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Times

A publication for faculty, staff, and friends of the University of South Carolina



December 9, 2010

Columbia

Aiken

Beaufort

Lancaster

Salkehatchie

Sumter

Union

Upstate

USC included in \$16 million biomed award

Ten colleges and universities in the state, including USC, have received \$16 million to support a network to develop biomedical-research programs in areas such as regenerative medicine, biochemistry, and molecular biology.

The funding comes from the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR), a division of the National Institutes of Health. The grant will provide five years of funding for SC INBRE (the IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence), a network of academic institutions working together to enhance biomedical-research infrastructure and increase competitiveness of researchers in the state.



Pirisi-Creek

The University will receive approximately \$4 million of the total \$16 million award and will be responsible for providing the management structure and access to core laboratory, computational facilities, and bioinformatics to the nine partner institutions. USC's component of SC INBRE also supports the biomedical engineering program at the School of Medicine and the College of Engineering and Computing.

The grant is the continuation of a \$17 million grant received five years ago. The network comprises the state's three comprehensive research institutions (USC, Clemson and the Medical University of South Carolina) and seven predominantly undergraduate institutions (Claflin University, the College of Charleston, Francis Marion University, Furman University, S.C. State University, USC Beaufort, and Winthrop University).

"The key to this is developing a research environment and growing research at undergraduate institutions in order to provide research training for students in biomedical science," said Lucia Pirisi-Creek of USC's School of Medicine, the grant's lead investigator.

SC INBRE will support at least 28 different research projects, each led by a junior "target" faculty member at one of the network institutions. During the five years of funding, six institutions will hire 10 new faculty members who will bring new biomedical research expertise to the state. Projects include the investigation of nanoparticles that

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Tanner to speak at fall commencement Dec. 13

USC head baseball coach Ray Tanner Jr., who led the Gamecocks to a national championship, will deliver the commencement address at fall graduation exercises.

Columbia businessman, philanthropist, and public health advocate Norman Arnold, for whom USC's Arnold School of Public Health is named, will receive an honorary degree of doctor of humane letters. Robert D. "Bob" Coble, the longest serving mayor of the city of Columbia, will receive an honorary degree of doctor of laws.

Commencement exercises for baccalaureate, master's, and professional degree candidates will be held at 3:30 p.m. Dec. 13 in the Colonial Life Arena.



Tanner

The University expects to award more than 2,500 degrees to candidates from all campuses, including three associate, 1,189 baccalaureate, 14 law, one medicine, 42 graduate certificates, 430 master's, 12 graduate specialists, and 90 doctoral degrees from USC Columbia.

The University also will award 190 baccalaureate and three master's degrees from USC Aiken; two associate and 69 baccalaureate degrees from USC Beaufort; 13 associate degrees from USC Lancaster; 20 associate degrees from USC Salkehatchie; 23 associate degrees from USC

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Photos by Keith McGraw

Getting into the swing of the holiday season

Santa's reindeer Dancer and Prancer have nothing on USC's talented faculty and staff. Tayloe Harding, left, dean of the School of Music, and Erika Goodwin, head cheerleading coach and spirit coordinator for Athletics, danced their way to first place with a jivin' swing number in the first Dancing with the Deans, sponsored by the Family Fund Dec. 1. Wearing a black shimmy dress, à la Tina Turner, Marcia Cole, below left, executive director of the Carolina Alumni Association, and Les Sternberg, dean of the College of Education, did a cheeky cha cha to earn second place. Dressed to kill à la John Travolta, Ercan Turk, below center, associate dean of the College of Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management, and Frenche Brewer, broadcast coordinator for Media Relations, discoed and bumped into third place. Mary Anne Fitzpatrick, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Jim Burns, associate dean in the Honors College, received a big hand from the audience for their hands-on slow waltz. In all, 10 couples danced before a standing-room-only audience in the Russell House Ballroom.



Mayor to address MLK breakfast

Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin will be the speaker at the University's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Breakfast set for 7:30 a.m. Jan. 14 in The Zone at Williams-Brice Stadium. This year's theme is "Where Do We Go from Here?"

Tickets will be available at the Russell House information desk. Admission price will be announced at a later date.

In a record voter turnout, Benjamin was elected mayor in April. He has worked in community activities with numerous public and private organizations dating back to his years at USC where he was president of Student Government and the Student Bar Association at the School of



Benjamin

Continued on page 6

MLK Day of Service is Jan. 17, 2011

In the words of Martin Luther King Jr., "Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve." Gamecocks can show how great they are at serving and giving back to the Columbia community by participating in the 2011 MLK Day of Service from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Jan. 17, 2011.

Every January, more than 400 USC students of all majors, ages, and cultures, along with faculty and staff, take part in this national day of service honoring the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. For the 2011 Day of Service, the event's sponsors—Community Service Programs, Carolina Service Council, and the Department of Student Life—hope to increase participation by faculty and staff.

"In its mission statement, USC has declared a commitment to educating the state's citi-

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Briefly

HAVE A B.L.A.S.T.: Campus Wellness offers its B.L.A.S.T. (Break time, Lunchtime, Anytime Strength Training) program to help strengthen muscles, improve muscular endurance, increase flexibility, and reduce stress through exercises that can be done just about anywhere, including the office. Participants do a full-body training routine using Dyna-Bands, stretchy latex strips, which are pulled or pushed. A minimum of six participants is required to sponsor a workshop. Campus Wellness also sponsors a workshop series. Staff members attend a departmental meeting to gather "personal wellness profiles" from individuals in the department. They will review the profiles and provide suggestions and services to build a happier, healthier department. Contact Campus Wellness at 7-6518 or sawellns@mailbox.sc.edu to set up a group instruction of B.L.A.S.T. or a workshop.

SAVE THE DATE: Carolina Day at the Statehouse will be March 30, 2011. Sponsored by the Carolina Action Network (CAN), the annual event supports higher education in South Carolina. CAN members, a group of Carolina alumni, work to make sure the University continues to provide a quality education for everyone and to inform state legislators and policymakers why a strong USC benefits the entire state. CAN advocates are a network of volunteers who work together to increase awareness regarding particular legislative issues. They communicate with their elected officials in various ways, including e-mails, letters, phone calls, and personal visits. No meetings or membership fees are required. The Carolina Alumni Association communicates with the advocates whenever their support is needed in contacting legislators on particular issues of interest to the University. For more information and to register, go to www.MyCarolina.org/advocacy.

FIDLER GRANT AWARDED: The National Resource Center (NRC) for The First-Year Experience and Students in Transition named Boston College's Paul J. McLoughlin II the recipient of the 2010-11 Paul P. Fidler Research Grant. The center, based at USC, recognized McLoughlin, an associate dean at Harvard University and a doctoral candidate at Boston College, at its 17th National Conference on Students in Transition in Houston. The grant encourages and enables scholarly research on issues related to college-student transitions and includes a \$5,000 stipend. Research completed as a result of the Fidler grant will be featured in the *Journal of The First-Year Experience and Students in Transition*. McLoughlin's study is titled "High-Achieving Low-Income Students: How Low-Income Students on Full Financial Aid are Navigating an Elite College Environment." In its sixth year, the Paul P. Fidler Research Grant has become a well-respected and highly competitive grant program, said Jennifer Keup, the center's director. For more information, go to sc.edu/fye/.

GET TO KNOW CAMPUS WELLNESS: Campus Wellness offers information about exercise consultations, nutrition consultations, worksite screenings, onsite screenings, weight management programs, blood pressure screenings, body composition analyses, and massage therapy. Almost all of the services are free for faculty, staff, and students. Campus Wellness accepts suggestions about a specific health screening or informational session that faculty, staff, and students would like to see on campus. Campus Wellness promotes a healthy lifestyle for the entire USC community. For more information or to make a suggestion, call 7-6518, send an e-mail to sawellns@mailbox.sc.edu, or stop by the office in the Blatt P.E. Center, Room 201.

HOLLINGS LIBRARY SCORES GOLD: The Hollings Special Collections Library has achieved LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold Certification. The library was awarded all 41 points that were pursued. A plaque in the library will recognize the achievement. The U.S. Green Building Council created the LEED program to provide standards for green building and renovations. The LEED assessment is a well-constructed process that is completed by third party, independent parties, ensuring that it maintains its reputation as a verifiable, reliable method of measuring a building's green features.

CONNECT WITH UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH: The Office of Undergraduate Research is now on Facebook and Twitter. The purpose is to engage, excite, and interact with researchers, mentors, interested students, and supporters of the office. Followers and friends will be able to find out information on current and upcoming events, programs, funding opportunities, past and present researchers, and other topics. The platforms also will provide answers to frequently asked questions. To follow on Twitter, go to www.twitter.com/gamecock_OUR. The address for the Facebook page is www.facebook.com/pages/Columbia-SC/Office-of-Undergraduate-Research/147466471966362?ref=ts.

NEW NURSING MOTHERS LOUNGE OPENS: The Child Development and Research Center on Wheat Street recently opened a Nursing Mothers Lounge in Room 223. The space is intended to support breastfeeding mothers and to help facilitate pumping after returning to work. To use the room, contact Healthy Carolina at harrinha@mailbox.sc.edu or 7-0597. For more information about other rooms on campus and resources for USC parents, go to sc.edu/healthycarolina/lsp.html.

USC receives extra \$5 million to study CO₂ storage

USC researchers have received an additional \$5 million from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to determine the feasibility of storing carbon dioxide deep underground as a way to curb the increase in greenhouse gas emissions.

The funding is in addition to the \$4.9 million received last year from DOE for the three-year project, said principal investigator John Shafer, research professor and director of the Earth Sciences and Resources Institute (ESRI) at USC.

USC's project is one of 10 around the country being funded by DOE to determine whether carbon dioxide—a greenhouse gas believed to be a culprit in climate change—can safely be stored in geologic formations, including underground reservoirs of salt water, also called deep saline formations. USC is focusing on the South Georgia Rift (SGR) basin, where deep saline formations exist beneath Colleton, Bamberg, Allendale, Dorchester, and Orangeburg counties.

"The information gained from these projects will further DOE's effort to develop a national assessment of CO₂ storage capacity in deep geologic formations," Shafer said. Shafer emphasized that no CO₂ will actually be injected during this phase of the study.

For USC, the additional funding will allow researchers to

expand their data acquisition and to drill deeper below the surface. The new grant will allow researchers to look more than 13,000 feet below land surface.

"The basin we are looking at is deep. So, the deeper we can go through it, the higher the quality of our assessment. Then we will be able to determine, 'Is this an appropriate environment' for carbon dioxide storage," Shafer said.

"Given the significant number of CO₂ sources in the Southeastern U.S., particularly in southeastern South Carolina, and the positive geologic characteristics of the South Georgia Rift basin, we believe the SGR is a significant CO₂ storage site that can be commercially developed. The possibility of storing CO₂ deep underground in South Carolina holds promising opportunities for economic development and enhancement of a green economy in the state."

USC's effort is led by the Earth Sciences and Resources Institute and the Department of Earth and Ocean Sciences. Co-principal investigators are Michael Waddell of ESRI-SC and Camelia Knapp and James Knapp of earth and ocean sciences. Other members of the research team are the S.C. Geological Survey, the University of Illinois, Weatherford Laboratories of Houston, and Bay Geophysical Inc. of Traverse City, Mich.

Men's soccer team makes the grade at top of GPA list

The USC men's soccer team has earned the NSCAA's (National Soccer Coaches Association of America) Team Academic Award, while also being the national leader in team GPA for the 2009-10 school year with a 3.49 cumulative team GPA.

With its outstanding performance in the classroom, USC players led the other 200 Division I men's programs in the country in the academic award category, including Brown, Columbia, Stanford, and Dartmouth.

"This is one of the most significant awards any men's soccer team at South Carolina has ever won," USC head men's soccer coach Mark Berson said. "I am extremely proud of our student-athletes. This award goes beyond wins and losses, or starters and non-starters. Every student-athlete in the program contributed to the success of the team on the field this fall both in winning the conference championship and contributing academically with a very high level of achievement all year long. I want to recognize our academic advisor, Steve Bondurant, for his help and guidance with our team and thank everyone involved with our new academic center for their support."

"We are ecstatic about Coach Berson's soccer team's achievement of having the highest team GPA in Division I soccer while also celebrating their conference championship," USC associate athletics director for academics and life skills Raymond Harrison said. "This accomplishment proves that consistent discipline and work ethic in all areas is a recipe for success. Steve Bondurant, the academic advisor for the men's soccer and baseball teams, has done a really good job in being an 'X' factor and helping them achieve their academic goals."

To be eligible for the award, teams must hold a cumulative GPA of at least 3.00. A total of 78 teams earned the NSCAA's Team Academic Award for the 2009-10 school year. The Top 10 Division I men's soccer teams' GPAs are:

1. University of South Carolina, 3.49
2. Long Island University, 3.45
3. DePaul University, 3.44
4. Brown University, 3.39
5. Columbia University, 3.39



Danny Cates, a junior from Irmo, and his men's soccer teammates helped achieve the No. 1 place on the Division I GPA list.

Kim Truett

6. Lafayette College, 3.38
7. Stanford University, 3.36
8. University of Akron, 3.33
9. Dartmouth College, 3.33
10. Butler University, 3.32.

Fire Marshal's Office offers guidelines for holiday decor

The USC Fire Marshal has issued regulations and guidelines regarding holiday decorations for the University community that include a prohibition on live Christmas trees and flammable decorative materials unless they conform to the International Fire Code.



Griffin

"Christmas trees or other decorations must be flame resistant and may not be placed in hallways, stairways, and lobbies, or within the means of egress from any building," said Todd Griffin, USC fire marshal. "The fire code also prohibits the decorations of light bulbs and exit signs with any type of combustible material."

Lighted candles are prohibited in all University buildings except Rutledge Chapel, and they must be attended when burning.

Upon request, representatives from the Fire Safety Office of Environmental Health and Safety will inspect departmental decorations to ensure compliance with fire codes and provide a copy of the codes governing decorative materials. For information or to request a safety inspection, call 7-5269.

Nominations open for faculty awards

The Office of the Provost has announced the 2010–11 Faculty Awards Nomination and Review Process. Information about all of the awards below, including nomination guidelines and the electronic nomination form, are available online at www.sc.edu/provost/awards. The nomination or application deadlines vary by award; check the above Web site for details.

Each award is a one-time career award, and former winners are not eligible for re-nomination. These restrictions do not preclude past winner nominations for different faculty awards. The awards are:

■ **Russell Research and USC Educational Foundation Research Awards**—The Russell Research Award was established by Judge Donald S. Russell in 1957, and the USC Educational Foundation Research Award was established in 1984. Each award consists of a \$3,000 prize and a certificate of recognition. Nominations for the awards can be made by any University faculty member at all USC campuses (including self-nominations). Nominee's files are due to the chair of the appropriate selection committee by Feb. 7, 2011. The 2010–11 Review Committee chairs are Tom Lekan, humanities and social sciences, at lekan@mailbox.sc.edu; Hanno zur Loye, science, mathematics, and engineering, at zurloye@chem.sc.edu; Mark Davis, health sciences, at markd@mailbox.sc.edu; and Kendall Roth, professional schools, at krth@moore.sc.edu. For complete information, go to www.sc.edu/provost/researchawards.shtml.

■ **USC Educational Foundation Outstanding Service Award**—The USC Educational Foundation Service Award is the University's most prestigious recognition of professional, campus, and community service by a faculty member. The deans of the University's academic units make nominations from their faculties. The award includes a \$1,000 prize and a certificate of recognition. Academic deans, department chairs, and directors at all USC campuses can nominate up to three faculty members from their respective units for award consideration. Nominee's files are due to the Office of the Provost by Feb. 1, 2011. For complete information, go to www.sc.edu/provost/servinfo.shtml.

■ **Carolina Trustee Professorship**—Three Carolina Trustee Professorship Awards are presented annually in the amount of \$2,000 each and given by the members of the Board of Trustees. Two awards are presented to Columbia campus professors and one to a professor at one of the other USC campuses. Faculty eligible for the Professorships must hold the rank of tenured full professor and demonstrate a record of teaching excellence as well as a record of outstanding performance in research and in public service activities. Nominations can be submitted by students, faculty, department chairs, and deans at all USC campuses. Nominee's files are due to the Office of the Provost by Feb. 1, 2011. For complete information, go to www.sc.edu/provost/carolinatrustee.shtml.

■ **Michael J. Mungo Distinguished Professor of the Year Award**—This award is given annually to an outstanding teacher in undergraduate courses. Nominations can come from students, faculty members, administrators, and alumni. A selection committee made up of undergraduates and former winners of the award evaluates the nominations and determines the list of finalists. Members of the selection committee visit the finalists' classes, interview the finalists and the finalists' colleagues, and poll the students in the finalists' classes. The winner receives a \$10,000 prize and certificate of recognition, and the winner's name is engraved on a permanent plaque housed on the main floor of the Thomas Cooper Library. Nominations can be submitted by USC Columbia students, faculty members, administrators, and alumni. Nominations will be accepted until Feb. 9, 2011. For complete information, go to www.sc.edu/provost/mungo.shtml.

■ **Michael J. Mungo Graduate Teaching Award**—This award is presented annually from among the Columbia Campus faculty who teach graduate courses. The winner will receive a \$2,500 prize and a certificate of recognition. Nominations will be accepted from USC Columbia students, faculty, department chairs, and deans. Eligible full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty members who have taught at USC at least five years can be nominated or can self-nominate. Nominee's files are due to the Office of the Provost by Feb. 1, 2011. For complete information, go to www.sc.edu/provost/mungradinfo.shtml.

■ **Michael J. Mungo Undergraduate Teaching Award**—Four awards are presented annually from among the Columbia campus undergraduate faculty. The winners will each receive a \$2,500 prize and a certificate of recognition. Nominations will be accepted from USC Columbia students, faculty, department chairs, and deans. Eligible full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty members who have taught at USC at least three years can be nominated or can self-nominate. Nominee's files are due to the Office of the Provost by Feb. 1, 2011. For complete information, go to www.sc.edu/provost/munginfo.shtml.

■ **John J. Duffy Excellence in Teaching Award**—This award is presented annually from among the University's regional campuses faculty who are full time. Nominations will be submitted by the USC regional campus, including Extended University, to the Regional Campuses Welfare Committee. Eligible full-time regional campus faculty can be nominated. For complete information, go to www.sc.edu/provost/johnduffy.shtml.

■ **Clinical Practice Teaching Award**—Two awards are presented annually from among the Columbia campus faculty from the colleges of medicine, nursing, pharmacy, public health, and social work. The winners will each receive a \$2,500 prize and a certificate of recognition. Nominations will be accepted from students, faculty, department chairs, and deans. Eligible full-time, non-tenure-track faculty members (employed by USC) who have taught in clinical practice courses at USC at least three years can be nominated or can self-nominate. A nomination form and a brief memo or letter stating the reasons the individual is being nominated for the award should be submitted to the Office of the Provost by Dec. 16. For complete information, go to www.sc.edu/provost/clinicalpractice.shtml.

■ **Ada B. Thomas Outstanding Faculty/Staff Advisor Award**—This award recognizes a full-time faculty or staff member who advises undergraduate students. Any USC Columbia student, faculty, staff, or graduate can nominate an advisor for the award. Because this award recognizes quality advising, nominations from students are particularly welcome. For complete information, go to www.sc.edu/provost/adabthomas.shtml.

For more information, contact Sarah Livingston, Office of the Provost, at livings@mailbox.sc.edu or 7-2808.

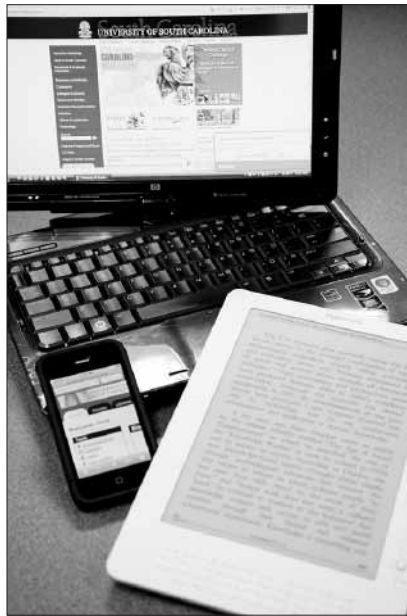
Blackboard conference set for Jan. 6–7

By Marshall Swanson

New and veteran faculty members can learn about the latest pedagogical techniques and innovative uses of the University's Blackboard Web-based course management system during the upcoming Blackboard and Educational Software Technology (BEST) Institute in Columbia Jan. 6–7.

The twice-yearly continuing education session held in August and January is co-sponsored by University Technology Services (UTS) and the Center for Teaching Excellence to help faculty stay abreast of changes in technology and get ideas on how they can best use it in their teaching.

"A faculty member told me she attends every time we have an institute even if it's to take a class she's already had just to re-charge her batteries," said Chris Brown, UTS' director of teaching and technology services. "The professor always learns something new, and it might be that one idea that really makes her class great."



One session will focus on Facebook, Twitter, and Skype.

The January edition of the free continuing education opportunity for faculty, graduate students, and staff system-wide will have a new welcome opening session featuring faculty members who use Blackboard and other tools. Another first will be the addition of light refreshments at the welcome session and the distribution of door prizes.

The January BEST Institute also will offer three sessions on Thursday in Wardlaw College specifically aimed at new faculty.

Other sessions will include a track at the National Advocacy Center, including instruction on creating Wikis and blogs within a class; Blackboard mobile applications; Google apps in higher education; a look at Prezi, a non-linear tool similar to PowerPoint; a session on merging your own course sections; faculty rights and responsibilities dealing with copyright; and how faculty use Blackboard's self- and peer-evaluations in their classes.

"We always focus on the basics, but we're adding some new and interesting topics to this institute like our Web 2.0 technologies and the other tools," Brown said. "We always do something on Adobe Connect, and we're doing a session on Facebook, Twitter, and Skype."

"We're offering more sessions in January with more faculty participation because faculty are making interesting use of the different features within Blackboard."

An important aspect of the training is that faculty can take it as newcomers or with 10 or more years of experience, said Kimberly South, public relations coordinator with UTS.

"It's especially helpful for the new faculty members and graduate assistants but also for veteran faculty members because Blackboard looks different than it did 10 years ago," South said. "People can attend at any level of their instructional experience and still get some helpful knowledge."

"The larger number of faculty who are teaching these courses shows there is a lot of collaboration across campus, and networking."

The institute's classes are offered in four time blocks on each of its two days: from 8:30 to 10 a.m., 10:30 a.m. to noon, 1:30 to 3 p.m., and 3:30 to 5 p.m. Lunch is on your own both days from noon to 1:30 p.m.

Registration is free via a link on UTS' Web site at UTS.sc.edu. There is no deadline for registration, but as courses fill up, they will be closed; so, early enrollment is recommended. "Most of the sessions are hands-on instruction, and we're limited in enrollment by the size of the classroom," Brown said.

A complete schedule of the conference is at <http://www.sc.edu/best>. For more information, contact Brown at cmbrown@mailbox.sc.edu or South at ksouth@mailbox.sc.edu.

Need drives new Hertz car share program

Students, faculty and staff at the University will have access to cars they can rent by the hour through Connect by Hertz, a car share program that became available Nov. 15.

Committed to sustainability, USC has chosen to partner with Connect by Hertz to supply students and others on campus with environmentally friendly cars that are convenient for running errands and that encourage carpooling to off-campus locations.

USC is the first university or college in South Carolina to offer a car sharing program and to team up with Connect by Hertz.



Huggins

"We have an opportunity to show South Carolina that car sharing may be a solution when addressing the quality of life through transportation," said Derrick Huggins, director of vehicle management and parking services at USC. "This car share program will not only increase the social aspect but may meet the fiscal and health needs of some of our faculty, staff, and students."

"A great deal of campus constituents don't have the luxury of owning a car; therefore, a doctor or dental visit in the middle of the day is not possible. Now, car sharing is an option at the University of South Carolina that will help address those needs," he said.

The Connect by Hertz program requires campus participants to be 18 years or older and to apply for a free membership in the program. Members will receive an access card to rent one of four vehicles at a starting cost of \$8 per hour. The cars will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and must be reserved online on the Connect by Hertz Web site.

USC's fleet will consist of two Toyota Priuses, a Ford Escape, and a MINI Cooper. The vehicles will be located in the South Bull Street garage, the Byrnes parking lot on Sumter Street, and the Cliff Apartments parking lot on Whaley Street.

To qualify for Connect by Hertz membership, students, faculty, and staff must have a valid driver's license and clean driving record. A valid credit or debit card and proof of address also is required. To register, go to www.connectbyhertz.com and use the promotional code: GoGreen2010.

Huggins said the University and Hertz are prepared to expand the program to include more vehicles should there be demand.

"We hope that everyone on campus will take advantage of this program," Derrick said. "We are especially excited about offering this car share program to our international students. Now they can share the cost of renting the vehicle with their USC friends and enjoy a Friday night movie or go bowling, based on their schedule. Just like all students—sometimes you want to do weekend activities spontaneously. This program will give our international students that ability."

The hourly rate includes gasoline, insurance, and maintenance. Each car is equipped with GPS turn-by-turn navigation, an iPod adapter, Bluetooth technology, 24-hour roadside assistance, and 24-hour access to an in-house member care center.

Checked regularly and serviced monthly by Hertz, the cars provide parents with the assurance that their son or daughter is driving a reliable vehicle.

Program details are available at www.connectbyhertz.com. While USC makes the Connect by Hertz program available to students, faculty, and staff, the membership agreement for personal use of a vehicle is between Hertz and an individual user. The vehicles are not available for official university business.

For more information about the Connect by Hertz program at the University or to sign up for membership, go to www.connectbyhertz.com. For more information, call Rick Evans in USC's Vehicle Management and Parking Services at 7-1439.

December & January

Calendar

■ Exhibits

Through Dec. 14 McKissick Museum: "The Art of Environmental Awareness: The Batiks of Mary Edna Fraser," North Gallery, second floor. Known internationally, Fraser uses batik, an ancient medium of waxing and hand dyeing cloth, to express issues of climate change and the long-term effects on the environment. Her vivid large-scale aerial views of barrier islands, coastal regions, and rivers reference the geological and geographical studies used to document the changing face of the landscape. Flying in an open canopy 1946 Ercoupe airplane, with her brother as pilot, Fraser observes what few people clearly see of Earth—change. Her batiks are both an art form and a vehicle for inspiring global awareness.

Through Dec. 18 McKissick Museum: "Silver Yana: The Photographic Works of F. Tobias Morriss," South Gallery, second floor. Morriss came to Columbia in 2005 fleeing the ravished gulf coast following Hurricane Katrina. A popular instructor in USC's Department of Art, Morriss mentored dozens of photography students who remained in close contact with him after they completed their studies. Morriss was known for his stark and haunting images produced almost exclusively in black and white through the silver gelatin process. Morriss' life and career were cut short following a hit-and-run accident on Feb. 21, 2010. He was 36 years old.

Through Dec. 18 South Caroliniana Library: "A Gospel of Health: Hilla Sheriff's Crusade Against Malnutrition in South Carolina," Lumpkin Foyer. One of very few female physicians in South Carolina in the early 20th century, Sheriff was a pioneer in implementing public health services in the state. Her innovative programs garnered national attention and served as models for other Southern states.

Dec. 21 McKissick Museum: "The Nature of Things," with Rudy Mancke, USC's naturalist in residence, noon. Mancke will talk about the natural changes that take place during the winter season. Talks will take place on the Horseshoe in front of McKissick (or indoors, depending on weather). Bring blankets and picnic lunches.

Through Dec. 22 McKissick Museum: "We are the Champions: 2010 Men's Baseball Team," second-floor lobby. A sampling of baseball-related memorabilia, exploring in particular the USC-Clemson rivalry and the Gamecock's recent College World Series victory.

Through December Hollings Library: "Two Centuries of Collecting: Some Treasures from the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections," Irvin Department Exhibition Gallery.

Through December Hollings Library: "Selected Treasures," S.C. Political Collections Gallery. The exhibit showcases a few treasures from the collections.

Jan. 10, 2011–Feb. 19, 2011 McMaster Gallery: Alumni Exhibition, featuring works by 12 artists ranging from recent graduates to veteran professional artists whose academic experiences at USC span three decades. The work in the exhibition represents a variety of disciplines including printmaking, painting, photography, drawing, mixed media, and sculpture. The McMaster Art Gallery is located in the Department of Art building, 1615 Senate St. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Monday–Friday. Closed weekends and all University holidays. For more information, contact gallery director Mana Hewitt at 7-7480 or mana@sc.edu.

Through Jan. 15 McKissick Museum: "The Art of Environmental Awareness: The Batiks of Mary Edna Fraser and Anna Heyward Taylor—Batiks: Tropical Flora from British Guiana," third floor lobby. The batiks by Anna Heyward Taylor explore the northern region of South America once known as British Guiana (known today as Guyana).

McKissick Museum: Bernard Baruch Silver Collection, a collection of the Baruch family silver, first floor. Part of the museum's permanent collection.

McKissick Museum: "Natural Curiosity: USC and the Evolution of Scientific Inquiry into the Natural World." The permanent exhibit, which opened in fall 2007, explores man's relationship with the natural world and features more than 1,000 specimens gathered during the University's history.

■ Sports

Dec. 11 Men's basketball: Wofford, 7 p.m., Colonial Life Arena.

Dec. 12 Women's basketball: N.C. State, 2 p.m., Colonial Life Arena.

Dec. 21 Women's basketball: Butler, 7 p.m., Colonial Life Arena.

Dec. 28 Women's basketball: Presbyterian, 7 p.m., Colonial Life Arena.

Dec. 29 Men's basketball: Jacksonville State, 7 p.m., Colonial Life Arena.

Dec. 30 Women's basketball: S.C. State, 7 p.m., Colonial Life Arena.

Jan. 1, 2011 Men's basketball: Boston College, 5:30 p.m., Colonial Life Arena.

Jan. 4, 2011 Men's basketball: S.C. State, 7 p.m., Colonial Life Arena.

Jan. 6, 2011 Women's basketball: LSU, 7 p.m., Colonial Life Arena.

Jan. 8, 2011 Men's basketball: Vanderbilt, 5 p.m., Colonial Life Arena.

Jan. 9, 2011 Women's basketball: Florida, 3 p.m., Colonial Life Arena.

Jan. 19, 2011 Men's basketball: Arkansas, 8 p.m., Colonial Life Arena.

Jan. 20, 2011 Women's basketball: Tennessee, 7 p.m., Colonial Life Arena.

Jan. 22, 2011 Men's basketball: Kentucky, 6 p.m., Colonial Life Arena.

■ Lectures

Dec. 14 Medication Safety and Efficacy/Pharmacy: "Community of Scholars" Research Colloquia, "S.C. Cancer Prevention and Control," noon–1 p.m. Susan Steck, Ph.D., MPH, RD, epidemiology and biostatistics and Heather Brandt, Ph.D., CHES, health promotion, education, and behavior; Cancer Prevention and Control. Learn about research and collaborative opportunities on vitamin D research, clinical trials in personalized nutrition, community-based cancer prevention and control, and more. Open to all faculty, staff, students, and community members. Brown bag lunches welcome. Sponsored by the CoEE for Medication Safety and Efficacy and the Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Outcomes Sciences, S.C. College of Pharmacy. Coker Life Science Building, Room 1101. For more information, send an e-mail to pweiss@mailbox.sc.edu.



Steck



Brandt

■ List your events

The *Times* calendar welcomes submissions of listings and photographs for upcoming campus events. Information should include the title of the event, starting time, location, speaker or presenter and their affiliation, cost to attend, and the host department or program. Send information or direct questions to Jane Jeffcoat at jwj@mailbox.sc.edu or 7-3683. The deadline for receipt of information is 11 business days prior to the publication date of issue. The next publication date is Jan. 20.

■ Online calendar

USC Calendar of Events is at <http://events.sc.edu>. To add events here, contact Cassandra Pope at popecl@mailbox.sc.edu or 7-0019.

If you require special accommodations, please contact the program sponsor.

■ Concerts

Jan. 18, 2011 Faculty and guest artists concert: Charles Fugo, USC faculty, piano recital, 7:30 p.m., School of Music Recital Hall. Free. For more information, call 7-4280.

Jan. 19, 2011 Faculty and guest artists concert: Jon Whitaker, guest artist, trombone recital, 5:30 p.m., School of Music Recital Hall. Free. Whitaker is a trombone professor at the University of Alabama. For more information, call 7-4280.

Jan. 31, 2011 Faculty and guest artists concert: Brad Palmer, guest artist, trombone recital, 7:30 p.m., School of Music Recital Hall. Free. Palmer is a trombone professor at Columbus State University's Schwob School of Music.

Feb. 7, 2011 Southern Exposure New Music Series and Chamber Innovista: The concert will be a joint collaboration between USC's Chamber Innovista and Southern Exposure, featuring School of Music faculty in a program of music by Igor Stravinsky, including *A Soldier's Tale*. 7:30 p.m., School of Music Recital Hall. Free. For more information, call 576-5763.

Feb. 15, 2011 USC Symphony Orchestra: Violinist Katherine Ten Hagen, winner of the 2009 Donald Portnoy International Violin Competition, will perform Bartók's *Violin Concerto No. 2, Sz. 112*, and the symphony will perform Enesco's *Romanian Rhapsody No. 2, Op. 11* and Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite* (1919 version). 7:30 p.m., Koger Center. Tickets are adults, \$25; seniors, faculty, and staff, \$20; and students, \$8. Tickets are available at the Carolina Coliseum box office or by calling 251-2222. For more information, call the symphony office at 7-7500.

■ Miscellany

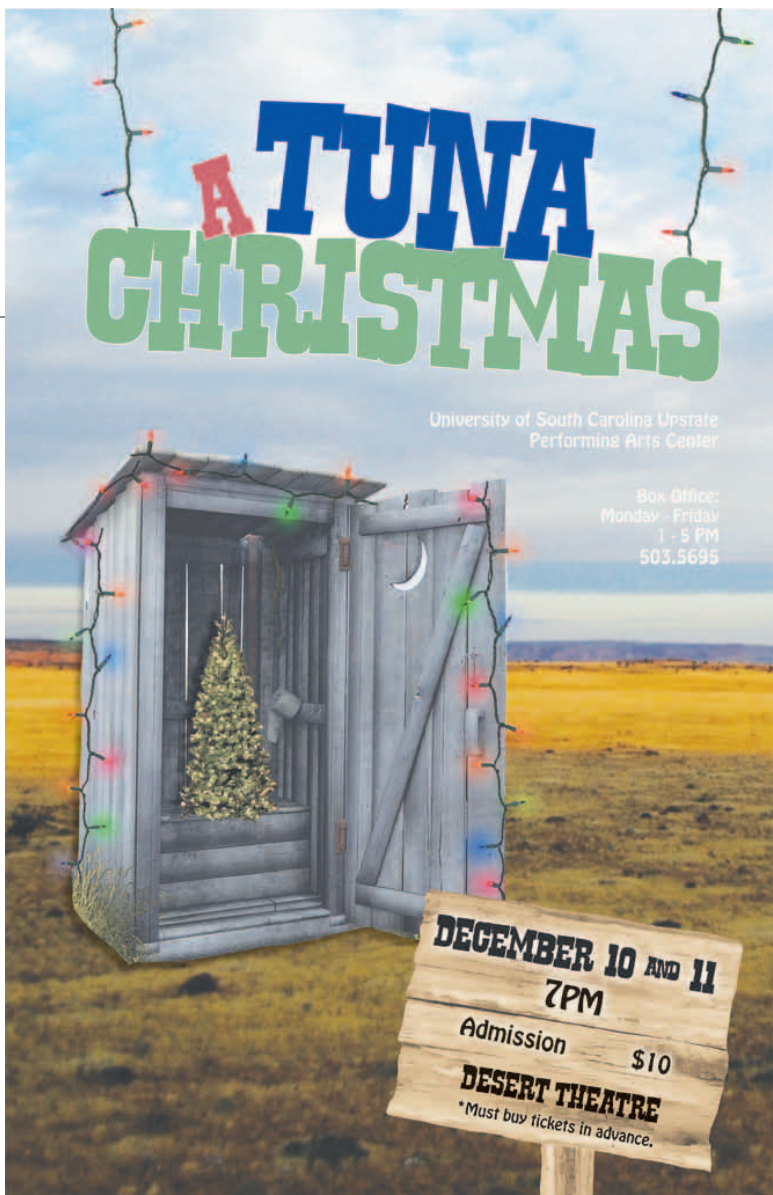
Dec. 9 Thomas Cooper Library: Thomas Cooper Society Holiday Coffee, 10:30 a.m., Hollings Library program room. The event will feature a talk by Carolina's First Lady Patricia Moore-Pastides about her new book *Greek Revival: Cooking for Life*. Her remarks will be followed with an opportunity for book signing and to visit with friends and University retirees.

Dec. 9 South Caroliniana Library: Holiday Book Signing and Reception with South Carolina authors, 5:30–7:30 p.m. Presented by the South Caroliniana Library and the University South Caroliniana Society. The event will feature the following authors: Gene Atkinson, *Interesting & Influential People of Orangeburg*; Jim Casada, *Carolina Christmas: Archibald Rutledge's Enduring Holiday Stories*; Eric Emerson, *Faith, Valor, and Devotion: the Civil War Letters of William Porcher DuBose*; Patricia Moore-Pastides, *Greek Revival: Cooking for Life*; Allen Stokes and Margaret Belser Hollis, *Twilight on the South Carolina Rice Fields*; and Edmund R. Taylor and Alex Moore, *Selected Letters of Anna Heyward Taylor*.

Jan. 14–15, 2011 Monster Jam: 7:30 p.m. Jan. 14 and 2 and 7:30 p.m. Jan. 15, Colonial Life Arena. Approximately 12 feet tall and about 12 feet wide, monster trucks are custom-designed machines that sit atop 66-inch-tall tires and weigh a minimum of 10,000 pounds. Built for short, high-powered bursts of speed, monster trucks generate 1,500 to 2,000 horsepower and are capable of speeds of up to 100 miles per hour. Monster trucks can fly as far as 125 to 130 feet (a distance greater than 14 cars side by side) and up to 35 feet in the air. Tickets for Monster Jam are \$41, \$26, and \$21 and \$6 for children ages 2–12. Tickets are available at www.TWCtix.com, the Time Warner Cable box office at Colonial Life Arena, Columbia and Lexington Play It Again Sports locations, or charge by phone at 877-4-TWC-TIX (877-489-2849).

■ Arpad Darazs Singers

The Arpad Darazs Singers will present their holiday 2010 program, "Gloria," with a performance in Columbia and another in Camden. The singers will perform at 7 p.m. Dec. 16 at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church, 5220 Clemson Ave., in Columbia and at 4 p.m. Dec. 19 at Lyttleton Street United Methodist Church, 1206 Lyttleton St., in Camden. The program will feature some Christmas favorites from past performances, including Vivaldi's *Gloria in Excelsis*, Thiman's *The Carol of the Birds*, and others, along with some selections new to the choir's repertoire, such as Bradley Ellingboe's *Our Wistful Song* and Ben Allaway's *Sing Angels, Kings and Folk*. Concerts are free and open to the public.



USC Upstate's Shoestring Players are having *A Tuna Christmas*..

New group provides free legal support to S.C. artists and arts organizations

The USC School of Law has partnered with area arts organizations to give them and the low-income artists they represent a new resource for legal assistance.

The S.C. Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (SCVLA) will offer an online service that provides pro-bono assistance to the arts community. The new resource is available at SCvolunteerlawyersforthearts.org.

The SCVLA is a project of the school's Pro Bono Program and Nonprofit Organizations Clinic, as well as the S.C. Arts Commission and the S.C. Bar Pro Bono Program. It refers artists needing legal assistance to lawyers who have agreed to donate their time.

"This collaboration has been in the works for many years," said Ken May, executive director at the S.C. Arts Commission. "We're proud to see that it has come to fruition and is now providing the South Carolina arts community with this valuable service."

"This is a wonderful opportunity for the law school to expand its relationship with the communities surrounding it," said Walter F. Pratt Jr., dean of the USC School of Law. "Building on our nationally known Pro Bono Program, this new venture will allow even more students to learn the value of service to their community while, at the same time, acquiring skills that will make them better lawyers in the future."

The service uses an online application system to gather facts from artists and arts organizations to match them with appropriate legal representation. SCVLA cannot assign a lawyer to a specific client, nor can it assist all clients. Some clients might be referred to a lawyer outside the program.

Artists and arts organizations seeking legal advice or lawyers interested in volunteering their service can visit SCvolunteerlawyersforthearts.org to complete an online application.



Pratt

Around the campuses

Dec. 10 USC Salkehatchie: Teacher Cadet Day, 9 a.m. Teacher Cadet Students from area high schools workshop day at USC Salkehatchie Gym, East Campus. For more information, call Jane Brewer 843-549-6314.

Dec. 10-11 USC Upstate: The Shoestring Players perform *A Tuna Christmas*, 7 p.m., Performing Arts Center Studio Theatre at USC Upstate. In *A Tuna Christmas*, it is Christmas in the third smallest town in Texas. Radio station OKKK news personalities Thurston Wheelis and Arles Struvie report on various Yuletide activities, including hot competition in the annual lawn display contest. In other news, voracious Joe Bob Lipsey's production of *A Christmas Carol* is jeopardized by unpaid electric bills. The play brings back characters from *Greater Tuna* and others appearing for the first time. For more information, call 864-503-5695.

Through Dec. 11 USC Sumter: "Liisa Salosaari Jasinski: Oil Paintings," featuring works by Jasinski, University Gallery, Anderson Library. Jasinski's works reflect many of the questions about the universe and the history of earth. Gallery hours are 8:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday, and 2-6 p.m. Sunday. The gallery is closed Saturday. For more information, contact Cara-lin Getty, gallery director, at cgetty@uscsumter.edu or Laurel Jordan, gallery assistant, at jordalau@uscsumter.edu.

Through Dec. 15 USC Sumter: "A History of Surface," featuring works by Kathy Casey, Umpteenth Gallery, Arts and Letters Building. The exhibit includes works in crayon, charcoal, acrylics and collage on textured canvas, and board or paper. Gallery hours are 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, see above item for contacts.

Jan. 21-22, 2011 USC Aiken: USCA Extra Inning Professional Bull Riding (PBR), James Brown Arena, Augusta, Ga. Proceeds will benefit the USC Aiken baseball team. The two-night competition will feature the top bull riders of PBR. Tickets are available online at georgialinatix.com, by phone at 1-877-4AUGTIX, or at the James Brown Arena box office. Ticket prices are \$22, \$18, and \$10 for children 12 and under (upper level seating). Two-night tickets also are available for \$36 and \$28. For group discount information, call 706-262-4573.

Theatre/opera/dance

Jan. 7-9 USC Dance Company: "Youth America Grand Prix," Drayton Hall and Band/Dance Building, times to be announced. See the rising stars of American ballet and contemporary dance in this national competition for students ages 9-19. Free to the public. For more information, go to www.cas.sc.edu/dance.

Feb. 25-27, 2011 Opera at USC: *Cendrillon*, by Jules Massenet. 7:30 p.m. Feb. 25-26 and 3 p.m. Feb. 27, Drayton Hall. Performed in French. For more information, go to www.music.sc.edu/ea/Opera/index.html.

USC Aiken film receives 'Best of Aiken' designation

USC Aiken's recently produced docudrama *Edgewood: Stage of Southern History* received accolades in *Augusta Magazine's* 2010 Best of Aiken publication.

The production was given the award for Best Local Film from Aiken for this year, and Christi and Jamie Koelker, who made the film, were named Best Local Filmmakers.

The docudrama presents the many stories of the people who have lived and worked in the house during its 180 years, with a special emphasis on the story of the women: Lucy Holcombe Pickens and Eulalie Chafee Salley.

The production of *Edgewood* was made possible by a number of grants, including the Community Foundation of the CSRA, the Humanities Council of South Carolina, S.C. National Heritage Corridor, Porter Fleming Foundation, the American Association of University Women, the S.C. League of Women Voters, and the Julian B. Salley Pickens-Salley House Endowment at USC Aiken.

Today the house is known as the Pickens-Salley House and is located on the campus of USC Aiken.

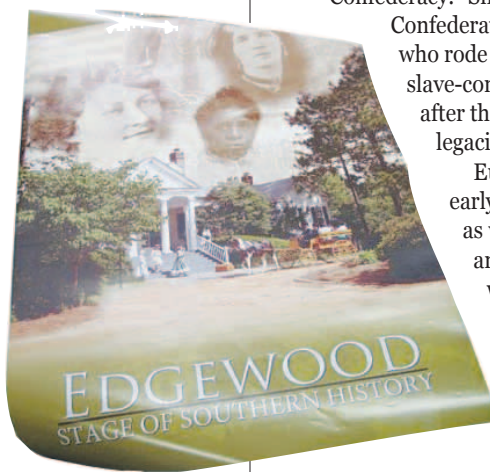
For nearly two centuries, the backcountry-styled plantation house named Edgewood has been the "stage" for some of the most significant events in Southern history. Originally

built in Edgefield in 1829 for secessionist governor Francis W. Pickens, the house was the home of two remarkable women: Lucy Holcombe Pickens and Eulalie Chafee Salley.

Lucy was celebrated, in her time, as the "Queen of the Confederacy." She was the only female to be featured on Confederate currency. Her daughter, Douschka, who rode with the Red Shirts in 1876, and her slave-confidante, Lucinda, who voluntarily stayed after the end of the Civil War, both left their legacies linked to Edgewood.

Eulalie was a prominent leader in the early suffrage movement in South Carolina, as well as one of its first woman realtors and business owners. Although Edgewood's restoration was hampered by the Great Depression, Eulalie moved "the Pickens House" to Aiken and welcomed both the famous and the infamous through the massive front doors.

Recounted by the "voice" of the house, the docudrama, *Edgewood: Stage of Southern History*, tells the stories of the extraordinary people who lived, worked, and visited the house over her long lifetime. The tales range from her memories of the Antebellum era, the War Between the States, the Pickens' visit to Czarist Russia, the Suffrage movement, the Winter Colony settlement in Aiken, the creation of the Savannah River Site, and the Civil Rights Era.



Beaufort sets direction for Performing Arts Center

USC Beaufort Chancellor Jane Upshaw has announced a new initiative to build support for the arts in Beaufort. USC Beaufort will seek to develop its Performing Arts Center as a regional focal point for theater and the visual arts. The initiative is one of several, including offering a BS in studio art, that builds on USC Beaufort's long-standing tradition of endorsing and supporting the arts.

Martin Goodman, Beaufort small business development director, chaired the Performing Arts Center Committee and developed the business plan for the new initiative. The proposal includes sponsoring family and community theatre groups it currently serves, providing a well-staffed venue for additional performing groups, and expanding the use of the campus' gallery space.

"The success of this plan will depend on community demand for arts programming and on community support for program scholarships, sponsorships, fundraising, and grants," Goodman said. "USC Beaufort's record of good stewardship will be a positive factor in making the new venture a success."

USC Beaufort is collaborating in the initiative with the Beaufort Children's Theater, the Beaufort Theatre Company, PJ and Play, USC Beaufort Festival Series, and the Beaufort Orchestra. The Performing Arts Center will work with USC Beaufort faculty members and other community arts groups to build stronger connections throughout the greater Beaufort arts community, to deepen the learning opportunities for students of all ages, and to offer richer arts programming to the community and its guests.

Under the leadership of Upshaw, USC Beaufort's vision for its historic Beaufort campus has focused on programs that build on the greater Beaufort area's unique strengths. "We aspire to develop a full-service arts campus in Beaufort," Upshaw said. "Our vision for the Historic Beaufort campus fits appropriately with our mission of community outreach."

Newly named USC Beaufort Performing Arts Center director Bonnie Hargrove has 17 years of arts administration experience. Hargrove is developing programming for the 2011 season. The Beaufort Children's Theatre will produce *Seussical, Jr.* in spring 2011. In her new role, Hargrove also will select and market exhibitions for the USC Beaufort Performing Arts Center galleries.



Upshaw

Commencement continued from page 1

Sumter; 10 associate degrees from USC Union; and 454 baccalaureate degrees from USC Upstate.

The doctoral hooding ceremony will be held at 1:30 p.m. Dec. 13 in the Koger Center. Tayloe Harding, dean of the School of Music, will be the speaker.

Tanner was named head baseball coach at USC in June 1996. In the years since, his Gamecock teams have posted a 634-282 overall record, with 12 NCAA Tournament appearances, four College World Series appearances, and the College World Series Championship in 2010. Also under his tutelage, the Gamecocks won the 2000 and 2002 SEC regular season championships and the 2004 SEC tournament championship.

During Tanner's tenure at USC, the new Carolina baseball stadium was completed near the banks of the Congaree River. The team played its first season there in 2009.

In 2005, Tanner and his wife, Karen, established the Ray Tanner Foundation, which supports organizations that care for seriously ill children, the homeless, and other charitable causes throughout the Midlands. Recipients of the foundation's grants include Palmetto Health Children's Hospital, New Beginnings Family Services, the Oliver Gospel Mission, Family Shelter, Parenting Partners, and the Nurturing Center.

Arnold has a long history of community involvement and philanthropy that includes serving as one of the founders of Riverbanks Zoological Park, assisting in the start of Columbia's Wellness Center, and establishing the Macrobiotic Center in Columbia. He and his wife, Gerry Sue, donated \$10 million to the University in 2000 to benefit the School of Public Health, which now bears his name.

Coble is a partner in the Columbia office of the Nexsen Pruet law firm and a key figure in the development and growth of the central Midlands. He worked with the University to create the Innovista district. He received a bachelor's degree in international studies cum laude in 1975 from the University. In 1978, he received his law degree cum laude from the USC School of Law where he was a member of the Order of the Wig and Robe.

Breakfast continued from page 1

Law. Benjamin serves on many boards for nonprofit organizations, including the Columbia Urban League, Benedict College, and the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce. He was a founding board member of the Eau Claire Promise Zone and a founding member of Choose Children First.

In 1999, at age 29, Benjamin was appointed to Gov. Jim Hodges' cabinet as director of the state's second largest law enforcement agency, the Department of Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services.

In addition to his work as mayor, Benjamin practices law with Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, one of the nation's largest labor and employment law firms.

The Rev. Brenda Kneeece will deliver the invocation and benediction. In December 1999, Kneeece became the seventh executive minister of the S.C. Christian Action Council. She is its first female executive. Founded in 1933, the council is a partnership of 16 denominations. It is South Carolina's only statewide ecumenical agency. With approximately 4,000 congregations, half of which are primarily African American and half primarily Caucasian, the council's member bodies tally approximately one million individuals as members.

Bobby Gist, a member of the USC 2011 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Committee and executive assistant to the president for equal opportunity programs, will make opening remarks and introductions. President Pastides will welcome guests on behalf of the University and present the annual Social Justice Awards. Ebbie Yazdani, USC Student Government president, will lead the Martin Luther King litany, and Carl R. Wells, director of Access and Equity, will present a musical selection.

Grant continued from page 1

may improve treatment of Alzheimer's or Parkinson's disease, stroke, or brain cancer; the role of plaque in weakened arteries and how it leads to heart attacks and stroke; and the study of dysfunctional cells in the most prevalent form of epilepsy.

SC INBRE target faculty will receive financial support for their research programs and work with senior faculty mentors across the network who help the faculty develop both their research programs and their academic careers. Participating undergraduate and graduate students work with faculty mentors who guide the development of these students' research projects and advise the students on graduate school and scientific career options.

SC INBRE also will help renovate biomedical-engineering research labs for students and faculty at USC's College of Engineering and Computing, where the recently established biomedical-engineering degree program needs space and upgrades to allow the program to expand.

The program also will support a bioinformatics core that will fund pilot projects, provide bioinformatics services to network investigators, and organize courses, seminars, and symposia to promote the application of bioinformatics.

Aiken's convocation ceremony is Dec. 9

USC Aiken will hold its December convocation ceremony at 7 p.m. Dec. 9 in the Convocation Center.

More than 190 degree candidates are eligible to participate in the ceremony.

Robert Clifton Webb, a 1980 graduate of USC Aiken and vice president of public affairs with Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, will deliver the commencement address.

Webb is a native South Carolinian from Columbia who graduated from Irmo High School and attended USC Columbia before coming to USC Aiken. He graduated from USC Aiken in 1980 with a BA in political science.

Kelby Dugan Heydt, of Silverstreet, was named the Outstanding Senior Student at USC Aiken and will deliver remarks on behalf of the class of 2010. Heydt is graduating with a BS in business administration *magna cum laude*.

For more information, go to web.usca.edu/Commencement/index.dot.

Johnston to receive Upstate's Distinguished Alumni Award

The USC Upstate Alumni Association will present its 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award to Lee Ann Johnston at Upstate's December convocation at 7 p.m. Dec. 14 in Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium. Johnston also will deliver the keynote address.

Criteria for the Distinguished Alumni Award include outstanding career accomplishments, community service, and service to USC Upstate. Johnston, a 1980 graduate, received a BS degree in interdisciplinary studies. She and her husband, Allen, are principals of three management companies that operate numerous restaurants in the Upstate and elsewhere.

Johnston is chief financial officer of The Butcher The Baker Companies; Piedmont Restaurant Group, LLC; and Chix and Bix, LLC; and in 2007 was honored with the S.C. Restaurateur of the Year Award. She is active in the community and has given her time and energy to benefit USC Upstate students by speaking at job fairs and other functions on campus.

For more information, go to www.uscupstate.edu/graduation or call Leah Anderson, director of alumni relations, annual giving, and campus events at USC Upstate, at 864-503-5240 or lanerson2@uscupstate.edu.



Kim Truett

Stacks of stockings

Zack King, a sophomore from Rock Hill majoring in public health and minoring in Spanish and counselor education, estimates USC faculty, staff, and students filled more than 800 stockings with toys, teddy bears, and personal items for Midlands children for the holidays. Zack is director of Carolina Cares for the Carolina Service Council. "It's been a lot of fun," Zack said. "It's been a great project for the holidays." Community Service Programs co-sponsored the project through the Salvation Army. The Nurturing Center and USC also adopted 29 families, including 74 children.

Carolina Core distribution requirements approved

Members of Faculty Senate unanimously approved the Carolina Core Distribution Requirements Proposal when they met Dec. 3. The proposal is another component of the new Carolina Core, a revised general education curriculum developed by USC faculty, staff, and students over the last four years.

To read the complete approved proposal, go to www.sc.edu/faculty/senate/10/agenda/Carolina_Core_Dist_Proposal_Dec_2010.pdf.

University ombudsman Jim Augustine, medicine, presented his 2009-10 annual report. During the period of the report (Aug. 15, 2009 to Aug. 14, 2010), Augustine met with 48 faculty members who were first-time visitors to the ombudsman's office. Augustine said his office averages about 50 visitors a year and that he has met with 212 faculty members since the office opened four years ago. To read the full report, go to www.sc.edu/faculty/senate/10/agenda/ombudsman_annual_report_20092010.pdf.

The University ombudsman is a confidential, neutral, informal, and independent resource for faculty concerns and conflicts. For more information, go to www.sc.edu/ombuds/.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be at 3 p.m. Feb. 2, 2011, in the School of Law Auditorium.

Dec. 22 is deadline to add children to insurance

As a result of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the S.C. Employee Insurance Program (EIP) will allow parents to add to their health, dental, or vision coverage any child younger than 26 who is not enrolled in any EIP program. Coverage will be effective January 2011.

The provision includes a subscriber whose child, age 19 through 25, was removed from their coverage because the child was not a full-time student or incapacitated. If the child being added is currently on COBRA, that coverage must be dropped effective Dec. 31, 2010.

Parents will need to complete a Notice of Election (NOE) form to add a child to their health, dental, or vision coverage. The NOE must be completed and submitted to the University's Benefits Office or campus Human Resources Office before the University closes for the holidays on Dec. 22.

Download the Notice of Election form from EIP's Web site at www.eip.sc.gov/publications/Active_2010_NOE_2.pdf?ts=1986833210.

Faculty and staff can obtain the NOE form and receive assistance in completing it by visiting the Benefits Office, located at 1600 Hampton St., in Suite 803. For more information, call the Benefits Office at 7-6650.

Service continued from page 1

zens through teaching, research, creative activity, and service," said Christina Galardi, student director of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service and a member of the Carolina Service Council. "We encourage faculty and staff to work alongside students and colleagues in giving back to the Columbia community in support of the University's commitment to service. By participating in the 2011 Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, faculty and staff volunteers will serve as role models for students, educating them through their leadership outside the classroom."

The event gives volunteers the chance to work with various local nonprofit organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Salvation Army, Harvest Hope Food Bank, and Carolina Children's Home.

Volunteers will attend a ceremony at the beginning of the day in remembrance of King and will then go into the greater Columbia community to make a positive impact. Transportation to the service sites and lunch will be provided.

To volunteer, register online at www.sa.sc.edu/communityservice/mlk.htm. For more information, contact Michelle Peer at 7-3197 or mpeer@mailbox.sc.edu.



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Faculty/staff news

Faculty/staff items include presentations of papers and projects for national and international organizations, appointments to professional organizations and boards, special honors, and publication of papers, articles, and books. Submissions should be typed, contain full information (see listings for style), and be sent only once to Editor, Times, 920 Sumter St., Columbia campus. Send by e-mail to: chorn@mailbox.sc.edu.

BOOKS AND CHAPTERS

Thomas Lekan, history, "The Nation State," *Turning Points in Environmental History*, Frank Uekötter, editor, University of Pittsburgh Press, Pittsburgh.

Maggi M. Morehouse, history, Aiken, "Military Service, Governance, and the African Diaspora," *African and Black Diaspora: An International Journal*, Routledge, DePaul Center for Black Diaspora, and, "My Time in the Ph.D. Program or Do You Have to Be From Mars to Teach Astronomy," *Forty and Counting: An Anthology Commemorating Four Decades of African American Studies*, University of California Press, University of California, Berkeley.

ARTICLES

Ann Kingsolver and Sasikumar Balasundaram, anthropology, with Vijayakumar Sugumaran, Jennifer Engel, Timothy Gerber, Craig Spurrier, Colin Townsend, and Kristen Wolf, "Collaborative Research on Food Security in the U.S. and Sri Lanka," *Practicing Anthropology*.

Collin A. Webster, physical education, "Relating Student Recall to Expert and Novice Teachers' Instructional Communication: An Investigation Using Receiver Selectivity Theory," *Physical Education and Sport Pedagogy*, and, with Michael W. Beets, Laura Rooney, F. Tilley, and Arron Beighle, "Evaluation of policies to promote physical activity in after-school programs: Are we meeting current benchmarks?" *Preventive Medicine*.

Robert Lamb, journalism, review, *Self Comes to Mind: Construction of the Conscious Brain*, Antonio Damasio, *New York Journal of Books*.

Tena B. Crews, hospitality, retail, and sport management, and Kelly Wilkinson (Indiana State University), "Students Perceived Preference for Visual and Auditory Assessment with E-Handwritten Feedback," *Business Communication Quarterly*.

Peter W. Cardon, hospitality, retail, and sport management, and Ephraim Okoro (Howard University), "A Measured Approach to Adopting New Media in the Business Communication Classroom," *Business Communication Quarterly*.

Gerhild Ullmann, J. Larry Durstine, Bruce A. McClenaghan, and Harriet G. Williams, exercise science, and **James Hussey**, epidemiology and biostatistics, "Effects of Feldenkrais Exercises on Balance, Mobility, Balance Confidence, and Gait Performance in Community-Dwelling Adults Age 65 and Older," *Journal of Alternative Complementary Medicine*.

Collin A. Webster, physical education pedagogy, "The Role of Biographical Characteristics in Preservice Classroom Teachers' School Physical Activity Promotion Attitudes," *Journal of Teaching in Physical Education*.

Angela D. Liese and Jihong Liu, epidemiology and biostatistics, **Russell R. Pate**, exercise science, R.B. D'Agostino Jr., Elizabeth J. Mayer-Davis, F. Lobelo, R.F. Hamman, and D. Dabelea, "Physical activity and electronic media use in the SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth Case-Control Study," *Pediatrics*.

Chin-Tser Huang, computer science and engineering, Yi Xian, and Jorge Cobb, "Look-Ahead Routing and Message Scheduling in Delay-Tolerant Networks," *Proceedings of the 35th IEEE Conference on Local Computer Networks*.

Xuemei Sui, exercise science, **James R. Hébert**, epidemiology and biostatistics, **Timothy S. Church** and **Steven N. Blair**, exercise science, I.M. Lee, C.E. Matthews, and W. Byun, "Cardiorespiratory fitness and risk of prostate cancer: Findings from the Aerobics Center Longitudinal Study," *Cancer Epidemiology*.

Andrea Tanner, journalism and mass communications, and **Daniela B. Friedman**, health promotion, education, and behavior, "Health on the Web: An examination of health content and mobilizing information on local TV Web sites," *Informatics in Health and Social Care*, and "Authorship and Information Sourcing for Health News on Local TV Web Sites: An Exploratory Analysis," *Science Communication*.

Rachel S. Brown, Catherine Leigh Graham, Suzanne McDermott, family and preventive medicine, **Nancy Richeson**, medicine, and Junlong Wu, "Evaluation of Medical Student Performance on Objective Structured Clinical Exams With Standardized Patients With and Without Disabilities," *Academic Medicine*.

Claire Robinson, Academic Centers for Excellence, and **Jimmie Gahagan**, student engagement, "Coaching students to academic success and engagement on campus," *About Campus*.

Song Wang, computer science and engineering, Brent C. Munsell, and Andrew Temlyakov, "Fast Multiple Shape Correspondence by Pre-Organizing Shape Instances," *Proceedings of IEEE Computer Society Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*, and, with Brent C. Munsell and Pahal Dalal, "Evaluating Shape Correspondence for Statistical Shape Analysis: A Benchmark Study," *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence*.

Donald R. Songer, political science, Nadia Jilani (USC doctoral student), and Susan Johnson, "Gender, consciousness raising, and decision making on the Supreme Court of Canada," *Judicature*.

PRESENTATIONS

Audrey R. Dawson, S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology and Department of Anthropology, and Chan Funk (Fort Jackson Environmental Division), "Isolating the Middle Archaic in the Carolina Sandhills: Recent Excavations at 38RD841/842/844, Fort Jackson, South Carolina," Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Lexington, Ky., and, same conference, "Ready, Aim, Inspire: Meaning and Compliance at a Fort Jackson SC, Cultural Site."

Catherine Leigh Graham, family and preventive medicine, L. Long-Bellil, K. Robey, S. Smeltzer, L. Woodard, and J. Reiss, "Access to Medical Care and the Americans with Disabilities Act: Educating Health Professionals as a Force for Culture Change," American Public Health Association, Denver, Colo.

Jennifer Bloom, education, and **Claire Robinson**, Academic Centers for Excellence, "Academic Advising Strategies to Increase Persistence Institute," Academic Impressions, Tampa, Fla.

Lynda Nilges-Charles, physical education and athletic training, and Mary Katherine Dombek (USC Ph.D. Student), "Using Children's Literature as an impetus for Intergenerational Physical Activity," S.C. Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance, Myrtle Beach.

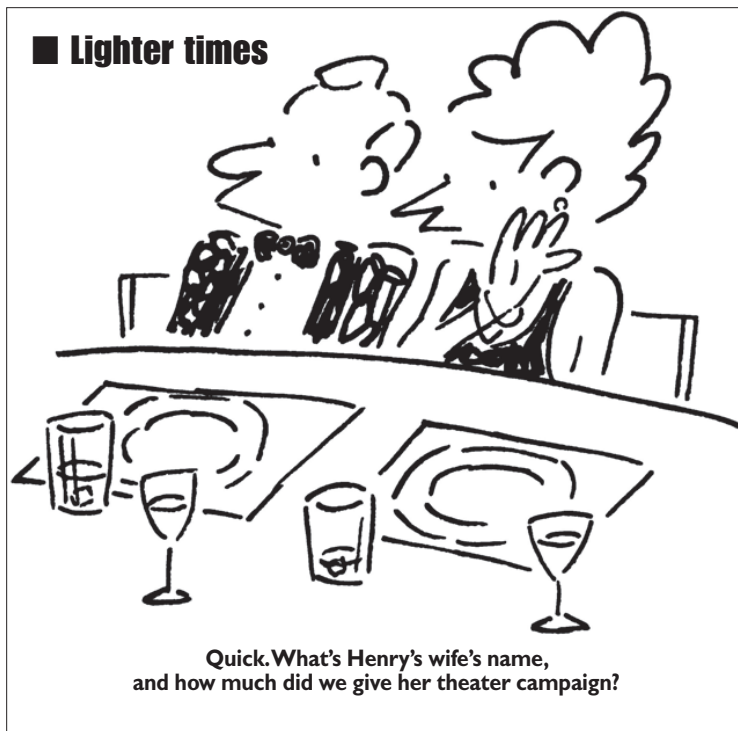
Charles Cobb, S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, Brian M. Butler, and Kathryn E. Parker, "Anthropogenic Landscapes of the Mississippian Interior," Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Lexington, Ky.

Terry A. Wolfer, social work, and Mackenzi Huyser, "Grappling with Faith: Decision Cases for Christians in Social Work," North American Association of Christians in Social Work, Botsford, Conn.

Kenneth G. Kelly, anthropology, "(African) Atlantic Creoles and late 18th and 19th century coastal Guinea," Society for Africanist Archaeology, Dakar.

Suzanne McDermott, family and preventive medicine, "An efficacy trial of the Steps to Your Health program for adults with intellectual disability," American Public Health Association, Denver, Colo.

Lighter times



Erin Roberts, religious studies, "Hamartia as 'Sin' in proto-Christian Texts," North American Association for the Study of Religion, Atlanta, Ga., and, "The Category of Emotion in New Testament Studies," Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, Ga.

Christopher Judge, anthropology, Lancaster, "Late Prehistoric Cultural Landscapes in the Great Pee Dee River of South Carolina," Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Lexington, Ky.

J. Mark Davis and Angela Murphy, exercise science, S.E. Mahoney, J.L. McClellan, M.D. Carmichael, and M.M. Peña, "Effects of 5-fluorouracil chemotherapy on voluntary physical activity," American Institute of Cancer Research, Washington, D.C., and, same conference, with J.L. Steiner, J.M. McClellan, S. Mahoney, and M.D. Carmichael, "Characterization of a mouse model of cancer related fatigue using various measures of physical activity," and, with J.L. McClellan and M.D. Carmichael, "Effects of the dietary flavonoid quercetin on intestinal polyp multiplicity and macrophage number in the ApcMin/+ mouse," and, with T.A. Tae, J.L. McClellan, J.L. Steiner, and M.D. Carmichael, "Effects of muscadine grape extract on intestinal inflammation in the ApcMin/+ mouse," and, with **James R. Hébert**, epidemiology and biostatistics, J.L. McClellan, M.M. Peña, and J.E. Green, "Benefits of exercise training on breast cancer progression and inflammation in C3(1)SV40Tag mice."

Teri Browne, social work, "It's not who you know, it's what who you know knows: The role of dialysis teams and social networks in improving kidney transplant parity," American Society of Nephrology and Scientific Exposition, Denver, Colo.

Tina Hall, physical education and athletic training, "K-12 PA Directors Training—Collaborative Paths to Physical Activity, Middle School Level," S.C. Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance, Myrtle Beach, and, same conference, with C. Kerst-Davis, "Scatter Square Dance—The Rhythm Activity for Everyone."

Adam King, S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, "Cultural Syncretism at Etowah as seen through Form, Theme, and Style," Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Lexington, Ky., and, same conference, with Ramie A. Gougeon and Maureen Meyers, "Archaeologist, Mentor, Friend: David J. Hally—An Introduction to the Symposium."

Rechelle Paranal, social work, Center for Child and Family Studies, Joan Dickinson, and Jennifer Green (both S.C. Department of Education, Office of Youth Services), "A State of Good Character," National Forum on Character Education, San Francisco, Calif.

Audrey Dawson, S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, and Chan Funk, "Targeting the Middle Archaic in the Sandhills of Fort Jackson, South Carolina," Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Lexington, Ky., and, same conference, "Ready, Aim, Inspire: Meaning and Compliance at a Fort Jackson, SC Cultural Site."

Collin A. Webster, physical education, and Glenn Weaver, "Differences in High School Students Perceived Relevance of Compulsory Physical Education to Their Personal Lives," International Association for Physical Education in Higher Education, La Coruna, Spain.

Ben Johnson, S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, "The Extant Cemeteries of Savannah River Site," Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Lexington, Ky.

William Tomes, Institute for Public Service and Policy Research, "The Recession's Impact on South Carolina Local Governments," Georgia Political Science Association, Savannah.

Gail Wagner, anthropology, "Charting Sumpweed (*Iva annua*) Across Space and Time," Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Lexington, Ky.

Song Wang, computer science and engineering, Brent C. Munsell, and Pahal Dalal, "A New Benchmark for Shape Correspondence Evaluation," International Conference on Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention, Beijing, China.

Keith Stephenson, S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, and Karen Smith, "Costly Signaling in Ritual Context: Weeden Island Mortuary Practices," Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Lexington, Ky.

Catherine Canino, English, Upstate, "The Artist as Historian: The Influence of the Italianate," Conference of the European Society for the Study of English, Turin, Italy.

Bennett named 2010 National TRIO Achiever

James Bennett, executive vice president and director of public affairs at First Citizens Bank and a member of the University's Educational Foundation, received recognition as a National TRIO Achiever at the 29th-annual Conference of the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) in San Diego, Calif.

Bennett participated in the TRIO Student Support Services project at USC from 1979 to 1983. Called the Opportunity Scholars Program (OSP), the project provides opportunities for talented students who are the first in their families to attend college.

Upon receiving his award, Bennett said he arrived alone on Carolina's campus in 1979. His grandmother, who raised him, could not afford to miss work to accompany him on move-in day. Rather than settling into his new environment, he made his first task on campus to find a job. The Office of Financial Aid gave him a work-study position, and he began that afternoon. He felt that success in college was his only option, and he found the support he needed in the OSP.

"The OSP stepped in and helped me successfully transition to college life and sustained my motivation to earn my bachelor of arts degree," Bennett said. "I can honestly attribute my professional and personal milestones to the significant impact of the Opportunity Scholars Program."

Bennett's other board memberships include SCANA, Palmetto Health Alliance, the Knight Foundation, the United Way of the Midlands, Claflin University Board of Trustees, Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center Board of Commissioners, and the S.C. Chamber of Commerce.

The TRIO Achiever Award is given to individuals who successfully completed participation in one or more of the TRIO Programs and achieve high stature within a profession and make significant civic, community, and professional contributions.

The COE is a nonprofit organization dedicated to furthering the expansion of college opportunities. Through its numerous membership services, the COE works in conjunction with colleges, universities, and agencies that sponsor TRIO programs to help low-income students, first-generation students, and students with disabilities enter college and graduate.

López-De Fedé receives Palmetto Patriot Award

Ana López-De Fedé, a research professor at the Institute for Families in Society and the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine at USC and president of the Richland County Tuberculosis Association, recently received the Palmetto Patriot Award.



López-De Fedé

Established in 1995, the award is given to South Carolinians who demonstrate good citizenship and exceptional achievement in their profession.

As head of the Health Services Research Team, López-De Fedé directs interdisciplinary research dedicated to exploring the links between health and family well-being.

During her professional career, López-De Fedé has directed community-based organizations, served as a consultant with programs addressing the needs of at-risk vulnerable populations, worked as an advocate for enhanced health care and educational services for individuals with disabilities, and performed as a university unit administrator. She is a member of the CDC Advisory Committee for the Elimination of Tuberculosis and the S.C. DHEC Advisory Committee for the Elimination of Health Disparities.

The Times staff wishes everyone in the University family a safe and merry season and new year.

Job vacancies

For up-to-date information on USC Columbia vacancies and vacancies at other campuses, go to uscjobs.sc.edu. The employment office is located at 1600 Hampton St.



Honors College students, from left, Sam Johnson, Jim Talbert, and Reggie Bain.

Carolina Science Outreach

Students to take science education on the road

By Chris Horn

Popular scientists who make complex topics understandable—think Stephen Hawking and Carl Sagan—are the role models for three Honors College students who are taking science education on the road across South Carolina.

Jim Talbert, a physics/philosophy/political science major, Reggie Bain, a physics/math major, and Sam Johnson, a biology/political science major, are using a Magellan Scholar Award to launch Carolina Science Outreach. It's a science education program with lofty aspirations and a busy calendar.

"We're making presentations in elementary schools and high schools, in nursing homes, at Rotary Clubs—basically, for anyone who wants to learn more about science topics," Talbert said. "It's a lot of fun. I gave a presentation on offshore wind power generation at a retirement community and met a lot of interesting people."

All three students have career interests in teaching, probably at the collegiate level. For now, they want to inspire young students with the mysteries of science, help older students to see the myriad career opportunities in the sciences, and engage older adults in conversations about topics such as climate change and alternative energy.

"Famous popularizers of science such as Stephen Hawking, Carl Sagan, and Brian Greene served as much of my inspiration to learn more about how the universe works at the most fundamental level," Bain said. "I can only hope to one day inspire people to learn more about the world around them as they did for me."

Each of the three students has developed presentations that include hands-on activities (Bain uses gum drops with young students to explain particle physics) to capture the attention of their intended audiences. Presentation topics include astronomy, evolution, global climate change, particle physics, and futurist theories.

"We also do a presentation for middle and high school students about why it's important to study science and to explain the various career fields that are available for science majors," Talbert said.

Magellan Scholar awards are typically aimed at making new discoveries in science or humanities or the arts, Talbert added, but in the case of Carolina Science Outreach, the goal is to disseminate existing information.

And to ensure the program's continuance after their graduation, the three juniors plan to invite more like-minded USC students to the project. To learn more about Carolina Science Outreach, visit www.carolinascienceoutreach.org.

Foreign language professors turn to Twitter as learning tool

By Marshall Swanson

Twitter—the social media tool best known for celebrity rants and other ephemeral messages—is finding a more useful purpose in foreign language classrooms at Carolina.

Professors Lara Ducate and Lara Lomicka Anderson are using Twitter as a learning aid to inject a little fun and spontaneity into foreign language instruction.

"One of my main goals of using it in my French class is to build community," said Anderson, an associate professor in the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures who, with Ducate, an associate professor of German, says Twitter can get students talking outside of regular classes.

Anderson also has her students use Twitter to converse with native speakers at École des Ponts Paris Tech, a French university, to "keep the conversation going all the time."

Ducate used Twitter last fall in a teaching methods class to connect students with peers in foreign language teaching method courses at other universities.

"It was a way to let the students find someone who is also teaching their language and learn how to deal with their first semester as a teaching assistant," she said. "They were required to Tweet three times a week on topics like how things were going in their teaching. This gave them a chance to get a little bit more personal attention than they would in class and also support from more than just me and their USC classmates."

Anderson and Ducate both focus their research on technology in the classroom. They've used discussion questions on Facebook, Skype long-distance chats, and e-mail. They've also worked with podcasting, blogs, and Wikis.

USC provides first courses for soldiers assigned to Warrior Transition Unit

By Chris Horn

Staff Sgt. David Gavula will trade his Army knapsack for a student bookbag in January when he begins taking classes full time at Carolina.

Currently, he's one of about 120 soldiers assigned to Ft. Jackson's Warrior Transition Unit (WTU), which gives injured soldiers time to mend while it is determined whether they will reenter civilian life or accept new responsibilities in the military. Soldiers assigned to WTUs either take classes at the Soldier Family Assistance Center or carry out assigned tasks while rehabilitating from their injuries.

Gavula and seven fellow soldiers completed a history course taught by a USC instructor this fall, the first course the University provided for the unit.

"We've had a program at Ft. Jackson since the 1970s, so we were interested in accommodating their request for courses for these wounded soldiers," said Chris Nesmith, director of evening programs at USC.

USC instructor Jim Haynsworth, a retired Army officer, taught the first course, which covered several centuries of world history in five weeks.

"It's very compressed content, but the soldiers assigned to these units don't have the luxury of taking courses over a 14-week semester," Haynsworth said. "Some have PTSD or traumatic brain injuries as a result of combat; some of them have sustained injuries doing their regular jobs. All of them are very diligent and a joy to teach."

"They are much more worldly and mature than regular freshmen and understand the implications and ramifica-

tions of what they're studying."

USC plans to offer an English course for WTU soldiers in the spring and perhaps psychology and other courses in future sessions. The idea is to help soldiers earn basic credits toward degrees.

Sgt. Gavula is recovering from knee surgery and back problems related to military service and will take medical retirement in preparation for full-time studies at Carolina to pursue his associate's degree at Ft. Jackson and then a bachelor's degree in political science.

"This course was a good foundation, I think. The instructor understood where we were coming from," he said.

Staff Sgt. Retha Anderson sustained a tailbone injury in airborne school and hasn't yet determined if she'll stay in the Army or return to civilian life. The history course helped her fulfill another prerequisite for nursing school.

"I'm already an LPN, so once I take a few more courses, I could start taking nursing classes to earn a BSN degree," she said.

That dovetails nicely with USC's goal for providing course content for the Warrior Transition Unit.

"Our goal is that students who pursue civilian life or opt to stay in the Army will continue their higher education," said Connie Vise, USC Ft. Jackson director. "We hope that's part of the healing process."



Nesmith



Dragon the line Students parade a Chinese dragon down Greene Street during International Education Week. The 10th-annual event at USC celebrates the advantages of an international education and global expansion. The observance strives to expand and promote programs that reach out to individuals of all nations and develop a broader understanding of world cultures and languages.

Michael Brown



Lara Ducate, left, and Lara Lomicka Anderson

The appeal of Twitter is that it offers a good way for students to get to know one another, the two professors said.

"The students are doing all kinds of interesting communication outside of class," said Anderson, who found that after two semesters, students who had Tweeted with one another were "really well connected and their community was very tight."

She also felt she got to know her students better and was interacting with them more.

Ducate discovered that she could use the subjects of her students' Tweets as a jumping off point for class discussions. "I'd look at themes that came up a lot in students' Tweets and then devote the first 10 to 15 minutes of class to those themes because they couldn't express everything they might want

to say about that," she said. Twitter allows students to learn more about others, and Ducate and Anderson believe it's a tool that allows their classes to learn "that much more when they participate."

It's also less intimidating for students who might not be as outgoing as some of their classmates.

"They end up writing more than they would be likely to say in class," she said. "It gives them another outlet where they can express themselves."

Another advantage of Twitter for language instruction is that Tweets are short and don't require a lot of thinking.

"It's easy for them to write one sentence quickly that doesn't require a lot from a proficiency standpoint," Ducate said. "I think they're more willing to do something like that than having to write a longer blog entry or something that takes more of a time commitment."

"It's short, and it connects them with the outside world and class discussion by bringing in news items and other things they want to share," Anderson said. "Students don't see [Tweets] as homework quite as much because they're fun and allow them to talk about themselves, which they love to do."

Though Twitter has turned out to be especially useful as an aid to teaching foreign languages, Ducate and Anderson think it could work in any discipline as a way of building community or extending class discussion, and they are interested in hearing from other faculty members who are using it or might want to use it in their courses.

Ducate can be reached at ducate@mailbox.sc.edu. Anderson is at lomicka@mailbox.sc.edu.