:

https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/student_conduct_and_academic_integrity/academic_integrity/artificial_intelligence/index.php

3. **Class Cancellation.** Just a friendly reminder that if you need to cancel a class, please contact Pam Ellis in the Academic Affairs Office pellis@mailbox.sc.edu and your Division Chair.
4. **Early Alert Notices.** Please use this form to report any academic concerns that you have about your students: <https://tinyurl.com/usclfacultyalerts>. This form will remain active throughout the semester.
5. **Fall 2 and Spring/Summer Registration.** October 21 is the date that fall 2 courses begin. If you know of students who might benefit from dropping a full semester class while recovering in the second eight weeks, please encourage them to talk with their advisors. October 21 is also the date that students begin registering for spring and summer courses. Thanks to faculty for working with

Division Chairs to develop a viable spring/summer 2025 schedule in a timely manner.

6. **Faculty, Curricula, and Courses in USCL Dual Enrollment.** Given the considerable growth and complexity in the dual enrollment program we have assigned duties pertaining to faculty and curricula oversight to Dr. Sarah Sellhorst. USC Sumter has implemented this academic oversight role for some time. Dr. Sellhorst oversees the instruction in the dual enrollment program including instructor vetting, onboarding, evaluation, and compensation. She also works with the USCL staff and school partners on course schedule planning.
7. **Students Dealing with Hurricane Issues.** Thanks for working with those students who are struggling with difficulties such as power outages and flood conditions caused by the hurricane. If you are concerned about a student's safety or wellbeing, please consider reporting the matter to the Care team.
8. **CARE (Student Care and Outreach Team).** The Care Team is a group of caring professionals dedicated to student success and well-being by identifying concerns, addressing those concerns with the student, and referring them to campus and community resources. The Care Team's primary goal is to ensure that the student involved gains the necessary resources to remain successful academically and personally at USCL. The team is comprised of these USCL staff members:

Associate Dean: Todd Lekan
Security Director: John Rutledge
Counselor: Tamika Lewis
Registrar: Megan Catoe
Student Life Director: Jeff Rammage
Director of Student Success and Retention: Asheley Schryer

Anyone can make a CARE team referral—students, staff, faculty, and even non USCL community members. To make CARE team referral please use this link: https://www.sc.edu/about/system_and_campuses/palmetto_college/internal/faculty_and_staff/care_referral/care_team_incident_report_form.php

If you think the student is an immediate threat/danger to themselves or others call 911. It is a good idea to follow that up with a CARE report. For other situations that are more like “yellow alerts,” err on the side of caution and file the report. When the report is received, the reporter will get a notification that the report is received. The Associate Dean will communicate with the CARE Team to implement an action plan.

- 9. Faculty Searches.** A search committee has been assembled for an Instructor/Assistant Professor of Statistic faculty member: Andy Yingst (Chair), Annette Golonka, Jerrod Yarosh, Evan Nooe.
- 10. Faculty Expert “Speakers Bureau.”** Recently, a staff member at the Tree Tops retirement community mentioned to me that her residents would enjoy public lectures on topics of interest presented by faculty experts. If you are interested in lecturing at Tree Tops, please let me know. This request also prompted me to think that it would be a good idea to construct a list of faculty members and the topics about which they would be willing to speak to the community. Please share those with me and Ms. Pamela Ellis PELLIS@mailbox.sc.edu. USCL would cover the travel costs to and from these events.
- 11. Faculty Advising for Spring 2025.** Faculty advising is a central part of our two-tiered advising system at USCL. Staff advisors work students in their first year, helping them learn how to be a college student, select appropriate courses, and get involved. Ideally, students are assigned faculty advisors in the spring semester of their freshman year. Faculty advisors help students plan their second-year course schedules as well as offer advice about their next paths beyond USCL. Sometime in the next month, full-time faculty will receive a message asking them to affirm their intention to continue or to begin advising in spring 2025. In November, we will offer faculty a few meeting options to discuss advising prior to the spring term.
- 12. Zoe Byrd, USCL Academic Advisor,** along with 11 other advisory members, was selected by parents and staff of Discovery School to serve on the 2024-2025 Advisory Board. Discovery School is a public charter elementary school in the Lancaster County School District. She will be serving on the Grants Committee, which is responsible for researching and writing possible grants for the school. Congrats, Zoe!
- 13. Service Spotlights**
- **Marybeth Berry** will be performing *On the Spectrum* as part of Disability Awareness Week.
 - **Nick Lawrence**, in collaboration with **Todd Lekan, Blake Faulkenberry, and Nick Calhoun** debuted “Calhoun’s Corner” Facebook Live Feed on September 6. Created / Posted Second Installment on Friday, Oct. 4. Interviews with Calhoun and with Student Athletes appear in these videos, spotlighting our athletics programs.
 - **Nahid Swails and Sahar Aghasafari will be offering a “Relieve Stress with Art Workshop:** Dr. Aghasafari on Tuesday, October 8th at noon in the iCarolina Lab at the Bradley Building. This workshop is exclusively for women faculty and staff, and spaces are limited. Interested participants should contact me at shayetn@mailbox.sc.edu no later than October 4th.

14. Recent Faculty Teaching and Scholarly/Professional Accomplishments.

- **Marybeth Berry** studied in Bordeaux France with renowned teacher and actor, Jude Alderson on her new version of Phaedra. The workshop developed the piece in depth and will move to the next stage of performance in England next year. While in France, USCL Thea 200 students were able to view a part of the workshop via zoom.

Marybeth is directing Town Theatre's musical, *Something's Afoot* which opens October 25th which features two USCL alumni in Columbia.

USC Lancaster Players have been invited to perform in Ireland at Ardgillan Castle with two performances: *Waiting for Godot* and *On the Spectrum*.

Marybeth's *On the Spectrum* was also workshopped at the FringeLab in Dublin Fringe Festival in May for the opportunity to be part of a future Dublin Fringe Festival.

Marybeth's *The Puzzle* has been selected for an international premiere at La MaMa Umbria after a successful staged reading at Coastal Carolina University's New Works Festival.

Marybeth spent a week this summer in New York working with the Tectonic Theatre Project and Moises Kaufmann (creator of The Laramie Project) where she completed Levels 1 & 2 of Moment Work as well as Moment Work for the Actor with Moises directly.

- **Li Cai and Sahar Aghasafari** have had two abstracts accepted for presentation in October. One is for an online conference by the London Arts-Based Research Centre in early October, and the other is for the American Chemical Society conference in Atlanta in late October:

Cai, L.; Aghasafari, S. ChemArtistry: Integrating Media Arts into the Study of Fundamental Chemistry in the Age of AI. *2024 Southeastern Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society*, 2024.

Aghasafari, S.; Cai, L. ChemArtistry: Integrating Media Arts into the Study of Fundamental Chemistry. *Science and Sensibility: Method Meets Art - A Transdisciplinary Conference*, 2024.

- **Dana Lawrence** presented her paper, "Postcolonial Gothic and the Specter of Literary History in Helen Oyeyemi's *The Icarus Girl*," at the South Central MLA conference (Sept. 19-21, 2024).

- **Nick Lawrence** gave a Conference Paper Presentation, Sept. 19th 2024 at South Central Modern Language Association (SCMLA) in New Orleans, Louisiana: “Southern Gothic Hauntings and Feminist Marxism in Sharyn McCrumb’s *The Ballad of Frankie Silver*.”

Nick also participated in these professional activities:

Gave *South Central Review* Editor’s Report to Executive Committee of SCMLA.

Served as a Roundtable Panelist, “Strategies for Getting Published.”

Served as a panelist, “*Pulp Fiction* Turns 30: A Roundtable Celebrating The Recent Special Issue of *South Central Review*.”

Served as Secretary for One Panel on Film Studies.

Served as Chair for One Panel on Film Studies.

Attended SCMLA Business Meeting in Role as Managing Editor for *South Central Review*.

- **Todd Lekan** presented a paper entitled “The Everlasting Ruby Vaults of Our Own Human Hearts: Pragmatist Fifth Wheel Arguments Against Abstract Normative Principles” at the annual Southeast Roundtable on the Philosophies of the Americas at UNC Charlotte on September 20.
- **Evan Nooe** was an invited speaker at the Charleston Library Society to discuss my book *Aggression and Sufferings: Settler Violence, Native Resistance, and the Coalescence of the Old South* in Charleston, SC.

Evan served as a commentator for the panel titled "Gods, Guns, and Gender: The Unexpected and the Unexplained in the Native South During the 17th, 18th, and early 19th Centuries" at the American Society for Ethnohistory annual meeting in Fargo, ND

- **Lauren Thomas** and **Sarah Sellhorst** will partner with the Upper Midlands Rural Health Network to facilitate a two-year Strategic Workforce & Training grant with the SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare to develop and accredit a Health & Wellbeing Coach Training Program through the USC Lancaster.

The training program will equip students interested in a future health profession with the preventive health knowledge and patient-centered communication skills to increase their likelihood of sustaining self-directed health-promoting behaviors. The grant will also offer tuition funding for select students who fully participate in the pilot year of the 100% online training program.

- **Nahid Swails** has been awarded a Faculty Travel Grant (NSF-funded) to participate in the American Geophysical Union 2024 Annual Meeting (AGU24), which will be held in December 2024 in Washington D.C., USA.

Nahid will be presenting at the 91st Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Section of the American Physical Society (SESAPS), which will take place from October 24-26, 2024, on the campus of UNC Charlotte.

- **Brittany Taylor-Driggers** has an artwork entitled “Fixing My Broken Pieces” was selected for publication in *Kakalak* 2024. Out of a total of 170 only 35 artworks were selected.

<https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fk akalakanthology.com%2F&data=05%7C02%7CTLEKAN%40mailbox.sc.edu%7C918dc186c4d64b52121f08dce18aab11%7C4b2a4b19d135420e8bb2b1cd238998cc%7C0%7C0%7C638633232935720626%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJB TlI6Ikl1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=0nwU2 %2Bv%2Fg8fvFpV6IaeiLm3mGpnX6yuPuE771rQbaic%3D&reserved=0>

UPCOMING AND CURRENT EVENTS:

The Lancaster Players will present *The Odd Couple* from October 11-13. For ticket and show times please visit: <https://uscl.universitytickets.com>

The next NASC Lunch and Learn is at noon on October 25:

<https://nativeamericanstudies.org/upcoming-events>

RELIEVE STRESS WITH ART

A Women's WORKSHOP

October 8, 12:00 – 1:00 PM
Location: iCarolina Lab, Bradley

Hosted by Dr. Swails and Dr. Aghasafari

Join us for a relaxing and creative session designed exclusively for women. We'll use media arts (video poems) to express and alleviate stress in a supportive and artistic environment. No prior experience necessary!

Limited Seats Available – Register Now!

Email: shayestn@mailbox.sc.edu to save your spot!

Pizza will be served after the workshop.



From Erin Moon-Kelly:

The Winds of Time Woodwind Quintet (Erin Moon-Kelly plays flute and piccolo in the ensemble) performed at Octoberfest at Brewers at 4001 Yancey in Charlotte, NC.

Charlotte Concert band Presents...

BROADWAY ON DISPLAY!

Saturday, October 19, 2024 | 3:00PM

Palisades High School

15221 York Road

Charlotte, NC 28278

OVERVIEW

Dive into the enchanting world of Broadway with the Charlotte Concert Band's presentation of "Broadway on Display." From the timeless classics of musical theater to contemporary hits that have graced the stages of Broadway, experience the musical magic of shows like "Jesus Christ Superstar" and "Phantom of the Opera." Feel the energy come alive with exhilarating performances from beloved favorites such as "West Side Story," "Fiddler on The Roof," and more! Join us for an unforgettable evening as we celebrate the rich musical tapestry of the Great White Way!

Program

WEBBER/arr. MOSS - *Jesus Christ Superstar*

WEBBER/arr. BARKER - *Selections from Phantom Of The Opera*

SONDHEIM/arr. BULLA - *Sondheim!*

BERNSTEIN/arr. RICKETTS - *Wrong Note Rag*

BERNSTEIN/arr. BOCOOK - *Somewhere*

BERNSTEIN/arr. MURTHA - *Gee, Officer Krupke*

JOHN KANDER/arr. RICKETTS - *Selections from Chicago*

BOCK/arr. HEARSHEN - *Symphonic Dances from "Fiddler on the Roof"*

WILSON/arr. BOCOOK - *Seventy-Six Trombones*

Ticket Pricing

- **AT THE DOOR:** \$15.00
- **ONLINE**
 - **General Admission:** \$12.00
 - **Seniors (ages 65+):** \$9.00
 - **Students (with a valid student ID):** \$5.00
 - *Ages 5 and younger admitted free*

Group pricing is available for parties of 10 or more. Please contact us at charlotteconcertband@gmail.com for more information.

And one last accomplishment, my daughter turned 13 and I am still sane. Hope this helps!

Report to the USC Lancaster Faculty Organization

Academic Success Center

Pat Lawrence, Director

Announcements

- We are able to present some new data for the first time this month! Please see below for the numbers of dual-enrollment students and student athletes we served.
- Now is when we begin looking for new tutors for spring, so please consider referring your exceptional students.
- The ASC will be closed during fall break (but we will be open on election day).

Recent and Upcoming Events Overview

In September, the ASC held two review sessions for nursing subjects (BIOL 243 and NURS 216) as part of our suite of studio services. The sessions were led by peer-tutors Caysen Horton and Kennedy Bumbrey and served 24 students. We'll continue running these throughout the semester in coordination with faculty.

The ASC is partnering with Dr. Susan Cruise to assist travel-study students with applications for the Gilman Scholarship to cover their travel costs. If you are working with a student group that could benefit from ASC services, please know that we have many support offerings for non-course-related projects.

The ASC was host to the RPS Executive Committee grant-writing workshop on October 27th. Hurricane Helene's impacts required moving the event to a hybrid format, and while some attendees met in-person in the Studio, others participated via Teams. A total of 9 people attended the hour-long event.

Summary of Tutoring Data

Year-to-year trends: The ASC feels very busy this semester, and the charts below show both that we are holding a high number of appointments (141 in September) and that we are up slightly over past years in total student contacts. These are the typically high numbers that we see early in the fall semester and may diminish over time.

Session distribution trends: Session distribution numbers reflect a very high number of students in Studio services, particularly but not exclusively in the two Health Sciences events mentioned above. Initial data about use of ASC services by athletes and dual-enrollment students indicate that these students use the center at much lower rates than the general student body. Student athletes represented only 4% of clients, while dual enrollment students were 6%. These are both potential growth areas for us, as we believe that both groups could benefit from ASC support. Course distributions were typical, with the largest share in STEM, especially Math 111i and BIOL 243.

(See charts below for data breakdown.)

Contact Information

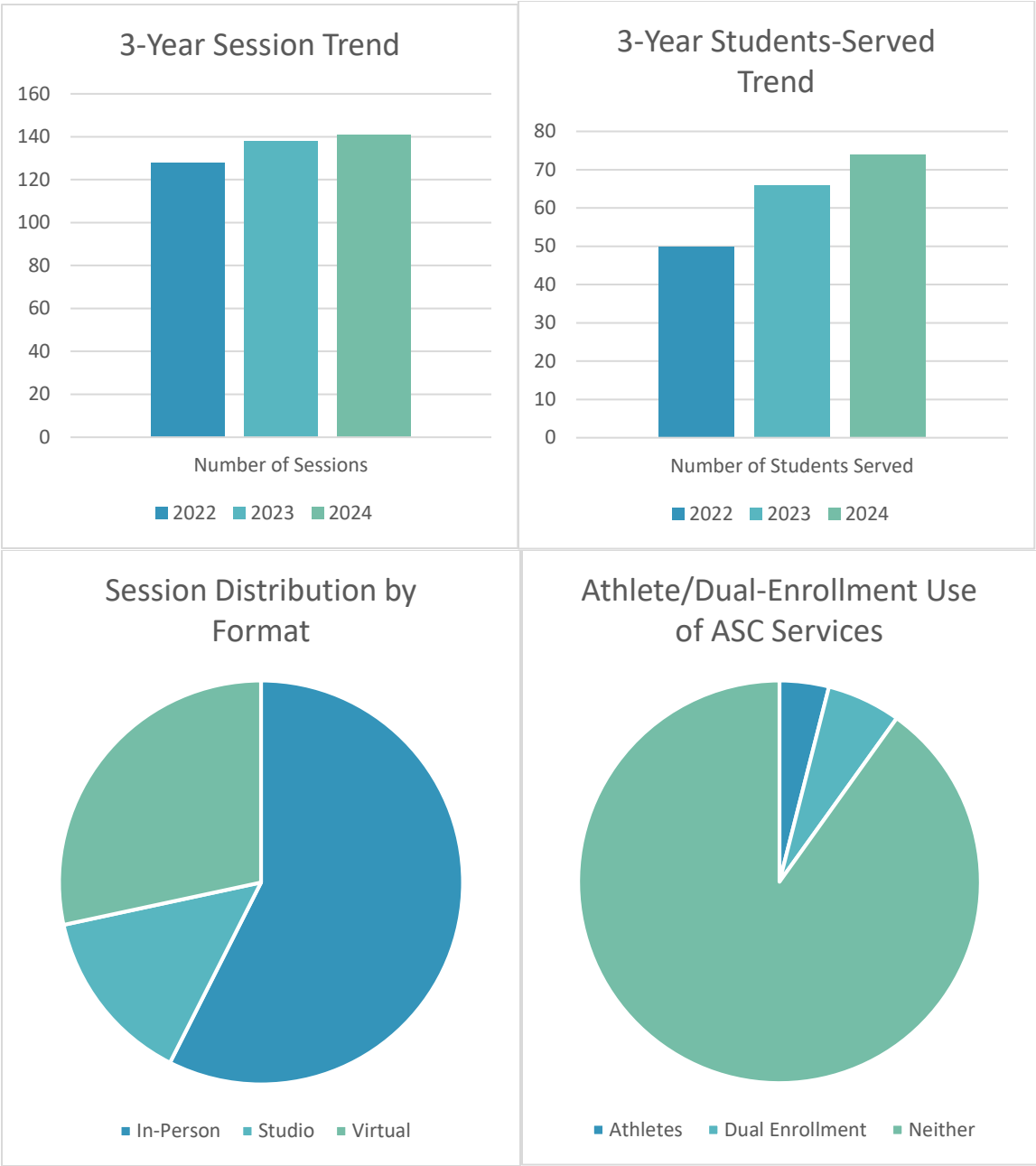
Phone: 803-313-7113

Web: sc.ed/lancaster/asc

Patrick Lawrence, Director: pslawren@mailbox.sc.edu

Elaine Connor, Academic Success Coordinator: etconnor@mailbox.sc.edu

Appendix: Summer Tutoring Data



¹ Note that the student-athlete and dual-enrollment data is only collected for conventional tutoring appointments, not for studio services. For this reason, the total number of sessions listed here excludes studio numbers.

FROM: Tracey Mobley Chavous, PHR - Director of Human Resources

MEETING: Faculty Organization Meeting- October 4, 2024

TODAY'S DATE: October 2, 2024

ATTACHMENTS: 1

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1) 2024 Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment for benefits begins on October 1, 2024, and ends on Thursday October 31, 2024. Any changes made during Open Enrollment will take effect on January 1, 2025.

I sent an email containing details about the changes available during Open Enrollment and additional resources to the Lancaster campus on October 1, 2024. The subject line is Open Enrollment for Benefits.

All subscribers are encouraged to make open enrollment changes by using the MyBenefits website located at <https://mybenefits.sc.gov>.

****Request for increases to Optional Life Insurance Coverage must be submitted on a paper Notice of Election (NOE) Form. ****

If you are satisfied with your current coverage, you do not need to do anything during Open Enrollment. However, you must re-enroll in MoneyPlus flexible spending accounts each year.

Highlights for 2025

- [Active employee](#) and [funded retiree](#) health insurance premiums will not increase in 2025.
- Permanent, part-time teacher, partially funded retiree, non-funded retiree, COBRA subscriber, survivor and former spouse health insurance premiums will increase in 2025.
- Supplemental Long-Term Disability (SLTD) monthly premium factors will decrease in 2025.
- Apply for SLTD or change your SLTD benefit waiting period for existing coverage without medical evidence.
- Normal Plan provisions (copayments and coinsurance) will apply to members who receive care at a Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH).
- Members will pay the applicable brand copayment for higher-cost diabetic products and supplies, such as continuous glucose monitors and insulin pumps. No-Pay Copay participants will pay a reduced copayment for these higher-cost products and supplies.
- Supplies and drugs to treat diabetes will not be eligible for the No-Pay Copay program for Savings Plan members.
- A new tobacco cessation program will offer participants an option of live interactive online sessions or a self-paced structured program.

For additional information about open enrollment please view the PEBA Open Enrollment webpage <https://www.peba.sc.gov/oe>.

2) Dependent Care Spending Accounts

ASIFlex created a Recurring Direct Pay Program. Participants who enroll in this program will no longer need to submit a claim for every dependent care payment. Instead, ASIFlex will pay your dependent care provider directly from your Dependent Care Spending Account (DCSA) on the schedule you and your provider choose.

Participants may enroll immediately and select the effective date that is most beneficial.

Please review the attached flyer for more details.

Please contact ASIFlex Customer Service for assistance with enrollment and any other questions about your Dependent Care Spending Account.

They may be contacted through their website <https://asiflex.com/SCMoneyPlus/> via email asi@asiflex.com, or telephone 833-726-7587. Their operating hours are Monday – Friday from 8:00am- 8:00pm and Saturday from 10:00am – 2:00pm.

3) General Election Day, Voting, and other reminders

- General Election Day, Tuesday November 5, 2024, is not a university holiday so our campus will be open. However, no classes will be held on that day.
- Polling locations are open from 7:00am – 7:00pm on Election Day.

“Employees are encouraged to vote either before or after work.

An employee who lives at such a distance from the assigned work location as to preclude voting outside of working hours may be authorized a maximum of two hours leave with pay for this purpose.

To work at the polls during elections, an employee must be on authorized leave with or without pay.”

Please review the Other Leave with Pay policy HR 1.09 for further details.

https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/human_resources/policy_procedure/index.php

- “The University of South Carolina is a nonprofit entity. Due to the designation, there are prohibitions against using university resources to support individual candidates or parties in a political campaign, or other legislative actions. “

Please view the portion of the University of South Carolina Communications and Marketing website which addresses Political Campaigns.

https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/communications/toolbox/resources/social_media_style_guide/university_guidelines/political_campaigns.php

4) Campus Closure

Our campus will be closed on Thursday November 28, 2024, and Friday November 29, 2024, in recognition of Thanksgiving. Campus will officially reopen on Monday December 2, 2024.

We will also be closed from Tuesday December 24, 2024 – Tuesday December 31, 2024, in recognition of Christmas.

In addition, we will be closed on Wednesday January 1, 2025, in recognition of New Year's Day.

Campus will officially reopen on Thursday January 2, 2025.

Faculty and FTE Staff are not required to make any submission on their timesheets in reference to the holidays.

Please be sure that students and temporary employees do not report working hours in the Time and Absence System on the days listed above unless they actually work.

Curriculum Committee

Faculty Organization Report

October 4, 2024

Committee Members:

Todd Lekan, Logan Cocklin, Conner Austell, Sahar Aghasafari, Todd Scarlett, Aubrey Stewart, Fernanda Burke, Rebecca Freeman(chair)

The committee has met twice. During the first meeting on September 24, Rebecca Freeman was elected chair of the committee. We discussed two items of business from the previous year and one new item. We also discussed the suggestion of the committee committing to watch and report to the Lancaster Faculty Organization any curricular changes and other relevant news from Columbia.

During the second meeting on October 2, the committee voted in favor of a couple of proposals that were discussed in the previous meeting.

- The first item was a proposed change to the Association in Science – Business degree that recommends that the CMS requirement be switched from just SPCH 140 or 230 to any CMS course. Currently this is being done on an individual basis.
- The second item is to update the listings of CHEM 107 and CHEM 111 in the associate degree's worksheets to include the required labs. The purpose is to make the corresponding labs more obvious to students.
- The third item is a proposed change to the associate in science degree plan. Currently students cannot receive ARP credit for MATH 111, MATH 111i, and MATH 115. The proposed change would allow students to receive credit for all three.

10/2/2024

Evaluation Committee report for 10/4 USCL FO Meeting

Evaluation has met a couple of times since August to discuss how best to carry out the chair's charge from March:

“Chair charges the Evaluation, T&P, and Instructor committees to meet together to discuss and clarify before the form is brought back to the floor for a vote. Confirm deadlines from handbook and clarify on forms.”

The chairs of Evaluation, T&P, and Instructor Peer Review Committees met September 23 to discuss which approaches to post-tenure that best served each committee and, with the results of that very productive meeting in mind, Evaluation is in the process of drafting a document that clarifies and defines key aspects of the post-tenure process.

We hope to have something ready to present in the form of a motion to the faculty before the end of the year.



Native American Studies Advisory Committee
Report to the Faculty, October 4, 2024

Native American Studies Advisory Committee members:

Allan Pangburn, Patrick Lawrence, Debbie Rowell, Stephen Criswell, Ernest Jenkins, Bettie Obi Johnson, Evan Nooe (chair). Garane Garane, Logan Cocklin, Brittany Talor-Driggers.

The Native American Studies Advisory Committee held its first meeting on Sept. 16.

- The committee confirmed selection of a chair (Evan Nooe).
- The committee reviewed internal course developmental materials and introduced an external consulting review of developmental course materials.

A major charge of the Native American Studies Advisory Committee has focused on curriculum development centered on the collaborative creation of a new course tentatively titled "Introduction to Native American Studies." Initial planning intends to submit curriculum materials for consideration as a PCAM course.

The Native American Studies Center and the Native American Studies Advisory Committee welcome feedback and guidance on institutional course review procedures.

The next Native Americans Studies Advisory Committee is scheduled for Oct. 7 at 2:00PM via Zoom.

The **President's Report** provided a general overview of what he discussed during the General Faculty meeting. The current enrollment of U of SC is approximately 38,000 students and will hopefully reach 40,000 within the coming years. There has been an increase in funding/awards/grants from past years. There has also been \$131 million a 63% increase in funding over last year and are coming back to pre-pandemic levels. Currently there has been the hiring of 100 new Tenured or Tenure Track faculty 49 last year, and 51 to happen this year. These are new positions beyond replacement, so a net increase. Additionally, 200 faculty had salary adjustments. There was a brief mention of a master plan and is progress in updating and improving the campus such as housing. It is currently in phase zero which seemed to just mean the starting phase and it will take approximately 2 years (the whole plan or the current phase was a bit unclear). The plans is online so on can read about the improvements that are planned. The president address the September 18th event that is being sponsored by a Student group who is inviting a controversial speaker(s)/organizer to the campus. He made it clear that the event is not endorsed by the University. But also made it clear that First Amendment rights need to be supported and the rights of the students/speakers. There was a brief outline of what the university could do or not do and the general outcome was that while safety is paramount the event cannot be cancelled on the possibility of such an outcome at the current stage. Extra police will be there to maintain safety. While the Carolinian creed is may seem counter to the spirit of the event, it is aspirational in what to do and who to be. Thus as it is not policy the event will take place. No questions were raised.

The **Provost's Report** provided a general overview of the talks they have had with departments and faculty during their listening tour. Of note was that student retention is at a record 92%. The goal is to reach 94% to match and exceed other peer institutions. Of students who do not continue directly to their second year only 2% come back and earn a college degree. The Provost then gave a list of things we as faculty can do to help increase retention: Provide an early graded assignment (within the first 4 weeks) so that students can gauge if they can succeed in the course; Provide information and direct students to resources like the *First Gen Center*; And a reduction in DFW rates through Circle-In. Circle-In is a virtual peer led learning platform where students enrolled in selected courses have access to the platform where they can share notes, answer class related questions, and more. *Susan Sutton* a nursing faculty (unclear if they were a UofSC or not faculty member) discussed the reason why they like the program. The CEO is very responsive to feedback/issues; Open to hearing new ideas from faculty; Any student who is registered in that class can be a part of it; It is an anytime anywhere platform. *Gerald Megget (CEO of Circle-In)*: Gave an overview of what the platform is and how it helps students stay engaged and succeed in their courses. Provided statistics showing usage and how they are in over 10 states and growing at peer-institutions. In general it is a virtual peer-led learning platform, like a large scale study group. Its main driver is through gamification/points where students increase their totals by answering questions or sharing notes, and flashcards, etc. It is a new way to open a pathway and to create sense of community and belonging in the students learning journey. A few questions were raised. **Questions:** 1-What were the results of the pilot study, and what options were there for those not in the program? Currently that data is not analyzed and just the traditional means. 2-Does this drive down the use of AI? The hope is that it does and was supported by anecdotal evidence. 3-Is there anything being done about the Hold Policy where students are not allowed to drop classes if they own the university money? It is being reviewed and discussions are ongoing. 4- Are there any tours for First Gen students like they have for honors students before they even come to UofSC? No, but when First Gen students do arrive they are paired with faculty member and graduate student who are also first gen.

Added agenda item: **Undergraduate Student Body President:** Patton Myers-The event to be held on September 18th that is getting much news attention has had students looking towards their student leaders for a response. Student leaders have heard the call to provide a safe space on that day during the aforementioned event. It will be a free event, where one is to feel safe, an event of unity and inclusivity. It will be held at Blatt Field at 7pm with free food. The importance of this event, is that students have expressed their anger and being scared of what could happen due to the controversial nature of the speaker/organization/topic of the other event and what could happen because of it. The student leadership events meets students' needs, and is about bringing positive change in a safe and inclusive way. There was a request to attend this event and support students, also encourage students to attend. This is not a protest or counter demonstration in light of the other event, it is an alternative for those who are interested. **Question:** 1-Have you coordinated with others on campus (i.e., Graduate Student Senate)-and yes they have coordinated with various student groups. 2-What will be at your event? Bouncy houses, games, food, a dj, think of a fair atmosphere.

Introduction of standing **Committee Chairs** their committees as well as what each committee focuses on.

Report from Curriculum and Courses: There were only 4 items under review for this current meeting. No questions or discussion and all were approved unanimously.

The **Faculty Senate Chair's Report:** Just a general update that not much has happened that needs reporting or discussion. Of note was that two spots on various committees were in need of being filled, two have volunteered and if no one is also running or submitting their name then they are approved and the positions are filled at the end of this meeting. No nominations were made. Positions are now filled. **Question:** 1-Any board approval update on the professional faculty title? Yes, the board has voted and approved the titles as submitted. The State HR is still finalizing the titles as there was one title that was not present and HR needs to create it, but there is unlikely to be an issue, nothing is anticipated.

Announcements: There is a Health and Wellness Expo on September 24th at Russell House and in the Horseshoe. AAUP chapter president gave a call to join the organization and their Fall Kickoff meeting is September 20th at 2pm in the museum of Education Building. Reminder next meeting Columbia Faculty Senate meeting is to be held on 10-9-24 at 3pm.

Faculty Welfare Committee Meeting Report

Date: September 20, 2024

The committee discussed the upcoming Tenure and Promotion Workshop, with the date to be determined based on speaker availability. The workshop will include sessions on teaching, service, scholarship, and the 3rd-year review. Additionally, a breakout group for Tenure and Promotion Reviewer Training is being considered, and a writing component may be added to help faculty with promotion document preparation.

The committee also reviewed the need to clarify the language in the Faculty Manual regarding teaching summaries for tenure and promotion. This will be further discussed in the next breakout session to propose clearer guidelines.

Regarding training for Tenure and Promotion reviewers, plans are underway to develop a program focusing on bias training and decision-making processes. This project will be rolled out gradually, with assistance from relevant faculty members.

The Ad Hoc Awards Committee report summarizing the past year's awards process will be prepared and presented to the Senate in Fall 2024. The Faculty Welfare Survey, conducted every other year, will be linked to the university's Strategic Plan, with efforts ongoing to secure funding for participant incentives in the 2025 survey.

Lastly, the committee noted faculty access to resources such as the Faculty Ombuds Office and the Faculty Civility Advocate.

Next steps include finalizing the workshop details, continuing the Faculty Manual review, initiating reviewer training, and preparing the awards report for the Senate.

Instructor Peer Review Committee Report

1. The committee met via email and elected Prof. Pangburn and Prof. Hassell as Co-Chairs for the committee.
2. The Co-Chairs met with the Chair of Tenure and Promotion Committee (TNP) and the Chair of the Evaluation Committee, with the following results:
 - a. It is not recommended that the Instructor Peer Review (IPR) seek any formal 5-year review process at this time other than the renewal of contracts since formal reviews are governed by State legislative procedures for Tenure and Promotion faculty only.
 - b. A Faculty Information Form workshop/discussion is in the works for the committees in which a more detailed focus and procedures of the new committees can be communicated starting in Fall of 2025. (The announcement of the planning and time for that workshop is still in the works and will be coming from the Evaluation Committee.)
3. IPR will be reviewing one file for the Rank of Senior Instructor later in Fall 2024.

Medford Library Faculty Meeting Report

October 4, 2024

SERVICE STATISTICS AND PROGRAMS

- 3042 unique visits
- 1495 LibGuide views
- 154 Study and Lounge Area Reservations
- 9 Conference Room uses
- 10 Computer Lab uses
- 15 Community computer uses
- 4 Book a Librarian
- 6 Library Instruction Classes

CIRCULATION STATISTICS

- 113 General collection items
- 2 Audio Visual collection items
- 1 Reserve item
- 2 Government Resource collection items
- 12 Graphic Novel collection items
- 14 Juvenile collection items
- 5 New Book collection items
- 1 Oversize collection item
- 5 On Display items
- 22 Special Collection items

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

- The first two Toolkit Talks were successful.
- The library had new chairs installed in the student and staff areas.
- Work has started on the patio/garden space next to the library.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- The library Read-a-thon ends on October 16. There is still time to enter to win prizes. The Read-a-thon is open to all students, faculty, and staff.
<https://usclancaster.libguides.com/c.php?g=1418680>
- Postponed Toolkit Talk (Email and Professional Communication) will take place on October 15 at 11:00 am in the ASC Studio.
- Toolkit Talk – Nutrition - Dr. Easley will present on nutrition on October 29 at 11:00 am in the ASC Studio.
- Fall Break Hours (October 17 – 18)
 - Thursday – 8:00 am to 6:00 pm
 - Friday – 8:00 am to Noon
- Día de los Muertos activities – October 28

GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

- Instruction classes are available in person and virtually. Classes can be taught on campus, at the Indian Land location, and at the Native American Studies Center. [Request a library instruction class today.](#)
- Is there something that you would like the library to have? [Request materials](#)
- [Book a Librarian is available for you and your students.](#)

PUBLISHED? LET US KNOW SO WE CAN BUY YOUR BOOK!

- [Request we purchase materials.](#)

HELPFUL LINKS

- Place materials on [Reserve](#)
- Reserve the [library computer lab](#)
- [Reserve the library conference room](#)
- [Document the impact of your scholarly activities with these Tools for Tracking Tenure & Promotion.](#)
- [Check out resources for faculty and staff.](#)

Student Affairs Committee Report for FO meeting: Oct. 4, 2024

The Student Affairs Committee met in September. Below are the main items discussed.

Elliott Springs Writing Contest

Students will submit their creative writing projects to Professor Marybeth Berry before the March 2025 deadline. Our committee will review the submissions to decide on a winner for the \$100 contest prize. Please encourage students who write creatively in their spare time to submit their work!

Travel Study Proposals

Dr. Susan Cruise and Dr. Angela Neal will be leading students on a travel study to Germany, Italy, and Switzerland in May 2025. Students can take either SOCY 398: Sociology of Culture or PSYC 440: Survey of Personality as part of this experience. Currently, 16 students are enrolled, which exceeds the maximum number of students that were anticipated.

We have several faculty interested in proposing trips for the 2025/2026 academic year. Please reach out if you have questions or if you are interested in proposing a trip. Any member of our committee would be happy to answer questions you may have.

USCL Travel Study Scholarships and Grants

Our campus offers several scholarships to enable students to participate in travel study. The committee agreed that we can take on the responsibility of reading the essay submissions for the Collins, Medford and Billy Hogge scholarships and make the recommendations for awarding these.

- Collins Family Endowed Scholarship Fund for Travel Study (\$500 needs based; essay required) (GPA of 2.5 or higher (current policy))
- Billy Hogge Travel Study Scholarship (\$500 needs-based/deserving USCL student with preference for students from Lancaster County or Chesterfield; essay required) (GPA of 3.0 or higher (current policy))
- Medford Travel Study Endowed Scholarship Fund (\$500 deserving USCL student; essay required) (GPA of 3.0 or higher (current policy))

- Commission Grant (from local county commission; up to \$2,000 awarded per USCL student who meets GPA requirement of 3.0 or higher; no application needed; award confirmed through Financial Aid office)

Additional Scholarships for Travel Study

- ENGAGE Grant Opportunity (available for all UofSC campuses; 2.2 GPA; essay required)
- Gilman Scholarships (eligibility includes Pell Grant recipients and/or students whose parent or spouse are active or activated military; awarded through the US Dept. of State and is up to \$5,000. Add'l \$1,000 can be awarded for students conducting STEM research abroad).

Please visit the USCL travel study web page for more information:

https://sc.edu/about/system_and_campuses/lancaster/study/student_opportunities/travel_study/index.php

Student Success and Retention

USCL Faculty Organization Report

October 4, 2024

Academic Advising

- Spring registration opens October 21.
- We are finalizing faculty advisor/advisee assignments. Advisee lists will be sent to faculty advisors the week of October 7.
- Are you able to remove holds? Please check your Banner/Self-Service Access. If you are not able to remove holds, you will need to submit a DAPS request. Please email me if you need access.
- Faculty advisors may view their advisees through self-service (steps below):
 - Select the "Faculty and Advisor" tab
 - Select "Advisee Search"
 - Select "Student Profile"
 - Select "View my advisee listing" (may be found under student ID search bar)
- Students may view their advisor through self-service (steps below):
 - Select "Student" tab
 - Select "Student Profile" tab
 - Name found under "Advisor Information" (under email address)
- Our communication efforts are underway. If you would like for us to make an announcement to your class, please email uscladvs@mailbox.sc.edu.

Academic Coaching

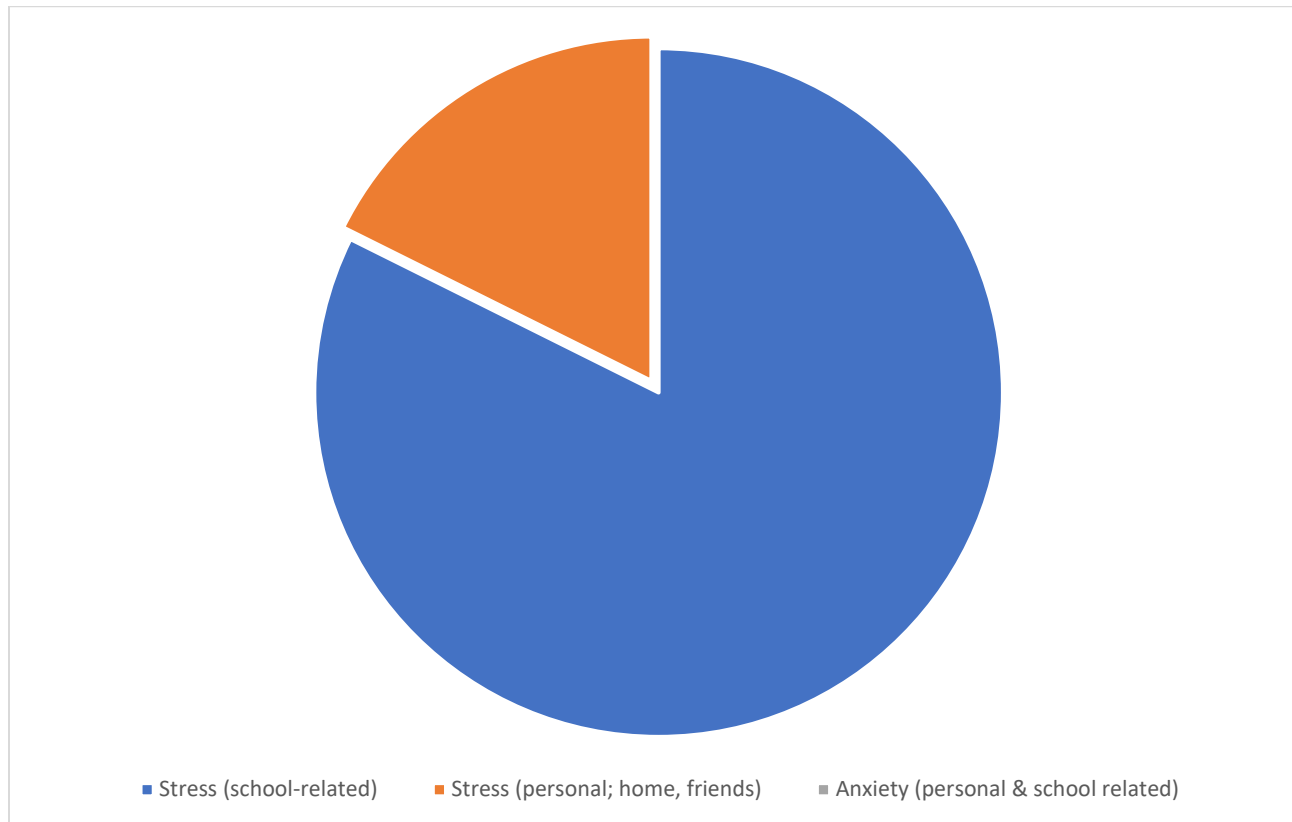
- Academic coaches met on September 11. At that time, we discussed a new method of coaching. We will be adopting the general layout of the coaching plans in USC Columbia. The link below will provide the current layout for our academic coaching session.
<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:0151c0b9-9fa8-48ed-b665-f207b17a3c26>
- Students will be provided with a copy of the university Academic Standards Policies. They will be asked to sign this form to confirm their understanding of how to remain on probation, be removed from probation or what constitutes suspension.
<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:19bd81fb-b7b3-42bf-a193-21cfbae24d68>
- Each academic coach has been given a list of their students currently showing less than a 2.0 GPA on their transcripts. We have emailed these students and asked that they setup a coaching appointment prior to the Oct 21 date to enroll for Spring 2025.
- If a student has an academic coaching hold on their account, please contact Danelle Faulkenberry at DFaulkenberry@sc.edu or (803) 313-7071.
 - 48 students on the coaching list for fall 24
 - 11 students have already completed their 1st coaching sessions for fall 2024

**Information provided by Danelle Faulkenberry, Academic Advisor for Science and Criminal Justice, Academic Coaching Coordinator*

Counseling Services

Monthly Status Report (September)

- In-person: 14/ Tele-Health: 1
- Drop-ins: 2
- Scheduled: 15
- Total Sessions: 17



- This month, many of the students requesting counseling sessions reported stress and stress management as their primary concern. Stress and anxiety are typical concerns, particularly at the onset of the Fall semester.
- Counseling Services held the first of a three-event series on September 19th called, “Let’s Address Stress”. Students discussed and identified areas of stress, both personal and school related. The next event will be held on October 17th and will focus on stress management.
- Students can make counseling appointments through the secure online [Client Portal for University of South Carolina-Lancaster](#) | [University of South Carolina-Lancaster](#) | [TherapyPortal](#).

**Information provided by Tamika Lewis, MA, LPCA, NCC*

Early Alerts

- The early alert form has been fixed. To submit an alert, please complete [this form](#).
- If you have multiple alerts to submit, you can still email Zoe Byrd at zmbyrd@email.sc.edu. In the email, please include the student's name, student ID, reason for alert, class name, and recommendation (contact Professor, tutoring, withdraw from class, counseling, etc.).

**Information provided by Zoe Byrd, Academic Advisor for Arts and Business, Early Alert Coordinator*

Leadership Distinction

- Dr. Easley and Asheley Schryer will facilitate a Leadership Distinction presentation in TRiO on Thursday, November 14th from 12:15pm-12:50pm. Please encourage your students to attend!
- Want to schedule a presentation for your student organization or class? Contact Liz Easley (EASLEYEA@mailbox.sc.edu) or Asheley Schryer (schryer@mailbox.sc.edu).
- Asheley Schryer will teach a spring section of UNIV 401. This course is for any students that are pursuing Graduation with Leadership Distinction and are on track to graduate in Spring or Summer of 2025. If a student is interested in registering for the course, they must meet with either Asheley Schryer or Liz Easley to confirm they have submitted the required application and meet eligibility requirements.

**Graduation with Leadership Distinction is a program through the Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning (CIEL) at Columbia, formerly USC Connect. Asheley Schryer and Dr. Liz Easley are the CIEL Fellows for the Lancaster campus.*

Student-Athlete Success Programming

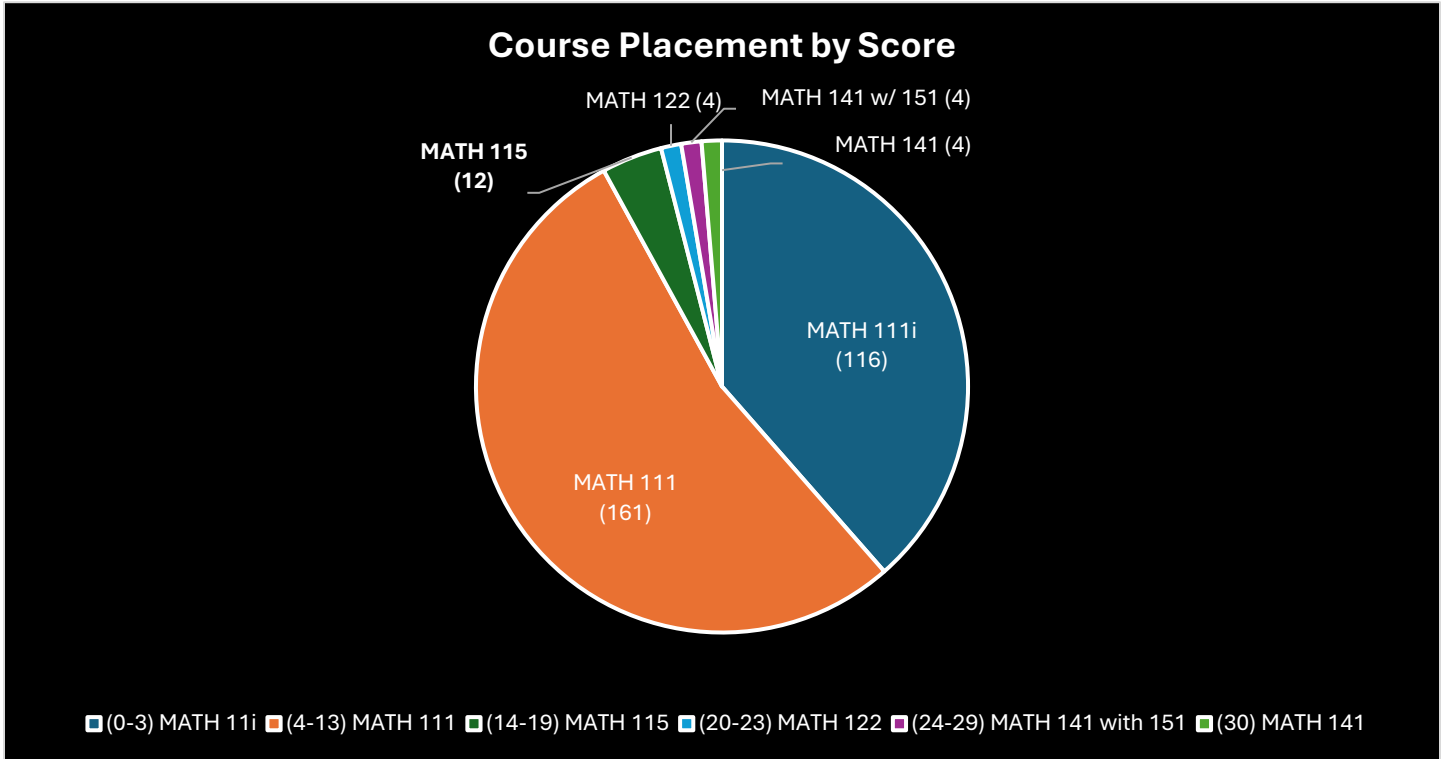
- Emails are continuing to be sent any time student-athletes will miss class due to a game. Please note, some games/sports are subject to change due to weather (e.g., soccer). Faculty will be notified as soon as a change is confirmed.
- Natalie Calhoun will meet with each team in October to discuss communicating effectively (including email) and spring 2025 advisement/registration.
- Ongoing efforts to encourage student-athlete success include:
 - Working with individual student-athletes throughout semester when questions and/or concerns arise regarding academics and success.
 - Meeting with campus stakeholders including early alert programming, faculty, academic advisors, and coaches.
 - Assisting with the International Mentorship program spearheaded by Dr. Catledge.

**Information provided by Natalie Calhoun, Student-Athlete Success Coordinator.*

Student Disability Resource Center

- Mark your calendars! Fall 2024 Disability Awareness Week is October 21-24 from 12:15-1:00 in TRiO
- Remind students to reserve a room for testing here: [Space Availability - Testing Rooms - LibCal - University of South Carolina Lancaster](#).
- *Education Modules:*
 - Completion of the Community Educational Modules is required for ALL degree-seeking USCL students. Dual enrollment students are not required to complete the modules.
 - Students have received information and are encouraged to complete the modules by December 6 (early bird deadline is October 10). While modules can be completed on their own, we will have the computer labs in Bradley rooms 112 & 113 available on the following dates:
 - Friday, October 4th (10:00-2:00)
 - Wednesday, November 13th (11:00-1:30)
 - Monday, November 18th (11:00-1:30)
 - Friday, December 6th (10:00-2:00)
- *Math Placement Updates:*
 - The math placement test is closed for updates. Students may contact Amy Hood at ah250@mailbox.sc.edu for update.
 - The new math placement brochure (with updated scores) may be found here: [Math Placement Test Brochure \(sc.edu\)](#).

- 417 students registered to take the MAP since April 2024. Of the 417 students 261 requested to take it on-line while 129 requested to take the test in-person. Of the 417 students who registered to take the test, 264 students were Lancaster students, 146 were Dual Enrollment students, and 7 were BOL/BLS or Palmetto Pathway students. 113 of the 417 registered students never took the MAP test. The remaining 304 students fell into the follow categories by class reflective of their score: 117 (0-3) MATH 111i, 163 (4-13) MATH 111, 12 (14-19) MATH 115, 4 (20-23) MATH 122, 4 (24-29) MATH 141 with MATH 115, 4 (30) MATH 141.



**Information provided by Amy Hood, Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC) Coordinator*



Matt Williamson
Director and Principal Investigator
Office of Federal TRiO Programs

REPORT TO THE FACULTY ORGANIZATION

Friday, October 4, 2024

OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Enrollment Update

- We entered the fifth and final year of our current grant award on September 1, 2024. At present, we are officially serving 96 out of the 165 students we are required to serve prior to the end of the grant cycle on August 31, 2025. We have another six (6) qualifying students awaiting final selection interviews prior to their being added to our official roster.

“Friends of OSP” Initiative

- As stated in last month’s report, there has been a remarkable influx of international student-athletes this semester. Many of them have expressed interest in joining our OSP project, but federal regulations restrict us from reporting these students on our official roster. As a result, we have implemented a “Friends of OSP” initiative as a way of welcoming them to our campus.
- We are working with **Nick Calhoun** to ensure that these student-athletes receive the encouragement and support they need to be successful. This approach will enhance relationships among students, as well as encourage them to make the most of their collegiate experience.

Pilot Program for Dual Enrollment Students

- We hope to implement a pilot program to serve qualifying dual enrollment students in the coming weeks. Once all the parameters are set, more details will be forthcoming.

2024-25 Student Government Association Officers

- Congratulations to OSP students **Melodee Jones** (President), **Stephanie Leon** (Vice President), and **Meghan Boyles-Randolph** (Secretary and Treasurer) on their election as SGA officers for 2024-25.

Careers in Science Lecture Series

- We were so happy to host our own **Dr. Nahid Swails** during the first CIS Lecture of the Fall 2024 semester last month (see below). She presented “Building a Career as a Physics Faculty.”



- The next CIS Lecture will be on Monday, October 7 with **Liz Royston**, a Board-Certified behavior analyst and founder of Beyond Behavior in Tega Cay, SC. She will speak on her career providing collaborative and effective ABA therapy and behavior analytic approaches (see below).
- We’re also hosting the CIS Lecture on Monday, October 28 with **Dale Donnell**, Quality Laboratory Supervisor with the E. & J. Gallo Winery of Fort Lawn, SC.
- Both presentations will be held in the TRiO Learning Resource Center at 12:15 p.m.

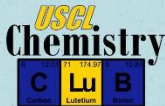


Careers in Science Lecture

The Power of Positive Reinforcement

Monday Oct 7, 2024
12:20 - 1:00 pm
TRiO Center

Liz Royston
Board Certified, Licensed Behavior Analyst
and Owner of Beyond Behavior SC



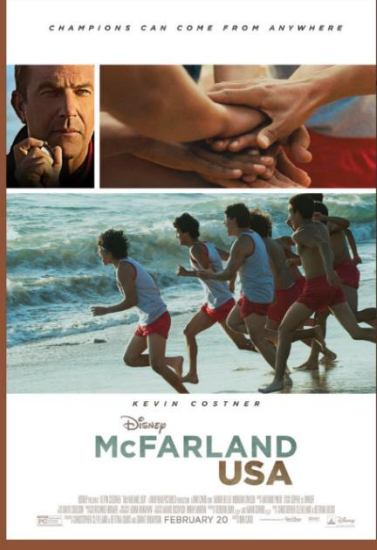
Upcoming Activities and Events

- **USC Lancaster Celebrates National Hispanic Heritage Month** with the continuation of the **TRiO Popcorn & Movie Series** on Tuesday, October 8 with *In the Heights*. Our series concludes on Tuesday, October 15 with *McFarland USA*. Both movies will be shown at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on these dates in the TRiO LRC. Drinks, light snacks, and popcorn will be served (see below).



USC Lancaster Celebrates
National Hispanic Heritage Month

TRiO Popcorn & Movie Series
Presents
IN THE HEIGHTS
Tuesday, October 8, 2024
11:00 AM and 2:00 PM
TRiO Learning Resource Center



USC Lancaster Celebrates
National Hispanic Heritage Month

TRiO Popcorn & Movie Series
Presents
McFARLAND USA
Tuesday, October 15, 2024
11:00 AM and 2:00 PM
TRiO Learning Resource Center

- We will be hosting **Disability Awareness Week** on October 21-24. **Amy Hood** and her planning committee have scheduled an outstanding week of activities and presentations as seen below.



USC
DISABILITY AWARENESS WEEK
"Awareness to Acceptance"

OCT. 21 - OCT. 24 • TRIO LRC • 12:15-1:00PM

MON 10/21	TUE 10/22	WED 10/23	THUR 10/24
GUEST SPEAKER: <i>Anne Kinsman</i>	GUEST SPEAKER: <i>Rayni Collins</i>	PRESENTATION: <i>Lancaster Players</i>	GUEST SPEAKER: <i>Grethen Benner</i>
FREE LUNCH GIVEAWAYS	FREE LUNCH GIVEAWAYS	FREE LUNCH GIVEAWAYS	FREE LUNCH GIVEAWAYS

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!





UPWARD BOUND

Enrollment Update

- Our Upward Bound project is in the third year of a five-year grant cycle. We are currently serving 62 participants on our official roster with another 22 on our waiting list to be granted final acceptance in the coming days. We are required to serve a minimum of 62 qualifying participants from the target high schools – Andrew Jackson, Buford, and Lancaster – prior to the end of the current reporting period on May 31, 2025. Our project team has done an outstanding job meeting our enrollment requirement so early in the reporting period.

Alumni Recognition

- **Cassidy Tillman**, a sophomore at Trident Technical College in Charleston, was one of our 2023 Upward Bound graduates from Lancaster High School. She was featured in the September 28-29 edition of *The Lancaster News* with an article she wrote titled “Social Media: From Posts to Personal Growth – Unveiling the Power of Social Media and Human Connection.” I highly recommend this article for your reading.

Upcoming Activities and Events

- Tuesday, Oct. 15: **College Sponsorship Night** | 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 19: **ACT / SAT Test Preparation Workshop** | 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 26: **Fall 2024 Open House** | 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 26: **ACT / SAT Test Preparation Workshop** | 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 29: **Financial Aid Session** | 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 2: **ACT / SAT Test Preparation Workshop** | 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 7: **College Sponsorship Night** | 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 9: **ACT / SAT Test Preparation Workshop** | 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 12: **Financial Management Session** | 4:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 21: **Community Outreach Presentation** | Time TBD

STUDENT CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

D.E.F.I.N.E.

- D.E.F.I.N.E. held its Elections Meeting on September 19. Congrats to the following students: **Ebony Brown** (President); **Erika Vancampenhoudt** (Vice President); **Da’Rissa Izzard** (Secretary); and **Elizabeth Young** (Assistant Secretary).

G.E.N.T.S.

- The G.E.N.T.S. group held its first meeting of the semester on September 26. During the meeting, members of the **USCL Rotaract Club** presented on some of its upcoming projects.



USCL Research Club

- We are hosting the Research Club's upcoming presentation at 12:15 in the TRiO LRC on Wednesday, October 9.
- We're also hosting the **GLD Presentation** with **Dr. Liz Easley** and **Asheley Schryer** on Thursday, November 14.

USCL Rotaract Club

- The USCL Rotaract Club is actively recruiting students to participate this semester. Through Rotaract, young men and women serve the needs of their community, widen their personal and professional contacts, and increase their understanding of the world. **April Witherspoon** (President); and Erica Garris (Vice President) are interim officers until election of all positions at their next meeting.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

USCL Cares Back-to-School Campaign

- Our annual USCL Cares Back-to-School Campaign collected school supplies for children at **Brooklyn Springs** and **Clinton Elementary Schools** as well as **Southside Early Childhood Center** – the three schools designated as neediest by the Lancaster County School District and concluded on September 27.
- We are looking to schedule an upcoming date to deliver these supplies very soon.

Hurricane Disaster Relief

- Kudos to **Coach Halas** and the USCL soccer teams for spearheading the collection efforts to bring relief to the victims of Hurricane Helene. OSP participants have joined in this effort before the deadline of September 3.

United Way of Lancaster County's 2024 Bed Race

- The 2024 Bed Race is a community-wide fundraising event for the **United Way of Lancaster County**, an organization whose mission is to improve lives by bringing citizens and resources together to identify and respond to human service needs in Lancaster County. This year's event will be held on the afternoon of Saturday, October 12 on Main Street in Lancaster.
- USCL will have two teams in this year's competition, one in the Competitive Division and another in the Fun Division. Our theme this year is **ONCE UPON A BEDTIME ADVENTURE**. We need team members who are willing to volunteer as runners. We are also seeking volunteers who are willing to be creative. Team members must be at least 18 years old and will be required to sign a waiver of liability prior to the competition. Each volunteer will need to be available from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. on the afternoon of the event.
- Anyone interested in volunteering should contact **Mark Ammons** at rmammons@email.sc.edu or **Dr. Courtney Catledge** at catledge@email.sc.edu.

USCL Cares Annual Food Drive

- The USCL Cares Annual Food Drive (see below) will begin on Monday, October 7 and run through Wednesday, November 6.
- Donations will benefit the **Lancaster Area Coalition for the Homeless (LACH)** and the **USCL Student Food Pantry**.

USCL  **CARES**



ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

**DONATE CANNED AND DRY GOODS FOR THE
LANCASTER AREA COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS
(LACH) AND THE USCL STUDENT FOOD PANTRY**

**Bring Donations to the TRiO Learning Resource Center
Now Thru Wednesday, November 6, 2024**



LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Congressional Appropriations

- The House and Senate passed a continuing resolution (CR) last week to avert a shutdown at the close of the Fiscal Year, which ended on September 30. The CR extends government funding until December 20 and passed both chambers with broad bipartisan support.
- After voting on the bill, members of Congress left Washington, returning to their home districts and states for a congressional recess that runs until November 12. One of the first orders of business upon their return will be finalizing FY25 funding.
- The Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) is pushing for a \$20 million increase for Federal TRiO Programs over the FY24 budget in the final FY25 funding package.

Supporting Federal TRiO Programs

- Your advocacy for TRiO can make a difference. If anyone is interested in learning how you may support bipartisan funding efforts to assist our TRiO grant projects at the USC Lancaster campus, please contact **Mark Ammons** at rmammons@email.sc.edu or **Matt Williamson** at mwilliam@mailbox.sc.edu.