Commencement Convocation

2008

Saturday, December 13
Nine O’clock a.m.
Smith-Hammond-Middleton Memorial Center
Orangeburg, South Carolina
The University Seal is comprised of the following carefully sculptured symbols: a palmetto tree, a miniature building and a torch. The Palmetto Tree stands in the center of the seal and represents the official tree of South Carolina. At the base of the tree, on the left, is a miniature of Morrill Hall symbolizing education and history. Morrill Hall, one of the first buildings constructed on the campus was named in recognition of the Morrill Act which established land-grant colleges in the United States. South Carolina State University is a member of the land-grant system. On the right side of the tree is a torch which connotes a deep devotion to truth: “Scientia, Officium, Honos,” meaning **Knowledge, Duty, Honor.**

The Seal is used on all official documents of the University. The Seal was designed for the Inauguration of Dr. M. Maceo Nance, Jr. as fifth president of South Carolina State University in 1968 by Dr. Leo F. Twiggs, Professor of Art at the Institution.

The Mace has an ancient history as a symbol of authority. During the thirteenth century, it was used for civil purposes and during the processions of royalty and other dignitaries.

The Mace symbolizes the autonomy and authority of the University, the Board of Trustees, the administration, and the faculty to grant degrees to graduates and represents one of the oldest traditions in academia. The University Mace was designed by Dr. Clarence W. Hill, School of Engineering Technology and Sciences, during the Fall Semester of 2003. The Mace is carried before the president and other dignitaries of the platform party during commencement and other formal processions.

The University Mace was commissioned by Dr. Andrew Hugine, Jr. and presented during his inaugural ceremony as the ninth President of South Carolina State University. Dr. Hugine’s vision for the design of the mace included “full capture of the strength of the University, as evidenced in its history.” He envisioned the Mace representing “the significant growth, prosperity and vitality for the future of the University.” The Mace design is reflective of and captures the rich history of the University while embracing the challenge to preserve its legacy as a land-grant institution.

A brass multi-ring base supports the 42” elegantly crafted walnut fluted staff with brass rings bearing the names of former University presidents. This ornate feature presents eight bronze engraved panels. Engraved on four of the eight panels are the three historic seals of the University and the seal of the State of South Carolina. On three of the remaining panels are the names of the University from beginning to present. One panel is blank to capture future developments. Two marble plates, one garnet and one blue, serve as the base and top plate for the uppermost part of the Mace. The pinnacle of the Mace is a sphere, having two faces: one face with Morrill Hall, one of the first buildings on the campus, and the second having the President’s Seal, representing the University’s leadership and global presence in higher education.
Saturday Morning, the Thirteenth
of December
Two Thousand and Eight
Nine O’clock a.m.
Smith-Hammond-Middleton Memorial Center
Orangeburg, South Carolina

Contents

The University Two
President’s Message Three
Program Four
Commencement Speaker Five
Candidates for Undergraduate Degrees Six
School of Graduate Studies Eight
Honor Graduates Ten
Commissioned Officers Eleven
The Symbols of Learning Eleven
Chief Administrators Twelve
Honorary Degree Recipients Thirteen
Board of Trustees Fifteen
President’s Cabinet Fifteen
Commencement Committee Sixteen
Alumni Oath Sixteen
Announcements Sixteen
Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing Inside Back Cover
Alma Mater Inside Back Cover
Since its founding in 1896, South Carolina State University has evolved from a small teachers’ college into a major university center of learning.

One of the most attractive campuses in the Southeast, the University is located in Orangeburg, South Carolina, which is centrally located between the capital city of Columbia and the beautiful seaport city of Charleston. South Carolina State University is one of two land-grant institutions in the Palmetto State. The University is state-assisted and draws its students from all over the United States and various foreign countries.

The approximately 5,000 students enrolled at the University have a choice of more than fifty different fields of study on the undergraduate and graduate levels. The academic programs are housed in three colleges and one graduate school. The degree-producing academic divisions of the University include: the College of Business and Applied Professional Sciences; the College of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences; the College of Science, Mathematics and Engineering Technology; and the School of Graduate Studies. The School of Graduate Studies offers programs at the master’s, educational specialist, and doctoral levels as well as three certificate programs. The University also provides undergraduate and graduate courses through Distance Learning and Continuing Education.

In support of its mission as a land-grant institution, South Carolina State University also administers an Extension Program of service to the people of the state of South Carolina. The Institution makes a special effort to contribute to the intellectual and cultural life of the community through numerous co-curricular offerings and special activities such as its lecture series and its lyceum presentations.

The main campus is comprised of 160 acres and more than sixty buildings. Adjacent to the main campus is Queens Village, housing for married students.

South Carolina State University supports seventeen NCAA varsity sports, which have brought the Institution more than eighty-five conference championships and seven national titles.
MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT COOPER

December 13, 2008

Dear Graduates:

Congratulations to you—our December 2008 graduates! Today, your commitment and hard work during your tenure at South Carolina State University is being recognized. We are all here today to share in your success of achieving your academic goals and obtaining your college degree.

While matriculating at SC State University, you have acquired the skill sets necessary to be competitive and successful in life. There were individuals who invested in your education and today you have made good on their investment. Nevertheless, you must not rest on laurels, for there is more work to be done. Life is a journey and today’s graduation marks just one of the many journeys you will take toward ultimate success.

I challenge and charge you to use the knowledge imparted to you to improve upon the community, state, nation and world. I congratulate you on your achievement and offer best wishes in your future endeavors. I ask that you continue to support your Alma Mater and represent her well in all that you do.

Sincerely,

George E. Cooper
President
Commencement Convocation Program

The Program
Dr. George E. Cooper, President ~ Presiding

Prelude. .................................................. Symphonic Band

Academic Processional – *War March of the Priests* Mendelssohn. ......................... Symphonic Band

(Audience is requested to remain seated)

Star-Spangled Banner. Francis Scott Key. .................................................. Audience, Concert Choir and Symphonic Band

Scripture and Invocation. ............................................................... Dr. James Stukes, Associate Professor, Biological Sciences

Music – “The Battle Hymn of the Republic” arranged by Wilhousky. ....................... Concert Choir

Introduction of Speaker. Mr. Lumus Byrd. .................................................. Chairman, SCSU Board of Trustees

Commencement Address. Dr. George E. Cooper. .................................................. President

Conferring of Degrees. President Cooper and Dr. Rita J. Teal. ................................ Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs

Readers:
Dr. Harriett Gregg, Associate Professor of Speech Pathology and Audiology
Dr. Harriet Roland, Associate Professor of Journalism/English

Special Recognitions. President Cooper

Induction of Graduates into the National Alumni Association. Ms. Patricia B. Lott, President South Carolina State University National Alumni Association (Page sixteen)

Remarks. President Cooper

Alma Mater. Audience, Concert Choir and Symphonic Band

Benediction. Dr. Stukes

Recessional - *Pomp and Circumstance* Edward Elgar. .................................................. Symphonic Band

Graduates and Guests: Please remain seated until the platform party and faculty have recessed. At the conclusion of this program, please proceed to the President’s Reception in the Felton Laboratory School Gymnasium. The Reception will begin no later than thirty (30) minutes following the conclusion of the commencement ceremony.

Audience: Please join in the singing of the Alma Mater (Inside back cover).

Mace Bearer
Dr. Rahina Mahtab

Concert Choir
Dr. Richard Beckford, Director

University Bands
Mr. Eddie Ellis, Director

Marshal
Dr. Rita J. Teal
Dr. George Cooper is currently the President of South Carolina State University. Dr. Cooper was selected to be SC State's 10th President on June 6th, 2008 and began his duties on July 16th, 2008. As President, he maintains overall responsibility for the education of approximately 4,500 students in the undergraduate and graduate programs at South Carolina State University.

His broad responsibilities include leadership in the coordination and implementation of planning, development and assessment of all University activities. The President exercises complete and total direction of the institution and administration of its affairs; general supervision over all University activities and personnel, ensuring efficiency in all activities of the institution, and an orderly and progressive development in all of the affairs of the institution.

Dr. Cooper worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) from 1991 - 2008, where he served as Deputy Administrator for Science and Education Resources Development. His broad responsibilities included the coordination of education, research and extension programs in the food and agricultural sciences and international programs. He managed a grants portfolio of approximately $140 million dollars to support: The National Needs Graduate Fellowships Program; Multicultural Scholars; Higher Education Challenge Grants Program; 1890 Universities Teaching and Research Capacity Building Grants Program; Tribal Colleges Endowment Fund; Tribal Colleges Education Equity Grants Program; Tribal Colleges Research Grants Program; Alaska Native-Serving and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions Challenge Grants Program; Agriculture in the Classroom Program; Evans-Allen Research Program; 1890 Cooperative Extension Program; Agriculture in the Classroom Program; 1890 Facilities Program; International Programs; and coordination of the National Awards Program for Excellence in College and University Teaching in the Food and Agricultural Sciences; the CSREES Faculty Fellows Program and the Food and Agriculture Education Information System (FAEIS).

Dr. Cooper's experiences also include serving as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Professor of Animal Science at Alabama A&M University; Associate Professor and Dean of the School of Applied Sciences, and the School of Agriculture and Home Economics at Tuskegee University; Animal Nutritionist with Winrock International Livestock Research and Training Center; and Animal Nutritionist with USDA’s Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service. Dr. Cooper also served on the advisory committee of the Joint Experiment Station Committee or Organization and Policy and Academic Committee on Organization and Policy Leadership Development Program, and continues to serve on a number of advisory committees serving the needs of academic, research and extension programs at land grant colleges and universities, and has traveled extensively in Africa, Central and South America and the Caribbean reviewing, planning and evaluating efforts related to agriculture.

Dr. Cooper has a Bachelor of Science in Animal Husbandry from Florida A&M University, a Master of Science in Animal Science from Tuskegee University, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Animal Nutrition from The University of Illinois at Urbana.
Candidates for Undergraduate Degrees

The academic honors of Summa Cum Laude (3.75-4.00), Magna Cum Laude (3.50-3.74), and Cum Laude (3.00-3.49) are designated in the commencement program for undergraduate students with outstanding scholastic records based on their current cumulative grade point averages where A=4, B=3, C=2 (See page 10).

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SIX
### College of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences–Dr. Gail Joyner-Fleming, Interim Dean

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Bachelor of Science  
Mathematics  
Robert Alexander Brown

Bachelor of Science  
Mechanical Engineering Technology  
Alex Antrawne Brailsford, Curtis J. Hart, Karen Jeanette Holden

Bachelor of Science  
Physics  
Frank Emile Richardson, Angela Denise Whetstone, Brandon Lee Williams

Bachelor of Science  
Mechanical Engineering Technology  
Korressa Morgan Williams

School of Graduate Studies—Dr. Thomas E. Thompson, Dean

Master of Arts  
Rehabilitation Counseling  
Beverly Marchette Chisholm, Kayla Denise Crooks, Dainese Mearn Finley, Jason Cory McNeil, Alvin Preston Milhouse, Alvin P. Milhouse, Simeon A. Moultrie, Kimeka LaShelle Peake, Dana Quattlebaum, Aisha Shantelle Stewart, Courtney Lessie Sweeney, Joel Craig Taylor, Jr., Barbara Ferguson Williams

Master of Arts  
Speech Pathology and Audiology  
Daniella Kenlyn Cordner, Carrie Ophelia Davis, Geraldine Anderson Glenn, Rashida Tanika Hill, Woodrena Cherise Segres, Sonya Teresa Shepard

Master of Arts in Teaching  
Dawn Nolanda Brackett, Robert Jermaine Dantzler, Annette Davis, Melissa Renee Green, Shuniqua Michelle Dewitt Hart, Jarreau Houston, Demetria Kelly, Andrea Louise Perkins, Dorothy Taylor Priester, Ti-Esha Dine' Williams-Vaughn

Master of Education  
Elementary Education  
Monica Rochelle Owens, Senovia Washington Spann

Master of Education  
Special Education  
Rhonda Townsend Berry

Master of Science  
Individual and Family Development  
James Ronald Amerson, Jr., Shimere Ireena Cooper, Kristina Maria Fulton

Master of Science  
Nutritional Sciences  
Gore, Tia L.; Thesis: "Childhood Obesity and Factors Associated with Childhood Obesity"

Educational Specialist  
Dietra Jameine Holmes
Verna P. Holmes
Herk Lavar Huggins
Anita Lorrie Hunter
*Teresa Chaquata Jennings
*Maggie Johnson
Kelly J. Jordan
Thomasina Denise Lee
Charnaine Yvette Leffit
Cynthia Oxford Martin
Paul James Martin, Sr.
*Tammy Faith Martin
John Alvin McMillan
Cynthia Sherese Menter
Wanda Bostick Mouzon
Marshell Jenkins Mulligan
*Barbara Samuels Nesmith
*Karen Yevonne Nesmith
Charity Eziome Ntiasagwe
Eula B. Page
Lynette Martin Pannell
Karen Green Parker
Vernita Monique Axson Quarterman
Otis Reed, Jr.
*Vervatine Alston Reid
*Howell Legrande Richardson
Nakita Annette Robinson
*Natalie Benetrice Sarvis
Veronica L. Scott
Monica Latricia Simmons
*Tiffany Simpson
Solomon Smalls
Darryl Priestley Stanley
LaVern Antoinette Stewart
*Shimethia Regina Stinson
Taria Dianne Stokes
Cynthia M. Taste
Stephanie Marie Taylor
Carolyn Harris Thomas
John Cedrick Thomas
Pamela Lorine Vereen
*Flury Gamble Wilson

Robert Newton Hellams
*Kim Jackson-Allen
Anita Diane Locus-Sanders
Gwendolyn Walker Nipple
Samantha Pope Nobles
Lillian Elizabeth Powell
Marlon LaBar Thomas

Anita Diane Locus-Sanders
Dissertation:
The Impact of Traditional Versus Alternative Teacher Preparation Programs on Novice Teachers’ Perceptions of Preparedness to Teach in Five Rural School Districts in South Carolina
Dr. Mary L. Grimes, Advisor

Rose Marie Boyles
Dissertation:
A Comparison of the Academic Performance of Students with Mild Disabilities Receiving Instruction from Internationally Certified and Traditionally Certified Teachers
Dr. Casimir Kowalski, Advisor

Polly Allen Elkins
Dissertation:
An Investigation of Teacher Recruitment and Retention Practices in Rural School Districts in South Carolina
Dr. Charlie G. Spell, Advisor

Kim Jackson-Allen
Dissertation:
The Relationship Between High School Grade Point Average, the Scholastic Aptitude Test I and College Success of African-American Students
Dr. Charlie G. Spell, Advisor

Gwendolyn Walker Nipple
Dissertation:
Family Structure and Academic Achievement: The Impact of Single-Parent and Two-Parent Family Structure on the Student Achievement of 3rd and 5th Grade Students in One Rural School District in Georgia
Dr. Charlie G. Spell, Advisor

Samantha Pope Nobles
Dissertation:
A Comparative Analysis of MAP Testing and Seventh Grade Student Achievement in a Rural School District in South Carolina
Dr. Charlie G. Spell, Advisor

Regina Denise Hagood
Dissertation:
Educators’ Perceptions of School Choice in Selected Urban Schools in North Carolina
Dr. Michael Boatwright, Advisor

Nathaniel Bryan
Dissertation:
Financial Investment in School Safety and School Violence Incidents in Public Schools in South Carolina: Does Money Really Matter?
Dr. Necati Engec, Advisor

Ida Dash Damon
Dissertation:
Teachers’ Perceptions of Inclusion Programs
Dr. Necati Engec, Advisor

Robert Newton Hellams
Dissertation:
A Comparative Analysis of Principals’ and Teachers’ Perceptions of Bullying in Middle Schools in Three South Carolina School Districts
Dr. Necati Engec, Advisor

Lillian Elizabeth Powell
Dissertation:
The Relationship between Reading Comprehension and Oral Reading Fluency in Third Grade
Dr. Necati Engec, Advisor

Marlon LaBar Thomas
Dissertation:
A Descriptive Study of the Distribution of National Board Certified Teachers among South Carolina Public School Districts Delineated by Performance Rating
Dr. Necati Engec, Advisor

Anita Diane Locus-Sanders
Dissertation:

Rose Marie Boyles
Dissertation:

Polly Allen Elkins
Dissertation:

Kim Jackson-Allen
Dissertation:

Gwendolyn Walker Nipple
Dissertation:

Samantha Pope Nobles
Dissertation:

+ In Absentia
* July 2008

Appearance of a name in this program is presumptive evidence of graduation and graduation honors, but it must not be regarded as conclusive. The signed and sealed diploma of South Carolina State University remains the official testimony of the possession of the degree. The names in this program list the graduation candidates for December 2008.
The academic honors of Summa Cum Laude (3.75-4.00), Magna Cum Laude (3.50-3.74), and Cum Laude (3.00-3.49) are designated in the Commencement Program for undergraduate students with outstanding scholastic records based on their current cumulative quality point averages where A=4, B=3, C=2 (See page 10).

South Carolina State University Salutes Its Honor Graduates!

College of Business and Applied Professional Sciences

Magna Cum Laude
Juliet Jones
Celeste M. Singletary

Cum Laude
Bernice Lashena Bellamy
Melinda Blue
Ashleigh Lynn Bowman
Corey Lashawn Brown
Krystal M. Edwards*
Lauren Marie Emrich
Cassandra Renee Hodges
Nadirah K. Jones
Prince Devon Kernoh
Clacinda Eyvette Mayes
Chala Renee Pendergrass
Jennifer I. Perkins
Tonia Davis Polite
Gifty Sarfo-Addai
Allison Felicia Taylor

College of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences

Summa Cum Laude
Carmen Samyra Edwards
Tonia Marie Felix
Thurayya Helena Umbayemake

Magna Cum Laude
Elisa Yolanda Holman
Kiwonda Detrell Riley*
Melinda Shannon Rucker
Angela Terry

Cum Laude
Jeffrey Lamont Coleman
Shandrea N. Dowling
April P. Gibson
Judy Ginyard
Rasheeda Jones*
Brittney Nicole Nimmons
Germera Evette Owens
Crystal Nicole Reed
Donel Levar Singleton, Jr.
Janell Patrice Walker
Brian C. Williams

College of Science, Mathematics and Engineering Technology

Cum Laude
Tammy Denise McKnight
Carlton Payne, III
Frank Emile Richardson
Brandon Lee Williams
Terence Denneco Williams
The Symbols of Learning

The Academic Procession

The academic procession of today’s commencement exercises is made up of candidates for degrees, members of the faculty, members of the Board of Trustees, and members of the platform party marching in that order. After the ceremony, the order of march is reversed except that graduates are dismissed at their seats.

The order of march is in accordance with academic protocol which was established centuries ago when academic ceremonies were predominantly directed by the clergy. In keeping with the familiar order of the religious procession, the younger and newer groups precede the older, and the place of highest honor is at the end of the procession.

Academic Attire

The academic costume worn at American college exercises today dates back in its essential features to the Middle Ages. The oldest universities of northern Europe, such as Paris and Oxford, grew out of church schools. Students and faculty wore clerical garb, largely borrowed from the monastic dress of their day.

The head-covering of the academic costume developed out of the skull cap worn by the clergy in cold weather. In the universities, this skull cap acquired a point on top which gradually evolved into a tassel. In this country, it has been replaced by the familiar mortar-board, which still retains the medieval tassel.

The hood was originally worn over the head, and otherwise dropped onto the shoulders, like a cowl. Today, each college or university has its distinctively colored hood-lining, by which its graduates may be recognized in academic processions.

The gown worn today seems to have been borrowed from the habit of the Benedictine monks. At medieval institutions of higher learning, undergraduate and graduate degree candidates could be distinguished by the simplicity or elaborateness of their gowns. The graduate degree candidates’ gowns were often furred, a feature that survives today in the ornamentation found on doctoral gowns.

In keeping with long established traditions, graduates of South Carolina State University continue to wear black robes with an Oxford mortarboard cap and a black tassel. Baccalaureate students graduating with the distinctive honors of cum laude, magna cum laude, and summa cum laude wear gold tassels, stoles, and honor cords, as appropriate. Candidates for the bachelor’s and master’s degrees wear color hoods designating their academic disciplines, and Doctor of Education candidates wear the light blue hood of their discipline, as well as fur-ornamented robes, which display three stripes on each sleeve.

The colors for academic disciplines, established by the American Council on Education, include white for arts, letters, and humanities; drab for business administration, commerce and accountancy; crimson for communication and journalism; copper for economics; light blue for education; brown for fine arts; purple for law; lemon for library science; green for medicine; pink for music; apricot for nursing; silver gray for oratory; dark blue for philosophy; sage green for physical education; peacock blue for public administration; golden yellow for science; citron for social science; and scarlet for theology and divinity.
Division of Academic Affairs–Chief Administrators

Dr. Rita J. Teal, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Learie Luke, Interim Associate Vice President for Faculty and Programs
Dr. Christine Boone, Interim Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs

Deans

Dr. Robert T. Barrett, Dean, College of Business and Applied Professional Sciences
Dr. Gail Joyner-Fleming, Interim Dean, College of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences
Dr. Kenneth Lewis, Dean, College of Science, Mathematics and Engineering Technology
Dr. Thomas Thompson, Dean, School of Graduate Studies
Ms. Adrienne C. Webber, Dean, Library and Information Services

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Dr. Gwendolyn D. Wilson, Chair, Health Sciences
Dr. Barbara Adams, Interim Chair, Accounting, Agribusiness and Economics
Dr. Gerald Gonsalves, Chair, Business Administration
LTC Heyward Stackhouse, Professor of Military Science
Dr. Evelyn Fields, Chair, Education
Dr. Ghussan R. Greene, Chair, English and Modern Languages
Dr. Tolulope Filani, Chair, Visual and Performing Arts
Dr. Cassandra L. Sligh-DeWalt, Chair, Human Services
Dr. Benedict Jua, Chair, Social Sciences
Dr. Judith Salley-Guydon, Chair, Biological and Physical Sciences
Dr. James E. Keller, Chair, Mathematics and Computer Science
Dr. Stanley Ihekweazu, Chair, Civil and Mechanical Engineering Technology
Dr. A. M. Hasanul Basher, Chair, Industrial and Electrical Engineering Technology

Records and Registration

Mrs. Annie R. Belton, Registrar
Mrs. Felicia McMillan, Assistant Registrar
Honorary Degree Recipients

His Excellency Amani Abeid Karume Doctor of Laws 2008
Donald Beatty Doctor of Laws 2007
Hugh K. Leatherman, Sr. Doctor of Laws 2007
Reg Weaver Doctor of Public Service 2007
Philip Simons Doctor of Fine Arts 2006
Inez M. Tenenbaum Doctor of Laws 2005
George H. Grace Doctor of Humane Letters 2005
John Hope Franklin Doctor of Humane Letters 2005
Henry Nehemiah Tisdale Doctor of Laws 2004
Lindsey Olan Graham Doctor of Laws 2004
Harry Briggs* Doctor of Laws 2004
Eliza Briggs* Doctor of Laws 2004
Levi Pearson* Doctor of Laws 2004
Essie Mae Washington-Williams Doctor of Education 2004
Earl G. Graves Doctor of Laws 2004
Mark Sanford Doctor of Laws 2003
Leroy Davis, Sr. Doctor of Laws 2002
Clifford L. Stanley Doctor of Laws 2002
Dr. Benjamin F Payton Doctor of Laws 2001
Mrs. Crandall C. Bowles Doctor of Laws 2001
Kay Patterson Doctor of Laws 2000
James F. Barker Doctor of Education 2000
Charles P Austin Doctor of Public Service 2000
John Hurst Adams Doctor of Humane Letters 2000
James Hovis Hodges Doctor of Laws 1999
Albert Gore, Jr. Doctor of Laws 1998
Kenneth L. Chenault Doctor of Humane Letters 1997
Joel A. Smith, III Doctor of Humane Letters 1996
Ernest Finney, Jr. Doctor of Laws 1996
James E. Clyburn Doctor of Humane Letters 1995
Annabelle Spann Boykin Doctor of Humane Letters 1995
William E. Simms Doctor of Humane Letters 1995
John E. Jacob Doctor of Humane Letters 1995
Reatha Clark King Doctor of Humane Letters 1995
Carl A. Carpenter Doctor of Humane Letters 1994
Johnnetta B. Cole Doctor of Humane Letters 1994
L. Douglas Wilder Doctor of Humane Letters 1994
Trudelle Willetta Wimbush Doctor of Education 1994
Rodell Lawrence Doctor of Laws 1992
John W. Matthews, Jr. Doctor of Laws 1990
Harold J. Mackey Doctor of Humane Letters 1990
Maude E. Callen*  | Doctor of Humane Letters  | 1990
Earle E. Morris, Jr.  | Doctor of Public Service  | 1990
A. Barry Rand  | Doctor of Public Service  | 1990
Abelle Palmore Nivens  | Doctor of Education  | 1989
Marshall Burns Williams  | Doctor of Laws  | 1989
Matthew J. Perry, Jr.  | Doctor of Laws  | 1989
John C. Marous  | Doctor of Public Service  | 1989
Ruby Middleton Forsythe  | Doctor of Education  | 1988
J. Strom Thurmond  | Doctor of Laws  | 1988
M. Maceo Nance, Jr.  | Doctor of Laws  | 1988
Ernest Frederick Hollings  | Doctor of Laws  | 1988
Henry Doctor, Jr.  | Doctor of Laws  | 1988
Sammy Davis, Jr.  | Doctor of Humane Letters  | 1988
Walter Ivey  | Master of Farmer  | 1946
Ernest A. Grant  | Doctor of Agriculture  | 1946
W. H. Aiken  | Doctor of Science  | 1946
Robert Shaw Wilkinson, Jr.  | Doctor of Science  | 1946
Benjamin E. Mays  | Doctor of Letters  | 1946
George W. Howard  | Master of Arts  | 1924
J. B. Pierce  | Master of Science  | 1924
John T. Williamson  | Master of Arts  | 1922
Marion B. Wilkinson  | Master of Arts  | 1922
Miller F. Whittaker  | Master of Arts  | 1922
Herbert U. Seabrook  | Master of Arts  | 1922
Celia D. Saxon  | Master of Arts  | 1922
Martin A. Menafee  | Master of Arts  | 1922
William C. Nance  | Master of Arts  | 1922
Isaacs S. Leevy  | Master of Arts  | 1922
Lucy C. Laney  | Master of Arts  | 1922
Louise F Holmes  | Master of Arts  | 1922
Bezzie E. Green  | Master of Arts  | 1922
Otis D. Council  | Master of Arts  | 1922
Cora S. Boykin  | Master of Arts  | 1922
Mary McLeod Bethune  | Master of Arts  | 1922
J.C. Whittaker  | Doctor of Laws  | 1922
J.J. Starks  | Doctor of Laws  | 1922
Ernest E. Just  | Doctor of Laws  | 1922
Nelson C. Nix  | Doctor of Laws  | 1922
Lewis M. Dunton  | Doctor of Laws  | 1922

*Posthumously
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Mr. Charles C. Lewis, Sr., ’76

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Ms. Whitney McCrea
Student Government Association President
Mr. George K. Quick, ’68
Chairman, Board of Directors
SC State University Foundation

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Senior Vice President for Finance, Facilities and Management Information Systems

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Dr. Valerie Fields
Interim Vice President for Student Affairs

Dr. Leonard McIntyre
Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development and Interim Executive Director of 1890 Programs

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Executive Director for Student Success and Retention Program

Mrs. Charlene M. Johnson, ’80
Director of Athletics

Dr. Rita J. Teal
Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs and Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness

Edwin Givens
General Counsel
Special Assistant to the President for Legal and Governmental Affairs
### Members of the Commencement Committee 2008-2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Elbert Malone</td>
<td>Co-Chair</td>
<td>Dr. Valerie Fields</td>
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<td>Dr. Judith Salley</td>
<td>Co-Chair</td>
<td>Mr. Nathaniel Gant</td>
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<td>Ms. Lillian Adderson</td>
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<td>Mrs. Iva Gardner</td>
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<td>Ms. Deborah Blackmon</td>
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<td>Chief Gregory Harris</td>
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<td>Ms. Annette Hazzard Jones</td>
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<td>Mrs. Betty Boatwright</td>
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<td>Dr. Clarence Hill</td>
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<td>Ms. Franette Boyd</td>
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<td>Dr. Ethel Jones</td>
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<td>Ms. Deitra Briggman</td>
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<td>Mrs. Dannie L. Keepler</td>
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<td>Mr. Anthony Caldwell</td>
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<td>Mr. Dennis Larrymore</td>
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<td>Mr. Eddie Ellis</td>
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<td>Dr. Christopher Mathis</td>
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<td>Ms. Stephanie Felks</td>
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### Alumni Oath

I hereby solemnly pledge allegiance to my Alma Mater in appreciation of the opportunities for development afforded me at South Carolina State University. I pledge active membership in the National Alumni Association wherever I may be. Through association with my fellow alumni, I shall forever do my best to uphold the ideals and traditions of my Alma Mater. I pledge to exemplify high ideals by rendering positive and dignified service to the community, state, nation, and world, thus living to bring honor and respect to my Alma Mater.

### RECEPTION

A Reception has been planned immediately after the Commencement Convocation in the Felton Laboratory School Gymnasium to congratulate graduates and welcome families and guests.

### 2009 SPRING TERM

All tuition and fees for Spring 2009 must be paid by January 5, 2009

- **Registration** – Monday, October 28, 2008 – Monday, January 5, 2009
- **Late Registration and Late Fee** begin Tuesday, January 6, 2009
- **Classes being** – Wednesday, January 14, 2009

### Alumni Oath

I hereby solemnly pledge allegiance to my Alma Mater in appreciation of the opportunities for development afforded me at South Carolina State University. I pledge active membership in the National Alumni Association wherever I may be. Through association with my fellow alumni, I shall forever do my best to uphold the ideals and traditions of my Alma Mater. I pledge to exemplify high ideals by rendering positive and dignified service to the community, state, nation, and world, thus living to bring honor and respect to my Alma Mater.

### SIXTEEN
**Alma Mater**

Sing the praise of Alma Mater  
Let us rally to her calls  
Lift our voices, send them ringing  
Thru the groves and classic halls.

Hail! Hail! Dear Alma Mater  
Hail! Hail! Dear S.C.C.  
We'll defend and honor  
Love and cherish thee.

We are loyal sons and daughters  
Proud to own the name we bear,  
For the truths that thou has taught us  
Ready all to do and dare.

—Robert Shaw Wilkinson  
(Second President, 1911-1932)

Words written by Dr. Robert Shaw Wilkinson, second president of South Carolina State College. Mr. Ted D. Phillips, an alumnus, wrote the music.
South Carolina State University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; telephone number 404-679-4501) to award the bachelor's, master's, specialist, and doctorate degrees. Undergraduate and graduate teacher-education programs are approved by the South Carolina Department of Education, using the standards of Specialty organizations approved by the National Council for the Accreditation of Colleges of Teacher Education (NCATE). All teacher education programs are also accredited by NCATE. Other accredited programs and their accrediting bodies are as follows: the Family and Consumer Sciences programs by the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS); the Food and Nutrition Program is approved by the American Dietetics Association (ADA); the Speech Pathology and Audiology Program by the Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASLHA); the Social Work Program by the Council for Social Work Education (CSWE); the Rehabilitation Counseling Education Program by the Council of Rehabilitation Education, Inc. (CORE); the Nursing Program by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE); the Music Program by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM); the Computer Science Program by the Computing Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (CAC/ABET) and the curricula in Civil, Electrical, Industrial and Mechanical Engineering Technology by the Technology Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (TAC/ABET); the Business Programs by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International, and the Art Program by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

In addition, the Counseling and Self-Development Center is accredited by the International Association of Counseling Services, Inc. and the Child Development Learning Center is accredited by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs (a division of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)).