



UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTH CAROLINA**

**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

