

Executive Summary

Blueprint for Academic Excellence

Capstone

AY2020-2021

Highlights

The Capstone Scholars Program enrolled over 1,500 1st-year Capstone Scholars in Fall 19, its largest cohort ever and nearly 18% larger than Fall 18, bringing the total enrollment of the Capstone Scholars Program to roughly 2,700 1st and 2nd year students.

According to our internal tracking, the average cumulative USC GPA of all Capstone Scholars for the previous academic year was a 3.6 with 90.5% of all Capstone Scholars finishing the year with a 3.0GPA or above.

In the academic year ending Spring 19, 87.7% of all Capstone Scholars were engaged in our program. Capstone Scholars are recognized for their academic achievement and beyond the classroom involvement including service, leadership, undergraduate research, and study abroad experiences.

Mission Statement

The Capstone Scholars Program attracts high-ability students to the University of South Carolina and serves them through a community that provides targeted educational and leadership opportunities within and beyond the classroom.

Updated: 02/01/2019

Vision Statement

All Capstone Scholars will be globally aware, locally active, lifelong learners and leaders.

Updated: 02/01/2019

Values Statement

We aim to provide an environment that will give high-ability students the opportunity to be successful within and beyond the classroom. We value learning, self-authorship, service, discovery, personal integrity, teamwork, leadership, self-efficacy, and community.

Updated: 02/01/2019

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Goals - Looking Back

Goals for the previous Academic Year.

Goal 1 - Living and Learning Experience

Goal Statement	Enhance resident students' living and learning experience by encouraging interactions and connections with Faculty Principals.
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Inclusive and Inspiring Communities
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Our mission is to enroll high-ability students to the University and serve them through a community that provides targeted educational and leadership opportunities within and beyond the classroom. We want all Capstone Scholars to be globally aware, locally active, and life long learners and leaders. This goal aligns with our mission in providing an environment in which students connect to the Faculty Principal and the University of Housing LLC staff through events and one-on-one meetings.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	<p>Utilized EAB Pathfinder to create one-on-one student meetings with Faculty Principal in addition to the Capstone Scholars' staff one-on-one Capstone Consultation meetings.</p> <p>Faculty Principal led service-learning study abroad program over spring break</p> <p>Social events outside of the LLC offerings to allow students to meet with Faculty Principal and partner offices.</p>
Achievements	<p>Capstone Scholars Program held 3,206 scheduled 1:1 appointments during the 17/18 academic year. Of the 584 student survey respondents, 94.34% were satisfied or very satisfied with their 1:1 Capstone Consultation.</p> <p>Faculty Principal visited 45 sections of Capstone Scholars University 101 sections totally just over 775 interactions with Capstone Scholars. Individual meetings with Faculty Principal during Fall 17 alone was 136 interactions with Capstone Scholars.</p> <p>30 Capstone Scholars were selected for the 2018 spring break service-learning program to Nicaragua led by the Faculty</p>

Goals - Looking Back

	<p>Principal.</p> <p>83:87% of Capstone LLC students indicated their interactions with the faculty principal positively contributed to their overall experience living on campus.</p>
Resources Utilized	<p>Approximately \$250,000 was spent on personnel (5 FTE's - Associate Principal, 4 Assistant Principals, one Graduate Assistant, Undergraduate Assistants) and Faculty Principal</p> <p>Approximately \$80,000 was spent on supplies and programming.</p>
Goal Continuation	<p>All current programming related to this goal will continue.</p> <p>Increasing enrollment will be a factor in adjusting methodology and timing of one-on-one meetings.</p> <p>"Make up" Capstone Consultation requirement will utilize select campus partners (Office of Undergraduate Research, Study Abroad, Career Center, Student Success Center, etc.) to encourage students to broaden outreach beyond the Capstone Scholars Program. This plan will continue into next year specifically for the Spring semester Capstone Consultation requirement for 2nd year students.</p>
Goal Upcoming Plans	<p>Created a new "Capstone Scholars Faculty Principal" appointment in EAB Pathfinder for students to directly schedule appointments with Faculty Principal.</p> <p>Capstone Consultations with Capstone Scholars staff through EAB Pathfinder with Capstone Scholar students will continue. Due to enrollment increase, partnership with University 101 is planned for Fall 18 is related to the Capstone Consultation requirement for 1st year students.</p> <p>The Faculty Principal will visit all 55 sections of Capstone Scholars University 101 sections to introduce himself and the accompanying Capstone Scholars staff member to present on the Capstone Scholars Program, benefits, requirements and allow the Faculty Principal to personally greet each student. We will partner with University 101 to have this presentation scheduled through ScheduleCenter for University 101 instructors to easily arrange this presentation.</p> <p>Spring break program in 18/19 year led by Faculty Principal will run this year to Costa Rica</p>
Resources Needed	<p>Able to maintain all services through current budget. A fund budget for all personnel, supplies, programming, grants, travel,</p>

Goals - Looking Back

	facilities was between \$800,000-\$900,000 for fiscal year 17/18
Goal Notes	Growth in enrollment continues to be both a challenge as well as an opportunity. Increase in staff size has been needed to accommodate the needs of our students while the increase in population has allowed us to have a healthy budget. Use of EAB platform was helpful in establishing faculty principal/student meetings. Satisfaction rate for all meetings between faculty/staff and students remains consistently high.

Goals - Looking Back

Goal 2 - Enhancing Education

Goal Statement	Provide supportive living and learning environments that promote academic attainment of resident students.
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow • Building Inclusive and Inspiring Communities • Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Our mission is to enroll high-ability students to the University and serve them through a community that provides targeted educational and leadership opportunities within and beyond the classroom. We want all Capstone Scholars to be academically successful and retain the scholarships they were awarded as incoming freshman. Additionally, for students to get involved in study abroad, research, and more, students must be academically successful in the classroom to qualify for a variety of experiences that we also promote. With many of our students being non-SC residents, it's important that our students maintain scholarships in order to help with retention to the 2nd and 3rd year.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	<p>All Capstone Scholars are required to take a Capstone Scholars section of University 101</p> <p>Capstone Scholars specific sections of English 101 and 102</p> <p>Academic requirement for all Capstone Scholars is to maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA each semester.</p> <p>Partner with Student Success Center to create new "Success Consultations" for students with a GPA between 2.0-3.0.</p> <p>Adulting workshops geared towards life skills as well as habits of success such as Time Management</p>
Achievements	<p>Enrolled 1,104 1st year Capstone Scholars with an average SAT of 1358 and average ACT of 29.7</p> <p>Total enrollment of the Capstone Scholars Program is 1,946 1st and 2nd year students</p> <p>According to our internal tracking, we had a 91.94% retention rate from Spring 17 to Fall 17 semester. If you include students who returned to the University but left the Capstone Scholars Program, it is 93.77%.</p> <p>Average GPA for all Capstone Scholars in 17/18 was a 3.6, with 92% of all Capstone Scholars finishing with over a 3.0GPA</p>

Goals - Looking Back

	<p>Provided 45 sections of Capstone Scholars University 101 courses and 14 Capstone Scholars English 101/102 courses with special themes</p> <p>Newly created Adulting Workshops in the Spring 18 semester saw 5 events attract 46 students</p> <p>57 students attended a required SSC Success Consultation. Of those who attended, their % change in GPA was .13% higher than non-participants from Fall 17-Spring 18, and average GPA at the end of Spring 18 of those attended was .33 higher than non participants</p>
<p>Resources Utilized</p>	<p>Approximately \$8,000 was spent on partnership with First-Year English Programs and maymester programs</p>
<p>Goal Continuation</p>	<p>Due to the nature of our high-ability students, this goal continues for the foreseeable future in order to retain students, help students retain their scholarships, and promote an environment which will allow students to be successful in the classroom.</p>
<p>Goal Upcoming Plans</p>	<p>Beginning in Spring 18 we partnered with the Student Success Center to create "Success Consultations" for our students who fall below a 3.0 GPA in order to help students retain their scholarships. This program will continue into the new year</p> <p>Partnership with First Year English Programs and University 101 will continue</p> <p>Number of Capstone Scholars sections of University 101 will increase to accommodate increasing enrollment of Capstone Scholars Program</p> <p>Capstone Scholars academic requirement will remain in effect Adulting Workshops will continue into the next year</p>
<p>Resources Needed</p>	<p>Currently able to maintain all services through current budget. A fund budget for all personnel, supplies, programming, grants, travel, facilities was between \$800,000-\$900,000 for fiscal year 17/18</p>
<p>Goal Notes</p>	<p>Majority of our students took a Capstone Scholars section of University 101 but growth in enrollment remains a challenge when needing to provide an adequate number of sections. Have had to be flexible with allowing students to take a University 101 section if they are part of another learning community. Continuing to work with the College of Engineering and Computing to develop dedicated first-year courses for Capstone Scholars engineering majors. Regarding study abroad, we have</p>

Goals - Looking Back

	established a goal to provide two concurrent programs, one being service-learning based and the other being a "off the beaten path" destination. Partnered with the College of Education for our two Maymester programs. One was canceled due to civil unrest.
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Goals - Looking Back

Goal 3 - Connecting Students to Promote Community

Goal Statement	Connect resident students to USC opportunities and activities both as part of the living and learning community and outside of the community to cultivate a sense of belonging with the University
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow • Spurring Knowledge and Creation • Building Inclusive and Inspiring Communities • Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Our mission is to enroll high-ability students to the University and serve them through a community that provides targeted educational and leadership opportunities within and beyond the classroom. We want all Capstone Scholars to be globally aware, locally active, and life long learners and leaders. This goal aligns with our mission in providing a variety of beyond the classroom experiences, both academically and socially, that will promote opportunity and belonging.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	Developed a new student-led Service Team that will provide service experiences for Capstone Scholars, seek out partnerships with Capstone House to co-sponsor select events on top of what the Capstone Scholars Program already provides through the Programming Council, student-led Programming Council will create events designed to introduce our primarily out-of-state population with opportunities to connect with the Columbia area.
Achievements	<p>Adoption of Pathfinder in Fall 17 allowed us to serve 1,686 students through Capstone Consultations with 1,822 total individual touch points with students in our office. Survey respondents indicating a 98.9% satisfaction rate.</p> <p>86.08% of Capstone Scholars living in the Capstone Scholars Community report that they feel like they belong in their living and learning community with 88.03% stating the community provided them with an opportunity to make close friends.</p> <p>Total event attendance for the year from 83 Capstone Scholars events was 2,913 students including: Welcome Week (538 students), First Hot Cookie Friday (170), Haunted House partnership w/Housing (103), Savannah Service Day Trip partnership w/Housing (49)</p> <p>Created a new Service Team beginning this academic year providing 148 Capstone Scholars opportunities to provide 511 hours of service to the Columbia community.</p> <p>Explore Columbia Events designed to connect Capstone Scholars</p>

Goals - Looking Back

	to the Columbia community planned 5-6 events each semester
Resources Utilized	Approximately \$80,000 spent on all supplies, facilities, programming, rentals.
Goal Continuation	Connecting students to opportunities outside of the Capstone Scholars community is an important aspect of our program (a majority of our students live outside the LLC) so specialized programming aimed to bring students together across multiple living environments will continue to be a priority on an on-going basis.
Goal Upcoming Plans	Will continue all current level of programming and partnerships with University Housing, utilizing EAB Pathfinder for one-on-one student meetings, Service Team will look to expand service offerings both on and off campus, including day-long service trips to Greenville/Charleston areas, and the Programming Council will continue to offer programs connecting students to opportunities in the Columbia area to promote a sense of belonging.
Resources Needed	Currently able to maintain all services through current budget. A fund budget for all personnel, supplies, programming, grants, travel, facilities was between \$800,000-\$900,000 for fiscal year 17/18
Goal Notes	<p>Freshmen that were mentored through the Capstone Connectors experience are 36% more likely to complete all of their semester requirements compared to their non-mentored peers. The jump is even bigger in the Spring semester with 45% difference (Spring 2018)</p> <p>Sophomores serving as Capstone Connector mentors are 47% more likely on average to complete all of their semester requirements compared to their non-mentored peers</p>

Goals - Looking Back

Goal 4 - High-Ability Student Achievement

Goal Statement	Work with high-ability students predicted to excel in the classroom and enable them to reach their full high-performing potential in and beyond the classroom
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow • Spurring Knowledge and Creation • Building Inclusive and Inspiring Communities • Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Because our program is designed to enroll high-ability students, we aim to provide programming and opportunities that will enable these students to be successful. That is why we provide one-on-one meetings, course offerings, dedicated programming, grant opportunities, and the ability to earn further distinction that will enable them to be eligible for future awards such as Graduation with Leadership Distinction and national fellowships.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	Within our Capstone Consultations, events where we invite partner offices, Capstone Scholars Leadership Program course, etc we will continue to work with students to connect with resources and opportunities that help them achieve their own goals.
Achievements	<p>79 Capstone Scholars were recognized as Capstone Scholars Fellows at the Capstone Scholars Fellows Colloquium event. The Magellan Apprentice Undergraduate Research Grant was awarded to 35 students</p> <p>Passport Travel Grants awarded to 54 student</p> <p>63.7% of 1st year students and 52.6% of 2nd year students completed all semester requirements.</p> <p>Total number of students who completed all requirements was 1,152 (58.86%)</p> <p>80 Capstone Scholars enrolled in the Capstone Scholars Leadership Program for Spring 18 which was a 31% increase in participation from last year.</p> <p>Four of the University's Five Hollings Scholars were Capstone Scholars</p> <p>A Capstone Scholar received the University's Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award</p> <p>Graduation with Leadership Distinction: 10 Capstone Scholars completed GLD in the Fall 17 semester, and 75 Capstone Scholars completed GLD in the Spring 18 semester.</p>
Resources Utilized	Over \$97,000 awarded to Capstone Scholars and Capstone Fellows in 17/18 year. These awards were provided in the form of the Passport Travel Grant for maymester and study abroad programs, Magellan Apprentice Grant for faculty-mentored undergraduate research, and Professional Development Grant to

Goals - Looking Back

	fund student conference travel, professional memberships, and testing fees for graduate school. Over \$1,000 was spent on the Capstone Scholars Leadership Program materials
Goal Continuation	Will continue to fund all grant programs
Goal Upcoming Plans	Adding a new grant, Professional Development Grant beginning in Spring 18 with a budget of \$10,000 for Capstone Scholars Fellows
Resources Needed	Currently able to maintain all services through current budget. A fund budget for all personnel, supplies, programming, grants, travel, facilities was between \$800,000-\$900,000 for fiscal year 17/18
Goal Notes	

Goals - Real Time

Goals for the current Academic Year.

Goal 1 - Living and Learning Experience

Goal Statement	Enhance resident students' living and learning experience by encouraging interactions and connections with Faculty Principals.
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow • Spurring Knowledge and Creation • Building Inclusive and Inspiring Communities • Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	We want all Capstone Scholars to be globally aware, locally active, and life long learners and leaders. This goal aligns with our mission in providing an environment in which students connect to the Faculty Principal and the University of Housing LLC staff through events and one-on-one meetings.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	<p>Utilized EAB Navigate to create one-on-one student meetings with Faculty Principal in addition to the Capstone Scholars' staff one-on-one Capstone Consultation meetings.</p> <p>Faculty Principal led service-learning study abroad program over spring break</p> <p>Social events outside of the LLC offerings to allow students to meet with Faculty Principal and partner offices</p> <p>Faculty Principal/Capstone Scholars staff presentations to all 63 Capstone Scholars sections of University 101 and the ENCP 105.</p>
Achievements	<p>Select events were designed to include Faculty Principal interaction (Hot Cookie Friday, University 101 presentations, and the spring break service learning abroad program) which are designed to encourage students to set up individual appointments with the Faculty Principal.</p> <p>Over 1,000 students attended Hot Cookie Friday events during Spring 19 and the beginning of the Fall 19 semester where the Faculty Principal present. In the Fall 19 semester, 1,162 1st-year Capstone Scholars interacted with the Faculty Principal during presentations to all 63 Capstone Scholars sections of University 101 and ENCP 105 which has led to 87 one-on-one meetings with students and the Faculty Principal as of the end of October 2019. During the Spring 19 semester, there were 62 one-on-one student meetings with the Faculty Principal.</p>

Goals - Real Time

	In Spring 2019, 30 Capstone Scholars attended the University 290 spring break service-learning abroad program to Costa Rica led by the Faculty Principal.
Resources Utilized	Approximately \$460,000 have been spent so far on personnel (6 FTE's - Associate Principal, 4 Assistant Principals, Administrative Assistant), Graduate Assistants, Undergraduate Assistants, and Faculty Principal
Goal Continuation	Increasing enrollment plays a factor in adjusting methodology and timing of one-on-one meetings, events tailored towards Faculty Principal interaction, and frequency of events.
Goal Upcoming Plans	<p>We continue to involve the Faculty Principal in key events such as Hot Cookie Friday, one-on-one appointments, and University 101 presentations.</p> <p>We created a new "Capstone Scholars Faculty Principal" appointment in Navigate beginning Spring 19 for students to directly schedule appointments with Faculty Principal which also carried on into the Fall 19 semester.</p> <p>In May 2020, the current Faculty Principal will retire and a new Faculty Principal will begin their appointment. At this point it remains a challenge to plan for a transition mid-year, however we hope to involve the new Faculty Principal as much as possible during the Spring 2020 semester in order to plan initiatives involving connecting the new Faculty Principal to our students.</p>
Resources Needed	Currently able to maintain all services through current budget. A fund budget for all personnel, supplies, programming, grants, travel, facilities is between over \$1 million for FY20.
Goal Notes	<p>Adoption of ScheduleCenter for University 101 Faculty Principal presentations allowed ease of registration as well as assessment. We also reevaluated the University 101 presentations to include more time featuring the Capstone Consultant in each class (also to plan ahead for the future due to Dr. Hickey's upcoming retirement). This also allowed each Capstone Consultant to encourage students to meet with Dr. Hickey one-on-one during the Fall 19 semester.</p> <p>Based on assessment provided by University 101, we improved the value of the presentation this year. Last year "this presentation was valuable" rated a 4.59 out of 5. This year (Fall 19) this same question rated a 4.8 out of 5.</p>

Goals - Real Time

Goal 2 - Enhancing Education

Goal Statement	Provide supportive living and learning environments that promote academic attainment of resident students.
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow • Spurring Knowledge and Creation • Building Inclusive and Inspiring Communities • Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Our mission is to enroll high-ability students to the University and serve them through a community that provides targeted educational and leadership opportunities within and beyond the classroom. We want all Capstone Scholars to be academically successful and retain the scholarships they were awarded as incoming freshman. Additionally, for students to get involved in study abroad, research, and more, students must be academically successful in the classroom to qualify for a variety of experiences that we also promote. With many of our students being non-SC residents, it's important that our students maintain scholarships in order to help with retention to the 2nd and 3rd year.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	<p>All Capstone Scholars are required to take a Capstone Scholars section of University 101</p> <p>Capstone Scholars specific sections of English 101 and 102</p> <p>Academic requirement for all Capstone Scholars is to maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA each semester.</p> <p>Partner with Student Success Center to create new "Success Consultations" for students having a GPA between 2.0-3.0.</p> <p>Adulting workshops geared towards life skills as well as habits of success such as Time Management</p>
Achievements	<p>We enrolled over 18% more students this year than the previous year but we're able to maintain the academic profile and GPA performance of previous years through our partnership with University 101, First-Year English Programs, College of Engineering and Computing, and SSC.</p> <p>We enrolled approximately 1,500 new 1st year Capstone Scholars as of the end of the Fall 19 semester, and in partnership with University 101, provided them with 63 sections of Capstone Scholars University 101 courses (8 more than last year) which enrolled nearly 1,200 students. We offered 14 Capstone Scholars English 101/102 courses with special themes. We offered a Capstone Scholars section of ENCP 105 for CEC students who were not able to take a University 101 course.</p> <p>According to our internal tracking, 95.4% of 1st year students who finished the Spring 19 semester returned to campus in the</p>

Goals - Real Time

	fall. At the conclusion of the Spring 19 semester, 90.5% of all Capstone Scholars (over 2,200 students) had a 3.0 GPA or above.
Resources Utilized	Approximately \$5,000 was spent towards the academic partnerships with First Year English Programs and College of Engineering and Computing. We also spent \$14,000 on Global Classroom Programs.
Goal Continuation	Due to the nature of our high-ability students, this goal continue for the foreseeable future in order to retain students, help students retain their scholarships, and promote an environment which will allow students to be successful in the classroom.
Goal Upcoming Plans	Capstone Scholars-specific courses such as University 101 sections (over 60 sections), themed English 101 and 102 courses, ENCP 105 for Capstone Scholars, University 290 (leadership course and spring break service learning), maymester programs University 101 requirement for all Capstone Scholars Partnership with Student Success Center for students who fall below a 3.0 GPA All Capstone Scholars are required to maintain a cumulative 3.0 GPA (to maintain University scholarships)
Resources Needed	Currently able to maintain all services through current budget. A fund budget for all personnel, supplies, programming, grants, travel, facilities is between over \$1 million for FY20.
Goal Notes	<p>We partnered with the Student Success Center to work with students who fell below a 3.0GPA at the end of the Fall 18 semester. This included 168 students, and they were asked to complete a SSC Success Consultation in Spring 19. Of those 168 students, 61 attended a SSC Success Consultation. Of those 61 students, 66% finished the Spring 19 semester with above a 3.0 GPA where only 42% of those who did not attend a SSC Success Consultation finished over a 3.0 GPA.</p> <p>We also learned that 46% of all Darla Moore School of Business/International Business applicants were Capstone Scholars this year. Of the total number of Capstone Scholars who applied, 72% of were admitted into the IB program.</p>

Goals - Real Time

Goal 3 - Connecting Students to Promote Community

Goal Statement	Connect resident students to USC opportunities and activities both as part of the living and learning community and outside of the community to cultivate a sense of belonging with the University
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow • Spurring Knowledge and Creation • Building Inclusive and Inspiring Communities • Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Our mission is to enroll high-ability students to the University and serve them through a community that provides targeted educational and leadership opportunities within and beyond the classroom. We want all Capstone Scholars to be globally aware, locally active, and life long learners and leaders. This goal aligns with our mission in providing a variety of beyond the classroom experiences, both academically and socially, that will promote opportunity and belonging.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	Developed a new student-led Service Team that will provide service experiences for Capstone Scholars, seek out partnerships with Capstone House to co-sponsor select events on top of what the Capstone Scholars Program already provides through the Programming Council, student-led Programming Council will create events designed to introduce our primarily out-of-state population with opportunities to connect with the Columbia area.
Achievements	<p>We provided events of varying size in order to break down our larger community into smaller communities, whether it be one-on-one meetings with students, social events, leadership courses, service events, etc.</p> <p>Total event attendance for the Fall 18 semester from 52 Capstone Scholars events was 1,863 students; 52 events in Spring 19 with 1891 attendees.</p> <p>Fall 19 semester through October we have had 1,755 card swipes at our Capstone Scholars events. If we include our U101 Capstone Scholars presentations, we've hit 2,917 card swipes at our events (not including Capstone LLC events).</p> <p>For Fall 19 according to the Housing dashboard for on-campus students, 82% of Capstone Scholars have attended 2 or more events. Over 680 students attended our Welcome Week event.</p> <p>In Spring 19, we met with 774 1st year Capstone Scholars in one-on-one Capstone Consultation meetings. Fall 19 through October we've met with 478 2nd year students one-on-one.</p>

Goals - Real Time

Resources Utilized	Approximately \$100,000 were spent on supplies this year including food, supplies, rentals, and other miscellaneous costs to support events.
Goal Continuation	Connecting students to opportunities outside of the Capstone Scholars community is an important aspect of our program (a majority of our students live outside the LLC) so specialized programming aimed to bring students together across multiple living environments will continue to be a priority on an on-going basis.
Goal Upcoming Plans	<p>Will continue all current level of programming and partnerships with University Housing, utilizing EAB Navigate for one-on-one student meetings, Service Team will look to expand service offerings both on and off campus, including day-long service trips to Greenville/Charleston areas, and the Programming Council will continue to offer programs connecting students to opportunities in the Columbia area to promote a sense of belonging.</p> <p>The Spring 19 Capstone Consultation requirement utilized select campus partners to encourage students to broaden outreach beyond the Capstone Scholars Program. This plan will continue into next year specifically for the Spring semester Capstone Consultation requirement for 2nd year students.</p>
Resources Needed	Currently able to maintain all services through current budget. A fund budget for all personnel, supplies, programming, grants, travel, facilities is between over \$1 million for FY20.
Goal Notes	<p>Notable finds for select initiatives</p> <p>Pillars Extension Program for Capstone Scholars: July 27-28 at Camp Long in Aiken, SC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 incoming students, 4 upperclassmen attended (24 total) • Based on assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ "This weekend left me feeling excited about being a Capstone Scholar" (95.8% strongly agree, 4.2% agree) ◦ "I feel comfortable reaching out to a Capstone Staff member when arriving on campus in the fall" (95.8% strongly agree, 4.2% agree) <p>We also saw where 1st year Capstone Scholars who had a Capstone Scholar Connector (2nd year mentor) were 13% more engaged. Mentors were 29.7% more likely to complete a personal challenge, service, or attend a Capstone Consultation.</p>

Goals - Real Time

	We created new assessment metrics for Capstone Consultations for Fall 19.
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Goals - Real Time

Goal 4 - High-Ability Student Achievement

Goal Statement	Work with high-ability students predicted to excel in the classroom and enable them to reach their full high-performing potential in and beyond the classroom
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow • Spurring Knowledge and Creation • Building Inclusive and Inspiring Communities • Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Because our program is designed to enroll high-ability students, we aim to provide programming and opportunities that will enable these students to be successful. That is why we provide one-on-one meetings, course offerings, dedicated programming, grant opportunities, and the ability to earn further distinction that will enable them to be eligible for future awards such as Graduation with Leadership Distinction and national fellowships.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	<p>Capstone Scholars Leadership Program course (credit and non-credit bearing)</p> <p>Capstone Connector leaders</p> <p>Student Leadership Retreat</p> <p>Programming Council leaders</p> <p>Capstone Scholars grants including Passport Travel Grant, Magellan Apprentice, and Professional Development Grant</p> <p>Service Team leaders</p> <p>Service Learning experiences</p> <p>Adulting Workshop series</p> <p>Capstone Fellows distinction</p> <p>Capstone Consultations</p> <p>Personal Challenge requirement for all Capstone Scholars</p>
Achievements	<p>Our focus in providing experiences to enable high-ability students who've enrolled at the University as a Capstone Scholar to engage in beyond-the-classroom experiences continues to pay off. The Capstone Fellows distinction recognizes students who have a 3.5 GPA, have developed relationships with faculty, engaged in high-impact practices, and challenge themselves with diverse perspectives.</p> <p>In Fall 19, Of the Capstone Scholars who applied, 110 received the Capstone Fellows distinction (11.6% of the class). This cohort had a 3.82 average GPA. There are currently 235 Capstone Fellows (between 3rd and 4th year students).</p> <p>55 students enroll in the UNIV290 Capstone Scholars Leadership course in Spring 19.</p> <p>In the Spring 19 semester, 66% of all Capstone Scholars</p>

Goals - Real Time

	<p>completed their Personal Challenge and their Community Impact requirement.</p> <p>54% of all 2nd year students (511 in total) reported visiting a select campus parter office (Research, Study Abroad, Career Center, USC Connect, NFSP office, etc.)</p>
Resources Utilized	<p>Over \$70,000 awarded to Capstone Scholars and Capstone Fellows in 18/19 academic year at this point. These awards were provided in the form of the Passport Travel Grant for maymester and study abroad programs, Magellan Apprentice Grant for faculty-mentored undergraduate research, and Professional Development Grant to fund student conference travel, professional memberships, and testing fees for graduate school.</p>
Goal Continuation	<p>Developing a culture of engagement and self-authorship for high-ability students is an ongoing goal for our program.</p>
Goal Upcoming Plans	<p>Will continue all Goal 4 initiatives and programs through the end of the academic year (listed below). The next Faculty Principal will begin in the Summer at which point we'd evaluate priorities, initiatives, events, etc. At this point, we plan as we did this past year and will begin to make adjustments as needed to provide the next Faculty Principal space to develop and implement initiatives.</p> <p>Capstone Scholars Leadership Program course Capstone Connectors Student Leadership Retreat Programming Council leaders Capstone Scholars grants: Passport Travel Grant, Magellan Apprentice, and Professional Development Grant Service Team leaders Adulting Workshops Capstone Fellows distinction Capstone Consultations Personal Challenge</p> <p>For Capstone Scholars who were not in a Capstone Scholars section of U101 and missed the Capstone presentation, these students view a video and take a quiz to ensure they are aware of the requirements and opportunities available to them. This video is housed on our website.</p>
Resources Needed	<p>Currently able to maintain all services through current budget. A fund budget for all personnel, supplies, programming, grants, travel, facilities is between over \$1 million for FY20.</p>
Goal Notes	<p>The number of Capstone Scholars who apply and receive the Capstone Fellows distinction remains around 11-14% of a cohort each year. We believe more students would be eligible for this</p>

Goals - Real Time

	<p>distinction but it comes down to students submitting their experiences to our office, and in some cases students neglect to do that despite meeting the requirements for Fellows distinction.</p> <p>29 Capstone Scholars were awarded the Magellan Apprentice Undergraduate Research grant during the 18/19 academic year with 15 students applying for the grant in the Fall 19.</p> <p>59 Capstone Scholars were awarded the Passport Travel Grant in Fall 18 for use in Summer 19 (31 1st-year Capstone Scholars, 23 2nd-year Capstone Scholars, 5 Capstone Fellows)</p>
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Goals - Looking Ahead

Goals for the next Academic Year.

Goal 1 - Living and Learning Experience

Goal Statement	Enhance resident students' living and learning experience by encouraging interactions and connections with Faculty Principals.
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow • Spurring Knowledge and Creation • Building Inclusive and Inspiring Communities • Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	We want all Capstone Scholars to be globally aware, locally active, and life long learners and leaders. This goal aligns with our mission in providing an environment in which students connect to the Faculty Principal and the University of Housing LLC staff through events and one-on-one meetings.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	<p>Faculty Principal/student meetings scheduled through Navigate University 101 Capstone Scholars Presentations featuring Capstone Scholars staff and the Faculty Principal</p> <p>Programming Council's events featuring the Faculty Principal</p> <p>Capstone Scholars Leadership Week events</p> <p>Capstone Scholars Etiquette Dinner</p> <p>Spring Break service learning abroad program led by the Faculty Principal</p>
Achievements	
Resources Utilized	
Goal Continuation	Enhancing resident students' living and learning experiences by encouraging interactions and connections with the Faculty Principal is an ongoing goal for our program.
Goal Upcoming Plans	<p>Faculty Principal one-on-one meetings</p> <p>University 101 class presentations with Capstone Scholars</p> <p>Faculty Principal and staff</p> <p>Programming Council events including Faculty Principal</p> <p>Leadership Week events</p> <p>Etiquette Dinner</p> <p>Spring Break service learning program to Latin America with Faculty Principal</p> <p>Partnerships with Capstone LLC</p>
Resources Needed	Currently able to maintain all services through current budget. A fund budget for all personnel, supplies, programming, grants, travel, facilities is between over \$1 million for the next fiscal year.

Goals - Looking Ahead

Goal Notes	
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Goals - Looking Ahead

Goal 2 - Enhancing Education

Goal Statement	Provide supportive living and learning environments that promote academic attainment of resident students
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow • Spurring Knowledge and Creation • Building Inclusive and Inspiring Communities • Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Our mission is to enroll high-ability students to the University and serve them through a community that provides targeted educational and leadership opportunities within and beyond the classroom. We want all Capstone Scholars to be academically successful and retain the scholarships they were awarded as incoming freshman. Additionally, for students to get involved in study abroad, research, and more, students must be academically successful in the classroom to qualify for a variety of experiences that we also promote. With many of our students being non-SC residents, it's important that our students maintain scholarships in order to help with retention to the 2nd and 3rd year.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	<p>Capstone Scholars-specific courses such as University 101 sections (over 60 sections), themed English 101 and 102 courses, ENCP 105 for Capstone Scholars, University 290 (leadership course and spring break service learning), maymester programs</p> <p>University 101 requirement for all Capstone Scholars</p> <p>Partnership with Student Success Center for students who fall below a 3.0 GPA</p> <p>All Capstone Scholars are required to maintain a cumulative 3.0 GPA (to maintain University scholarships)</p>
Achievements	
Resources Utilized	
Goal Continuation	Providing supportive living and learning environments that promote academic attainment of resident students is an ongoing goal for our program.
Goal Upcoming Plans	<p>Capstone Scholars specific courses (University 101, English 101/102, ENCP 105, University 290)</p> <p>University 101 requirement for Capstone Scholars</p> <p>GPA requirement for Capstone Scholars</p> <p>Partnership with the SSC for Success Consultations for students who fall between a 2.0-3.0 GPA to aid scholarship retention</p> <p>Study abroad programs (maymester)</p>

Goals - Looking Ahead

Resources Needed	Currently able to maintain all services through current budget. A fund budget for all personnel, supplies, programming, grants, travel, facilities will likely be between \$800,000-\$900,000 for fiscal year 19/20
Goal Notes	

Goals - Looking Ahead

Goal 3 - Connecting Students to Promote Community

Goal Statement	Connect resident students to USC opportunities and activities both as part of the living and learning community and outside of the community to cultivate a sense of belonging with the University
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow • Spurring Knowledge and Creation • Building Inclusive and Inspiring Communities • Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Our mission is to enroll high-ability students to the University and serve them through a community that provides targeted educational and leadership opportunities within and beyond the classroom. We want all Capstone Scholars to be globally aware, locally active, and life long learners and leaders. This goal aligns with our mission in providing a variety of beyond the classroom experiences, both academically and socially, that will promote opportunity and belonging.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	<p>Partnership with Pillars for Carolina to provide an extended orientation experience for Capstone Scholars</p> <p>Community Impact requirement for all Capstone Scholars (service/volunteering)</p> <p>Capstone Connectors mentee experience</p> <p>Communication/Marketing including social media, weekly newsletters, and website features</p> <p>LLC partnership with Capstone and Columbia Hall</p> <p>Campus Partnerships (including other faculty-led communities)</p> <p>Welcome Week event</p> <p>Service Team events</p> <p>Programming Council events</p> <p>Capstone Consultations</p>
Achievements	
Resources Utilized	
Goal Continuation	Connecting students to opportunities outside of the Capstone Scholars community is an important aspect of our program (a majority of our students live outside the LLC) so specialized programming aimed to bring students together across multiple living environments will continue to be a priority on an on-going basis.
Goal Upcoming Plans	Will continue all current level of programming and partnerships with University Housing, utilizing EAB Navigate for one-on-one student meetings, Service Team will look to expand service offerings both on and off campus, including day-long service trips to Greenville/Charleston areas, and the Programming Council will

Goals - Looking Ahead

	<p>continue to offer programs connecting students to opportunities in the Columbia area to promote a sense of belonging. Additional plans include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership with Pillars to provide an extended orientation experience for Capstone Scholars Community Impact requirement for all Capstone Scholars (service/volunteering) Capstone Connectors mentee experience Communication/Marketing including social media, weekly newsletters, and website features Partnership with Capstone and Columbia Hall LLC Campus Partnerships (including other faculty-led communities) Welcome Week event Service Team events Programming Council events Capstone Consultations
<p>Resources Needed</p>	<p>Currently able to maintain all services through current budget. A fund budget for all personnel, supplies, programming, grants, travel, facilities is between over \$1 million for the next fiscal year.</p>
<p>Goal Notes</p>	

Goals - Looking Ahead

Goal 4 - High-Ability Student Achievement

Goal Statement	Develop a culture of engagement and self-authorship for high-ability students
Linkage to University Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow • Spurring Knowledge and Creation • Building Inclusive and Inspiring Communities • Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Because our program is designed to enroll high-ability students, we aim to provide programming and opportunities that will enable these students to be successful. That is why we provide one-on-one meetings, course offerings, dedicated programming, grant opportunities, and the ability to earn further distinction that will enable them to be eligible for future awards such as Graduation with Leadership Distinction and national fellowships.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	<p>Capstone Scholars Leadership Program course (credit and non-credit bearing)</p> <p>Capstone Connector leaders</p> <p>Student Leadership Retreat</p> <p>Programming Council leaders</p> <p>Capstone Scholars grants including Passport Travel Grant, Magellan Apprentice, and Professional Development Grant</p> <p>Service Team leaders</p> <p>Service Learning experiences</p> <p>Adulting Workshop series</p> <p>Capstone Fellows distinction</p> <p>Capstone Consultations</p> <p>Personal Challenge requirement for all Capstone Scholars</p>
Achievements	
Resources Utilized	
Goal Continuation	Developing a culture of engagement and self-authorship for high-ability students is an ongoing goal for our program.
Goal Upcoming Plans	<p>Will continue all Goal 4 initiatives and programs through the end of the academic year (listed below). The next Faculty Principal will begin in the Summer at which point we'd evaluate priorities, initiatives, events, etc. At this point, we plan as we did this past year and will begin to make slight adjustments as needed to provide the next Faculty Principal to develop and implement their initiatives.</p> <p>Capstone Scholars Leadership Program course (credit and non-credit bearing)</p> <p>Capstone Connector leaders</p> <p>Student Leadership Retreat</p>

Goals - Looking Ahead

	Programming Council leaders Capstone Scholars grants including Passport Travel Grant, Magellan Apprentice, and Professional Development Grant Service Team leaders Service Learning experiences Adulting Workshop series Capstone Fellows distinction Capstone Consultations Personal Challenge requirement for all Capstone Scholars
Resources Needed	Currently able to maintain all services through current budget. A fund budget for all personnel, supplies, programming, grants, travel, facilities is between over \$1 million for the next fiscal year.
Goal Notes	

Programs or Initiatives

Effective Programs or Initiatives

List your most effective programs/initiatives toward fulfillment of mission.

University 101 sections for Capstone Scholars
English 101/102 themed sections for Capstone Scholars
Capstone Consultations
Capstone Scholars Leadership Program (1-credit hour course)
Capstone Connectors Mentoring Program -
Student Leadership Retreat
Weekly Service Friday events (both on and off campus)
Hot Cookie Friday featuring partner offices (OUR, Study Abroad, SAVIP, SSC, National Fellowships and Scholar Programs, etc.)
Pillars/Capstone Scholars extended orientation
Magellan Apprentice Research Grant
Passport Travel Grant funding
Professional Development Grant for Capstone Fellows
Study Abroad Fall Break/Spring Break/Maymester Programs
Adulting Workshops
Capstone Scholars/Visitor Center Prospective Student Tours
Recharge Week w/Health Carolina

Program Launches

List any programs/initiatives that were newly launched during the Academic Year or any programs/initiatives you would like to launch in the coming year(s). Describe the program/initiatives, provide financial requirements (including additional staff), and academic year in which you would launch. What key performance indicators are you utilizing to track the success of this program?

Capstone Scholars Student partnered with Pillars for Carolina to introduce an extended orientation experience for Capstone Scholars this past July. This experience focused on a weekend at Camp Long which followed the students' weeklong time with Pillars on campus. Think of it as an extension of extended orientation.

We launched a study abroad University 101 section for Capstone Scholars this year with section C13 traveling to Cuba over Fall Break.

We began a new program with Health Carolina (a community that shares Columbia Hall with the Capstone Scholars community) called Recharge Week focused on mental health, resiliency, stress management, and physical health.

Program Rankings

List any nationally ranked or external recognition during the Academic Year. For each, provide the formal name of the program followed by the name of the organization that issued the

Programs or Initiatives

ranking, the date of notification, effective date range, and any other relevant information.

Initiatives and Fees

Initiatives

Describe any new initiatives your unit will need for the coming year.

Fees

List any new or changed fees that your unit has implemented or had to take on in the last academic year.

Community Engagement

Community Perceptions

Describe how your unit assesses community perceptions of your engagement, and how the unit assesses the impact of community engagement on students, faculty, community and the institution. Provide specific findings.

Data we have for this primarily comes from our Capstone Scholars Service Team events in the local Columbia community. Most data focuses on impact on student engagement. After each Capstone Scholars "Service Team" event the participants are encouraged to complete an assessment. Students are asked to respond to the prompt "I found this service experience meaningful" and asked to what degree they agree with that statement on a scale from 1-4 (1 being strongly disagree and 4 being strongly agree). Of those who completed the assessment (88 students), the score was a 3.8 out of 4.

Collaborations

Internal Collaborations

List your Unit's most significant internal collaborations and multidisciplinary efforts that are internal to the University. Details should be omitted; list by name only.

- Office of Undergraduate Research - Magellan Apprentice Undergraduate Research Grant
- Study Abroad Office - Passport Travel Grant for Maymester/Summer study abroad programs
- USC Visitor Center - Special Capstone Scholars information session and housing tour
- Student Success Center - "Success Consultations" for Capstone Scholars between a 2.0-3.0 GPA
- University Housing - Capstone Scholars Learning Community
- University Housing - Fall Break Alternative Service Trip, Days of Service, Recharge Week
- First Year English Programs - Themed sections of English 101 and English 102 for Capstone Scholars
- University 101 - Capstone Scholars sections of University 101
- College of Engineering and Computing - Capstone Scholars section of ENCP 105
- Office of New Student Orientation - Capstone Scholars lunch and info session
- Gamecock Pantry - Capstone Scholars Service Team
- Green Quad Gardens - Capstone Scholars Service Team
- Carolina Community Garden - Capstone Scholars Program office and Capstone Scholars Service Team
- SAVIP - Capstone Scholars Service Team
- Pillars for Carolina in the Leadership and Service Center - Capstone Scholars Pillars weekend experience

External Collaborations

List your Unit's most significant external collaborations and multidisciplinary efforts that are external to the University. Details should be omitted; list by name only.

- International Service Learning (ISL) - study abroad provider for the Spring Break Service Learning Program to Costa Rica/Guatemala
- CISabroad - study abroad provider for the two Capstone Scholars 2019 Maymester programs to Ecuador/Galapagos and Greece/Malta
- WorldStrides - Capstone Scholars 2020 Maymester program to Portugal/England
- GVI - Capstone Scholars 2020 Maymester program to Thailand
- CIEE - Capstone Scholars Fall 2019 University 101 Fall Break program to Cuba
- Under30Experiences - Capstone Scholars 2020 Spring Break program to Costa Rica
- Camp Long - Capstone Scholars Student Leader Retreat and Pillars Weekend
- St. Bernard Project - Capstone Scholars Service Team
- Ronald McDonald House - Capstone Scholars Service Team
- EdVenture - Capstone Scholars Service Team
- Project H.O.P.E. - Capstone Scholars Service Team
- Palmetto Place Children's Shelter - Capstone Scholars Service Team
- CM Tucker Jr. Nurse Care Center - Capstone Scholars Service Team
- Salvation Army Restore - Capstone Scholars Service Team
- Martin Luther King Jr. Park - Capstone Scholars Service Team
- Arc of South Carolina - Capstone Scholars Service Team
- Maxcy Gregg Park - Capstone Scholars Service Team

Collaborations

- PruittHealth - Capstone Scholars Service Team
- Special Olympics - Capstone Scholars Service Team
- PETSinc - Capstone Scholars Service Team
- Salvation Army (Greenville, SC) - Capstone Scholars Service Team (Day of Service)
- Miracle Hill Ministries Thrift Store - Capstone Scholars Service Team (Day of Service)
- Sustaining Way - Capstone Scholars Service Team (Day of Service)
- Frazee Center - Capstone Scholars Service Team (Day of Service)
- Kids on Point - Capstone Scholars Service Team (Day of Service)
- Project Street Outreach - Capstone Scholars Service Team (Day of Service)
- Coastal Conservation League - Capstone Scholars Service Team (Day of Service)
- East Cooper Community Outreach - Capstone Scholars Service Team (Day of Service)
- Surfrider Foundation - Capstone Scholars Service Team (Day of Service)
- Carowinds - Capstone Scholars Programming Council
- Palmetto Outdoor - Capstone Scholars Programming Council
- Top Golf - Capstone Scholars Programming Council
- Congaree National Park - Capstone Scholars Programming Council

Campus Climate and Inclusion

Campus Climate and Inclusion

Activities the unit conducted that were designed to improve Campus, Climate, and Inclusion.

A component that is required for Capstone Scholars to receive the Capstone Scholars Fellows distinction is to attend at least one beyond-the-classroom event or experience in which the student engages with diverse perspectives. This could include attendance at a diversity dialogue, Tunnel of Awareness, international week event, events through the Office of Multicultural Affairs, etc.

All Capstone Scholars staff completed the Discrimination and Harassment Online courses and modules this past year. Staff are also participating in (and in some cases completed) LEAD training through the Department of Human Resources.

We partnered with the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs to provide Safe Zone training for our students this fall.

The Capstone Scholars staff participated in How to Support a Survivor training through the Center for Health and Well-being during the summer.

Concluding Remarks

Weaknesses and Plans for Improvement

What is your unit struggling with? What plans do you have to overcome the weakness that you have faced in the next academic year.

Areas of struggle include the ability to offer events in our current space, data collection methods for our particular population, and the ability to house a majority of our 1st year students in our community. This past year, about 52% of our 1st year Capstone Scholars lived in our community (Capstone and Columbia Hall) while the other 48% lived either in other communities on campus or commuted from home. Almost our entire 2nd year cohort of students live off campus (aside from those who live in on-campus communities their 2nd year or are Resident Mentors). Because just a 1/4 of our entire Capstone Scholars population lives in the Capstone Scholars community, we aim a variety of programs at connecting students no matter where they live to opportunities on and off campus in order for them to feel a part of the community.

The primary initiative to connect with our growing population no matter where they live is our Capstone Consultations. Our sophomore initiatives such as the Adulting Workshop series primarily targets our 2nd year students. The Capstone Scholars student leadership retreat is targeted at our upperclassmen, and we target our Capstone Fellows for special opportunities.

Data collection to get an accurate picture of the engagement of all 2,700 Capstone Scholars remains a challenge but we continue to use in-house methods and work with Housing to get as good a picture as we can of our students' experience.

Programming space remains a challenge

Key Issues

Identify key issues or potential challenges your unit will encounter this coming year and the steps you plan on initiating.

One major issue is the ability to accurately track data across our entire student population. Tracking involvement data of nearly 2,700 Capstone Scholars across campus can prove to be a challenge. Beginning in Fall 19 we ceased using our own card swipe machine to track attendance and moved to the University Housing dashboard, which all Faculty Principal communities now use. However, we recently discovered that the dashboard only tracks students (in the demographic section and calculating % of engagers for example) who live on campus. Meaning, our dashboard now only includes roughly 1,500 students while not including the other 1,200 who live off-campus. This proves to be a challenge with dashboard accuracy. It can also prove to be difficult to get data points from a variety of campus partners (the My UofSC Experience should hopefully help with this in the future).

Improved housing accommodations for our 1st year students in the Capstone Scholars community are needed to remain competitive with other communities on campus as well as other programs for high-ability students on other institutions. Increasing enrollments are requiring our office to adjust how we conduct key initiatives including one-on-one faculty/staff-student appointments. We have begun to rely on our partnership with University 101 and our campus partners to overcome this challenge particularly in the Fall semester for our 1st year

Concluding Remarks

students and Spring semester for our 2nd year students, respectively.

Quantitative Outcomes

Explain any surprises regarding data provided in the quantitative outcomes modules throughout this report.

Despite our student population growth, the academic performance for Capstone Scholars remains strong and on levels from previous years. With over 90% of Capstone Scholars at over a 3.0 cumulative GPA, scholarship retention remains high which is important for retention purposes. Retention to the Capstone Scholars Program from 1st to 2nd year remains near 90% despite our population growth.

This is mentioned elsewhere but one surprise we encountered was regarding the methodology of data collection within our dash board. When we moved from our in-house tracking to the Housing dashboard in Fall 19, we realized some key metrics in the dash board only track students who live on campus. We will provide caveats where appropriate when reportin

Cool Stuff

Describe innovations, happy accidents, good news, etc. that occurred within your unit not noted elsewhere in your reporting.

Retention rates compared to the Honors College and general University population dating back to 2014:

- 2014 - 93% retention rate, 86% year 3 return rate, 83% year 4 return rate, 78% graduation rate
- 2015 - 91% retention rate, 84% year 3 return rate, 77% year 4 return rate
- 2016 - 92% retention rate, 82% year 3 return rate
- 2017 - 91% retention rate
- On average, retention rate is 3.5% below the Honors College and 3.8% higher than the general university population
- Graduation rate for Capstone Scholars is at 78% which is 14% higher than the general university population and 2% below the Honors College

University Awards: 7 of the 38 University of South Carolina President's Award recipients were Capstone Scholars

University Awards: ODK Outstanding Senior Award recipient was a Capstone Scholar

University Awards: The recipient of the Excellence in Service-Learning Award this Fall was a Capstone Scholar

University Awards: The recipient of the Excellence in Service-Learning Awards last Fall was a Capstone Scholar

University Awards: Dr. Hickey received the faculty award for Excellence in Service-Learning

Average GPA of all Capstone Scholars is a 3.6

Concluding Remarks

There were 30 Capstone Scholars who were 2019 Outstanding Senior Recipients (22% of all recipients)

Faculty Principal Dr. Patrick Hickey hosted Mr. Dobson (of the University's Dobson Volunteer Service Program grant) during the Capstone Scholars spring break service-learning program to Costa Rica.

Over 200 Capstone Scholars during the past 9 years have been awarded the Capstone Scholars "Magellan Apprentice" Undergraduate Research Grant totaling nearly \$200,000 awarded to students to fund research with faculty and community leaders.

An estimated 46 Capstone Scholars were involved in faculty approved research projects across the university in Fall 18 alone.

First-year Capstone Scholars who had a Capstone Connector (upperclassman Capstone Scholar mentor) in the Fall semester were 36% more likely to complete their Capstone Scholars semester requirements compared to their non-mentored peers. In the Spring semester, they were 46% more likely to complete their requirements than their non-mentored peers.

56% of 1st and 2nd-year Capstone Scholars submitted all four semester requirements by the initial deadline in the Fall 18 semester and 48% submitted their semester requirements by the initial deadline in the Spring 19 semester. Completing semester requirements enables a student to remain eligible for Capstone Scholars grants and the Capstone Fellows distinction.

All four student leadership organizations within the Capstone Scholars Program (Service Team, Capstone Assistants, Capstone Connectors, Programming Council) were recognized as ELO experiences within BTCM.

Two Capstone Scholars Program staff were nominated for the Division of Students Affairs' New Staff Member of the Year Award

One Capstone Scholars Program staff member received the Division of Student Affairs' New Staff Member of the Year Award

Two Capstone Scholars Program staff were nominated for the Division of Student Affairs' Continuing Excellence Award (2-5 Years)

Two Capstone Scholars Program staff were finalists for the M. Stuart Hunter Award for Outstanding Teaching in University 101

Social Media:

- Facebook - 2,819 followers
- Instagr