

USC Lancaster Faculty Meeting Minutes November 1, 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.

PDF Index

Faculty Meeting Minutes

Appendix 1 – Dean’s Report

Appendix 2 – Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs Report

Appendix 3 – Academic Success Center Report

Appendix 4 – Human Resources Report

Appendix 5 – Medford Library Report

Appendix 6 – Student Success and Retention Report

Appendix 7 – TRiO Programs Report

Appendix 8 – Columbia Faculty Senate Report

Appendix 9 – Athletics Advisory Committee Report

Appendix 10 – Evaluation Committee Report

Appendix 11 – Faculty Organization Executive Committee Report

Appendix 12 – Hiring Priorities Committee Report

Appendix 13 – Local Tenure & Promotion Committee Report

USC Lancaster Faculty Meeting Minutes
November 1, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: 12:30 PM Dana Lawrence

CORRECTION/APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the October 4, 2024, faculty organization meeting were approved.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

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

- Highlights from report:
 - Enrollment has dropped slightly due to non-payment
 - Staff search (Dir. Outreach and coordinator of IL campus)
 - Athletics update: Things are going well; thanks to those who showed up for the send-off to Women's soccer; Volleyball has a big match coming up; Awards (see her report for the many instances)
 - Dean's Budget Advisory Group met; budget updates will be on November 13 in two sessions (please attend)
 - Upcoming events: NASC's celebration; PC Social (encourages attendance); Scholarship Luncheon coming up soon; Holiday Luncheon Dec. 10; Stevens Theater Showcase Dec. 12
 - Research and Productive Scholarship applications are due Dec. 5th at 5 PM – please note the slightly difference date
 - Scholarship apps for students due Mar 15, 2025
 - Give Local on Nov. 15 and Big Thursday Nov. 21 (encourages fac/staff participation)
- Dean Search Updates:
 - We've made recs for faculty appointments to the search committee (not posted yet, but work is happening behind the scenes)

Questions and/or Comments:

N. Lawrence – Are there any updates to the policies about free speech zones?

C. Catledge – Yes, I have spoken with Palmetto College administration who shared Columbia's campus policies, asking us to review and make recommendations to update/adapt for our campus. Todd Lekan and I have been making possible edits to make it fit Lancaster. They hope to offer an ad hoc committee to advise on content before sending recommendations back to Central. Then we will adopt the final policy for our campus. We want a unified approach that reflects our campus.

N. Lawrence – What is the current policy while that work is being done?

C. Catledge – There is not really a campus policy posted anywhere. We will adhere to our student handbook if there are disruptive behavior/activities, as with any other activity/location, but we will not seek out or relocate people who are demonstrating within those parameters. It is worth noting that Columbia campus policy requires registration and sticking to a specific determined location (for documentation purposes) and if people come on campus without approval, they are referred to the office for registration.

P. Lawrence (in chat) - Can I volunteer for that committee? (And other questions related to volunteering/appointments to the ad hoc freedom of speech committee)

C. Catledge and T. Lekan – We do not want to appoint people to that committee, so consider this conversation a call for volunteers (an email will follow). The ad hoc committee will be open to any faculty or staff (likely all who work here plus student rep(s))

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

- Highlights from his report, including:
 - Thanks to all who contributed to a successful open house
 - Last day to withdraw is Nov. 6
 - We will be piloting Winter Session courses. These will run Dec. 30-Jan19 (one per student; they must get Todd's approval by Dec. 19)
 - Summer Terms: Class time and date periods have changed to align with Cola campus
 - Faculty Travel Request: Please make every effort to send travel requests by November 15 (even if you aren't positive that you'll actually be traveling); his office hopes to offer a primer on travel request procedures by Karin Collins in the future
 - Many faculty accomplishments (review the details in his report)
 - Upcoming events: First Gen College Celebration Nov. 7
- Expect an emailed call to serve on free speech task force
- Full Time Faculty will receive an email asking for academic advising from Asheley Schryer (it will be a form)

Questions and/or Comments:

J. Castiglia – How were the four [Winter session] courses being piloted determined?

T. Lekan – We examined what would be most useful to our students and compared to what other system campuses are offering

J. Castiglia – What classes are they?

T. Lekan – Psychology, Sociology, Political Science, and History

C. Heinemann-Priest (in chat) - So Columbia is cutting one Summer Session to 11 days

T. Lekan – They set this based on instruction minutes

E. Nooe (in chat) – On travel: should be still fill out a travel authorization if we do not plan to request reimbursement?

T. Lekan – You should always fill out a TA when traveling on university business regardless of whether you are requesting money. Discussion followed about individual campus policies and rationale behind this policy. USC Lancaster faculty should send travel authorizations when traveling on university business and contact Karin Collins with any questions.

S. Criswell – Re: Shorter summer sessions and Claudia's comment--Any chance we can keep the per class enrolment low for courses like ENGL 101 and 102?

T. Lekan – Whatever we did last summer about capping classes should still be in place.

Academic Success Center – Written Report (Appendix 3)

Human Resources – Written Report (Appendix 4)

Medford Library – Written Report (Appendix 5)

Student-Athlete Success Coordinator – Natalie Calhoun

- Held a successful student athlete orientation and plan offer this every year to help students adjust (particularly student athletes who have traveled from out of state or internationally).
- She sends out emails about student athletes missing classes; the rosters for travel can change from game to game, so she tries to get those out a few days in advance. If students are not included in those emails, the students should be in class (so they would be unexcused absences)
- Held an open forum with USCL Counselor & Instructor of Psychology, Tamika Lewis with 25 student athletes in attendance to share concerns, first reactions to campus, etc. She hopes to move forward with smaller group sessions in the future.
- Working with student athletes on questions/problems that arise during the semester; advising

Questions and/or Comments:

Multiple appreciative comments for her work in this role from various faculty in the chat, including from Tania Wolochwianski and Amy Gerald

Student Success & Retention – Written Report (Appendix 6)

TRiO Programs Report – Written Report (Appendix 7)

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

USC SYSTEM COMMITTEES:

Columbia Faculty Senate – Written Report (Appendix 8).

LOCAL COMMITTEES:

Athletics Advisory Committee – Dr. Nick Lawrence, report submitted (Appendix 9).

- Hired a student worker to be a Social Media Content Creator for USCL Athletics, reporting to AAC Chair. She will be creating content and sharing/boosting content that already exists

Questions and/or Comments: None

Evaluation Committee – Dr. Chris Bundrick, report submitted (Appendix 10).

- Draft of post-tenure review procedures nearly finished and hope to bring motion to the faculty in December
- The Senate is working on multiple charges to standardize procedures across Palmetto Campuses. We want to examine our policies in advance before these charges turn into motions

Questions and/or Comments:

N. Lawrence – Could you elaborate on what you called “overly aggressive stance on standardization” (in your report)?

C. Bundrick – Clarified that his report used that phrase “in case” it happened. He shared examples of multiple charges from recordings of the senate meeting and emphasized the importance of establishing substantive, clear language before discussions break out.

B. Taylor-Driggers offered context for the R&R committee charge, stating that some of these charges are left over from previous year’s business. The Palmetto College manual does note that these processes are handled by each campus. She encouraged faculty to share comments and concerns with her to convey to the committee.

J. Yarosh – Comment that Brittany’s request for feedback to share with R&R also goes for System Affairs, faculty can share feedback, and he is happy to share

N. Lawrence – What is the reasoning behind these questions [about standardization between the PC manual and campus policies]?

B. Taylor-Driggers – These concerns reflect concerns on other campuses because there are some things outlined in local policies but not covered in the PC manual.

Discussion followed about individual campus culture/attitudes towards local policies compared to the PC manual and its appendices.

Faculty Organization Executive Committee – Dr. Dana Lawrence, report submitted (Appendix 11).

- Highlights from her report, including updates on Dean search (hope to see movement next week), Faculty Forum future dates; see the invitation for disability speaker event on (Feb 7 9AM)
- Charge from R&R to review local policies to ensure they don't conflict with the PC manual

Questions and/or Comments: None

Hiring Priorities Committee – Written Report (Appendix 12)

Questions and/or Comments:

S. Penuel – Question about the written report: We are hiring a social sciences position with a position description noting that it was heavily dual-enrollment but not limited to dual enrollment. How is this different from a regular faculty position?

T. Scarlett – We advertised the position as a social sciences instructor with specialties in those areas [Psychology, Sociology, Criminal Justice], but were being upfront that there will be a great deal of Dual Enrollment teaching, even if it is not strictly a Dual Enrollment-limited position

S. Penuel – Since many of our faculty teach a majority Dual Enrollment student body, how is that different?

T. Scarlett – Fundamentally, it is not different, but it was structured based on the high demand specifically for the DE classes

Discussion about the specifics of this position description and limitations of instruction to only dual-enrollment students in the high schools, implications of setting up a two-track system of dual-enrollment versus traditional instruction, disclosure of high demand for instructors of record to teach at the high schools.

C. Jones – Question about Computer Science position focusing on 101 and 102.

T. Scarlett – Demand for higher level classes has gone down due to math placements; we don't want to get to a position where we *can't* teach a higher level, but the demand has gone down to the 101 and 102 level.

Tenure and Promotion Committee – Dr. Nick Lawrence, report submitted (Appendix 13).

Highlights from his report, including:

- Explaining that they wanted documentation for Third Year Review protocol
- Timeline extension for T&P activities due to Hurricane Helene impacts (now Nov. 15). See his report for details

Questions and/or Comments: None

OTHER SYSTEM COMMITTEES:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

SPECIAL ORDERS:

PCC Excellence Awards – Dana Lawrence

Faculty were instructed to vote via Blackboard before 5:00 PM the following Monday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- E. Moon-Kelly – The Lancaster County Council for the Arts and EMK Music will present a concern intitled “We Three Flutes of Lancaster Are” on December 8, 2024, at 3:00 PM at The Historic Springs House
- E. Easley – Research Club will be hosting a meeting on November 14 at 12:15pm in TRiO to discuss Graduation with Leadership Distinction. Lunch will be provided! Please encourage your students to attend.
- S. Criswell – NASC Month Celebration Nov. 7 to Dec. 7 to feature exciting events including music from the low country)
- N. Lawrence – Encourages attendance/watching livestreams of Calhoun’s Corner
- S. Cruise – Thanksgiving Baskets are happening again this year! Monetary or turkey donations are welcome! They request 12-pound turkeys due to oven size limitations. Look for her email soon.
- C. Heinemann-Priest – Dark Christmas on Friday Dec. 13 about Krampus (lunch and learn)

ADJOURNMENT: 2:17 PM by D. Lawrence

ATTENDING:

Sahar Aghasafari, Shemsi Alhaddad, Mark Ammons, Connor Austell, Christopher Bundrick, Li Cai, Natalie Calhoun, Jill Castiglia, Courtney Catledge, Logan Cocklin, Kimberly Covington, Stephen Criswell, Susan Cruise, Annette Duker-Golonka, Elizabeth Easley, Danelle Faulkenberry, Rebecca Freeman, Garane Garane, Amy Gerald, Claudia Heinemann-Priest, Ernest Jenkins, Colby Jones, Christopher Judge, Dana Lawrence, Nicholas Lawrence, Patrick Lawrence, Todd Lekan, McKenzie Lemhouse,

Tamika Lewis, Lynette Martek, Fernanda Marques Burke, Tracey Mobley-Chavous, Angela Neal, F. Evan Nooe, Bettie Obi-Johnson, Allan Pangburn, Phillip Parker, Leigh Pate, Suzanne Penuel, Bridgett Plexico, Kim Richardson, David Roberts, Deborah Rowell, Tyrie Rowell, Todd Scarlett, Asheley Schryer, Peter Seipel, Sarah Sellhorst, Aubrey Stewart, Nahid Swails, Brittany Taylor-Driggers, Tania Wolochwianski, Jerrod Yarosh, Andrew Yingst

ABSENT:

Marybeth Berry, Dwayne Brown, Steven Campbell, Mark Coe, Walter Collins, Ron Cox, Lucius Emanuel, Lisa Hammond, Darris Hassell, Alissa Holland, Jason Holt, Mary Jobe, Howard Kingkade, Vincent Lewis, Michael Sherrill, Suzette Taylor, Richard Vanhall

Faculty Secretary: Document submitted by M. Lemhouse on November 26, 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
November 1, 2024

People

Enrollment

Fall 2024 enrollment froze at an historic high and up in both traditional on-campus students and dual credit students. **As of October 28, we are at 2590 for headcount enrollment (up 15.8% over last Fall semester's enrollment freeze).** Thanks to all who assisted with setting this record. Registration for Spring 2025 is now underway.

Staff search continuing:

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

Faculty searches:

Assistant Professor/Instructor of Statistics

Thanks to all who have stepped forward to serve on these committees.

Athletics

The men's soccer season has concluded. **The men's soccer team ended the season as Region Tournament finalist.**

Congratulations to the women's soccer team members who won their Region Tournament and are Region Champions! They play again today in Florida in the District Tournament. Good luck, Lancers!

Region 10 Soccer Awards: Coach of the Year: Men & Women- Kenny Halas

Men: 1st Team: Jack Frost
Sam Macy
Wesley Mendoza
Sam Harrison

2nd Team: Andre Jackson
Honorable Mention: Ben Richards

Women's: Region 10 Player of the Year: Chloe Jewell
1st Team: Lily Loyet

Chloe Jewell
Julie Estes
McKenzie Bundy
Maddy Pope
Liz Shaw
Malaya Fuller

Volleyball finished the regular season with an overall record of 23-10 and 12-0 in Region 10. The Region 10 Tournament is this Saturday and Sunday (Nov 2-3) at USC Sumter. We play on Saturday at 3pm and if we win, we play in the finals on Sunday at noon. Post season awards will be announced at the Region Tournament.

Campus Finances

The **Dean's Budget Advisory Group** met on October 31st to review campus finances. Buddy Faile will present a **campus budget update on Thursday, November 13 with identical sessions at 12:20 and 2:30**. The presentation will be delivered virtually, and a link will be shared beforehand.

Other items...

- **Join the NASC for the 19th Annual Native American Studies Celebration.** [This link](#) lists all associated activities. The next **Lunch and Learn at the NASC** is scheduled for Nov. 22 at noon with a talk entitled "Native American Musicians: Embracing the Heartbeat of Mother Earth" by Vincent Schilling (Akwesasne Mohawk), Founder and Editor of *Native Viewpoint*, CEO and President of Schilling Media, Inc.
- Many thanks to Mr. Buddy Faile for completing and submitting the USC Lancaster **Equity in Athletics** report to the federal Department of Education.
- **The First-Generation College Celebration** is celebrated annually on November 8 to commemorate the signing of the Higher Education Act of 1965. USCL's annual celebration of this event will take place this year on **Thursday, November 7**. This year's event will include food trucks, music, and sidewalk interviews of faculty, staff, and students concerning the first-gen college experience.
- USC Lancaster **Research and Productive Scholarship Grant applications** are due by 5:00 pm on Thursday, December 5th. Both faculty and staff are eligible to apply. More information will be shared by the committee.
- The annual **Dr. Richard Gannaway Scholarship Luncheon** will be held on Wednesday, November 6 at noon in the Arnold Special Events Room. We are expecting approximately 250 in attendance. We are awarding over \$300,000 in scholarships this year.
- 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.
- The **Stevens Theatre Showcase** will be on December 12 from 4-5:30. This event will highlight the theatre program and newly renovated Stevens Theatre and is open to the campus and community.

- The **scholarship application due date for continuing and transfer students is March 15, 2025**. Please communicate this deadline to continuing students or transfers who wish to apply for USC Lancaster scholarships.
- USC Lancaster's Dr. Pat Lawrence and Dr. Dwayne Brown are currently providing an **ACT/SAT Workshop for LHS students** as part of the Lancaster Promise Neighborhood program. The sessions, are being offered in October and November, is being offered on 4 Saturdays on campus.
- Development Reminders:
 - We will participate in **Give Local** on National Philanthropy Day: Friday, Nov. 15, 2024. Please consider a donation to the Educational Foundation of USC Lancaster during this annual day of giving. More information will be shared via email soon.
 - **Big Thursday of Lancaster** will be hosting their annual event this year on Thursday, Nov. 21. A portion of the funds raised are contributed to the Big Thursday Scholarship at USC Lancaster which supports Lancaster County students attending USC Lancaster.



Todd Lekan, Associate Dean for Academic & Student Affairs

REPORT TO THE FACULTY ORGANIZATION
November 1, 2024

- 1. Open House.** Last Saturday we held a successful open house on campus for prospective students. Thanks to Ms. Aubrey Stewart., the admissions team, USCL students, and faculty for participating in this important recruiting event.
- 2. Last Day to Withdraw.** Wednesday, November 6 is the last day for students to withdraw with a W from the 16-week semester. Before this day, please have conversations with students who are in academic trouble, encouraging them to reach out to their advisors for guidance.
- 3. Winter Session.** We are piloting winter session courses. Winter sessions may help students who need hours for financial aid and scholarships, early graduation, alleviate their course load in the spring, boost their GPA, and more. Note that “winter session” counts as part of the spring term for student course loads. Winter session runs from December 30-January 19. Students are restricted to one of four possible courses. If they wish to register for more than one winter session course, they may seek approval from The Associate Dean by December 19th.
- 4. Summer Terms.** We have had to adjust the class time and date periods to align with Columbia’s schedule and to handle the later start dates. Please see the calendar at the end of this document for examples of these times in three summer sessions. Many thanks to Megan Catoe and Pamela Ellis for working diligently to ensure we comply with USC’s requirements.
- 5. Faculty Travel Requests.** Thank you for submitting your travel requests. The current form asks faculty to prioritize multiple requests and, if possible, to submit requests by November 15. As we get close to November 15, the Division Chairs and I will review the budget for those requests submitted but not yet approved. It has been brought to my attention that in the past—perhaps prior to 2020--travel funds were only awarded for faculty presenting at conferences. Our current policy allows for 80 percent of trip funding for attendance without presentation. The form can be found here:

https://sc.edu/about/system_and_campuses/lancaster/internal/documents/faculty_staff/faculty_travel_form.pdf

Please note that travel forms are only required for overnight travel. If you are

requesting reimbursement for driving expenses during a single day, you need not submit a form. Simply e-mail your supervisor the request and, if approved, send the mileage to Karin Collins for processing. Karin Collins will be providing faculty an overview of travel procedures in an upcoming FO meeting.

Recent Faculty Teaching and Scholarly/Professional Accomplishments.

- **Sahar Aghasafari** published paper (peer-reviewed): Aghasafari, S., & Malloy, M. (2024). Blending Media Arts with Mathematics: Insights and Innovations in STEAM Education. *Journal of Mathematics & Technology*, 18 (3), 198-210. [Link to Paper](#)

Aghasafari, S., & Cai, L. (2024). Presenting ChemArtistry: Integrating Media Arts into the Study of Fundamental Chemistry. *South Carolina Art Education Association*, Greenville, SC.

- **Connor Austell** has successfully secured grants for the Lancaster Performance Series from the South Carolina Arts Commission and from the City of Lancaster for a total of \$16,750 in funding. Connor is spearheading this concert series to facilitate the University's ability to support high-level musical performances in our community. Our inaugural shows will take place this spring, with a major highlight being the USC School of Music's performance of Giacomo Puccini's comic opera *Gianni Schicchi* on March 31 in Bundy Auditorium.
- **Pat Lawrence** authored a review of Halsall. *Children's Literature Association Quarterly*, Vol. 49, No. 1, 2024, pp. 112-15.
- **Evan Nooe** presented a paper on October 18 at the Florida Historical Society 2024 Annual Meeting & Symposium in Orlando titled "Re-Making Florida's Past: History and Tourism at Disney Springs."

On October 26, **Evan** presented a paper at the Western Historical Association annual meeting titled "Semi-Military Colonies and the Perpetual Peril of Settler Memory in the Native South."

Evan's book review of Matthew C. Ward's *Making the Frontier Man: Violence, White Manhood, and Authority in the Early Western Backcountry* was published with [H-War](#).

Upcoming Events

The First-Generation College Celebration is celebrated annually on November 8 to commemorate the signing of the Higher Education Act of 1965. USCL's annual celebration of this event will take place this year on Thursday, November 7. This year's event will include food trucks, music, and sidewalk interviews of faculty, staff, and students concerning the first-gen college experience.

From Erin Moon-Kelly:

**The Lancaster County Council for the Arts and EMK Music Present.....
“We Three Flutes of Lancaster Are”**

December 8, 2024 at 3:00 PM

The Historic Springs House

201 W. Gay St.

Lancaster, SC 29720

Bette Acker, Erin Moon-Kelly, and Sarah Baker join forces to bring their festive sticks of silver (i.e. flutes) to downtown Lancaster. The trio will feature some ethnic carols from Europe, a little bit of Native American inspired "winter spirits," the heavenly sounds of JS Bach's timeless Christmas Oratorio, and the oldies but goodies you know and love! Come enjoy the family friendly music in the beautifully decorated art gallery of the Historic Springs House! Free admission! donations for the Lancaster County Council for the Arts greatly appreciated! For information, please visit www.emk-music.com or <https://www.artslancaster.com/>. See you there!

Charlotte Concert Band

“Christmas through the Looking Glass”

Saturday, December 14, 2024 | 4:00PM

Christ Lutheran Church

4519 Providence Road

Charlotte, NC 28226

Information: [CLICK HERE](#)

Tickets: [CLICK HERE](#)

OVERVIEW

Step through the looking glass and into a magical world of holiday wonder with the Charlotte Concert Band's enchanting performance, "Christmas through the Looking Glass." This special afternoon will transport you to a whimsical winter wonderland, where familiar holiday melodies are reimagined with delightful surprises and imaginative twists. Enjoy a captivating mix of traditional favorites and contemporary pieces, each bringing a unique and enchanting perspective to the holiday season. Our concert promises to delight audiences of all ages, inviting you to see the holidays in a new light—one filled with creativity, joy, and wonder.

Winds of Time Woodwind Quintet

“Sounds of Christmas”

December 22, 2024 3:00-6:00 PM

Glennon Community Center

15083 Molokai Dr. Fort Mill, SC 29745

Information: [CLICK HERE](#)



UNIVERSITY OF
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LANCASTER

A Palmetto College Campus

Todd Lekan, Ph.D.
 Associate Dean for Academic & Student Affairs

CALENDAR & FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE - DRAFT
SUMMER 2025

Time Blocks	Classes Meet Monday thru Thursday (4 days per week) 8:30 – 12:00 noon 12:20 – 3:50 4:10 – 7:40 PM								
	Summer 4A			Summer 4B			Summer 4C		
Class Days	5-12	5-19	5-27	6-02	6-09	6-16	6-23	6-30	7-07
	5-13	5-20	5-28	6-03	6-10	6-17	6-24	7-01	7-08
	5-14	5-21	5-29	6-04	6-11	6-18	6-25	7-02	7-09
	5-15	5-22		6-05	6-12		6-26	7-03	
Final Exams	Friday, May 30			Friday, June 20			Friday, June 11		
Grades Due	Sunday, June 1st by 12:00 PM			Sunday, June 22 by 12:00 PM			Sunday, July 13 by 12:00 PM		

Summer 4A, 4B and 4C:
3.5hrs for 11 days = 2310 minutes (19minute break built in),
2100 minutes are required

Report to the USC Lancaster Faculty Organization

Academic Success Center

Pat Lawrence, Director

Announcements

- The ASC will be open on Tuesday, 11/5 (election day) with modified availability. Please encourage students to look at the scheduler for appointments:
<https://usclacademicsuccesscenter.setmore.com/>

Recent and Upcoming Events Overview

In October, the ASC held three additional review sessions for nursing subjects (BIOL 243 and NURS 216) as part of our Health Sciences Studio service. Peer-tutors Caysen Horton and Kennedy Bumbrey led these sessions as usual, and they were attended by 22 students in total.

Two Medford Library toolkit talks were held in the ASC Studio in October, one about navigating Blackboard facilitated by Prof. McKenzie Lemhouse and one about nutrition facilitated by Dr. Liz Easley. We love to collaborate with other campus entities to provide student-focused programming, so please inquire if you have an event or program that might make sense in the Studio.

The ASC is in the early planning stages for a repotting party during finals week. The more than fifteen live plants in the Studio need new pots, and we would like to invite students to help us repot them and maybe a plant of their own to take home. We think this hands-on experience might help with the stress of finals, as well as helping us ensure our green friends can keep on brightening up the Studio.

Summary of Tutoring Data

Year-to-year trends: At 144 sessions, the ASC was roughly as busy as in September, even with fall break meaning we were open fewer days. However, as the chart below shows, we were exceptionally busy at this time last year. The year-over-year decline appears not to be driven by any specific event, and it is worth noting that we are still up more than 75% over this time in 2022. We will continue to step up promotion on campus to ensure we're using our resources efficiently and growing sustainably.

Session distribution trends: Session distribution again reflects a high number of students in Studio services and steady interest in virtual tutoring. Use of ASC services by athletes (7%) and dual-enrollment students (4%) looks pretty consistent in October compared to September, though we did see a small jump in athlete visits. Course distributions were also typical, with the largest share in STEM, especially both versions of Math 111 and various CHEM courses.

(See charts below for data breakdown.)

Contact Information

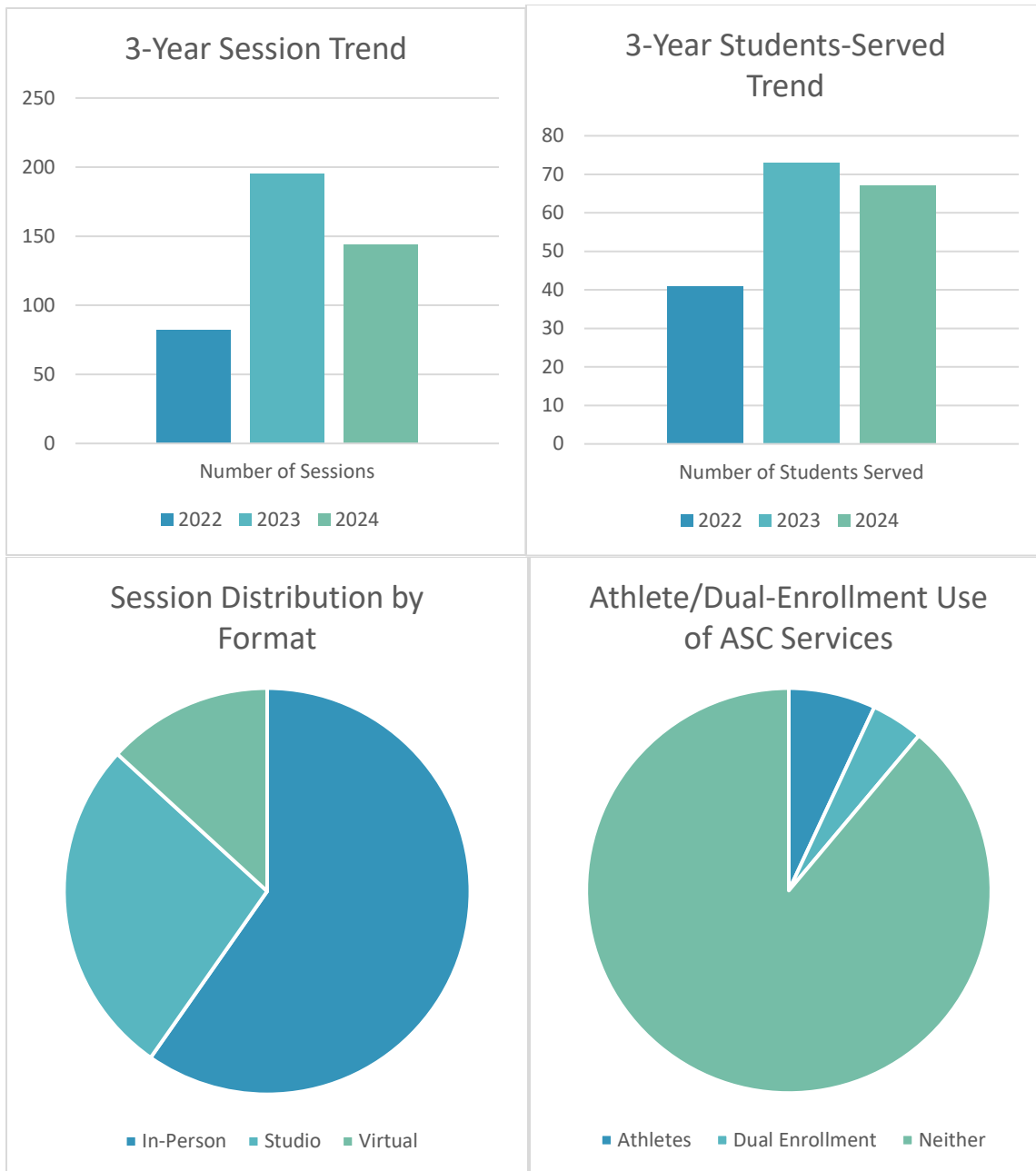
Phone: 803-313-7113

Web: sc.ed/lancaster/asc

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

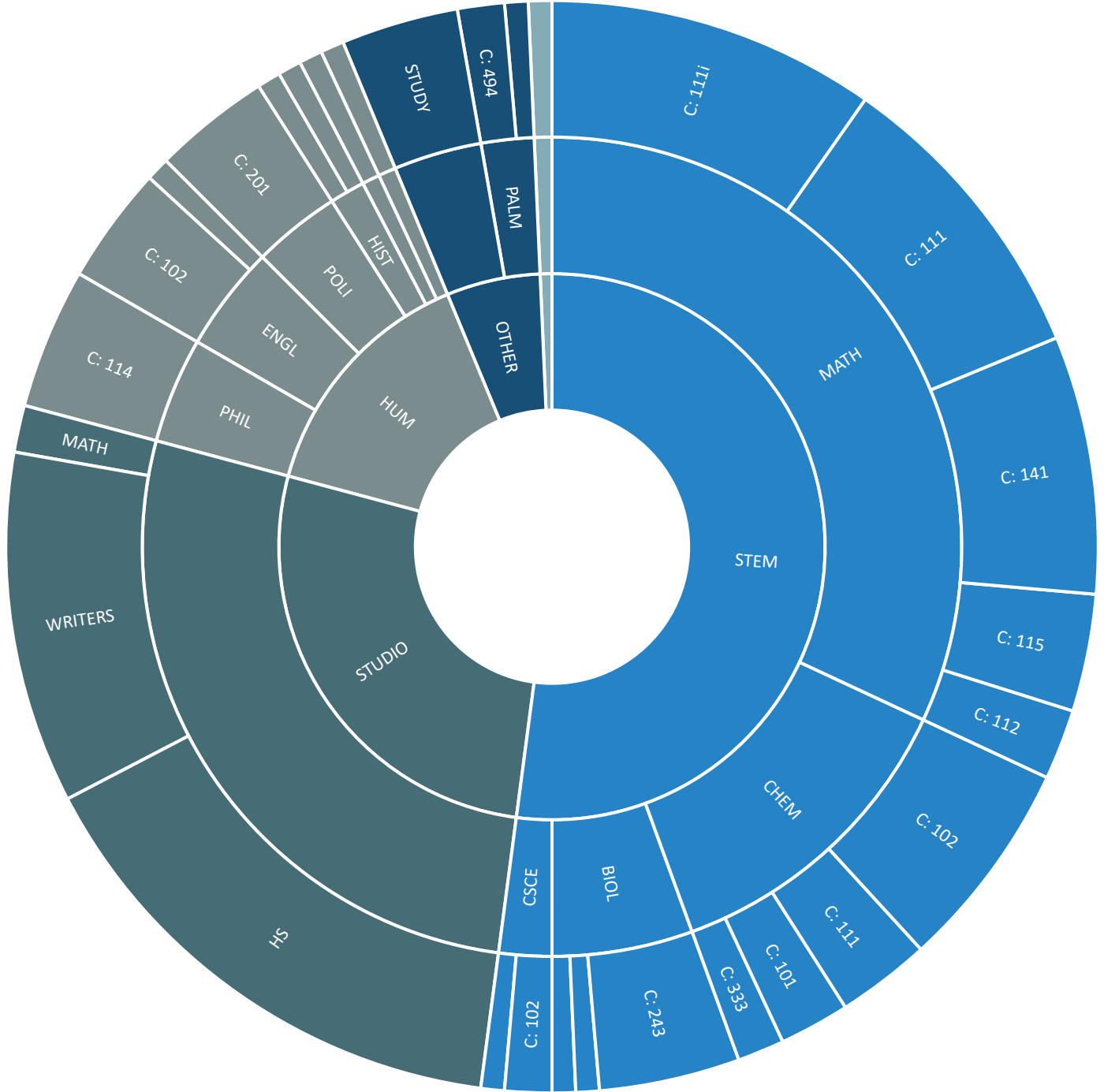
Elaine Connor, Academic Success Coordinator: etconnor@mailbox.sc.edu

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.

Session Distribution by Field and Course



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

MEETING: Faculty Organization Meeting- November 1, 2024

TODAY'S DATE: October 30, 2024

ATTACHMENTS: 4

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1) Donate Annual and Sick Leave

Please consider donating annual and sick leave time to the USC Leave Transfer Pool. The leave pool is used by USC employees who are experiencing personal emergencies and do not have enough leave to cover their absence from work.

Leave must be donated by Monday December 2, 2024. All leave donations are irrevocable.

Leave donation requests are submitted through the Time and Absence system.

<https://hcm.ps.sc.edu>

The Leave Transfer Job Aid is located at this link

https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/payroll/documents/time_labor/request_to_donate_leave_ee_tl_abs_6_12_final.pdf

If you are unable to access the Job Aid through the link, please use the attachment.

2) Employee Assistance Program: Holiday Resources

Our Employee Assistance Program vendor, MyGroup, is offering several resources to help us through the holiday season.

Resources include articles on holiday planning, healthy holiday eating, and holiday safety, tools for stress management and relaxation, and help with finding gifts, party essentials, and making holiday travel plans.

Remember that MyGroup is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. This is a confidential resource for employees and their dependents.

To contact MyGroup call 800-633-3353 or visit the website: www.mygroup.com then choose Current Participants, select Employee Resources, followed by Access Work-Life Services. To log in enter USC as the username and guest as the password.

Please view the attached flyers for more details.

3) Rehire Student Assistants and Temporary Employees

Please submit approved Personnel Request Forms to rehire student assistants and temporary employees for Spring 2025 as soon as possible. Submitting them between now and Thanksgiving break is ideal.

Students

Remember the hourly rate for a student assistant on the Lancaster campus should be \$9.00 unless approval is received for a higher rate. Students may work up to 20 hours per week during the Spring semester. Student employment for Spring semester ends on May 15, 2025.

If a student is graduating in Spring 2025 their last day of employment should be May 3, 2025, if graduating from USC Lancaster or May 10, 2025, if graduating from Palmetto College.

To be eligible for hire students must be pre-registered for at least 6-credit hours for Spring 2025.

Please view the Student Employment Policy for further information.

<http://www.sc.edu/policies/ppm/hr186.pdf>

Temporary Employees

Christmas and Holiday break is only nine (9) calendar days. If a temporary employee intends to take their annual 15-day separation during the break, please be sure that they have a full 15-day calendar break. If you want a temporary employee to return when the campus reopens on January 2, 2025, and have a separation their last working day should be on or before December 17, 2024.

Personnel Request Forms

Personnel Request Forms are located on the USCL Human Resources website under the Forms heading.

https://www.sc.edu/about/system_and_campuses/lancaster/internal/faculty_and_staff/human_resource_sources/index.php

The Supervisor or Department Head, Associate Dean, Business Manager, and the Dean must approve all Personnel Request Forms prior to them being submitted to the Human Resources Department for processing.

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.

Medford Library Faculty Meeting Report

November 1, 2024

SERVICE STATISTICS AND PROGRAMS

- 3628 unique visits
- 1331 LibGuide views
- 176 Study and Lounge Area Reservations
- 11 Conference Room uses
- 14 Computer Lab uses
- 4 Book a Librarian
- 2 Library Instruction Classes

CIRCULATION STATISTICS

- 68 General collection items
- 1 Audio Visual collection items
- 3 Reserve item
- 14 Graphic Novel collection items
- 9 Juvenile collection items
- 3 New Book collection items
- 8 Oversize collection item
- 5 On Display items
- 57 Special Collection items

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

- The Read-a-thon ended. Congratulations to our winner, Elaine Connor!
- In collaboration with the Latin American Student Organization, the library currently has an ofrenda set up for Día de los Muertos.
- The library hosted the Student Life Halloween Costume Contest on October 31.
- Rebecca Freeman, McKenzie Lemhouse, and Asheley Schryer all presented on the recent Celebration of Lancer Excellence at the South Carolina Library Association Conference on October 30.
- Rebecca Freeman presented on cooking in libraries at the South Carolina Library Association Conference on October 29.

- Thank you to Dr. Easley for her Toolkit Talk on October 29 on nutrition.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- The library will be open regular hours on November 5.
- Library hours during Thanksgiving week
 - Monday – Wednesday: 8:00 am to 6:00 pm
- The next Toolkit Talk is on November 12 at 11:00 am. Bridgett Plexico will be presenting on Career Competencies and Resumes.

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 Success and Retention

USCL Faculty Organization Report

November 1, 2024

Academic Advising

- **Schedule Planner:** There was a significant defect in the software so Columbia removed all students and faculty from Schedule Planner. The defect was causing course schedule information to display incorrectly. I do not have a timeline for when it will be resolved. I will keep you updated as I know more.
 - Columbia added the *Plan Ahead Shopping Cart*. It is a way to save certain sections after searching for classes. It does not show different schedule combinations.
 - *Plan Ahead Shopping Cart Overview:* <https://youtu.be/0K8JQVxxa44>
 - *Register for Classes using Plan Ahead Shopping Cart:* <https://youtu.be/4dEzQhbrTUs>
 - Please direct any questions to sschelp@sc.edu.
 - The [course scheduling worksheet](#) may also be helpful.
- **Duo Authentication:** USC will no longer offer the phone call and text message authentication options. Users are encouraged to use DUO mobile app. If a student has not done this at the time of their advisement meeting, you may have them use the bypass code to access their self-service. Detailed instructions may be found here: https://www.sc.edu/about/system_and_campuses/lancaster/internal/documents/information_technology/mfa_handout.pdf
 - Go to [My SC - IAMSC](#).
 - Select *Update Account Settings*. Log in using username and password.
 - Answer security question.
 - Select *Multi-Factor Authentication*.
 - Click *Generate New Code*.
- **Community Education Modules:** Please encourage your advisees to complete their community education modules by December 6th. Here is a link to the modules: <https://uscpalmettocollege-sc.vectorlmsedu.com/>. If they do not have access or have questions, send their names to Amy Hood (ah259@mailbox.sc.edu). She will reach out to assist.
- **Palmetto College:** While the search gets underway for a new Palmetto College representative, please refer students to Terrence Gilmore (TG42@mailbox.sc.edu) and/or Amber Novotny (ANOVOTNY@mailbox.sc.edu).
- **Courses:**
 - AFAM 201: Introduction to African American Studies is T/TH from 9:30am-10:45am. The course has a mix of seminar and lecture. No pre-req. Counts as a GSS. Attached is a flyer with more information.
 - ENGL 285/ENGL 429: Free Speech in American Literature and Culture is T/TH from 9:30am-10:45am. ENGL 101 & 102 pre-reqs. Counts as an AIU. Attached is a flyer with more information.
 - Music has expanded offerings: In addition to MUSC 110 and 140 (both count as AIUs), MUSC 114: Introduction to Music Theory is T/TH from 9:30am-10:45am. Of interest to students who want to learn to read music. No pre-reqs. Counts as an AIU. Attached is an email with more information.
 - Theatre course offerings:
 - THEA 122: Theatre Performance Laboratory (pre-req THEA 120; by audition only),
 - THEA 170: introduction to the Art and Craft of Acting (counts as AIU; no pre-req), and
 - THEA 520: Principles and Practice of Playwriting (no pre-req) are being offered in the spring.
 - Attached are details about each course.
 - Reminder: The lab for CHEM 107 is now separate. Students must register for the course AND the lab.
 - Have a class you want to share? Send it my way!

Winter Session:

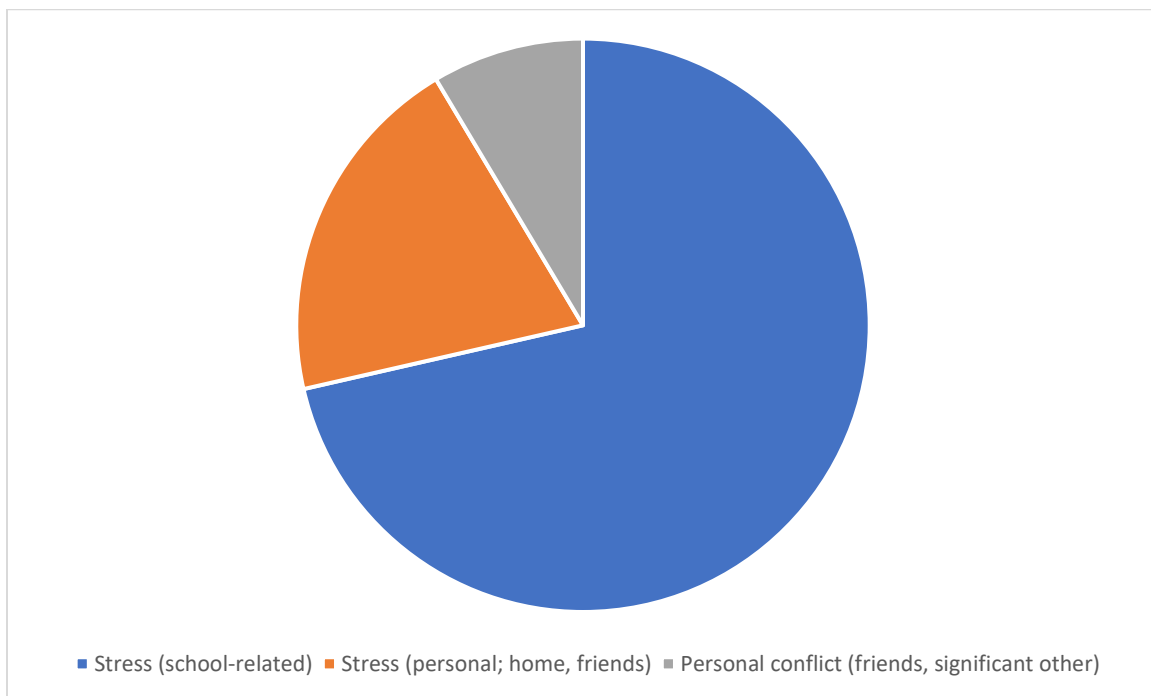
- We are piloting winter session courses. Winter sessions may serve to help students who need hours for financial aid and scholarships, early graduation, alleviate their course load in the spring, boost their GPA, and more.
- Note that “winter session” counts as part of the spring for student course loads. Students’ course schedules/bills/aid etc for the winter classes are applied to their spring course loads.
- Winter session runs from December 30-January 19. We are offering four asynchronous online courses to all USCL students. Students are restricted to one winter term course. If they wish to register for more than one winter term course, they may seek approval from Dr. Lekan by December 19th.
 - POLI 201: with Steven Campbell
 - HIST 111: with Kim Richardson
 - PSYC 101 with Tamika Lewis
 - SOCY 101 with Susan Cruise
- **Carolina Core Additions (SP25, SP24, FA24):**
 - These are the recent [Carolina Core](#) additions. This is an FYI-not all courses listed are offered at USCL.
 - SOST 206: Popular Musics of the U.S. South AIU Spring 2025
 - CYBR 101: Internet and Society in a Connected World GSS/VSR Spring 2024
 - GLST 101: Global Studies: Context, Connection, and Change GSS Spring 2024
 - ISCI 215: Ethics in the Era of Big Data VSR Spring 2024
 - ASLG 121: Elementary American Sign Language GFL Fall 2024
 - ASLG 122: Basic Proficiency in American Sign Language GFL Fall 2024
 - CHEM 106: Chemistry and Modern Society II SCI Fall 2024
 - HTMT 280: Foundations of Tourism GSS Fall 2024
 - SOST 280: The Literary South AIU Fall 2024

Counseling Services

Monthly Status Report (October)

FORMAT	
In-person	24
Tele-health	8
Phone	3
Total	35

TYPE	
Drop-in	4
Scheduled	31
Total	35



- Like the previous months this semester, students sought counseling resources due to stress and anxiousness, primarily due to school-related concerns such as assignments, due dates, etc. Because of increased stress experienced by students and demands for counseling, I have also spoken/counseled students via phone to accommodate the need for sessions.
- To continue to accommodate and address these concerns, the "Let's Address Stress" event will be held on October 29th from 12-1 pm to assist students in managing and reducing stress with mindfulness techniques, breathing and grounding exercises, and time management strategies.
- The first "Life of a Student-Athlete" forum was held on October 22nd to provide student-athletes with a space to share their experiences and provide mental wellness resources to support them. The next scheduled forum will be held for our international students to ensure they have space to share their experiences and address their specific mental wellness needs.

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

Early* Alerts

- The early alert form has been fixed. To submit an alert, please complete [this form](#).
- If you have issues with the form or 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.).
- *Please feel free to submit an early at any point in the semester. It does not have to be "early".

**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

- On Thursday, October 24th we held the first forum for student-athletes with 25 in attendance. Working with Ms. Tamika Lewis, Instructor of Psychology and Counselor, on programs and forums offered to all student-athletes as well as additional sessions for international student-athletes regarding transition and adapting to their environment.
 - The goal is to create breakout groups to meet throughout the year to discuss various topics such as university improvements for student-athletes, time management, stress management, etc.
- Continuing to work with our student-athletes regarding any problems or questions that arise throughout the semester. Assisting faculty and student-athletes throughout the semester, making sure communication is clear and student-athletes are working with their professors regarding any missed classes/assignments.
 - September 27th, October 16th and October 18th meetings were held with each sport regarding spring registration and how to look up advisors through self-service. We have about 20 student-athletes so far registered for the Spring semester.
 - So far, I have worked with around 15 student-athletes this semester regarding the following:
 - ◆ Class issues/concerns
 - ◆ Internal conflicts (teams)
 - ◆ Additional help/tutors for classes
 - ◆ General well-being check-in

Please feel free to contact me with any questions:

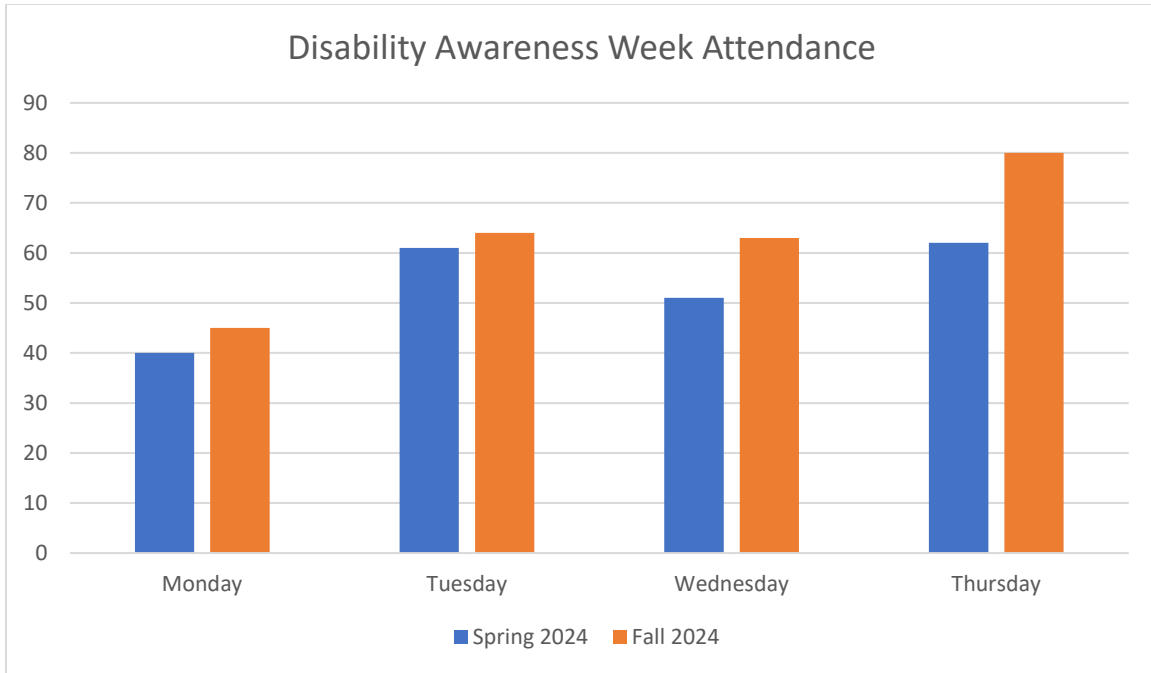
https://sc.edu/about/system_and_campuses/lancaster/faculty_staff/calhoun_natalie.php

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

Student Disability Resource Center

Disability Awareness Week:

Below is a chart comparing attendance for Disability Awareness Week between Spring 2024 semester and Fall 2024 semester. During the Fall 2024 semester more students attended each day compared to the Spring 2024 semester. During the Spring semester a total of **103** unique students attended one or more events. In the Fall semester **124** unique students attended one or more of the week's events.



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

Learn

Tour U.S. History from its colonial roots to the 21st century. Acquire an appreciation of the contributions of African Americans to history. Gain an understanding of present-day social, political, and economic issues.

SPRING 2025

Tuesdays / Thursdays
9:30am – 10:45am

Dr. Allison Jobe
jobem@mailbox.sc.edu

AFAM 201

Introduction to African American Studies

Introduction to the key debates, figures, and concepts that are fundamental to the interdisciplinary study of the historical, political, and social development of black life in America.



Earn

Receive GSS (Social Science) credit.

No pre-requisites required.



"History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be un-lived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again."

Maya Angelou

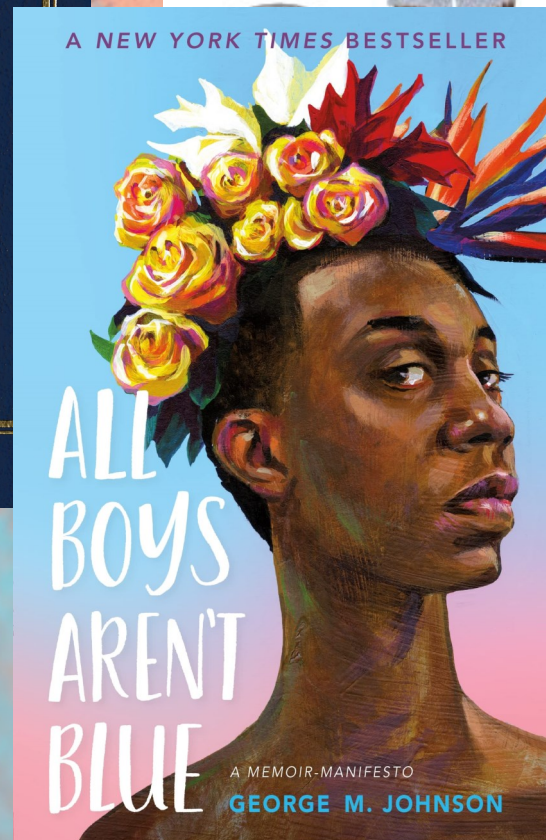
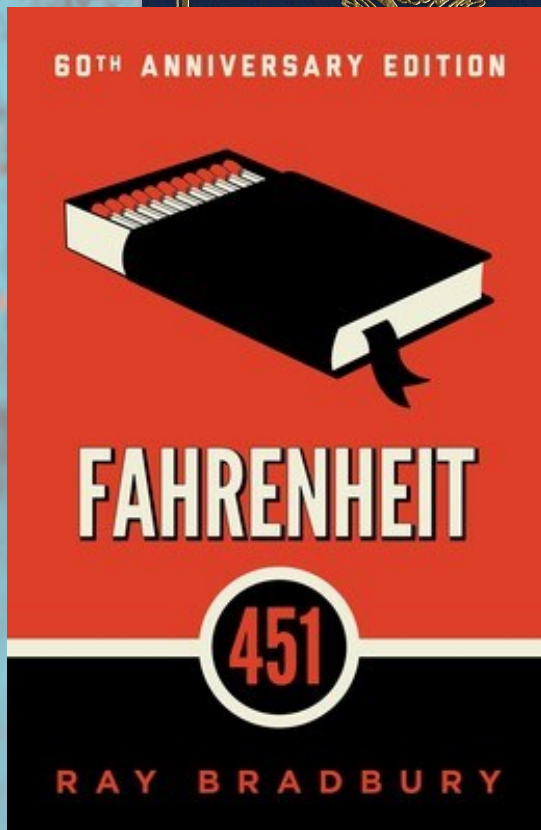
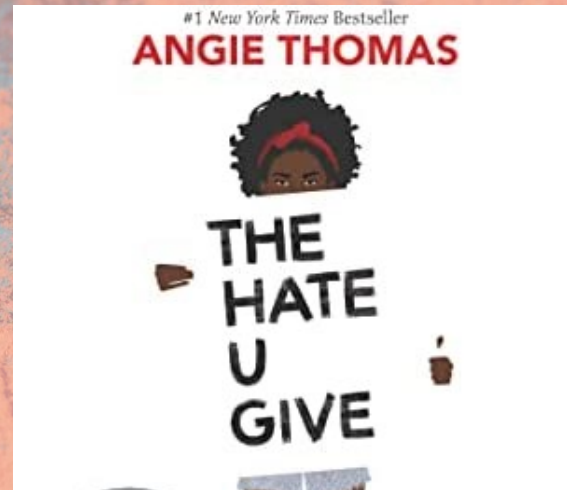
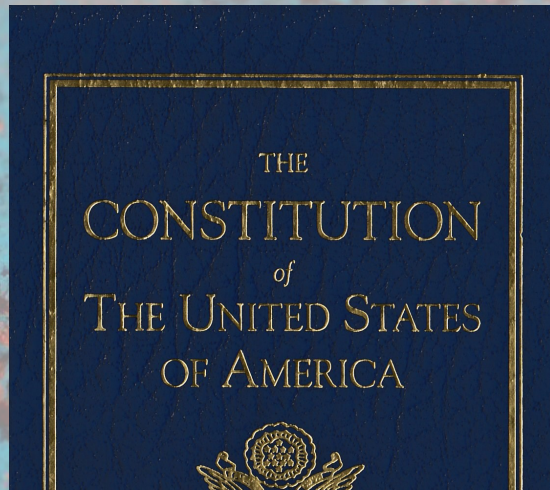


Return

Utilize an interdisciplinary approach to problem-solving. Familiarize yourself with upper-class university course work. Develop practices for academic success.



Free Speech in American Literature and Culture



A class exploring past and present challenges to the American tradition of free speech.

Embrace the controversy.

**ENGL 285 and 429
Spring 2025
Tuesdays and Thursdays
9:30 to 10:45
with Dr. Pat Lawrence**

From: [Austell, Connor](#)
To: [LANCASTER Faculty](#)
Cc: [Schryer, Asheley](#); [Faulkenberry, Danelle](#); [Byrd, Zoe](#)
Subject: Music courses for Spring 2025
Date: Wednesday, October 16, 2024 5:07:18 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-4bhna0k2.png](#)

Hello everyone,

I am writing to remind all of our amazing advisors that we now have some expanded MUSC offerings here at Lancaster. The following courses will be offered in the Spring 2025 semester:

- Intro to Music (MUSC 110)
 - M/W 9:30am-10:45am
 - M/W 11:00am-12:15pm
- Jazz and American Popular Music (MUSC 140)
 - Tues/Thurs 11:00am-12:15pm
- Intro to Music Theory (MUSC 114)
 - Tues/Thurs 9:30am-10:45am

Each one of these courses satisfies Carolina Core requirements! Intro to Music Theory will be of particular interest to any students wishing to learn to read music. All are taught in-person.

I am happy to answer any questions or offer more details about any of these courses upon request. Thank you all for the important work that you do!

Connor

—
Connor Austell, DMA
Assistant Professor of Music
217 Hubbard Hall

caustell@mailbox.sc.edu | <https://connoraustell.com>
University of South Carolina Lancaster



SPRING 2025 THEATRE COURSES

THEA 122

Preparation and procedures of the rehearsal and performance processes for the Mainstage Theatre Production Program. Collaborative teamwork through supervised participation in an acting company. Course content varies according to season production program. By audition only. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: THEA 120. FS: 12/03/2014. CL: 2020.

This is a credit students get for rehearsing and performing in a production; specifically the spring musical Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief. We will be rehearsing T, TH afternoons from 4-7 until the tech week in April where they need to be at the theatre for production preparation from Sunday to Sunday. I often have students add this course after they audition.

THEA 170

Introduction to the art and craft of acting. Practical exploration through improvisation and scripted scene work. Includes a brief history of the development of modern acting techniques. FS: 12/03/2014. CL: 2020

This meets the AIU requirement and works on the actor's craft working on various techniques from Stanislavski to Stasberg to Demidov, Meyerhold, Hagen, Adler, and many others. We do monologues and scene work.

THEA 520

Principles and practice of playwriting. Writing, adapting, and revising plays. May be repeated with consent of department chair.

We will be working on developing writing skills in plot, character development, dialogue, action, and other areas to create one acts.

This is a first 8-week class and is a higher level course but anyone who is interested and motivated is welcome.



Matt Williamson
Director and Principal Investigator
Office of Federal TRiO Programs

REPORT TO THE FACULTY ORGANIZATION

Friday, November 1, 2024

OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Enrollment Update

- At present, we are officially serving 94 out of the 165 students we are required to serve prior to the end of the grant cycle on August 31, 2025. After the October 4 report we added two students to the program which increased enrollment from 96 to 98. However, later in the month, we had four students to leave the program due to academics and / or personal reasons. Please encourage students to consider completing an online OSP application to see if they qualify to be in the program to receive the many benefits from the exceptional services and many resources offered. The TRiO staff work hard to help these, typically First Generation, college students achieve successes on and off campus, as well as have a wonderful college experience while at USCL.

Friends of OSP and Student Athletes

- We are happy to report that the Friends of OSP initiative is doing great and we are looking forward to adding more students among its ranks. Thanks to **Nick Calhoun's** encouragement, a great number of our international student-athletes visit the TRiO LRC with their OSP friends Monday through Friday and we welcome their presence because it has enhanced relationships and will add to their college experience.

Careers in Science Lecture Series

- We were honored to host **Liz Royston**, a Board-Certified behavior analyst and founder of Beyond Behavior in Tega Cay, SC. She spoke on Monday October 7, of her career providing collaborative and effective ABA therapy and behavior analytic approaches.
- We also hosted the CIS Lecture on Monday, October 28, **Dale Donnell**, Quality Laboratory Supervisor with the E. & J. Gallo Winery of Fort Lawn, SC. Dale provided a brief history of the company and talked on the processes the employees perform to produce dozens of wine brands. He also talked on his educational journey and job experiences that helped prepare him for his current position. Three of his colleagues, Brianna Birch (Microbiologist 2), Ellie Gagnon (Laboratory Technician 3), and Nathan Margavich (Quality & Food Safety Manager) all spoke on their educational



journeys, and described their jobs, as well as encouraged the students to hold on to their dreams and goals because one day the hard work will pay off and the career they desired will be waiting for them.

Disability Awareness Week (DAW)

- We were so happy to host DAW and we thank Amy Hood and Dr. Bettie Johnson for their efforts to have some great presenters, as well as provided prizes, Monday thru Thursday. Also, we thank Jeff Ramage, Student Life, for providing lunch each day.
- Monday we had **Drs. Anne Kinsman and Steven Ma**, of South Carolina Leadership in Neurodevelopment and Related Disabilities (SC LEAD). Tuesday, **Rayni Collins**, founder of E-MOTIVE Counseling. Wednesday, **Dr. Connor Austell**, USCL Assistant Professor of Music. Thursday, **Grethen Benner**, Executive Director of Piedmont Music Therapy (PMT).
- All presentations were held in the TRiO Learning Resource Center at 12:15 p.m.

Upcoming Activities and Events

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
11/06	Dr. Richard M. Gannaway Annual Scholarship Luncheon	12:00 Noon	Arnold Special Events Room
11/07	First-Generation College Celebration	11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Founders Hall Parking Lot / TRiO Entrance
11/12	Careers in Business Seminar Series	12:15 p.m.	Bradley 121
11/13	Donation Dropoff Day for the USCL Cares Winter Clothing Drive for Western North Carolina. USCL Rotaract Club is teaming up with D.E.F.I.N.E., G.E.N.T.S., and Student Life to make this event a reality. Please come out and support a great cause!	Time TBD	Founders Hall Parking Lot / TRiO Entrance
11/14	CIEL Fellows Presentation on Graduation with Leadership Distinction with the USCL Research Club	12:20 p.m.	TRiO LRC
11/19	Careers in Science Lecture Series	12:20 p.m.	TRiO LRC
11/20	Careers in Business Seminar Series	12:15 p.m.	Bradley 121
11/21	SGA Discussion with the Deans	12:15 p.m.	TRiO LRC
12/02	Careers in Science Lecture Series	12:20 p.m.	TRiO LRC

UPWARD BOUND

Upcoming Activities and Events

- 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

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.

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**.





LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

- Congress returns from their congressional recess on November 12. One of the first orders of business 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 truly 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.

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA FACULTY SENATE

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

This session was held in person at the Russell House Theatre

PRESIDING CHAIR WAYNE OUTTEN

Chair Wayne Outten called the meeting to order at 3:00pm EST.

Report from the President

Following the Call to Order and approval of September 11 minutes, Dr. Amiridis discussed the Master plan for the USC Campus. 9 main projects totaling at least \$25-\$30 million were approved:

1. New medical school – to be completed by Summer of 2027
2. Brain Health Center – to be completed by Summer of 2026
3. Updated classrooms and labs – to be completed by Fall of 2025
4. Renovation of Thomas Cooper Library to create more open spaces for students and remove some books – there has been an 85% decrease in the number of students requesting books in the past 10 years.
5. Renovation of Jones Physical Science building
6. Removal of McBride dormitory to build new dormitory
7. Renovation of Russell House to move bookstore and create more kitchens in Dining area
8. Renovation of Barnwell and McKissick to revitalize center of University

There is also a plan to hire at least 50 new faculty members. The President addressed the on-campus event sponsored by Uncensored America on September 18, 2024 at the Russell House. The Student Senate agreed to fund the event, which featured Milo Yiannopoulos and Gavin McInnes. Uncensored America has filed a lawsuit against the University of South Carolina, but no specific individuals were named in the lawsuit. Dr. Amiridis stated he was unable to comment further about the incident or lawsuit.

Report from the Provost

Dr. Arnett emphasized the need for understanding and compassion in the wake of Hurricane Helene, as campuses and students were affected by the storm. She reported that the U.S. News Rankings Task Force had ranked USC #1 in International Business and New Student Experiences. #4 in Living and Learning Communities, and #61 overall. She stated the priority of the Provost's Office is a 94% retention rate for students. The current rate is 92%. She discussed nominations for faculty awards, which are due by November 11, and upcoming professional development opportunities and stressed the need to prevent burnout. She also mentioned a new evaluation program that will be integrated into Ultra.

Report from Director of Parking Services

Brian Faveta introduced himself and gave a presentation from Parking Services. The PDF of the presentation is on the Faculty Senate website. He discussed ways he intends to improve communication from Parking to the campus, including a bi-weekly newsletter, social media, and direct emails. He is also working to improve training for ParaTransit to shorten waiting time to less than ten minutes. There are plans to create a Smart Parking Campus containing a parking guidance system to integrate into the

ParkUSC app and provide red and green visual notifications of parking spaces. The goal is to integrate the app where drivers will know where the available parking spots are on campus.

Update from Student Government on Mental Health Absence Pilot Study

Dalton Byers from Student Government gave the update on the study, which allows excused absences for student mental health. Byers stated that Professors still have a right to deny excusing these absences, but students are hurting and need leniency. Byers stated that this policy would show the students that faculty members care about their mental health. He stated that students did not feel the campus cared and was passionate about their mental health. He stated that he was concerned about labs and other accreditation programs, but there was a goal to be proactive and provide resources. He referenced the UNC model to address concerns.

Reports of Faculty Standing Committees

- **Committee on Courses and Curricula** report was accepted. This report contains course changes and inactivations to go into effect Fall 2025 and new courses and changes to course modality which go into effect Spring of 2025. Program changes effective Fall 2025 were also presented. In total, there were 7 proposals from the College of Arts and Sciences and 1 from the Molinaroli College of Engineering and Computing. A complete listing of the proposals is available on the Faculty Senate website.

Report of the Chair

The chair reported that changes to the faculty are forthcoming and will be presented at a future meeting for discussion.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

Good of the Order

The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be Wednesday, November 6, 2024 at 3 pm in the Russell House Theatre.

Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah M. Rowell

Instructor of Criminal Justice

October 29, 2024

Athletics Advisory Committee Report to Faculty

November 1, 2024

Submitted by Nicholas Lawrence, Committee Chair

As of Monday, Oct. 28: Varinia Delgado, who plays for the Women's Soccer Team, has now officially been hired as a student worker to be a Social Media Content Creator for USCL Athletics. She will be reporting to the AAC Chair weekly to game out ideas for promoting, celebrating, and reporting on our athletics programs on social media, especially Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. We already have some robust social media pages devoted to athletics at USCL, and the student worker will by no means be replacing any of that. Her role is more to add content, and when possible, to signal boost content that already exists.

Evaluation Committee Report
11-1 Faculty Organization Meeting

The Evaluation Committee is finalizing the motion to clarify post-tenure review procedures. There was a last-minute question about some details in the wording, but I hope very much to bring a motion to the faculty in December

These sorts of things are important, in part, because the senate is currently working on several charges that involve standardizing procedures across all the Palmetto Campuses--Instructor Promotion and Post-Tenure are two of the things they're looking at, and having a clearly defined sense of what this FO wants is an important part of being prepared to defend our approach to local procedures on the chance that senate chooses an overly aggressive stance on standardization.

**FO Executive Committee Report
November 1, 2024 FO Meeting
Dana Lawrence**

USCL Dean Search

- USCL faculty will be represented on the search committee by the FO Chair, along with one representative from each Division;
 - Humanities: Chris Bundrick
 - BBCEL: Angela Neal
 - MSNPH: Liz Easley
- I sent those names to Chancellor Elkins on Wednesday, October 30, and my understanding is that the committee should convene soon.
- Based on a memo shared by Chancellor Elkins, the committee includes the following people:
 - **Chair:** Dr. Michael Sonntag—Previous Dean, USC Sumter
 - Mr. Bruce Brumfield—Chair, Lancaster County Commission Higher Education
 - Dr. Chris Bundrick—Professor of English
 - Mr. Kenneth Cole—Director of Financial Aid
 - Dr. Elizabeth Easley—Professor of Exercise Science
 - Mr. Tim Hallman—Community Member
 - Ms. Melodee Jones—SGA President
 - Dr. Dana Lawrence—USCL Faculty Organization Chair
 - Ms. Charlene McGriff—President, USC Lancaster Foundation
 - Ms. Michelle Mellichamp—Executive Assistant to the Dean
 - Dr. Angela Neal—Professor of Psychology
 - Mr. Matt Williamson—Director of TRIO Program

Future Faculty Forum Presentations:

- **December 6 (in-person: Founders 104):** Evan Nooe, “Indian Removal and Settler Memory: Monuments and the Legacy of Indigenous Dispossession”
- **February 7 (in-person: Founders 104):** Pat Lawrence, “The ‘Peculiar Moral Fitness’ of Colonization and Removal in the Era of the Second Great Awakening”
- **March 7 (Virtual: Teams):** Rebecca Freeman, “Cooking in Libraries”
- **April 4 (in-person: Founders 104):** Liz Easley and Sarah Sellhorst, “Leveling the Playing Field: Outcomes from the NJCAA Female Athlete Study”

Charge from R&R

As noted during the October FO meeting, one of R&R’s charges this year is to appoint an ad-hoc committee to review local policies to make sure they don’t conflict with the PCC Faculty Manual. The Executive Committee (me, Li Cai, and McKenzie Lemhouse) have worked with Brittany Taylor-Driggers (USCL Senator on R&R) to complete this review. We identified a few documents that need revisions, and we plan to present those revisions as a motion at the December meeting.

Hiring Priorities Committee 2024-25 Fall Preliminary Report

October 30, 2024

Committee Members:

Todd Scarlett (Chair)

Sahar Aghasafari

Rebecca Freeman

Tracey Mobley-Chavous

Phillip Parker

Sarah Sellhorst

Jerrod Yarosh

Potential Hires

Statistics – Sue Mazzulo has taken a new position elsewhere. A search for an instructor or tenure track position has begun. The committee supports this hire.

Computer Science – This has been a position of concern for several years. CSCE 101 and 102 courses taught by Drs. Bohonak and Currence have very high enrollments. Also, Dr. Bohonak has taught courses needed by computer science and engineering students for a long time, though the need for these courses is declining because students are not placing well in math and leave the campus before they have the math prerequisites to take the computer classes they need.

Given the high enrollment in 101 and 102, we need someone to teach these courses as Drs. Bohonak and Currence are close to retirement. Several searches have been conducted, but we've not been able to hire anyone, largely due to the discrepancy between the salary we are able to offer and the salary a PhD or even an MS can earn elsewhere. The last search we conducted for this position was in 2019. The committee recommends that we conduct another search for a computer scientist at the tenure-track or instructor rank. Regarding a possible instructor hire, we suggest that contact be made with the computer science department in Columbia to see if they would approve an MS with 18 grad hours in computer science since these approvals can change as department chairs turn over.

Nursing – Dean Catledge is developing a cooperative relationship with MUSC to bring nurses who need continuing education credits and nursing and medical residents who need simulation training to USCL to more fully utilize Nursing Simulation Lab. As this program develops, we will need a full-time Simulation Lab Facilitator. Dean Catledge expects this to be a staff position and believes we will need this position filled by August 2025.

PSYC 101 and SOCY 101 – PSYC 101 and SOCY 101 are in high demand for dual enrollment students. Dr. Neal (Division Chair) suggests we need a full-time dual enrollment instructor that could cover two of the following subjects: CRJU, PSYC and SOCY. Dean Lekan agrees with the proposal. Though it won't be advertised as a DE position teaching only HS students, applicants will be informed that much, if not all, of their load will be DE.

Local Tenure and Promotion Committee Report to Faculty

November 1, 2024

Committee Membership: Steven Campbell, Elizabeth Easley, Rebecca Freeman, Nicholas Lawrence, Peter Seipel, Sarah Sellhorst.

With November now upon us, we have a point of information to share regarding third-year review protocol. We also have an important development to report to faculty with respect to files for third-year review, post-tenure review, tenure and promotion, and promotion to full professor.

1. Third Year Review Protocol: The process for these files is set in motion by Jean Carrano, who receives candidates' files as well as summary of teaching evaluation letters for those candidates, and then places them in a portal for T&P committee members to access. After committee members access a file, they discuss it and write narratives about it. Once this is completed, the T&P Chair collates those narratives and into one document and then emails it to the candidate, copying Todd Lekan on the email as well. Because we are unsure if this process has ever been explicitly reported to the faculty, we thought it would be good to have written down somewhere (in the form of this report), and perhaps especially helpful to future T&P committee members and chairs.

2. Timeline Extension for Candidates' files, summary of teaching evaluation writers, and voters: On the afternoon on Friday, Oct. 4, in the wake of Hurricane Helene, all candidates and T&P committee chairs received the following note from Jean Carrano:

3rd Year Review and Tenure & Promotion Candidates,

In collaboration with the Palmetto College administration and Faculty Senate leadership, and in light of the impact of Hurricane Helene, we have decided to offer a two-week extension for your file submission, with a new deadline of November 15th.

Carrano later confirmed for me that this extension applies to summary of teaching evaluation writers as well. This also means that local T&P committees now have until **December 15** to finalize their ballots for Tenure and Promotion to Full Files. I presume that administrators and system level voters will similarly get two-week extensions, but I am unsure about this. Our local T&P committee included Post-Tenure Review Candidates as beneficiaries of this extension as well.