The Bachelor of Science in Nursing faculty celebrated the opening of the new Nursing Simulation Lab in August. The culmination of several years of planning and fundraising, the Lab is one of the finest facilities of its kind in the state and allows the USC Lancaster-based Bachelor of Nursing students to complete all of their nursing coursework on campus, where formerly they had to travel to USC Columbia’s College of Nursing lab for simulation experience.

The lab incorporates four high-tech manikins that simulate human physiology, including respiration, pulse, heart rate, blood pressure, abdominal sounds, childbirth, and even death. The manikins are “patients” in a fully replicated hospital environment and are programmable for a broad range of medical scenarios enabling nursing faculty to create safe, effective, and innovative virtual learning opportunities for students. Scenarios are available in nine major content areas, including medical-surgical, hospice, psychiatric, obstetrics, and pediatrics.

Simulation scenarios give students experience with situations they may otherwise never encounter during their training, which better prepares them for the real situations they will later encounter in professional practice. Additionally, simulation laboratories are becoming the standard for training because they allow students to experience real-world scenarios in an environment where patient risk is eliminated. This allows educators to truly take a hands-off approach and give the student control of all decision-making for the “patient.” When human patients are used for training experiences, the educator must intervene for the sake of patient safety if the student is endangering the patient. In the case of a manekin, the student’s mistake can be allowed to progress so that the student fully experiences the patient’s detrimental outcome, thus having a greater impact on the student’s learning.

The USC Lancaster Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program is a collaborative partnership with the University of South Carolina College of Nursing. The program was created in 2007 to provide high quality baccalaureate education and clinical experiences to local area nursing students. The program has had excellent outcomes and continues to grow, graduating over 100 BSN nurses who now serve Chester, York, Lancaster and surrounding counties.

**Students adopt Clinton Elementary School**

USC Lancaster students are dedicated to helping others through community service. As one example of their efforts, this past academic year they adopted Clinton Elementary School and conducted three fundraisers to benefit the children and their families. Service projects included a Back-to-School Supply Campaign, a Food Drive, and a Christmas gift drive.
Palmetto College and USC Lancaster

Founded in Fall 2013, Palmetto College, with its online degree completion programs in business, criminal justice, nursing, human services, elementary education, liberal studies, information science, health promotion, informatics, hospitality management, and organizational leadership, has in its brief existence proven to be the pathway to a bachelor’s degree for South Carolinians who have family or work-related responsibilities and cannot travel or move to another campus to continue their studies. Students take traditional, on-the-ground courses in the first two years and transition into online courses in the junior and senior years. The degrees are awarded by the four year USC campuses, and all courses are taught by USC faculty from across all campuses including faculty at USC Lancaster.

Whether students begin on the USC Lancaster campus or at another college, when they enter the junior year in Palmetto College they find that academic and personal support is as close as the USC Lancaster campus. Faculty and professional staff in Medford Library, Counseling and Career Services, Admissions and Records, the Business Office, computer labs and the Bookstore are available to assist students at any stage of the degree.

USC Lancaster has always been the top USC Regional Campus in terms of students enrolled in four year degrees, even in the much less expansive predecessor of this current initiative which was called Palmetto Programs. Our enrollment demographic is a healthy balance of traditional-aged students and those a bit older looking to strengthen their skill set and finish a four year degree for career advancement or change. Whoever they may be, clearly our students recognize and are taking advantage of the quality, convenience, and affordability of USC Lancaster and Palmetto College.

Native American Studies Center

The Native American Studies Center has proven to be a successful collaboration between USC Lancaster and the City of Lancaster. A part of the City’s strategic plan for downtown revitalization, the NASC has welcomed nearly 23,000 visitors from 38 states and 12 foreign countries since it opened in October 2012.

In addition to the permanent exhibit “Story of Catawba Pottery,” the NASC features temporary exhibits on relevant topics. Last year, these included “Native Languages of Southeastern North America: Pre & Post-Contact,” “The Renaissance of the Catawba Indians,” featuring photographs by Catherine Bauknight, and “Solitude and Mystery: Sculptures of John Julius Wilnoty.” Upcoming exhibits include “Waccamaw People of South Carolina,” “Native American Foodways in the Southeast,” and “Basketry of Faye Greiner, Catawba Indian.” Beyond the exhibits, the NASC hosts monthly Lunch and Learn events, artists-in-residency workshops and demonstrations, arts and crafts sales, and numerous programs for student groups. Native American Studies Week is an annual event featuring movie screenings, demonstrations, lectures, and other events.

The NASC is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday from 10:00-5:00 and Thursday from 10:00-7:00. Native American Studies Week will be held March 18-25, 2016. Lunch and Learn is free and meets monthly on the third Friday at noon. For more information visit http://usclancaster.sc.edu/NASC/index.html or call 803-313-7172.

Educational Foundation of USC Lancaster

The Educational Foundation of the University of South Carolina Lancaster (EFUSCL) was founded in 1963 to “receive and administer funds for education and charitable purposes.”

In addition to owning the real estate of the campus, the EFUSCL receives and manages charitable donations to support USC Lancaster. Most gifts are designated for scholarships, but the Foundation also manages gift and grant funds that are designated for other purposes.

The members of the Board of Trustees are volunteers who give generously of their time, talents, and financial resources. The 2015-16 Board of Trustees members are:

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