

Chancellor's Corner



Dr. Susan A. Elkins, Chancellor
USC Palmetto College

As we celebrate the conclusion of a very successful academic year, I would like to thank the entire USC Palmetto College community for the many contributions toward our successes!

We have made much progress in achieving the goals outlined in our Palmetto College Blueprint for Academic Excellence. Palmetto College enrolled 5201 students in Fall 2015, comprised of 4,301 Palmetto College students enrolled on the campuses, 149 students in system 2+2 programs on Palmetto College Campuses and 751 students enrolled in the online Palmetto College bachelor's degree completion programs.

The good news continues; this spring will see the graduation of our 500th online student, with 520 (cumulative) graduates anticipated at the conclusion of spring commencement. And, our online degree completion program offerings are doubling from our seven initial programs to 14.

The Fall 2016 semester marks the official launch of Information Management

Chancellor's Corner, continued page 6

Duffy and Plyler Award recipients announced

At this spring's Faculty Senate meeting at USC Lancaster, the 2016 recipients of the John J. Duffy Excellence in Teaching Award and the Chris Plyler Excellence in Service Award were announced.

The Duffy teaching award is presented annually to a faculty member who exemplifies excellence in and out of the classroom.

The 2016 **Dr. John J. Duffy Excellence in Teaching Award** was presented to **Dr. Kajal Ghoshroy**, associate professor of biology at USC Sumter. She currently serves as the chairwoman of the Systems Affairs Committee on the Palmetto College Campuses Faculty Senate (2014-2017), and has worked at USC Sumter since 2007. She also served as curator of natural history at McKissick Museum from 2010 to 2015.

Ghoshroy received an M.S. in Biology from Illinois State



Inaugural **Dr. Chris Plyler Excellence in Service Award** recipient **Dr. Sarah Miller**, associate professor of history at USC Salkehatchie; **Dr. Chris Nesmith**, associate provost and dean of Extended University; and 2016 **Dr. John J. Duffy Excellence in Teaching Award** recipient **Dr. Kajal Ghoshroy**, associate professor of biology at USC Sumter.

University, an M.S. in Botany from the University of Calcutta and earned a Ph.D. in Plant Biology from the University

of New Hampshire. She is a member of the Microscopy Society of America and the

Awards, continued page 6

Inaugural Chancellor's Innovation Grants awarded

The USC Palmetto College **Chancellor's Innovation Grants** initiative has been established to promote and foster innovative ideas to support associate and baccalaureate programs offered through Palmetto College.

The grant initiative represents Palmetto College's investments in facilitating and promoting its top two goals in the Palmetto College Blueprint for Academic Excellence – 1) increasing enrollment and 2) improving student success.

Three external reviewers scored the grant proposal submissions based on the following criteria – project description, research, timeline, budget, sustainability, assessment, qualifications and level of innovation.

The external reviewers selected 13 recipients for the inaugural Chancellor's Innovation Grant awards, including:

- **Virtual Student Services.** Campus: USC Beaufort. Principal Investigators: Tara Dakolios, Dr. Randy Lamkin, Lori Vargo, Kate Torborg Vermilyea.
- **Palmetto College Recruiting Office at Central Carolina Technical College.** Campus: USC Sumter. Principal Investigator: Dean Michael Sonntag.
- **Making a Difference: A Proactive Student-Centered Approach to Retention.** Campus: USC Salkehatchie and USC Columbia Student Success Center. Principal Investigators: Dr. Bryan Love, Dean Ann Carmichael, Dr. Eric Moschella.
- **Digital Advertising Campaign: Reach Students.** Campus: USC Sumter. Principal

Innovation Grants, continued page 7

Spotlight on Teaching

Q&A Hudson discusses “flipped learning,” innovative teaching and the USC Center for Teaching Excellence

Dr. Janet G. Hudson is faculty associate director for innovative teaching at the USC Center for Teaching Excellence and an associate professor of history at Extended University. She was also the 2014-15 recipient of the Stephen L. Dalton Distinguished Teaching Award.

In your role as faculty associate director for innovative teaching for the Center for Teaching Excellence at USC, your special emphasis is in “flipped learning.” What is flipped learning?

Flipped learning can be described as active learning in the classroom while students prepare for that active learning outside the classroom. Flipped learning is often associated with providing content to students, particularly in the form of a lecture via technology, before coming to class. Then class time is spent practicing and applying the information provided in the lecture.

Most importantly, flipped learning focuses on students’ active, rather than passive, involvement in their own learning. Thus, it becomes important that valuable face-to-face time with an expert (i.e., faculty) not be spent on primarily delivering content to students who may or may not be paying any attention.

Can you talk a little about your role and responsibilities at the Center for Teaching Excellence?

Certainly. I lead workshops to help faculty and graduate students interested in active and flipped learning. I work with faculty members who have received a grant to employ flipped learning in one or more of their courses. Currently, the Provost Office has supported three cohorts of flipped grants representing a revision of 19 courses in seven colleges.

I also provide consulting for faculty members on the Columbia and Palmetto College Campuses who are interested in active or flipped learning.

I’m leading a faculty seminar on the science of learning. I’ve provided the leadership for creating and administering the new Garnet Apple Award for Innovative Teaching.

I’ve presented at local, state and national conferences on teaching and learning. I developed a team that was invited to participate in the 2016 Summit to Transform STEM Teaching in Higher Education at Boise State in Idaho. In June, I’ll present at The Teaching Professor Conference in Washington, D.C.

How has flipped learning transformed your teaching practices and experiences?

I no longer spend class time lecturing. I love working directly with students every class period. I’m always trying something new and learning more and more how to help students learn history.

What has been the greatest obstacle in flipping your courses, and how have you worked with and through the challenges?

Students and faculty (i.e., human beings) resist change because it’s uncomfortable and requires taking risk, and developing new habits and ways of thinking. Change is often energizing and renewing but it is also scary. Support is essential.

As a historian, can you share one concrete activity or exercise that you have used in a flipped history course?

I have all of my very short lectures, documents, readings, etc. online. The class time is devoted to practicing historical thinking.

For example, I provide small groups with all the relevant (and some not relevant) events, people and ideas to support a particular historical argument. These are on separate 3” x 5” cards. The students must sort the cards in order of causes and consequences and themes, and remove those not relevant. This helps them struggle with many different components of historical thinking. I move from group to group observing, asking questions and challenging some of their misconceptions.



Dr. Janet G. Hudson

Faculty Associate Director
Center for Teaching Excellence
Associate Professor of History
Extended University

What resources would you recommend to any faculty who might be interested in learning more about flipped learning?

The CTE is filled with them. Come participate in the FLIP community of practice. I have an extensive annotated bibliography I share. *The Chronicle of Higher Education* has published many great articles. Anything by Robert Talbert, Maryellen Weimer and James Lang is fabulous. You’ll change your teaching forever if you read *Make It Stick: The Science of Successful Learning!*

About USC Palmetto College Connections

Newsletter Committee

Jean Carrano, Jay Darby, Melody Lehn, Summer Yarborough

This Issue’s Contributors

Jean Carrano, Susan Elkins, Simone Gause, Melody Lehn, Summer Yarborough

Please submit all items for the Fall 2016 issue by Friday, Nov. 11, 2016.

The **USC Palmetto College Connections** newsletter is published biannually, at the conclusion of the spring and fall semesters.

If you have an interesting story to share with the USC Palmetto College community, please share the news with the communications contact for your respective area:

USC Lancaster

Shana Dry – drysf @ mailbox.sc.edu

USC Salkehatchie

Jane Brewer – jtbrewer @ mailbox.sc.edu

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USC Union

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Online/Ft Jackson/Extended University

Jay Darby – jdarby @ sc.edu

Spotlight on Scholarship

Found Anew: Jones and McManus breathe new life into old images in new book of poetry and prose

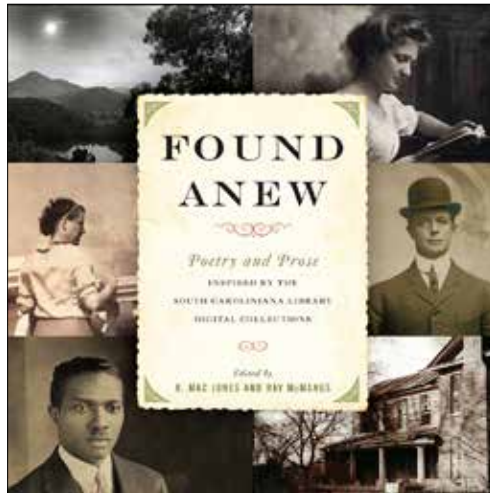
Collaboration is at the very essence of USC Palmetto College, and **R. Mac Jones**, an assistant professor of English in Extended University, and **Ray McManus**, an associate professor of English at USC Sumter, have collaborated to edit a new book that breathes new life into archival photos at the South Caroliniana Library.

Jones and McManus are editors of *Found Anew: Poetry and Prose Inspired by the South Caroliniana Library Digital Collections* – a new anthology that features poetry and prose from writers with strong ties to the Palmetto State.

The pair – along with 30 additional contributors from South Carolina, including National Book Award-winning poets Terrance Hayes and Nikki Finney; their fellow South Carolina Academy of Authors honorees Gilbert Allen, John Lane, Bret Lott, George Singleton and Marjory Wentworth; and Lillian Smith Award-winner Pam Durban – craft poetry and prose to accompany archival images from the South Caroliniana Library’s digital collections.

While the digital collections are a much-valued resource for researchers and educators, *Found Anew* encourages a wider use as a source of inspiration for writers and artists inventing narratives set in and about South Carolina.

In coupling the poems and short stories with the images that inspired them, the anthology shows writers “gauging unlikely depths in curious photographs that other eyes might pass over without a second glance, conjuring perfect words for the emotion evoked by a particular image, and rendering and reimagining the visual in seemingly disparate but ultimately linked narratives.”



R. Mac Jones is a former editor of *Yemassee*. Jones, writing as Raster Jones, is the author of poetry appearing in the *James Dickey Review*, *Town Creek Poetry* and other publications.

Ray McManus is the author of four books of poetry: *Punch*, *Red Dirt Jesus*, *Left Behind* and *Driving through the Country before You Are Born* (winner of the South Carolina Poetry Book Award). His poetry and prose have appeared in the *Los Angeles Review*, *Arkansas Review*, *Texas Poetry Review*, *Hard Lines: An Anthology of Rough South Poetry*, *State of the Heart: South Carolina Writers on the Places They Love, Volume 2* and other journals and anthologies.

Found Anew is the first co-publication of Nikki Finney’s Palmetto Poetry Series and the late Pat Conroy’s Story River Books, both published by USC Press.

Found Anew: Poetry and Prose Inspired by the South Caroliniana Library Digital Collections. Edited by R. Mac Jones and Ray McManus. Published Nov. 3, 2015. University of South Carolina Press.

2016 USC Palmetto College RISE grant recipients announced

The Research Initiative for Summer Engagement (RISE) grant is a competitive funding program that provides financial support for faculty working at USC’s system campuses and online bachelor’s degree completion programs to conduct research and scholarly activities during the summer months.

Several USC Palmetto College proposals representing Palmetto College campuses and the online programs were funded for Summer 2016.

USC Lancaster

Marybeth Berry

Bea & Me: A Solo Performance

Susan Cruise

Factors of Risk Status and Persistence of Undergraduate Students at the University of South Carolina Palmetto College Campuses

Christopher Judge

Share a Little of that Human Touch: Researching and Developing Narrative Themes and Writing Text for a Multi-Sensory Museum Exhibit on the Prehistory of South Carolina

USC Salkehatchie

Li Cai

Enzymatic and Microbial Synthesis of Rare Sugars

USC Sumter

Kajal Ghoshroy

Titanium Dioxide Nanoparticle Encapsulation and Cytotoxic Effects on Crop Plant Species

USC Palmetto College Online

Janet Hudson

Visualizing African American Soldiers World War I Experiences: North Carolinians Exemplify the Nation

2015-2016 USC Palmetto College Online Course Development Grant Recipients

- Majdouline Aziz, USC Union – SOCY 311
- Stephen Criswell, USC Lancaster – ANTH 352
- Elizabeth Easley, USC Lancaster – HPEB 502
- Jolie Fontenot, USC Union – MGMT 376
- Jean-Luc Grosso, USC Sumter – ECON 415
- Shelley Jones, Extended University – PALM 495
- Damien Picariello, USC Sumter – POLI 201
- Kim Richardson, USC Lancaster – HIST 423

Spotlight on Commencement

2016 Commencement speakers announced for Palmetto College Campuses

Speakers include USC Lancaster alumnus, USC Sumter alumna, USC Columbia alumni

Commencement season begins at USC Palmetto College Campuses on Friday, April 29, and a roster of commencement speakers representing civil service, the financial industry, political service and healthcare administration will bring words of encouragement and inspiration to the Class of 2016.

This year's commencement speakers also include alumni of USC Lancaster, USC Sumter and USC Columbia.

USC Salkehatchie will hold its annual commencement exercises on **Friday, April 29, at 12 p.m.** The commencement speaker will be **Vernita Dore**, Deputy Under Secretary of Rural Development, at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Secretary Dore's responsibilities include overseeing Operations and Management, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, Office of Civil Rights and State Directors. Dore joined the Administration in August 2009 as the South Carolina State Director for Rural Development and previously served as senior advisor to the Under Secretary and as acting Deputy Under Secretary.

A native of Beaufort, S.C., Dore earned a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from USC Columbia. She has received additional professional development from Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government, the Federal Executive Institute, the USDA Graduate School, the Diversity Leadership Institute at Furman University and USC's Darla Moore School of Business.

USC Lancaster will hold its annual commencement exercises on **Saturday, April 30, at 2:30 p.m.** The commencement speaker will be **Nathaniel A. "Nate" Barber**, senior vice president at South State Bank,

headquartered in Columbia, S.C. He serves as director of community development where he coordinates the bank's activities in meeting its Community Reinvestment Act objectives.

the Small Business Development Center at Winthrop University, where he also served as assistant professor of business administration. During his time at Winthrop, he was selected

to be the exchange professor to Shanghai International Studies University, in China. His connection with China continued as he served as an adjunct professor at Nantong University from 2009-2012. He has also served as adjunct professor in the Department of Finance at USC Columbia.

He is active in a variety of organizations. Currently, he serves as chairman of the board of directors for the South Carolina Association for Community Economic Development, the Richland County Library and Columbia Housing Development Corporation. He also serves on the board of the ETV Endowment.

USC Union will hold its commencement exercises on **Saturday, April 30, at 6 p.m.** The commencement speaker will be **John Michael "Mick" Mulvaney**, United States Congressman for South Carolina's Fifth District.

A lifelong Carolinas resident, Mulvaney attended Georgetown University where he graduated with honors in International Economics, Commerce and Finance. After college, Mulvaney attended law school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He completed his formal education at Harvard Business School's Owner/President Management Program in 2006.

Mulvaney has broad business experience across many fields. Following graduation from law school, he practiced law and eventually opened his own firm. He later ran his family's real estate business, then started a small homebuilding company. Mulvaney has been a minority shareholder in a restaurant franchise company, and he has



Vernita Dore
Deputy Under Secretary of
Rural Development
U.S. Department of Agriculture



Mick Mulvaney
United States Congressman
Fifth Congressional District
South Carolina



Nate Barber
Senior Vice President
South State Bank



L. Michelle Logan-Owens
Chief Operating Officer
Palmetto Health Tuomey

He began his college studies at USC Lancaster in 1973, and went on to complete a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry at USC Columbia in 1978. He completed further graduate studies at LaGrange College and Georgia State University, before earning a Master of Business Administration from Indiana University.

Barber served as regional director of

Spotlight on Students

Online Elementary Education Program to graduate first cohort of five teacher candidates this spring, summer

USC Palmetto College, through the College of Education at USC Columbia, offers South Carolinians

the opportunity to complete a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education online. The College of Education is spearheading this opportunity as a way to grow the state's elementary teaching force.

The College of Education is proud to graduate its first five Palmetto College Elementary Education candidates in the spring and summer of 2016. These graduates hail from cities and towns across the state, including Columbia, Elgin, Goose Creek and Pelion.

The continuing popularity of an Elementary Education degree through Palmetto College has already led to nearly exponential growth in the program – there are eight teacher candidates working toward a spring 2017 graduation, and an additional 25 students with expectations of a May 2018 graduation.

Palmetto College provides students with innovative courses taught by actual College of Education faculty. The faculty at USC Columbia designed the online Elementary Education program, keeping in mind the absolute necessity of providing teacher candidates with not only world-class expertise and knowledge, but also a diverse range of hands-on, school-based experiences in professional settings.

The first two years of college take place at the student's choice of one of four Palmetto College campuses – USC Lancaster, USC Salkehatchie, USC Sumter or USC Union. Following the first 45 course hours, students move on to USC Columbia to complete the four-year bachelor's degree with convenient online courses.

Students are grateful for the flexibility Palmetto College offers, along with the students' understanding the need to balance family life with educational goals, and the first five graduates are no exception.

This year's Elementary Education class consists of Badriyyah Adly, Breanna

Hammond, Shelli Horabik, Christi Bigony and Wayne Bruner.

When asked about her decision to pursue

obtaining their Elementary Education degree online is, "don't hesitate any longer. You will never get where you are going until you take



Christi Bigony, '08, '16
Elementary Education
USC Columbia

Christi previously earned a B.A. in Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management from USC Columbia in 2008. While she thoroughly enjoyed five years spent working in the hospitality industry, she knew that her heart was with working with children. When she found out she was expecting a baby, she took the opportunity to return to school and the then-new USC Palmetto College in 2013.

"I wanted the convenience of online classes so that I could stay at home with my daughter," said Christi. "In hindsight," she continued, "it was a little crazy with a newborn in the house along with taking a full-time course load at USC, but it was possible through understanding professors who genuinely wanted to see their students succeed."

About a year after her daughter was born, Christi became a single mother. She has been able to manage her course work and student teaching, along with a two-year old, all while maintaining a place on the President's Honors List, an accomplishment of which she is extremely proud.

a degree online, Christi Bigony replied: "I wanted the convenience of online classes so that I could stay at home with my daughter."

Wayne Bruner chose the Palmetto College

that first step."

Bigony tempers her encouragement with practicality, sharing "don't think that because the classes are online, they are



Wayne Bruner, '16
Elementary Education
USC Columbia

Wayne chose the online Elementary Education program because he knew that while he wanted to complete his degree, he had to continue working to support his family. A traditional college campus setting with daytime classes would not work with his full-time job responsibilities in his family business. Palmetto College offered him a local University of South Carolina affiliation, with the space and opportunity to customize his own schedule.

According to the veteran Marine, "Palmetto College has been very military-friendly; they have a great VA program at USC that helped me through the process of going back to school."

He continued, "I liked the idea that if I had a question there would be someone that I could meet with personally and talk with. This could not happen if I were taking online courses through an out-of-state university."

program because he knew that while he wanted to complete his degree, he had to continue working to support his family. An online education made those two goals possible.

His advice to anyone thinking about

somehow easier. It takes a great deal of time-management, determination, and flexibility to complete online classes."

Both candidates agree the College of Education, through Palmetto College has been a blessing to their career goals.

Spotlight on Students

Alpha Sigma Lambda honors exceptional nontraditional students

USC Palmetto College Campuses, Extended University and Online programs have many adult learners who attend classes during the day, in the evening and online.

To honor those dedicated nontraditional students who, while adroitly handling their life responsibilities, achieve and maintain high scholastics standards, Palmetto College invites many annually for membership to its chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda honor society.

Founded in 1945, Alpha Sigma Lambda honor society recognizes the academic success of adult students. Today, there are more than 300 chartered chapters throughout the United States.

Student members inducted to the honor society in 2015 include Rebecca Belec, Sherry Burke, Buffy Chapman, Janice Crumley, Ellen Fitch, Annias Gaffney, Amanda Horn, Jonathan Moffett, Ashley Ostrom, Candice Owens, Britney Sheppard, Gary Suggs and Sabrina Walker-Padgett.

Faculty inductees included Dr. Sarah



The students above were inducted to the Upsilon Zeta Chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda honor society in 2015. The 2016 members will be inducted to the honor society in a May 5 ceremony.

Miller, Dr. Christine Sixta Rinehart and Dr. Hendrikus van Bulck.

USC Palmetto College will induct its new class of members on Thursday, May 5. For

more information about the upcoming ceremony, contact Melissa Lowe at lowem@mailbox.sc.edu or 803.777.9460.

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and Systems (USC Upstate), Hospitality Management (USC Beaufort), Health Promotion (USC Beaufort) and Information Science (USC Columbia). Three additional programs will launch at the start of the Spring 2017 semester, including Accounting (USC Aiken), Health Informatics (USC Upstate) and Special Education (USC Aiken).

I would also like to offer congratulations to this year's recipients of our Palmetto College teaching and service awards. Dr. Kajal Ghoshroy, associate professor of biology at USC Sumter, is recipient of the 2016 Dr. John

J. Duffy Excellence in Teaching Award, and this year marks the inaugural presentation of the Dr. Chris Plyler Excellence in Service Award, which was presented to Dr. Sarah Miller, associate professor of history at USC Salkehatchie.

Another "first" this year marks the debut of the Chancellor's Innovation Grant awards, a new initiative that will provide the very best – and innovative – ideas that support Palmetto College programs offered at the associate and baccalaureate degree level. We

received many applications for the first cycle of awards, and a panel of external reviewers chose 13 projects that will aid us in meeting our goals of increasing enrollment and improving student success.

As we begin our fourth year of service as USC Palmetto College – campuses, online and Extended University programs – I would like to thank you again for your diligent service to our students, to our communities and to the future growth and development of USC Palmetto College!

Awards,

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Botanical Society of America.

The Duffy teaching award committee noted that Ghoshroy demonstrated innovative approaches for classroom delivery engagement and professional growth by providing peer education, logical and critical thinking and hands-on active learning. Ghoshroy was selected among a list of six finalists.

The Plyler service award is presented to a faculty member who personifies excellence in service to the campus, university, community

and profession.

The inaugural recipient of the **Dr. Chris Plyler Excellence in Service Award** was presented to **Dr. Sarah Miller**, associate professor of history at USC Salkehatchie. She has worked at the campus since 2007.

Miller received a M.A. in Public History from Wright State University and earned a Ph.D. in History from the University of Toledo. She serves as vice president of the South Carolina Historical Association, an executive board member of both the Colleton

County Historical and Preservation Society and the Friends of Colleton County Animal Shelter and a member of the Colleton Museum Advisory Council.

The Plyler teaching award committee noted that Miller connects students and members of the community to a broader educational system, and instills value and concern for leadership, mentorship and civic engagement. Miller was selected among a list of ten finalists.

Spotlight on Service

McAllister awarded highest honor among S.C. financial aid administrators

She will also serve as a speaker at national financial aid administrators conference in July

During its 50th anniversary conference this spring, the South Carolina Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (SCASFAA) honored **Dr. Tabatha McAllister**, associate vice chancellor for student enrollment services for USC Palmetto College, with its highest award for an active member – **The Fearless Nine Service to SCASFAA Award**.

SCASFAA is a community of professionals promoting the advancement of financial assistance programs as an essential part of student access to post-secondary education. In a collaborative effort, SCASFAA provides personal and professional development opportunities that embrace sound principles, practices and ethics of aid administration. SCASFAA develops future leaders by actively involving all members in an environment of mutual respect, cooperation and support.

Individuals nominated for The Fearless Nine Service to SCASFAA Award are practicing student financial aid professionals who are current members of the association and have made outstanding, significant and meritorious contributions to SCASFAA through their leadership, activities and/or research in financial aid over an extended period of professional involvement, rather than a single event or activity.

The award is named for the nine founders of the state financial aid administrators organization.

McAllister has been a member of SCASFAA since 1992. Over the years her leadership and activities include serving as chairman to multiple committees and being elected to three offices.

She is one of two African Americans to serve as SCASFAA president during its first 50 years. During her tenure as president (2007-08), the association held College Goal Sunday (now College Goal South Carolina) – a volunteer program that provides free information and assistance to students and families who are applying financial aid for post-secondary education. She also transitioned the state's organization to electronic voting, and she introduced two awards to honor association members with outstanding service.

McAllister was selected to represent South Carolina as a national decentralized trainer through the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA). In that capacity, she traveled across the nation to train financial aid administrators. She also served several years as a SCASFAA new

aid officers trainer and presented at multiple conferences.

Her regional activity with the Southern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (SASFAA) includes serving as a new aid officers instructor on multiple occasions.

She took a brief sabbatical from association leadership to complete her doctoral studies; however, her commitment to the profession and the notion of college access and affordability is reflected in her doctoral research entitled "The School Counselors' Perception of Their Roles in Assisting Students with College Preparation."

The research revealed areas where financial aid administrators can offer additional support to school counselors in preparing

students for the financial responsibilities of college. She returned to service as SASFAA vice president (2013-14), hosting a week-long new aid officers training at USC Upstate.

McAllister will be honored again by the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) as it also



Dr. Tabatha McAllister
Associate Chancellor
Student Enrollment Services
USC Palmetto College

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Innovation Grants,

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- Investigator: Misty Hatfield.
- **Research Modules for Student Success.** Campus: Extended University, USC Palmetto College. Principal Investigator: Shelley Jones.
- **Faith-Based Initiative: Partnering with Area Churches to Provide College Planning Workshops.** Campus: USC Sumter. Principal Investigator: Keith Britton.
- **Palmetto College Online Teaching Faculty Academy: A Practicum in Online Course Delivery/Design.** Campus: USC Aiken. Principal Investigator: Dean Michael Fekula.
- **USC Sumter Housing Feasibility Study.** Campus: USC Sumter. Principal

- Investigator: Dean Michael Sonntag.
- **Palmetto College Online Learning Conference for Palmetto College Faculty and Staff.** Campuses: All eight USC campuses. Principal Investigators: Palmetto College eLearning Planning Committee (Dr. Sher Downing, Dr. Chris Nesmith, Jean Carrano, Dr. Veronica Outlaw, Lori Vargo, Steve Adams, Dr. Babette Protz, Dr. Stephen Criswell, Dr. Lisa Hammond, Dr. Aaron Ard, Sherry Gross, Dr. Jolie Fontenot, Dr. Helene Maire-Afeli, Dr. David McCurry).
- **College. Clicks. Updating USC Sumter's Virtual Tour.** USC Sumter. Principal Investigator: Misty Hatfield.
- **Palmetto College Campuses' Website**

- **Redesign: Creating Responsive Framework Websites for Student Recruitment and Marketing of Campus Opportunities.** Campuses: USC Salkehatchie, USC Union, USC Lancaster, USC Sumter. Principal Investigators: Dean Ann Carmichael, Acting Dean John Catalano, Dean Walter Collins, Dean Michael Sonntag.
- **Piloting an Online Orientation and Online Learning Readiness Program for New Students in Palmetto College Degree Completion Programs.** Campus: USC Upstate. Principal Investigator: Dr. David McCurry.

Commencement,

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also been a columnist for his local paper and an occasional college lecturer.

He currently serves on the House Financial Services Committee, as well as the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. He previously served on the Committee on Small Business and the Budget Committee.

Mulvaney has been active locally, as a founding member of the Indian Land Rotary Club, a youth baseball coach and a member of St. Philip Neri Catholic Church and founding member of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Mission.

USC Sumter will hold its commencement exercises on **Wednesday, May 4, at 11 a.m.** The commencement speaker will be **L. Michelle Logan-Owens, DHA**, chief operating officer of Palmetto Health Tuomey.

A native of Pinewood, S.C., Dr. Logan-Owens has been with Tuomey for more than 20 years, beginning her career as a clinical technician on the Surgical Inpatient Unit and later launched her nursing career as an RN on the Oncology unit. She most recently served as president and chief operating officer of

Tuomey Healthcare System.

Logan-Owens is a 1992 graduate of USC Sumter and a 1994 graduate of USC Columbia, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She has also earned both master's and doctorate degrees in healthcare administration from the Medical University of South Carolina.

Logan-Owens is an active member of Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church, serves as a board member of the South Carolina Hospital Association, and is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives, South Carolina Nurse Executives, The Forum and Sigma Theta Tau nursing honor society.

Her honors and recognitions include: the 2010 Distinguished Alumnus Award at USC Sumter, the 2011 Sumter County Woman of Excellence Award and the 2014 National Council of Negro Women Community Service Award for Medicine. In 2015, she was recognized as an Extraordinary Woman by the Sumter Daily Item and, in 2016, she was added to the Sumter Volunteers Women's Honor Roll of Sumter County.

McAllister,

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celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. Her undergraduate story was submitted as part of the national organization's "Student Aid Success Stories" series, and selected to be featured in the NASFAA golden anniversary publication. And, she has also been selected as one of six individuals asked to share their stories as NASFAA national conference luncheon speakers in July.

McAllister serves as a member of the USC Palmetto College executive team. After several years' service as director of financial aid for the central financial aid office, her duties were expanded. As associate chancellor for student enrollment services, she manages admissions, financial aid and recruitment for the Palmetto College campuses and online programs.

She earned her Ph.D. in Counselor Education, Master of Education in Secondary School Counseling and Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of South Carolina Columbia.

University of South Carolina Palmetto College

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