SC State University is proposing the establishment of an Honors College:

- To establish a required curriculum increasing the rigor, challenge, and stimulation for honors scholars;

- To create a living and learning environment that centralizes honors scholars and other high-achieving students with the goal of impacting the intellectualization of the entire campus and community;

- To provide fund-raising opportunities for South Carolina State University.
College Summit

College Summit builds the capacity of schools to dramatically increase college-going school- and district-wide.

Trained student influencers build college-going culture, while teachers and counselors use a managed curriculum and technology tools to help all students create postsecondary plans and apply to college.
Virtual Education Software, Incorporated (VESI) provides distance education courses for over 60 higher education institutions. They provide interactive, multimedia continuing education courses for educators. Through a variety of accredited college and university partners, they offer continuing education units, professional development units, professional learning units, extension units, and academic credit.
President of Zanzibar to Speak at Spring Commencement

His Excellency Amani Abeid Karume has served as President of Zanzibar since November 2000. He also served as Minister of Communications and Transport; member of the Zanzibar House of Representatives; Minister of Trade, Industry and Marketing and Chancellor of the State University of Zanzibar.

President Karume will be accompanied by the Minister of Education, The Honorable Haruon A. Suleiman.

Commencement will be held Friday, May 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Oliver C. Dawson Bulldog Stadium.
Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings will convene an invitation only Higher Education Summit for Global Development in Washington, DC on April 29-30, 2008. The interim president has been invited to participate in this upcoming summit sponsored by the Department of State, the Department of Education and USAID.

The goal of the 2008 Summit is to expand the role and impact of U.S. and foreign higher education institutions in worldwide social and economic development.
The workshop "Education in a changing world: from vision to action" held in Ethiopia, provided an opportunity for USAID staff and their partners working on education programs to come together, share successes and challenges and to forge a collective agenda for future programming and action.

The content centered around USAID mission and partner information needs as well as promising practices.
James Brown Memorabilia

SC State University will serve as custodian to memorabilia from the “Godfather of Soul.” A collection of Brown’s clothing and other items will be displayed in the I.P. Stanback Museum.
SC State Wins $2M for Astronomy

SC State University has received a five-year award from the National Science Foundation worth over two million dollars ($2,096,841) to expand its astronomy program.

“A Partnership in Observational and Computational Astronomy (POCA),” includes money for faculty research, undergraduate scholarships, graduate fellowships, planetarium programs and web-based activities.

The University is one of only four schools nationally to win the award designed to enhance minority participation in astronomy and astrophysics.
A study is being conducted to determine the feasibility of developing a World Trade Park and Education Research Center.

SC State University is working with the South Carolina World Trade Center and Orangeburg County to develop a multicomplex distribution, education, business and retail center.
Smoke-Free Campus Policy

- Effective August 1, 2008 SC State University is deeming its campus to be 100% smoke and tobacco-free.

- The policy will cover all administrators, students, faculty, staff and visitors and includes all SC State University facilities.
Dr. Valerie Fields, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs served as a panelist for NASPA’s workshop: *Charting a Course for Leadership Success: Winning Professional Development Strategies*

“…this interest session brings together a diverse panel of student affairs administrators at various stages in their careers. The panelists have an appreciation of the central role that thoughtful professional development planning should pay in charting a course for the future success of both higher education leaders and their students.”
Shades of Promise

- Students from SC State University have partnered with students from Colorado State University to have exchange and dialogue on racism and their different backgrounds.

- The student focused on how where they differed and where they are the same and finding common ground within the differences.

- The students worked together on a ropes course. CSU students will travel to SC State in the fall. The two groups are planning to take a joint trip to South Africa.
Shades of Promise
Trip to Africa

The “Shades of Promise” (SC State and CSU students) will be traveling to Tanzania in January 2009 as a part of the international component of the project.
Crime Declines at SC State

- In 2007, the number of reported crimes went down 23%

- Decrease attributed to increasing crime prevention awareness and “beefing” up security

Crime declines at SC State, but chief believes rate can go lower

By LIEUTANT

The South Carolina State University Police Department says the number of reported crimes on campus went down 23 percent in 2007, compared to the previous year.

SC State Police Chief Greg Harris attributes the decline in crime prevention awareness and beefing up security throughout the campus.

“We think we are doing an excellent job in responding to our faculty, staff and students,” Harris said.

Harris cited the installation of all hallhouses across the campus as a big boost in security. It eliminated all entry points and allowed anyone on campus to contact the police department directly to address their concerns.

This has enabled the SC State Police to be at the scene of an incident quickly. According to Harris, the national average response time for law enforcement is 20 minutes. He said the response time for his department is less than four minutes.

The university is also working to prevent potential threats to the institution and the state of the Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois shootings.

SC State has been able to deal with an active shooter on campus since June of last year. It includes coordination with building supervisors and local law enforcement agencies. The plan also has an evacuation procedure.

SC State hasn’t experienced any threats with its emergency communications.

In addition to other communications protocols such as email notification, the university is now installing two large screens on opposite ends of the campus to alert people of an incident, Harris said.

“With the implementation of the video monitors all over campus, our staff are able to view them at any time,” he said.

Harris believes that SC State is as prepared as Clemson University and the University of South Carolina to handle emergencies on their campus.

The university has also adopted new security and surveillance systems to monitor the entire campus via cameras. Harris hopes to keep the system running smoothly. The technology helps to identify crimes and deter more.

“Technology plays an important role,” he said. “We are constantly working to make the institution as safe as possible.

In 19 of the 13 crime categories, SC State ranks below the number of reported incidents or above in 2007. Only burglary and weapons offenses went up slightly.

In addition, 12 drug and alcohol offenses were reported last year. Harris said if it were to happen again, he would report it immediately.

SC State is currently entering its fourth year of the “Beefing up Security” campaign. Harris believes the number of offenses is down.

Every night starting at 6 p.m., the university cancels all but one of its campus-wide events. The university also works with the SC State Police Department to beef up security on campus.

During the past year, SC State Police have engaged in a vigorous campaign to promote awareness of crime prevention measures. Harris has placed signs at every entrance and intersection, as well as on campus,

Offering safety tips such as not walking alone at night. The department has also passed out cards with safety tips and personnel numbers. That information is also available on the university’s website.

While crime rates are on the drop, there is still work to be done.

The most frequent complaints about crime on campus are petty larceny, which is theft of property valued at less than $500, there were 53 reported incidents of petty larceny last year.

Harris expects petty larceny because of the increase in theft-related crime.

He acknowledges that many petty larceny cases are not reported, but there are many of these incidents as crimes of opportunity.

The total number of incidents is down significantly.

He noted that many of the students are going to be living on campus. Harris said that many of the students are staying away from campus due to the restrictions on traffic.

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Truth Hall Renovations

- Truth Hall dining facility has been renovated to include
- Pete’s Arena Pizza
- Workstations with wireless internet
- New lobby furniture
### Honors and Awards Recipients

There were 8 four-year Gold Recipients and 2 four-year 4.0 Recipients.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bronze (3.0 - 3.49) (GPA)</th>
<th>Silver (3.50 - 3.74) (GPA)</th>
<th>Gold (3.75 - 4.0) (GPA)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freshmen</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sophomores</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juniors</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>54</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>596</strong></td>
<td><strong>170</strong></td>
<td><strong>106</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GRAND TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>872</strong></td>
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South Carolina State University has been selected as one of five schools to host Tavis Smiley’s Talented Tenth HBCU Tour, sponsored by US Navy, scheduled for November 7, 2008.

Tavis Smiley will provide a lecture motivating young people to develop the skills needed to become effective leaders in their school, community and the world.

He shares the characteristics of successful leadership role models in the area of business, public service, religion and academia and engages the listeners in a conversation designed to encourage them to think about how they can build their own leadership legacy.
Harry D. Carson of Florence, South Carolina, is featured for the month of March in the AT&T 2008 South Carolina Black History Calendar.

- Carson played at SC State 1972-1975
- Played 13 years with the New York Giants Football team
- In 2002, Carson was enshrined in the College Football Hall of Fame.
Cheerleaders MEAC Champions

The SC State University Cheerleading Squad won first place in the Co-Ed Division at the MEAC Cheerleading Competition.
The South Carolina State women’s and men’s teams captured the 2008 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) Tennis Championship titles at the Millbrook Tennis Center in Raleigh, North Carolina.

With the wins, both teams receive automatic qualifications to the NCAA Division I Men’s and Women’s Championship. Team selections will be announced on ESPNews on Tuesday, April 29, 2008.
Michael James Williams

SC State University Marching 101
Drum Major and most recently
employee of the SCSU Police
Department, passed away on March
22. Mr. Williams was a senior
majoring in Drama.

Michael James Williams