SC State University Establishes First Biological Honor Society
By Ashley Elliott

Rising junior, Mollie Jenkins, was determined to fill a void for biology majors at SC State University. Upon arriving on campus, she realized a fundamental piece was missing—an honorary society that recognizes the scholarly achievements of biology students.

After conducting several hours of research, Jenkins found an organization and gained departmental approval and support to charter the Alpha Upsilon Chapter of Beta Beta Beta. Established as SC State’s first biological honor society, Beta Beta Beta is dedicated to improving the understanding and appreciation of biological study and extending boundaries of human knowledge through scientific research. Since its founding in 1922, more than 200,000 persons have been accepted into lifetime membership, and more than 553 chapters have been established throughout the United States and Puerto Rico.

“I congratulate Mollie for having the determination to initiate the charter for a national honor society in biology,” stated Dr. Judith Salley-Guydon, chairperson of the Department of Biological and Physical Sciences. “All of our other areas, for example chemistry and physics, have honor societies with the exception of biology, so this is the first and we are very proud that a student took the initiative to establish it.”

Students Explore Various Cultures through SC State’s Office of International and National Student Exchange Programs
By OINSEP

SC State University’s Office of International and National Student Exchange Programs (OINSEP) is a unit of the Honors College in the Division of Academic Affairs. Established in January 2011, OINSEP’s mission is to strengthen the academic and cultural environment of the University using initiatives that support the internationalization of the campus community.

OINSEP has several goals that will ensure long-term success, which includes promoting multi-cultural awareness, international understanding, cross-cultural training and world affairs education at SC State; promoting the integration of international understanding and global awareness in the curriculum; serving as the catalyst for negotiating, implementing and maintaining international linkages with institutions of higher education in other countries;

Environmental Conference to Address Reducing America’s Dependency on Foreign Fuel
By Ashley Elliott
SC State University’s Environmental Policy Institute (EPI), The Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), the United States Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and its partners will deliver a national conference on energy independence, entitled “Securing Our Future: Using New Technology to Reduce America’s Dependency on Foreign Fuel.” The conference will be held on Wednesday, June 15, 2011 through Friday, June 17, 2011 at the Charleston Place Hotel in Charleston, S.C.

During the three-day forum, attendees will examine the role of technology and innovation in a comprehensive national energy policy that will promote a diverse portfolio of domestic energy resources, enhance national security through energy independence, reduce America’s carbon footprint on the global environment and spur economic development.

“We are once again looking forward to professionals and national leaders in the energy industry discussing the latest research, developments and technology at our annual EPI (EPI) Conference on addressing energy independence for America,” said Dr. Reinhart Brown, director of SC State’s EPI.

“Our mission is to continually develop national environmental policies that protect our environment, promote good health, enhance economic opportunities and develop sustainable communities,” noted Brown.

The Honorable James E. Clyburn, assistant democratic leader, will serve as keynote speaker of the conference. Other guest speakers include: The Honorable Lindsey Graham, South Carolina senator, former South Carolina governor, James Edwards, and the Honorable Brian Schweitzer, governor of Montana.

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