FINAL and YEAR 3
(2013-2014)

REPORT

of the

2011-2016 Strategic Plan
INTRODUCTION

The South Carolina State University Year 3 Strategic Plan Report represents accomplishments achieved during the 2013-2014 fiscal year in addressing the goals in this third year of the 2011-2016 Strategic Plan. The 2011-2016 Strategic Plan was completed in fall 2011 and approved by the SC State University Board of Trustees in February 2012. However, due to significant changes in administration, the organizational structure and the continued challenges of the University, a new strategic plan has been developed to move the university forward beginning in the 2014/15 fiscal period. Therefore, this report serves as the third and final report on progress of the 2011-2016 Strategic Plan. In addition, a statistical comparison table is included at the end of this report reflecting the changes that have occurred during this three-year period.

Information in this report was compiled by the Office of Planning and Assessment from the 2013-14 academic and administrative departments’ annual reports and other university documents.

SC State University continues to address several challenges over this past year. Of significance importance is that the University was placed on Warning in July 2013 by its regional accrediting body, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and then placed on probation in June 2014 for financial and governance issues.

As in the 2012/13 report, the year began with a new administration. A permanent president, Mr. Thomas Elzey, was hired in June 2013, followed in the fall by major revisions in the university’s organizational structure. In addition, five new Board of Trustees (BOT) members assumed positions, with one of the five being elected as Chair of the SC State University BOT.

Through all of the challenges and personnel and organizational changes, the University continued a high level of performance as evidenced by: maintaining accreditations of academic programs and support programs; continuation of outreach services throughout the state; maintaining productive scholarship through research and publishing that faculty and staff continue to achieve; and continuing to produce graduates who seek post-graduate study and/or enter the job market.

Rita Jackson Teal, EdD
Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness

September, 2014
VISION

SC State University will be one of the top public universities among peer institutions.

CORE VALUES

Access - accessible and affordable
Excellence - commitment to excellence as its top priority
Integrity - a solid reputation of integrity
Opportunity - to fulfill career dreams and goals
Respect - climate of mutual trust and respect

MISSION

South Carolina State University (SC State) is a historically Black public 1890 land-grant senior comprehensive institution of approximately 4,500-6,000 students. Located in Orangeburg, South Carolina, SC State University is committed to providing affordable and accessible quality baccalaureate programs in the areas of business, applied professional sciences, mathematics, natural sciences, engineering, engineering technology, education, arts, and humanities. A number of programs are offered at the master's level in teaching, human services and agribusiness, and the educational specialist and doctorate programs are offered in educational administration.

SC State University prepares highly skilled, competent and socially aware graduates to enable them to work and live productively in a dynamic, global society. Through technology and traditional methods of teaching and learning, research and service, the University enhances the quality of life of citizens and contributes to the economic development of the state and nation.
GOAL 1: Promote and Sustain a Student-Centered Environment

SC State University continues to promote a student-centered environment. The University continues to provide those services and co-curricular learning experiences that enhance the total development of students and promote diversity and inclusiveness in its programs and activities. Students are involved in professional meetings and conferences; acknowledged for their academic excellence through induction in national honor societies; participated in various competitive events; and provided support through special seminars and workshops.

Listed below are examples of activities and services during the 2013/14 academic year that were designed to assist and engage students during their matriculation at the University.

Support Services

- The First Lady’s Boutique hosted a Dining-Out Etiquette Workshop at the Orangeburg Country Club on April 7, 2014. Approximately 36 SC State University students were eager to learn the secrets to successfully maneuvering through a formal dining setting without forgetting to enjoy their meal and to enjoy good conversation. Attendees participated in an interactive workshop and received etiquette tips on key elements such as how to properly cut food, eat soup and conduct conversation when dining out.

- SC State University began Conflict Resolution Workshop Series in an effort to build and maintain strong, positive relationships on campus, SC State University began offering a series of workshops on conflict resolution. The first two workshops were held Tuesday, April 29. Faculty and staff attended the 10 a.m. workshop, while students attended the session at 1 p.m. Topics of discussion included understanding conflict; learning how to manage or mediate conflict and using best practices to resolve conflict. The workshops are designed to educate the university community, particularly students, on possible alternatives that can be used to respond to conflict before a situation escalates to violence.

- SC State University’s Honors College observed its seventh annual Collegiate Honors Education Week Celebration from Tuesday, April 1 - Saturday, April 5 on the SC State campus. This year’s theme was: Craftsmen of Intellect: Changing the World. Throughout this week, student scholars of the Honors College were showcased through a number of activities and events that were designed to cultivate, engage, enrich and empower them as intellectuals, student researchers, servant leaders and global citizens. Events included: Undergraduate Research Symposium, Academic Quiz Bowl Tournament, Mr. and Miss Honors College Pageant, and Spring Honors College Induction and Awards Ceremony.

- SC State University criminal justice students and faculty attended the 20th annual Conference and Training Institute of the South Carolina Chapter of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCJ) on Dec 6, 2013 in Columbia, S.C. This institute’s theme for the year was "Celebrating 20 Years: A Review of the Past, A New Course for the Future.” The itinerary was filled with speakers from across the state, including an SC State alumnus. Dynamic and informative sessions included changes in voter laws and practices, the affordable health care act, domestic violence, social engineering and gang violence intervention and prevention. The institute also featured a career exploration component. Graduating seniors had the opportunity to explore future career opportunities while others looked into internship opportunities with criminal justice professionals attending the conference.

- SC State University’s Career Center hosted its annual Educators’ Day Recruitment Fair on Thursday, April 3 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Bulldog Lounge, Kirkland W. Green Student Center. This year’s
theme was, “Moving Forward.” Aspiring teachers had the opportunity to meet and interview on the spot with representatives from the visiting school districts. Attending the recruitment fair is also ideal for those who wish to gain knowledge about various school districts. In addition to filling teaching positions, school districts were also seeking prospective employees who can work as administrators, human resource professionals, librarians and other similar positions. More than 20 school districts throughout the southeast attended this event.

Student Achievements

- Two SC State University students, sophomore Jasmine Harris and senior Harold Rickenbacker, were chosen to represent SC State as 2014 HBCU All-Star students at the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). The White House Initiative on HBCUs recognizes student leaders for their accomplishments in academics, leadership and community involvement. As 2014 HBCU All-Star students, Harris and Rickenbacker will have the opportunity to serve as ambassadors of the White House Initiative using their social media presence and relationships with community-based organizations to promote the value of education to their fellow students.

- Terrance McKenzie, a student in the MBA program at South Carolina State University, was one of three students from the United States selected to spend the fall 2013 semester on an internship with the Foreign Agricultural Services in Brussels, Belgium. McKenzie is a second-year MBA student with a concentration in agribusiness. His assigned tasks included conducting research, updating and writing reports on 4-5 projects daily. He indicates his greatest challenge was learning different writing styles and understanding the word usage and jargon for the agency. “My greatest accomplishments,” McKenzie said, was the completion of a Global Agricultural Information Network (GAIN) report and the creation of a user-friendly database of questions and answers concerning food safety, legislation, genetically modified organisms, etc. within the European Commission. Both are published on the FAS website.

- Ten SC State University middle level education majors attended the 37th annual South Carolina Middle School Association conference in Myrtle Beach, S.C. The year’s conference theme entitled, “In the Middle of the Core,” was designed to provide a professional development opportunity to the future educators as they prepare to become effective practitioners in the global marketplace. Each student served as a facilitator during the conference’s professional development session.

- With just three minutes on the clock, the SC State University co-ed cheerleading squad put their bulldog pride all on the mat, bringing home the first place title of MEAC co-ed division champions. The SC State University cheerleading team competed against seven cheer squads in the MEAC Conference. The squad also took home third in the overall cheerleading competition. While preparing for the competition and developing their own cheerleading routine, the squad researched cheerleading videos and watched videos from international pop star Beyoncé, gathering choreography techniques that would wow the crowd.

- Senior Crystal Harris, a biology major from Greensboro, N.C., was crowned Miss Palmetto Capital City Classic (PCCC) and Junior Bridget Thomas was named second runner-up. The crowning was held Wednesday in West Columbia, S.C. during the Palmetto Capital City Classic’s 2013 Media and Sponsors Luncheon. In her capacity, Harris served as the official queen for the 2013 Palmetto Capital City Classic, an annual football experience for historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) that brings fans from throughout the Southeast to South Carolina.
• Sadia Robinson was crowned Miss South Carolina State University 2013-2014, during her Coronation on Thursday, Sept.19, 2013. Inspired by the hit movies, “The Wiz” and “The Wizard of Oz,” the Coronation took place in the Smith-Hammond-Middleton Memorial Center at 7 p.m. This year’s theme was “Garnet City: There’s No Place like Home.”

• On Thursday, April 24, 2014 SC State’s Social Work Program inducted nine students into Phi Alpha International Honor Society. Phi Alpha International Honor Society represents high standards of education for social workers and invites into its membership those who have attained excellence in scholarship and achievement in social work. The purpose of the Phi Alpha International Honor Society is to provide a tight-knit bond among students of social work and to promote humanitarian goals and ideals.

• SC State University’s Gamma Psi Chapter of Epsilon Pi Tau (EPT), the International Technology Honor Society, held its spring induction ceremony for six SC State students on April 10 in the I.P. Stanback Museum and Planetarium. EPT promotes and recognizes the achievement of academic excellence; promotes the values and contributions of professionals in technology; provides a medium for professional development and recognition of individual members for leadership and achievement; enhances the status of practitioners and professors in technology.

• SC State University’s Gamma Phi Chapter of Alpha Phi Sigma, the National Criminal Justice Honor Society, held its spring induction ceremony for four students on March 20, 2014 as a part of the 2014 Criminal Justice Law Week celebration in the Barbara A. Vaughan Fine Arts Recital Hall on SC State’s campus. Seven SC State University students were previously inducted Sunday, Oct. 12, 2013. The goals of Alpha Phi Sigma are to honor and promote academic excellence, community service, educational leadership and unity among criminal justice undergraduate and graduate students, as well as juris doctorate students.

• More than 800 stellar students were recognized for their commitment to academic excellence during the annual Honors and Awards Convocation on Tuesday, April 1, at 3 p.m. in the Smith-Hammond-Middleton Memorial Center, located on the SC State campus. The Honors and Awards Convocation was designed to honor SC State students who have received a 3.0 or higher. These distinctions are recognized through the bronze medallion (3.0 to 3.49 grade point average), silver medallion (3.50 to 3.74 grade point average) and the gold medallion (3.75 to 4.0 grade point average.).

• The soccer team had a combined cumulative GPA of 3.63, number one in the Palmetto State and number three nationally in earning the National Soccer Coaches Association of America’s (NSCAA) Team Academic Award.

• Women’s golf senior Tiana Jones closed out her collegiate career earning honors in four matches this season. Jones captured the 28th Women’s PGA Minority Golf title for the second time in three years.

• In women’s tennis, the Lady Bulldogs won their tenth straight league crown and in men’s tennis team captured their 12th overall league title.

• Ninety six South Carolina State University student-athletes were named to the 2013-14 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) Commissioner's All-Academic Team. This year's number is 22 higher than last year's total of 74 student-athletes.
• Students Ahmed Majekodunmi and Rosalyn Morgan and PI Dr. Liljnana Bozinovska for achieved Second Place prizes for their presentations (oral and poster) at the 71st Professional Agricultural Workers Conference. Rosalynn Morgan also won Second Prize in the category of graduate oral presentation, while Ahmed Majekodunmi won Second Prize in the category of undergraduate poster presentation at the 71st Professional Agricultural Workers Conference in Tuskegee University held on December 8, 2013.

• Forty-six (46) students participated in 1890 research projects in association with their faculty members.

Faculty/Staff Support

• The Rehabilitation Counseling program faculty continues to write grants that enhance recruitment and retention of graduate students. The Rehabilitation Services Administration grants allow the faculty to provide stipends to graduate students for tuition, books, and a monthly stipend. These grants allow students to attend the program with financial assistance.

• A Freshmen Care Center was established in the Department of Biological and Physical Sciences (BAPS) to centralize the advisement for freshmen students who major in biology, chemistry and physics. A team of faculty advisors are responsible for training, mentoring and nurturing freshmen students throughout the freshmen year especially through the registration and financial aid process.

• Programs and activities in the School of Business, such as the Executive Speaker Series, the Bulldog Small Business Consulting Program, the Business Leadership Institute, the Bulldog Business Journal, Financial Literacy Series, and the internship program are all focused on student development. In addition, A Business Student Council was initiated in Fall 2013 to give students a voice in programs and policies in the School of Business.

• The athletics department sponsored several activities to support students, as well as outreach to other youth groups. They included: Youth Day, Youth Day Athletic Clinic, Garnet and Blue Just Say No to Drugs Fall Festival, and the Athletics Academic Enhancement Tutorial Program.
GOAL 2: Strengthen the University’s Performance through Enhanced Accountability and Efficient and Effective Processes

SC State University continues to assess its operations in order to maintain compliance with all oversight and accrediting associations, rules, regulations and policies through increasing training of personnel, more efficient and effective utilization of technology and operating in a fiscally efficient manner. Throughout 2013/14, faculty and staff participated in various internal and external professional development opportunities. With the new administration, changes were made in various departments to operate more efficiently, with greater focus on improving customer service.

To ensure that academic programs, as well as academic support services, meet the needs of students and stakeholders, each academic and academic support unit at SC State University participates in an annual assessment process. An example of the success of this effort is illustrated below with the continued accreditation of all of the programs that applied.

- In summer 2013, the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) granted SC State’s Social Work Program an eight year reaccreditation. In 1991, the program received its initial accreditation from the CSWE and has remained fully accredited since then. This specialized accreditation validates the quality of academic preparation the Social Work Program provides to students.

- The Counseling & Self-Development Center maintains uninterrupted accreditation status with the International Association of Counseling Services (IACS) for the seventh year since 2008.

Following are some of the efforts made to enhance accountability and to operate more efficiently and effectively.

- The current strategic plan underwent a review of the goals and objectives and the progress that has been made on each. This plan was modified and a new five-year plan was developed that takes the University from its current status to one of greater stability and efficiency.

- Within the School of Business a Communication and Data Coordinator was hired in November 2013 to develop and maintain databases on current students and alumni; and to conduct annual surveys of current students, graduating students and alumni. Results from the surveys will be used to enhance curricular, develop new programs and become more effective and efficient in school processes.

- Several of the Faculty Development workshops provided training to assist faculty in maximizing the utilization of technology, such as “Cloud Surfing: Part I Engaging Students Google Apps”, “Cloud Surfing: Exploring Online Resources & Technologies that Engage Students” and “Teaching Well with Technology: A focus on Student Learning”.

- The Brooks Health Center implemented an electronic medical record (EMR) to ensure students’ records are easily retrievable and maintained indefinitely. Students are able to schedule appointments and submit health information from any source with technology access. The EMR system will enable the staff to communicate via email with students.
GOAL 3: Enhance Academic Programs and Academic Support Services to Meet Student and Other Stakeholder Needs

The faculty continues to pursue research and other scholarly opportunities for professional development and to better prepare students for their chosen careers or graduate study. In order to maintain quality academic programs and support services, multiple strategies are implemented, including lecture, on-line, video-conferencing and experiential learning. More Smart classrooms (a classroom equipped with computer and audiovisual equipment, allowing the professor to teach using a wide variety of media) were made available to faculty.

Listed below are some of the services and activities provided to students to enhance their academic performance and to meet stakeholder needs.

- The drama program at SC State University presented a Chekhov Techniques interactive workshop under its *Class Without Walls* (CWW) series. *Class Without Walls* is the drama program’s unique teaching/workshop series that introduces current students to working artists through non-traditional means. The class featured certified Chekov instructor Billicia Hines, associate professor and director of the Theatre at Elizabeth City College in Elizabeth City, N.C., where she directs the acclaimed University Players. The workshop was held on March 20 at the Henderson-Davis Theatre on the SC State campus. The class explored the techniques of acting theorist Michael Chekhov including mask work and the foundations of creating character. Hines is a certified teacher of the Michael Chekhov Technique from the Great Lakes Michael Chekhov Consortium, an organization in which she proudly holds the position of associate artist.

- SC State’s Communications Club, in partnership with the South Carolina Association of Black Journalists, hosted a Multimedia Boot Camp on Saturday, March 29 on SC State’s campus. Students from Claflin University, Voorhees College, Benedict College and Allen University gathered for the one-day workshop. Media professionals from both the Orangeburg and Columbia markets provided students insight into print and broadcast news writing, production, internships and information about job opportunities. There were several break-out sessions giving students a chance for one-on-one sessions with professionals. At least 100 students from the five South Carolina colleges and universities attended.

- SC State University welcomed an international world-class performer to its campus to host a student master class for several SC State vocal students. Adina Aaron, considered one of the most gifted young sopranos to have emerged the last few years in the opera world, conducted the master class on March 19 in the Fine Arts Building. Students participating in the class were trained under the direction of Assistant Professor of Visual and Performing Arts Dr. Robert Grenier. A master class is given to highly talented students and is conducted by an expert performer. As part of the class, Aaron will help the students develop their performance skills. She also intends to advise students on building a professional singing career.

- The Music Program at SC State University presented the first installment of the Bulldog Bytes Concert Series, a showcase of experimental music created through and by cutting-edge technology. The first concert was held Wednesday, Oct. 16 at the Dr. Barbara A. Vaughan Fine Arts Recital Hall on the campus of SC State. The idea of Bulldog Bytes is a way to extend the cultural offerings of the university and enrich the cultural landscape of the Orangeburg area. Working with colleagues across the nation, Dr. Thomas Dempster and his colleagues selected works that best represent experimental work and digital music. The concert included works for digital video and surround sound by
renowned composers. The goal of the concert series was to present bold, daring and engaging works that are also audience-friendly - and maybe even danceable.

- The Counselor Education program developed innovative workshops which enhance students’ outcomes on the Praxis exam. Graduate students in this program achieved at or above a 98% passing rate.

- The Department of Education revised 2 programs of study and proposed an additional graduate program for consideration.

- During the 2013-2014 academic year the Career Center hosted and sponsored several events to include; Career Extravaganza, Career Expo, Graduate & Professional Schools Day, Educator’s Day, Informational Sessions, Mock Interviews Sessions, site visits to employers and graduate schools and partnered with new stakeholders. As a result of these initiatives, students received career opportunities with the following; General Electric, Duke Energy, Department of Public Utility (DPU), Elite Medical Services, Boeing, Thurgood Marshall Internships, BMW, UPS, National Nuclear Administration, Land O’Lakes, Lowe’s, Ronald McNair Scholar, Columba Metropolitan Airport, Legislative Black Caucus, Verizon, Georgia Southern University, Mitsubishi, Esurance, Wal-Mart, SCRA, Savannah River Site, UNC-Charlotte, USC-School of Social Work, and the Chicago School of Psychology, to name a few.

Additional accomplishments by faculty and academic programs are listed below demonstrating the level of academic excellence and scholarship of SC State University.

- The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) awarded South Carolina State University’s I.P. Stanback Museum and Planetarium a grant in the amount of $149,956 for African American history and culture. The Stanback was one of 11 museums in the nation to receive funding in this category. The Stanback’s funded project, “Building a Learner Centered Museum,” focuses on the needs of the learner - students, staff, faculty, pre-K through 12th grade students and the diversity of the community. The Stanback will provide a variety of learning experiences that enhance appreciation of the museum by a wide range of audiences so that the museum can increase community involvement and student participation.

- The National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded $399,940 to SC State University and OC Tech to develop a partnership that will enhance the physics programs at each institution. The three year award will provide funds to develop shared resources and new coursework materials at both institutions. While physics is a relatively small field of study it plays an important role in all science and engineering fields with applications that range from the energy industry to the space program and the health professions. Physics majors are in demand with excellent prospects for employment.

- South Carolina State University’s 1890 Research Administrator, Dr. Louis Whitesides, was recently named a Certified Research Administrator (CRA) by the Research Administrators Certification Council. This designation makes him one of only three in the state from a historically black institution to earn this honor. Being a CRA, the highest level of certification research administrators can earn, indicates that Whitesides has the knowledge...
and expertise necessary to operate a research or sponsored program, including knowledge in project development and financial and general management.

- Dr. Barry Frishberg and his undergraduate research assistant, Ms. Danielle Murphy, won a First Place Prize for their presentation entitled “Investigating the Effects of Resistance Training on A1c Levels on Elderly Diabetics” at the 71\textsuperscript{st} Professional Agricultural Workers Conference, Tuskegee, AL, December 6, 2013.

- Dr. James B. Stukes and Dr. Nazimuddin Mohammed received the MANNRS Faculty Achievement Award at the SC State MANRRS Chapter Annual Award Banquet held on April 30, 2014.

GOAL 4: Expand and Increase University Resources to Ensure Fiscal Viability and Growth

A major emphasis at S.C. State University is to provide the necessary resources for the university to operate efficiently, as well as to provide financial support to students. Several strategies to achieve these objectives have included focusing on research, effective budget management and fund-raising. Fundraising efforts were more productive in 2013/14 than in 2012/13, personnel continued to provide the necessary services to ensure that students received quality academic programs and support services. Some of the strategies implemented by several departments to assist with fiscal viability and growth are listed below.

- SC State University received contributions totaling $807,740 from alumni and corporations in support of student scholarships and university initiatives designed to expose SC State students to professional opportunities. The contributions were presented during the university’s Homecoming game, held Saturday, Nov. 9 and were donated over a three-month period, from late August to Nov. 8.

- With a decline in federal and state funding, colleges and universities across the nation are experiencing a financial pinch. And for students whose families’ household budgets are dwindling, attending college or completing their education may pose a financial challenge. To alleviate such hindrances for SC State students, the SC State University Foundation, Inc. donated $150,000 to support students who are pursuing their higher educational goals. For more than 40 years, the SC State University Foundation, Inc. has been committed to providing scholarships as well as service learning and career-related opportunities to the next generation of leaders.

- The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) awarded South Carolina State University’s I.P. Stanback Museum and Planetarium a grant in the amount of $149,956 for African American history and culture. The Stanback was one of 11 museums in the nation to receive funding in this category.

- The BAPS Department was awarded over $1.7 million in external funding from the following federal and state agencies: NASA, NSF, NIH, DOE, USDA, EPSCoR, and INBRE. During the past year, two faculty members in biology with Ph.D.’s in cancer biology were hired with 50\% of their salary
funded from a federal grant. Funding for 50% of the salary of an existing biochemistry faculty comes from a federal grant. This represents a cost savings of approximately $90,000 to the University annually.

- 1890 Research, through release time ($399,960.98) to faculty, provides unrestricted funds for university use. This helps with the stability, viability and growth of the University.

GOAL 5: Foster Partnerships and Collaborations that Mutually Benefit and Support the University, Local, State and Global Communities

One of the main foci of the new president was to revitalize the university and improve its image in the community. As the results below will illustrate more alliances and partnerships were developed. In addition, outreach programs offered through the 1890 Extension, TRIO and GEAR-UP programs, as well as academic departments and programs, continued to strengthen and broaden the relationship between the University and the community.

Research continued to be a primary focus for the University and the Office of Sponsored Programs, as stated previously, enhance its submission procedures, offered numerous workshops. Listed below are some of the results of the alliances, outreach and research efforts during 2013/14.

- SC State University Region Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Outreach
  - On Thursday, June 05, 2014, the SC State Region Small Business Development Center hosted a business tax workshop. During this workshop, enterprising individuals learned more about federal taxes and new business. Participants discovered how to set up and run a business so paying taxes won’t be a hassle.
  - The SBDC hosted “Understanding Your Credit 101” seminar Thursday, May 22, 2014. This free informative seminar was conducted by the Small Business Administration, South Carolina District Office. The event was held at the Orangeburg County Transit Center from 2-3:30 p.m. Event sponsors were the S.C. SBDC, the U. S. Small Business Administration and the County of Orangeburg Office of Veteran Affairs. Event attendees learned how to interpret a credit report; gain insight on the methods used to increase one’s credit score and be able to define FICO.

- The SC State University Black Males Project and the Brothers’ Keeper Program, an initiative with Orangeburg Consolidated School District Four, partnered to help at-risk males in the classroom by hosting the inaugural Brothers’ Keepers Leadership Summit. The event was held on Friday, April 11 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Belcher Hall auditorium. The summit’s theme was “Our Deepest Fear is that We Are Powerful Beyond Measure.” The Black Males Project is a component of the Student Success and Retention Programs and the Call Me MISTER Program, both at SC State. Nearly 180 young male students between fourth and seventh graders from various cohorts of the Brothers’ Keepers Program, including Edisto Elementary School (Orangeburg, S.C.), Hunter-Kinard-Tyler (Neeses, S.C.), Lockett Elementary School (Branchville, S.C.) and Felton Laboratory (Orangeburg, S.C.) attended. Students from the Boys 2 Men Program at Carver Edisto Middle School (Cope, S.C.) also participated.
• The career centers at SC State University, Claflin University and Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College hosted the 17th annual Community Higher Education Council (CHEC) Career Expo on Tuesday, Feb. 4. The event was held on the campus of SC State. As part of the CHEC, these institutions are working together to ensure that students and alumni obtain jobs during this economic recovery. Organizers invited fortune 500 companies, state and federal agencies and school systems to share information on various career opportunities with their prospective companies. With the theme, “Network Your Way to Success,” students and alumni met employers from regional and national companies, agencies and organizations that were searching for potential employees with a variety of job skills.

• The faculty and staff in the School of Business at South Carolina State University selected the CASA/Family Systems Shelter as their community outreach project to spread joy for the Christmas holiday. The initial thought was to buy toys for the kids at the shelter; however, other organizations were already providing presents for the children. With that information, the faculty and staff provided gifts to pamper the women at the shelter. More than 20 gift bags, which included bath, body and beauty items, were presented to six women, who currently reside at the shelter.

• The Department of Biological and Physical Sciences formed collaboration with the Regional Medical Center (TRMC) to enroll five students in a Health Coaches Class taught by physicians and staff of TRMC. The course is two semesters and includes a field experience designed to train students to become a member of a medical home team.

• EPSoR – Research Infrastructure Improvement Grant MOU, and cooperative agreement between SC SCSU, USC, Clemson and MUSC allows faculty and research scientists to teach at SCSU.

• SC State’s Director of Bands served as Guest Conductor for the Intercollegiate Music Association Wednesday, July 24, 2013. Eddie Ellis, director of Bands at SC State University will serve as the guest conductor for the 54th annual Intercollegiate Music Association’s (IMA) Conference. This event began on Thursday, Feb. 6, 2014 on the campus of Norfolk State University located in Norfolk, Va. The IMA Conference provides an immeasurable opportunity for promoting excellence in both large and small instrumental ensembles. Ellis is one of many renowned African-American conductors who will be featured at the annual conference.

• The Counseling and Self-Development Center’s W.A.T.C.H.D.O.G. peer mentors partnered with the Zimmerman Community Center Orangeburg Area Boys and Girls Club to provide after-school programs and support to local youth.

• This year the Office of International and National Student Exchange Programs (OINSEP) signed three (3) affiliation agreements with Study Abroad providers: Center for International Studies (CIS), International Studies Abroad (ISA) and GlobaLinks Learning Abroad. Agreements with these providers provide scholarships for our students to study abroad.

• The Institute for Public Health, Research and Outreach (IPHRO) was formed as a partnership between South Carolina State University’s 1890 Research Program (1890) and the Regional Medical Center of Orangeburg and Calhoun counties (RMC). Through IPHRO, these two long-standing institutions in Orangeburg county have been working together to identify solutions for the complex and varied public health issues that impact our state's communities. IPHRO’s current focus is on the epidemic of obesity and overweight related conditions, which is adversely affecting every segment of
our population. During the reporting period, IPHRO played an active role in health and wellness initiatives throughout the region.

- The Strategies in Math and Reading using Technology (SMART) Academies used innovative technology of an interactive whiteboard to teach rising third-grade students mathematical and reading comprehension standards. A total of 36 youth participated in the Academies (Orangeburg and Charleston Clusters).

- The Brooks Health Center has developed and maintained ongoing relationships with community (HopeHealth, RMC), regional (DHEC) and national (BET) providers to enhance and/or support awareness activities for students, faculty, staff and community.