If you have an event or program you would like to feature in SmoakSignals, send an email to katieweiser@sc.edu.

SmoakSignals
Week of January 10-16, 2016

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1/11 - All Scholars Meeting

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• Spring Diversity Dialogues
• Paid Research Assistant Positions in Data Science and Social Media

Don't Forget!

• OFSP has moved!
• Katie and Jan's Drop-Ins

PIC OF THE WEEK

The plaques are up! We are ready for you to come visit us on Wednesday during the Open House! Can't you just see your name on one of these??

Fellowships Highlight
Intern Drop-In Hours

*NEW* Intern Drop-In Hours: Nearly every week this spring, you can visit with an intern during drop-in hours on Thursdays from roughly 2-4 pm in DeSaussure 332. Each week will feature a different intern and competition. Stop by to ask questions or just chat with students who have gone before you on the national fellowship path. Check below for the upcoming schedule.

Upcoming Intern Drop-Ins – all in DeSaussure 322 on Thursdays from 2-4 pm unless otherwise noted:

- January 21st: Talk about summer options like NSF REUs and the DAAD RISE with Katee Driscoll from 2:45-4 pm.
- January 28th: Talk about the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship with grad student Chase Nelson.
- February 4th: Chat about the Hollings and the Udall Scholarships with Kaitlyn Bretz and Chandler Green.
- February 11th: Learn about the Gilman Scholarship by chatting with Adriana Bowman from 3-4 pm.
- February 18th: Come learn about the Hollings scholarship with Angie Korabik.
- February 25th: Explore the summer Taiwan US Alliance (TUSA) program with Grant Fleming.
- March 24th: Chat about the Hollings, Goldwater, and NSF REUs with Riley Brady from 2:30 – 4 pm.
- March 31st: Talk about the Gilman Scholarship with Joybelle Barlow and Adriana Bowman.
- April 7th: There’s still time to learn about the Hollings and the Udall with Chandler Green from 2:45-4 pm!
- April 14th: Cover lots of science and research options, like the Hollings, Goldwater, and NSF REUs with Riley Brady from 2:30-4 pm.

January Workshops

Summer Opportunities for Freshmen and Sophomores

Monday, January 11 at 3:00 PM, DeSaussure 228A

Learn about summer programs such as NSF REUs, the UK Summer Fulbright, Mount Vernon Fellows, and the DAAD RISE at this session

Summer Opportunities for Freshmen and Sophomores

Tuesday, January 12 at 12:00 PM, DeSaussure 228A
Learn about summer programs such as NSF REUs, the UK Summer Fulbright, Mount Vernon Fellows, and the DAAD RISE at this session.

**OFSP Open House**

**Wednesday, January 13 at 1:00 PM, DeSausserre 3rd floor**

Come enjoy a few treats and explore OFSP’s new offices.

**Madison Graduate Fellowship Workshop**

**Monday, January 25 at 4:00 PM, DeSausserre 228A**

*Rising Seniors & Graduate Students*, offers support for graduate school to students intending a career as a high school US history, government, or social studies teacher.

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### What's New?

#### January Scholar Events!

**Monday, January 11 – First day of class, and all Scholars Meeting and guest speaker/alumna Sally McKay from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Location: Gressette Room, Harper College.** Spring calendars will be ready for pick up, and we’ll have comments from a University alumna, Sally McKay. In addition, announcements regarding the Last Lecture Series, Scholars United events, and Scholar Recruitment Weekend will be given.

**Tuesday, January 12 – Scholars United Enrichment Team Meeting, 6:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Location: DeSausserre 228A.** If you have any issues or ideas you’d like for your representatives to bring to the team, addressing them prior to a meeting is the best time. Contact Brett Williams (blw@email.sc.edu) with questions.

**Wednesday, January 13 – OFSP Open House and Drop-In on the third floor of DeSausserre, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Location: DeSausserre, third floor.** The Office of Fellowships and Scholar Programs is moving from Legare to DeSausserre and we want to welcome you officially to our new space with a drop-in. Come and see our space, pick up calendars and visit with staff.

**Tuesday, January 19 – First Year Scholar Chats begin.** First-Year Scholars schedule an appointment with Jan or Katie to discuss their first semester. Schedule via SARS: [https://advising.appointments.sc.edu/OFSPscholars/](https://advising.appointments.sc.edu/OFSPscholars/).

**Thursday, January 21 – Freshman Carolina and McNair Scholars and Mentors Drop-In Breakfast from 7:15 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. Location: Preston Dining Room. RSVP needed to OFSP@sc.edu by Thursday, January 14.**

**Tuesday, January 26 – Organizing Your Financial Life with Carolina Scholar alumna Corinne Sheridan Hanna from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Location: DeSausserre Room 228A, conference room. Food provided, but space limited.
South Carolina & Washington Semester Programs - Spring Information Sessions

Friday, January 15th @ 1:00pm HRH B110
Monday, January 25th @ 1:00pm, HRH B110
Wednesday, February 10th @ 1:00pm HRH B110

*Honors Residence Hall (HRH)

SC CHEC Summer Undergraduate Research Training Program

Please see the information below about this summer program for students interested in cancer research. The deadline to apply is January 29.
The Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), the University of South Carolina (USC), and three historically black colleges/universities - Claflin University (CU), South Carolina State University (SCSU), and Voorhees College (VC) - have joined forces under the larger aegis of the South Carolina Cancer Health Equity Consortium (SCCHEC) to develop this application for an R25E NIH/NCI Cancer Education Grants Program. Together, these institutions have created an innovative, inter-institutional, 14-week summer course. This is combined with a hands-on laboratory research training platform and career mentoring by some of the nation's leading cancer researchers to attract and catalyze a new generation of diverse biomedical scientists. Within this new five-year initiative, 80 undergraduate juniors and seniors (designated as SC CHEC Student Fellows) from USC, CU, SCSU, and VC will engage with investigators at the MUSC Hollings Cancer Center, a National Cancer Institute (NCI) designated cancer center, to expose them to the latest advances in biomedical research spanning basic, clinical, and population sciences with an emphasis on cancer disparity dynamics in South Carolina (SC). The curriculum and training of this new initiative are focused on four of the most disparate cancers in terms of incidence, morbidity, and mortality in SC - breast, prostate, head/neck, and cervical cancer. Health outcomes for patients diagnosed with these four cancers are strongly influenced by race, ethnicity, urban/rural residence, socioeconomic position, and potentially biology. This R25E program's primary strategy will employ in-person classroom and laboratory instruction within the context of contemporary scientific approaches to cancer research at MUSC. These will be complemented by selected clinical and biotechnology-focused rotations, community engagement, and Graduate Record Examination preparation. The SC CHEC leadership strongly believes that promoting interest, career development, and commitment from the Millennial Generation (those born in the 1990s) to cancer biomedical and biobehavioral research is a critical step to attaining health equity and improved health outcomes in SC and beyond.

**Location:** Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC  
**Application Opens:** November 30, 2015  
**Deadline:** January 29, 2016  
**To apply:** [https://kcannady.wufoo.com/forms/zrg5yr2156ofci/](https://kcannady.wufoo.com/forms/zrg5yr2156ofci/)  
**For more information, please contact:**  
Marvella Ford, PhD, Program Director, fordmar@musc.edu  
Kimberly Cannady, PhD, Program Coordinator, cannadyk@musc.edu

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**Advice from an IB Alum**

One of our McNair Scholar alumni is offering her assistance to you, as you consider employment abroad. Please see her bio and website below!  
*Marisa “Rapha” Niparts is a McNair Scholar, graduating from the South Carolina Honors College in 2007 with a double major in International Business and Marketing. She was absolutely that “study abroad girl”, studying in Brazil, Portugal, Sweden and Poland - and ever strategizing how to make it back overseas permanently. Luckily she got her first Marketing job after graduation in Paris, then a year later in Copenhagen, Denmark where she still lives today. After eight years in the corporate world, and now finally being a European citizen so they can’t kick her out, she’s on a mission now to help ambitious, awesome fellow Americans achieve their own dream to live and work in Europe through individual coaching and her blog You, Me, Europe.*  
Spring Diversity Dialogues

January 28–Gender Roles in Childhood

Boys don’t cry, girls wear pink, boys are assertive, girls are bossy, boys build, girls cook…sound familiar? On Thursday, January 28, we will be hosting our first Diversity Dialogue of the semester in the Green Quad classroom. Please join us for dinner and an interactive presentation and discussion examining gender roles and stereotypes enforced during childhood and into adulthood.

When: Thursday, January 28 at 7 p.m.
Where: Green Quad Classroom
Contact: Lisa McCoy at lmccoy@mailbox.sc.edu

February 25–Beauty Whitewashed: How Society Defines Beauty

Join OMSA in conjunction with Black History Month and Carolina BeYOUtiful for dialogue and dinner! In a country where a full one-third of the population is black, Native American, Asian, Pacific Islander, Hispanic or Latina, there is a serious underrepresentation of women of color in the media. We will be coming together to examine society’s definition of beauty and how these standards exclude whole populations of people sending the message that they either need to conform or they are not beautiful.

When: Thursday, February 28 at 7 p.m.
Where: Patterson Residence Hall Room 103/104 (Tentative)
Contact: Lisa McCoy at lmccoy@mailbox.sc.edu

March 24–Greek Life & Diversity

When: Thursday, March 24 at 7:00pm
Where: To Be Determined
Contact: Lisa McCoy at lmccoy@mailbox.sc.edu

April 14–Book Discussion: Between the World and Me

Join us for our last Diversity Dialogue of the semester for a book discussion and lunch! *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates, a New York Times #1 Best Seller, is a letter to his adolescent son attempting to answer the questions, *what is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it? And how can we all honestly reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden?* Coates shares with his son—and readers—the story of his awakening to the truth about his place in the world through a series of revelatory experiences, from Howard University to Civil War battlefields, from the South Side of Chicago to Paris, from his childhood home to the living rooms of mothers whose children's lives were taken as American plunder. *Between the World and Me* illuminates the past, bracingly confronts our present, and offers a transcendent vision for a way forward.

Participants that [preregister](http://us10.campaign-archive1.com/?u=21949797901d30b4dad487007&id=fecfeab34e&e=d8c640123e) for the dialogue will receive a copy of the book and will be able to pick this up prior to the event. Limited copies of the book are available at a first come, first served basis.

**When:** Thursday, April 14 at noon
**Where:** Russell House Room 303
**Contact:** Lisa McCoy at lmccoy@mailbox.sc.edu

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**Paid Research Assistant Positions in Data Science and Social Media**

I am looking for two undergraduate/graduate research assistant to work 10 hours/week for $10/hour (undergraduate level) and $13/hour (graduate level) between Nov’15 and Apr’16. This is an internal grant from the USC. Please send me an email with your unofficial transcript and your CV including GPA, publications, research, technical, and industry experiences. I will contact the potential applicants to have a meeting in Nov’15 or Dec’15.

Please feel free to contact me at karami@mailbox.sc.edu if you any question. You can find about this project and minimum requirements in the following:

*A Computational Framework for Tracking Reports, Opinions and Feelings of People in Social Media Before, During and After a Natural Disaster: Twitter Case Study in the 2015 South Carolina Flood*

*Investigators: Dr. Amir Karami (School of Library and Information Science) and Dr. Zhenlong Li (Department of Geography)*

**Project Abstract**

In recent years, we have been faced with a series of natural disasters, from Hurricane Katrina to the recent South Carolina flood, causing a huge amount of financial, environmental, and human losses. The unpredictable natural of disaster behaviors and damages make it hard to have a comprehensive strategic response plan. Fortunately, social media allows people to share information and opinions in the time of a disaster. This research proposes a high performance computational framework to effectively mine the spatiotemporal patterns of people's experience, needs, and opinions. This framework could help us better evaluate the disaster management strategy in the 2015
SC floods so that we can have a better strategic plan for disaster preparedness, response, and recovery in the future.

**Responsibilities**

- Twitter Data Collection
- Review related research papers
- Learn the project related data analysis methods
- Analyze Twitter Data
- Report progress weekly
- Work on maximum two projects including this project between Nov’15 – May’15

**Skills Required**

- MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, and statistical tools such as SPSS, R or SAS
- Basic knowledge about statistics
- Good writing skills

**Skills Preferred**

- Programming language experience
- Research experience or publications
- Knowledge about data science and text mining

**Personal Characteristics Required:**

- Eager to learn new methods and new area
- Be responsible and tidy
- Have a plan to submit a proposal for internal USC grants such as SPARC and Magellan in 2016

**Education Required**

- Junior or Senior Undergraduate Students with minimum GPA 3.0 OR Graduate Students with minimum GPA 3.3

**Learning Objectives**

- How to collect data in Twitter
- How to analyze text and non-text data
- How to develop a research in social media
- How to interpret the outputs of data mining tools

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**Don't Forget!**

**OFSP has moved!**

Come visit us in our new space on the 3rd floor of DeSaussure!

**Katie and Jan's Drop-Ins**

Katie’s Drop-Ins will begin Tuesday, January 12th from 2-4pm.
Jan's Drop-Ins will begin Wednesday, January 20th from 1-3pm.