



University of South Carolina

New Student Convocation

Wednesday, August 19, 2020
11:00 a.m.

Alma Mater

**“We Hail Thee, Carolina”
(Tune: “Flow Gently, Sweet Afton”)**

We hail thee, Carolina, and sing thy high praise;
With loyal devotion, rememb’ring the days,
When proudly we sought thee, thy children to be;
Here’s a health, Carolina, forever to thee!

Since pilgrims of learning, we entered thy walls
And found dearest comrades in thy classic halls;
We’ve honored and loved thee, as sons faithfully;
Here’s a health, Carolina, forever to thee!

Generations of sons have rejoiced to proclaim
Thy watchword of service, thy beauty and fame
For ages to come shall their rallying cry be;
Here’s a health, Carolina, forever to thee!

Fair shrine of high honor and truth, thou shalt still
Blaze forth as a beacon, thy mission fulfill;
And be crowned by all hearts in a new jubilee;
Here’s a health, Carolina, forever to thee!

G.A. Wauchope

“Here’s a health, Carolina!”

This phrase occurs repeatedly in South Carolina’s Alma Mater, which will be sung at the conclusion of today’s Convocation. The words of the song were penned by Professor George Wauchope of the English department in 1911 and were adopted in 1912. The tune is that of “Flow Gently, Sweet Afton.” Over the years, the custom has arisen of raising the right hand, with the fingers cupped, when the phrase, “Here’s a health, Carolina,” occurs, as if offering a toast. The Alma Mater is always sung with heads uncovered.

The Carolinian Creed

The community of scholars at the University of South Carolina is dedicated to personal and academic excellence. Choosing to join the community obligates each member to a code of civilized behavior.

As a Carolinian...

I will practice personal and academic integrity;

I will respect the dignity of all persons;

I will respect the rights and property of others;

I will discourage bigotry, while striving to learn from differences in people, ideas and opinions;

I will demonstrate concern for others, their feelings, and their need for conditions which support their work and development.

Allegiance to these ideals requires each Carolinian to refrain from and discourage behaviors which threaten the freedom and respect every individual deserves.

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Welcome

Dr. Dennis A. Pruitt

Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost for Academic Support

Presentation of Carolinian Creed and Remarks

Ms. Issy Rushton

Student Body President

Class of 2021

Being a Part of the South Carolina Community

Mr. Julian Williams

Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Convocation Remarks

Dr. Amit Almor

2020 Michael J. Mungo Distinguished Professor of the Year

Associate Professor of Psychology

College of Arts and Sciences

Introduction of your Academic Home and Remarks

Dr. William F. "Bill" Tate IV

Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

President's Remarks

Mr. Robert L. Caslen, Jr.

President

Closing

Dr. Pruitt

Alma Mater

Assembly led by Cockapella, an a cappella ensemble

What is the Convocation Ceremony?

Whether virtual or in person, Convocation marks the coming together of the members of a group — a formal assembly. Our Convocation marks a new beginning, a special time for faculty members, new students, and families.

The first and foremost participants in Convocation are new students and families. You have come to South Carolina from all across the United States and around the world.

Additional participants in Convocation include the president, chief administrator of the University; the provost, its chief academic officer; representatives of the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees, the institution's governing body, to which the president of the University is responsible; and the deans of the schools and colleges, the chief administrators and academic officers of their schools or colleges.

During today's ceremony, you will hear from the president of the University of South Carolina Student Body, the recipient of the 2020 Michael J. Mungo Distinguished Professor of the Year Award, the provost of the University, the University's vice presidents, and the president of the University.

Symbols of the University

The Carolina Mace

The University Mace, fashioned by English silversmith Leslie Durbin, is the symbol of the University's corporate entity and authority, as well as of the endeavors of the University community. The mace, dedicated in 1967, is carried in procession on occasions of importance by the president of Student Government. The head of the mace is gilt, and mounted with the University and state of South Carolina seals, as well as the Great Seal of the United States. From these arise an image of the palmetto, the fronds of which are formed by 13 stars, representing the founding colonies, of which South Carolina is one. The shaft is decorated with eight stars, reminding us that South Carolina was the eighth state to enter the Union. The mace was given by Dr. George Curry, then secretary of the Board of Trustees, to honor Susan Richardson Guignard, a devoted family friend of Dr. Curry.

The President's Medallion

The significance of the mace is mirrored in the President's Medallion and Chain of Office, designating the wearer as the temporary embodiment of the University's power and authority. The gift of the medallion accompanied the gift of the mace. The silver Chain of Office was commissioned in 1991 by the Presidential Candidate Search Committee.

The Carolina Seal and Motto

The University seal was adopted in 1803 and is composed of two figures representing Liberty and Minerva, Roman goddess of wisdom, whose shield is a representation of the seal of the state of South Carolina. The motto on the seal is *Emollit Mores Nec Sinit Esse Feros* — “Learning humanizes character and does not permit it to be cruel” — written by the Roman poet Ovid early in the first century. These words also appear on its banner, on the diplomas it awards and on the front of this program. They epitomize the ideal upon which the University was founded.

Gonfalons

The University of South Carolina's spring 2012 commencement marked the inaugural presentation of gonfalons as part of the academic ceremonies. Gonfalons are heraldic flags or banners that were first used by Italian medieval cities to display coats of arms or other insignia. In modern times, the colorful banners have been adopted by many universities around the world as part of the pageantry of commencement.

The University of South Carolina has 23 gonfalons, one for each of the institution's eight campuses, one for the Palmetto College and one for each of the 14 degree-granting colleges and schools on the Columbia campus. An intercollegiate code defines the traditional discipline colors for each college or school; gonfalons for the regional and senior campuses and Palmetto College are inspired by the colors of each campus.

University of South Carolina

A Historical Note

“Faithful Index to the Ambitions and Fortunes of the State.”

For more than 200 years, the University of South Carolina has promoted academic excellence in service to the citizens of its state. Chartered in 1801 as South Carolina College, the University of South Carolina was the first state university to be supported continuously by annual state appropriations. In the years before the Civil War, it rapidly achieved a reputation as one of the best endowed and most distinguished colleges in the United States. The pre-Civil War campus included Longstreet Theatre and all the buildings in the area we know as the Horseshoe except McKissick.

The institution went through six reorganizations and a period of closure (1877–1880) during the last decades of the 19th century, while legislators, administrators and faculties reassessed the institution's goals and struggled to define its mission. They reopened it in 1880 as an all-white agricultural college, and during the next 25 years the institution became enmeshed in the state's political upheaval. South Carolina went through several reorganizations in which the curriculum changed and its status shifted from college to university and back again. The University also struggled to adjust to the arrival of intercollegiate athletics in 1892 and the admission of white women in 1894. Finally, in 1906, at the beginning of its second century, South Carolina was rechartered for the third, and last, time as the University of South Carolina, with the addition of a graduate school.

In 1963, the University of South Carolina became desegregated. As the result of a federal court order, Henrie D. Monteith, Robert Anderson and James Solomon became the first African American students to enroll at the University in the 20th century. Minority enrollment would continue to grow in their wake and was complemented by a substantial international student population in subsequent decades.

In addition to the Columbia campus, the University system today includes three four-year campuses (Aiken, Beaufort, Upstate) and four regional campuses (Lancaster, Salkehatchie, Sumter, Union). Enrollment on all campuses totals more than 52,000. Of these students, more than 33,000 are on the Columbia campus, which includes more than 7,700 graduate and professional students.

The University of South Carolina continues to build its programs for a bright future. Many of its academic programs rank in the top 25 nationally, and its University 101 program for new students is among the best of its kind. South Carolina's University 101 program is ranked first in the nation for its first-year experience, according to *U.S. News & World Report*. In a ranking of public university honors colleges, UofSC received the highest designation awarded according to the guide “A Review of Fifty Public University Honors Programs.”

Colleges and Schools of the University and their Dates of Founding

College of Arts and Sciences (1801)

School of Law (1867)

College of Education (1888)

College of Pharmacy (1888)

The Graduate School (1906)

College of Engineering and Computing (1909)

The Darla Moore School of Business (1919)

College of Information and Communications (1923)

College of Nursing (1957)

College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management (1965)

College of Social Work (1969)

Norman J. Arnold School of Public Health (1974)

School of Medicine (1974)

South Carolina Honors College (1978)

School of Music (1994)

School of Medicine Greenville (2010)

Palmetto College (2013)

University of South Carolina

Board of Trustees

The University is governed on behalf of the people of South Carolina by a Board of Trustees. Sixteen trustees are elected by the General Assembly, one from each Judicial Circuit. There are three ex-officio members, including the governor of South Carolina or a designee, the state superintendent of education and the president of the University of South Carolina Alumni Association. There is also one at-large gubernatorial appointee. The president of the Student Government Association and the chair of the Faculty Senate serve as non-voting members of the board.

The current composition of the South Carolina board is as follows:

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Governor of South Carolina
ex officio Chairman

C. Dorn Smith III, M.D.
3rd Judicial Circuit
Chairman

Thad H. Westbrook
11th Judicial Circuit
Vice Chairman

John C. von Lehe Jr.
9th Judicial Circuit
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C. Dan Adams
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Chuck Allen
10th Judicial Circuit

J. Egerton Burroughs
15th Judicial Circuit

Alex English
5th Judicial Circuit

C. Edward Floyd, M.D.
12th Judicial Circuit

Richard A. Jones Jr.
Gubernatorial Appointee

Toney J. Lister
7th Judicial Circuit

Miles Loadholt
2nd Judicial Circuit

Leah B. Moody
16th Judicial Circuit

Rose Buyck Newton
14th Judicial Circuit

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13th Judicial Circuit

Charles H. Williams II
1st Judicial Circuit

J. Cantey Heath Jr.
Secretary

Mark Garrett Cooper
Faculty Senate Chairman

Issy Rushton
Student Body President

University of South Carolina

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Julian R. Williams, J.D., *Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*

University Academic Officials

Cheryl L. Addy, Ph.D., *Vice Provost and Dean of The Graduate School*

Jeannette O. Andrews, Ph.D., *Dean, College of Nursing*

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J. Derham Cole Jr., J.D., *Interim Chancellor, USC Upstate*

Walter P. Collins III, Ph.D., *Palmetto College Campus Dean, USC Lancaster*

M. Ron Cox Jr., Ph.D., *Palmetto College Campus Dean, USC Columbia*

Stephen J. Cutler, Ph.D., *Dean, College of Pharmacy*

Susan A. Elkins, Ed.D., *Chancellor, Palmetto College*

Lacy K. Ford, Ph.D., *Dean, College of Arts and Sciences*

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