

## **USC Lancaster Faculty Meeting Minutes February 3, 2023**

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**  
**February 3, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER:** 12:30 PM B. Taylor-Driggers

**CORRECTION/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the December 2, 2022, faculty organization meeting were approved.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS:**

***Special Report, Director of Academic Program Assessment (Palmetto College)*** – Dr. Christine Rinehart

- Presentation on new assessment requirements for Carolina Core classes; please review the Instructor Tutorial online [here](#)
- Associate Provost Sandra Kelly has taken over assessment communication
- Please complete the survey forthcoming from Christine Rhinehart

***Dean of the Campus*** – Dr. Walter Collins, report submitted (Appendix 1).

- Enrollment updates
- Overview of personnel searches ongoing/soon to begin and new staff hires
- Updates on funding, President Amiridis' visit
- Black History Month events on campus

**Questions and/or Comments:** None

***Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Research*** – Shemsi Alhaddad

- Update prior to Palmetto College group Blueprint meeting:
  - The survey will be emailed with a deadline of March 17<sup>th</sup> – this means that faculty will need to complete it by the end of February or early March at the latest. Please complete this survey if you have not already done so.

**Questions and/or Comments:** None

***Director of Information Technology***– Blake Faulkenberry, Report Submitted (Appendix 2)

- Updates on campus audio visual installations (delayed due to supply chain issues)
  - Please review scheduled updates in his email updates and reach out if there are any conflicts. Work is scheduled to begin February 13<sup>th</sup>, running Monday-Thursdays, and is planned to minimize interruptions to instruction

- Updated classrooms will have increased functionality, which will come with a learning curve
- Update on iCarolina:
  - Lab is now active and being used for instruction on Tuesday nights from 6-8 PM. Students are taking swift coding for iPhone and iPad app coding
  - We hope to offer more continuing education opportunities using this lab, and to expand footprint into the Kershaw library

Questions and/or Comments:

A. Gerald – Will the Indian Land classrooms on this list get the same kind of podium that other classrooms in Lancaster have?

B. Faulkenberry – Yes. We have been using those classrooms for a limited time but are upgrading them to have the same functionality across our campuses.

***Manager, USC Lancaster Bookstore*** – Shih Pangburn

- Updates on textbook adoptions:
  - Summer 2023 adoption deadline is 15 March
  - Fall 2023 adoption deadline is 15 June
  - Watch for follow-up reminder emails
  - Thanks to those who have already submitted their adoptions
  - Please email Shih if you have any questions

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:**

**USC SYSTEM COMMITTEES:**

***Columbia Faculty Senate*** – Amy Gerald, report submitted (Appendix 3)

- Updates from the February 1, 2023 Columbia Faculty Senate meeting. Highlights include:
  - President gave a report on working with the state legislature in their Ways and Means Committee
  - Discussion of innovation hubs in South Carolina (not just Columbia, but across the system), requests for funding
  - Revisions to the USC faculty manual are happening in chunks to make it manageable. Major considerations include academic freedom statement (made stronger and more specific), grievance procedures, and the addition of the paid parental leave policy, as well as creating unit-level faculty budget committees.
  - The chair brought up the influence of ChatGPT at the university, encouraged discussion and exploration of strategies to deal with AI moving forward.

Questions and/or Comments: None

**PCFS - Welfare Committee** – Kim Richardson

- Palmetto College T&P workshop will be February 24<sup>th</sup> – please register if attending to provide an accurate headcount for meals

**LOCAL COMMITTEES:** None

**OTHER SYSTEM COMMITTEES:** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Kim Richardson proposed that faculty meetings return to in-person format, giving the rationale that COVID is over, and it is difficult to see and connect with other faculty members in virtual format. Discussion followed from the call and meeting chat, with support for both sides, as well as flexible options. The Executive Committee will share a survey on the Blackboard organization to gather faculty input to help determine meeting modality for next semester, since Spring 2023 meetings were already announced as virtual.

Questions and/or Comments:

B. Obi-Johnson – The problem with being online is we don't always fix ourselves up. But I also think it would be nice to go back and maybe have an option where people can meet in person or stream online.

C. Catledge, in chat – I agree with Kim!

A. Gerald – I really appreciate the flexibility of being able to do this online. It allows me to be able to accomplish much more. Options are good, or maybe having the first and last meeting of the year where everyone is there. As a new faculty member, I want to get to know more people, but flexibility is important for me.

S. Cruise, in chat – That's a good idea to offer the option to do either. I agree with having the flexibility to choose what works best for each person. Also, meeting online allows those who might be out of town to join, too.

L. Martek, in chat – The option would be great!

A. Pangburn, in chat – I agree with flexibility cause some of us maybe facing some health issues and can't do face to face

E. Nooe, in chat – I agree with Amy's sentiment

C. Heinemann-Priest, in chat – Options are great! Flexibility and mobility

B. Taylor-Driggers – Let's do a survey on the faculty Blackboard page. The exec committee will work on that so we can see where everyone's at and we can reapproach this next month. Since spring semester meetings were previously announced as virtual.

M. Lemhouse – Just to clarify, the survey would be hosted on the faculty organization's Blackboard organization, and all voting FO members should have access (including new faculty members).

B. Taylor-Driggers – Yes. If you don't [have access to the FO Blackboard organization] please email me because I am under the impression that everything is all good with that right now.

**SPECIAL ORDERS:** None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- P. Lawrence – Upcoming “Swan Con” comic convention in Sumter, happening in late March. If anyone has students who are interested in graphic novels or comics (especially student groups), let Pat know. He would like to put together a group and drive the van.
- B. Taylor-Driggers (for T. Rowell) - Upcoming play, *The Blur* on February 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 in the Bundy Auditorium.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 1:14 PM

**ATTENDING:** Sahar Aghasafari, Shemsi Alhaddad, Mark Ammons, Christine Anderson, Adam Biggs, Christopher Bundrick, Andrea Campbell, Steven Campbell, Jill Castiglia, Courtney Catledge, Kenneth Cole, Walter Collins, Kimberly Covington, Stephen Criswell, Susan Cruise, Jerry Currence, Annette Duker-Golonka, Elizabeth Easley, Stan Emanuel, Blake Faulkenberry, Danelle Faulkenberry, Amy Gerald, Claudia Heinemann-Priest, Kate Holland, Jason Holt, Ernest Jenkins, Dana Lawrence, Patrick Lawrence, McKenzie Lemhouse, Tamika Lewis, Fernanda Marques Burke, Lynnette Martek, Angela Neal, Evan Nooe, Bettie Obi-Johnson, Allan Pangburn, Shih Pangburn, Leigh Pate, Suzanne Penuel, Bridgett Plexico, Christine Rinehart, Kim Richardson, David Roberts, Asheley Schryer, Peter Seipel, Sarah Sellhorst, Nahid Swails, Brittany Taylor-Driggers, Jerrod Yarosh

**ABSENT:** Marybeth Berry, Dwayne Brown, Li Cai, Mark Coe, Rebecca Freeman, Garane Garane, Darris Hassell, Christopher Judge, Howard Kingkade, Nicholas Lawrence, Todd Lekan, Vincent Lewis, Phillip Parker, Babette Protz, Todd Scarlett, Michael Sherrill, Suzette Taylor, Richard Vanhall, Tania Wolochwianski, Andrew Yingst

**Faculty Secretary:** Document submitted by M. Lemhouse on February 24, 2023, for faculty and staff review.



UNIVERSITY OF  
**South Carolina**  
LANCASTER

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

Report to the USC Lancaster Faculty Organization  
February 3, 2023

## People

### Enrollment

As of February 2, 2023, Spring enrollment stands at 1708. We are again on a path to historic Spring semester enrollment. Thank you for your help with advisement and registration for Spring semester.

### Staff searches about to begin:

Executive Director of Enrollment Management  
Disabilities Coordinator  
Campus Marketing  
Academic Support  
Palmetto College Recruiter

### Athletics

We had 43 total student-athletes achieve a 3.0 or better in the Fall 2022 semester.

Breakdown by sport:

Women's Volleyball: 5 student-athletes at a 3.0 or better

Women's Soccer: 10 student-athletes at a 3.0 or better

Men's Soccer: 7 student-athletes at a 3.0 or better

Baseball: 21 student-athletes with a 3.0 or better and 3 student-athletes with a 4.0

**Baseball is in action for its home opener this weekend.** Doubleheaders on both Saturday and Sunday beginning at 1:00 against Southwest Virginia Community College. Upcoming game schedule can be accessed at [this link](#).

### Employee Support

Please remember that **the university offers work-life balance and wellbeing support** through our [Employee Assistance Program](#) (EAP). These services are helpful in times of stress and adjustment.

## USC Lancaster in our Communities

**Please welcome Mr. Anthony Brockington** who joined our staff in January and will serve as the Indian Land Location and Indian Land Outreach Director. Many thanks to the search committee members and chair Buddy Faile for their work in this successful search.

We will connect with residents at **Sun City Carolina Lakes for a second 8-weeks course on The South Carolina Coast** to be offered by Prof. Christy Anderson.

We are in conversations with the **Lancaster County School District about teacher and staff professional development needs** and will be working on setting up continuing education (non-academic credit) offerings for them soon.

TRiO staff and students attended the 2023 community **Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast** on Monday, January 16.

Several USCL faculty and staff members toured the **Lancaster County School District Career Center** last month to see the facility and discuss potential points of collaboration.

## Other items...

- In late December, we learned that USC Lancaster was **awarded \$110,000 in federal earmark funding through a FY23 Omnibus Appropriations Bill** for facilities and equipment to improve health care education through our nursing program and the nursing simulation lab. Thanks to Dr. Catledge for organizing the proposal. We have a similar but larger request in for the FY24 bill process.
- **Congratulations to Prof. Phillip Parker and Brandon Newton for leading the reaffirmation of accreditation of our Associate in Science in Business degree program initiative.** The visit successfully concluded in December, and we were notified this week of the positive outcome. There will be some follow-up over the next 4 years related to two notes/recommendations, but they are relatively minor and will be fairly routine to report back on. Thanks again to all faculty and staff who assisted with the visit and reporting as well.
- **You are invited...**University of South Carolina's **President Michael Amiridis** is scheduled to visit the USC Lancaster campus and community on Thursday, February 9. ***Please join us for a faculty and staff reception and meet and greet from 2:00 to 3:00 in the Hubbard Hall lobby.***
- **Black History Month Lunch and Learn Event—A lecture by Dr. Adam Biggs and Prof. Todd Day entitled “James Baldwin: A Discussion of His Debates, Techniques and Approach”** Thursday, February 16 in the TRiO Learning Resource Center from 12:15 to 1:00. All are welcome.
- **Black History Month—Popcorn & Movie Series** will take place on Tuesday, February 7 in TRiO at 10:00 am and 2:00 pm.

- The next **Lunch and Learn at the Native American Studies Center** is scheduled for Feb. 24, 2023, with a talk entitled “Rice Culture in South Carolina, Past and Present” by Amanda McNulty, Producer/Host of SCETV’s *Making It Grow*.
- The **YMCA of Upper Palmetto has just been awarded a new 5-year contract** to operate the Gregory facility.
- Representing the system campuses, **President Amiridis presented FY 2024 budget requests to the House Ways and Means Higher Education Subcommittee** last week. The meeting went well with great dialogue between the University and the house members.
- **Imagine Carolina for Students on the PC Campuses**—a student feedback session facilitated by the Huron Group and 7 USC Lancaster staff members took place on Thursday, January 19. USC Lancaster had 43 participants of the 102 in attendance Palmetto College wide. We have excellent feedback from students on a range of questions and will follow up to address the input.
- Coming up in about two weeks...**COVID and seasonal flu shot clinic and information/supply give away** on February 15 in the lobby of the Bradley Building. Also, there will be health information handouts from DHEC which will include COVID take home tests, tobacco cessation kits, hand wipes, and health information flyers.

# USC Lancaster Faculty Organization

## Campus Technology Update

February 3, 2022

### Highlights

- **Classroom Audio/Video upgrades back on track:** An installation crew from Clark Powell and Associates is currently on campus working on non-classroom audio/visual projects and will start on classroom installations beginning Monday, February 13, 2023 with an anticipation completion date of Friday, April 7, 2023. Installation of new content switchers and programming of the control panels will be completed. Here is a list of the buildings and rooms impacted by the upgrades;
  - (5) rooms in Hubbard Hall (204,206,218,220,222)
  - (2) rooms in Medford Library (209,233)
  - (4) rooms at Indian Land (906,907,908,909)
  - (15) rooms in Bradley (101,103,106,107,110,112,113,120,121,202,203,204,207,208,226)
  - (3) rooms in Founders Hall (226,229,232).

The equipment installers will require full access to each room for a full day to install equipment and the programmer will require a full day in the room the same day on the following week. The classrooms will be operational on the day following equipment installation, but will require use of the projector remote control to power on/off the projector and content inputs will have to be changed on the media switcher inside the rack. A member of the IT Staff will be available at the start of each class on the day following equipment installation in each room to provide assistance.

The proposed installation schedule is attached and is being review today and Monday with Clark Powell and Dr. Lekan's office. The schedule should be finalized by February 8, 2023 and will sent to faculty and staff. The schedule was developed with the data from Banner and information from Academic Affairs. Please review the schedule and let me know if you can identify any conflicts so we can make the needed adjustments.

Once the project starts, I will provide the upcoming week's room installation schedule to Faculty and Staff by 12:00pm each Thursday throughout the duration of the project, and make sure information is posted by the classroom doors the Friday before a classroom is installed.

- **Palmetto College iCarolina Update:** USC Lancaster is expanding it's Palmetto College iCarolina presence to the town of Kershaw! (12) Apple devices will be installed in the Kershaw location of the Lancaster County Library in February to provide access to those resource and broadband internet in the southern part of Lancaster County. In addition, Palmetto College is developing a continuing education program set to launch in early April utilizing the Apple technology. The courses will be free and the course offerings will be announced in the coming weeks.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

**FACULTY SENATE AGENDA**

Wednesday February 1, 2023 at 3 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Corrections to and Approval of Minutes -- *Approved*
  - [December 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes](#)
3. Reports of the Officers
  - President Michael Amirirdis

*Report on how USC is working with the SC State Legislature. Referring to Federal Chips and Science Act, President Amirirdis mentioned Columbia, Greenville (and Knoxville) on list of good sites for Innovation Hubs. He reports strong support for this among legislators in SC. He is asking how/what is needed to establish an Innovation Hub in Columbia (and across system). He is lobbying for this and asking citizens to support this.*

*He reports requesting the following: \$34 million in tuition mitigation (so as not to increase tuition this year), \$10 million in recruiting funds to look at mental health, specifically dementia in rural areas, \$10 million for nursing educators, additional funding for teachers (recruiting and retention), low-income students, governor's proviso to work with a Savannah area lab, funding for capital projects (to complete work on science and tech building, Coker Center, Russell House.*

*House Ways and Means Committee member asked him what has he done since he has been at USC to show USC can be "nimble." Response was approval of certificate programs within a year.*

*Questions from faculty:*

*There was a question about the status of an island that was gifted to USC. Some problems were addressed and they are having discussion of how to make use of the island (marine biology, etc). President Amirirdis stressed the need for funding for this island project.*

*There was a question about whether or not he anticipated the legislature getting involved in universities as seen in other states. President Amirirdis said it wouldn't surprise him and that they are monitoring that, but nothing was brought up during the Ways and Means Committee meeting.*

- Provost Donna Arnett

*She has just completed a listening tour (80 hours, Columbia campus), discussed some facility improvements and a crunch on study space. She discussed the need for all programs to have degree completion requirements in Degree Works by FA 2023 or they will become ineligible for some federal funding.*

*She discussed four-year graduation rates impacting rankings and that after four years students lose scholarships and sometimes drop out then. She also said that scholarships often require a 3.0 and at year three students start dropping below 3.0, often resulting in larger student debt or more students dropping out. Various student resource offices are meeting to address this. There is also a committee to look externally at what is going on in higher ed to put against what USC is doing. They are examining success rate in “bottleneck courses” and trying to get more students into tutoring, but also examining teaching methods to help students move through these courses.*

*A focus on faculty success has been lagging due to a staffing issue. There is a faculty welfare committee looking at faculty wellbeing. She wanted Deans to tell Chairs and so forth to establish a hiatus on email/text over holidays unless there was an emergency, but she felt messages weren’t filtering out into the different colleges and departments. There is a concern among Black and Latino Caucuses over rates of promotion to professor. She met with professors of color to ask the question about barriers to success in order to create appropriate programming.*

*Faculty Searches: Office of Institutional Research director was hired. There are four ongoing dean searches. There is a search for VP and Provost of Global Carolina just starting. Transmitting info down into colleges and departments isn’t happening – open to ideas about communication.*

#### 4. Reports of Faculty Committees

- Committee on Curricula and Courses, *Professor Bill Hauk, Chair*
  - [Committee on Curricula and Courses February Report](#)  
*Approved 37 proposals – see agenda for details.*
- Faculty Advisory Committee
  - [Proposed Faculty Manual Revision: Table of Contents](#)
  - [Proposed Faculty Manual Revision: Academic Freedom](#)
  - [Proposed Faculty Manual Revision: Annual Review](#)
  - [Proposed Faculty Manual Revision: Appointments](#)
  - [Proposed Faculty Manual Revision: Grievance](#)
  - [Proposed Faculty Manual Revision: Integrity](#)
  - [Proposed Faculty Manual Revision: Leave](#)

*These revisions are from Section 2 of the USC faculty manual. The proposed revisions are reorganized into 3 parts (all faculty,*

*tenured/tenure-track, professional track). This committee is presenting it to Faculty Senate in chunks. The first chunk is all faculty section A. The revisions to the Academic Freedom statement are notable. There was a separate academic freedom committee that crafted the new statement in conjunction with the faculty advisory committee. The section on leave adds information on newly instituted paid parental leave policy. There is a town hall meeting on Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> for more discussion.*

*There was a question about timeframe for approval of manual. Answer: vote on A in March, vote on B in April, vote on entire proposal at General Faculty meeting at end of April.*

*There was a question about the rationale for including pretty significant statements (ex. Academic Freedom). Answer: faculty manual needs to be about what we are all about, our policies and procedures, and helpful to new faculty.*

- **Amendment to Faculty Manual Revision regarding a change in language surrounding the Budget Committee**

*Section I of the Faculty Manual is where this is inserted. Small revisions have been made from earlier faculty feedback.*

*There was a question about what sort of staff would be best to include. Answer: up to each unit to decide, but seems a good idea for a staff from dean's office whose work involves budgeting would be great to have, but up to the unit. There was discussion of the importance for the majority of people on the committee to be elected by faculty from faculty, rather than appointed.*

*Amendment was made to insert "college" in two places to stress that these committees look at both the university budget and the college budgets. Amendment was made so that the faculty of each college decides its make up (keeping the majority elected faculty). The idea was to emphasize faculty election, minimizing administrative influence on the committee. All amendments were passed and insertion into the manual was approved.*

*Discussion of value of this addition for transparency, communication, clarity. Discussion of how well this process went.*

## BUDGET COMMITTEES

Each Dean-led college or school, including the University Libraries, (hereafter, college) shall have a representative committee that advises on the allocation of funds to its programs. This committee should be made up of a majority of elected faculty members. Each college shall decide on an appropriate size for this committee, which must have no fewer than five members.

This committee will serve as a liaison between the college administration and the faculty on matters pertaining to the university budget, advocate for faculty priorities on matters of budget and budgetary policy and provide a venue for discussing faculty questions and concerns about the budget and budgeting process. This committee shall support the key role that chairs and directors play in colleges' budget decision making.

The committee shall meet regularly with the Dean or other senior administrative officer(s) of the college to discuss financial matters and collaborate in the development of budgetary processes and plans. The committee shall report its work to the faculty of the college and solicit feedback and input from the faculty on budgetary matters.

The committee shall be properly oriented and trained in the details of the University of South Carolina - Columbia budgeting process. The committee shall have access to all relevant budgetary data to fulfill its purpose including, but not limited to analyses of past budgetary experience, reports on current budgets, and budgetary projections.

5. Report of Secretary

6. Report of Chair

*Chair discussed an upcoming town hall meeting for the division of research about getting an outside group to give input on grant processes. She brought up the need to examine the influence of ChatGPT on the university. She encourages discussion in our units as it affects our areas differently. College of Arts and Sciences has webinars online for immediate help in this area. Need to triage now and then look at strategies for dealing with AI moving forward.*

7. Old Business

8. New Business

9. Good of the Order

10. Adjournment – **Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 1, at 3 p.m.**

11. The agenda and minutes are on the Faculty Senate Website at [sc.edu/faculty/senate](https://sc.edu/faculty/senate)



UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTH CAROLINA**  
LANCASTER

Todd Lekan, Associate Dean for Academic & Student Affairs

**REPORT TO THE FACULTY ORGANIZATION**  
**February 3, 2023**

- 1. Official Notice of our Associate Degree in Business Reaffirmation of Accreditation.** Congrats to Phillip Parker and Brandon Newton for successfully leading USCL's Associate Business Degree through its accreditation reaffirmation with the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs. Thanks to the Business faculty and other USCL faculty and staff who offered support for the self-study and site visit.
- 2. ASPIRE grants.** The Office of Research and Grant Development is offering a virtual question-and-answer session on **Friday, February 3rd at 1:30 p.m., via MS Teams** for faculty members interested in applying for a 2023 ASPIRE grant. Please [register here](#) or join the session through the [ASPIRE program page](#) (the session link will be posted on Thursday; registration is not required). **ASPIRE proposal deadline: Thursday, February 16, 2023 by 5:00 p.m.**
- 3. Arras Foundation Horizon Grants.** The *2<sup>nd</sup> round of Horizon Education Grants for the 2022-2023 school year* opened on January 13, 2023. The Horizon Education Grant application can be found here: [www.arrasfoundation.org/horizon-education-grant/#apply](http://www.arrasfoundation.org/horizon-education-grant/#apply). Applications are due Wednesday, February 15, 2023. Additional information about Horizon Education Grants and past winners can be found on their [website](#).
- 4. Thank-A-Teacher Program.** Congrats to **Dr. Fernanda Burke, Professor Kim Covington, Dr. Bettie Obi Johnson, and Dr. Andrew Yingst!** These excellent USCL faculty members were recognized by students for instruction that has made a positive impact on their lives.
- 5. Faculty Reviews.** Faculty eligible for promotion or change to senior instructor status will be notified by March 1. March 15 is the deadline to declare intent to under reviews during the 2023-2024 year. Please note that intent statements will be made on a form that will be sent to faculty on March 1.

**6. Travel Study Program.** The deadline for travel study proposals is March 15. Please visit this link for application info: <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=GUsqSzXRdKkLsrHNI4mYzAEGwZLH-wIDnkbaQ7gcmrdUME1SMzQ5MjQ5SIY1SEhCVUVNNEs5WEFSSy4u>

**7. Staff Departures and Searches.**

- a. **Executive Director of Enrollment Management.** Justin Pearson will be leaving USCL for a wonderful opportunity at another institution. Justin's last day is February 23. Under his leadership these last five years, USCL has two consecutive spring semester record headcounts. Justin also oversaw the implementation of the student Lancer Ambassador Program and the development of special VIP tours for prospective students and their families. If you have a chance, please extend warm wishes to Justin. We will soon be assembling a search committee to fill this position. Buddy Faile has agreed to serve as Interim Director of Enrollment Management while we conduct the search.
- b. **Palmetto College Regional Recruiter.** Danelle Faulkenberry is leaving this role effective February 6, at which time she joins the Academic Affairs Office Advising team. Her new duties will include advising first-year students in the Associate in Science and Criminal Justice degrees, advising Dual Enrollment students, academic coaching, and serving as a student support liaison. Our first-year students will benefit from Danelle's caring approach to advising. Please join me in thanking her for the terrific work she has done for USCL as PC Regional Recruiter.
- c. **Academic Advisor.** We will soon be conducting a search for the slotted academic advising position which was vacated by Summer Harmon last fall. This position will focus on first year advising for students in the Associate of Arts and Associate Degree in Business programs.
- d. **Disability Services Coordinator.** Annette Horton, who served in this role, retired in December. Until this position is filled, please direct all students to Director Ashley Schryer.

**8. Faculty Searches.** Two searches have commenced. Committee members is:

- a. **Tenure-Track Assistant Professor of Music:**
  - i. Marybeth Berry (Humanities)
  - ii. Stephen Criswell (Humanities--CHAIR)
  - iii. McKenzie Lemhouse (BBCEL)
  - iv. Li Cai (MSNPH)

**b. Tenure-Track Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice**

- i. Evan Nooe (Humanities)
- ii. John Rutledge (BBCEL)
- iii. Jerrod Yarosh (BBCEL--CHAIR)
- iv. Bettie Johnson (MSNPH)

**9. Recent Faculty Accomplishments.**

- a. **Sahar Aghasafari's** Solo Exhibition in Fabric Design & Print is being held in Bradley Gallery, University of South Carolina Lancaster, Jan 19- May 30, 2023.
- b. **Marybeth Berry's** and the Lancaster Players' production of "The Blurr" was accepted at the juried Asheville Fringe Festival. Rehearsals are underway with "The Puzzle" a new musical with book by Marybeth Berry and Music and Lyrics by Alex LeFevre which will premiere in May at USCL. *Please note that the Blurr will be performed on February 11 at 7:30 PM in Bundy Auditorium. For ticket info, e-mail [USCLPLR@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:USCLPLR@mailbox.sc.edu).*
- c. **Rebecca Freeman** and **McKenzie Lemhouse** had a presentation proposal accepted to talk about Period Supplies in the library. Their video presentation, *Battling Period Poverty*, will be streamed at the Southeast Collaborative Conference in March
- d. **Bettie Obi Johnson** and **Annette Golonka** are mentoring these students' Magellan Scholar projects: Lauren Kirby for a project titled "Microorganisms of *Gelsemium sempervirens* and the Environmental Factors Affecting Them" and Charis Grabbe for a project titled "Impact of Environmental Factors on Floral Scent Emission of *Gelsemium sempervirens*"
- e. **Bettie Obi Johnson** is teaching a special new Independent Study course at USCL this semester: PCAM 299 (South Carolina Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities). USCL is the 2<sup>nd</sup> undergraduate university and the first 2-year college in South Carolina to participate in this program along with Furman University, MUSC and USC. We have 4 students participating this semester. The course includes a series of online modules through MUSC, 4 clinical (virtual and in-person) experiences, and a day-long "Nurturing Developing Minds Conference" in Greenville, SC.
- f. **Chris Judge's** student Cynthia Curtis' Magellan Scholar proposal "The Sleeping Woman Speaks: Memory and Voice of the Women of the Guazapa Volcano, El Salvador" has been awarded funding through the Magellan Program.
- g. **Erin Moon-Kelly** and the Lancaster County Council for the Arts are planning three shows for 2023: one on April 16, 2023, one on either August 20<sup>th</sup> or August

27<sup>th</sup> 2023, and one on December 3, 2023. They are still in the planning stages and lining up venues and performers. The Charlotte Concert Band is performing its next concert on Feb 18, 2023 at 7:00 PM at Myers Park High School in Charlotte, NC. THE CONCERT IS FREE. Here is the link for more information:  
<https://www.charlotteconcertband.org/concerts.html>

- h. Dana Lawrence's** student, Chloe Howard, was awarded a Magellan Scholar grant for her project, "Censorship and the Holocaust in Children's Literature."
- i. Evan Nooe's** conference panel titled "Violence within and against the Native South" for the 2023 Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting taking place in Charlotte has been accepted. Evan will be presenting a paper as part of the panel.
- j. Leigh Pate, Courtney Catledge, Anne Scott** and other Columbia stationed nursing faculty were selected to present their RPS work at the Association of Community Health Nurse Educators & Association of Public Health Nurses Joint Conference in San Diego, CA, in June 2023. **Leigh Pate, Anne Scott** and other Columbia stationed faculty presented "The Great Escape: Breakout From A Virtual Escape Room" at the IMSH/Society for Simulation in Healthcare in Orlando, FL, last week.
- k. Lauren Thomas** recently earned the title Master Certified Health Education Specialist (MCHES) in November 2022. This distinction is awarded to eligible advanced-level public health educators who successfully pass a competency-based exam administered by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (NCHEC). Less than 125 public health educators nationwide earn this certification annually.

## 10. Upcoming Events.

- a.** USC President Amiridis will be on campus for a meet and greet on the afternoon of Thursday, February 9 at 2:00. Details will be forthcoming.
- b.** The next Brent Burgin Lunch and Learn event hosted by the Native American Studies Center will occur at noon on Feb. 24, 2023: **"Rice Culture in South Carolina, Past and Present"** Lecture by Amanda McNulty, Producer/Host of SCETV's "Making It Grow. To attend via Zoom, register at this link: <https://bit.ly/3EThCa6>

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

**MEETING:** Faculty Organization Meeting- February 3, 2023

**DATE:** January 31, 2023

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

- 1) W-2s for tax year 2022 were made available to employees on January 30, 2023.

If you elected to receive your W-2 electronically please take the following steps to review, print, or save your 2022 W-2.

- 1) Log into the HR/Payroll System [hcm.ps.sc.edu](http://hcm.ps.sc.edu)
- 2) On the Employee Self Service screen choose the Payroll tile
- 3) Select the W-2/W-2c Forms Tile
- 4) Ensure that the Tax Year is 2022
- 5) Select View Form
- 6) If you need instructions on filing your W-2 select the square under the heading filing instructions.

Those who did not choose to receive the 2022 W-2 electronically will receive their copy via mail. It will be mailed to the mailing address that is stored in the HR/Payroll system.

Questions about W-2s should be directed to the USC Payroll Department via email [payroll@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:payroll@mailbox.sc.edu).

When communicating with the USC Payroll Department share your legal name and USC ID so that you may be easily identified and assisted efficiently.

- 2) Employees may see an increase in their net pay as a result of the change in the SC tax withholding table for 2023 effective with their 1/31/23 paycheck.

Per the SC Department of Revenue Website: "Most South Carolina workers will see less state taxes withheld from their paychecks in 2023 as the result of adjustments in the state Withholding Tax Tables by the South Carolina Department of Revenue (SCDOR). These updates follow this summer's tax cuts by state lawmakers. Legislators voted to reduce the top Income Tax rate from 7% to 6.5% beginning in 2022. The rate of 6.5% could be reduced in the future if certain general fund growth tests are met. In November, the SCDOR updated its Withholding Tax Tables for 2023, taking the tax cut into account. The tables are used by employers to determine how much South Carolina Income Tax is to be taken out of workers' paychecks."

Below is the link to the website for the SC Department of Revenue which details out and explains the table change. Please let me know if you have any questions.

<https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdor.sc.gov%2Fresources-site%2Fmedia-site%2FPages%2FSC-Withholding-tables-adjusted-for-tax-cuts.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Ctmobley%40MAILBOX.SC.EDU%7C94a6e94ccb0241550e9008daffee469f%7C4b2a4b19d135420e8bb2b1cd238998cc%7C0%7C0%7C638103696103964156%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWlloiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=vpc8l16fSXyXmHOKAZ0HKsd5t0G40otRmaqTri1v%2Fml%3D&reserved=0>

- 3) USC minimum wage for all FTE positions and hourly temporary employees is \$14.00 per hour effective January 1, 2023.

Going forward hourly temporary employees must be paid at least \$14.00 per hour. If the Personnel Request Form reflects less than that I will reach out to the requester and Buddy Faile, Business Manager to ensure that the budget can sustain that amount.

- 4) The Lancaster campus minimum wage rate for student employees remains the same, \$9.00 per hour.
- 5) A reminder that Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) documentation needs to be submitted if an employee needs to be away from work for more than three (3) consecutive days for medical or family reasons. The USC Leave Manager on the Columbia campus needs to approve the time away.

Please review the Family and Medical Leave Policy (HR 1.07) for further details.

<https://www.sc.edu/policies/ppm/hr107.pdf>

- 6) Blue Cross Blue Shield has issued new ID cards to participants who are currently enrolled in the Standard Plan and Savings Plan.

Your Benefits Identification Number (BIN) did not change. The new card includes information about patient cost.

If you did not receive the card, please contact Blue Cross Blue Shield via telephone 1-800-868-2520 or from the Blue Cross Blue Shield website choose the heading resources and then ID cards.

<https://statesc.southcarolinablues.com/web/public/statesc/>

## Report to the UofSC Lancaster Faculty Organization

### Academic Success Center

*Patrick Lawrence, Director*

#### Announcements

- Tutoring numbers in January were up 84% over the same month last year. Thanks for referring your students so we can help them succeed and fulfil our mission.
- We have created a video tutor-talk modeled on the in-person visits we already provide. If you would like to forward it to your virtual courses to give those students more info about the Center's services, please reach out.

#### Recent Events Overview

We began the semester very strong, almost doubling our student visits over last year. We still have plenty of capacity, however, so please encourage students to come as much as they need. Remember, too, that the ASC can help students who could benefit from brushing up, not only those who are struggling. We also tutor in study skills, so any student is welcome to come just to improve their overall academic performance or to reduce their stress.

The ASC team is currently reading *The Doodle Revolution* by Sunni Brown together. This book on visual literacy is part of ongoing professional development activities to ensure high-quality service. Our conversations about it should help us consider new strategies for helping students study, as well as providing us innovative ways to communicate with our clients. Please look forward to more news on this front via our Twitter feed.

#### Summary of Tutoring Data

**Year-to-year trends:** We tutored in January from the 9<sup>th</sup> through the 31<sup>st</sup>, a partial month. During this time, we were up 84% over January of 2022 in terms of sheer number of student visits to the center, a very substantial improvement. Students-served numbers reflect an average of 2 visits per student over the 17 days we were open. This is comparable to the two previous years.

**Session distribution trends:** In January, students showed a higher preference for in-person, one-on-one tutoring sessions compared to previous months. This appears to be true irrespective of whether the course they are tutored for is online or in-person. We may be seeing a significant shift among our client base toward in-person services and more intensive forms of support. We also saw a large share of tutoring in math courses, but this is consonant with previous January data, suggesting that Math students come for help earlier in the semester, while students come for other subjects in greater numbers later on.

(See charts below for more complete data.)

#### Contact Information

**Phone:** 803-313-7113

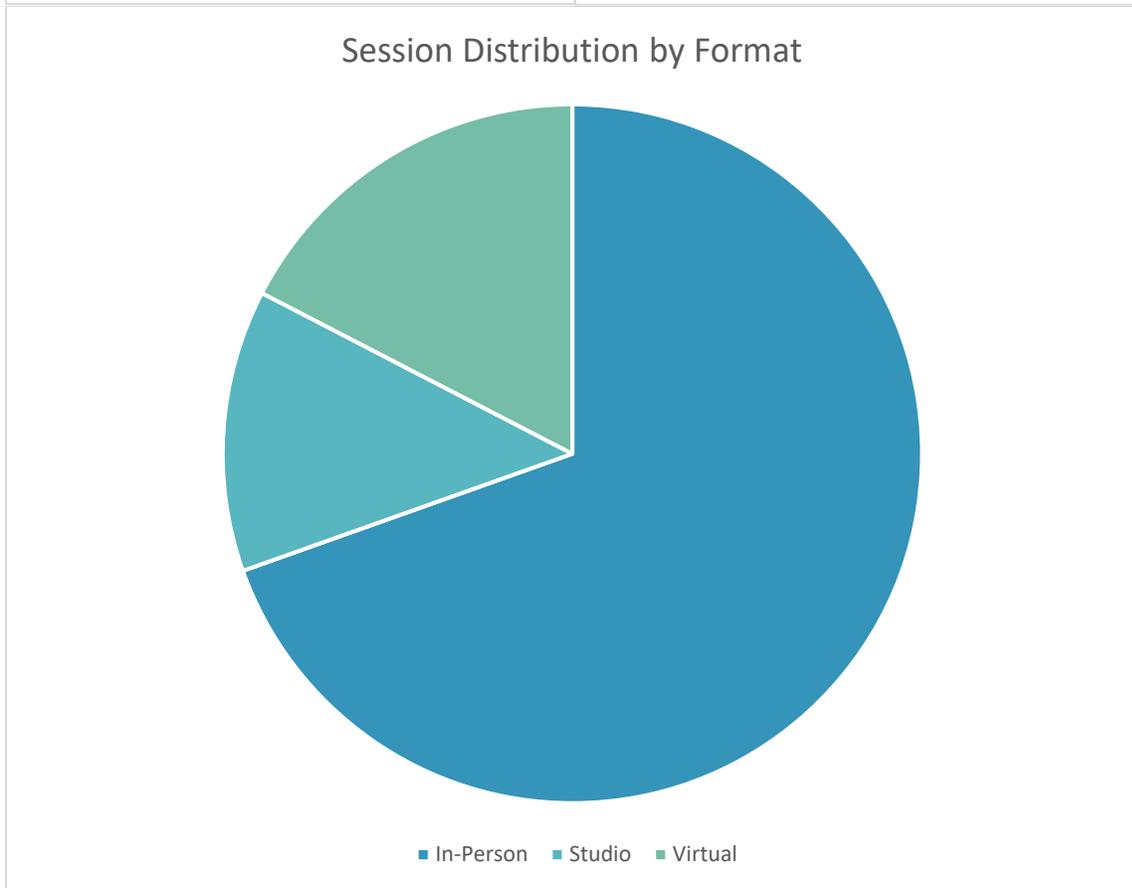
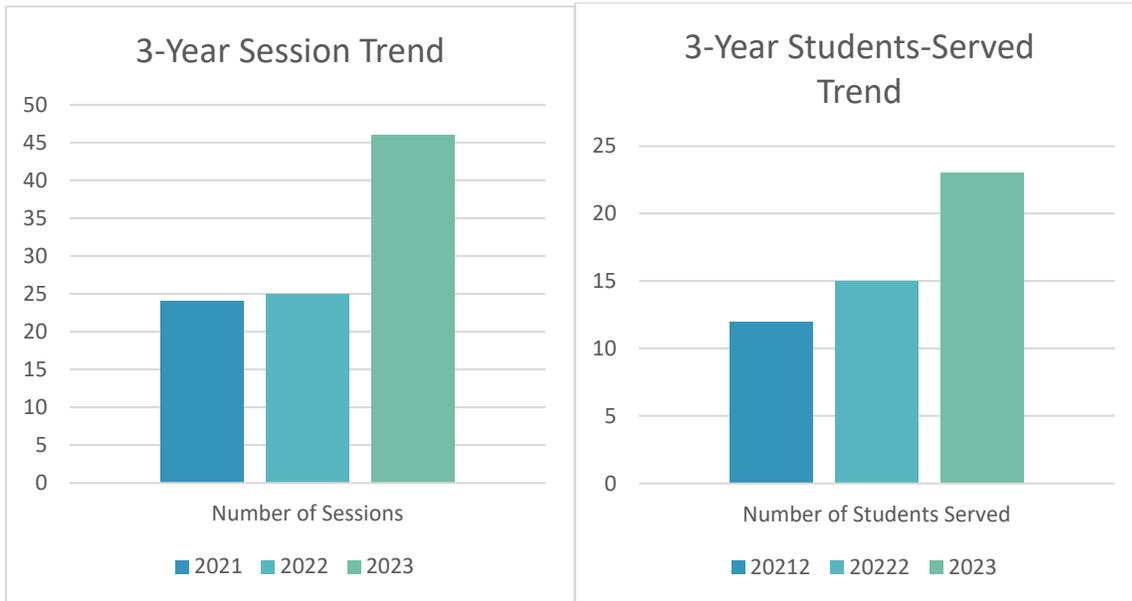
**Web:** [sc.ed/lancaster/asc](http://sc.ed/lancaster/asc)

**Twitter:** @USCLASC

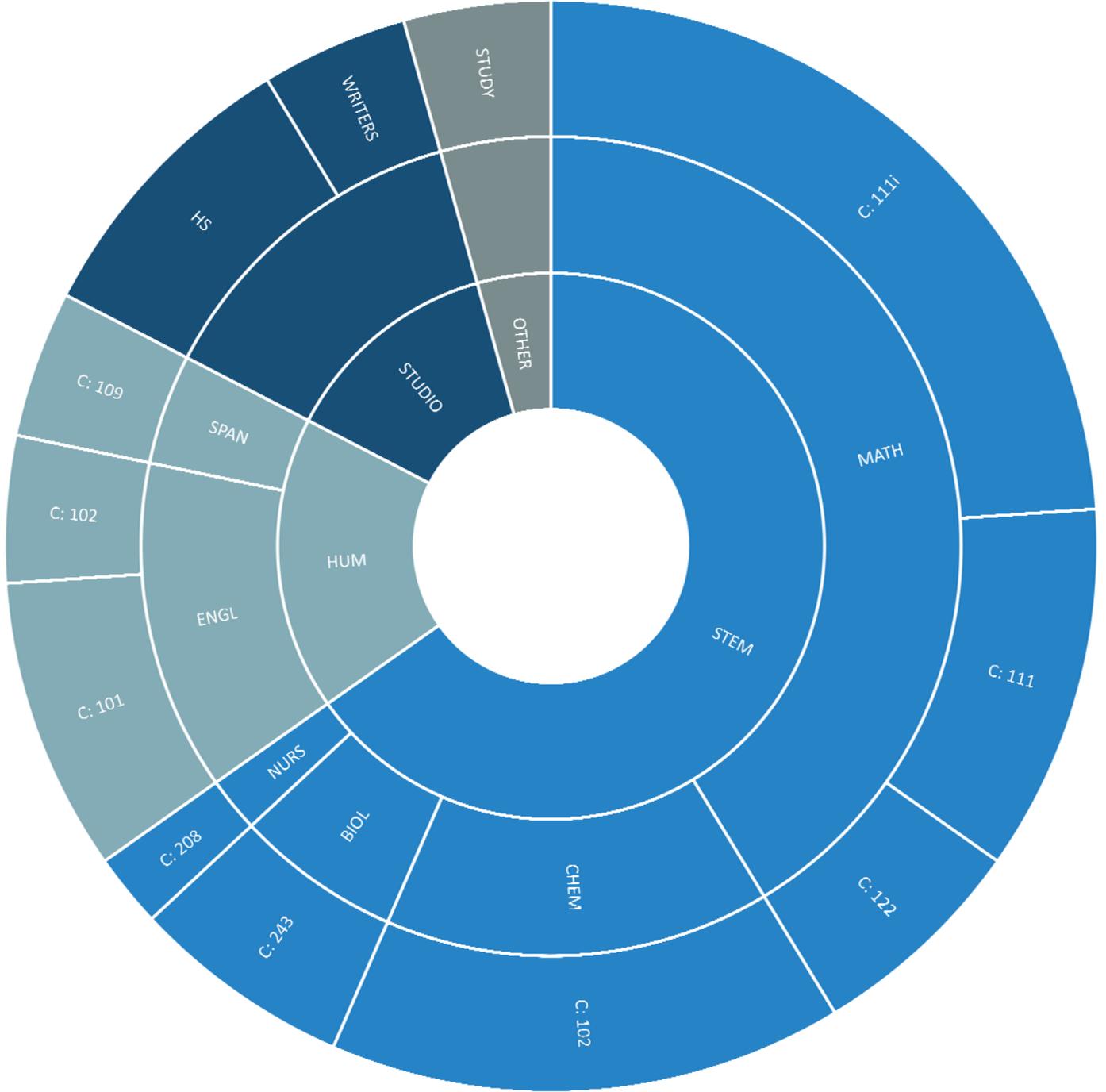
**Patrick Lawrence, Director:** [pslawren@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:pslawren@mailbox.sc.edu)

**Elaine Connor, Academic Success Coordinator:** [etconnor@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:etconnor@mailbox.sc.edu)

## Appendix: Tutoring Data



Session Distribution by Field and Course





**Matt Williamson**  
**Director, Federal TRiO Programs**

**REPORT TO THE FACULTY ORGANIZATION**  
**February 3, 2023**

**Opportunity Scholars Program**

- We ended January with 140 low-income, first-generation (LIFG), or disabled students on our official OSP roster. We are working with an additional 48 qualified applicants, who we are attempting to get admitted to the project. Once this process is completed, we will have more than exceeded our federal requirement to serve a minimum of 165 qualifying students prior to the end of the current reporting period on August 31, 2023.
- Congratulations to the following OSP students on being selected as Peer Advisors (PALs) for 2023: **Meghan Boyles-Randolph; Alexis Brantley; Ariana Catoe; Christian Cochran; Jocelyn Furlos Beristain; Charlie Guiver; Victoria Holliday; Michaela Johnson; and Rebecca Miller.** We are extremely proud of each of them as well as for all our participants who are engaged throughout the campus and in the local community.
- We are also very proud of OSP students **Alexis Brantley, Ariana Catoe, Christian Cochran, Jocelyn Furlos Beristain, Michael Faulkner, Jonathan Galeano-Berrios, Michaela Johnson, and Scott Meadows** for being selected to attend the **South Carolina TRiO Association's 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Wanda Hendricks-Bellamy Student Leadership Conference** last month in Myrtle Beach, SC. Special thanks to **CoSonja Allen** and **Andrea Campbell** for leading our group.
- We sponsored the first **Careers in Business Lecture** of the Spring 2023 semester on January 12, 2023. **Dr. Wayne Gilliam** of Gilliam Family Dentistry spoke on the confluence of business and medicine, as well as the value of entrepreneurship. Many thanks to **Professor Mike Sherrill** for allowing our students this opportunity.
- We were thrilled to host the first **Careers in Science Lecture** of the semester on January 17, 2023. Former USCL student **Emily Lehman**, from the USC School of the Earth, Ocean & Environment, spoke on "How I Found My Passion Using Undergraduate Research."
- Numerous OSP students participated in the **Imagine Carolina** session on January 19, 2023. They were able to provide feedback on topics such as academics, career plans, postgraduate readiness, as well as their overall college experience and spoke highly of OSP.
- **Ashley Gadson** of South Carolina Development Trainings presented part two of her workshop on "Creating Boundaries, Trusting Your Gut, and Making Decisions" at our **OSP Luncheon** on January 25, 2023.
- **TRiO Financial Day** was held on January 26, 2023. Special thanks to **Ken Cole** for providing materials for this event.
- We held a hybrid **Personal Productivity Workshop** with **Iris Reading** on February 1, 2023. Students learned study habits to help them better their reading comprehension skills.
- We are encouraging all of our OSP students to attend the **SGA Town Hall Meeting: Lunch with Lancers** event in the Starr Hall Student Center on Monday, February 13, 2023 at 12:15 p.m.



- Several OSP participants will travel to the South Carolina State House in Columbia, SC to attend **Carolina Day 2023** on Tuesday, February 14, 2023. They will have the opportunity to share their experiences and stories of impact with our lawmakers.
- We will be hosting the **Disability Support Group Luncheon** on Thursday, February 23, 2023 at 12:15 p.m. OSP alum **Teresa “Missy” Melton** and representatives from Lancaster’s **South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Center** will be guest speakers.
- Students are being encouraged to participate in the **Palmetto College Webinar** on the evening of Thursday, February 23, 2023.
- Plans are underway for the **OSP Spring Break Trip to Washington, DC**. We expect to take up to 36 students to our nation’s capital to tour the Capitol Building, the Library of Congress, the National Museum of African American History and Culture, and the White House – plus other monuments and Smithsonian museums – from March 6-10, 2023.

#### **Black History Month and Upcoming Events**

- The **BHM Popcorn & Movie Series** will be held in the TRiO Learning Resource Center on Tuesday, February 7, 2023. Movies celebrating African American history will be shown beginning at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. All faculty, staff, and students are invited to join us for drinks, popcorn, and other snacks.
- This month will see the return of **USCL’s Annual Pre-Super Bowl Celebration** after a two-year, COVID-induced hiatus. This year’s event will be held in the TRiO LRC from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 8, 2023. Lunch will be provided by Hwy 55 Burgers, Shakes & Fries. Faculty, staff, and students may play Super Bowl trivia for an opportunity to win gift cards.
- We are extremely pleased to be supporting the **USC Lancaster Players** and their production of **The Blurr**. The performance will take place in Bundy Auditorium on Saturday, February 11, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. We greatly appreciate **Marybeth Berry** and **Tyrie Rowell** for offering free admission to all who wish to attend.
- We will be hosting a hybrid **BHM Lunch & Learn Presentation** on Thursday, February 16, 2023. **Dr. Adam Biggs** and **Professor Todd Day** will present “James Baldwin: A Discussion of His Debates, Techniques, and Approach” at 12:15 p.m. in the TRiO LRC. Lunch will be provided.
- The next **Careers in Science Lecture** will be held on Monday, February 27, 2023, at 12:15 p.m. in the TRiO LRC. Lunch will be provided. We are so appreciative of **Dr. Li Cai**, **Dr. Bettie Johnson**, and the **USCL Chemistry Club** for allowing us to expose TRiO-eligible students to STEM-related careers.

#### **Upward Bound**

- We were so pleased that 24 of our participants attended the **20<sup>th</sup> Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Scholarship Breakfast** at Lancaster High School on January 16, 2023.
- A wonderful **Parent and Participant Session** was held on January 24, 2023.
- Participants will be attending the **Midlands Student Summit**, sponsored by Clemson University, at Lower Richland High School in Hopkins, SC on Saturday, February 4, 2023.
- We also plan to attend the **HBCU 2023 College Fair** at West Mecklenburg High School in Charlotte, NC on Saturday, February 18, 2023.



- Plans are being made to attend a **Charlotte Hornets** game in March and for a spring break trip to the **North Carolina Research Triangle** in April.

### **Student Organizations**

- The **G.E.N.T.S.** organization held its first meeting of the Spring 2023 semester on January 18, 2023. Group members discussed plans for a charity basketball tournament at the Gregory Family YMCA on Friday, March 24, 2023. Proceeds from this proposed fundraiser will benefit **United Way of Lancaster County**.
- The **D.E.F.I.N.E.** organization met on January 24, 2023. In addition to our OSP contingent from D.E.F.I.N.E. who serve as Peer Advisors, we congratulate group members **Ava Baker, Jaden Cross,** and **Mia Cuesta Ogando** on their selection as PALs for 2023.
- **L.A.S.T.** (Lancers Against Sex Trafficking) held its first meeting of the semester on January 26, 2023. The group viewed a TED Talk on “Human Trafficking in America.”

### **Data Management and Performance Reporting**

- Since November 2022, the University of South Carolina has been undergoing a Single Audit of federal funds. This includes all TRiO grant projects in the USC system. We have been working with USC’s Director of Financial Reporting and the independent auditor, CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, on documenting core curriculum instruction, expense allowability, participant eligibility, performance reporting, and services provided. No information has been provided as to when this audit will be completed.
- Our sponsor, the federal Department of Education (ED), announced that all federal TRiO grant projects must complete a 2022-23 **Interim Performance Report (IPR)**. This is due to the delay in the 2021-22 **Annual Performance Reports (APR)** and the Congressional mandate that each project demonstrates substantial progress before receiving an increase in funding for 2023-24. ED's guidelines require federal program specialists to confirm that all projects receiving continuing funding on multiyear grants made “substantial progress” before being awarded continuing year funding. These IPRs for our OSP and Upward Bound projects are due to ED on Monday, February 13, 2023.
- Despite the requirement to submit these IPRs, we still expect the 2021-22 APR for the OSP project to go live sometime this month. According to the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE), the release date could be as early as next week. The report will measure the performance of the OSP project for the second year of its five-year grant cycle, which covers the reporting period September 1, 2021, through August 31, 2022.
- It is anticipated that the APR for our Upward Bound project will go live on March 6, 2023. This report will measure the performance of the project for the final year of its previous five-year grant cycle, covering the period June 1, 2021, through May 31, 2022. If this release date is accurate, the report will be due around mid-to-late April.
- If anyone would like a copy of the final reports for either of these grant projects (once they become available), please contact **Matt Williamson** at [mwilliam@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:mwilliam@mailbox.sc.edu).



### **Community Service**

- Thank you all for making the **USCL Cares Angel Tree Campaign** so successful. Just prior to Christmas, we delivered over 400 gifts to children at Brooklyn Springs and Clinton Elementary Schools, and Southside Early Childhood Center. We appreciate **Mary McInville Adamson, Mark Ammons, Andrea Campbell, Ariana Catoe, Michael Faulkner, and Aundre Vinson** for assisting with the deliveries.
- Arrangements are still being made to deliver the final donation from last year's **Baby Bottle Fundraiser** to the **Women's Enrichment Center** on Main Street in Lancaster. This non-profit agency supplies vital care, counseling, education, and workforce initiatives and referrals for expectant mothers in our local community.
- We are concluding an incredibly successful **USCL Cares Annual Coat Drive** this week. We hope to deliver these donations next week to United Way of Lancaster County to assist the **Lancaster Area Coalition for the Homeless**.

### **Legislative Updates**

- Congress has approved a \$54 million increase for the Federal TRiO Programs as part of its bipartisan, omnibus funding package. This 4.7% inflationary increase is for FY23 (Program Year 2023-24). The legislation also directs ED "to provide increases to current TRiO grantees demonstrating substantial progress in meeting performance objectives and, to the extent practicable, to fund down the slates of unfunded, high-quality applications from prior-year competitions." Although welcome news, this falls far short of the \$161 million that COE originally requested.
- Your advocacy for TRiO can make a difference. If anyone is interested in learning how you may support any of these bipartisan funding efforts to assist our TRiO grant projects at the USC Lancaster campus, please contact **Mark Ammons** at [rmammons@email.sc.edu](mailto:rmammons@email.sc.edu).

# Student Success and Retention

## USCL Faculty Organization Report

### Report Sections

- Advising (Registration opens on March 13, 2023)
  - Disability Services
  - Early Alerts (Send an alert anytime!)
  - Graduation with Leadership Distinction
  - Travel
  - Counseling
- 

### Advising

- Summer/Fall 2023 Registration begins on March 13, 2023.
- Welcome, Danelle! Danelle Faulkenberry will serve as the First-Year Advisor for Associate in Science and Associate in Science-Criminal Justice students. She will also take the lead with Academic Coaching efforts. Danelle starts her new role on Monday, February 6.
- Looking for electives for your advisees? Check out the Fall 2023 ARTE 201 offering. Please see ARTE class flyer (attached at the end of the report).
- 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. Banner and Self-Service access/Ability to remove a hold: Send me an email if you need ne to submit paperwork to get you access.
- Student advisees that are listed in self-service are not accurate. Please refer to the advisee list we send in emails.
- Communication Plan:
  - All advisors (first-year and faculty) will be sent their list of advisees in the upcoming week. Please review your list and let us know if there are any issues or questions. If you have a preferred way for students to communicate with you (aside from email), please let us know! Email Asheley Schryer at [schryer@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:schryer@mailbox.sc.edu).
  - Students will be sent the name and contact information of their advisor. We encourage them to reach out to their advisor to set up an appointment.
  - Each week, we will check our enrollment records and continue to follow up with students that are not registered. We are messaging that all students need to register for classes before the end of the semester.

### Disability Services

The search process is underway for a new Disability Services Coordinator. Asheley Schryer will be serving as the interim Disability Services Coordinator until a replacement is hired. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (803) 777-7120 or [schryer@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:schryer@mailbox.sc.edu).

### Early Alerts

We know the importance of connecting with students early and often (occurring within the first six weeks) are ideal. We are requesting that faculty submit early alert forms for any student that is not attending class, missing assignments, or who would benefit from a contact by a student success staff person. This form will remain active throughout the semester.

[Early Alert - My USC Lancaster | University of South Carolina](#)

When a form is submitted, Academic and Student Affairs will contact the student via email/text to notify them of the alert and share relevant resources and contacts.

## Graduation with Leadership Distinction (GLD)

Are your students engaging in beyond the classroom experiences (community service, internships, research, global learning, leadership, etc)? If so, encourage them to pursue Graduation with Leadership Distinction. Students that are interested in the process can [make an appointment](#) with Asheley Schryer.

Want to schedule a GLD presentation for your student organization or class? Contact Liz Easley ([EASLEYEA@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:EASLEYEA@mailbox.sc.edu)) or Asheley Schryer ([schryer@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:schryer@mailbox.sc.edu)).

USCL students may apply for the [Carolina Engage Grant - Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning | University of South Carolina \(sc.edu\)](#) to successfully complete their beyond the classroom experience. Students can apply for up to \$500 initially by describing in detail how the beyond the classroom experience connects to their personal, professional, and/or academic goals. Priority is given to students demonstrating significant need in order to engage in meaningful beyond the classroom experiences. Funding may be used for conference registrations, education abroad experiences, professional clothing for an internship, certain technology requests, and many other beyond the classroom activities. Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be a full-time undergraduate student at UofSC Columbia or the Palmetto College regional campuses (Lancaster, Salkehatchie, Sumter, or Union)
- Must have a 2.2 cumulative GPA or higher
- Must be participating in a beyond the classroom experience
- Must be willing to submit a reflection through Garnet Gate upon completion of the experience

*Note: 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.*

## Travel

- Want to take your course beyond the classroom? The Student Affairs Committee is now accepting travel study proposals! Please complete and submit the online form (<https://tinyurl.com/travelstudyproposal>) by 5 pm on March 15, 2023. *\*Note: You will be prompted to log-in with your USC username and password.* Questions? Contact Asheley Schryer at [schryer@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:schryer@mailbox.sc.edu) or (803) 313-7120.
- Encourage students to join the upcoming travel study program to Rome and Florence in July! Two course options: ENGL 283: "English Writers in Italy" (Professor Dana Lawrence) [AIU Carolina Core] and PHIL 103: "Roman Philosophy and the Art of Living Well " (Professor Todd Lekan) [VSR Carolina Core]. For more information, contact Prof. Dana Lawrence at [LAWRENDE@email.sc.edu](mailto:LAWRENDE@email.sc.edu).
- For more information about Study Travel, visit [https://sc.edu/about/system\\_and\\_campuses/lanaster/study/student\\_opportunities/travel\\_study/index.php](https://sc.edu/about/system_and_campuses/lanaster/study/student_opportunities/travel_study/index.php).

## Counseling



USC Lancaster  
Counseling Services

Tamika Lewis, MA, LPCA, NCC  
Counselor

### Monthly Status Report-December 2022/ Jan 2023

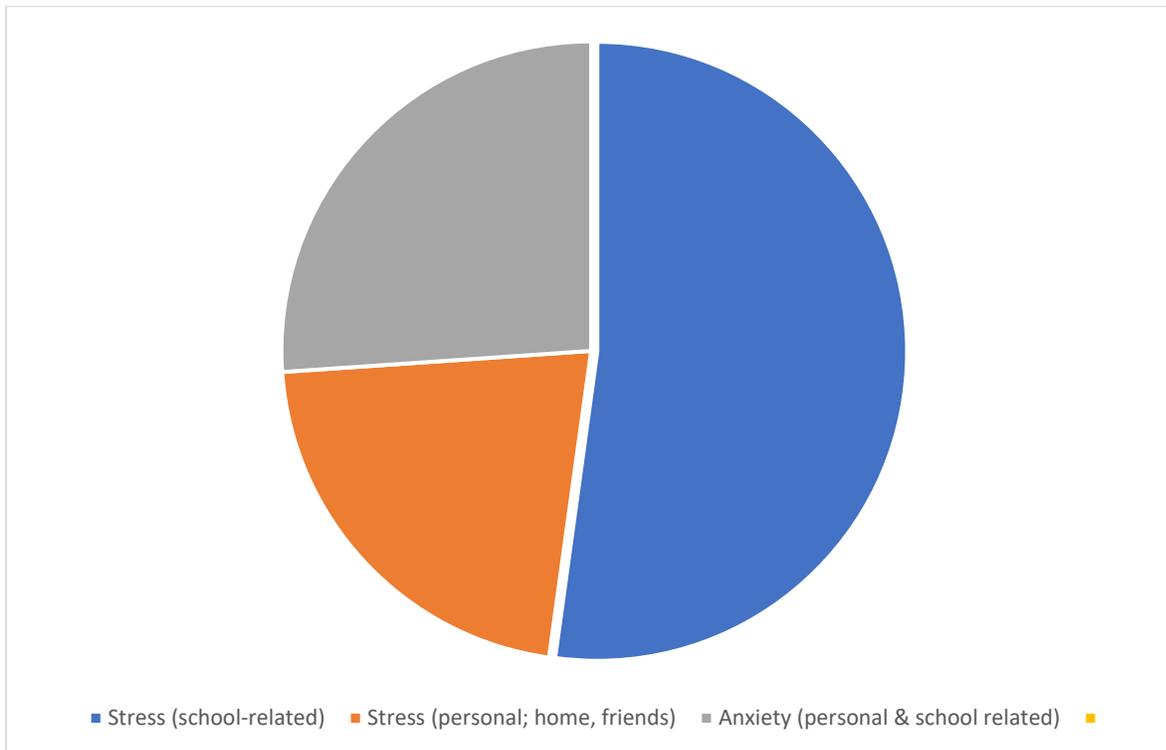
#### Appointments :

In-person: 15/ Tele-Health: 8

Drop-ins: 2

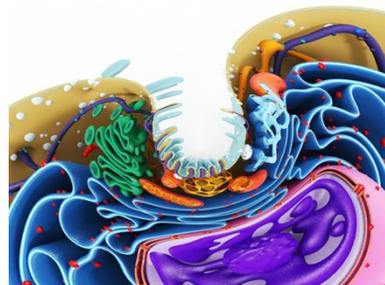
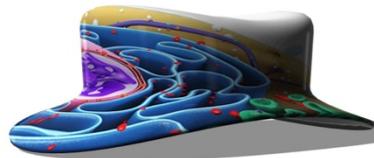
Scheduled: 23

**Total Sessions held: 25**



***\*During the month of December, prior to Holiday break several students (total of 9) requested counseling for school related stress due to their final grades. In January, students were still dealing with personal stress and anxiety related to things experienced during holiday break, as well as the adjustments of being back on campus and in school.***

# Fall 2023 Course Offering: ARTE 201 Special Topics in Art Education (STEAM)



Artistic Reformatting among the Structures and Functions  
of an Animal Cell, Designed by Sahar Aghasafari

Instructor: Dr. Sahar Aghasafari  
Fall 2023 (4D): Tuesday & Thursday, 11:00 am- 12:15 pm.

Topics selected by the instructor for specialized study. Course content may include a variety of new, contemporary, and emerging art-related issues that should be regularly included in the general art education curriculum.

## **Plan to Teach this Course in STEAM Topics**

### **Goals**

#### **Getting an A in STEM**

STEAM education is a philosophy of teaching and learning that equally values and merges the interdisciplinary fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. The primary goals of STEAM are to un-silo school disciplines, illuminate universal connections, practice critical thinking, solve problems, and prepare students for careers and life. STEAM is inherently localized, and approaches to STEAM are unique to each school, teacher, and student. In this course, students will explore and define STEAM by experiencing the intersections of art (visual/media arts) and STEM through historical connections, campus collaborations and studio projects, and a culminating STEAM project. Students will be introduced to the cultural contexts of art and science and will develop innovative STEAM curricular elements that build upon course content.

Questions: Contact [s.aghasafari@sc.edu](mailto:s.aghasafari@sc.edu)



Kenneth T. Cole  
Director of Financial Aid and Veteran Affairs

**Financial Aid and Veteran Affairs Report to the USC Lancaster Faculty Organization  
February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**

- Financial Aid Applications (**FAFSAs**)for **2023-2024** have begun to be imported. This is two weeks earlier than last year. To date we have received **606 compared to 660 on Feb 14<sup>th</sup> last year.**
- **The Pell Grant is increasing by \$500**, from a maximum of \$6895 to **\$7395**. Since almost 40% of USCL Students receive the Pell Grant this is a significant benefit for our students.
- USCL had **10 Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Recipients in 2022-2023**. This is up from 7 last year, and is the higher of all regional campuses.
- Our **Child Care Access Grant (CCAMPIS) is up for re-application this year**. We have had very little use of this program. We will resubmit, but are anticipating that it will not be renewed. **If you know of any parents who need child care** in order to attend college (Day care or After School), **please advise them to apply**. Applicants do **have to be Pell Grant eligible**.
- **Federal Work Study continues to be underspent**. This is despite having many new positions and increasing pay to **\$10/hr and \$12/hr for community service positions**. We have moved \$15k to grant funding and have already allocated that out and have still only used 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of what remains for this year. **We need to fill our community service positions**. If you know of any student seeking work, please direct them to check with the Financial Aid Office to determine if we can award the Work Study. Positions are all listed on the Work Study website.
- **The Biden/Harris Federal Student Loan Forgiveness program continues to be tied up in the Courts**. At this time we do not foresee a final resolution that results in loan forgiveness.
- **Scholarships: The Deadline of February 1<sup>st</sup> has passed. Continuing students can apply by April 1<sup>st</sup>** and Freshmen Students may still apply by for **Late Scholarships (Currently \$500) by August 1st**. The committee will begin reviewing applications and selecting students to interview soon. The **Lancer Scholarship has been raised to \$3000**. In combination with the LIFE scholarship this covers \$8000 (or full tuition and fees of \$7778).
- **The FAFSA Simplification Act** is being enacted and we will see continued changes to the FAFSA and aid processing procedures over the next few years. **We expect to see an increase in Pell Grant eligible students**.
- **The Summer Financial Aid Application opens on March 1<sup>st</sup>**.
- **Ken Cole will be at a conference from Feb 10<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>**.

# Medford Library

## FACULTY MEETING REPORT FEBRUARY 3, 2023

### SERVICE STATISTICS AND PROGRAMS

- **1927** unique visits
- **933** LibGuide views
- **147** Study and Lounge Area Reservations
- **3** Conference Room Reservations
- **10** Community computer uses
- **2** Library Instruction Classes

### CIRCULATION STATISTICS

- **57** General collection items circulated
- **2** Graphic Novel collection items circulated
- **10** Juvenile collection items circulated
- **9** New Book collection items circulated
- **1** Oversize item circulated
- **3** On Display items circulated
- **11** Special Collection items circulated

### LIBRARY UPDATES

- The library has extended hours on Fridays for the spring semester. Friday hours are 8:00am to 2:00pm
- Teaching a class at the Indian Land location and want a library instruction session? We can help. Request a library instruction and let us know where it will be. Sessions can be in person or virtual.

### GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

- Check out our Black History Month book display. The 2023 theme is "Resistance".
- New items are coming to the Library of Things this spring.
- New processes have been implemented for the study rooms and the conference room. Check ins are required to keep a reservation.

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

- Make a request using this [link](#)

## **HELPFUL LINKS**

- [Request Library Instruction](#)
- [Place materials on Reserve](#)
- [Book a Librarian](#)
- [Reserve the library computer lab](#)
- [Document the impact of your scholarly activities](#)
- [Check out tools for teaching and learning support](#)

**USCL Tenure and Promotion Committee  
Report to the Faculty Organization 2-3-2023**

Submitted by Bettie Obi Johnson (committee chair).

Our Local T&P Committee members this year are Rebecca Freeman, Annette Golonka, Dana Lawrence, Angela Neal, Bettie Obi Johnson, and Suzanne Penuel.

Below are updates on our committee's activities. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

- We assembled a committee of 5 full professors (Bettie Obi Johnson, Annette Golonka, Kate Holland, Chris Bundrick, and Sarah Sellhorst) in November, and we completed the review of a promotion File. We submitted our ballots, a letter and feedback to the candidate in December.
- We have received 4 first year review files and are in the process of reviewing them. We plan to meet in February and submit feedback to the candidates in March.
- All Faculty Information Forms for tenure-track or tenured faculty were submitted on January 31. When our committee receives access to the FIFs, we will review them upon completion of the first-year review files. We plan to submit feedback to faculty in April.