

# Office of the Provost

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## Academic Blueprint System – Academic Year 2019-2020

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### CONTENT PREPARATION COLLEGE/SCHOOL INFORMATION

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#### Executive Summary

The University of South Carolina Sumter is a two-year regional campus whose purpose is to provide higher education opportunities and intellectual leadership for the counties of Clarendon, Lee, Kershaw, Sumter, and Williamsburg. USC Sumter employs a teaching faculty of high quality, dedicated to excellence in instruction, scholarship, public and professional service, and creative endeavor enriching the classroom experience. The curriculum, grounded in the liberal arts, focuses on preparing students to continue their education in the University and throughout life. USC Sumter offers associate level degrees and pro-actively recruits students prepared to succeed in completing a baccalaureate-level education.

USC Sumter has maintained its commitment to a faculty of high quality as organizational restructuring, budgetary constraints and faculty attrition have put numerous pressures on organizational resources. This commitment continues to yield tangible results in several measures of student accomplishment, including rates of persistence, transfer and success, and baccalaureate completion. It also continues to yield tangible results in faculty accomplishment in scholarship and service.

#### Mission Statement

At the heart of this mission is a teaching faculty of high quality dedicated to excellence in instruction, scholarship, public and professional service, and creative endeavor which enrich the classroom experience. USC Sumter offers a varied curriculum grounded in the liberal arts and focused on preparing students to continue their education in the University and throughout life.

The University of South Carolina Sumter recruits students prepared to succeed in completing a baccalaureate-level education. While the institution does not offer remedial instruction, it is nonetheless able to admit most students who apply due to the close working relationship between students and faculty. Enrollment varies with community need, but is expected to remain at approximately 1200 students. The University of South Carolina Sumter was established to encourage higher education in the counties of Clarendon, Lee, Kershaw, Sumter, and Williamsburg. The original design of the institution incorporated a flexibility that has allowed changes in institutional capability with increasing educational demands of constituents.

The institution awards the Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees and provides for the completion of selected bachelor's degrees on campus through cooperative agreements and delivery structures with other USC System institutions. USC Sumter also provides general education and upper division coursework applicable to baccalaureate degree programs offered through colleges and universities nationwide. In addition to academic coursework, the mission of the campus includes non-credit courses, seminars, and workshops made available to the community for cultural enrichment and professional development.

The traditions of cultural diversity and freedom of thought are valued at USC Sumter. In a learning environment that develops respect for racial, geographical, intellectual, and economic diversity and an awareness of individual, societal, and global responsibilities, USC Sumter promotes courses, activities, and attitudes which influence the life of the mind in men and women and instill in them a thirst to continue learning throughout life.

USC Sumter emphasizes the development of the whole person and especially seeks to foster in students the disciplines essential to an educated citizenry. Core competencies, including the ability to communicate through effective writing and articulate speech; computational and quantitative mastery; creative and critical thinking; and the duties of citizenship are strategically integrated within the curriculum. Classroom experiences, student activities, and physical education programs also provide opportunities for cultural enrichment, leadership development, intellectual growth and interpersonal relationships, all contributing to a sense of self-reliance and a joy of learning.

**Date of last update: Board of Trustees June 2016**

**Commission on Higher Education October 2016**

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# LOOKING BACK

## COLLEGE/SCHOOL'S GOAL STATEMENTS

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### AY 2017-2018

#### Goal 1 – Enrollment Management

<b>Goal Statement</b>	To supplement student needs, optimize financial and personnel resources, and improve enrollment and retention USC Sumter plans to implement new enrollment management processes involving a restructuring of recruitment, admissions, and student success strategies and tactics.
<b>Linkage to University Goal(s)</b>	Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow Spurring Knowledge and Creation
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	Institutional effectiveness and efficiency in administrative, academic and student support services helps ensure the continued provision of higher education and intellectual leadership in USC Sumter's service area, along with helping stabilize and grow student enrollments.
<b>Status</b>	Completed Successfully
<b>Achievements</b>	This goal began with needs analyses performed by faculty, administration and professional consultants. That analysis was undertaken over the previous two academic years and prompted the development of a new enrollment management position. This executive level administrative position was designed to better coordinate and integrate admissions and recruitment, financial aid services, and student success needs. This has now been achieved. Additional staffing and a reorganization of several staffing areas now support this position. This reorganization also freed up present staffing constraints currently inhibiting adequate focus on other mission critical functions outside enrollment management. In addition, the admissions processing unit has been reorganized to review and make decisions on applicant files in a more timely and efficient manner. This reorganization has led to significant increases in early admit decisions over previous years.
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	Staffing; data and IT resources and training; budgetary resources for recruitment and marketing
<b>Continuation</b>	While this goal of restructuring enrollment management processes has been achieved, the objectives of the new bureaucratic processes, improved enrollment, retention, and student success are mission critical and will continue to be embedded in subsequent annual goals.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	n/a

<b>Plans for upcoming year if not completed</b>	n/a
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**Goal 2 – Alignment with Palmetto College Curricular and Advisement Needs**

<b>Goal Statement</b>	The University of South Carolina Sumter will appropriately prioritize Palmetto College curricular and advisement needs in faculty hiring, faculty course offerings, and the training of faculty advisors
<b>Linkage to University Goal(s)</b>	Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow Assembling a World-Class Faculty of Scholars, Teachers, and Practioners Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	The University of South Carolina Sumter recruits students prepared to succeed in completing a baccalaureate-level education. The institution has long provided for the completion of selected bachelor’s degrees on campus through cooperative agreements and delivery structures with other USC System institutions. This long-term mission of the institution directly aligns with the general mission of Palmetto College. Further, it aligns our traditional services with Palmetto Colleges administrative organization and resources to further expand our capacity to achieve our stated mission.
<b>Status</b>	Completed Successfully
<b>Achievements</b>	Over the past two years we have made tenure track hires in disciplinary areas that can make immediate contributions to critical curriculum need areas for Palmetto Programs. These hires replaced losses due to attrition. We continue to expand the number of faculty participating in distributive education course offerings, professional development training programs, and new distributive education course development. We continue to more fully integrate our faculty advisement with Palmetto College advisement processes and the new Palmetto College Advisors Community of Practice, and to fully support and staff our Palmetto College Coordinator position.
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	Staffing; Access to Columbia based distributive education resources and the Center for Teaching Excellence; Access to Columbia based advisement resources, training programs and networks of advisors; Funding for external professional development related to distributive learning and advisement.
<b>Continuation</b>	While efforts to improve quality advisement and effective faculty mentorship will continue, the main objectives of transitioning from a professional advisement center to faculty advisement process is now bureaucratically embedded and the first three-year cycle of our Head of Advisement position has ended and been renewed. Efforts geared at assessment and improvement will continue in this area, but those

	objectives will be embedded in subsequent annual goals reflected in this document.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	n/a
<b>Plans for upcoming year if not completed</b>	n/a

**Goal 3 - Planning**

<b>Goal Statement</b>	Participate in overall Palmetto College fifth year Planning effort. See central Palmetto College report for details
<b>Linkage to University Goal(s)</b>	Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence Spurring Knowledge and Creation Choose an item.
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	“The University of South Carolina Sumter, a regional campus of the University of South Carolina, has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership for its service area.”
<b>Status</b>	Completed Successfully
<b>Achievements</b>	Provided expertise and skill sets needed for development of the Focus 2023 Palmetto College Strategic Planning Committee.
<b>Resources Utilized</b>	Staffing, travel resources
<b>Continuation</b>	While Strategic Long Range Planning is mission critical and will continue under subsequent years goals, the immediate objectives associated with developing and articulating the Focus 2023 project for Palmetto College are primarily completed.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	n/a
<b>Plans for upcoming year if not completed</b>	n/a

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# REAL TIME

## COLLEGE/SCHOOL'S GOAL STATEMENTS

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### Goal 1 – Recruitment and Enrollment

<b>Goal Statement</b>	As a Palmetto College Regional Campus, USC Sumter seeks to effect mission objectives through the maximization of sustainable enrollment patterns and the enhancement of quality student populations.
<b>Linkage to University Goal(s)</b>	Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow Spurring Knowledge and Creation Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	<p>The University of South Carolina Sumter, a regional campus of the University of South Carolina, has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership for its service area. While the institution does not offer remedial instruction, it is nonetheless able to admit most students who apply due to the close working relationship between students and faculty. The original design of the institution incorporated a flexibility that has allowed changes in institutional capability with increasing educational demands of constituents.</p> <p>The institution awards the Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees and provides for the completion of selected bachelor's degrees on campus through cooperative agreements and delivery structures with other USC System institutions. USC Sumter also provides general education and upper division coursework applicable to baccalaureate degree programs offered through colleges and universities nationwide.</p> <p>Sustainable enrollments based on quality student populations are critical to meeting these Mission objectives.</p> <p>Palmetto College and its programs and campuses are accredited as part of USC Columbia. To assure alignment while focusing more specifically on the College's stakeholders, Palmetto College has established the following aligned goals to the University goals listed above:</p> <p>Educating future leaders and thinkers through affordable, flexible, and quality educational opportunities;</p> <p>Spurring creativity and innovation, including advanced educational opportunities responsive to regional community needs;</p> <p>Promoting recognized institutional excellence.</p>

<b>Action Plan for Achieving the Goal</b>	A newly created enrollment management position is enabling the opportunity to restructure staffing duties in recruitment and admissions services, and in financial aid services. These efforts are ongoing. They will optimize resources for more effective off-site recruitment; along with more effective communication strategies, and follow up tactics with admits, applicants with incomplete applications, and potential applicants with whom contact has been made. These restructuring efforts will also optimize the processing of applications and application decisions, and the awarding of financial aid and scholarships. This new position, in conjunction with marketing and public relations staff, is enabling a more effective integration of advertising and marketing resources with recruitment and enrollment objectives. New data analytics tools now allow us to better access critical data on applicants and potential applicants. These data are being utilized to develop branding strategies and tactics that optimize marketing the nature and value of the University's services. These new capacities allow us to more effectively reach potential applicant pools outside of the service area while still providing for the mission of USC Sumter to provide excellence in higher education and intellectual leadership in its service area.
<b>Plans for upcoming year</b>	USC Sumter has achieved many of the objectives associated with the planned restructuring of enrollment management process; including in the areas of financial aid, admissions and recruitment, advisement and registration processes, student orientation processes. We have implemented new strategies and tactics toward these ends. We will continue to both assess current processes and make changes where appropriate; and look for opportunities to improve or add to the repertoire of available tactics to improve recruitment and enrollment. We will increase high school visits and engage in enhanced follow-up communication plans to streamline the process for new students, moving prospects to enrollments in a quicker, more efficient and effective manner. We will improve utilization of the CRM, SMS texting, and e-mail and phone campaigns to increase applicants, admits, and new enrollments.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Staffing, budgetary resources, continued data and IT support and training as needs and capacities grow.
<b>Academic Year(s) for Goal</b>	This goal will be ongoing as it is central to Mission objectives and institutional sustainability.

## Goal 2 - Retention, Success and Completion

<b>Goal Statement</b>	As a Palmetto College Regional Campus, USC Sumter seeks to effect mission objectives by maximizing rates of student retention, Associate degree completion, and success toward Baccalaureate completion.
<b>Linkage to University Goal(s)</b>	Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow Spurring Knowledge and Creation Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence

<p><b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b></p>	<p>The University of South Carolina Sumter, a regional campus of the University of South Carolina, has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership for its service area. The recruitment of students prepared to succeed in completing a baccalaureate-level education is critical to this mission objective. Therefore, the University of South Carolina Sumter recruits toward students prepared to succeed in completing a baccalaureate-level education, while prioritizing institutional commitment to a quality academic faculty and curriculum, along quality academic and administrative support services.</p> <p>The University of South Carolina Sumter has long provided for the completion of selected bachelor’s degrees on campus through cooperative agreements and innovative delivery structures with other USC System institutions. This has now been enhanced by the distributive educational opportunities Palmetto College affords students. Therefore, long long-term Mission objectives related to retention, success and completion directly align with the general mission of Palmetto College.</p> <p>Providing students with access to quality faculty and curriculum, along with institutional commitment to quality academic and administrative support services, are critical factors in meeting mission objectives associated with rates of student retention, student success and degree completion.</p> <p>Palmetto College and its programs and campuses are accredited as part of USC Columbia. To assure alignment while focusing more specifically on the College’s stakeholders, Palmetto College has established the following aligned goals to the University goals listed above:</p> <p>Educating future leaders and thinkers through affordable, flexible, and quality educational opportunities;</p> <p>Spurring creativity and innovation, including advanced educational opportunities responsive to regional community needs;</p> <p>Promoting recognized institutional excellence.</p>
<p><b>Action Plan for Achieving the Goal</b></p>	<p>To enhanced retention efforts, USC Sumter shall engage in proactive campus-wide advisement and registration campaigns. We shall incentivize early advisement and registration for students by providing early registrants with unique and engaging student life opportunities. Communication via email, phone, and SMS text shall serve as follow-up techniques to communicate next-term enrollment opportunities to existing students. We shall continue to build upon past successes with ongoing innovation associated with faculty mentoring initiatives, tutoring services, and early intervention practices; and we shall actively pursuing institution-wide long-range planning efforts to increase the efficacy of these academic support services.</p>



<b>Plans for upcoming year</b>	To continue forward with newly developed strategies and tactics regarding advisement and registration, assess and improve them where appropriate, and to continue to be innovative in adding to the repertoire of strategies and tactics aimed at retention, success, and degree completion.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Staffing; Access to Columbia based distributive education resources and the Center for Teaching Excellence; Access to Columbia based advisement resources, training programs and networks of advisors; Funding for external professional development related to distributive learning and advisement.
<b>Academic Year(s) for Goal</b>	This goal will be ongoing as it is central to mission objectives and institutional sustainability.

### Goal 3 - Faculty and Curriculum

<b>Goal Statement</b>	As a Palmetto College Regional Campus, USC Sumter seeks to provide students with a quality faculty capable of providing the variety of curriculum offerings and educational delivery modes needed to effect mission objectives.
<b>Linkage to University Goal(s)</b>	Assembling a World-Class Faculty of Scholars, Teachers, and Practioners Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence

<p><b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b></p>	<p>The University of South Carolina Sumter, a regional campus of the University of South Carolina, has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership for its service area. At the heart of this mission is a teaching faculty of high quality dedicated to excellence in instruction, scholarship, public and professional service, and creative endeavor which enrich the classroom experience. USC Sumter offers a varied curriculum grounded in the liberal arts and focused on preparing students to continue their education in the University and throughout life.</p> <p>The institution awards the Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees and provides for the completion of selected bachelor’s degrees on campus through cooperative agreements and delivery structures with other USC System institutions. USC Sumter also provides general education and upper division coursework applicable to baccalaureate degree programs offered through colleges and universities nationwide.</p> <p>The University of South Carolina Sumter recruits students prepared to succeed in completing a baccalaureate-level education. The institution has long provided for the completion of selected bachelor’s degrees on campus through cooperative agreements and delivery structures with other USC System institutions.</p> <p>A quality faculty capable of providing the variety of curriculum offerings and educational delivery modes is needed to effect mission objectives and directly aligns with the larger mission of Palmetto College.</p> <p>Palmetto College and its programs and campuses are accredited as part of USC Columbia. To assure alignment while focusing more specifically on the College’s stakeholders, Palmetto College has established the following aligned goals to the University goals listed above:</p> <p>Assembling and supporting a diverse world-class faculty dedicated to teaching, scholarship, and student success;</p> <p>Educating future leaders and thinkers through affordable, flexible, and quality educational opportunities;</p> <p>Promoting recognized institutional excellence</p>
<p><b>Action Plan for Achieving the Goal</b></p>	<p>Make tenure track hires in disciplinary areas that can make immediate contributions to critical curriculum need areas both at USC Sumter and for Palmetto Programs to replace losses due to attrition.</p> <p>Continue to promote faculty development of needed distributive education courses and expand the number of faculty participating in distributive education course offerings, professional development training programs and new distributive education course development.</p> <p>More fully integrate our faculty advisement with Palmetto College advisement processes and the new Palmetto College Advisors Community of Practice.</p>

<b>Plans for upcoming year</b>	We shall continue to make tenure track hires in areas of critical need. This year that includes statistics and business administration. We will continue to encourage and promote faculty development of needed distributive education courses. We shall also expand the number of faculty participating in distributive education course offerings, professional development training programs, and new distributive education course development. We will continue to more fully integrate our faculty advisement with Palmetto College advisement processes and the new Palmetto College Advisors Community of Practice.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Staffing; Access to Columbia based distributive education resources and the Center for Teaching Excellence; Access to Columbia based advisement resources, training programs and networks of advisors; Funding for external professional development related to distributive learning and advisement.
<b>Academic Year(s) for Goal</b>	This goal will be ongoing as it is central to mission objectives and institutional sustainability.

#### Goal 4 - Service and Community Engagement

<b>Goal Statement</b>	As a Palmetto College Regional Campus, USC Sumter seeks achieve mission objectives by continually strengthening current relationships and building new relationships with community partners and stakeholders.
<b>Linkage to University Goal(s)</b>	Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence Building Inclusive and Inspiring Communities Choose an item.

<p><b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b></p>	<p>The University of South Carolina Sumter, a regional campus of the University of South Carolina, has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership for its service area.</p> <p>In addition to academic coursework, the mission of the campus includes non-credit courses, seminars, and workshops made available to the community for cultural enrichment and professional development.</p> <p>USC Sumter emphasizes the development of the whole person and especially seeks to foster in students the disciplines essential to an educated citizenry.</p> <p>The traditions of cultural diversity and freedom of thought are valued at USC Sumter. We seek to provide a learning environment that develops respect for racial, geographical, intellectual, and economic diversity and an awareness of individual, societal, and global responsibilities.</p> <p>These mission objectives cannot be effectively fulfilled without the input, resources, and expertise of a wide range stakeholders and community partners within the institution’s service area.</p> <p>Palmetto College and its programs and campuses are accredited as part of USC Columbia. To assure alignment while focusing more specifically on the College’s stakeholders, Palmetto College has established the following aligned goals to the University goals listed above:</p> <p>Promoting recognized institutional excellence;</p> <p>Building inclusive and inspiring communities, on-campus and online.</p>
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<b>Action Plan for Achieving the Goal</b>	<p>USC Sumter will reestablish a campus presence for the USC Sumter Alumni Council which has been in abeyance for several years. Council, members serve as University Ambassadors at both institutional and community events, organize Alumni events, facilitate Alumni fundraising, and in general help establish and maintain strong stakeholder networks within the University’s service area communities. The Council will begin meeting on a more regular basis now that the intuitional commitment necessary to assist them in their objectives has been made. A new newsletter to help encourage participation and new membership in the Alumni Association is being developed as are plans for a more significant involvement in this year’s commencement by members of the Alumni Association.</p> <p>After several years of full-time staffing deficiencies in Alumni Relations, an FTE hire was made in University Development and Alumni Relations. Given the length of time that this administrative function was lacking appropriate staffing, action plan objectives over this next few years will include needs analysis and strategic planning aimed at restructuring the Office of University Advisement capacity to optimize the knowledge, enthusiasm, and resources our alumni provide and enable for all University stakeholders.</p> <p>USC Sumter shall continue to enhance offerings of non degree continuing education courses for professional development and community interest; and we shall continue to expand summer camps offerings for local secondary school age individuals in the areas of science, liberal arts, and the humanities.</p>
<b>Plans for upcoming year</b>	<p>Based on needs analysis, a second full-time hire was made in University advancement in the Spring of 2019. This will better enable current and upcoming efforts to promote USC Sumter though numerous community channels, to reestablish new processes for scholarship awards and the increase of endowed scholarships. It will also enable the reestablishment better usage of Alumni database resources and alumni interaction.</p>
<b>Resources Needed</b>	<p>Staffing, budgetary resources, continued data and IT support and training as needs and capacities grow.</p>
<b>Academic Year(s) for Goal</b>	<p>This goal will be ongoing as it is central to mission objectives and institutional sustainability.</p>

**Goal 5 - Long Range Strategic Planning**

<b>Goal Statement</b>	<p>As a Palmetto College Regional Campus USC Sumter seeks to utilize institution wide planning processes to ensure improvement of the institutional effectiveness of its academic programs, academic support programs and administrative support services. This goal is to include alignment of USC Sumter internal planning efforts with Palmetto College planning processes to better achieve mission objectives of both USC Sumter and Palmetto College.</p>
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<b>Linkage to University Goal(s)</b>	<p>Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence  Assembling a World-Class Faculty of Scholars, Teachers, and Practitioners  Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow</p>
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	<p>The University of South Carolina Sumter, a regional campus of the University of South Carolina, has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership for its service area. At the heart of this mission is a teaching faculty of high quality dedicated to excellence in instruction, scholarship, public and professional service, and creative endeavor which enrich the classroom experience.</p> <p>The University of South Carolina Sumter recruits students prepared to succeed in completing a baccalaureate-level education. The institution awards the Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees and provides for the completion of selected bachelor’s degrees on campus through cooperative agreements and delivery structures with other USC System institutions.</p> <p>Institution-wide long-range planning processes are integral to the sustainability and continual improvement of the University’s capacity to meet mission objectives.</p> <p>Palmetto College and its programs and campuses are accredited as part of USC Columbia. To assure alignment while focusing more specifically on the College’s stakeholders, Palmetto College has established the following aligned goals to the University goals listed above:</p> <p>Promoting recognized institutional excellence;</p> <p>Assembling and supporting a diverse world-class faculty dedicated to teaching, scholarship, and student success;</p> <p>Educating future leaders and thinkers through affordable, flexible, and quality educational opportunities.</p>

<p><b>Action Plan for Achieving the Goal</b></p>	<p>USC Sumter reorganized its Long-Range Planning Committee in the Spring of 2018 to better facilitate institution-wide planning aimed at assessing and improving academic and student support services, and administrative support services.</p> <p>The first charge of the newly formatted Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) is to gather and utilize empirical data on student engagement and student satisfaction to establish goals, objectives, and actions plans to improve academic and student support services, and administrative support services.</p> <p>The first step in that initiative involves continuation, as one of nearly 1,200 institutional members, of our institutional membership with the Center for Community College Student Engagement out of the University of Texas, Austin, and developing processes for continued administering, of the Center’s Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE), and an accompanying institutionally generated student satisfaction survey.. Our second administration of this well-established student engagement instrument occurred in the Spring of 2018, along with the second administration of our own student satisfaction survey. These data, along with data gathered from these surveys’ in Spring 2016 give us the beginning of a longitudinal look at our student populations concerning critical areas of student engagement: active and collaborative learning; student effort; academic challenge; student-faculty interactions; and perceptions of institutional support for learners. They also allow us to assess student satisfaction with several functional areas within the institution.</p> <p>These data give us invaluable insight into the strengths and weaknesses of our academic and student support services, and administrative support services, leading to more data informed decision-making processes in long range strategic planning.</p> <p>A newly formulated Palmetto college position gives us more direct working contact with Palmetto College central offices and the Senior System campuses hosting Palmetto College degrees. This allows for the establishment of new networks and relationships to better facilitate alignment with Palmetto College in general, but also with Palmetto planning processes. The new executive level enrollment management position will take an active role on the well-established Palmetto College Implementation team and will shall continue our participation in the Palmetto College Long Range Planning Committee.</p>
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<b>Plans for upcoming year</b>	To further embed in the institutional planning processes, assessment methods for continual improvement in administrative support services: to include the business office, facilities management and emergency response management. To build to present a formal recommendation for a Student Success Center and potential changes to related academic and student support services built off assessment processes and analysis of the empirical data gathered from administration of the CCSSE. To administer the 3 <sup>rd</sup> cycle of the CCSSE survey to aid in future assessments of academic and student support services, and administrative support services, to ensure continual improvement in these mission critical areas.
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Staffing, budgetary resources, continued data and IT support and training as needs and capacities grow.
<b>Academic Year(s) for Goal</b>	This goal will be ongoing as it is central to mission objectives and institutional sustainability.



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# LOOKING AHEAD

## COLLEGE/SCHOOL'S GOAL STATEMENTS

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### AY 2019-2020

#### Goal 1 – Enrollment and Recruitment

<b>Goal Statement</b>	As a Palmetto College Regional Campus, USC Sumter seeks to effect mission objectives through the maximization of sustainable enrollment patterns and the enhancement of quality student populations.
<b>Linkage to University Goal(s)</b>	Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow Spurring Knowledge and Creation Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	<p>The University of South Carolina Sumter, a regional campus of the University of South Carolina, has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership for its service area. While the institution does not offer remedial instruction, it is nonetheless able to admit most students who apply due to the close working relationship between students and faculty. The original design of the institution incorporated a flexibility that has allowed changes in institutional capability with increasing educational demands of constituents.</p> <p>The institution awards the Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees and provides for the completion of selected bachelor's degrees on campus through cooperative agreements and delivery structures with other USC System institutions. USC Sumter also provides general education and upper division coursework applicable to baccalaureate degree programs offered through colleges and universities nationwide.</p> <p>Sustainable enrollments based on quality student populations are critical to meeting these Mission objectives.</p>

<b>Action Plan</b>	<p>Establishing a sustainable student recruitment and onboarding plan is been a top priority. This year USC Sumter will increase high school visits and enhanced follow-up communication plans to streamline the admissions process for new students, moving prospects to enrollments in a quicker and more efficient manner. We will also continue to improve the utilization of the CRM, SMS texting, and e-mail and phone campaigns to an increase applicant, admits, and new enrollments.</p> <p>USC Sumter has achieved many of recently articulated objectives associated with the planned restructuring of enrollment management processes: to include restructuring staffing and resource deployment in the areas of financial aid, admissions and recruitment. This has also allowed a restructuring of advisement and registration processes, and student orientation processes. Having implemented new strategies and tactics toward these objectives, we shall continue to both assess current processes and make changes where appropriate; and look for opportunities to improve or add to the repertoire of available tactics to improve recruitment and enrollment.</p>
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Staffing, budgetary resources, continued data and IT support and training as needs and capacities grow.
<b>Academic Years for Goal</b>	This goal will be ongoing as it is central to Mission objectives and institutional sustainability.
<b>Notes</b>	<p>Palmetto College and its programs and campuses are accredited as part of USC Columbia. To assure alignment while focusing more specifically on the College’s stakeholders, Palmetto College has established the following aligned goals to the University goals listed above:</p> <p>Educating future leaders and thinkers through affordable, flexible, and quality educational opportunities;</p> <p>Spurring creativity and innovation, including advanced educational opportunities responsive to regional community needs;</p> <p>Promoting recognized institutional excellence.</p>

**Goal 2 - Retention, Success and Completion**

<b>Goal Statement</b>	As a Palmetto College Regional Campus, USC Sumter seeks to effect mission objectives by maximizing rates of student retention, Associate degree completion, and success toward Baccalaureate completion.
<b>Linkage to University Goal(s)</b>	<p>Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow</p> <p>Spurring Knowledge and Creation</p> <p>Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence</p>

<p><b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b></p>	<p>The University of South Carolina Sumter, a regional campus of the University of South Carolina, has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership for its service area. The recruitment of students prepared to succeed in completing a baccalaureate-level education is critical to this mission objective. Therefore, the University of South Carolina Sumter recruits toward students prepared to succeed in completing a baccalaureate-level education, while prioritizing institutional commitment to a quality academic faculty and curriculum, along quality academic and administrative support services.</p> <p>The University of South Carolina Sumter has long provided for the completion of selected bachelor’s degrees on campus through cooperative agreements and innovative delivery structures with other USC System institutions. This has now been enhanced by the distributive educational opportunities Palmetto College affords students. Therefore, long long-term Mission objectives related to retention, success and completion directly align with the general mission of Palmetto College.</p> <p>Providing students with access to quality faculty and curriculum, along with institutional commitment to quality academic, student, and administrative support services, are critical factors in meeting mission objectives associated with rates of student retention, student success, and degree completion.</p>
<p><b>Action Plan</b></p>	<p>For enhanced retention efforts, USC Sumter will engage in proactive campus-wide advisement and registration campaigns. Communication via email, phone, and SMS text will serve as follow-up techniques to communicate next-term enrollment opportunities to existing students. We will incentivize early advisement and registration for students by providing early registrants with unique and engaging student life opportunities.</p> <p>We will continue to build upon past successes with ongoing innovation associated with faculty mentoring initiatives, tutoring services, and early intervention practices. We are actively pursuing institution wide long-range planning efforts to increase the efficacy of these academic and student support services.</p> <p>As we continue forward with newly developed strategies and tactics regarding advisement and registration, and student orientation, we will assess and improve them where appropriate, and continue to be innovative in adding to the repertoire of strategies and tactics aimed at achieving objectives associated with student retention, success, and completion.</p>
<p><b>Resources Needed</b></p>	<p>Staffing, budgetary resources, continued data and IT support and training as needs and capacities grow.</p>
<p><b>Academic Years for Goal</b></p>	<p>This goal will be ongoing as it is central to Mission objectives and institutional sustainability.</p>

<b>Notes</b>	<p>Palmetto College and its programs and campuses are accredited as part of USC Columbia. To assure alignment while focusing more specifically on the College’s stakeholders, Palmetto College has established the following aligned goals to the University goals listed above:</p> <p>Educating future leaders and thinkers through affordable, flexible, and quality educational opportunities;</p> <p>Spurring creativity and innovation, including advanced educational opportunities responsive to regional community needs;</p> <p>Promoting recognized institutional excellence.</p>
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### Goal 3 - Faculty and Curriculum

<b>Goal Statement</b>	As a Palmetto College Regional Campus, USC Sumter seeks to provide students with a quality faculty capable of providing the variety of curriculum offerings and educational delivery modes needed to effect mission objectives.
<b>Linkage to University Goal(s)</b>	Assembling a World-Class Faculty of Scholars, Teachers, and Practitioners Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	<p>The University of South Carolina Sumter, a regional campus of the University of South Carolina, has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership for its service area. At the heart of this mission is a teaching faculty of high quality dedicated to excellence in instruction, scholarship, public and professional service, and creative endeavor which enrich the classroom experience. USC Sumter offers a varied curriculum grounded in the liberal arts and focused on preparing students to continue their education in the University and throughout life.</p> <p>The institution awards the Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees and provides for the completion of selected bachelor’s degrees on campus through cooperative agreements and delivery structures with other USC System institutions. USC Sumter also provides general education and upper division coursework applicable to baccalaureate degree programs offered through colleges and universities nationwide.</p> <p>The University of South Carolina Sumter recruits students prepared to succeed in completing a baccalaureate-level education. The institution has long provided for the completion of selected bachelor’s degrees on campus through cooperative agreements and delivery structures with other USC System institutions.</p> <p>A quality faculty capable of providing the variety of curriculum offerings and educational delivery modes needed to effect USC Sumter mission objectives and directly aligns with the larger mission of Palmetto College.</p>

<b>Action Plan</b>	<p>Due to continued attrition, making critical tenure track hires in disciplinary areas that can make immediate contributions to critical curriculum need areas both at USC Sumter, the USC Aiken Business program at Sumter, and for Palmetto College programs is critical. For the upcoming year that includes fulfilling needs in statistics and business administration.</p> <p>USC Sumter will also continue to promote faculty development of needed distributive education courses and expand the number of faculty participating in distributive education course offerings, professional development training programs and new distributive education course development.</p> <p>We will continue to encourage and promote faculty development of needed distributive education courses and expand the number of faculty participating in distributive education course offerings, professional development training programs, and new distributive education course development.</p> <p>We will continue to more fully integrate our faculty advisement with Palmetto College advisement processes and the new Palmetto College Advisors Community of Practice.</p>
<b>Resources Needed</b>	<p>Staffing; Access to Columbia based distributive education resources and the Center for Teaching Excellence; Access to Columbia based advisement resources, training programs and networks of advisors; Funding for external professional development related to distributive learning and advisement.</p>
<b>Academic Years for Goal</b>	<p>This goal will be ongoing as it is central to Mission objectives and institutional sustainability.</p>
<b>Notes</b>	<p>Palmetto College and its programs and campuses are accredited as part of USC Columbia. To assure alignment while focusing more specifically on the College’s stakeholders, Palmetto College has established the following aligned goals to the University goals listed above:</p> <p>Assembling and supporting a diverse world-class faculty dedicated to teaching, scholarship, and student success;</p> <p>Educating future leaders and thinkers through affordable, flexible, and quality educational opportunities;</p> <p>Promoting recognized institutional excellence.</p>

**Goal 4 - Service and Community Engagement**

<b>Goal Statement</b>	<p>As a Palmetto College Regional Campus, USC Sumter seeks achieve mission objectives by continually strengthening current relationships, and building new relationships, with community partners and stakeholders.</p>
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<b>Linkage to University Goal(s)</b>	Building Inclusive and Inspiring Communities Spurring Knowledge and Creation Choose an item.
<b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b>	<p>The University of South Carolina Sumter, a regional campus of the University of South Carolina, has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership for its service area.</p> <p>In addition to academic coursework, the mission of the campus includes non-credit courses, seminars, and workshops made available to the community for cultural enrichment and professional development.</p> <p>USC Sumter emphasizes the development of the whole person and especially seeks to foster in students the disciplines essential to an educated citizenry.</p> <p>The traditions of cultural diversity and freedom of thought are valued at USC Sumter. It seeks to provide a learning environment that develops respect for racial, geographical, intellectual, and economic diversity and an awareness of individual, societal, and global responsibilities.</p> <p>These mission objectives cannot be effectively fulfilled without the input, resources, and expertise of a wide range of stakeholders and community partners within the institution's service area.</p>

<b>Action Plan</b>	<p>USC Sumter will continue the ongoing process of reestablishing a campus presence for the USC Sumter Alumni Council which had been in abeyance for several years. Council, members serve as University Ambassadors at both institutional and community events, organize Alumni events, facilitate Alumni fundraising, and in general help establish and maintain strong stakeholder networks within the Universities service area communities. The Council will meet on a more regular basis. A new newsletter to help encourage participation and new membership in the Alumni Association is being developed to encourage participation and new membership in the Alumni Association including plans for community businesses to reward Alumni Association members with discounts. Plans continue to be developed for a more significant involvement commencement by members of the Alumni Association.</p> <p>We will continue promotion of USC Sumter through numerous community channels and continue establishing new process for scholarship awards and the increase of endowed scholarships.</p> <p>To reestablish better usage of Alumni database resources and alumni interaction, this past year USC Sumter was very aggressive in reaching USC Sumter Alum. A text message was sent out to 3,000+ cell phone numbers requesting an updated mailing address. Then 4,200 letters with Alumni Association applications were mailed out. And, an email went out to any alum whose letter was returned. So far, these efforts have increased the Alumni Association by 91%. This year we will use these returns to build records that improve the efficacy of database for the Alumni Association.</p> <p>This past year the Bigger Wednesday event was brought back after being non-existent for three years. The community was very supportive and the USC Sumter Alumni Association plans to continue, and grow this event in the fall of 2019. The Alumni Council has also decided to bring back Dancing with the Sumter Stars. Plans are still in process for this event.</p>
<b>Resources Needed</b>	Staffing, budgetary resources, continued data and IT support and training as needs and capacities grow.
<b>Academic Years for Goal</b>	This goal will be ongoing as it is central to Mission objectives and institutional sustainability.
<b>Notes</b>	<p>Palmetto College and its programs and campuses are accredited as part of USC Columbia. To assure alignment while focusing more specifically on the College's stakeholders, Palmetto College has established the following aligned goals to the University goals listed above:</p> <p>Spurring creativity and innovation, including advanced educational opportunities responsive to regional community needs;</p> <p>Building inclusive and inspiring communities, on-campus and online.</p>

## Goal 5 - Long Range Strategic Planning

<p><b>Goal Statement</b></p>	<p>As a Palmetto College Regional Campus, USC Sumter seeks to utilize institution wide planning processes to ensure improvement of the institutional effectiveness of its academic and student support programs, and administrative support services. This goal is to include alignment of USC Sumter internal planning efforts with Palmetto College planning processes to better achieve mission objectives of both USC Sumter and Palmetto College.</p>
<p><b>Linkage to University Goal(s)</b></p>	<p>Ensuring Institutional Strength, Longevity, and Excellence Assembling a World-Class Faculty of Scholars, Teachers, and Practitioners Educating the Thinkers and Leaders of Tomorrow</p>
<p><b>Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values</b></p>	<p>The University of South Carolina Sumter, a regional campus of the University of South Carolina, has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership for its service area. At the heart of this mission is a teaching faculty of high quality dedicated to excellence in instruction, scholarship, public and professional service, and creative endeavor which enrich the classroom experience.</p> <p>Institution-wide long-range planning processes are integral to the sustainability and continual improvement of the University's capacity to meet mission objectives.</p>
<p><b>Action Plan</b></p>	<p>Assure efficiency, accountability, and fiscal responsibility by continually examining operations, growing programs, and engaging in continuous planning efforts. Assess academic, student and administrative support services success.</p> <p>This year:</p> <p>USC Sumter will further embed in the institutional planning processes, assessment methods for continual improvement in administrative support services: to include business office operations, physical plant enhancements and maintenance, and university development.</p> <p>Building upon established processes of institutional wide planning and current empirical assessments from the past two administrations of the Community College Student Engagement Survey, a product of the University of Texas, Austin's Community College Center for Student Engagement (CCSSE), the USC Sumter Long Range Planning Committee will present a formal recommendation for a Student Success Center and potential changes to related academic and student support services.</p> <p>USC Sumter is now entering its 5th year as an Institutional Member of the CCSSE and will administer the 3rd cycle of the CCSSE survey in Spring of 2020, along with a student satisfaction survey. This will continue to build an empirical basis or future data informed assessments of academic and student support services, and administrative support services, to ensure continual improvement in these mission critical areas.</p>



<b>Resources Needed</b>	Staffing, budgetary resources, continued data and IT support and training as needs and capacities grow.
<b>Academic Years for Goal</b>	This goal will be ongoing as it is central to Mission objectives and institutional sustainability.
<b>Notes</b>	<p>Palmetto College and its programs and campuses are accredited as part of USC Columbia. To assure alignment while focusing more specifically on the College's stakeholders, Palmetto College has established the following aligned goals to the University goals listed above:</p> <p>Promoting recognized institutional excellence;</p> <p>Assembling and supporting a diverse world-class faculty dedicated to teaching, scholarship, and student success;</p> <p>Educating future leaders and thinkers through affordable, flexible, and quality educational opportunities.</p>

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# ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

## AY2018-2019 ONLY

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### Program Rankings

#### Program Rankings

Niche, a website that helps students discover the schools and neighborhoods that are right for them, released its 2019 College Rankings. The University of South Carolina Sumter was named the #5 Best Community College in America. Niche analyzes 4,271 colleges to create rankings and Niche Grades for all aspects of campus life, including academics, student life and value. These rankings and grades are based on rigorous analysis of academic, admissions, financial and student life data from the U.S. Department of Education along with millions of reviews from students and alumni.

In the Fall of 2018 USC Sumter was recognized as Military Friendly School by Victor Media, a national recognition highlighting schools that demonstrate excellence in their efforts to assist military personnel transitioning into civilian life.

In the Spring of 2018 USC Sumter was again voted best college in Sumter for the 17th year in a row by Sumter Item Newspaper readers. More than 100,00 votes from the community were recorded for the 2018 Best of Sumter contest. The Sumter Item Newspaper reaches more than 150,000 unique users each month through print and digital products and is the primary media outlet for Sumter, Lee and Clarendon counties.

### Instructional Modalities

USC Sumter has offered traditional face-to-face along with various distributive education modalities for several years now. What is new to this Academic Year is increase in offerings available for distributive education and explicit consideration of distributive education experience and skill sets in new tenure track faculty hiring procedures.

### Program Launches

No new Academic programs launched in AY 2018-2019.

### Program Terminations

No Academic programs terminated in AY 2017-2018.

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## ACADEMIC INITIATIVES

### AY2018-2019 ONLY

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#### Experiential Learning for Undergraduates

USC Sumter is actively participating in the USC connect Graduation with Leadership Distinction Program (GLD). The Faculty Organization is facilitating the growth of GLD through faculty service involvement. To facilitate the GLD program USC Sumter faculty has begun teaching the EDLP 520 (Teacher as Manager), UNIV 401 (Senior Capstone Experience), and PCAM 205 (Foundations of Leadership) courses as part of its UNIV 101 Peer Leader Program. USC Sumter has the distinction of graduating the first student and the most students in the program among the PC Campuses.

#### Affordability

Along with the other PC Campuses USC Sumter continues to offer the lowest rates of tuition in the USC System. USC Sumter continues to waive and subsidize fees for military personnel as needed. USC Sumter granted approximately \$87,000 in private scholarship support over the 2018-2019 Academic Year. Utilizing state Lottery Scholarship funds our new Early College Program allows select, highly qualified high school students an opportunity to earn an Associate degree upon completion of high school, tuition free. Our expanding dual enrollment program offers many other high school students the same tuition free opportunity for up to 24 hours of Carolina Core college credit. Utilizing Lottery Scholarship funds and institutional subsidies our Sumter's Scholars program offers free tuition for first-time fulltime freshman that finished in the top 15% of their high school class cohorts. USC Sumter offers free tutoring, and qualifying students have access to a robust U.S. Department of Education Trios Student Support Services program providing a host of free academic and student support services. USC Sumter strives to keep the cost of services like parking to a minimum.

#### Reputation Enhancement

Not directly applicable on USC Columbia; though please note sections on Faculty Research and Scholarly Activity, Alumni and Fundraising, Community Perception, and Collaborations, all of which provide activities, programs and initiatives that contribute to reputational enhancement of USC Sumter, USC Columbia and other Senior campuses of the USC System.

#### Challenges

Increasing enrollment at USC Sumter continues to be a primary focus, and the tuition differential between us and CCTC next door is a monumental hurdle for recruiting students. Many of the students we serve are first generation students who have little experience or understanding of the white-collar job market. Further, they see the promises from CCTC of free tuition, lower admissions standards, and promises of a high paying technical job at a local plant as a better "deal" than a four-year time commitment, paying higher tuition, to get a job they don't have much personal experience with or understanding of (e.g., middle-management, professional services, etc.).

Recruiting students in this climate of competition is difficult, but several things would help. We need to add campus housing to attract a talented student body from across the state to come here, see the careers

that are available in Sumter, and to recognize that Sumter is quickly becoming a destination of choice for major employers. Additional tuition mitigation would help us compete with CCTC—we need to be able to offer the same free-tuition programs as CCTC does. Finally, improved facilities to provide state-of-the-art educational experiences would greatly help recruiting and educational efforts.

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## **FACULTY INFORMATION**

### **AY2017-2018 ONLY**

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#### **Research and Scholarly Activity**

To this point this academic year, faculty at USC Sumter have produced 5 book chapters, 14 peer review articles and publications, and 1 peer review book review; while making 39 academic conference presentations. There have also be 11 instances of USC Sumter faculty serving as editor or on editorial review boards for peer review publications or serving as referees or judges in a peer reviewed context. Challenges involve striking a balance between teaching, scholarship and service at a campus institutionally organized as a teaching institution. The mission prioritizes teaching and places a demanding teaching load on full-time faculty. Efforts to provide course load reductions and sabbaticals to enhance research productivity continue as resources and circumstances reasonably allow.

#### **Faculty Development**

Faculty are offered up to \$1,500 in travel costs each year to present research at Academic Conferences. Faculty are invited to take part in USC Sumter Seminar Series to present their work for feedback. Faculty are encouraged to apply for grants including Aspire, RISE and USC Sumter Summer Stipend to support research projects. Faculty may apply for a course reduction in order to facilitate research. Faculty may apply for a sabbatical to facilitate research. Faculty performing research are honored each year at Faculty Scholarship Reception.

#### **Other Activity**

USC Sumter Faculty participated in 8 Poetry readings/creative writing performances; 1 play performed; and 6 films screened

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## TEACHING AY2018-2019 ONLY

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### Faculty to Student Ratios\*

What does the quantitative data reflect on the faculty student ratio? Do you agree with the data? Why or why not? Please describe your plans for the future to impact this ratio?

\*The student to faculty ration calculation is as follows:  $(Total\ FT\ Students + 1/3PT\ Students)/(Total\ FT\ Instructional\ Faculty + 1/3\ PT\ instructional\ Faculty) + Staff\ who\ teach.$

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# STUDENT RECRUITING AND RETENTION

## AY2018-2019 ONLY

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### Student Recruitment

Establishing a sustainable student recruitment and onboarding plan has been a top priority for the Enrollment Services group. Increased high school visits and enhanced follow-up communication plans have helped streamline the process for new students, moving prospects to enrollments in a quicker and more efficient manner. Utilization of the CRM, SMS texting, and e-mail and phone campaigns have also contributed to an increase in applicants, admits, and new enrollments.

In addition, the admissions processing unit has been reorganized to review and make decisions on applicant files in a more timely and efficient manner. This reorganization has led to significant increases in early admit decisions over the previous year.

### Student Retention

The University of South Carolina is committed to attracting and admitting students who are likely to be successful and who will return to us for a second year (at least). The school offers a number of services and opportunities that are designed to aid in student retention. These efforts are directed both at the academic success of the students as well as their social and cultural development.

From the academic side, USC Sumter offers faculty-led academic advising. Faculty members are paired with students whose professed academic goals align with the training and interests of the faculty. This level of familiarity with both the programs and the students allow for more effective advising on the part of the advisor.

USC Sumter also offers tutoring services free of charge for students in the areas in which many students often struggle. These include, math, the sciences, foreign language, and writing among others. These services are centralized in the Anderson Library with regularly scheduled hours and appointment capability. The use of these services has been strong.

For at-risk students and those suffering from disabilities, USC Sumter has had a Trio program (OSP) operating on campus form many years. This federally-funded program offers additional academic support for students who have met certain eligibility standards. Furthermore, USC Sumter has a dedicated Disability Services coordinator who can offer academic support services for students who have been diagnosed with any disability which impacts their learning.

Campus-wide campaigns through electronic and traditional communication channels have proven successful in promoting early next-term registration and providing effective ongoing follow-up for students who are not enrolled.

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## FACULTY AWARDS AY2018-2019 ONLY

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List those faculty members that were **nominated for awards** this academic year. Please note: Regional is generally defined as the Southeast US, which the Association of American Geographers describes as including Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Date	Award Type	Nominated Last Name	Nominated First Name	Region	Award Title	Awarding Organization
	<i>Indicate the type of Award: Research, Service, or Teaching</i>	<i>Provide the Last Name of the faculty member receiving the award</i>	<i>Provide the First Name of the faculty member receiving the award</i>	<i>Provide the region of the award</i>	<i>Provide the formal Title of the Award</i>	<i>Provide the formal name of the organization which issued the award.</i>
	Service	2018-2019 Nomination in Process		Internal	Hugh T. Stoddard, Sr., Outstanding Faculty Award	USC Sumter Faculty Organization
	Service	2018-2019 Nomination in Process		Internal	USC Sumter Student Government Association, Teacher of the Year Award	USC Sumter Student Government Association
	Research	2018-2019 Nomination in Process		Internal	Jean-Luc Grosso Scholarship Award for Outstanding Faculty Scholarship	USC Sumter Faculty Organization

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## **ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT AND FUNDRAISING AY2018-2019 ONLY**

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### **Alumni**

This year USC Sumter was very aggressive in reaching USC Sumter Alum. A text message was sent out to 3,000+ cell phone numbers requesting an updated mailing address. Then 4,200 letters with Alumni Association applications were mailed out. And, an email went out to any alum whose letter was returned. So far, these efforts have increased the Alumni Association by 91%. USC Sumter is still tweaking it's database for the Alumni Association. This year the Bigger Wednesday event was brought back after being non-existent for three years. The community was very supportive and the USC Sumter Alumni Association plans to continue this event in the fall of 2019. The Alumni Council has also decided to bring back Dancing with the Sumter Stars. Plans are still in process for this event. Council, members serve as University Ambassadors at both institutional and community events, organize Alumni events, facilitate Alumni fundraising, and in general help establish and maintain strong stakeholder networks within the Universities service area communities. The Council meets approximately once a month. A newsletter to help encourage participation and new membership in the Alumni Association is being developed as are plans for community businesses to reward Alumni Association members with discounts. The Alumni Council will also serve lunch at this year's commencement luncheon.

### **Development, Fundraising and Gifts**

Prior to AY 2014-2015, the creation of new endowed scholarships averaged 2-3 per year. In AY 2014-2015 we added 16 new endowed scholarships, and in AY 2015-2016 and AY 2016-2017 we added 8 new endowed scholarships. We are on track for a similar number this year. In addition, in AY 2014-2015 we secured \$500,000 from the State Legislature for the \$7 million Science Building renovation project. Since that time, we raised another \$1.5 million from the State, \$500,000 from the County, \$25,000 each from two local companies and another promised \$100,000 from Palmetto Health Tuomey. We also secured in December 2016 a land donation valued at \$30,000. We secured \$50,000 in funds to serve as "seed" money in a dollar-for-dollar matching program for new endowed scholarships in AY 2015-2016, and another \$50,000 from the same donor with the same aim for AY 2016-2017. We received \$100,000 from the same donor in AY 2017-2018 for the matching program. We are also aggressively seeking grants and donations to go towards the renovation of our auditorium and a new Sim Lab for our newly established Nursing BSN program.



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## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AY2018-2019 ONLY

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### Community Perceptions

USC Sumter is taking a leadership role in promoting the mission of USC Connect and the Graduation with Leadership Distinction. This service-learning oriented strategy creates novel networking opportunities for students, faculty, staff and myriad community actors, and expands upon existing community networks. USC Sumter's Opportunity Scholars Program, a federally funded TRIOS Student Support Services program with a substantive history of community outreach actively supports this process along with mentors organized by the Faculty Organization.

USC Sumter's Athletic Department has a substantive history of providing student athletes opportunities for community interaction and service on myriad levels, including a focus on philanthropic fundraising events and activities.

The location and quality of facilities, and physical and human resources, continue to promote the coordination of active utilization of such resources by local private and public sector organizations such as the Red Cross, the South Carolina Department of Corrections and SAFE Federal Credit Union.

Over the past few years USC Sumter has received several Awards independently solicited and independently evaluated by community members or individuals beyond our campus, city, and state that attest to positive community perceptions of the campus.

In AY 2017-2018 USC Sumter won the Sumter Item's "Best College" award for the 15th time in 16 years. The campus also recently received designation as a Military Friendly School by Victory Media f, recognition of efforts aimed toward military personnel transitioning into civilian life. This is the fourth year in a row that USC Sumter has received this designation. Likewise, USC Sumter was recently designated a STEM Jobs Approved College by the same organization. And for the 2017-2018 Academic Year we also received Victory Media's designments as a Military Friendly Spouse school.

In 2018-2019 USC Sumter began administering a five-year \$1.2 million dollar grant from the U.S. Department of Education to begin a TRIOS Upward Bound Program with a local high school in its service area. As a brand new federal grant, we are currently in the process of developing assessments of resource needs such as staffing and facility needs that upon were not necessarily anticipatable when the grant proposal's plan of action was formulated.

Niche, a website that helps students discover the schools and neighborhoods that are right for them, released its 2019 College Rankings. The University of South Carolina Sumter was named the #5 Best Community College in America. Niche analyzes 4,271 colleges to create rankings and Niche Grades for all aspects of campus life, including academics, student life and value. These rankings and grades are based on rigorous analysis of academic, admissions, financial and student life data from the U.S. Department of Education along with millions of reviews from students and alumni.

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In the Spring of 2018 USC Sumter was again voted best college in Sumter for the 17th year in a row by Sumter Item Newspaper readers. More than 100,00 votes from the community were recorded for the 2018 Best of Sumter contest. The Sumter Item Newspaper reaches more than 150,000 unique users each

month through print and digital products and is the primary media outlet for Sumter, Lee and Clarendon counties.

In an effort to open the campus to the community, USC Sumter partnered for the second year in a row with the local farmer's market to provide a location for vendors to sell their farm-to-table goods to residents. Items like organic meats, honey, handmade bird houses, local grown produce and more can be found each Friday on the campus grounds.

USC Sumter has long coordinated with a community-based USC Sumter Associates program, which currently has 65 dues paying members, to share information and updates about campus activities and initiatives, and to channel the solicitation of the community input needed to ensure continuation of our mission.

This year, like each year, we fund and participate in a variety of Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis and Rotary Club events, and faculty engaged in 78 separate Service activities involving external community stakeholders.

## Incentivizing Faculty Engagement

Faculty engagement in teaching, research and service is central to each faculty member's annual, and peer review processes and ultimately serve as the basis of their tenure and promotion decisions. Faculty are provided travel money, many Library resources, including access to USC Columbia holdings, and formal and informal links to institutions in Sumter including, the Sumter County Gallery of Art, the Sumter Little Theatre, the Sumter County Library, the Sumter County Museum, among others.

An endowed grant from the Korn Trust affords faculty from the Division of Arts & Letters funding for various cultural events and the annual sponsorship a public Seminar series. Internal stipends exist to sponsor faculty for summer research projects and initiatives. Active administrative and Faculty Organization leadership exists for the pursuit of RISE grants.

Four endowed Chairs support the exhibition of excellence by USC Sumter faculty: the McDavid Professorship of Business & Economics; the Williams-Brice-Edwards Professor of Social Science; the Julian T. Buxton Professor of Business Administration; and the R.J. "Chic" Mathis Professorship.

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## **COLLABORATIONS**

### **AY2018-2019 ONLY**

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#### **Internal Collaborations**

Cooperative Baccalaureate degree programs in Liberal Studies and Organizational Leadership with Palmetto College, USC Columbia

Cooperative Baccalaureate degree programs in Early Childhood Education and Elementary Education with the College of Education, USC Upstate.

Cooperative Baccalaureate degree program in Business Administration with the School of Business, USC Aiken.

#### **External Collaborations**

Cooperative 2+2=Success Nursing Degree Path: Bachelor of Science in Nursing program with Francis Marion University.

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## **CAMPUS CLIMATE AND INCLUSION**

### **AY2018-2019 ONLY**

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#### **Campus Climate**

USC Sumter promotes a variety of cultural events along with clubs and organizations that include people from all walks of life. The clubs range from interest groups, political groups, leadership, social, professional, sport, religious, etc.

Student experiences with clubs and organizations build networks spanning beyond peer groups and the classroom to include a broader range of activity with faculty, staff, and external University stakeholders. Extra-curricular activities facilitate exposure to situations enabling growth in intrapersonal skills and team building. Such activities provide situation contexts broadening social networks to ameliorate daily interactions on campus and during planned events. Thus, such activities channel a camaraderie among diverse stakeholders into a sustainable campus community.

Each year Student Life promotes and hosts several social events for students, staff and faculty, along with monthly events designed to engage extra and co-curricular activities and a campus “community” of peers. Student involvement continues to improve each semester. As new students join returning students, Student Life capitalizes on the campus excitement and continues to offer engaging activities. Through all clubs and organizations Student Life can “take the pulse” of the campus and add programs that students want and need. Student involvement in campus decision making is critical to mission objectives and a

sustainable campus community. To improve involvement proactive efforts to bolster Student Government and build a stronger Student Activities Board are key focuses for the upcoming year.

Each year our OSP program enables students to attend a Student Leadership & Diversity Conference at on the USC Columbia campus and provides funds for wide variety of students to attend the SC Day at the State House. Each year student Life promotes and holds several social mixers for students, staff and faculty, along with monthly events designed to engage extra and co-curricular activities and a campus “community” of peers.

This year we continued our annual Martin Luther King Day Walk with the campus community and other Sumter community stakeholders. We held poetry readings and faculty seminars associated with topics extending to inclusivity and barriers to inclusivity. We are hosting a Student Leadership Conference in May of 2019 that will involve students in our OSP program, our Global Leadership Distinction program and our Early College program. Currently we plan to continue offering this Student Leadership Conference opportunity every other year in the future.

New student life events are being developed and improved upon, including: Late Night, Bonfire, Movie Nights, Bowling. We expect to have (or had) large student contingents representing USC Sumter at community events: Christmas Parade, Dream Walk, Carolina Day, Halloween Carnival and we hosted a successful Thanksgiving Lunch for students, faculty, and staff.

More than a half dozen very active clubs/orgs. on campus: CCM, Game Club, Apeiron Society, Y.A.L., Spanish Club, I.R.I.S., Arm Wrestling/Grip Club. The University Ambassadors organization continued to grow and transition students into GLD. USC Sumter added on-campus student counseling provided by a licensed counselor.

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## CONCLUDING REMARKS

### AY2018-2019 ONLY

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#### Quantitative Outcomes

Explain any surprises with regard to data provided in the quantitative outcomes module

#### Cool Stuff

This year was the second year of our new women's golf and men's soccer teams. Also, it was the second year of operating agreements with City and County officials for facility usage for baseball, softball, tennis and golf.

This past year USC Sumter continued and grew its new eSports program. The USC Sumter Varsity eSports program provides a competitive environment for students to participate in a variety of games across the intercollegiate landscape. The program growth improved to 20 plus students on the roster and 5 games played. The Overwatch team finished in the final four of a national tournament through NACE. USC Sumter continued partnership with E-Blue and formed a new partnership with ByteSpeed/Gravity Gaming. The first USC Sumter eSports scholarships were awarded. Other SC schools start eSports programs, researched USC Sumter: USC Union, Newberry College, USC Aiken, Lander University, Coker College

Two years ago, we donated property on Theater Drive to the City of Sumter to expand their Tennis Center with plans for the City to help in the construction of a softball field on adjacent property that we own at an appropriate time in the future. Early movement on those projects began last year and continues into this academic year.

This year USC Sumter is putting forth a formal proposal for a plan to develop a food pantry, and clothing and toiletries repository for students who find themselves in need of basic necessities, and in particular for our growing body of international students. Our goal is to create a system of outdoor and indoor food and supply dispensaries, which would serve as an all-encompassing food pantry to accommodate that 50% of USC Sumter students who suffer from severe financial burdens, easing the weight of daily financial stressors thereby making it easier for them to be successful in college and on into the future. The plan calls for this to be operated by student life with hopes of future work-study staffing and incorporation into service-learning projects for a series of classes, to include our Global Leadership Program efforts.

50 physical plant and facilities enhancement projects have been completed since June 2018, including work in the following buildings: ADMIN: Remove old boiler; Nettles: Repair wall (water intrusion); Nettles: New chiller; ADMIN: LED lights interior and exterior; Library: LED lights interior and exterior; BADM: Remove old boiler. Repair have been made to: potholes in various parking lots; Pool and fountains; roof repairs, AC repairs, ceiling repairs; and Soccer field fence . We have made several kitchen renovations (ADMIN, SUB, Nettles, A&L) and numerous IT upgrades.

Science lab renovations are actively occurring, and there are several planned upcoming projects that include: monument and signage, parking lot upgrades, BADM heat pumps, campus wide LED conversion, and a new telephone (VIOP) system.

USC Sumter continues to excel, and outpace almost all of its in-state peer institutions, in success rates and transfer-out rates; while its 6 year 150% time Baccalaureate graduation rates continues to be comparable to its aspirational peers and many South Carolina public 4 year comprehensive institutions of higher education.

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## QUANTITATIVE OUTCOMES

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*The Office of Institutional Research, Assessment and Analytics (OIRAA) will provide the following data. Please print from the electronic system and append these data to your Blueprint. This information will be submitted directly into the electronic Blueprint system by OIRAA.*

Please see links below. Contents of links also displayed at end of report.

[Student Enrollments](#)

[Student Diversity](#)

[Student Outcomes](#)

[Faculty Diversity](#)

[Other Tables](#) - Note: Differences in faculty/student ratios that may appear in the narrative and data sections of this report reflect differences in calculation methodology between IPEDS and the Blueprints - for Blueprints, OIRA computed an FTE for both Student headcount and faculty; whereas, for IPEDS, the calculation represents total headcount divided by total faculty. Our discussion is based on the IPEDS calculation.

*The Office of Research's Information Technology and Data Management will provide the following information for each college/school. Please append this information to your Blueprint. This information will be submitted directly into the electronic Blueprint system by Office of Research.*

- 1) The total number and amount of externally sponsored research proposal submissions by funding source for FY 2017.
- 2) Summary of externally sponsored research awards by funding source for FY 2017. Total extramural funding processed through Sponsored Awards Management (SAM) in FY 2017, and federal extramural funding processed through SAM in FY2017. Amount of sponsored research funding per faculty member in FY 2017 (by rank, type of funding; e.g., federal, state, etc., and by department, if applicable).
- 3) Number of patents, disclosures, and licensing agreements in fiscal years 2015, 2016 and 2017.

### GRANTS

**Awarded:** 3 grants totaling \$633,191

**Source:** Fed - \$630,991 Philanthropic - \$2,200

**Purpose:** Service \$318,036 Training - \$315,155

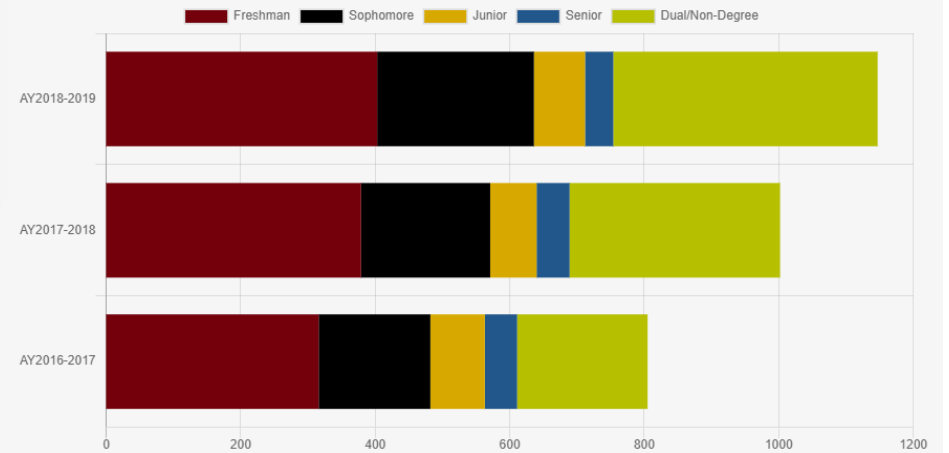
**Sponsor Fed sponsor:** USDE - \$624,991

# Sumter

## Student Enrollments

### Undergraduate Enrollments

	AY2018-2019	AY2017-2018	AY2016-2017
Freshman	403	379	316
Sophomore	233	192	166
Junior	76	69	81
Senior	42	49	48
Dual/Non-Degree	393	313	194

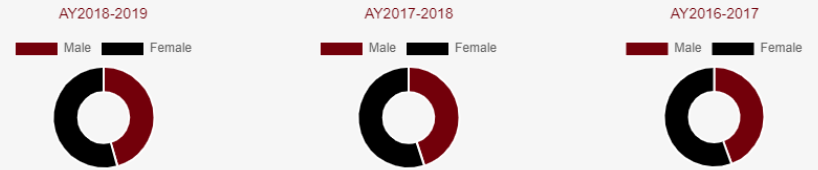


# Sumter

## Student Diversity

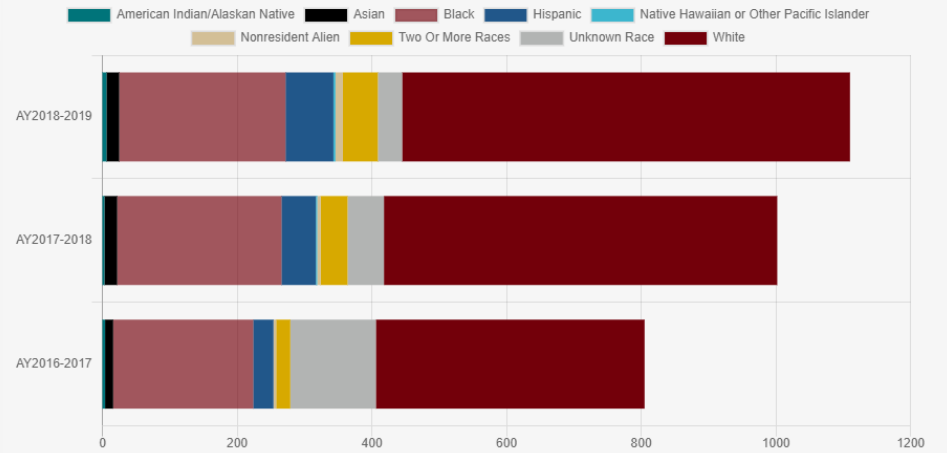
### Undergraduate Gender

	AY2018-2019	AY2017-2018	AY2016-2017
Male	506	451	357
Female	604	551	448



### Undergraduate Race Diversity

	AY2018-2019	AY2017-2018	AY2016-2017
American Indian/Alaskan Native	6	3	4
Asian	19	19	12
Black	247	244	208
Hispanic	71	51	30
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	3	2	0
Nonresident Alien	11	5	4
Two Or More Races	52	40	21
Unknown Race	36	54	127
White	665	584	399



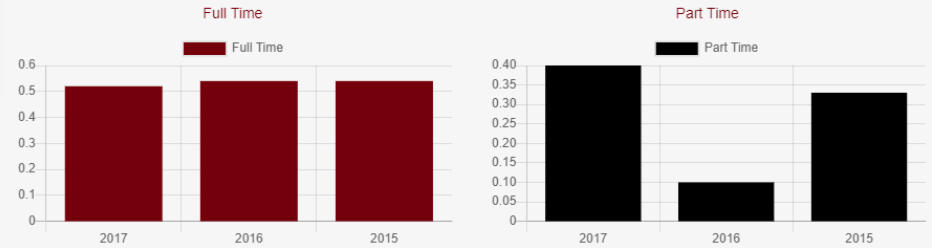


# Sumter

## Student Outcomes

### Undergraduate Retention Rates

	2017	2016	2015	2014
Full Time	0.52	0.54	0.54	
Part Time	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.33



### Degrees Awarded

	AY2018-2019	AY2017-2018	AY2016-2017
Associates	144	117	117
Bachelors	0	0	0
Masters	0	0	0
Doctoral	0	0	0
Graduate Certificate	0	0	0
Medical Doctorates	0	0	0

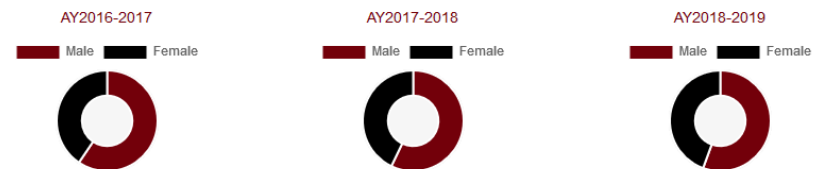


# Sumter

## Faculty Diversity

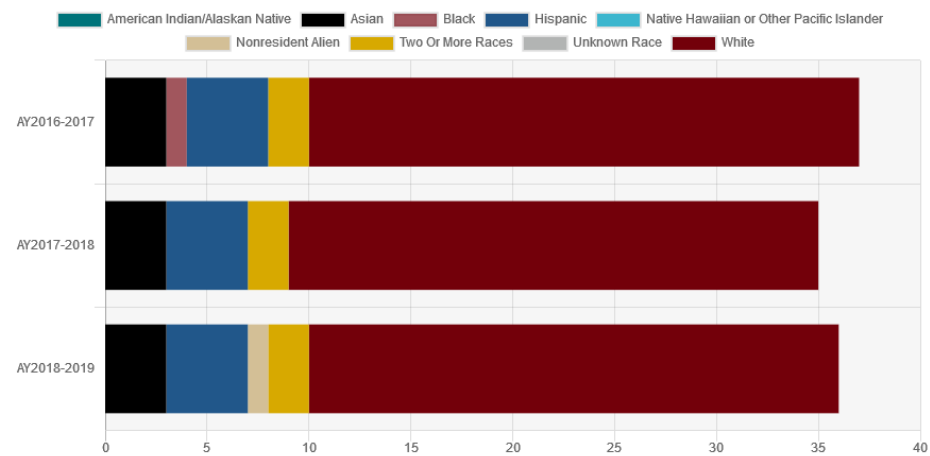
### Faculty Gender

	AY2016-2017	AY2017-2018	AY2018-2019
Male	22	20	20
Female	15	15	16



### Faculty Race Diversity

	AY2016-2017	AY2017-2018	AY2018-2019
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0	0
Asian	3	3	3
Black	1	0	0
Hispanic	4	4	4
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Nonresident Alien	0	0	1
Two Or More Races	2	2	2
Unknown Race	0	0	0
White	27	26	26



# Sumter

## Other Tables

### Student Graduation/Transfer Out Rates - Undergraduate

	Fall 2015	Fall 2014	Fall 2013
3 Year Grad Rate	0.288	0.26	0.22
Transfer Out Rate	0.408	0.358	0.474

### Faculty-to-Student Ratio

	AY2018-2019	AY2017-2018	AY2016-2017
Ratio	01:17.9	1:17.36	1:13.83

### Faculty Population by Track and Title

	AY2018-2019	AY2017-2018	AY2016-2017
Professor, with Tenure	15	14	11
Associate Professor, with Tenure	1	4	8
Assistant Professor	7	6	5
Librarian, with Tenure	0	0	0
Research Professor	0	0	0
Research Associate Professor	0	0	0
Research Assistant Professor	0	0	0
Clinical Professor	0	0	0
Clinical Associate Professor	0	0	0
Clinical Assistant Professor	0	0	0
Instructor	13	11	13
Lecturer	0	0	0
Visiting	0	0	0
Adjunct	19	17	18

### Faculty Actions

Departures
Hired
Vacancies
Retention Package

### Student Enrollment by Time Status

	AY2018-2019	AY2017-2018	AY2016-2017
Full-time	585	558	490
Part-time	525	444	315
Full-time	0	0	0
Part-time	0	0	0

### Student Credits Hours

	AY2018-2019	AY2017-2018	AY2016-2017
SCH 100-199	16971	13617	14256
SCH 200-299	4190	3958	4390
SCH 300-399	797	535	738
SCH 400-499	191	207	289
SCH 500-599	78	45	18
SCH 600-699	0	0	0
SCH 700-799	0	0	0
SCH 800-899	0	0	0