

# Executive Summary

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## Blueprint for Academic Excellence On Your Time AY2021-2022

### Highlights

It has been a good year. We've grown our newer programs, like Jump Start and Winter Session, as well as Summer Semester. These programs, as well as others under our purview, contribute to our focus on helping students catch up, stay on track, or get ahead for graduation. We've been successful using data to manage this growth in a manner that best serves students while making most efficient use of university funds. With each passing year, we learn more about the new space in which our office exists, and we are proud of our work situating UofSC as a leader in on-time graduation. Our national presentations and committee work solidify our role as a leader and educate other institutions on what we do- often followed by calls to ask how we do it.

### Mission Statement

The mission of On Your Time Initiatives is to ensure that every student at the University of South Carolina has the resources, support and programs in place that will give them the best opportunity to graduate on time.

### Vision Statement

Be an agent of change in Higher Education for programming that leads to students graduating on time.

### Values Statement

Professional Excellence

- We strive for excellence in all we do and distinguish ourselves through actions and activities that promote the advancement of the University, our students and our faculty.

Students

- We remember that students are the focus of our mission and vision. We are committed to their development and learning.

Inclusion

- We believe that everyone at the University of South Carolina is unique and needs to be treated with respect. We embrace one another's differences, talents and abilities.

Integrity

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# Executive Summary

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- We act with integrity. By honesty and trust we build lasting relationships with other team members, academic departments and staff.

Shelley H. Dempsey



# Goals - Looking Back

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## Goal 1 - Enhance Data Driven Decisions

<b>Goal Statement</b>	Increase use of predictive data to forecast and prescribe solutions for student retention and time to degree.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Provide a sustainable campus infrastructure that supports academic excellence and preeminent student life.</li> <li>• Build teams that win with excellence and character.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	Data collection is paramount in predicting student needs and develop initiatives that support the University's and our collective purpose of retaining and graduating students on time.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OYT evaluated and shared data with academic departments. This data informed OYT and the departments of the courses that were enrolled at 85%+ capacity during the Fall/Spring semesters. This information helped units determine which courses have the most demand during Summer Session. The same indicators were used for Winter Session, also showing whether the courses are approved for online distribution and have previously been taught in an accelerated format.</li> <li>• The number of students successfully navigating the road to graduating in less than four years is steadily growing. OYT has researched which programs are experiencing the most students graduating in 3 to 3.5 years to determine, which programs may best fit the model for Accelerated Study Plans.</li> </ul>
<b>Achievements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The total course offerings for the 2020 Winter Session increased by 14.9% from the 2019 Winter Session. The 2019 Summer Semester also saw a significant increase in the total number of online courses that undergraduate students enrolled in. In 2019, undergraduate students enrolled in 271 100% web courses, a 9.27% increase from the previous summer semester.</li> <li>• OYT was able to work closely with OIRRA to develop multiple reports to forecast upcoming semester needs which include and are not limited to, course scheduling and enrollment data. These reports can be and are currently used by OYT, Distributed Learning, OIRRA and the Office of the Provost. OYT was also able to work closely with other units, helping them with data analysis so that they can better predict needs in their own departments.</li> </ul>
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	Data Warehouse is our primary data source. We will continue to administer student satisfaction and other surveys. OYT also uses an internal Access database. Various academic units were also used.

# Goals - Looking Back

<b>Goal Continuation</b>	This goal will continue as we look for more ways that data can help us make better, more informed decisions about the programs we create and the opportunities to expand them for the benefit of students.
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	Meeting with academic units to share data so that we can make more informed decisions about student demand and course offerings. In addition, we will use financial data to determine the costs of our various OYT initiatives and the return on them (in terms of students served and whether they were retained and/or graduated).
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Data Warehouse, Academic Unit partnerships, Office of the Provost
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Looking Back

## Goal 2 - Explore Opportunities for Accelerated Undergraduate Graduation

<b>Goal Statement</b>	Grow opportunities for students to accelerate completion of their degrees and contribute to greater success in retention and degree progression.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Assemble and cultivate a world-class faculty and staff.</li> <li>• Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive.</li> <li>• Provide a sustainable campus infrastructure that supports academic excellence and preeminent student life.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	As part of its mission of allowing all students to graduate on time, OYT also implements opportunities for them to complete their degree in less than four years by tailoring accelerated degree progression plans that take advantage of Summer Semester and Winter Session in order to matriculate early.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educate advisors about the benefits of ASPs for students suited for early matriculation. In addition to traditional means of degree attainment, ASP students can accelerate degree progression with the help of OYT by using alternative sessions, early registration and online course options. OYT will market ASP opportunities through various avenues of communication including digital signage across campus, First Year Orientation, advisor conferences and Parent programs.</li> <li>• Work directly with students whose colleges are unable to form a three-year accelerated plan at this point; and indicate an interest in graduating early. OYT will help design tailored ASPs that fit their needs. We will continue to partner with the students' advisors and the Registrar's office to ensure course availability for these students.</li> <li>• OYT will assess these programs and initiatives by collecting data on the 3 and 3.5-year graduation rates, as well as an increase in the number of students taking part in the ASP program.</li> </ul>
<b>Achievements</b>	OYT participated in First Year Orientation in the summer to promote ASPs to incoming freshmen. In the last calendar year, OYT doubled the number of contracted ASP students it advises. We also added two ASP degree options: a B.A. in Criminology and Criminal Justice and a B.S. + M.T. in Biological Sciences and Education. In May 2020, OYT celebrated the commencement of its first ASP graduate who is progressing on to vet school, one year early. At the end of the academic year, the average GPA for an ASP student was 3.78.
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	The primary resources are our campus partnerships with the University Advising Center and the various academic units that have

# Goals - Looking Back

	an ASP option. Data Warehouse reports were also used for graduation rates and enrollment reports.
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	We continued to tweak and grow ASP opportunities based on feedback from students, advisors, faculty, and staff. We used data to determine which majors may be high need for ASPs based on enrollment levels and need for elimination of internal graduation barriers.
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	We will continue to participate in First Year Orientation during the summers to promote ASPs. We will expand marketing efforts to include a focus on ASPs, specifically targeting students who would be a good fit, as well as campus units that are well placed to make students aware of ASP opportunities.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Funding for marketing resources is needed to increase awareness of ASPs, to include printed materials and digital outreach platforms. Assistance is also needed from University Communications with marketing efforts.
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Looking Back

## Goal 3 - Facilitating Awareness and Inquiry to Academic Innovation at UofSC

<b>Goal Statement</b>	OYT will continue to expand academic innovation on the UofSC campus. Bearing in mind OYT's overarching goal of timely degree completion, we will continue to seek and craft innovative approaches to meet students' needs for degree progression.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive.</li> <li>• Harness the power, attributes and institutional diversity of an integrated and interoperative university system that enhances access, success and affordability for every eligible SC student.</li> <li>• Provide a sustainable campus infrastructure that supports academic excellence and preeminent student life.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	This goal relates directly to our mission of ensuring all students graduate on time in that we are exploring multiple opportunities for them to do so, often in ways that have not been previously considered by our campus. As needs of students change, methods and structures that meet those changing needs will be explored in innovative ways, thus ensuring timely graduation goals can still be met.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue with OYT's multi-departmental design thinking event. These events have shown great promise in helping to create new and innovative programs that will promote timely graduation. In particular, it will impact those students that are experiencing hurdles to graduation. During our most recent event in October 2019, the team proposed creating a program for male sophomores and juniors in order to increase retention and academic success. In the coming year, OYT will seek partnerships to further develop program ideas for piloting.</li> <li>• The Design Thinking Event will be assessed by the number of additional programs and initiatives piloted during the 20/21 year to assist students.</li> </ul>
<b>Achievements</b>	With each innovative measure or program implemented, we assessed success by use of surveys of participating students, as well as through staff and faculty feedback. Due to the nebulous nature of academic innovation, this will continue to be a goal whose success will be revealed over an extended period of time, based on the results of each new innovation.
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	Funding for travel was essential for this goal, as many of our newest programs were inspired by peer institutions' presentations at conferences both within the state and out of state, as well as campus site visits. Interdepartmental relationships were also crucial to this goal as collaboration is necessary for innovative achievement.

# Goals - Looking Back

<b>Goal Continuation</b>	This goal is one that will be ongoing for multiple years as we continue to advance academic innovation to meet the needs of our changing student population.
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	OYT will continue to facilitate an annual interdepartmental design challenge event to create new student programs for the University.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Funding for marketing resources was needed to increase awareness of new programs, to include printed materials and digital outreach platforms. Assistance from central University Communications was also needed with marketing efforts.
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Looking Back

## Goal 4 - Improve and Grow Non-Standard Semesters

<b>Goal Statement</b>	OYT recommended non-standard semester options for implementation at UofSC after reviewing available data and researching successful initiatives at other institutions.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive.</li> <li>• Harness the power, attributes and institutional diversity of an integrated and interoperative university system that enhances access, success and affordability for every eligible SC student.</li> <li>• Provide a sustainable campus infrastructure that supports academic excellence and preeminent student life.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	Non-standard semester options allowed more opportunities for our students to reach graduation goals by allowing them to stay on track with degree progression. These opportunities were used to assist financially insecure students by reducing their educational debt.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grow the program in 2020/21 by incorporating study abroad opportunities. OYT will partner with TRIO, Study Abroad, and USC Connect to bring study abroad opportunities to our financially marginalized students by offering a financial aid gap program, similar to a program in use at the University of Minnesota. This program eliminates the impediment of a financial aid disbursement date well after the deadline to pay study abroad program fees.</li> <li>• Expand hybrid undergraduate degrees to make graduation more attainable to non-traditional students. Research that shows that students perform better in hybrid courses than those that are 100% online. We will continue to research which UofSC courses are currently being offered as hybrid to help us make informed decisions about which degree programs are already utilizing this model. This may lead to potential partnerships with academic programs. CTE is also prepared to partner with us on the training of faculty as we plan to grow the options in this area.</li> <li>• Work closer with academic units to prioritize course offerings based off student needs. This will allow academic units to appropriately budget for offering Winter Session courses. This will grow the number of course offerings and available seats in Winter Session for additional students to benefit from the intersession.</li> <li>• Assessment will be based on the number of students who take advantage of the opportunity to study abroad in Winter Session and whether any of these students are those in financial need.</li> <li>• Monitor how many new courses are being offered in a hybrid form.</li> <li>• Track Winter Session course offerings, enrollment, and survey responses to explore the growth of Winter Session.</li> </ul>
<b>Achievements</b>	For Winter Session, we assessed the goals based on an increased

# Goals - Looking Back

	number of courses offered and on students registering for classes that kept them on track for degree completion. We also ensured that all Winter Session instructors worked with CTE course designers to assure quality instruction and materials. For Summer Semester, we increased undergraduate registrations, with growth in the number of students taking a full course load of 12+ credit hours and with increased use of summer Pell Grants.
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	Partnerships were an important resource for Winter Session and Summer Semester. We worked with both academic and administrative units to increase communication and collaboration. Data Warehouse, APS, and the support of IBM for new reports were very useful. We found that our counterparts at other institutions were particularly helpful in the advising of potential issues that they have already faced.
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	This goal will be continued each year with the potential of new programs and the growth of current programs.
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	OYT will continue to expand our use of data to drive our decisions related to the program. We will continue to encourage expansion of course offerings in Summer Semester and Winter Session.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	The continued support of our budget director (added in summer 2019) will be valuable as we make data driven programming decisions.
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Real Time

Goals for the current Academic Year.

## Goal 1 - Enhance Data Driven Decisions

<b>Goal Statement</b>	Increase use of predictive data to forecast and prescribe solutions for student retention and time to degree.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Assemble and cultivate a world-class faculty and staff.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	Data collection is paramount in predicting student needs and develop initiatives that support the University's and our collective purpose of retaining and graduating students on time.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developed comprehensive reports through collaboration with other staff, other units, and IBM to better collect information to develop programs that help students' goal of graduation.</li> <li>• Collaborate with the UAC (University Advising Center) to investigate the impact of undergraduate students changing majors after their first year, as well as students with excess credit hours at graduation. Using this data will help determine which academic programs may have graduation barriers and better determine what programs or initiatives can remove these obstacles. By removing these barriers, thus reducing the number of excess credit hours at graduation, graduation rates should improve.</li> <li>• OYT continued to provide data to the Provost's office at the conclusion of each Summer and Winter Session with the purpose of being shared with academic units. This data will be able to help units make informed decisions for future intersessions for course scheduling.</li> <li>• OYT will continue to track course offerings and enrollment numbers during intersessions to help assess the success of the Summer Semester and Winter Session.</li> </ul>
<b>Achievements</b>	OYT was able to work closely with OIRRA to develop multiple reports to forecast upcoming semester needs which include and are not limited to, course scheduling and enrollment data. These reports can be and are currently used by OYT, Distributed Learning, OIRRA and the Office of the Provost. OYT was able to provide data specifically related to the Spring 2020 pivot to online teaching and projections for the Summer 2020 semester. The reports that were developed for the Fall 2020 semester were instrumental in monitoring the instruction methods being offered.
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	Data Warehouse is our primary data source. We will continue to administer student satisfaction and other surveys. OYT also uses an

# Goals - Real Time

	internal Access database. We expect increased usage of APS in the coming year. The Office of Instructional Research, Assessment and Analytics and various academic units were also used.
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	This goal will continue as we look for additional ways that data can help us make better, more informed decisions about the programs we create and the opportunities to expand them for the benefit of students.
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	Meeting with academic units to share data so that we can make more informed decisions about student demand and course offerings. In addition, we will use financial data to determine the costs of our various OYT initiatives and the return on them (in terms of students served and whether they were retained and/or graduated).
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Data Warehouse, Academic Unit partnerships, Office of the Provost, Partnerships in Admissions to share data we are unable to locate on our own
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Real Time

## Goal 2 - Explore Opportunities for Accelerated Undergraduate Graduation

<b>Goal Statement</b>	As the coordinating office for Accelerated Study Plans (ASPs), OYT will take leadership in growing the opportunities for students to accelerate completion of their degrees, thus contributing to greater success in retention and degree progression.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Assemble and cultivate a world-class faculty and staff.</li> <li>• Harness the power, attributes and institutional diversity of an integrated and interoperative university system that enhances access, success and affordability for every eligible SC student.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	As part of its mission of allowing all students to graduate on time, OYT also implements opportunities for them to complete their degrees in less than four years by tailoring accelerated degree progression plans that take advantage of Summer Semester and Winter Session in order to matriculate early.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	We will continue collaboration with the University Advising Center to promote ASPs to students who represent ideal candidacy for early degree completion. Academic advisors will connect their students with our department to enroll in ASPs and to develop three-year course plans. Students then matriculate in their accelerated course plans and utilize Winter Session and Summer Semester to help achieve their goals. We will increase the number of ASP options by meeting with academic units to develop more three-year course plans and by increasing outreach and awareness to academic advisors, admissions, parents and the community. Additionally, we will continue monitor the academic progress and success of students in ASP programs.
<b>Achievements</b>	OYT partnered with the University Advising Center to identify students at Summer Orientation that expressed an interest in early graduation. Advisors and OYT staff will use this information to promote the ASP program to students who are ideal candidates for early graduation. Active members have grown from 1 to 16 since the programs inception and OYT projects continued increase with the planned marketing efforts in fall 2020.
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	Our primary resources are our campus partnerships with the University Advising Center and with the various academic units that have an ASP option.
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	We will continue to grow ASP opportunities based on feedback from students, advisors, faculty, and staff. We will use data to determine which majors have a high need for ASPs based on enrollment levels and the need for elimination of internal graduation barriers. OYT will continue to participate in First Year Orientation in the summer to

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	promote ASPs to incoming freshmen.
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	In the coming year, OYT will again participate in First Year Orientation during the summer to promote ASPs to parents and students. We will expand marketing efforts to promote ASPs, especially on our own department website. On this site, students will find an increased list of ASP degree options, and they will find more testimonials from students such as themselves. We will also focus on parent testimonials, and we will share how ASPs can save families a great deal of tuition dollars.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Funding for marketing materials (printed and digital) and graphic design work will be needed for an increased awareness of ASPs. Assistance with marketing efforts is also needed from University Communications. Coordination with academic departments, as well as Admissions.
<b>Goal Notes</b>	In order to increase this goal, coordination from academic units is necessary. Course mapping provides a smooth transition for students to switch from a 4 year plan to a 3 year plan. To date, OYT has only been able to secure a limited number of course maps and has turned to the UAC to meet the needs of students who wish to accelerate graduation. Additionally, OYT would like to work with Admissions to have ASPs included in their open house and guidance counselor materials for prospective students.

# Goals - Real Time

## Goal 3 - Facilitating Awareness and Inquiry to Academic Innovation at UofSC

<b>Goal Statement</b>	OYT will expand academic innovation on the UofSC campus during the 2020-2021 academic year. We will continue to seek and craft innovative approaches to meet students' diverse needs for degree progression and completion.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Assemble and cultivate a world-class faculty and staff.</li> <li>• Harness the power, attributes and institutional diversity of an integrated and interoperative university system that enhances access, success and affordability for every eligible SC student.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	This goal relates directly with our mission of ensuring that all students graduate on time in that we are always exploring multiple opportunities for them to do so. Often, these are ways that have not been previously considered by our campus. As needs of students change, methods and structures that meet those changing needs will be explored in innovative ways, thus ensuring timely graduation goals can still be met.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have expanded our Jump Start Summer Transfer Program cohort, and we will continue to grow this program by including regularly scheduled events for peer mentoring and cohort connection.</li> <li>• We have utilized the design challenge strategy to work with multiple campus departments to identify a need for marketing to male sophomore and junior students to increase their retention and degree completion. We continue collaborating with these departments to best serve this male sophomore and junior population.</li> <li>• We successfully collaborated and will continue to successfully collaborate with on campus partners to ensure a seamless spring shift to online and hybrid learning. OYT will be working with our campus partners to study the various instructional codes in more detail and using the site to standardize their use in a clear and concise manner.</li> </ul>
<b>Achievements</b>	We received positive feedback from campus partners, Jump Start students, and Summer Semester students through the use of surveys and verbal feedback. 100% of the first cohort of Jump Start students were retained.
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	Funding for travel, for on-campus catering, and for marketing supplies helped to enhance our Jump Start and design challenge needs. We also relied heavily on interdepartmental relationships.
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	This goal is one that will always be ongoing as we continue to advance academic innovation to meet the needs of our changing

# Goals - Real Time

	student populations.
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	OYT will continue facilitating an annual interdepartmental design challenge event. We will also host Jump Start peer mentoring events.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Funding for marketing (printed and digital) and graphic design work is needed to increase awareness of new programs. Assistance with marketing efforts is also needed from University Communications.
<b>Goal Notes</b>	OYT would like to work with Admissions on an earlier recruitment strategy for Jump Start students in order to secure a larger pool of participants.

# Goals - Real Time

## Goal 4 - Improve and Grow Non-Standard Semesters

<b>Goal Statement</b>	OYT recommends non-standard semester options for implementation at UofSC after reviewing available data and researching successful initiatives at other institutions.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	Non-standard semester options allow more opportunities for our students to reach graduation goals by allowing them to stay on track with their degree progression. These opportunities can be used to assist financially insecure students by reducing their total educational debt.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to expand Winter Session course offerings by collaborating with academic departments and assisting them in putting their courses online. Since Winter Session began three years ago, it has consistently grown and become more popular with students. The courses fill very quickly, and many of the students that fill these seats are reporting that they were able to graduate on time because of Winter Session. Going into our fourth season, we are committed to making Winter Session a success by serving the instructors and students as needed with communication, technology, and course evaluations.</li> <li>• We will also continue to enhance Summer Semester by working with academic departments to strategically select and schedule summer courses. We will serve as advocates for active campus life during the summer, including student services, housing, and library and tutoring availability. The successful Summer Opportunities Fair that was hosted in March 2020 will serve as a model for an annual event to promote these services.</li> <li>• As the Accelerated Study Plans program grows, and increasing number of students will rely on Summer Semester and Winter Session to complete an ASP making these essential parts of term.</li> <li>• OYT will look to add an opportunity for a summer minor program in which students can complete a minor in the summer by taking the complete set of required courses during this term.</li> </ul>
<b>Achievements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Winter Session has consistently increased course offerings and enrollments each year. It has especially grown during the coming 2021 year due to the new budget model, allowing for academic departments to keep their tuition revenue from Winter Session.</li> <li>• Summer Semester also continues to see growth, despite a global pandemic in 2020.</li> </ul>
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	Department partnerships are an extremely important resource for Winter Session and Summer Semester. We work with academic and administrative units to increase communication and collaboration, which decreases unintended negative consequences. Data

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	resources are also very important, including Data Warehouse, APS, and IBM. Our counterparts at other institutions are also particularly helpful in the advising of potential issues we might face in building programs that they have already implemented on their campuses.
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	As this goal reflects On Your Time's core mission, it will be continued each year with the implementation of new programs and the growth of our current programs.
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	OYT will expand our use of data to drive our decisions related to the program, specifically in the area of return on investment of funds. We will continue to encourage the expansion of course offerings in Winter Session and Summer Semester.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Strong partnerships with other departments are vital to our causes.</li><li>• Funding for marketing (printed and digital) and graphic design work is needed to increase awareness of new programs. Assistance with marketing efforts is also needed from University Communications.</li></ul>
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Real Time

## Goal 5 - Growing Awareness of OYT

<b>Goal Statement</b>	OYT will become a recognized name and presence on the campus of UofSC and at other institutions by serving in useful, tangible, and successful ways that promote degree completion.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assemble and cultivate a world-class faculty and staff.</li> <li>• Harness the power, attributes and institutional diversity of an integrated and interoperative university system that enhances access, success and affordability for every eligible SC student.</li> <li>• Provide a sustainable campus infrastructure that supports academic excellence and preeminent student life.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	This goal relates directly to our mission of ensuring that all students graduate on time by becoming a recognized service on campus where students can go to explore their graduation options.
<b>Status</b>	Newly Established Goal
<b>Action Plan</b>	We will continue to promote awareness of OYT through representation at First Year Orientations, Summer Opportunities Fairs, Resource Fairs, and other community and campus events.
<b>Achievements</b>	Academic advisors are reaching out to OYT more frequently to explore opportunities for their students to graduate early or on time.
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	We utilized marketing through an increased social media presence and through swag items that make our department name known on campus.
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	This goal is one that will be ongoing as we continue to prioritize and meet the needs of our changing student population.
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	OYT will continue to look for national meetings where we can learn, exchange ideas, and present our own programs.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Funding for marketing (printed and digital) and graphic design work is needed to increase awareness of new programs. Assistance with marketing efforts is also needed from University Communications. Also, the support of other departments is always a top resource priority.
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Looking Ahead

Goals for the next Academic Year.

## Goal 1 - Enhance Data Driven Decisions

<b>Goal Statement</b>	Increase use of predictive data analytics to forecast and prescribe solutions for student retention and time to degree.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Harness the power, attributes and institutional diversity of an integrated and interoperative university system that enhances access, success and affordability for every eligible SC student.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	We rely on data collection to predict student needs and develop initiatives that support the University's and our collective purpose of retaining and graduation students on time.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	Continue to work closely with OIRRA, the Office of the Registrar and IBM to continue to develop reports and reporting tools that will not only help OYT but also the Office of the Provost and the President with other academic units.
<b>Achievements</b>	
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	OYT will continue to use data to give direction to its current programs and create new programs that target initiatives toward achievement gap populations.
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Data Warehouse, OIRRA, IBM, Partnerships in Admissions to share data we are unable to locate on our own.
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Looking Ahead

## Goal 2 - Explore Opportunities for Accelerated Undergraduate Graduation

<b>Goal Statement</b>	As the coordinating office for Accelerated Study Plans (ASPs), OYT will take leadership in growing opportunities for students to accelerate completion of their degree, thus contributing to greater success in retention and degree progression.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Assemble and cultivate a world-class faculty and staff.</li> <li>• Harness the power, attributes and institutional diversity of an integrated and interoperative university system that enhances access, success and affordability for every eligible SC student.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	As part of its mission of allowing all students to graduate on time, OYT also implements opportunities for them to complete their degree in less than four years by tailoring accelerated degree progression plans that take advantage of the winter session and summer semester in order to matriculate early.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	We will continue collaboration with the University Advising Center to promote ASPs to students who represent ideal candidacy for early degree completion. Academic advisors will connect their students with our department to enroll in ASPs and to develop three-year course plans. Students then matriculate in their accelerated course plans and utilize Winter Session and Summer Semester to help achieve their goals. We will increase the number of ASP options by meeting with academic units to develop more three-year course plans and by increasing outreach and awareness to academic advisors, admissions, parents and the community. Additionally, we will continue to monitor the academic progress and success of students in ASP programs. OYT will continue to participate in First Year Orientation in the summer to promote ASPs to incoming freshmen. OYT is also working with University Communications on a marketing campaign for ASPs in order to promote this program more widely and on brand with OYT's previous campaigns.
<b>Achievements</b>	
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	OYT will look for ways the ASP program can be utilized in conjunction with graduate programs in order to help students maximize time, credit hours and financial investment.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Funding for marketing materials (printed and digital) and graphic design work will be needed for an increased awareness of ASPs. Assistance with marketing efforts is also needed from University Communications. Coordination with academic departments, as well

# Goals - Looking Ahead

	as Admissions.
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Looking Ahead

## Goal 3 - Facilitating Awareness and inquiry into Academic Innovation at USC

<b>Goal Statement</b>	OYT will expand academic innovation on the UofSC campus during the 2020-2021 academic year. We will continue to seek and craft innovative approaches to meet students' diverse needs for degree progression and completion.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Assemble and cultivate a world-class faculty and staff.</li> <li>• Harness the power, attributes and institutional diversity of an integrated and interoperative university system that enhances access, success and affordability for every eligible SC student.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	This goal relates directly with our mission of ensuring that all students graduate on time in that we are always exploring multiple opportunities for them to do so. Often, these are ways that have not been previously considered by our campus. As needs of students change, methods and structures that meet those changing needs will be explored in innovative ways, thus ensuring timely graduation goals can still be met.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on the success and growth we've already seen, we will continue to expand the Jump Start Summer Transfer Program by working with Admissions and academic departments to add new majors to the program and by including regularly scheduled events for peer mentoring and cohort connection. We will navigate new ways to improve processes for Jump Start as the program grows, as this program is very hands on with detailed communication required when working with transfer students, advisors and departments.</li> <li>• We will continue to utilize the design challenge strategy to work with multiple campus departments to innovate new programs to meet needs on campus. We continue collaborating with these departments to best serve a diverse population.</li> <li>• We will continue to successfully collaborate with on campus partners to ensure online and hybrid learning are high quality choices for our students. OYT will be working with our campus partners to study the various instructional codes in more detail and using the site to standardize their use in a clear and concise manner.</li> </ul>
<b>Achievements</b>	
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	OYT will continue facilitating an interdepartmental design challenge event.

# Goals - Looking Ahead

<b>Resources Needed</b>	Funding for marketing (printed and digital) is needed to increase awareness of new programs. Assistance with marketing efforts is also needed from University Communications.
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Looking Ahead

## Goal 4 - Improve and Grow Non-Standard Semesters

<b>Goal Statement</b>	OYT recommends non-standard semester options for implementation at UofSC after reviewing available data and researching successful initiatives at other institutions.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Harness the power, attributes and institutional diversity of an integrated and interoperative university system that enhances access, success and affordability for every eligible SC student.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	Non-standard semester options allow more opportunities for our students to reach graduation goals by allowing them to stay on track with their degree progression. These opportunities can be used to assist financially insecure students by reducing their total educational debt.
<b>Status</b>	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
<b>Action Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OYT will continue to expand Winter Session course offerings by collaborating with academic departments, advisors, the CTE, instructors and many other campus partners to offer a robust Winter Session. We will work to innovate new ways to meet the growing demand for Winter Session.</li> <li>• We will also continue to enhance Summer Semester by working with academic departments to strategically select and schedule summer courses. We will serve as advocates for active campus life during the summer, including student services, housing, and library and tutoring availability. The successful Summer Opportunities Fair that was hosted in March 2020 will serve as a model for an annual event to promote these services.</li> </ul>
<b>Achievements</b>	
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	OYT will expand our use of data to drive our decisions related to the program, specifically in the area of return on investment of funds. We will continue to encourage the expansion of course offerings in Winter Session and Summer Semester.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Funding for marketing (printed and digital) and graphic design work is needed to increase awareness of new programs. Assistance with marketing efforts is also needed from University Communications
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Goals - Looking Ahead

## Goal 5 - Growing Awareness of OYT

<b>Goal Statement</b>	OYT will become a recognized name and presence on the campus of UofSC and at other institutions by serving in useful, tangible, and successful ways that promote degree completion.
<b>Linkage to University Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders.</li> <li>• Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible.</li> <li>• Harness the power, attributes and institutional diversity of an integrated and interoperative university system that enhances access, success and affordability for every eligible SC student.</li> </ul>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	This goal relates directly to our mission of ensuring that all students graduate on time by becoming a recognized service on campus where students can go to explore their graduation options.
<b>Status</b>	Newly Established Goal
<b>Action Plan</b>	OYT worked closely with the UofSC Communications staff during this past year to brand the Summer Semester. Our pieces looked more professional and have a consistent look to them. Unfortunately, with the pandemic and move off campus, we were unable to use many of the items. We look forward to using them in the coming year. For our next project, we will work with Communications to develop an improved appearance for the Accelerated Study Plans.
<b>Achievements</b>	
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	
<b>Goal Continuation</b>	
<b>Goal Upcoming Plans</b>	OYT has become better-known nationwide for our work with intersessions and on-time graduating. We always appreciate the opportunity to share what works well for us with our colleagues around the country. Though Covid-19 will make travel more difficult, we plan to continue our virtual presentations at professional conferences and our work with individual schools who request information from us. Our director, Shelley Dempsey, will be presenting with North American Association of Summer Sessions (NAASS) as part of their professional development series and serves as a national officer. She also participated by invitation in a special training and feedback opportunity with the University Innovation Alliance (UIA). In addition, we will continue partnering on-campus and supporting our colleagues thru sponsorships (orientation) and promotion.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Support from Communications in telling our good news stories would be helpful. We have struggled with how to do this. Marketing support is needed – our full-time position had to be taken down due to Covid-19 as well as the graduate assistant position we had been

# Goals - Looking Ahead

	approved to hire. While I appreciate that need, I hope that the opportunity will become available again in the near future to hire. We need this role on our team to help share the good news and make the data more visually appealing for multiple audiences.
<b>Goal Notes</b>	

# Programs or Initiatives

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## Effective Programs or Initiatives

*List your most effective programs/initiatives toward fulfillment of mission.*

- OYT has several successful ongoing initiatives, including the Summer Semester, Winter Session, Accelerated Study Plans, and Jump Start Summer Transfer Program.
- Winter Session was piloted in 2018 with 8 courses and an enrollment of 235 students. In 2019 there were 457 enrolled in 14 courses and in during the 2020 Winter Session there were 504 students in rolled in 17 courses. That is a 212% increase in courses and a 214% increase in enrollment in just 2 years.
- Summer Semester has seen growth in total enrollments from 11,081 students in 2016 to 12,188 students in 2020. From 2019 Summer Semester there has been an increase of 6.16% in FTE and a 21% increase in students taking 12+ hours during this semester. There are now more than 1000 course offerings and over 1800 sections for students.
- Marketing efforts for both summer and winter increased to promote awareness with the campus community of these alternative sessions that provide an opportunity to get on track or get ahead to degree completion. Digital signage, student and parent newsletters, swag, social media, table tents, and the summer opportunities fair were all ways in which OYT marketed these terms.
- OYT coordinates the Accelerated Study Plan program allowing students the choice to pursue a traditional four-year degree in less years by taking courses in Winter Session and Summer Semester.
- OYT coordinates a Summer Transfer Program. This was a product of an interdepartmental design thinking event. The program began as a partnership with the College of HRSM and allows approximately 20 transfer students to attend summer orientation and take two summer classes together as a cohort prior to their first fall semester, thus easing their transition into UofSC.

## Program Launches

*List any programs/initiatives that were newly launched during the Academic Year or any programs/initiatives you would like to launch in the coming year(s). Describe the program/initiatives, provide financial requirements (including additional staff), and academic year in which you would launch. What key performance indicators are you utilizing to track the success of this program?*

- OYT is launching a Hybrid website where all questions related to hybrid learning at UofSC can be answered. The site will include instructional method definitions, student resources, instructor resources, policies, and scheduling help. As hybrid learning has become necessary and widespread during the recent shift from face-to-face learning, we are preparing to be a welcome resource on the UofSC campus.
- OYT launched the Jump Start Summer Transfer program in summer 2019 with the College of HRSM and expanded in summer 2020 to three Colleges - HRSM, CAS and CIC.

## Program Terminations

*List any programs that were newly terminated or discontinued during the Academic Year. Provide justification as to why the program was discontinued.*

No terminations of programs at this time.

## Program Rankings

# Programs or Initiatives

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*List any nationally ranked or external recognition during the Academic Year. For each, provide the formal name of the program followed by the name of the organization that issued the ranking, the date of notification, effective date range, and any other relevant information.*

## **Supplemental Info - Programs or Initiatives**

*Any additional information on Programs or Initiatives appears as 'Appendix 1. Programs or Initiatives' (bottom).*

# Initiatives and Fees

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## **Initiatives**

*Describe any new initiatives your unit will need for the coming year.*

## **Fees**

*List any new or changed fees that your unit has implemented or had to take on in the last academic year.*

# Community Engagement

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## Community Perceptions

*Describe how your unit assesses community perceptions of your engagement, and how the unit assesses the impact of community engagement on students, faculty, community and the institution. Provide specific findings.*

OYT serves as the front door at UofSC for the Senior Citizen Free Tuition program. With approximately 150-200 students in the program each semester, our services for advisement, course overrides and assistance in navigating the larger UofSC campus are well-received. Students participate on a listserv, attend a yearly orientation, and take part in regular lunches to support each other and to supply input on the program. Our website is a regularly used resource for these students with information on how to apply and register at no tuition cost. Recent Ph.D. graduate Debbie Yoho stated, "People ask me why I continue to study at my age. I tell them because I want to continue to grow, and I still have a lot to give back to my community." Mike Leonard, another student taking part in the free tuition program, and his team recently won a McNair Institute COVID 19 Idea Challenge with their SafePass unit. It decontaminates delivered groceries for at-risk adults. He said, "I truly appreciate the senior OYT program which allows lifelong learners like myself a way to continue to learn, grow, and remain relevant with projects like this."

# Collaborations

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## Internal Collaborations

*List your Unit's most significant internal collaborations and multidisciplinary efforts that are internal to the University. Details should be omitted; list by name only.*

- Collaborations are at the heart of how OYT has been able to successfully implement programs at USC. We continually work with the University Advising Center, the Registrar's Office, Financial Aid, more than 50 academic units in most of the schools and colleges, the Center for Teaching Excellence, Office of Distributed Learning, and many of the units in Student Affairs to serve the needs of our students and instructors. One of our most successful recent collaborations involved a design thinking challenge in which nine University program representatives met for two days in early fall 2018 to create a new and innovative summer program to fulfill a current unmet student need. The design thinking challenge resulted in a proposal to pilot a summer transfer program which will launch in summer 2019. This collaboration has progressed throughout the academic year as plans for the pilot has evolved.
- Winter Session is another example of the clever work being done through extensive collaborations on campus. OYT partnered with the Center for Teaching Excellence to pair Winter Session instructors and a course designer to ensure all courses meet DLQR standards. The Office of Distributed Learning recorded course introduction videos for winter courses and aided with making these available to students on the OYT website prior to Winter Session registration.
- OYT has worked directly with academic units and the UAC on the Accelerated Study Plans program to make three-year plans available as a degree option for students. Further, OYT works to ensure that courses needed to stay on track to an accelerated course path are available to the student when needed.
- Financial Aid, The Office of the Registrar and the UAC have all been partners in the promotion of the Summer Semester for students who are on academic probation or in danger of losing scholarships or financial aid. When these offices send out warning letters, OYT has been able to share a promotional insert with information about the Summer Semester at UofSC to encourage the student to think about using summer courses as a tool to get off probation or regain scholarship status, whichever the case may be.
- Since the Spring of 2020, OYT has worked closely with the OIRAA to develop new reports during the COVID-19 pandemic. These reports display course methods being offered by department's and enrollment in different instructional methods. The reports helped the Office of the Provost and academic units to determine student and faculty needs more accurately.
- During the Spring of 2020, OYT partnered with The Office of the Registrar to work with faculty and academic departments to make sure instructional methods for courses being taught during the 2020 Summer Semester were adequately updated to reflect the changes to remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. We delayed the registration time period for the summer semester while these changes were processed. This was imperative for ensuring students were aware of the structure of their course prior to registration. OYT continued this partnership for the Fall 2020 semester by reviewing submitted course schedules and ensuring accuracy. This support also included monitoring of courses that were full and new sections needed to be added to accommodate student needs in both Face-to-face and online formats.
- OYT collaborates with multiple offices for the Jump Start Summer Transfer program. The University Advising Center, Transfer Advisory Council, Office of Orientation, Registrar's

# Collaborations

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Office, Admissions, College of Arts & Sciences, College of Information and Communication and College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management are instrumental to the success of the program. The Admissions Office provides lists of admitted students in the participating programs to OYT for staff to contact for recruitment into Jump Start. Once students join Jump Start, OYT staff work with the Advising Center and Orientation to get the students into summer courses and transfer orientation as a cohort.

- Hybrid website collaborations included the following offices: Center for Teaching Excellence, Office of the Registrar, Office of Distributed Learning, Communications and Public Affairs, Office of the Provost, Graduate School, and the Instructional Development Committee.
- OYT worked with the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Nursing, College of Information and Communication, School of Music, College of Social Work, the College of Engineering and the School of Law to hire temporary faculty to meet the needs of students during the COVID-19 pandemic. Faculty were hired to teach 72 course sections with total salary compensation of approximately half a million dollars.

## External Collaborations

*List your Unit's most significant external collaborations and multidisciplinary efforts that are external to the University. Details should be omitted; list by name only.*

We collaborate often with the North American Association of Summer Sessions (NAASS) and have more recently begun to look for opportunities with the North American Student Personnel Association (NASPA) in the area of student success in on-time graduation. In addition, we have recently found the University Innovation Alliance (UIA) to be a valuable resource and have appreciated working with them.

# Campus Climate and Inclusion

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## **Campus Climate and Inclusion**

*Activities the unit conducted that were designed to improve Campus, Climate, and Inclusion.*

# Concluding Remarks

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## Weaknesses and Plans for Improvement

*What is your unit struggling with? What plans do you have to overcome the weakness that you have faced in the next academic year.*

- Unfortunately, a shortage of staff is a weakness for OYT. We were on the cusp of posting 2 long-awaited positions when Covid-19 hit, and since then have also had a staff member go out on maternity leave. We have no wiggle room should one of our remaining staff get sick and are struggling at times to maintain our workload. I have a small but mighty team, and they are the most effective and efficient group with whom I've ever worked. I just worry about exhausting them or losing any more if they should become ill.
- I respectfully request that I be able to fill the office manager position that serves as assistant to the Director and Assistant Director as soon as possible. My communications director was doing this position before going on out maternity leave, so we are currently down 2 roles with her absence, and I don't think it is sustainable to have her continue in both roles upon her return to work.
- I would like to again submit my request for a marketing coordinator that was approved earlier this year. I understand this role would report to OYT but assist as needed with other Provost Office marketing needs.
- As I make these requests, I want to acknowledge that I understand UofSC is in a tentative position for funding. I know there are furloughs taking place and the potential for RIFs. I was grateful to serve on President Caslen's cost savings task force, and I look forward to seeing if any of the committee's suggestions are implemented.

## Key Issues

*Identify key issues or potential challenges your unit will encounter this coming year and the steps you plan on initiating.*

## Quantitative Outcomes

*Explain any surprises regarding data provided in the quantitative outcomes modules throughout this report.*

- Winter Session piloted in 2018 with 8 courses and an enrollment of 235 students. Our third Winter Session (2020) increased course offerings to 17 with a headcount of 504 students. The duplicated headcount was 546. This is a 15% increase from the 2019 Winter Session. 73% of senior level students enrolled in the 2020 Winter Session were approved for May 2020 graduation. 77% of students enrolled in the 2020 Winter Session reported that they were able to take the course outside of the Columbia area due to the courses being 100% asynchronous.
- The total headcount for Summer 2020 was 12,188 students. FTE increased from Summer 2019 by 6.16% and by 7.14% at the undergraduate level. There was a 21% increase in the number of undergraduate-level students enrolled in 12+ credit hours. 100% of the first cohort of Jump Start students were retained from the 2019-2020 academic year to the next.

# Concluding Remarks

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## Cool Stuff

*Describe innovations, happy accidents, good news, etc. that occurred within your unit not noted elsewhere in your reporting.*

- I often tell people that I have the most amazing position on our campus. OYT serves students, and we do it well. We are nimble and maintain a focus on improvement. Our staff are actively involved on campus and see it as their role to serve UofSC on various committees. The majority of our staff are working on graduate degrees, and we also have staff who teach. Collaboration and cooperation aren't just characteristics we admire, they are a daily part of our work and core components of our continuing success. It's worth noting that most of our staff have been able to have promotions within our office, and I'm grateful for the opportunities I've been given to retail talent while allowing them opportunities for advancement.
- As a staff we participate in a book club and have recently read *The Circle* and *Who Moved My Cheese*. We're moving into a podcast club in the coming weeks and will begin listening to some that we can discuss. I share this to point out that I'm grateful to have a group that wants to grow and learn. They are lifelong learners who want to learn more and discuss ways we can serve our students, colleagues, and campus better.

## Appendix 1. Programs or Initiatives



## On Your Time Initiatives

University of South Carolina

# GRADUATE ON TIME... OR EARLY!

The University of South Carolina is committed to meeting the needs of students in every walk of life. The mission of On Your Time Initiatives is to ensure that all students have the opportunity to graduate on time. We serve degree-seeking and non-degree students as well as students age 60 and over. Our office is home to a variety of initiatives that fall under this umbrella.



### SUMMER SEMESTER

Summer Semester helps students meet credit hour requirements for scholarships and on-time or early graduation. Summer courses vary in length and intensity, enabling students to custom build a schedule that fits their academic needs while still allowing them to fulfill other summer commitments.

### WINTER SESSION

Winter Session is a 3 week online accelerated course option during the winter break to help students catch up or get ahead on course work.

### ACCELERATED STUDY PLANS

Accelerated Study Plans allow students to complete a traditional bachelor's degree in under four years. Options are also available for completing combined undergraduate and graduate programs in less time.

### SUPPLEMENTAL COURSES

Supplemental courses by OYT include additional day classes to meet student demand, in addition to online and evening classes to accommodate students who require a more flexible schedule.

### NON-DEGREE STUDENTS

Non-Degree Students advised by OYT include transient, concurrent and exchange students, and students taking classes for personal enrichment.

### 60+ TUITION WAIVER

60+ Tuition Waiver allows admitted SC residents age 60 and over to take classes at the University of South Carolina, tuition free.

On Your Time Initiatives  
Byrnes Building  
901 Sumter Street, Suite 209  
803-777-9850  
[onyourtime@sc.edu](mailto:onyourtime@sc.edu)



# South Carolina

[onyourtime.sc.edu](http://onyourtime.sc.edu)

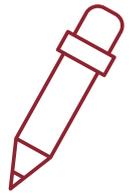
## On Your Time Initiatives

(OYT) is here to help students stay on track to graduate on time - or early! OYT offers accelerated study plans, and opportunities to meet graduation goals with alternative sessions like Summer Semester and Winter Session. OYT also provides advising services for non-degree and senior citizen students. OYT helps students complete their degrees in less time so they can begin building their futures. To learn more about how OYT can help get or stay on track for graduation, visit [onyourtime.sc.edu](http://onyourtime.sc.edu).

**Summer Semester** courses vary in length and intensity, enabling students to custom build a schedule that fits their academic needs while still allowing them to fulfill other summer commitments. Students may also boost their GPAs with an additional class or two to retain a scholarship or to avoid academic probation. It's possible to be enrolled full time and still go home (or anywhere, really!) for the summer.

For more info, visit [bit.ly/UofSCsummer](http://bit.ly/UofSCsummer).

**NON-DEGREE  
STUDENTS  
ARE WELCOME  
TO APPLY!**



**GET BACK  
ON TRACK!  
GRADUATE  
ON TIME!**



**Winter Session** is three weeks of accelerated online courses taken over winter break. A variety of courses are offered, all of which are commonly required by many majors for degree completion. Due to the intensive nature of accelerated courses, students are advised to carefully consider if more than one winter course is manageable. In 2019, over half of students who took Winter Session courses were seniors, and in some cases was the difference between being able to graduate in the spring.

To learn more, visit [bit.ly/UofSCwinter](http://bit.ly/UofSCwinter)

# ON YOUR TIME INITIATIVES

## Accelerated Study Plans

offer many undergraduate study plans which are designed to be completed in three years. There are also many accelerated graduate study plans available, with varying completion times, all of which are faster than the traditional study plan for the same degree.

For more information about available majors for accelerated study, visit:

[bit.ly/UofSCaccelerated](http://bit.ly/UofSCaccelerated)

**GRADUATE  
EARLY!**



## Grow with us!

Check out our enrollment numbers from over the years...

### SUMMER TOTAL ENROLLMENT

**2018 ... 11,960**

**2017 ... 11,550**

**2016 ... 11,081**

### WINTER TOTAL ENROLLMENT

**2019 ... 457**

**2018 ... 235**



UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA

### ON YOUR TIME INITIATIVES

Byrnes Building

901 Sumter St., Suite 209, Columbia, SC 29208

803-777-9850 | [onyourtime@sc.edu](http://onyourtime@sc.edu)

## ACCELERATED STUDY PLANS

- Accelerated Study Plans can help you earn your undergraduate degree in less than four years!
- There are also many accelerated graduate study plans as well, with varying completion times.
- Take advantage of Summer Semester and Winter Session to graduate early while accruing less debt.
- The options for Accelerated Study Plans expand every year!
- Any major can speed up the graduation process by taking advantage of alternative sessions.

To learn more, visit:

[bit.ly/UofSCaccelerated](https://bit.ly/UofSCaccelerated)

## SUMMER SEMESTER

- Catch up or get ahead on degree progression!
- Summer Semester offers courses of various lengths and formats to work with your summer schedule.
- Graduate a semester (or more!) early by taking a full summer course load!
- Boost your GPA to maintain scholarship or avoid academic probation.
- Over 300 (and growing) 100% online summer courses, so you can be enrolled full time and still go home (or anywhere, really!) for the summer.

To learn more, visit:

[bit.ly/UofSCsummer](https://bit.ly/UofSCsummer)

## WINTER

- All Winter Session week, 100% online courses taken over
- Many courses of Winter Session are courses required for graduation
- Catch up or get a semester!
- In past semesters, students taking Winter courses were seen in May.

To learn more, visit:

[bit.ly/UofSCwinter](https://bit.ly/UofSCwinter)



# Summer Semester 2019 at USC was *HOT!*

*"I enjoyed taking summer courses since it expedited my degree progression."*

*"I have always used summer classes to catch up, get ahead or just stay engaged – more classes that are flexible – online, etc. Love summer at Carolina!"*

**FULL-TIME STUDENT ENROLLMENT INCREASED!**  
(STUDENTS TAKING 12+ HOURS)

**↑ 9%**

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

**↑ 42**

2016-2019 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

**SUMMER TUITION REVENUE INCREASED BETWEEN 2017 AND 2019 BY**

**10%**

**ENROLLMENT IN ONLINE COURSES INCREASED**

**14%**

(100% WEB COURSES INCREASED BY 9%)

**UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS USING FINANCIAL AID INCREASED**

**27%**

FROM SUMMER 2017

## 2020 SUMMER SEMESTER

**Full Summer Session (3S0)**  
May 11 - July 30

**6-week Session I (3S1)**  
May 11 - June 18

**6-week Session II (3S2)**  
June 22 - July 30

**3-week Session I (3S3)**  
May 11 - May 28

**3-week Session II (3S4)**  
June 1 - June 17

**3-week Session III (3S5)**  
June 22 - July 8

**9-week Session (3S6)**  
June 1 - July 30

Transient & non-degree students apply by May 1st  
**REGISTER FOR SUMMER 2020 AT:**  
**WWW.SUMMER.SC.EDU**



**South Carolina**

ON YOUR TIME INITIATIVES

Byrnes Building

901 Sumter St., Suite 209, Columbia, SC 29208

803-777-9850 | onyourtime@sc.edu

# SUMMER

Summer Semester is divided into multiple term which vary in length including many 100% web-based courses that can be taken from anywhere. We can assist in creating a customized schedule.



**MAKE  
THE MOST  
OF YOUR  
SUMMER**

**SUMMER  
SEMESTER 2020  
100% ONLINE**

Talk to your  
advisor today!

[sc.edu/summer](https://sc.edu/summer)

 **South Carolina**

# ON YOUR TIME INITIATIVES 2019 WINTER SESSION

3 WEEK SESSION: JANUARY 2-20, 2019 • 457 STUDENTS ENROLLED • 14 ACCELERATED ONLINE COURSES  
• ALL COURSES MET THE DLQR STANDARDS

2018 vs. 2019 Data Comparison:

**# OF COURSES OFFERED ...↑75%**  
**# OF SEATS AVAILABLE ....↑83%**  
**# OF UNIQUE STUDENTS REGISTERED .....↑94%**  
**# OF SEATS FILLED .....↑95%**

**73% of seniors enrolled in Winter Session have been approved for May graduation.**

Reasons for taking Winter Session:

**Earn degree faster ..... 46.85%**  
**Stay on track for graduation .....45.45%**  
**Improve GPA .....26.57%**  
**Scholarship requirements... 19.58%**  
**Major requirements .....13.99%**

*“I like that I can receive credit for a class while I have free time. It makes my winter break feel more productive and helped me maintain credit hour requirements for my scholarships.”*

**84%**

of Winter Session students were highly satisfied or satisfied with their experience.

*“Being able to complete the coursework at my own pace helped me be more successful.”*

Winter Session courses fulfill the following:

**Major/Minor Requirement ..... 64.83%**  
**Elective ..... 22.07%**  
**Carolina Core Requirement ..... 22.07%**  
**Personal Interest ..... 7.59%**  
**Required for Degree Program .... 1.38%**

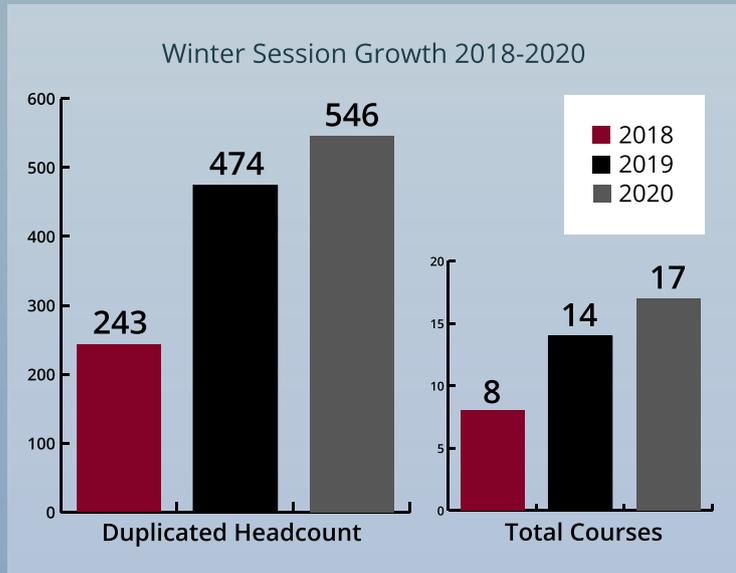
**LEARN MORE ABOUT WINTER SESSION AT:  
[ONYOURTIME.SC.EDU](http://ONYOURTIME.SC.EDU)**



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 Byrnes Building  
 901 Sumter St., Suite 209, Columbia, SC 29208  
 803-777-9850 | [onyourtime@sc.edu](mailto:onyourtime@sc.edu)

# ON YOUR TIME INITIATIVES 2020 WINTER SESSION

3 WEEK SESSION: DECEMBER 30, 2019 - JANUARY 19, 2020 • 504 STUDENTS ENROLLED • 17 ACCELERATED ONLINE COURSES



**TOTAL CREDIT HOURS EARNED ..... 1,519**

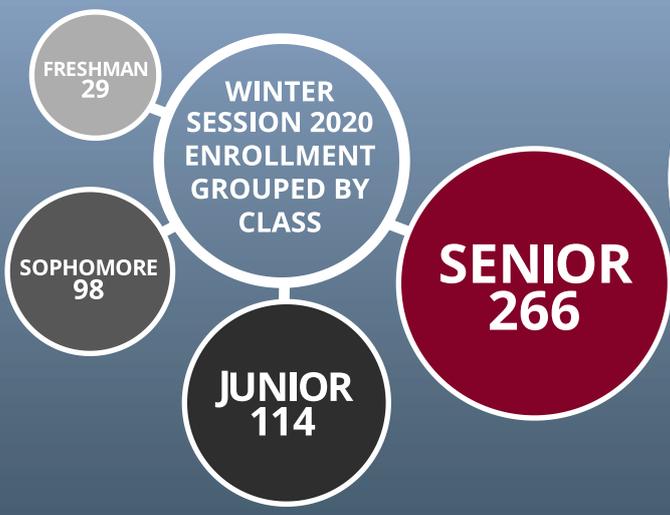
Why students take Winter Session:

<b>Stay on Track</b> .....	<b>70</b>
<b>Accelerate Degree Progression</b> .....	<b>66</b>
<b>Opportunity to Improve GPA</b> .....	<b>40</b>
<b>Scholarship Requirements</b> .....	<b>27</b>
<b>Catch Up</b> .....	<b>18</b>
<b>Double Major/Minor</b> .....	<b>15</b>
<b>Other</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>Retake a Course</b> .....	<b>0</b>

**96%** of Winter Session students felt adequately prepared for the accelerated pace.

**77%** of Winter Session students report taking Winter Session course(s) outside of the Columbia area.

**73.3%** of Seniors enrolled in Winter Session applied for May 2020 Graduation.



*"I liked being able to do everything at my own pace, but still have deadlines. It was also convenient to have over winter break because I didn't have other classes or a serious job to worry about. It gave me something to do over break and allowed me to get ahead in my classes."*

*"I could do it [Winter Session] on my own time, from wherever."*

**LEARN MORE ABOUT WINTER SESSION AT:  
ONYOURTIME.SC.EDU**

**Uof SC South Carolina**

**ON YOUR TIME INITIATIVES**

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## **ACCELERATED STUDY PLANS**

Accelerated Study Plans provide students a pathway to complete an undergraduate degree in less time. If you pursue a degree on an accelerated schedule, you will be assigned an academic advisor in your first semester to assist you in taking full advantage of fall, spring, and summer course offerings.

### **BENEFITS OF GRADUATING EARLY:**

- Accumulate less debt
- Enter the job market sooner
- Begin earning a salary
- Move on to graduate school, if desired

### **ACCELERATED STUDY PLANS INCLUDE:**

- Online course offerings
- Robust summer study
- Tailored academic advising
- Accelerated timelines toward graduation

See if an Accelerated Study Plan will work for you at: [bit.ly/USCadvising](https://bit.ly/USCadvising)

Contact the Office of On Your Time Initiatives at **803-777-9850** for more information  
[onyourtime.sc.edu](https://onyourtime.sc.edu)

# 2019 JUMP START Summer Transfer Program

START THIS SUMMER!





### **Get On Track Early**

To increase academic success and retention amongst the transfer student population, the Jump Start Summer Transfer Program helps foster stronger connections between transfer students and our campus.

Students will begin coursework in the summer of 2019. This will be in addition to the existing measures of attending transfer orientation, and meeting with an advisor to identify courses missing from degree progression and register for fall classes. Fall 2019 programs for these transfer students include a peer mentoring experience and other social events.

### **What to Expect**

Students will take two courses in their major for credit in the summer after attending an early transfer orientation. Students will attend orientation and the courses together as a cohort.

There will be no additional fee to students for this program outside of the summer tuition, fees and orientation costs.

\*This program is being piloted to HRSM major transfer students only in summer 2019.\*

### **How To Join Jump Start**

- Email [onyourtime@sc.edu](mailto:onyourtime@sc.edu) indicating your interest in Jump Start.
- Apply for admission by May 1st.
- Speak to Financial Aid about your remaining 18/19 eligibility.
- Indicate your intention to attend the first transfer orientation session (on June 12) by June 7th.

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### **Have questions?**

Email [onyourtime@sc.edu](mailto:onyourtime@sc.edu)  
Phone 803--777-9850

**MAKE  
THE MOST  
OF YOUR  
SUMMER**



**JUMP START**

Summer Transfer Program

[bit.ly/UofSCtransfer](https://bit.ly/UofSCtransfer)



South Carolina

### What is Jump Start?

Congratulations on your acceptance to UofSC! Transfer students are invited to join Jump Start: Summer Transfer Program. This is an exciting opportunity to get an early start on coursework, increase academic success, connect with peers in your major, and stay on track for graduation.

### What to Expect

Jump Start students will take two 100% web based courses in their major for credit in Summer 2020 and participate in Transfer Orientation with other students in their School or College. In the Fall semester, programs for Jump Start include a peer mentoring experience and other social events.

There will be no additional fees to students for this program outside of the summer tuition, fees and orientation costs. Speak to Financial Aid to determine your remaining eligibility for 2019/2020 today!

Let us know today if you'd like to join Jump Start!  
Email [onyourtime@sc.edu](mailto:onyourtime@sc.edu) or call (803) 777-9850.



## **On Your Time Initiatives**

**University of South Carolina**

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## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES & SERVICES

### Campus Recreation

All active students enrolled in good standing and paying fees to the University of South Carolina Columbia campus will have access to the recreation centers listed below. Please note a current Carolina Card must be presented during each visit.

### Solomon Blatt

#### Physical Education Center

1300 Wheat Street, Columbia, SC 29208  
803-576-9375  
Additional Information can be found on their website:  
<https://campusrec.sc.edu/solomon-blatt-physical-education-center> (Fees may be involved)

### Strom Thurmond Fitness Center

1000 Blossom Street, Columbia, SC 29208  
803-576-9375  
Additional Information can be found on their website:  
<https://campusrec.sc.edu/strom-thurmond-wellness-and-fitness-center>

### Carolina Tech Zone

1244 Blossom Street, Columbia, SC 29208 803-777-1800

The Carolina Tech Zone is a walk-in technology support center for students. You can receive a variety of assistance with things such as software, Microsoft word, virus protection and spyware removal.

### Library Access

1322 Greene Street, Columbia, SC 29208  
Once admitted you will have access to both the Thomas Cooper Library and the Ernest F. Hollings Special Collections Library, which can be accessed through the Thomas Cooper library.

### Out to Lunch Program

The Out-to-Lunch Program is designed to promote faculty and undergraduate student interaction outside the classroom. More information can be requested from the Student Success Center, or by calling 803-777-1000.

# Senior Citizens Tuition Waiver Guide ON YOUR TIME INITIATIVES



## ADMISSIONS

The easiest way to apply is by completing an online application. Before you can begin your online application, you must first set-up an account with a unique user ID and password. Once you have begun your application, you may save it and return to it as many times as you wish.

You can find the application at:

**[www.sc.edu/apply](http://www.sc.edu/apply)**

Please note there is a \$25 nonrefundable application fee.

The University of South Carolina is committed to meeting the needs of students in every walk of life. The Office of On Your Time Initiatives serves students who are outside of a formal degree program, whether temporarily or long-term, and who require a more flexible schedule.



UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTH CAROLINA**

### OFFICE OF ON YOUR TIME INITIATIVES

Byrnes Building, 901 Sumter Street, Suite 209, Columbia, SC 29208  
803-777-9850 | [onyourtime@sc.edu](mailto:onyourtime@sc.edu)



# SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FAIR

On Your Time Initiatives invites all UofSC administrative and academic offices to join us in promoting Summer Semester! To raise awareness of resources, programming, and opportunities for degree progression during summer, please consider having a table at this inaugural event. Promote summer opportunities and have fun!

**MARCH 2, 2020**

**11AM-2PM GREENE ST.**

For more information, contact Savannah Brown at [sj4@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:sj4@mailbox.sc.edu) or 777-9850.



[sc.edu/summer](http://sc.edu/summer)

# 15 TIPS TO SUCCEED IN YOUR 3-WEEK ONLINE WINTER SESSION COURSE

Winter session courses are intended for you to catch up, stay on track, or get ahead in your progress toward degree completion. These 3-week courses are intensive and require that you plan ahead for success. The tips below will help you be successful in your winter session course:

**01 Know your priorities.**  
If you don't have time to take an online course during the winter session, or if a conflict arrives, drop the course as soon as possible. Let your friends and family know you'll be taking a course during the winter break to help with scheduling conflicts and distractions.

**06 Figure out study habits that work for you.**  
Have a consistent and quiet workplace where you can study and work on assignments. Get an early start on course assignments. Don't procrastinate. Work ahead on your course assignments when you can.

**11 Log into your course and check your email every day.**  
Check for course announcements daily. If you are expected to participate in discussion boards, check to see who has replied to your posts. Be sure to check your email often. Blackboard uses your @email.sc.edu by default.

**02 Plan to spend sufficient time on your course.**  
You will be earning 3 credit hours in a 3-week time frame. Be prepared to spend at least 35 hours per week working on your course.

**07 Create a calendar for due dates.**  
Create a schedule with due dates and plan how you will manage your time. Use a calendar to stay on top of your coursework. Keep in mind that you may have assignments due on the first day of class.

**12 Be polite and respectful.**  
You are expected to treat your instructor and peers with respect and communicate with your instructor and peers in a professional manner.

**03 Purchase/Rent your textbook(s) before the first day of class.**  
If you don't have your textbook and course materials before the first day of class, you will fall behind -- you will need to hit the ground running!

**08 Familiarize yourself with the Blackboard Learning Management System before winter break.**  
If you have trouble accessing the course in Blackboard, or if you have trouble finding course materials, contact your instructor as soon as you can -- before USC closes for winter break.

**13 Ask questions.**  
Don't be afraid to ask for help. If you don't understand course content or if you have issues in your course, ask your instructor for assistance as soon as you need help.

**04 Read the syllabus carefully prior to the start of the course.**  
You are responsible for knowing the requirements for your course, as well as the expectations, assignments and due dates for all assignments.

**09 Reliable computer + internet.**  
Create a technology back-up plan in case your computer or internet stops working. Thomas Cooper Library will be open most days during your course, and if you are not located in Columbia, public libraries typically have computer and internet access for use.

**14 Connect with your instructor and other students early.**  
Ask instructors questions about the syllabus or course assignments prior to the due date of the assignment. Get to know your classmates at the beginning of the course. Interacting with your peers helps you to have an engaging experience in your course.

**05 Stay organized -- make a plan.**  
Set aside a block of time each day to work on your course. Keep a copy of your assignments in case they do not submit correctly. Take notes while reading or watching videos and refer to your notes when studying.

**10 Confirm technical requirements and skills.**  
Familiarize yourself with the technical requirements and skills needed to be successful in your course before the course starts. You want to focus your attention on your course materials and not technology issues during your course.

**15 Be honest.**  
Academic integrity is very important to the Carolina Community. You may feel overwhelmed by the amount of work you need to complete in your 3-week course. We expect you to approach your work with honesty, integrity and to follow the values of the Carolinian Creed.

Carolinian Creed



THOMAS COOPER LIBRARY  
(Click here for library hours)

University of South Carolina  
On Your Time

