

USC Union, Dean's Report to the Faculty, 02/01/19

***** New USDA grant has been awarded that will allow USCU to upgrade all four PC Classrooms in Union and Laurens. Each campus will now have three newly equipped PC classrooms. We are also in the process of upgrading the wireless system for the campus this year.**

Students

Fall enrollments were up by over 20%. Spring enrollment looks strong as well. The third privately owned and operated student housing site right across the street will be opened for spring 2019. The 4th will be in the 1927 Building on West Main Street and will open for fall semester with six additional beds.

Faculty & Staff

Three tenure track faculty searches are underway in Speech, Foreign Language, and Psychology. Ms. Lyn Edwards, the new Nursing Coordinator will begin work on Monday. Our new women's soccer coach is Cory Junker, and our new admissions counselor/recruiter is Amy Queen.

Facilities

Main Building plaster repair and interior painting is ongoing. MB exterior work is complete. Central Building roof replacement, stucco repair, and exterior painting is complete. Patron's Park construction is complete except for some additional landscaping and seating. We have just replaced two HVAC compressors in Truluck and finished roof and gutter repair. Nearly 1000' of enamel coated steel fencing in a crescent pattern has been installed around campus with more to come. Fiber has finally been pulled to the S&N Building and several offices are now occupied. We have met with architects to develop initial plans for the conversion of the old library space to classrooms and faculty offices, using the space primarily for language arts and humanities instruction. We have begun work to convert the old Post Office Building to a fine arts building, including classrooms and faculty offices, a print room, kiln, and gallery space. We have added a third PC classroom to Union and Laurens sites. This year we will renovate all restrooms in the CB & MB, including handicapped accessibility upgrades. The UC/LC CHE purchased the large white house on the corner of Faith and Pine as well as the corner building next to the Bookstore at 317 East Main St. They have also agreed to receive the old cleaners building at 307 East Main St. and Mrs. Rippey's building at 125 East Main St. as gifts.

Budget

The USCU budget is in good shape, due mainly to recent enrollment increases, and both revenues and expenditures are very close to budgeted figures. SC continuing appropriations remain a concern, although there is some one time relief in the 2018-2019 budget.