



Carolina changes everything

2016-2017 Endowment Report



The University of South Carolina's

eight campuses feature a wide variety of programs that are stronger than ever — and one need look no further than USC's record enrollment to know that people from all around the world have taken notice. We are driven to build healthier, more educated communities, inspiring a better way of life for the state of South Carolina and beyond.

And we're doing all of this at a time when state support has reached historic lows: just 10 percent of the university's budget comes from the state. That is why your endowment is more important than ever.

With your help, we can fund scholarships to attract students who will become well-educated and successful graduates, improve programs that will help fill the overwhelming demand for qualified professionals and provide a broad range of experiences and opportunities to a diverse student body.

This report highlights the strengths of our endowments and how your donations help the university create a more prosperous, healthy and vibrant future — **for all of us.**

SYSTEMWIDE ENROLLMENT: FALL 2016

Includes USC Columbia, Aiken, Beaufort, Upstate, Lancaster, Salkehatchie, Sumter and Union

UNDERGRADUATE

41,155

GRADUATE

7,198

PROFESSIONAL

1,746

TOTAL:

50,099



81%

During Harris Pastides' decade as president, USC's endowment has grown by a remarkable 81 percent.

Dear Friends,

In my fall 2017 State of the University speech, I addressed both the challenges we face and the positive opportunities that accompany change. Navigating change has become a constant for higher education, whether it's technological change, new adaptations in communications and social media, cultural tensions or ongoing financial anxieties. Yet I believe USC's ongoing commitment to excellence, institutional values, civility and core values are key as we educate our students with classical and contemporary knowledge while providing relevant and adaptable skills that today's world needs. I am confident that we are successfully developing South Carolina's and the nation's future leaders.

I am most appreciative of the support that continues to move our flagship upward: our Board of Trustees, members of my executive leadership team, the deans of the university and our many generous donors whose gifts fuel excellence among our faculty and students and within our programs of education, research and service. Your support produces excellence.

We have big, realistic goals. It is our intention to move the University of South Carolina to the head of the nation's great research universities. It is our intention to make an ongoing and significant impact on both the state and nation. And we intend to raise an already high bar for our faculty scholars and researchers. Like you, I believe that excellent people in excellent institutions do great things.

We also believe that the time has come for state government to re-engage with higher education to define a funding formula that recognizes the role of our public universities in improving the state and nation and to obtain a capital bond bill.

If we are to pursue excellence, educate more South Carolinians and provide the workforce for tomorrow's emerging economies, we must all work together. We stand ready to be a beacon for our state and a lighthouse to guide our young and future leaders. My sincere thanks to you for your ongoing support as we move our great university to the head of the class.

Sincerely,

Harris Pastides
President



Dear Loyal Supporter,

I'm pleased to begin this year's annual letter to donors with wonderful news! Our total University of South Carolina system endowment saw record growth this past year. As of June 30, 2017, our endowment was \$770,781,793 — an increase of 17.5 percent over our 2016 endowment value! While I'd love to take all the credit for such tremendous growth, several factors contributed to the new total.

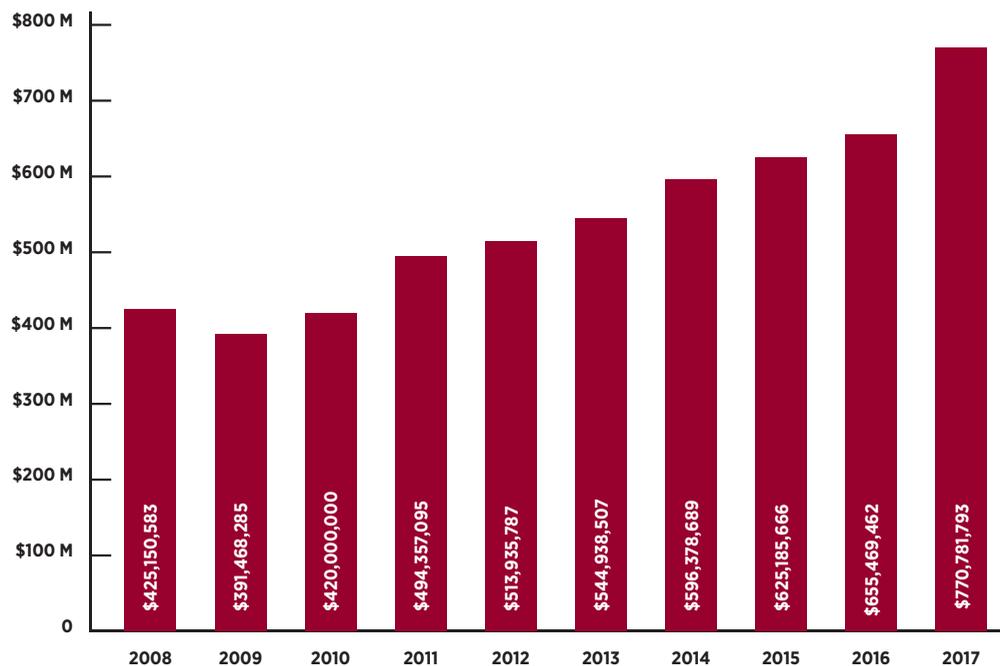
First, thanks must go to our Investment Committee, which, with the help of our investment consulting firm, oversees the pooled portfolio of more than \$597 million. This committee is composed of committed alumni and friends who work tirelessly to increase the endowment returns while keeping an eye on the future, and their efforts resulted in a return rate of 14.9 percent for fiscal year 2017. Our five-year average growth leads the Southeastern Conference of 14 universities, and since 2008 we have steadily risen out of the ashes of the recent great recession, achieving growth of 81 percent in endowment value over the last decade.

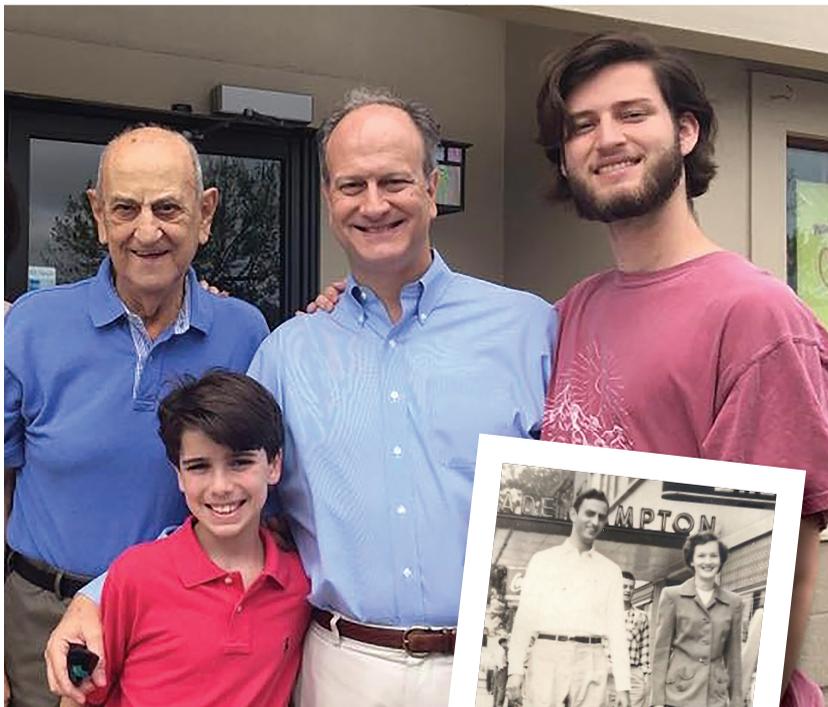
Other revenue sources contributed to our growth over the past year: several large planned gifts were realized, significant gifts created new endowments, and foundation-owned real estate contributed healthy profits.

The University Foundations are dedicated to serving South Carolina's flagship higher education institution with passion, purpose, transparency and the highest integrity. Your investment in that mission is the reason the University Foundations are able to give the university such strong support. As state support for our university lingers around 10 percent of the total budget, the university continues to seek ways to thrive. Through the continued growth of our endowment, we will be able to accelerate the university's momentum. Thank you for your trust in our stewardship and for making a difference, now and in the future.

Russell H. Meekins
Executive Director, University Foundations

**THE UNIVERSITY
OF SOUTH
CAROLINA'S
ENDOWMENT**





Above: Ted Vinzani, back left, poses with his son Jeff, middle, and Jeff's sons, Jack (left) and Michael (right). Inset: Ted and Gladys Vinzani

Increasing global opportunities

More than 1,700 Carolina students studied abroad last year. Too often, though, they struggle to afford such eye-opening educational experiences. That's why generous donors like the Vinzani family play such a pivotal role in helping to prepare tomorrow's leaders.

The family established the Ted and Gladys Vinzani Endowment Fund this year to assist with the Honors College's study abroad program. The fund was named to honor Ted Vinzani, a 1952 USC graduate, and his wife, Gladys. Ted is a first-generation Italian-American and is the only child out of 10 to earn a college degree, and Gladys graduated from Winthrop University but also "loved Carolina and was a huge Gamecock fan," explains their son Jeff, himself an SCHC graduate (1983). If that weren't enough, Jeff's brother Steve earned his USC degree in 1980, and his younger brother Tim did so in 1986, not to mention several other aunts, uncles and cousins who all came to Carolina.

The family's ties to Carolina run deep, so when they decided to give back, the Vinzanis looked to find an area of need where they could have a large impact. Helping to prepare today's students to be tomorrow's leaders was a natural fit. "My family is very excited to establish this fund," Jeff says, adding that they are more than happy to help "our beloved university."

Every last dollar



Robert V. Phillips

From the university's Fort Jackson associate degree program to Palmetto College's online bachelor's degree completion options, Carolina is strengthening its ties and commitment to the state's large military population.

Today's soldiers often face a gap between what the G.I. Bill or tuition assistance programs provide and the cost of a USC education. Even if the gap is modest, it can become a deciding factor when soldiers are making their college choice; it can even prevent them from pursuing a college degree at all.

To bridge this gap, a team of community-minded and patriotic South Carolinians has established a new "last dollar" endowed scholarship to assist deserving soldiers. The Robert V. Phillips Palmetto College Military Endowed Scholarship Fund will remove that financial obstacle, setting them on a new trajectory toward success as service members transition from the military to the private sector.

Robert V. Phillips was a World War II veteran who waded ashore at Normandy and served with the 377th Infantry Regiment, 95th Infantry Division — part of Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army. Phillips, a Spartanburg, S.C., native, earned several decorations, including a Bronze Star, but he never had the chance to earn a college degree. The fund named after him will help make sure that isn't the case for today's service members.



Dedicated to serving others

A two-time tennis letterman at South Carolina, Bobby Dobson (accounting, 1960, law, 1962) was a CPA and tax attorney in his hometown of Greenville, S.C., for 30 years. But in 1993, after the death of his adopted daughter, he walked away from his career and dedicated his life to serving others.

One way he did this was by establishing the Dobson Volunteer Service Program and Scholarship Fund at his alma mater. The program encourages students to serve humanity through local and global mission trips, making a positive impact on the communities in which they serve. And Dobson didn't just throw money at a problem: he and his family are heavily engaged in the process.

The fund has already helped many students and faculty members travel around the world. For example, Courtney Sanford spent two months in the Dominican Republic, researching care of children with disabilities and the cultural stigmas and beliefs that impede opportunities for the children and their families from getting the help they need.

"We hope that with the results of the survey, we can begin to educate the community on the actual causes of disability," Courtney says. "Thank you for this wonderful opportunity to make a difference."



Dobson program volunteers travel to many countries to serve others, like at this day clinic in Nicaragua.

\$150

It costs each of our students \$150 just to get a new passport, an essential prerequisite for studying abroad.

#4

USC is the fourth fastest growing flagship university in the nation (Washington Post).

63

Donors opened 63 new endowments in 2016-17.



David and Sheila Turybury with their daughter, Emily

Two questions, five answers

The Turybury Family Endowed Scholarship Fund was established this year to provide need-based support for students from a rural area of South Carolina who are involved on campus and pursuing a degree within the College of Education. When people find out that David and Sheila Turybury set up a scholarship at Carolina, there are two questions that almost immediately follow.

The first — “Wow, you can do that?” — has a pretty simple answer. “It is much easier than you think,” David says. “The fundraising staff is terrific and walks you through every step.”

The second question they get is, “Why would you do that?” A donor only needs one good reason with which to answer that question. The Turyburys have four.

“First, my experience as a graduate assistant was integral to my success as

a teacher and coach,” David explains. “Professors like Dr. Judy Rink had such a profound effect on my career that I could never repay them for the time, effort and knowledge that they poured into me.”

He could stop there, but David’s just getting started. “Second,” he adds, “without the scholarship I received to attend USC, I would not have been able to afford the incredible educational experience that I enjoyed at USC. Third, my wife and I are first-generation college graduates and firmly believe in the incredible benefits of a quality education. Lastly, as we think of teachers’ beginning salaries and the sometimes overwhelming debt load that many come out of college with, it is a blessing that we are able to help to lighten the financial burden of future teachers.”

It is this kind of appreciation and generosity that allows the University of South Carolina to offer incredible experiences to students every day, and little of it would be possible without the outstanding support of families like the Turyburys.

73

In 2016-2017, 73 funds became fully endowed.

\$5.5 billion

The USC system and its alumni pump \$5.5 billion into the state’s economy annually.

1%

The National Academy of Inventors recognizes USC as being in the top 1 percent of patent-producing universities in the world.



Scholarship recipient Dillon Morrow

Addressing rural health, one physician at a time

Every year, students come to the University of South Carolina's School of Medicine Columbia to pursue their dreams. With educational debt potentially exceeding \$200,000, resources like the John T. Stevens Scholarship Fund are critical to our students.

The endowment funds scholarships for students living in Lancaster or Kershaw counties who agree to return to these counties to practice medicine. This kind of fund was established to help students while also addressing a critical shortage of physicians willing to practice in the most rural areas of our state — and it's working.

Dillon Morrow is the latest M.D. student to be awarded the scholarship. Dillon is receiving \$30,000 per year for four years of medical school, greatly lessening his anticipated debt, which will allow him the freedom to pursue any specialty without monetary influence.

“This scholarship is special because it will allow me to come back to the community I grew up in and serve as a physician,” Dillon explains. “Growing up in a small town, you become very close with the physicians who take care of you. It is these tight-knit relationships that I look forward to developing with my future patients, while being able to meet their medical needs.”

For more information about USC's many health science initiatives, visit degreesofhealth.com.

Ways to make an endowment grow

As the benefactor of an endowed fund, you are aware of the great impact your fund has had on University of South Carolina students and faculty members. Your generosity has affected the lives of many, and for that they are extremely thankful.

There are many ways to help your endowment grow to ensure that future generations continue to receive the wonderful benefit of your generosity. Options include cash contributions, matching gifts, stock gifts and planned gifts.



For more information

General questions, or to update contact information:

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