USC as a 21st Century University
Strategic Plan 2017-2021

May 9, 2017
Overview and Stated Goals

The University of South Carolina will be a university of choice that leads the way for the state, nation and world in knowledge generation, innovative problem-solving, preparation of future leaders for the workforce, and cultivation of civility, inclusion, and citizenship.

The 5 Goals:

1. Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow
2. Assembling and Supporting a World Class Faculty
3. Spurring Innovation, Creative Expression, and Community Engagement
4. Building Inclusive and Inspiring Communities
5. Demanding Institutional Excellence
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Goal 1: Educating the thinkers and leaders of tomorrow

The University of South Carolina will provide a superior education for students through a foundation in the liberal arts along with innovative disciplinary study to equip workforce-ready, creative, and innovative leaders for the 21st Century; for Graduate and Professional students, it provides preparation to be scholars and professionals.

Objectives:

A. Academic programs at the University of South Carolina are robust, relevant, innovative, and collaborative

B. Students have high impact experiences within- and beyond- the-classroom that support experiential learning in order to ensure development of critical thinking, problem-solving ability, and workforce readiness

C. Students are equipped to lead at home, school, work, and in the community, locally and around the world

D. Students are retained at the university, successfully progress in a program of study, and graduate on time

E. Graduate and Professional students receive preparation to be scholars and professionals
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Goal 2: Assembling and supporting a world class faculty

A 21st Century University hosts an internationally recognized faculty whose impact is realized through ground-breaking research, creative performance and production, internationally-recognized scholarship and publication, innovative teaching, and leadership in professional and community service.

Objectives:

A. Hire, enable and retain high performing, diverse faculty

B. Incent and reward high quality teaching
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Goal 3: Spurring Innovation, Creative Expression, and Community Engagement

A 21st Century University expands the knowledge base through research, scholarship, community engagement, and the development and dissemination of creative ideas.

Objectives:

A. Incent high impact scholarship
B. Encourage engagement with the arts
C. Expand collaborative research, teaching, and outreach through multidisciplinary initiatives
D. Encourage entrepreneurship and innovation
E. Be a community partner in economic development
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Goal 4: Building Inclusive and Inspiring Communities

A 21st Century University recognizes that there is strength in leveraging unique perspectives and global points of view while anchoring the institution in tradition and values.

Objectives:

A. Create living/learning communities that inspire collaboration
B. Develop and sustain a welcoming community and an inclusive University culture
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Goal 5: Demanding institutional excellence

A 21st Century University recognizes the need for financial strength in order to be a reliable partner to constituents; the University also recognizes that a compelling vision and effective messaging are necessary to ensure that constituents fully appreciate the importance and value of the institution.

Objectives:

A. Improve notable external measures/rankings

B. Develop an efficient and effective plan for philanthropic support

C. Implement an incentive-based, measured-growth, budget model to create sufficient revenue and align resources with incentives