

Chancellor's Corner



Dr. Susan A. Elkins, Chancellor
USC Palmetto College

USC Palmetto College: Celebrating the Past, Looking Forward to the Future!

April 18, 2013 – “University of South Carolina launches Palmetto College”

April 18, 2018 – “University of South Carolina celebrates 5th Anniversary of Palmetto College”

Amazing how time flies!!! Thanks to all of the countless contributors to USC Palmetto College’s efforts, many successes have been realized over the last five years. Our deepest gratitude is extended to the many leaders from across the USC System – and statewide – who developed this transformative system innovation, along with the numerous faculty, staff, students and supporters who have been instrumental in the many successes achieved.

It seems like only yesterday that we began this journey together to work collaboratively across the eight-campus University of South Carolina System to increase the accessibility, affordability and flexibility

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Palmetto College Excellence Awards honor Scholarship, Teaching, Service

Each spring, the Palmetto College Campuses Excellence Awards for teaching, scholarship and service are announced.

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 2017-2018 Duffy Teaching Award was presented to **Shelley Jones**, assistant professor of English in Extended University.

Jones created free online research modules as a student success initiative and developed a new Palmetto College course, PALM 495: Service Learning. Students had previously been required to spend 140 hours



on-site – about 10 hours a week – for an internship class. The new course is a first of its kind at the university. Instead of working on-site, students can complete their work on their own

time as long as they meet preset deadlines.

Of her own teaching, Jones said “I strive in all forms of my teaching to create a community

PC awards, continued page 11



Follow the USC Palmetto College fifth-birthday festivities, pp. 6-7

APLU recognizes the success of USC Palmetto College

*Dr. Harris Pastides, President, University of South Carolina
Dr. Susan Elkins, Chancellor, University of South Carolina Palmetto College*

As a state trooper, Dirk Bron Jr. didn’t work the kind of schedule convenient for earning a bachelor’s degree. His work sometimes required long nights and early mornings in different locations throughout the state; not the ideal when planning semester-long academic commitments.

Enrolling in online classes through Palmetto College allowed Dirk to earn both his associate and bachelor’s degree

in criminal justice. In July 2017, he was appointed an associate chief magistrate in Laurens County, South Carolina—an appointment that wouldn’t be possible without a four-year degree.

At the University of South Carolina, we know there are thousands of working

professionals just like Dirk, which is why we created USC Palmetto College. Founded

This article is reprinted from the website of the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities, and written for the website at the request of APLU President McPherson following a recent visit to the university’s flagship campus.

APLU, continued page 6

NASC Archivist Brent Burgin receives archaeology award

Brent Burgin, Archivist for USC Lancaster's Native American Studies Center, has been awarded the Distinguished Archaeologist of the Year Award by the Archaeological Society of South Carolina (ASSC).

The award recognizes Burgin's numerous contributions to the field of archaeology in South Carolina and to the ASSC. Burgin has served as the ASSC's Archivist since 2014.

President of the ASSC Keith Stephenson said, "As President of the Archaeological Society of South Carolina, I note that Brent received the Distinguished Archeologist of the Year Award due to his sustained interest and endeavor in pursuing and preserving the archaeological record of South Carolina."

Burgin was a frequent volunteer in the field at the Johannes Kolb Archaeological Site in Darlington County and has assisted

Archaeology Professor and Center Director Chris Judge with researching Indian Mounds located under Lake Wateree.

In addition to his field work, Burgin has relocated ASSC records from Columbia to store them in the Center's temperature and humidity controlled archival vault. He also co-authored "The Society Turns 50: Working to Educate and Preserve South Carolina's Archaeological Heritage Since 1968," a paper presented for the 50th Anniversary of the Annual Conference on South Carolina Archaeology in February.

"As the Archivist for the ASSC since 2014, Brent has made significant improvements for the Society's benefit," said Center Director and Archaeologist Chris Judge. "Brent is yet another example of the tremendous avocational archaeologist whose contributions



Native American Studies Center Archivist Brent Burgin is the recipient of the Archaeological Society of South Carolina's Distinguished Archaeologist of the Year Award. The award acknowledges Burgin's contributions to the Society and to the field of archaeology in South Carolina.

have been the hallmark and the backbone of the ASSC for five decades."

Heather Judy appointed to direct Salk Leadership Institute

USC Salkehatchie welcomes Heather Judy as the new executive director of the USC Salkehatchie Leadership Institute. Among her many responsibilities are directing Leadership Salkehatchie, Leadership Colleton and other potential leadership programs; coordination of the USC Salkehatchie Career Center and STEM promotion efforts; coordination of the Boeing/USC Salkehatchie Take Flight Camp; and working with the Carolina Theatre on the Allendale Campus.

The USC Salkehatchie Leadership Institute (SLI) was established in 1998 to



help stimulate economic development in the rural areas it serves—Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Colleton and Hampton counties.

The SLI was the result of a public-private initiative that included the University of South Carolina, Allendale County Chamber

of Commerce, BellSouth, South Carolina State University, Clemson University, USDA Rural Development, SC Commission on Minority Affairs, SC Department of Commerce, SC Downtown Development Association and Leadership South Carolina.

The Institute oversees programs that make real, tangible advances in its three areas of emphasis, including (1) advanced leadership programs across our region; (2) junior leadership programs for 10th and 11th graders; and (3) training for Salkehatchie Student Government Association and work-study students.

About USC Palmetto College Connections



This Issue's Contributors

Jane Brewer, Jean Carrano, Margaret Carter, Alice Colbert, Jay Darby, Shana Dry, Susan Elkins, Misty Hatfield, Annie Smith, Summer Yarborough

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

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 Palmetto College Campuses announce Distinguished Teacher of the Year Awards



R. Mac Jones
Assistant Professor of English
Extended University/USC Fort Jackson
Stephen L. Dalton Distinguished Teacher of
the Year Award



Dwayne Brown
Mathematics Instructor
USC Lancaster
Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award



Aaron Ard
Assistant Professor of Business Management
USC Salkehatchie
Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award



Tom Bragg
Assistant Professor English
USC Salkehatchie
Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award



Bianca Rowlette
Assistant Professor of History
USC Sumter
SGA Award for Teacher of the Year

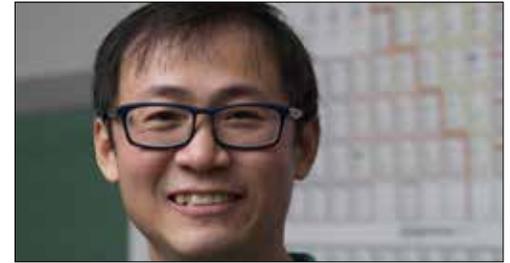


Randy Ivey
Senior English Instructor
USC Union
Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award

2018 USC Palmetto College RISE Grant Recipients

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.

Three USC Palmetto College proposals representing Palmetto College Campuses were funded for Summer 2018.



Li Cai, USC Lancaster –
Targeting Tumor Cells by Natural Ant-Carbohydrate Antibodies Using Rhamnose-Functionalized Virus Particles



Christopher Judge, USC Lancaster –
Determining the Validity of a Model Developed to Document the Decrease in the Basal Width of Triangular Shaped Stone Arrowheads through Time: 3,000 to 300 Years Ago



Melissa Rack, USC Salkehatchie –
The Slender Muse: Neoteric Poetics in Spenser's Late Pastoral "Theory: Alexandrian Echoes"; "Theory: New Songs"; and "Style: Things and Thingliness"

Biggerstaff receives 2018 Burggraf Award for highest GPA among adult student learners

Grady Daniel Biggerstaff is the 2018 recipient of the David L. Burggraf Award for adult student learners. The award is given annually in recognition of the student – 25 years of age or older – with the highest grade point average in Palmetto College’s Liberal Studies, Organizational Leadership or Elementary Education online degree completion programs.

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



“He amazes me,” said Avery M. Fouts, associate professor of philosophy and religious studies at USC Union. “He gets up at the crack of dawn and climbs cell phone towers all day. Then after work he attends

classes here at USC Union. Then he goes home to his family, and only studies after his kids are in bed, unless it is Wednesday night, then he goes to church where he is an active leader with the Royal Ambassadors. All this, and he has maintained a 3.968 GPA.”

Biggerstaff is also a recipient of the Palmetto College Distinguished Scholar Award. That award is given to the graduating senior based at USC Union who is earning a bachelor’s degree in either Liberal Studies or Organizational Leadership through USC Palmetto College.



Alumna profile Alana Brooke Rosa, '17

Alana Brooke Rosa graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies degree with leadership distinction in research in December 2017. A Magellan Scholar and an active member of the USC Lancaster student body, she also worked as a research assistant in the behavioral neuroscience lab on the campus.

Alana was recently accepted into Radford University’s graduate program in experimental psychology. She already has abstract publications in *Psychophysiology* and the *Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society* and is a student affiliate for the International Neuropsychological Society, Society for Psychophysiological Research, and the South Carolina Psychological Association. She has also successfully presented research at regional conferences, including the South Carolina Psychological Association and Carolina Women’s Health Research Forum.



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PalmettoCollege

Mary Scarborough selected as Miss USC Union 2018

Mary Scarborough, a sophomore at USC Union, was recently selected to be Miss USC Union 2018.

The newly coronated queen is heavily involved on campus as a workstudy student in the financial aid department, as student government president, as a member of the drama club, and as a member of the new USC Union Rotaract Club. Mary also works as a waitress at a local restaurant, volunteers at the Spartanburg Little Theater and is the assistant choreographer for the Union County High School’s theater department in her spare time.

Once she has completed her matriculation at USC Union, Mary plans to transfer to USC Upstate to enter their nursing program.





USC Salkehatchie brings state-of-the-art healthcare training to Colleton County

The complexity of health care treatment and the advances in technology are enabling universities and medical centers to work collaboratively to create better access, diagnostics and overall better patient care. USC Salkehatchie and Colleton Medical Center are taking advantage of technology to provide more advanced training for nursing students and medical staff by establishing a high-fidelity simulation lab on the Salkehatchie East Campus in Walterboro. Partners for this \$450,000 project include CMC and HCA, Colleton County, BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation, Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina and The Fullerton Foundation. The lab will be operational this fall.

With direct access to simulation, students can experience clinical time in a realistic and safe learning environment. Although simulation cannot replace traditional clinical experiences or actual patient care, by increasing student confidence, knowledge, and skills, simulation better prepares students for those real-life situations they will later encounter in professional practice. Simulation allows repetitive practice without direct risk to patient safety and provides students an opportunity to work in groups, enhancing teamwork, collaboration, and communication skills. Students participate in a debriefing process after each training session, where recorded scenarios are reviewed to reinforce proper nursing practice and methods for improvement discussed in a non-threatening learning environment.

Established in 2006, the USC Salkehatchie Rural Nursing Initiative is a model partnership program with the USC College of Nursing. Its purpose is to “grow our own nurses” by offering students from the region an opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN). Since its first graduating class in 2010, the nursing partnership program has successfully graduated more than 80 qualified BSN-level nurses, with over half remaining in the area to live and work in local healthcare organizations.

According to Dr. Craig Ward, a Walterboro physician and former director of Colleton Medical Center Emergency Department, “Salk’s Rural Nursing Initiative is innovative and groundbreaking but, most importantly, it is remarkably successful. USC Salk grads are not only our best nurses; they are the heart and soul of our hospital.”



Students 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 recently held an induction ceremony for membership to its chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda honor society. 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.



in 2013, USC Palmetto College was established to support an underserved community of students who, for a variety of reasons, are limited in their ability to complete their bachelor's degree. South Carolina is home to more than 500,000 residents who have some college education, but have not yet completed their bachelor's degree. USC Palmetto College offers them an opportunity toward social mobility through a combination of affordability, accessibility and flexibility, making post-secondary education a first-time reality for many.

Earning a four-year degree has a transformational effect on graduates. In South Carolina, bachelor's degree holders earn, on average, \$15,000 a year more than those with only an associate degree. Moreover, a person with a bachelor's degree will earn, on average, \$1.2 million more during their working career. At a time when some question the value of a college degree, it is more evident than ever that education is a universally recognized distinction that enables upward mobility and expands opportunity.

USC Palmetto College's online bachelor's degree completion programs enable students who have accrued 45-60 approved course credits to complete their bachelor's degrees online in one of 14 programs from USC Aiken, USC Beaufort, USC Columbia and USC Upstate. USC Palmetto College delivers a high-quality degree, taught by our internationally recognized faculty from the comprehensive and research institutions, at the lowest possible cost. It enables students to have flexibility in their course scheduling to fit education into their already complex lives.

Current USC Palmetto College Online bachelor's degree completion programs include: Business Administration (with concentrations in Accounting and Management), Special Education, Health Promotion, Hospitality Management, Human Services, Elementary Education, Information Science, Liberal Studies, Organizational Leadership, Criminal Justice, Information Management & Systems, Health Informatics and Nursing (RN-BSN).

Because earning an associate degree is often the first step to attaining a bachelor's degree, USC Palmetto College offers two-year degrees from USC Lancaster, USC Salkehatchie, USC Sumter and USC Union. The USC Fort Jackson and Shaw Air Force Base programs also deliver associate degree education and online bachelor's degree completion programs to active military, veterans, S.C. Army and Air National Guard personnel, reservists, their families and Department of Defense employees.

Just a few years after its launch, USC Palmetto College is flourishing and today serves approximately 6,000 students, serving every county in the state. This includes an associate degree program enrollment of nearly 5,000 at the campuses. Of the nearly 1,100 online courses offered since its inception, more than 28,000 seats have been filled, over 100,000 credit hours have been generated, and Palmetto College Online has served nearly 3,000 majors. And, most importantly, the number of graduates is approaching 1,200 to date as of this semester, Spring 2018.

While these results are impressive, we seek to build on our early success by serving even more residents throughout South Carolina. Life circumstances and professional commitments should never keep motivated individuals from the chance to earn a degree. Through their achievement, graduates create new opportunities for themselves and their families, and like Dirk Bron Jr., serve as an inspiration to others not to give up on their dreams.



**Enrollment Kick-Off for USC Palmetto College
April 18, 2013**



**USC Palmetto College Implementation Team Celebration
March 19, 2018**



**USC Salkehatchie Celebration
April 2, 2018**

USC Palmetto College begins celebration of five years of service



USC Extended University Celebration
April 6, 2018



USC Sumter Celebration
April 24, 2018



Chancellor's Executive Council Celebration
April 18, 2018



USC Lancaster Celebration
April 26, 2018



Chancellor Elkins throws out first pitch at USC Softball
April 20, 2018



USC Union Celebration
May 1, 2018

USC Union adds new Rotoract Club

USC Union has added a new student club and would like to welcome the USC Union Rotoract Club to campus! The first meeting was held on Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 12:30 p.m. in the USC Union Community Room.

Rotaract clubs bring together college students to exchange ideas with leaders in the community, develop leadership and professional skills, and have fun through service. Meetings will be held every third Wednesday at 12 p.m. on campus and all college-aged students are encouraged to join. The club will host fundraisers, do community service projects, and will assist the Rotary Club of Union with projects.



USC Union Rotoract Club – from left: Mary Scarborough, Mary Beth Hanvey (vice president), Deion Eison (secretary), Lacey Guerry (president), Sally Jo Wrennall, AJ Eison, John Michael Greer (treasurer), Bryana Vaughan

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.

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 who make up a global network of 1.2 million Rotarians that belong to more than 34,000 Rotary Clubs in over 200 countries.



USC Sumter hosts 18th annual MLK Dream Walk

On Monday, Jan. 15, 2018, USC Sumter hosted the 18th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dream Walk.

The Dream Walk is a community effort created to acknowledge and celebrate the meaning and purpose of the holiday.

Participants begin the morning with a three-mile walk that is followed by a program of celebration.

The Dream Walk is sponsored annually by USC Sumter, Morris College and Central Carolina Technical College.

USC Lancaster students open professional clothing closet

Students enrolled in USC Lancaster ENGL 463 Business Writing, under the leadership of Dr. Lisa Hammond, have opened a professional clothing closet in partnership with the community to help up-and-coming students get the jobs

of their dreams.

This initiative will assist students who face financial challenges with access to the proper wardrobe to help them succeed in job interviews and professional settings.



Criswell honored for S.C. folklore and arts advocacy



In a May 2018 State House ceremony, Stephen Criswell, director of the Native American Studies Center at USC Lancaster, was one of five South Carolinians to be honored by the S.C. General Assembly with the Jean Laney Harris Folk Heritage Award; the award is presented annually to recognize work that keeps the state’s traditional art forms alive.

The five recipients – four artists and one advocate – were recognized as practitioners and advocates of traditional arts significant to communities throughout the state. Their traditions embody folklife’s dynamic, multigenerational nature, and its fusion of artistic and utilitarian ideals. Criswell was honored for his advocacy of folklife and traditional arts.

“The work of proliferating our state’s unique cultural heritage is an important one in an age of constant change,” South Carolina Arts Commission Executive Director Ken May said. “The intrinsic value of these treasured art forms is the story each tells of where and who we’ve been, and are, as a culture. We should all be grateful for the work these award recipients do on our behalf.”

The Jean Laney Harris Folk Heritage Award is named for the late State Rep. Jean Laney Harris of Cheraw, respected as an outspoken advocate and ardent supporter of the arts and cultural resources of the state. Up to four artists or organizations and one advocate may receive awards each year. The program is managed jointly by the S.C. Arts Commission and McKissick Museum at USC. Community members make nominations to recognize exemplary artistic achievement/advocacy. An independent advisory panel appointed by the lieutenant governor and house speaker selects the recipients, who must be living and practicing in the state.

Stephen Criswell has worked in folklore and anthropology for more than 20 years. His most prominent contribution is his advocacy work for Native American culture, focusing on Catawba potters and contemporary expressive traditions. In 2005, the USC Lancaster hired Criswell and challenged him to build and direct its Native American Studies program. After 13 years, the Native American Studies Center houses the largest fully intact collection of Catawba pottery in existence and an extensive archival collection. Its new facility has welcomed 30,000 visitors from all over the world since 2012, raising awareness of the history, culture and traditions of Native people of the South.

#Give4Garnet



Palmetto College received more than \$42,000 from 53 donors as part of the inaugural “Give 4 Garnet: A Day of Giving,” held April 18. Give 4 Garnet is the one day each year when USC comes together to celebrate the significant impact of the university. More than 5,000 donors contributed \$3.7 Million, exceeding USC’s \$3 Million goal.

NASC launches online Native American S.C. Archive



The Native American South Carolina Archive is a new digital archive for tribal histories, letters, videos and photos. The archive was created by the Native American Studies Center at USC Lancaster, University Libraries’ Digital Collections and the Institute for Southern Studies.

Union adds men's and women's soccer, coaches hired

USC Union has added men's and women's soccer to the Bantams athletic program. Both teams will compete in the NJCAA.

The women's team will be coached by Ashley Jackson, a Union native who previously coached the girls' soccer team at Union County High School.

When the coach's position at USC Union became available, she immediately knew that it was something she would love to do. "The thought of coaching a sport I'm so passionate about and being able to share my knowledge

and experience with upcoming players excites me beyond words," said Jackson.

She is looking forward to building the women's soccer program at USC Union and for what the future has in store for the program.

USC Union alumnus Zach Simmons will coach the men's soccer team. He played soccer at North Greenville University and returned to USC Union to finish his degree. He earned two associate degrees with honors and graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in organizational leadership.

His three primary goals are for the team to achieve a collective 3.0 grade point average, for all players to receive their associate degrees from USC Union, and, hopefully, to bring a NJCAA national championship to Union County.

"I am just proud to have this opportunity to coach a sport that I love on this level," Simmons said.



*Ashley Jackson
Head Women's Soccer Coach
USC Union*



*Zach Simmons
Head Men's Soccer Coach
USC Union*

Sumter adds Fire Ant Golf and Soccer To athletic program

The University of South Carolina Sumter will add women's golf and men's soccer to the four successful NJCAA Region X Division I Intercollegiate Athletics programs beginning fall 2017. Current Fire Ant teams include men's and women's tennis, softball and baseball.

"These two sports make sense for our athletic department. They fit our facilities, staffing and size, and are beneficial for conference alignment and scheduling needs," said USC Sumter Director of Athletics Adrienne Cataldo.

Although soccer has been offered and discontinued at USC Sumter in the past, Cataldo feels it stands the best chance of success now.

"We are excited to see soccer make a comeback," Cataldo said. "We have a strong athletics department that is ready for men's soccer. The pool of players both locally and from around the southeast is ready to play at this level and establish a strong tradition here."

Women's golf is brand new to the University of South Carolina Sumter. "Golf is a popular sport at the high-school level and the weather conditions in our area make it easy for teams to play nearly all year-round," Cataldo said.

According to Cataldo, the average student-athlete at USC Sumter carries a higher cumulative grade-point average when compared to the rest of the college population. They are also active in community service projects such as the Salvation Army, Evening Optimist Club, Special Olympics, YMCA, YWCA and the City of Sumter.

Salkehatchie adds women's basketball program, coach hired

Glen Mayo has been hired as the head coach for the new women's basketball program at USC Salkehatchie beginning with the upcoming 2018-19 season.

Coach Mayo is already well known at Salk, having served as an assistant men's basketball coach this season. His previous experience includes being an assistant coach in several top-level men's junior college programs in his home state of Florida.

"We are thrilled to have Glen Mayo be the coach to begin our first women's basketball program at Salk. His energy and enthusiasm for this new program are contagious," said Salk Athletics Director Jane Brewer. "His understanding of our campus and area will aid in his recruiting process as well as in promoting the program. We look forward to the season with great excitement."

The women's team will compete in Region X NJCAA against some teams that are already familiar to local Salk basketball fans, such as Brunswick and Cape Fear as well as nine other Region X teams across North

Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia.

"I'm both excited and humbled to have the opportunity to coach the inaugural women's basketball program at Salk. I love this campus and community and I plan to bring



Glen Mayo, Head Women's Basketball Coach, USC Salkehatchie

great women's basketball here," said Mayo.

Women's basketball will join six other sports at USC Salkehatchie, including baseball, softball, men's and women's soccer, volleyball and men's basketball.

Climate leadership recognizes USC Sumter

USC Sumter is one of 175 signatories that earned Marks of Distinction for the Climate Change Network in the areas of “Carbon Neutral Goal 2025” and “On Track.”

Marks of Distinction is an initiative that recognizes a select group of signatories that set high-performance goals, demonstrate and report measurable progress toward those goals and support Network activities.

For more than a decade, signatory institutions have shared their knowledge



by developing climate action plans and annual progress evaluations. Until now, this information has never been used to recognize the accomplishments of individual schools. The Marks of Distinction recognizes schools according to key performance indicators that demonstrate climate leadership.

“Second Nature’s Marks of Distinction is perfectly aligned with USC Sumter’s practice of setting high-performance goals and supports our climate leadership commitments.

As leaders in higher education, we have the power to move the needle on climate change,” Palmetto College Campus Dean Dr. Michael Sonntag said. “And, in doing so, we model for our peers, for other institutions outside our sector, and, most importantly, for our students, how to affect change. This new initiative will help us as we live our climate action goals every day and lead by example.”

Marks of Distinction are awarded in three categories: performance, participation and goals. USC Sumter will continue to stay on track toward building a better environment in all of the decisions made regarding buildings and grounds.

PC awards, continued from page 1

of learners in conversation not only with me, but also with their colleagues, their texts, their culture and their lives outside the classroom.”

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 2017-2018 Plyler Service Award was presented to **Ray McManus**, associate professor of English at USC Sumter.

McManus’ service to his campus, USC Sumter, has included roles as faculty organization chair, director of the Center for Oral narrative and director of USC Sumter Summer Scholars Series.

His service to Palmetto College, the Columbia campus and the university system include memberships on the Palmetto College Academic Advisory Committee, the Provost Creative and Performing Arts Grant

Committee and the USC System Faculty Leadership Council.

McManus’ community service includes roles as creative writing director for Tri-District Arts Consortium, coordinator for Poetry Out Loud (Region II) and workshop leader for Serious Young Women Writers Conference. McManus was recently named the inaugural writer-in-residence at the Columbia Museum of Art.

The **Denise R. Shaw Excellence in Service Award for Palmetto College Campuses**, first given in 2017, is presented to a faculty member who exhibits outstanding scholarship. The 2017-2018 Shaw Scholarship Award was presented to **Christine Sixta Rinehart**, associate professor of political science at USC Union.

She has published two books, two book chapters, two peer reviewed articles, two book reviews and one newspaper article. She has also presented at six conferences and received three research grants. Her

research interests include international terrorism, female terrorism, and security and counterterrorism.

Her first book, *Volatile Social Movements and the Origins of Terrorism: The Radicalization of Change*, was published in 2012 by Lexington Books.

Rinehart’s second book, *Drones and Targeted Killing in the Middle East and Africa: An Appraisal of American Counterterrorism Policies*, was published in 2016. Of her second book, Brian Glyn Williams of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth declared that Rinehart’s book was “a must-read for scholars interested in probing beyond the headlines into the murky world of drone counterterrorism operations.”

She recently traveled to Israel to interview four incarcerated female terrorists in an Israeli prison. Rinehart’s third book, *Sexual Jihad: The Role of Islam in Female Terrorism* will be published in late 2018.

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of degree options for all South Carolinians. Through the creation of online bachelor’s degree completion programs from the System’s Research I university in Columbia and the three comprehensive Universities of Aiken, Beaufort, and Upstate, along with integrating two-year regional campuses of Lancaster, Salkehatchie, Sumter, Union and Extended University as Palmetto College institutions, the USC System has provided more high quality USC degrees across the state through the combination of its brick-and-mortar campuses coupled with the newly established online bachelor’s degree completion programs. The lives of many

students have been positively impacted through this transformative innovation. The more detailed Palmetto College story is provided in this fifth-anniversary edition of the Palmetto College *Connections* newsletter, in general, and the featured APLU article herein.

Finally, as the academic year comes to a close during our fifth-birthday celebration, we again thank all of the countless people involved for the many successes we have achieved together! Once the fiscal year closes and our fifth-year is complete, we will continue to celebrate our successes and you will see more articles and pictures in

the forthcoming fall newsletter and in other venues.

As we all work together to plan for the future with strategic planning efforts for both the Palmetto College Campuses and PC Online (in conjunction with the Focus Carolina 2023 Strategic Plan), results of those efforts will be communicated in the Spring 2019 newsletter and other relevant publications.

Thanks again for your many contributions to USC Palmetto College and to your impact as we celebrate our past and look forward to the future!

Winthrop Grove named at USC Salkehatchie's Allendale campus

John Winthrop and the Winthrop family have made a significant gift to USC Salkehatchie in order to name the beautiful waterside park in the center of the Allendale campus, now known as Winthrop Grove.

The Winthrop family have been financial supporters of the USC Salkehatchie campus in Allendale since the early 1970s due to their local connection through their ownership of Groton Plantation in Allendale County, named for their home city near metropolitan Boston, Mass. The Winthrops are direct descendants of the first governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

The family's original gift to the campus was the baseball field, which was created on the campus in 1975. In 1982, their generous support enabled the campus to provide lights for that field. They have continued to be strong advocates of the campus as evidenced by this most recent gift.

Winthrop Grove is a gathering place for students to enjoy the shade, a fountain and swings beside the water. It is also the location for many of the outdoor campus sponsored student events.



University of South Carolina Palmetto College

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