



U N I V E R S I T Y O F
SOUTH CAROLINA
S U M T E R

**Blueprint for Quality Enhancement
FY2007**

I. VISION, MISSION, AND GOALS

A. Executive Summary and Mission Statement

Vision Statement

The University of South Carolina Sumter aspires to become the next four-year campus of the University of South Carolina System.

Abbreviated Mission Statement: (from the mission statement approved by the USC Board of Trustees April 23, 1998)

The University of South Carolina Sumter has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership for the Sumter area. USC Sumter emphasizes excellence in instruction, scholarship, public and professional service, and creative endeavor which enrich the classroom experience. The campus recruits students prepared to begin or planning to complete a Baccalaureate level of education. Through its own associate degrees and cooperative bachelor degrees, USC Sumter currently offers a wide variety of educational options to its service area. The campus also fosters cultural diversity and freedom of thought in its students, an emphasis that encourages the development of the whole person.

How the Vision Relates to the Mission

The focus of the mission statement is to provide the opportunity for higher education to the citizens of the five county service area. The vision statement reflects a natural evolution for USC Sumter as it endeavors to fully provide that opportunity.

The Current Standing of USC Sumter Relative to the Vision

USC Sumter has several areas that require improvement before fulfilling its vision of becoming the next four-year campus of the USC system. The faculty, staff, and administration are keenly aware of these needs and are making progress toward fulfilling them. They include: 1) increasing the annual FTE enrollment, 2) increasing faculty scholarship productivity, and 3) increasing the amount of externally funded research conducted by faculty. USC Sumter has begun to make progress in all of these areas.

Long Term Goals:

USC Sumter has determined that the following long term goals will allow the campus to progress substantially toward the achievement of the stated vision and mission.

1. The University of South Carolina Sumter will strengthen its ability to offer a program of high quality learning experiences, through a continued commitment to a tradition of teaching excellence and co-curricular activities, for the completion of associate degrees, joint programs, cooperative bachelor degrees, Palmetto Programs, and eventually the campus's own bachelor degrees.
2. The University of South Carolina Sumter will enhance and expand its student recruitment and retention programs in order to increase headcount and FTE enrollments.
3. The University of South Carolina Sumter will support and encourage the scholarly pursuits of its faculty.
4. The University of South Carolina Sumter will support and encourage the pursuit of research and other types of grants from internal and external sources.
5. The University of South Carolina Sumter will continue to seek greater financial support from local and state governments, as well as private resources.
6. The University of South Carolina Sumter will continue to develop and improve its physical plant and related campus infrastructure as outlined in the campus master plan.