



Chancellor's Corner



Dr. Susan A. Elkins, Chancellor
USC Palmetto College

We are pleased to introduce you to the inaugural edition of *Connections*, a newsletter for the USC Palmetto College community!

In this issue, and future issues, you will find a vehicle that will effectively be used to improve communication across USC Palmetto College campuses and Palmetto College Online as we share the successes of students, faculty and staff.

I would like to thank the Palmetto College Faculty Senate Executive Committee for their leadership in suggesting a newsletter as a tool to improve communication between campuses and bring the entire Palmetto College family closer together as a whole.

Also, I would especially like to thank our newsletter committee – Dr. Melody Lehn, Ms. Jean Carrano, Ms. Summer Yarborough and Mr. Jay Darby – for breathing life into this project.

And, let's extend a word of thanks for this first edition's contributors who managed to provide a set of articles that represent a cross section of the Palmetto College community

Chancellor's Corner, continued page 7

Palmetto College hosts ACES Conference *by Melody Lehn, Extended University*

After taking a course with Dr. Denise Shaw, professor of English at USC Union, four students wanted to continue the conversation outside of the classroom and further develop their research projects.

With Shaw's encouragement and support, Matthew Wilkie, Elisa Gonzales, Geordie Geddings, and Michael Sumner founded the Association of Carolina Emerging Scholars (ACES), an interdisciplinary liberal arts association that holds a yearly convention and showcases the research of Palmetto College students. The late Dr. Shaw has left a legacy of student researchers like Sumner, who recently became the Palmetto College Coordinator at USC Union. The original inspiration for ACES, Sumner

explained, was to offer Palmetto College students, as well as other



The inaugural Denise Roy Shaw Foundation Award, named for the late professor to honor her commitment to fostering student research, was presented to the top paper at the 2015 ACES Conference.

emerging scholars from around the country, an opportunity to have others consider their thoughts and

ideas in a professional venue.

USC Columbia hosted the Fourth Annual Association of Carolina Emerging Scholars Conference on Dec. 4, 2015. Dr. Mary Hjelm, associate professor of English at USC Extended University, served as the convention organizer and spearheaded the effort to expand ACES even further.

Under the theme of "Consuming and Consumption," professors and students convened to share ideas, solicit feedback on scholarly projects, and connect with scholars from various liberal arts disciplines.

"Consumption sustains and undermines modern life, from popular culture to our most

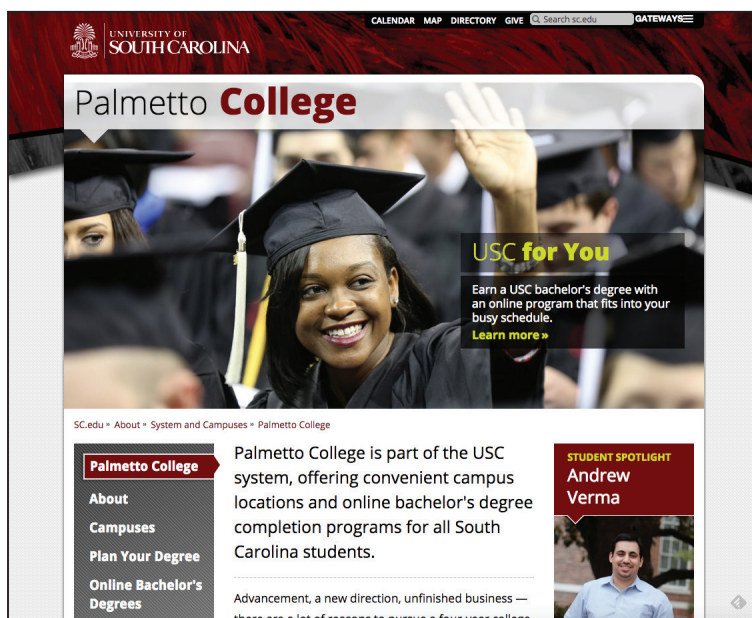
ACES Conference, continued page 6

New Palmetto College website launches

USC Columbia has been in the process of updating its entire website, and a new template and content management system were launched in September 2014.

USC Palmetto College followed suit in November 2015 with the "soft launch" of our own new website.

Not only is the new site visually appealing, but is truly functional for both our internal and external audiences. Our external audiences have the liberty to learn more about USC Palmetto College, including our campuses, online programs, options for giving and student success stories. Our internal audiences have a separate



portal on the site to access documents, forms, forums and other areas of interest to us.

The soft launch allows us to work out any bugs, and we'll continue to make adjustments

and upgrades until we're ready to officially launch the site. Meanwhile, we welcome your comments and edits. Please share those with Summer Yarborough at summerjy @ mailbox.sc.edu.

Spotlight on Teaching

A conversation with Eran Kilpatrick, recipient of the John J. Duffy Excellence in Teaching Award

by Jane Brewer, USC Salkehatchie

The John J. Duffy Excellence in Teaching Award is a USC Palmetto College campus award given to recognize outstanding teaching.

The current recipient is **Dr. Eran Kilpatrick**, an associate professor of biology at USC Salkehatchie.

Jane Brewer recently sat down with Kilpatrick for a Q&A to discuss his interests, experience and joy for teaching.

JB: What made you decide to become a college professor?

EK: As an undergraduate I had several opportunities to teach and conduct research, and honestly, I loved doing these things.

For the majority of my undergraduate career I worked as a wildlife research technician for Dr. Hugh Hanlin, a professor of biology and herpetologist at USC Aiken. My mentors, which included professors, graduate students and even family members, were great teachers themselves so I learned not only the technical specifics related to my field, but also a great deal about positive communication and networking. My senior year, I worked as a science teacher intern at the U.S. Forest Service branch of the Savannah River Site. I took advantage of any opportunity I had to teach and learn. From these

experiences I received a great deal of positive feedback and I saw how the students I taught became really excited about science.

the living room of the house, was full of aquariums with everything from native fishes, amphibians, and reptiles. I made all sorts of

beyond the classroom, and when I see them get so interested that they find a particular topic that they want to pursue as a career.

Having an opportunity to serve as a positive mentor in the ways that were provided to me as a student. Having a class of completely new students, many just out of high school, and providing them with the foundation they need to be successful.

JB: Teaching a great student is fun. How do you get fired up about teaching a not so strong student?

EK: By knowing that I can provide that one encouraging grade, opportunity to discuss their concerns, send a positive email, or have a conversation so a student can realize their potential. I remember being an undergraduate biology major. I have felt the anxiety experienced by many of my students as they work through their first year of college, feel overwhelmed during a lecture, or even fail an exam. I know a student can be successful if they are as serious about their own success as I am.

JB: Do you really go out in the middle of the night and count frogs?

EK: Yes! A number of amphibian

Kilpatrick, continued page 7



Academic Dean Aaron Ard, Eran Kilpatrick, winner of the John J. Duffy Excellence in Teaching Award and USC Salkehatchie Dean Ann Carmichael.

JB: Why biology?

EK: I have been interested in nature for as long as I can remember. As a kid growing up in the Sandhills of Aiken County, natural areas and a diversity of flora and fauna were close at hand. My interests were always encouraged at home as I was allowed to keep just about any scaly or slimy creature. The only rule was no venomous snakes. By the end of middle school my bedroom, and an entire wall near

observations and notes for each species and kept these in a journal. Naturalists, like Rudy Mancke, were role models and the television series, *NatureScene*, was a favorite. As a high school student I realized majoring in biology would be the first step towards a career in the study of wildlife and natural history.

JB: What do you enjoy most about teaching?

EK: When my students realize that learning biology really goes

2015-2016 Center for Teaching Excellence Grant Recipients

Integrative Learning Teaching Innovation Grant
Shelley Jones, English, Palmetto College, Extended University, PALM 495

Teaching Leadership Teaching Excellence Grant
Helene Maire-Afeli, Chemistry, USC Union

2015-2016 USC Palmetto College Online Course Development Grant Recipients

- **Shemsi Alhaddad**, USC Lancaster – STAT 110 (Intro to Statistical Reasoning)
- **Majdouline Aziz**, USC Union – SOCY 220 (Elementary Statistics for Sociologists)
- **Stephen Criswell**, USC Lancaster – ENGL 429C (Topics in American Lit/Native American Myth)
- **Blane DaSilva**, USC Sumter – SOCY 340 (Intro to Social Problems)
- **David Decker**, USC Sumter – HIST 352 (Africa Since 1800)
- **Kajal Ghoshroy**, USC Sumter – BIOL 208 (Our Hungry World: from Malthus to McDonalds)
- **Hayes Hampton**, USC Sumter – ENGL 285 (Themes in American Writing)
- **Melody Lehn**, Extended University – SPCH 140 (Public Communication in a Digital World)
- **Helene Maire-Afeli**, USC Union – CHEM 107 (Forensic Chemistry)
- **Ray McManus**, USC Sumter – ENGL 438A (Studies in Regional Literature)
- **Christine Sixta Rinehart**, USC Union – POLI 463 (The American Chief Executive)

Spotlight on Scholarship



Rinehart's drone strike research yields new book

by Annie Smith, USC Union

What are the effects of drone targeted killing in the Middle East, and is it a successful method in the War on Terror?

Dr. Christine Sixta Rinehart, an assistant professor of political science at USC Union's Laurens site, is researching the topics for her second book – *Targeted Killing in the Middle East: An Appraisal of American Counterterrorism Policies*.

While serving as a visiting assistant professor at Wofford College, Rinehart was inspired to research the topic of targeted killing following a visit from and discussion with a lecturer from the University of Utah's law school. The project began as a conference paper, but quickly exceeded the confines of a paper.

In September 2015, she visited an air force base as part of research facilitated by a **Research Initiative for Summer Engagement**

(RISE) Grant, where she studied and observed U.S. Air Force drone pilot training. "The more I researched, the more information I uncovered and I realized that I needed to write a book," said Rinehart.

Her research has thus far found that approximately 20 people have been killed for every drone strike in Pakistan since 2004. In 2015, in Afghanistan, alone, there is an average of 16.75 deaths per drone strike. In addition, drone strikes in Pakistan have led to an increase in suicide bombing attacks by the Pakistani Taliban.

Targeted Killing in the Middle East: An Appraisal of American Counterterrorism Policies is expected to be published in late 2016 and is currently under contract with Lexington Books, publisher of Rinehart's first book, *Volatile Social Movements and the Origins of Terrorism*, in 2014.

Distinguished Teacher of the Year 2014-2015 Award Winners

In recognition of outstanding service at their respective campuses, the following faculty were honored this academic year.

- Janet Hudson – USC Extended University
- Phillip Parker – USC Lancaster
- Shannon Belangia – USC Salkehatchie
- Ray McManus – USC Sumter
- Denise Shaw – USC Union

2015 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.

Several USC Palmetto College proposals representing Palmetto College campuses and the online programs were funded for Summer 2015.

USC Extended University

Melody Lehn – *The Rise of the White Glove Pulpit: Modern First Ladies and the Art of Diplomacy*

USC Salkehatchie

Eran Kilpatrick – Hybridization Among Eastern Newts (*Notophthalmus viridescens*) in North Carolina

Fidele Ngwane – A Family of Trigonometric-Fitted Methods for the Direct Solution of Second-Order Oscillatory Initial Value Problems

Rodney Steward – Neither Confederate nor Unionist: Coercion and Victimization in the Shenandoah Valley

USC Sumter

Mary Ellen Bellanca – Jane Loudon's Wildflowers, Popular Science, and the Victorian Culture of Knowledge

Hayes Hampton – Alchemy and Popular Music: Summer Salary Request to Complete a Refereed Journal Article

Andrew Kunka – A Contract with God, The First Kingdom, and the Graphic Novel, The Will Eisner/Jack Katz Letters

Ray McManus – Other Secrets: A Collection of Poems on the 21st Century Males

USC Union

Randy Lowell – Incidental Vocabulary Acquisition while Reading English as a Second Language: The influence of Contextual Constraint and Morphological Transparency

Christine Sixta Rinehart – Targeted Killing in the Middle East: An Appraisal of American Counterterrorism Policies

Spotlight on Service

Burke and Hassel coach inaugural season of USC Lancaster volleyball

by Shana Dry, USC Lancaster

Fernanda Burke and **Darris Hassel** have taken on the reins of USC Lancaster's Lady Lancers volleyball team as coaches for the team's inaugural season.

Coach Hassel taught a PEDU volleyball course on the Lancaster campus and also played in the U.S. Volleyball Association League for a while and in several local leagues as well. He began playing the sport competitively in 1995 with friends that were experienced players.

Coach Burke started playing volleyball in 1989 at age nine in Brazil where she played on her middle school traveling team for four years. When she moved to the U.S. in 1994, she made her high school varsity team as a freshman setter. She played as the starting setter for three seasons and led her team to two conference finals (1995 and 1996) and a rank of six in the state of Florida in 1995. Coach Burke went on to play at the collegiate level at Newberry College from 1998 to 2000 and at the University of Florida (club-level) in 2002.

Both Burke and Hassel led the USC Lancaster faculty and staff team to three intramural championship finals, where they remain undefeated.

Shana Dry sat down with Coaches Hassel and Burke to learn more about their service to students outside the classroom and what's next for the Lady Lancers in the coming season.

SD: Why did you decide to coach the Lady Lancers volleyball team?

FB/DH: We consider ourselves as volleyball enthusiasts and have an intense love for the sport. Getting the opportunity to coach a team here at USCL is a much welcome opportunity for us to share our passion for the game and our experience with younger players. When asked, there was no hesitation on our part to be involved in making it happen.

SD: What did you learn in the inaugural season?

FB/DH: This first season has shown us that the basic fundamentals of the game (serving, passing, hitting) are key to any team's success. Lacking any of them is a detriment to your team's ability to compete and be successful. We also learned that there are many parallels to coaching the team and teaching students in the classroom. There must be a connection with your players (students) in order for them to receive what you are coaching (teaching) them to be able to apply on the court (in the lessons/activities). Finally, we learned that we were and can be a competitor in our division and that our opponents are learning that USCL volleyball is not to be taken lightly.



Coaches Fernanda Burke (far left, first row) and Darris Hassel (far right, first row) with the inaugural members of USC Lancaster's Lady Lancers volleyball team.

SD: What do you enjoy most about coaching?

FB/DH: This season we most enjoyed seeing our players compete and win. Practices showed us who they were as volleyball players. When playing games, we got a chance to see who they were in the face of their opponents. Our team brought together so many different skill levels and playing experiences. Yet, when combined and in good rhythm... we were powerful, athletic and successful.

SD: What are your plans for next season? How are you recruiting new players?

FB/DH: This coming season will be a new experience for us since we didn't get a chance to recruit much at all for our first season. We are using the girls we had this season as a point of contact. Many of them have played with girls in club volleyball or high school volleyball and can serve as unofficial recruiters. We also are reaching out to area high school coaches for referrals. We have a recruitment form that is attached to our athletics website that has proven to lead some potential players our way as well. We know that our team has needs and recruiting players specifically for filling those needed areas will only enhance our ability to execute this coming season. Starting in our immediate area, but not limiting ourselves to just our immediate area will be key in our recruiting efforts for the upcoming season.



Fran Castleberry
USC Sumter

Staff Spotlight: H.D. Barnett Sr. Staff of the Year Award

This fall, **Fran Castleberry** received the **2015 H.D. Barnett Sr. Award** at the annual USC Sumter Awards Recognition Ceremony.

The Barnett Award – named for a Sumter agri-businessman who helped establish the Sumter campus in 1966 – is given annually to a USC Sumter staff member for outstanding

performance.

Castleberry joined the campus community more than 35 years ago. During her tenure, she has worked in the admissions office, records office, business office, library, continuing education, the switchboard, the bookstore and the CASS Program.

She has also served as an administrative assistant for the

dean of student affairs and the academic dean.

Castleberry currently works for the Opportunity Scholars Program.

She is married to Dr. Robert Castleberry and together they have six children and six grandchildren. Three of their children attended USC Sumter.

Spotlight on Students

Adult Student Scholarships support students completing USC Palmetto College degrees *by Melody Lehn, Extended University*

Sherry Burke is a busy married mother of two boys who's working toward a liberal studies degree at USC Sumter, and she attributes family support behind her decision to return to school.

"My family has been my greatest motivation in my pursuit towards my degree. Before I made the decision to return, we knew that this was going to be a journey and what a journey it has been," she said. "No one knows what the future will bring and due to my husband's disability, returning to school will allow me to have a stable foundation for my family in the future."

She credits the flexibility afforded through the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies program for helping her reach her dream. "The convenience of Palmetto College has made it easier to obtain my degree without uprooting my family," Burke said.

Her academic endeavors are made a little easier as one of the recipients of this year's Adult Student Scholarship Award.

Students, like Burke, who are pursuing the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies or Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership degrees are eligible to apply for the scholarship if they are at least 25 years old, a South Carolina resident, working towards an undergraduate degree and have achieved a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

"This scholarship is especially important for those students who are trying to finish their degree while working and raising a family,"

said Melissa Lowe, USC Extended University student services manager.

For the 2015-2016 academic year, Burke and 12 other students were awarded funds to offset the cost of tuition as they complete their degree requirements.

Burke graduated with both Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees in December

of the USC-Sumter Veterans. In the latter role, Burke organized a four-day student veteran trip to Washington D.C., where she had the honor of meeting U.S. Vice President Joe Biden in the West Wing of the White House where they discussed the future of the Education Reform Act.

Among many other activities and

accomplishments, she has achieved academic excellence in her coursework and received multiple honors. Burke received the Gold Medallion for the 2015-2016 academic year and is a member of eight honor societies, including the Golden Key National Honor Society, Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society, and the Society for Collegiate Leadership and Achievement. Burke was most recently nominated for Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities for 2015-2016.

Burke's accomplishments are impressive and her aspirations are an inspiration to others who are thinking about going back to school; however, she

attributes much of her success to the support of faculty and staff at USC Sumter and USC Palmetto College.

"There have been many individuals who have encouraged me throughout my journey. Lynwood Watts (associate dean of student affairs) and Keith Britton (director of admission services) at USC Sumter have always been there for me from the beginning," she

Adult Student Scholars, continued page 7

2015-2016 Adult Student Scholarship Award Winners



Joseph Allen, USC Union
Angela Bennett, USC Union
LaToya Boyd, USC Salkehatchie
Temeka Briggs, USC Union
Sherry Burke, USC Sumter
Ralph Grant, USC Salkehatchie
Angela Henry, USC Union
Mary Holladay, USC Salkehatchie
Larry Hudson, USC Sumter
Jenna Jones, USC Salkehatchie
Dawn Schreiber, USC Union
Lance Thomas, USC Salkehatchie
Terry Thorp, USC Columbia

2014 from USC Sumter. She's continuing to pursue the liberal studies degree at the Sumter campus, where she studies sociology and criminal justice with an English cognate. Upon graduation, she intends to pursue graduate studies at USC and hopes to one day become a college professor.

An active and engaged student on the Sumter campus, she served as both USC Sumter SGA vice president and vice president



Teena Gooding, '15
B.S., Criminal Justice

Spotlight on Alumni: USC Palmetto College Online

Alumna **Teena Gooding** earned a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from USC Upstate through USC Palmetto College Online in August 2015.

She began a career in law enforcement in 1999, and joined the USC Police Department in 2003.

Gooding started work toward

a bachelor's degree in 2005; however, as she worked her way up the ranks of the USCPD, it became more difficult to leave work to attend on-campus classes in Columbia.

She appreciates how the online degree completion program launched in 2013 complemented her hectic and unpredictable work

schedule by providing flexibility to take coursework

Today, Gooding applies much of what she has learned in training new officers at the Columbia campus.

And she really found value in having an opportunity to learn with students from all walks of life.

privileged art,” the call for papers noted, as it sought abstracts that addressed “consumption in any of its many forms, including but not limited to: eating, buying, obsession, the reception of media, and the status-seeking public use of resources first called ‘conspicuous consumption’ by Thorstein Veblen in 1899.”

Responding to and building upon Veblen’s insights were 14 scholars from the USC Palmetto College campuses, as well as four-year institutions as varied as USC Upstate, Limestone College, Kent State University, Shorter University, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and even as far away as California State University, Northridge.

USC Palmetto College Chancellor Susan Elkins delivered the opening remarks and the luncheon keynote address was delivered by Dr. Stephen Criswell, associate professor of English and Native American studies at USC Lancaster. Criswell’s engaging talk focused on “food and foodways” in South Carolina.

For Lauren Kirby, a freshman studying horticulture at USC Lancaster, it was the support of a professor that inspired her to submit her paper, “Gardening to Fight Consumption,” to this year’s conference.

“Dr. Nick Lawrence mentioned the conference in our English 102 class and he was excited about the possibility of me presenting,” Kirby said. “He encouraged me the whole way.”

Lawrence, an assistant professor of English at Lancaster, attended the conference to support Kirby and other students from his class who presented papers.

“It’s great that we had scholars from

Angela Williams, an instructor of accounting at Limestone College, underscored the importance of bringing together researchers from across disciplines, from different institutions, and at different levels in their career.

Williams noted that she is in the early stages of completing the requirements for a doctoral degree, and that ACES offered her an opportunity to not only explore a proposed topic for her dissertation, but also to gain valuable public speaking experience through presenting her research.

At the end of the conference, co-founder Matthew Wilkie presented the inaugural Denise Roy Shaw Foundation Award, named for the late professor to honor her commitment to fostering student research, to top paper winner Tania Dominguez from California State University, Northridge. Dominguez’s paper, “A Consuming Beauty,” sparked lively conversation during the discussion period after her panel.

In addition to Hjelm, Sumner and Wilkie, several other faculty and staff from across the USC Palmetto College campus system helped organize this year’s convention, including Maureen Anderson, Jean Carrano, Kaetrena Kendrick, Melody Lehn, Bryan Love, Steve Lowe, Chris Nesmith and Suzanne Penuel.

The 2016 ACES Conference will be held in December at USC Salkehatchie.



ACES Conference co-founder Matthew Wilkie presented the inaugural Denise Roy Shaw Foundation Award to top paper winner Tania Dominguez from California State University, Northridge for her paper, “A Consuming Beauty.”

all around the country, even Research I institutions, and the work of our students was equally provocative and interesting,” Lawrence said. “They really did Palmetto College proud.”

Though originally conceived as a platform for undergraduate research, the conference has since expanded to attract graduate students and faculty researchers.

In her presentation, “Consumption of Accounting Services by Start-Up Businesses,”

About USC Palmetto College Connections

Newsletter Committee

- Jean Carrano
- Jay Darby
- Melody Lehn
- Summer Yarborough

This Issue’s Contributors

- Jane Brewer
- Jean Carrano
- Shana Dry
- Susan Elkins
- Melody Lehn
- Lisa Rosdail
- Annie Smith
- Summer Yarborough

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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Please submit all items for the Spring 2016 issue by Tuesday, April 7, 2015.

Upcoming Events

Kilpatrick,

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species that I study are most active at night so I have spent just as much time out at night working on projects as I have during the daylight hours. There's just something about sampling fauna in the middle of nowhere, in the middle of the night, that I find really enjoyable.

JB: *I've seen lots of pictures of you in waders out in the swamp. How does that tie into your research?*

EK: I spend hundreds of hours each year, with colleagues and students, sampling reptiles and amphibians in wetland habitats all across the Carolinas. Waders are just as important in my field of study as glassware is to a chemist. Waders keep you dry, which is particularly important in the winter months, and they save your legs from being cut and scraped by debris, thick brush, and briars.

Adult Student Scholars,

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said.

"Professor Kerry McLoughlin (instructor of sociology) sparked my passion for sociology, Professor John Peek (instructor of criminal justice at USC Salkehatchie) peaked my curiosity in criminal justice, and my advisor and professor in philosophy at USC Sumter, Dr. Anthony Coyne, made me see the world in a different light," Burke continued.

Other faculty have also been instrumental in cultivating Burke's ability to, as she put it, "think outside-the-box" in her classes. She credits Dr. Shelley Jones (assistant professor of English at USC Extended University), Professor Patrick Saucier (instructor of sociology at USC Extended University), and Dr. Babette Protz (instructor of criminal justice at USC Lancaster) for challenging her and helping her see the world in new, different ways.

Burke singled out Dr. Ray McManus, associate professor of English at USC Sumter, for special praise.

"Dr. McManus has been a great mentor in all aspects. He has shown me how to see the bigger picture by using my imagination, listened to me when I needed to talk to someone, and given me advice to help me make choices I needed to make in my college career," she said. "If it wasn't for him, I probably would not be here. There have been times I wanted to quit, but sometimes you need others to lean on. Dr. Ray McManus has been my rock of reasoning."

USC Palmetto College Campuses Tenure and Promotion Workshop

Friday, Jan. 15, 2016 – 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

USC Columbia – Capstone – Campus Room

Executive Committee Meeting

Friday, Jan. 22, 2016 – 1:30 p.m.-4 p.m.

USC Columbia – 1600 Hampton, 404T

USC Palmetto College Campuses Faculty Senate Meeting

Friday, Feb. 12, 2016

USC Columbia

Executive Committee Meeting

Friday, March 25, 2016 – 1:30 p.m.-4 p.m.

USC Columbia – 1600 Hampton, 404T

USC Palmetto College Campuses Faculty Senate Meeting

Friday, April 8, 2016

USC Lancaster

University of South Carolina President

Harris Pastides presented a Commerce degree to 89-year-old **Dan Brown** – just a few days shy of his 90th birthday – at the 2015 summer commencement exercises.

Brown left USC in the 1940s to serve in the military during World War II, and at the time he was three credits short of graduation requirements; however, completing his degree was an important goal.

That goal was set aside as Brown returned from the war, got married and began working. After Ada, his wife of 68 years, passed in May, Brown decided to fulfill their collective desire for him to complete his degree. He contacted Palmetto College Online to take the final course.

Chancellor Elkins, working with the



Moore School of Business, helped Mr. Brown achieve that goal. It was determined that he met the current criteria to earn the business degree that he began decades ago.

"Regardless of your age, it's never too late to graduate," Brown said.

Chancellor's Corner,

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through a focus on teaching, scholarship, staff, students and alumni.

As we prepare to wrap up our third year of service as a combined unit, I would like to personally thank all of you for your excellent work in serving our students and our communities.

Thanks to your dedicated efforts and service, we can continue to realize our shared vision for student success, thriving campuses and thriving online programs that provide accessible, affordable and flexible opportunities across the entire state of South Carolina and beyond.



USC Palmetto College commercial campaign earns high honors at 35th Annual Telly Awards

The commercial production company Dust of the Ground, in conjunction with creative minds within USC Palmetto College and University Communications, earned a 2015 Telly Award for the USC Palmetto College commercial campaign at the 35th Annual Telly Awards.

The Telly Award is the premier award honoring the finest film and video productions, groundbreaking web commercials, videos and films, and outstanding local, regional and cable TV commercials and programs.

Specifically, Dust of the Ground, the University of South Carolina and USC Palmetto College earned the Silver Telly Award in the category of “Regional TV & Multi-Market Cable – Campaign – Business-to-Consumer.”

The Silver Telly Award is the highest level of achievement given for commercial work;

the Gold is only given as lifetime achievement work to individuals.

The USC Palmetto College Online commercial campaign was chosen for a Silver Telly Award from among 12,000 entries from all 50 states and numerous countries.

The team from Dust of the Ground (a group of young USC alumni) delivered the official Telly trophies to Palmetto College and University Communications personally after the win.

“We’re proud of the accomplishment and the impact that our commercials have in the markets in which they air,” said USC Palmetto College Chancellor Susan Elkins.

“In fact, there are recorded spikes for inquiries and enrollments during the periods in which our commercials air on broadcast and cable television, as well as in the form of pre-roll video.”

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