



2019 Palmetto College Excellence Awards for Scholarship, Teaching, Service announced

The 2018-19 Palmetto College Campuses Excellence Awards for teaching, scholarship and service have been announced. The recipients are Ray McManus, Eran Kilpatrick and Bryan Lai for the Duffy, Plyler and Shaw Awards, respectively.

The **John J. Duffy Excellence in Teaching Award for Palmetto College Campuses** has been presented annually since 2009 to a faculty member who exemplifies excellence in and out of the classroom.

The 2018-2019 Duffy Teaching Award was presented to **Ray McManus**, professor of English at USC Sumter.

Of his own teaching, McManus said “It is my utmost goal that students see the value of the work we examine, and why it is important to examine it, no matter what their majors or career goals may be.”

He adopted a practice, revision, peer review, one-on-one conferencing approach to teaching English in order to increase student success rates. McManus focuses first on soft skills before moving on to the hard skills of English such as grammar, citations, style, etc. He believes that students must be engaged with the materials first, then hard skills will develop over time.

He is devoted to developing confidence through practice with his students. McManus accomplishes this with his portfolio approach which allows students to practice and revise multiple times. He also schedules one-on-one conferences with students so that they can discuss their work.

McManus also received very high student evaluations and he has won the SGA Professor of the Year Award five times within the past ten years.

The **Chris P. Plyler Excellence in Service Award for Palmetto College Campuses** is presented to a faculty member who personifies excellence in service to the campus, university, community and profession. This award was first given in 2015. The 2018-2019 Plyler Service Award was presented



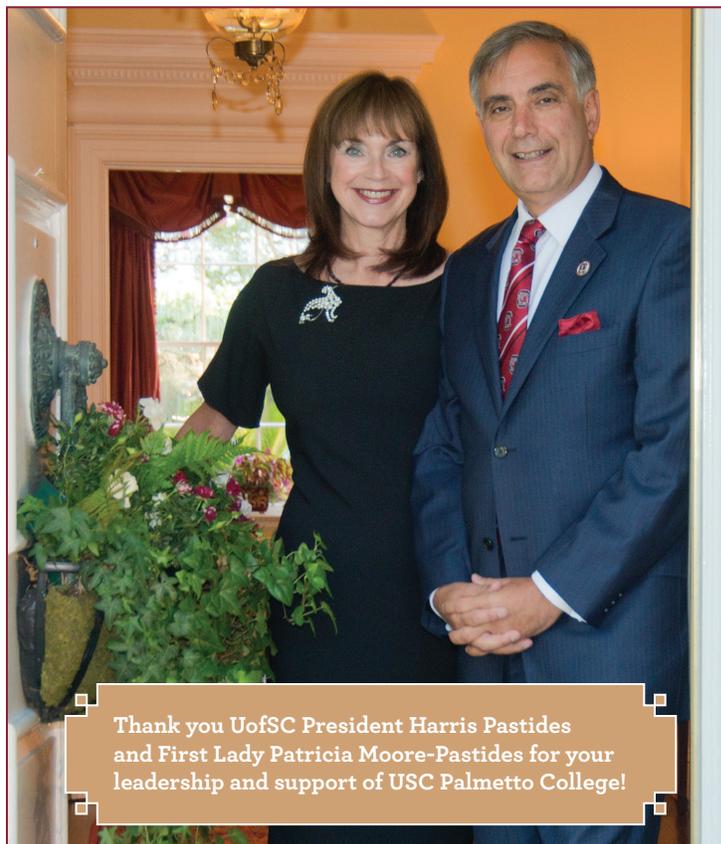
Ray McManus
USC Sumter



Eran Kilpatrick
USC Salkehatchie



Bryan Lai
USC Salkehatchie



Thank you UofSC President Harris Pastides and First Lady Patricia Moore-Pastides for your leadership and support of USC Palmetto College!

Chancellor's Corner

Celebrating five years of success while moving ahead into a brighter future has been an important task for us all during this academic year. We recently completed two projects that show the impact of Palmetto College on our various constituencies: a five-year video and a fifth-anniversary publication.

The aforementioned five-year video tells the story of Palmetto College Online through the stories of five alumni representing five of our more popular online bachelor's degree completion programs – Ryan West, '16 (Organizational



Chancellor Susan A. Elkins
USC Palmetto College

Leadership/Columbia-Palmetto College), Nicole Ramsey, '18 (Elementary Education/Columbia), Dirk Bron Jr., '16 (Criminal Justice/Upstate), Chan Samreth, '18 (RN-BSN/Upstate) and Andrew Verma, '15 (Business Administration/Aiken). I was personally moved by

Chancellor's Corner, continued page 12



This Issue's Contributors

Jane Brewer, Jean Carrano, Margaret Carter, Jason Darby, Chris Dewolf, Shana Dry, Erin Duffie, Susan Elkins, Annie Smith, Summer Yarborough

Please submit all items for the Fall 2018 issue by Friday, Nov. 9, 2019.

The **USC Palmetto College Connections** newsletter is published biannually, at the conclusion of the spring and fall semesters.

If you have an interesting story to share with the USC Palmetto College community, please share the news with the communications contact for your respective area:

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USC Regional Palmetto Colleges announce Distinguished Teacher of the Year Awards



Mark Coe, associate professor of psychology, is the recipient of the USC Lancaster Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award.



David Lee Cherry Sr., instructor of economics and marketing, is the recipient of the USC Salkehatchie Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award.



Bianca Rowlett, assistant professor of history, is the recipient of the USC Sumter Student Government Association Teacher of the Year Award.



Randy Lowell, associate professor of psychology and associate dean of academic affairs, is the recipient of the USC Union Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award.



In lieu of presenting the 2019 Stephen L. Dalton Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award, Extended University faculty chose to honor **Connie Vise**, who is retiring as USC Fort Jackson Program director after 27 years of service with the university system.

Palmetto College Excellence Awards, *continued from page 1*

to **Eran Kilpatrick**, professor of biology at USC Salkehatchie.

Of his own service, Kilpatrick said “It is a privilege to have the responsibility of genuinely benefiting those I work with at the University of South Carolina and our region.”

Kilpatrick’s service to his campus has included his role as founder and curator of the USC Salkehatchie Herbarium and service as chairman of the Division of Mathematics and Science.

His service to Palmetto College and the university system include his work as a reviewer for the Magellan program and RISE grants.

Kilpatrick’s community service includes his work with STEM students in public schools encouraging scientific studies. He also leads wildlife and nature walks to schools and the public.

His service to his profession includes his work with the U.S. Geological Survey and the North American Amphibian Monitoring Program.

The **Denise R. Shaw Excellence in Scholarship Award for Palmetto College Campuses**, first given in 2017, is presented to a faculty member who exhibits outstanding scholarship. The 2018-2019 Shaw Scholarship Award was presented to **Wei-Kai “Bryan” Lai**, associate professor of mathematics at USC Salkehatchie.

Of his own scholarship, Lai said “For me, scholarly activity is a way to grow in knowledge, to communicate and to contribute in my professional community, and to improve my teaching.”

Within the last three years, Lai has published eight peer-reviewed papers;



The 2018-19 recipients of the Palmetto College Excellence Awards are USC Sumter Professor of English Ray McManus (Duffy teaching award), USC Salkehatchie Associate Professor of Mathematics Bryan Lai (Shaw scholarship award) and USC Salkehatchie Professor of Biology Eran Kilpatrick (Plyler service award).

conducted 19 conference presentations with students; attended 24 conferences; and solved 45 math problems in peer-reviewed journals.

He has also authored a math guidebook for Opportunity Scholars Program (OSP) students. He works with student researchers on mathematical games and puzzles and with mathematical inequalities, and he works with high schools and Summer Institutes for Math and Science Teachers.

Lai serves on the editorial board of four peer-reviewed journals, and as a grant reviewer for the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program.

2019 USC Palmetto College RISE Grant Recipients announced

The Research Initiative for Summer Engagement (RISE) Grant is a competitive funding program that provides financial support for faculty working at USC’s system campuses and online bachelor’s degree completion programs to conduct research and scholarly activities during the summer months.

Several USC Palmetto College proposals representing Palmetto College Campuses were funded for Summer 2019.

Francis Burns, USC Salkehatchie – Factors Affecting Student Retention and Success in USC Rural Nursing Initiative

Li Cai, USC Lancaster – Multivalent Cell Recognition Using Virus Nanoparticles Displaying Carbohydrate Ligands

Steven Campbell, USC Lancaster – Competing for Influence in the Nixon/Carter Administration: Foreign Policy Advisers & U.S. Soviet Relations

Elizabeth Easley and Sarah Sellhorst, USC Lancaster – Contributing to a Body of Knowledge: Exercise Science Considerations Associated with Undergraduate Research

Eran Kilpatrick, USC Salkehatchie – Plant Specimen Processing at the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie Herbarium and Continued Documentation of Rare and Uncommon Flora in the Salkehatchie

Andrew Kunka, USC Sumter – Howard Cruse: Critical Graphics Series

Patrick Lawrence, USC Lancaster – All Politics is Local: Counter-Narratives of Obscenity through the Lens of Community Standards

Sarah Miller, USC Salkehatchie – Pon Pon Chapel of Ease: Preservation and Interpretation

Justin Mogilski, USC Salkehatchie – Perceiving Physiology and Psychology From Faces: Expanding Analytical Options for Data-Driven Face Perception Research

Damien Picariello, USC Sumter – The Politics of Horror



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“PalmettoCollege”

Nesmith named new dean of USC Salkehatchie

Chris Nesmith is the new dean of the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie, effective April 1.

He previously served as associate provost and dean of Extended University, a division of Palmetto College housed on USC's Columbia campus, and he has served as interim dean of the Walterboro and Allendale campuses since Jan. 1. USC Salkehatchie is one of four Regional Palmetto Colleges — including USC Lancaster, USC Salkehatchie and USC Sumter — in the University of South Carolina system.

His appointment was announced on Wednesday March 13 by Palmetto College Chancellor Susan Elkins, who says that Nesmith's record of academic leadership and growing relationship with Salkehatchie's campuses and communities demonstrate that he is a perfect fit.

"Dr. Nesmith has a vision of leading USC Salkehatchie to greater heights, building on past successes while also initiating creative and innovative efforts," Elkins says. "I am elated to be the next dean at USC Salkehatchie," said Nesmith. "Since coming here as interim dean I have been very impressed with the students, the faculty, the staff and the people I have met throughout our service area. I've received such a warm welcome at both campuses, and have seen first-hand how important USC Salkehatchie is to our region. I am eager to continue working with everyone here to build on that legacy and to accomplish even more at Salk for our students and the communities that we serve."



Chris Nesmith
USC Salkehatchie

Nesmith was unanimously recommended for the position by a 13-member search committee representing a cross-section of stakeholders from USC Salkehatchie's five-county service area and led by USC Salkehatchie alumna Paula Harper Bethea.

"To a person, the search committee expressed their excitement and confidence that Dr. Nesmith is exactly the person needed to lead Salkehatchie over the next years," said Bethea, who also serves as USC's chief advancement officer. "Salkehatchie is the life-blood of the counties it serves, and those counties look to the dean for inspiring and loyal friendship. In Dr. Chris Nesmith, they see and appreciate such a leader."

The importance of an education at a two-year campus in the counties served by USC Salkehatchie is not lost on Nesmith. "I started college at a small, two-year campus in a very small town, and the transformative power of education that I experienced there is what led me to eventually pursue graduate school, and then to decide to transition from teaching to administration," he said.

Nesmith comes to this new role at USC Salkehatchie with progressive experience and accomplishments that make him a good fit for the position. He began working and teaching at the University of South Carolina in 2003, and joined a precursor of USC Palmetto College in 2008 as director of the Evening Program. Nesmith's most recent roles with Palmetto College were as associate provost, dean of Extended

University and associate professor. He also taught as an assistant English professor at Longwood University.

In these capacities at USC Nesmith was instrumental in the successful launch of Palmetto College in 2013. His responsibilities included oversight of the liberal studies and organizational leadership bachelor's degree programs that are offered at the regional Palmetto Colleges and online. His administrative responsibilities also included the USC Fort Jackson Program. In support of that program and its students, he helped secure funding to establish the Robert V. Phillips Palmetto College Military Endowed Scholarship Fund, which offers "last-dollar" scholarships to allow soldiers to bridge tuition gaps. Most recently, he led the team that created the new Palmetto College Transfer Center in Lexington in 2018, and shepherded it through the process of approvals from the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACSCOC), the S.C. Commission on Higher Education (CHE) and the USC Board of Trustees.

A Mississippi native, Nesmith earned a Ph.D., master's and bachelor's degrees in English from the University of South Carolina, University of North Carolina at Charlotte and the University of Mississippi, respectively. He also earned an associate degree from Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

He has been married for 27 years to Melanie Culpepper, since the two met in graduate school. She recently retired after a 20-year career with Delta Airlines.

Vice Chancellor Downing transitions to full-time faculty role

Sher Downing, Vice Chancellor for e-Learning at Palmetto College, announced in February 2019 that she would relinquish her administrative duties and responsibilities to devote her efforts to full-time faculty work within USC Extended University and on the Columbia campus, effective March 1, 2019.

Downing joined Palmetto College in 2015, following a 31-year career of progressive administrative and academic responsibility related to her discipline — instructional and educational technology.

She has also become nationally known for her work and research as an Ed Tech

Strategist. The current focus of her work is the correlation between distance education and online shopping initiatives.

In her role with Palmetto College, Downing provided leadership for our online bachelor's degree completion program offerings.

During her tenure, the number of online offerings doubled from the original seven programs to 14. And, Palmetto College's online enrollment rose consistently each year. She also is responsible for the



Sher Downing
USC Palmetto
College

creation of the Palmetto College Columbia-Aiken-Beaufort-Upstate (PCABU) Distance Learning Committee, which coordinates online course offerings for each of the four-year USC system institutions.

"We appreciate Dr. Downing's service and its impact on our growth and ability to offer an affordable, accessible and flexible opportunity for South Carolinians to receive a higher education," said USC Palmetto College Chancellor Susan Elkins.

Smith named executive director of military strategies and programs

James E. Smith Jr. joined USC Palmetto College in January 2019 as executive director of military strategies and programs.

In this role, he is responsible for directing, developing, identifying, exploring, evaluating and implementing strategic initiatives to maximize education opportunities for military students both in the classroom



James E. Smith Jr.
USC Palmetto
College

and via distance learning.

Smith comes uniquely qualified to the position. He has served as both an officer and an enlisted soldier in the South Carolina National Guard and currently serves at the rank of Major. A combat veteran, Smith was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart and Combat Infantryman's Badge for his service during Operation Enduring Freedom.

In civilian life, Smith has served as a solo practicing attorney, businessman and state legislator. As an attorney, he was named the 1999 S.C. Bar Young Lawyer of the Year.

As a businessman, he served as president and CEO of the Congaree Group. As a state legislator, he represented S.C. House District 72 from 1996 to 2018.

Smith is a graduate of the University of South Carolina and USC School of Law. The USC Veterans Alumni Council recently presented him with their Distinguished Service Award.

Vise retires as director of USC Fort Jackson Program

Connie Vise, director of the University of South Carolina Fort Jackson program, is retiring after more than 27 years with the university system.

She began her career with the University of South Carolina as administrative assistant to the dean of student affairs at USC Sumter. She later moved to the USC Sumter's office at Shaw Air Force Base as assistant to the director and, later, as the program's director.

Vise received her Bachelor of Science in Business Management from USC Columbia in 1980 and her Master of Education degree

from the Columbia campus in 1997.

In her role as the director of the USC Fort Jackson Program, she has been responsible for the day-to-day operations of a "mini-campus" housed in the Fort Jackson Army Continuing Education Systems (ACES) Center. She acted as a liaison between the United States Army, the Department of Defense, and the University. She ensured that the University is in compliance with the Army and Department



Connie Vise
Extended University

of Defense (DOD) requirements of offering off-duty educational opportunities to active duty service members, their family members, National Guardsmen, reservists, DOD civilian employees and veterans.

In addition to serving on the Palmetto College Executive Council, she served on the Veterans Student Services Advisory Council.

New dean named for USC Upstate Mary Black School of Nursing

The University of South Carolina Upstate has announced Dr. Shirleatha Lee as the next dean of its Mary Black School of Nursing.

Lee was chosen after a nationwide search and will step into the role on Aug. 1. She succeeds Dr. Katharine Gibb, who has spent the past five of her eleven years at USC Upstate as MBSON's dean.

The RN-BSN Program offered through USC Palmetto College Online originates from the Mary Black School of Nursing. Registered nurses who complete the 12-month online program earn the Bachelor of Science in Nursing from USC Upstate.

A recognized leader in nursing education, Lee has served as the associate dean of academic programs for the University of Memphis Loewenberg College of Nursing since 2015.



Shirleatha Lee
USC Upstate
Mary Black School of
Nursing

At USC Upstate, she will be responsible for influencing and shaping the future of nursing education in the region and across South Carolina.

"I am ecstatic that we are able to add someone with Shirleatha's energy, intelligence, and expertise to our academic leadership team," said USC Upstate Chancellor Brendan B. Kelly.

Nursing has been at the core of USC Upstate's academic offerings since the university was founded in 1967.

MBSON is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, which is renewed every 10 years. As of 2018, more than 90 percent of MBSON graduates pass the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) on the first attempt, surpassing the national average of 88 percent.

"I'm excited to join the University of South Carolina Upstate as the next Dean of

the Mary Black School of Nursing," said Lee.

"The school has a rich history, strong community partnerships, and prepares highly qualified nursing graduates to serve the Upstate region. We will be moving forward into the next era of growth for nursing with immediate goals focusing on successful reaccreditation, student success, the expansion of academic programs and partnerships, and supporting faculty teaching and research."

Lee, a native of Memphis, Tennessee, is an American Association of Colleges of Nursing Leadership in Academic Nursing Fellow and a 2019 Tennessee Board of Regents Maxine Smith Fellow.

An accomplished teacher, Lee has earned the University of Memphis' Thomas Briggs Foundation Excellence in Teaching Award. She specializes in developing innovative teaching strategies and nursing workforce development.

Gibb said she will spend the next year helping Lee transition into her new role.

Davis earns 2019 Burggraf Award for highest GPA among adult student learners

Rachel Davis is the 2019 recipient of the David L. Burggraf Award for adult student learners.

The award is given annually in recognition of the students – 25 years of age and older – with the highest grade point average in Palmetto College’s Liberal Studies, Organizational Leadership or Elementary Education online bachelor’s degree completion programs.

Cayce, S.C., native, Davis worked as waitress before beginning her college education at Midlands Technical College. Around that time, she married her husband (11 years together this September) and soon after became a mother. After she completed her associate degree, she transferred to the University of South Carolina.

“My family has always been huge Gamecock fans, so attending the University of South Carolina has always been a dream of mine!” said Davis. “However,

I never thought that I would actually be able to attend USC. Being a wife, stay-at-home mom, and juggling the responsibilities of life and school while attending classes on campus, in addition to the high costs associated with attending classes on campus was a significant concern and would ultimately be the deciding factor of whether or not I would be able to fulfill my dream, as well as be able to provide a better future for my son, had it not been for Palmetto College.”

“When I found out that the University of South Carolina had a branch (Palmetto College) that allowed students to complete their degrees by completing the courses online and had a much lower tuition cost, I realized that attending and graduating from the USC might actually be possible for me!” Davis continued. “I chose to attend Palmetto College because of the flexibility with the schedules of online courses as well as

because of the reduced tuition costs. Having the ability to work on my classwork at home and be flexible with the times in which I can work are what have made my dream of attending USC a reality for me!”

“There are a few reasons that I chose the Elementary Education program. I have always loved learning and education, but I wasn’t always sure about becoming a teacher. However, I had an opportunity to volunteer as a GED tutor for a little while (for the Nehemiah Project),” said Davis. “Through this experience, I realized that going into the field of education was what I really wanted to do. I also love working with kids. Their ideas and questions never cease to amaze me! As for my future plans, I am excited about graduating from USC through Palmetto College next May! I am also excited about and looking forward to being able to begin my career as a teacher!”

The David L. Burggraf Award is named for the former director of Adult Student Services who devoted most of his career to the success at the University of South Carolina.



Rachel Davis
Elementary
Education major
USC Columbia

Students and faculty inducted to Alpha Sigma Lambda honor society

USC Palmetto College Campuses, Extended University and Online programs have many adult learners who attend classes during the day, in the evening and online.

To honor those dedicated nontraditional students who, while adroitly handling their life responsibilities, achieve and maintain high scholastics standards, Palmetto College held an April 29 induction ceremony for membership to its chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda honor society.

This year’s student inductees to the Upsilon Zeta chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda included (top photo, from left) Emily Hamilton, Eric Grabski, Cara Rogers, Rachel Davis, Denise Washington, Marlene Shields and Rhonda Partridge.

Several Palmetto College Campuses faculty were also inducted to the honor society, including (bottom photo, from left) USC Extended University Associate Professor of Political Science Elliot Vittes, USC Sumter Professor of English Hayes Hampton, USC Salkehatchie Instructor of Criminal Justice John Peek, USC Union Assistant Professor of English Andrew Pisano and USC Lancaster Professor of History Ron Cox.

Founded in 1945, Alpha Sigma Lambda honor society recognizes the academic success of adult students. Today, there are more than 300 chartered chapters throughout the United States.



USC Salkehatchie Women's Basketball team completes successful inaugural season



The USC Salkehatchie women's basketball team completed a successful inaugural season in the 2018-19 academic year.

Coach Glen Mayo recruited a team of dedicated, hard-working players who finished fifth out of 13 teams in the region and qualified for the NJCAA Region X Division 2 women's tournament in their first year.

The team completed the season 9-11 within its conference and 14-15 overall.

Congratulations on a great first season!

Graduating Student Profile: Leisa Rauch, '19



Leisa Rauch, '19
USC Salkehatchie
USC Columbia

Leisa Rauch received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree in May 2019 from USC Columbia through the partnership between USC Salkehatchie and the USC Columbia College of Nursing.

While a student at Salk, the Walterboro, S.C., native has not only been an excellent student with a greater than 3.75 cumulative grade point average, but has done so while also working full-time at a hospital in

Charleston. She also has worked as a lab assistant to the biology department on the Salk campus.

In addition to her work and her studies, Leisa has been involved in research. She presented her research, titled "Identification of Bacterial Isolates Originating from the Human Hand," at the 92nd annual meeting of the South Carolina Academy of Science recently. She conducted this research under the mentorship of USC Salkehatchie Professor of Biology Eran Kilpatrick with USC Lancaster Associate Professor of Biology Annette Golonka as a key collaborator.

At the final Salk faculty meeting of the academic year, Leisa was selected by the faculty as the "Outstanding Student of the Year" and was presented that award and recognized at USC Salkehatchie's Commencement. That award is given each year to the Salk student who best exemplifies what Salk faculty believe is the ideal student.

Graduating Student Profile: Teyanna Nichols, '19



Teyanna Nichols, '19
USC Lancaster
USC Columbia

Teyanna Nichols graduated in May 2019 with a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies degree with majors in health promotion and psychology.

In addition to her bachelor's degree, she will graduate with an Associate in Arts and an Associate in Science in Business. Teyanna also earned an Associate in Science with leadership distinction in the professional and civic engagement pathway in 2017.

Teyanna became very involved during her time on campus. She was a Peer Advisor at Lancaster (PAL) for four years. Alongside her work as a PAL, she was a member of Rotaract and Delta Links.

Teyanna had the privilege to collaborate with the J. Marion Sims Foundation and USC Lancaster on a research project as a student assistant to enhance her college experience.

She states that she has blossomed academically and personally because of USC Lancaster and Palmetto College.



Kendrick named 2019 Academic/Research Librarian of the Year by the Association of College and Research Libraries

Kaetrena Davis Kendrick, associate librarian at the University of South Carolina-Lancaster Medford Library, is the 2019 Association of College and Research Libraries' (ACRL) Academic/Research Librarian of the Year.

The award, sponsored by GOBI® Library Solutions from EBSCO, recognizes an outstanding member of the library profession who has made a significant national or international contribution to academic/research librarianship and library development. ACRL is the higher education association for librarians. Representing more than 10,000 academic and research librarians and interested individuals, ACRL develops programs, products and services to help academic and research librarians learn, innovate and lead within the academic community.

"Kaetrena Davis Kendrick is a fully engaged and dedicated professional with her finger on the pulse of some of the most relevant and significant issues in academic librarianship today," said Jennifer L. Fabbi, chair of the ACRL Academic/Research Librarian of the Year Award Committee and dean of the California State University-San Marcos University Library. "Her work in the areas of under-served and rural user populations, professional ethics, and morale in the profession are discussed widely and used in graduate library programs. Kaetrena is framing discussions influencing the future of our profession and the next generation of librarians."

"This award has recognized librarians on whom I have modeled my practical and scholarly endeavors, and I am deeply humbled. I join them with a spirit of thankfulness and resolve," Kendrick said. "Work in small and rural American academic libraries is often done under augmented constraints, and winning this award highlights and amplifies the positive, diligent efforts of librarians and library workers in these communities who help realize their campuses' goals of teaching, research, scholarship, and service. Thank you."

Kendrick exemplifies today's academic and research librarian through her tireless dedication to the profession both at her local library and on the global stage. Working at a small academic library with only one other librarian, she has sought new and innovative ways to serve her campus community. Kendrick launched the Lancer Scholar Square, a local institutional repository, using open source software and implemented a Library of Things service that provides students, faculty, and staff with access to a range of circulating materials including tripods, presentation clickers, and virtual reality viewers. She additionally found creative ways to host a maker space in the library, using accessible and cost-efficient materials. All of these projects demonstrate Kendrick's dedication to bringing national trends to libraries with limited resources.

Outside of her home institution, Kendrick's service orientation is shown in a wide range of publications and presentations on topics including equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) in librarianship; professional ethics and workplace issues; and the challenges facing small and rural libraries. She shared the knowledge and insights she gained at the University of South Carolina-Lancaster with her peers as co-editor of the 2016 ACRL book *The Small and Rural Academic Library: Leveraging Resources and Overcoming Limitations*,

featuring a mix of case studies and interviews written by librarians who share Kendrick's commitment to transforming libraries through creativity and innovation.

Kendrick also shares her insights through contributions to the LIS research literature. Her 2017 *Journal of Library Administration* article "The low morale experience of academic librarians: A phenomenological study" is widely recognized as a benchmark study in this under-researched area of librarianship.

She has also contributed research on EDI topics in several well-received articles including "The African American male librarian: Motivational factors in choosing a career in library and information science," *Behavioral & Social Sciences Librarian* (2011), and international librarianship through works such as her 2014 *IFLA Journal* article "The experience of Korean academic librarianship: A phenomenological study."

"I am delighted that Kaetrena Davis Kendrick has been selected to receive ACRL's top recognition of an individual – the Academic/Research Librarian of the Year Award," said ACRL Executive Director Mary Ellen K. Davis. "Her significant and influential research contributes to the development of academic librarianship and her dedication to

her local community is equally impressive. She leads by example through a strong commitment to serving and uplifting traditionally underrepresented and under-served groups of all kinds, both on her campus and in the profession."

Kendrick is the author of *The Kaleidoscopic Concern: An Annotated Bibliography of Diversity, Recruitment, Retention, and Other Concerns Regarding African American and Ethnic Library Professionals in the United States* (2009) and *Global Evolution: A Chronological Annotated Bibliography of International Students in U.S. Academic Libraries* (2007), both published by ACRL.

Her additional contributions to the journal literature include co-authoring "A phenomenological study of conservative academic librarians," *Behavioral & Social Sciences Librarian* (2015); "The impact of cloud computing on librarians at small and rural academic libraries," *Southeastern Librarian* (2014); and "Impact of the Code of Ethics on workplace behavior in academic libraries," *Journal of Information Ethics* (2011).

Kendrick's record of service to ACRL and ALA includes serving as a member (2012-16) and chair (2016-18) of the *C&RL News* Editorial Board, member of the ALA Committee on Professional Ethics (2014-16), member of the ALA Publishing Committee (2010-12), and member of the ACRL 2009 Panel Sessions Subcommittee (2007-2008), among other appointments. She also served the profession as a member of the 2006 and 2012 Joint Conference of Librarians of Color Proceedings Committees.

Before becoming associate librarian in 2017, Kendrick served the Medford Library as assistant librarian (2012-17) and librarian instructor (2012). She previously held positions at the University of South Carolina Aiken Gregg-Graniteville Library (2009-11) and the Georgia State University Library (2005-09).

Kendrick received her B.A. in English from Winthrop University and M.S.L.S from the Clark Atlanta University School of Library and Information Studies.



Kaetrena Davis Kendrick
USC Lancaster

Union County Carnegie Library: 2019 National Medal for Museum & Library Service Finalist

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has named the Union County Carnegie Library among the 30 finalists for the National Medal for Museum and Library Service.

The National Medal for Museum and Library Service is the nation's highest honor for institutions that make significant and exceptional contributions to their communities. Over the past 25 years, the award has celebrated institutions throughout the nation that have demonstrated extraordinary and innovative approaches to public service.

National Medal winners will be announced later this spring, and representatives from winning libraries and museums will receive their medals at a June 12 ceremony in Washington, D.C.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's libraries and museums. Since 1994, IMLS has presented the award to institutions that demonstrate extraordinary and innovative approaches to community service.



The Union Carnegie Library is located one block from USC Union. It is housed in the oldest library building in South Carolina that was built with the assistance of the Carnegie Corporation. The library recently went through an extensive renovation and restoration of the original historic section. This added more space for children, teens, and additional space for meetings and workshops. During the renovation, USC Union campus was a satellite location and a strong partnership was formed between the two.

With two libraries being situated within a block of each other, it made sense to move the USC Union library system to Carnegie. The partnership benefits faculty, staff, students, and the community as a whole. Carnegie offers more resources, technology, computer usage, and much more. Their extended evening and Saturday hours will greatly benefit the students, especially during exam times.

Cole earns NJCAA Basketball All-American accolades



USC Salkehatchie men's basketball player Vince Cole has collected multiple NJCAA accolades this season. The 6'6" freshman from Charleston, S.C., has been named NJCAA Region X Division 1 Player of the Year for the 2018-19 season. Cole was also named to a NJCAA Basketball Second Team All-American in April 2019.

USC Union Rotaract Club donates to animal Shelter

USC Union's Rotaract Club hosted a fundraiser on Valentine's Day to raise money for the Friends of The Union Animal Shelter. The club sold "LoveGrams" that consisted of a carnation, Valentine card and candy. With the help of the Union Rotary Club and a generous donation of carnations from Gwinn's Florist, the club was able to raise \$300.00 for the animal shelter!



Pictured from left: Annie Smith, USC Union marketing & development director and Rotaract Club admin; Holly Wise, director of Union County Animal Shelter and Friends of Union Animal Shelter; and Ashley Phillips, USC Union sophomore.

The Rotary Club of Union sponsors the Union High School Interact Club and is proud to sponsor the Rotaract Club now, as well. The Rotary club will offer support, opportunities, and project work. Rotary members are business and professional leaders that make up a global network of 1.2 million Rotarians that belong to more than 34,000 Rotary Clubs in over 200 countries.

Rotaract clubs bring together college students to exchange ideas with leaders in the community, develop leadership and professional skills, and have fun through service. Rotaract caters to college age students to help them evolve with their leadership and professional skills to use after they graduate. There are currently 250,792 Rotaractors in 10,904 Rotaract clubs in 184 countries in the world.

Novelist David Joy visits USC Sumter for Spring Writer Series

USC Sumter hosted award-winning and nationally-acclaimed author David Joy on March 26-27.

On the evening of March 26, Joy read selections of his work and participated in a discussion hosted by poet and USC Sumter Professor Ray McManus. The discussion focused on a variety of topics, including Joy's sense of place and character in his novels, the role of Southern literature in the South today, and the current state of Appalachia.



David Joy
Novelist and
Memoirist

“David Joy is the kind of storyteller people want to listen to,” said McManus. “The way he presents ordinary characters who find themselves in extraordinary situations, sometimes at no real fault of their own, is something that we can all relate to.

And his insight on class and race in the American South is poignant, honest, and unafraid.”

On March 27, Joy read from his latest novel *The Line That Held Us* (Putnam, 2018). That particular novel won the 2019 Southern Book Prize from the Southern Independent Booksellers Association (SIB) earlier this year.

Joy is the author of the Edgar nominated novel *Where All Light Tends To Go* (Putnam, 2015), as well as the novels *The Weight Of This World* (Putnam, 2017) and *The Line That Held Us*. He is also the author of the memoir *Growing Gills: A Fly Fisherman's Journey* (Bright Mountain



Books, 2011), which was a finalist for the Reed Environmental Writing Award and the Ragan Old North State Award.

Joy is the recipient of an artist fellowship from the North Carolina Arts Council. His latest short stories and essays have appeared in *Time*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *Garden & Gun*, and *The Bitter Southerner*.

Horizon Grant funds partnership between USC Lancaster, Kershaw high school chemistry students

This spring, USC Lancaster chemistry instructor Jill Castiglia and associate chemistry professor Bettie Obi-Johnson received a Horizon Education Grant from the J. Marion Sims Foundation to work with Harris Baker's chemistry classes at Andrew Jackson High School (AJHS) in Kershaw, S.C.

Through the partnership, AJHS students will have the opportunity to hone their skills while performing laboratory experiments with student mentors from USC Lancaster. The experiments were designed to meet the needs of the students, to reinforce concepts learned in class and to challenge them to delve deeper into specific topics. To be successful in college and in life, it is important that students learn by doing (labs), be self-directed in their inquiry, and work with others in a productive way.

Although the goal of this project is to increase interest and performance in high school and college chemistry, there are three very important ancillary consequences of this collaboration.

(1) The AJHS students will work with a student mentor who will inform them of the rigor and responsibility of furthering their education. These students will be better informed to make this decision about their future.



(2) Having this link to USC Lancaster will ease AJHS students' transitions to college, and most likely steer them toward USC Lancaster. We want students to realize the incredible resource they have in their backyard. USC Lancaster is an economical

choice and provides students with the individualized attention needed for success. Students from last year's collaboration with Buford High School enrolled as dual enrollment students this past summer.

(3) The student mentors thoroughly enjoy working with the high school students. They pass their wisdom to the next group while reinforcing their own knowledge of chemistry through teaching. They learn patience and to think on their feet in order to explain concepts in a way the students understand.

The J. Marion Sims Foundation is a community nonprofit that works to enhance the health and wellness of the Fort Lawn, Great Falls and Lancaster County communities.

The Horizon Grant promotes collaboration between educators, guardians and students in shared projects and innovative activities. Grant applications are approved by the Horizon Grant Youth Review Committee, which is comprised of students from Lancaster County, Great Falls and Lewisville high schools and USC Lancaster.

Lockhart Power and USC Union install recharging stations



Pictured from left: Lockhart Power COO Bryan Stone, Lockhart Power Senior Manager of Community Relations and Development Andrena Powell-Baker, USC Union Director of Marketing & Development Annie Smith and USC Union Dean John Catalano

USC Union has acquired the old post office across from campus on Main Street. Once the Science and Nursing building renovations are complete, the post office will be converted into the USC Union Fine Arts Building. It will house a printing press room, gallery area, a kiln room, office space for two artists, studio space, and a large lecture room.

Thanks to Lockhart Power, the parking lot at the Fine Arts building also has two car charging stations. The stations were previously located in front of the USC Union gazebo, but were removed during construction on campus. City of Union and Union County were the first local governments in South Carolina to participate in the state's Plug In SC clean fuels campaign and USC Union is proud to be a location.

Founded in 1912, Lockhart Power Company is an investor-owned electric utility located in the Upstate of South Carolina that provides electric power generation, transmission, distribution and lighting services to a range of residential, commercial, industrial and wholesale customers. Lockhart's service area spans portions of Spartanburg, Union, Cherokee, Chester and York counties.

USC Sumter co-hosts Swan Con – Sumter's comic arts festival

USC Sumter, in conjunction with the Sumter County Cultural Commission, hosted "Swan Con – Sumter's Comic Arts Festival," on March 22 at USC Sumter and March 23 at Patriot Hall.

This annual two-day free event celebrates comic art by bringing together creators and fans. Prior to 2019, Swan Con was known as the Sumter Comic Arts Symposium.

This year's lineup of guests included Noah Van Sciver, creator of *Fante Bukowski*, *Saint Cole* and *One Dirty Tree*; Sophie Goldstein, creator of *The Oven* and *House of Women*; Carl Antonowicz, creator of *Büer's Kiss*; Damian Duffy, the Eisner Award-winning writer of *Octavia Butler's Kindred*; and Dustin Harbin, creator of *Diary Comics* and *Dharbin*.

A variety of vendors were also on-hand to feature their sci-fi, comic and collectible wares. There was also a Cosplay contest for fans to show their creativity and win awards for wearing costumes and fashion accessories to represent specific characters from different popular culture sources.

The goal of this annual event is to bring comic artists to Sumter, S.C., to exhibit their work and lecture on their craft. Guest speakers discuss their past and current projects, and question-and-answer sessions follow each presentation. There are also opportunities to purchase and have works signed.



Swan Con began on March 22 in the USC Sumter Arts & Letters Building Lecture Hall and featured artist panels. The two-day comic arts festival continued on March 23 at Patriot Hall with vendors, an artist panel and a panel on publishing comics. The culmination of the festival was a Cosplay contest (above) that provided awards to visitors dressed as their favorite characters from comic books, movies and anime.



each of their journeys and I know that you will be moved and inspired as well. The video is available to view on the Palmetto College website at https://sc.edu/about/system_and_campuses/palmetto_college/bachelor_degree_programs/index.php

This year we were also pleased to produce a Palmetto College fifth-anniversary publication that celebrates our first five years of success by providing tangible results of what we have accomplished through our Regional Palmetto Colleges and Palmetto College Online. Some of the highlights from that publication are provided below.

As we continue to fulfill our Palmetto College mission of providing more accessible, affordable and flexible USC degrees, it is notable that we're able to serve nearly 6,000 students at our Regional Palmetto Colleges and through Palmetto College Online.

Overall, Palmetto College is growing to meet the needs of South Carolinians and their desire to complete a degree from the University of South Carolina. We had an overall enrollment growth of 21 percent over the five-year period. The Regional Palmetto Colleges achieved a near 14 percent increase and Palmetto College Online enrollment increased over 95 percent. Student success results included over 12 percent growth in associate degrees awarded and a 118 percent increase in online bachelor's degrees awarded. The complete five-year anniversary publication can be downloaded from the Palmetto College website at https://www.sc.edu/about/system_and_campuses/palmetto_college/internal/announcements/2018/usc_palmetto_college_five-year_report.php

We look forward to many future endeavors that represent enrollment growth for Palmetto College and, more importantly, our ability to meet the needs of under-served communities and populations within South Carolina.

Part of that service begins with reaching prospective students long before they reach high school. Through the University of Possibilities, our new partnership with Vice President Derrick Huggins and others, we are creating more college-ready students by reaching back to middle school to get them on our campuses and engaged early.

We also work with high schools through our Regional Palmetto Colleges to offer dual credit and early college programs to high school students who are preparing for higher education. To date, we have saved students and parents over \$50 million in higher education costs over the past five years through these programs.

We're also making greater gains to reach prospective students via our Gateway programs across the state. These programs create a direct path to four-year system institutions. The Sandshark Scholars program creates a gateway for students from USC Salkehatchie to USC Beaufort, and the Pacer Pathway program offers a similar arrangement for USC Union students to attend USC Aiken. The new Palmetto Pathway program, launching in Fall 2019, will offer a similar gateway between Regional Palmetto College students and the Columbia campus.

Expanding our military programs and offerings is another top priority, not just at Fort Jackson and Shaw Air Force Base, but across South Carolina and online – with fully online degrees for all four years of the bachelor's degree.

Many thanks to the honorable members of the Board of Trustees and President Pastides for their outstanding leadership in creating and supporting Palmetto College. Also, my deepest gratitude is extended to the Palmetto College faculty and staff who make our work possible everyday as we provide greater access, affordability and flexibility to USC degrees across this great state.

New Carmichael endowed fund will support faculty/staff excellence at Salk campuses

When Ann Carmichael, dean of USC Salkehatchie, retired late last year, she had a special wish for the campus. She had never had financial resources to award to University faculty or staff who were exemplary in their impact on the Salkehatchie campuses in Walterboro and Allendale.

Enter Gene Varn.

Gene, a long-time member of the Western Carolina Commission for Higher Education and on Dean Carmichael's USC Salkehatchie partnership board, stepped in to help. He expressed a desire to do something in honor of his good friend Ann, and make a lasting impact



Gene Varn, senior vice president of Enterprise Bank, established the Dr. Ann C. Carmichael Faculty and Staff Excellence Endowment Fund for USC Salkehatchie to honor a friend and to ensure that Salk can recruit and retain the best faculty and staff.

on the campuses that serve the community where he lives and works. Gene serves as senior vice president for Enterprise Bank and is a member of the Carolina Horseshoe and Guardian Societies.

Through a combination of an outright donation and an estate plan gift, Gene provided the support required to create the "Dr. Ann C. Carmichael Faculty and Staff Excellence Endowment Fund for USC Salkehatchie."

This endowment will ultimately deliver an annual award to support the excellent work Salk's faculty and staff do in the areas of teaching, research, community outreach and on-campus service. It is a way to recognize excellence that had never been available to a Salkehatchie dean in the past. In recent months, a number of donors have contributed to fund this endowment that will generate near-term annual awards.

"It has been my pleasure to be associated with Palmetto College and USC Salkehatchie over the past years. Dr. Anne Carmichael has been a friend for longer than that association," said Varn. "She has worked tirelessly for our local community here in the low country, the University, USC Salkehatchie and the entire regional system. I was happy to help with the starting of a fund for faculty excellence to ensure that in our little part of the regional system, we could attract the best faculty and staff to ensure the same quality of education that is expected throughout South Carolina."

Palmetto College joins with new USC Salkehatchie Dean Chris Nesmith in thanking Gene and the numerous donors for their generous support of this important fund.

If you are interested in supporting the Dr. Ann C. Carmichael Faculty and Staff Excellence Endowment Fund for USC Salkehatchie, please contact Chris DeWolf at cdewolf@sc.edu or (803) 777-9303.

A SENATE RESOLUTION

TO CONGRATULATE DEAN ANN CARMICHAEL UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT, TO COMMEND HER FOR HER MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA SALKEHATCHIE, AND TO WISH HER CONTINUED SUCCESS IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to recognize Dean Ann Carmichael upon the occasion of her retirement on December 31, 2018; and

Whereas, Dean Ann Carmichael earned her Ph.D. in counseling from the University of South Carolina and her master's degree in student personnel services from Clemson University. She also attended the University of South Carolina Union and is a Fellow of the Riley Institute at Furman University; and

Whereas, during her thirty-five-year career in higher education, Dean Carmichael has served as associate vice president for academic affairs and dean of students at Charleston Southern University, dean of students at Judson College, director of the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie East Campus in Walterboro, and development coordinator for the institution's multi-million-dollar capital campaign; and

Whereas, since 2000, she has served as the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie's campus dean. Under Dean Carmichael's leadership, the campus has boasted record student enrollments; a nationally recognized faculty; campus improvements; and an increase in campus sports offerings. She also developed partnerships with other campuses in order to offer bachelor's degrees in nursing and engineering on-campus; and

Whereas, a leader in efforts to revitalize the Salkehatchie region, Dean Carmichael worked with community members to establish the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie Leadership Institute, which assists municipalities and community groups with economic development and other projects that directly affect residents' quality of life. She has also worked to secure regional grant designations and over \$11 million in external funding, with projects to include the restoration of the Carolina Theatre and the construction of the streetscape project "University Mile"; and

Whereas, an active member of the greater Salkehatchie community, Dean Carmichael has been involved with the Walterboro-Colleton Chamber of Commerce, the Southern Carolina Regional Economic Development Alliance Board of Directors, the Savannah River Site Redevelopment Authority Board, the Board of Directors for Colleton Medical Center, the Colleton Literacy Board of Directors, the March of Dimes, and the advisory board for The Art of Community: Rural SC. Carmichael was also recognized by the Walterboro-Colleton Chamber of Commerce as Outstanding Contributor to the Field of Education in 2000 and 2014, and she received the chamber's Innovation Award in 2015; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are grateful for the diligence and commitment that Dean Ann Carmichael has shown in serving the people and the State of South Carolina. The members take immense pleasure in wishing her well as she enters retirement. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Dean Ann Carmichael upon the occasion of her retirement, commend her for her many years of dedicated public service to the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie, and wish her continued success in all her future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Dean Ann Carmichael.

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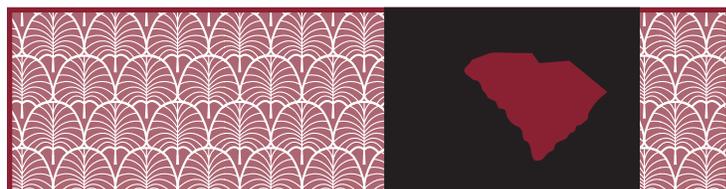
Carmichael honored by South Carolina State Senate



On Feb. 28, 2019, the South Carolina State Senate issued a resolution and honored Dean Ann Carmichael in the Senate Gallery upon the occasion of her retirement, to commend her for her many years of dedicated public service to the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie and to wish her continued success in all her future endeavors. Carmichael retired as dean following a 35-year-career in higher education and a 18-year-career as Salk dean on Dec. 31, 2018.



The S.C. Senate resolution was sponsored by District 40 Sen. Brad Hutto and District 45 Sen. Margie Bright Matthews. Other members of the Salkehatchie area delegation pictured include District 39 Sen. John Matthews and District 91 Rep. Lonnie Hosey.



USC Sumter and USC Union add new endowed scholarships that honor Graham and From families

In the spring of 2019, Palmetto College has seen the addition of two new endowed scholarships designed to support our deserving students and to honor family members who have made important contributions to our campus communities.

In February, Robert “Bob” Graham Jr. of Columbia, S.C., established a new endowed scholarship fund at the USC Sumter through the Graham Family Foundation. The scholarship honors his parents, Isabelle and Robert Graham Sr.

Bob is a Wofford University graduate who took undergraduate and graduate courses in accounting at the University of South Carolina. He’s a former partner with KeenanSuggs HUB International Ltd.

The Grahams believe that “supporting USC Sumter is a way to show our love for the Sumter community ... and that – but for God’s Grace – our education would have never been extended beyond high school. We are forever grateful for the blessing and want to share it with others.”

The Grahams’ scholarship gift included funds from the William Brice Edwards Foundation, a matching fund designed to inspire the creation of new endowed scholarships at USC Sumter. The new Isabelle and Robert Graham Endowed Scholarship Fund award is aligned with the award criteria set forth by Robert Sr. when he and his family established a scholarship for USC Sumter students in the 1980s.

Robert Sr. was a former mayor of the City of Sumter. This new scholarship will aid students studying nursing at USC Sumter and is timely given USC Sumter’s commitment to launch a new Bachelor of

Science of Nursing degree in Fall 2021 in partnership with USC Aiken.

The new Harry and Edith From Memorial Scholarship Fund for USC Union students is similar in spirit to the Graham scholarship in that it honors family members who were important to the Union community.

Gloria Goldberg, and her brother Allan From, established a new endowed scholarship for USC Union to honor their parents. This is the latest in a series of endowed scholarships the From family has created in support of USC Union students. More specifically, it is designed to benefit local students matriculating from Union High School who are pursuing their associate degree with USC Union.

According to Gloria and Allan, they established this scholarship “in memory of our parents. They loved the people of Union County and enjoyed a wonderful life there. Our grandfather, Israel From, was a peddler from Lithuania, who moved to Union in the late 1890s. He later opened a clothing store on Main Street in Union. Because of the support of Union County, he and his wife Bertha reared a family and sent five children to college. We are forever grateful.”

Gloria holds a Master of Education from the University of South Carolina and, together with her husband Henry, established a successful company, Palmetto Tile, located in Columbia. Allan, a 1975 U of SC School of Law graduate, is a tax attorney living in Raleigh, N.C., and a member of the U of SC School of Law Dean’s Council. He and Gloria are effusive about what a U of SC education has done for their families, careers and their

communities.

Palmetto College thanks both the Graham and From families for their thoughtful support of our wonderful students.



Robert Graham Sr. was a Sumter, S.C., mayor. His son Bob has established the new Isabelle and Robert Graham Endowed Scholarship Fund to benefit USC Sumter students studying for a BSN degree in a forthcoming partnership between USC Sumter and USC Aiken.



The new Harry and Edith From Memorial Scholarship Fund was established by their children, Gloria Goldberg and Allan From, in honor of their parents to benefit students at USC Union.

In memoriam: Debbie Littlejohn, charter member of the Palmetto College Board of Visitors



Debbie Littlejohn
Palmetto College
Board of Visitors

Debbie Howell Littlejohn, a charter member of the Palmetto College Board of Visitors, died on April 28, 2019. She was one of the first members to join the Board of Visitors at its formation during the Fall 2013 semester.

In addition to her role with the Board of Visitors, Littlejohn served on the Union/Laurens Commission on Higher Education, and she was also a great advocate of USC Union and Palmetto College.

Littlejohn earned a bachelor’s degree in education from the University of South Carolina and master’s degree from Converse College. She taught for 28 years as a kindergarten teacher at Jonesville Elementary School, and in 2002, she was honored as “Teacher of the Year.”

Debbie is survived by her husband Pat, son Patrick, two grandchildren, a sister and an aunt.

We collectively share our condolences with her family.

USC Salkehatchie Softball Team wins NJCAA Region X Championship

The USC Salkehatchie Softball Team won the NJCAA Division I Region X Championship on May 5 in Spartanburg, S.C. The team entered as the second seed team.

Fifth-seed USC Union and sixth-seed USC Sumter competed in the tournament as well. Union made it to the semifinal round, and Sumter made it to the championship game against Salk.

Division I Softball Region Awards were also announced.

Salk Coach Kenneth Bellamy was named NJCAA Division I Region X Coach of the Year.

Haley Haselden of USC Salkehatchie was named Pitcher of the Year.

NJCAA Division I Region X First Team All-Region honors were awarded to pitcher Haley Haselden (Salkehatchie), centerfielder Grace Revels (Union), infielder Tiara Peters (Salkehatchie), outfielder Haley Rawls (Salkehatchie), outfielder Hannah Johnson (Union), utility player Jessi Bell (Salkehatchie) and utility player Kiara Lee (Union).



USC Salkehatchie Softball Coach Kenneth Bellamy has been named NJCAA Division I Region X Coach of the Year.



The USC Salkehatchie Softball Coach has won the NJCAA Division I Region X championship.

Second Team All-Region honors were awarded to centerfielder Samantha Blackwell (Salkehatchie), infielder Daisy Byrd (Salkehatchie), infielder Emily Holmes (Sumter), outfielder Lauren Wexler (Salkehatchie), outfielder Alexis Odum (Union), outfielder Abigale Hudson (Sumter), utility player Brooke Ward (Sumter) and utility player Shelby Nisbet (Sumter).

Honorable Mention All-Region honors were awarded to pitcher Kyleigh Collins (Union) and utility player Haley Carter (Sumter).

Salk will play Region 22 (MD) runner-up in a best-of-three series on May 11-12, 2019 at Spartanburg Methodist College for the District I title.

The winner of the District I Tournament will receive a bid to the NJCAA National Tournament at Canyons Complex in St. George, Utah, on May 22-25, 2019.

USC Salkehatchie heads into the District I tournament 9-7 in the conference and 36-22 overall. USC Union completed the season 7-10 in the conference and 20-14 overall. USC Sumter completed the season 6-11 in the conference and 19-23 overall.

Salary study steering committee established

Chancellor Elkins and the Regional Palmetto College deans are working closely together with the Palmetto College Campuses Faculty Senate (PCCFS) Welfare Committee to study faculty and staff salaries across the Regional Palmetto Colleges. During the past five years, a substantial amount has been spent on faculty and staff salary increases, and the deans and chancellor have committed \$100,000 for salary increases that will, of course, increase considerably each year since they will be recurring over time.

A diverse and representative team has been assembled, with two members from each campus to represent key stakeholders from the Faculty Senate and the Senate Welfare Committee, along with various staff members including a staff organization chair and leaders in finance and human resources, since those two areas are integrally involved with salaries. We are also very fortunate to have Dr. Lloyd Dawe, director of institutional effectiveness at USC Aiken, facilitate this process. Dawe is knowledgeable and experienced in efforts such as this, both at USC Aiken and in prior positions. He is also a neutral party with no previous ties to Palmetto College.

The Palmetto College Salary Study Steering Committee completed a comprehensive study of salaries for all faculty and staff for Palmetto College during 2018-19. Over the summer,

2018-19 Palmetto College Salary Study Steering Committee

Ernest Jenkins, USC Lancaster <i>PCCFS Past Faculty Senate Chair</i>	Michele Lee, USC Union <i>Campus Finance/Staff Representative</i>
Bianca Rowlett, USC Sumter <i>PCCFS Welfare Committee Chair</i>	Susan Jett, USC Union <i>Campus HR/Staff Representative</i>
Matt Rashotte, Extended University <i>PCCFS Welfare Committee Past Chair</i>	Sabrina Walker-Padgett, USC Salkehatchie <i>Campus Staff Organization Chair</i>
David Cherry, USC Salkehatchie <i>PCCFS Welfare Committee</i>	Mike Sonntag, USC Sumter <i>Dean Representative</i>
Dawson Jones, Extended University <i>PCCFS Sec/Ext U Fac Org Chair</i>	Janis Hoffman, Palmetto College <i>PC Finance Representative</i>
Buddy Faile, USC Lancaster <i>Campus Finance/Staff Representative</i>	Victoria Hollins, Palmetto College <i>PC HR Representative</i>
Lloyd Dawe, USC Aiken <i>Facilitator</i>	

a communication plan will be developed. The results will be communicated and implemented beginning Fall 2019, and will then be included in the new five-year Palmetto College strategic plan.

New slate of Palmetto College Online commercials to premiere

In celebration of its fifth-year anniversary, USC Palmetto College has released a five-minute video sharing the perspectives of five graduates of the online bachelor's degree completion programs offered by USC Columbia, USC Aiken, USC Beaufort and USC Upstate.

Alumni featured in the Palmetto College Online five-year anniversary video include Ryan West, '16 (Organizational Leadership – USC Columbia), Nicole Ramsey, '18 (Elementary Education – USC Columbia), Dirk "DJ" Bron Jr., '17 (Criminal Justice – USC Upstate), Chan Samreth, '18 (RN-BSN Nursing – USC Upstate), and Andrew Verma, '15 (Business Administration – USC Aiken).

The video premiered at the April 29 University Board of Trustees meeting, and each graduate's story has been used to create individual commercials for broadcast television, cable, online digital pre-roll video and streaming video.

This is the third full Palmetto College Online commercial campaign and the first to feature actual alumni in place of actors.

The five 30-second commercials will air

on broadcast and cable television in metropolitan areas in select regions across South Carolina.

The first Palmetto College Online commercial campaign, launched in late 2014, featured six commercials.

This 2014 campaign earned a (Silver) Telly Award, the highest level of achievement given for commercial work internationally.

The combined original television and radio broadcast campaign earned a (Gold) Excellence in Marketing Award from UPCEA, the University Professional, Continuing and Online Education Association.

The second commercial campaign, launched in mid 2017, featured four



Nicole Ramsey completed a B.A. in Elementary Education full-time through UofSC (Columbia) while working 50+ hours a week managing retail. She is also raising a young son. Completing her 2018 degree through Palmetto College allowed her to achieve her dream of becoming a teacher.



commercials. That campaign earned American Advertising Awards (ADDYs) for two individual commercials in the campaign.

View all three commercial campaigns – 2014, 2017 and 2019 – online ([after June 1](#)) by scanning the QR code above with a mobile device.

University of South Carolina Palmetto College

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