



on South Carolina State University

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Dear SCSU Foundation Stakeholders:



Anthony L. Holloman

I hope that you have enjoyed reading another edition of the FOCUS, a newsletter designed to show that we are a premier University whose academic programs are examples of leadership, excellence and service. This excellence was demonstrated with our rankings in *Washington Monthly* and *U.S. News and World Report*, as well as in our research with Savannah River Site and the establishment of the Honors College.

Thanks to your previous efforts, our students have enjoyed success. The SC State University Foundation provided over \$700,000 in need based scholarships to deserving students during the 2009-2010 academic year. We also ended the 2009-2010 academic year with a record in private giving, accumulating over \$2,400,000, an increase of almost 15 percent from the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

I encourage you to continue this vision of helping our students excel by increasing your contributions. I am eliciting the support of all of our alumni, friends and patrons to help us reach our goal of raising \$3,000,000 in private giving for 2010-2011. Incorporating new initiatives like the Mobile Giving campaign and a Phone-A-Thon will supplement already established programs such as the Annual Fund, which combines quarterly solicitations and reunion giving as we look to grow our endowment. We

are also providing planned giving seminars at all major University functions to help educate our donors on the advantages and the tax benefits associated with estate gifts. Planned giving dollars will allow SC State to provide scholarships to deserving students, and will offset the reduction in state appropriations.

I believe that you understand that this is a difficult time in the history of our University, and when you reflect on all of SC State's accomplishments in previous years, you have helped to perpetuate our legacy of excellence. We hope that you will continue this momentum, even during this critical juncture. Thank you again for reading this issue of the FOCUS newsletter.

Sincerely,

Anthony L. Holloman

Anthony L. Holloman
Vice President, Institutional Advancement
Executive Director, SCSU Foundation

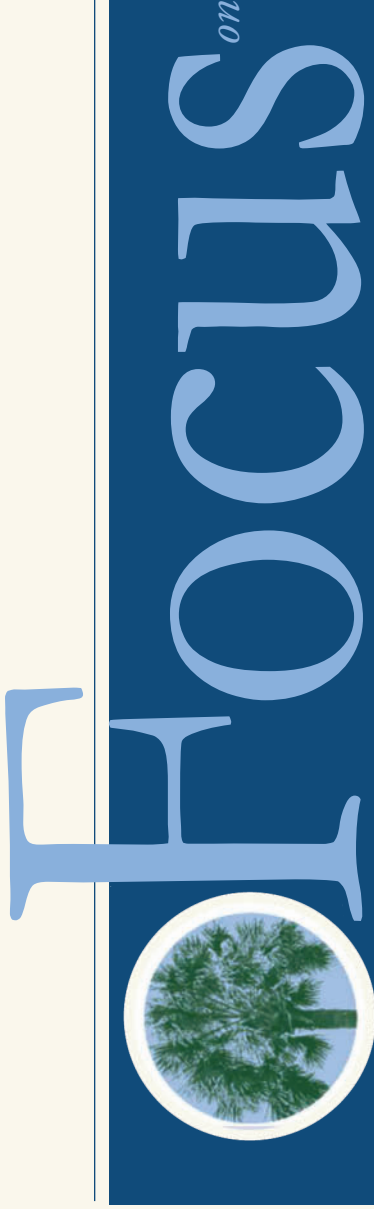


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October 2010



SOUTH CAROLINA
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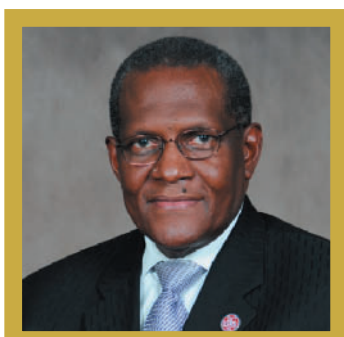


Generations Coming Together SC State Celebrates Homecoming 2010

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FOCUS on the *future*



Dr. George E. Cooper

President's Message

Welcome to **"Homecoming 2010: Generations Coming Together"** at South Carolina State University. Homecoming has been one of our most storied traditions as we bring together alumni, students, faculty, staff and stakeholders for a host of activities and events for all to enjoy. Whether an alumnus or alumna of this institution or not, you will have an opportunity to enjoy an exciting football game and a unique camaraderie as you share in Bulldog Homecoming, the envy of colleges across the nation!

As many of you return to share in the celebratory events, I want you to know that the University continues to remain focused on its mission to educate the students who have been entrusted to us. We are proud to announce that our excellence continues to be recognized nationally as indicated by *Washington Monthly* magazine and *US News and World Report*. For the past four years, we have maintained our #1 ranking in social mobility. This ranking essentially means that SC State is the best University in the nation in providing access to students, many who are first generation college students from diverse backgrounds and transforming them into successful citizens who contribute in many ways for our state and nation. Likewise, *US News and World Report* has ranked SC State 14th among Americas HBCUs.

We have been able to make great achievements, but there is still more that we can accomplish. With your help and support we can continue to recruit, retain, and ultimately graduate the best and brightest students and become the premier University in the country. As such, I urge you to give back to your Alma Mater so that young people today can have the same opportunities that have been afforded to you. The commitment by stakeholders to stay involved impacts our progress. As you return during Homecoming 2010, I ask that you renew your commitment and strengthen your ties to SC State University. Your contributions at the level of your choice allows for our continued promise to transform lives and develop leaders. I invite you to visit www.scsu.edu/givotoscstate to begin your commitment today.

I am most appreciative to each of you for your presence and your support this week and each time you visit SC State. I offer special thanks and a warm salute to all of the Bulldog alumni and supporters who have come to cheer on our team while uplifting an institution that means so much to us all.

Sincerely,

Dr. George E. Cooper
President, SC State University



SC State Honors College Prepares Trailblazers of Today to Meet the Challenges of Tomorrow

by Antia Dawkins

George Washington Carver once said, "education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom." SC State University continues to improve upon educating by embarking on new establishments and endeavors that will create outstanding opportunities for our students to be a guiding light for others to follow. More than 100 faculty, staff and students filled the Dr. Barbara A. Vaughan Recital Hall recently to mark a historical moment for the newly established SC State University Honors College. The Honors College unveiling was presided over by Mr. and Miss Honors College 2010-11, Kyle Childs and A' Deana Jones.

In the fall of 1988, the Honors Program, under the leadership of Dr. Roy L. Simms, provided exceptional students with opportunities for intellectual growth and achievement of the highest distinction. Today, the Honors College has more than 250 Honors College scholars who hail from various countries around the globe, as well as the United States.

The newly established Honors College will serve as a marketing tool for the University. It will also provide opportunities to form relationships with corporate donors, increase alumni giving, and provide opportunities for planned giving. More significantly, it will provide tremendous possibilities for students. Ambitious, determined and mentors to youth, SC State Honors College students are on the move, ready to accept any challenges that may be thrown their way.

"Students that have graduated from the Honors Program are now serving in the private sector, as well as excelling in their own businesses by being trail blazers for others to follow," said Juan Maultsby, program manager for the Honors College.

This trek towards excellence will continue with the Honors College. Students will engage in seminars and colloquia that will prepare them for future speaking engagements. "Honors College students will have opportunities to serve as mentors on campus, as well as in the Orangeburg community in School District Five. They will also engage in international initiatives, such as studying abroad," said Dr. Harriet Roland, interim dean of the Honors College.

During the Honors College unveiling, Roland acknowledged persons and entities that played a pivotal role in the development of the Honors College. They were Dr. George E. Cooper, 10th President of SC State University; SC State's Board of Trustees; Dr. Christine Boone, professor of social work; Dr. Joyce Blackwell, vice president of Academic Affairs; SC State's Office of Student Affairs; SC State Foundation and Title III Programs.

Throughout the ceremony, words of wisdom, encouragement and motivation were given. "We have always had talented students in our Honors Program that was initiated in 1988, but with the transition from the program to the Honors College, we will be able to implement greater resources to mold these talented students into productive leaders within our ever-changing global society," said Patricia Lott, Board of Trustees member.



(l to r) Kyle Childs, Mr. Honors College 2010-11; Reverend Dr. Eddie Williams, North Orangeburg United Methodist Church; Patricia Lott, SC State Board of Trustees member; Dr. Harriet A. Roland, interim dean for the Honors College; Dr. Walter Tobin, SC State Board of Trustees member; Dr. Joyce Blackwell, vice president of Academic Affairs; Senator John W. Matthews, Jr., District 39- Bamberg, Colleton, Dorchester, Hampton and Orangeburg Counties; A' Deana Jones, Miss Honors College 2010-11; Juan Maultsby, program manager for the Honors College

She later quoted Sydney J. Harris, stating "the whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows." This quote referred to the trailblazing students that are leading the way and following the road less traveled to become leaders of tomorrow.

Senator John W. Matthews, Jr. challenged the Honors College students to think big and work harder. During his remarks, he closed with a motivational quote by George Washington Carver. "No individual has any right to come into the world and go out of it without leaving something behind." The audience sat quietly and listened attentively as Matthews asked, "what evidence do you plan to leave behind?"

Subsequent to Matthews' words of encouragement, the ribbon cutting ceremony took place, including the following: Kyle Jones; John W. Matthews; A' Deana Jones; Dr. Joyce A. Blackwell; Dr. Harriet A. Roland; Reverend Dr. Eddie C. Williams, North Orangeburg United Methodist Church, Board of Trustee members Patricia B. Lott and Walter L. Tobin and Juan L. Maultsby. The ribbon cutting symbolized a moment of progression that will forever change the University. "This day marks a historical moment at SC State University," said President Dr. George E. Cooper.

For additional information about the newly initiated Honors College, contact Linda Bethea-Phillips, administrative specialist, at (803) 533-3710.

SC State University Maintains #1 Social Mobility Ranking with *Washington Monthly*

by Ashley Elliott



SC State University has once again topped *Washington Monthly* magazine's 2010 College Rankings in social mobility, securing the #1 ranking for the fourth consecutive time. The University has also attained the #14 spot among 258 national universities.

Washington Monthly, an independent monthly magazine dedicated to politics, government, culture and media in America, released the notable college rankings, which will appear in the September/October print edition of the magazine. *Washington Monthly* rates institutions on their contribution to public service in three broad categories to include: social mobility, as measured by the percentage of Pell grant recipients; support for the research enterprise, including research grants awarded and also presented of undergraduate alumni who go on to earn Ph.D.s; and national service through such measures as ROTC participation and percentage of alumni who enter the Peace Corps.

"Acquiring the #1 social mobility ranking on four previous occasions solidifies SC State University's mission to provide an affordable and accessible quality education for students of various talents and backgrounds," says President George E. Cooper. "We are grateful to be highly recognized on such important service-oriented factors as social mobility, research and service." Just recently, SC State was recognized for its premier educational traditions, earning the #14 spot among America's Best Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU's) with *U.S. News and World Report's* 2011 College Rankings.

The 2010 *Washington Monthly* September/October College Rankings magazine is now available in college bookstores and on newsstands. You may also view College Rankings on the *Washington Monthly* website at www.washingtonmonthly.com/college_guide/.

SC State University Ranks 14th Among Top HBCU's in the U.S.

by Ashley Elliott



SC State University, the only public, Historically Black College and University (HBCU) in South Carolina, has earned the 14th spot among America's HBCU's with *U.S. News and World Report*.

To appear on the HBCU rankings list, a school must be currently designated by the Department of Education as an HBCU, a status created as part of the Higher Education Act of 1965. Additionally, the college or university must be a baccalaureate-granting institution that enrolls primarily first-year, first-time students, and must have been a school that is currently part of the *U.S. News & World Report* 2011 America's Best College rankings.

"SC State University is dedicated to providing our students with exceptional educational opportunities in the state, and is honored to once again earn a top spot in *U.S. News and World Report's* HBCU listing. Our mission is to create a diverse learning environment for faculty, staff and students, as it has been modestly presented through this acknowledgement," said SC State President George E. Cooper.

This marks the fourth year that *U.S. News & World Report* has ranked schools with the best undergraduate education at HBCU's. The colleges were compared only with one another for these rankings, using a special peer survey among only the HBCU's.

Additional guidelines for rankings include the following categories and percentages:

- Peer assessment: 25 percent
- Freshmen retention rate: 25 percent
- Graduation rate: 20 percent
- Student faculty: 15 percent
- Financial resources: 10 percent
- Alumni giving: 5 percent

For more than 26 years, the U.S. News college rankings, which groups schools based on categories created by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, has grown to be the most comprehensive research tool for students and parents considering higher education opportunities. The America's Best Colleges' ranking package, which includes extensive editorial content and multimedia resources, has helped families navigate the difficult decisions involved throughout the college process, from college admission and selection to financing options.

You may view College Rankings on the U.S. News and World Report website at www.usnews.com.

Homecoming Marshals Show Love for Community and SC State

by Tameka Kenan

It was the 1950's when Katherine and Huey Pasley were students at South Carolina State University. It is hard for us to imagine those revered days when the campus was much smaller, when curfews were enacted, when dresses were a mandate for women, and when financial aid was non-existent, but the Pasleys can easily recall the nostalgia of their college days at SC State, especially during Homecoming.

"My fondest memory of Homecoming was attending the parade and getting a chance to watch the football game, listening to the band, and all of the other festivities," stated Huey. And it's always good to see old faces, according to Katherine, as she belts out the names of those acquaintances that she still meets at Homecoming to this very day.

The Pasley's love for SC State University is one reason why they have been selected as the Marshals for the 2010 Homecoming Parade. However, this admiration for the institution started well before their attendance. "I was in the 4H Club, and during the summer we would have 4H State Week," exclaimed Huey. "That's how I absolutely fell in love with South Carolina State. Then after I visited State, I didn't want to go anywhere else." Katherine shares that sentiment as she recalls her relatives who also attended the University, including a sister and a nephew who was a recent member of the Marching 101.

SC State, a staple in the community and throughout S.C., also proved to be the foundation for the Pasley's tremendous success in life. Prior to graduating from SC State, Huey finished his last semester as principal at Cedar Swamp Elementary School in Williamsburg County. After receiving a degree in agriculture in May, 1952, Huey was drafted by the U.S. Army and served three years at Fort Jackson. Following his tenure in the military, Huey returned to his hometown of Hemingway and opened Pasley Brothers Service, a convenience store that was a joint partnership between him and his brother.

In 1963, Huey says that he "decided to get a real job." In March of that year, he began work with the extension service in Cherokee County. Serving as a county agent, he was responsible for upholding the mission of the organization, including providing learning to communities through education in agriculture and the environment. A career that was synonymous with the education he acquired at SC State, Huey received many accolades and retired notably as a county agent emeritus, returning to Orangeburg in 1989.

Katherine's accomplishments may also be deemed influential. While Huey was making a difference in the lives of citizens within the community, Katherine would do the same for youngsters. "My sister attended SC State and graduated a year before I did," recalls Katherine. "She traveled to Chesterfield to work for a Mr. Hixon. He then needed an English teacher and my sister told him I was an English major, so I had a job after the first semester of my second year." Katherine taught at Chesterfield High School for five years, making her mark at the school when she started the first library there.

Katherine's career spanned for another three decades as she taught at Lancaster High School for 18 years, matriculated to Gaffney High School as an English teacher and taught at Barr Street High School in Lancaster, S.C. During that time, Katherine also managed to obtain her master's degree in library science at North Carolina Central University.

The Pasleys met at the height of their careers and married in December, 1977, and their love and commitment to each other, their community and to SC State is still unwavering. It's evident in the many plaques that cover the walls in their home. Too numerous to mention all, some include the 4H Distinguished Service Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi National Honorary Extension Fraternity, Brother of the Year, Woman of the Year, United Methodist Women for Trinity United Methodist Church, SC State President's Circle, All United Methodist and S.T.A.T.E. Club. Huey is also a volunteer at Trinity United Methodist Church and a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Katherine, a Camden, S.C. native, is a member of United Methodist Women and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Both are NAACP life members and SC State University Alumni Association members.

After receiving numerous honors and remaining active, it's ironic that the Pasleys both expressed shock at the announcement that they would be marshals at this year's parade. "We were surprised," stated Huey. "We had seen the other marshals, but we never thought that we would serve as marshals," says Katherine. The two are proud of their latest accomplishment and plan on continuing to support their Alma Mater. "This institution has helped us on the path to gaining the things that we have," noted Huey. "It's our obligation to continue to give our support."



Katherine, '46 and Huey Pasley, '52

2010 Homecoming Activity Calendar

Date	Activity	Time	Location
October 20, 2010	Comedy Show	7:00 pm	MLK Auditorium
October 21, 2010	Stanback 2010-2011 Film Series	5:30 pm	I.P. Stanback Museum & Planetarium
October 21, 2010	Coronation of Miss SC State University	7:00 pm	Smith-Hammond-Middleton Memorial Center
October 22, 2010	Annual Golf Tournament	9:00 am	Hillcrest Golf Course
October 22, 2010	Class Reunion Registration/Reception	2:00 pm-5:00 pm	Student Center Garnet & Blue Room
October 22, 2010	Unveiling of the SCSUNAA 2011 Calendar	5:00 pm	Dr. Barbara A. Vaughan Recital Hall
October 22, 2010	Partnership in Social Justice Exhibition Museum Opening	6:00 pm	I.P. Stanback Museum & Planetarium
October 22, 2010	Homecoming Concert	8:00 pm	Smith-Hammond-Middleton Memorial Center
October 23, 2010	Homecoming Parade	9:30 am	Edisto Gardens to SC State Campus
October 23, 2010	Class Reunion Tailgate	12:00 pm	Oliver C. Dawson Stadium
October 23, 2010	SC State vs. Hampton Football Game	1:30 pm	Oliver C. Dawson Stadium
October 23, 2010	Greek Step Show	8:00 pm	Smith-Hammond-Middleton Memorial Center
October 24, 2010	Alumni Farewell Breakfast	8:00 am	Washington Dining Hall
October 24, 2010	Dorm Step Show	8:00 pm	Smith-Hammond-Middleton Memorial Center

The College Summit Means Increased College Enrollment

by Tameka Kenan



(l-r) David Howard and Dwight Huell discuss the geographical impact of the College Summit

Although David Howard has just completed his second year of work in the "real world," he speaks fervently about a non-profit organization that has drastically changed the lives of thousands of high school students across America. Howard was one of them. "I always knew that I was going to college, but it allowed me to expand my horizons on where I wanted to go to college," says Howard.

Established in the mid 1990's, College Summit partners with schools and districts to ultimately increase college enrollment rates, and helps to students to understand how to pay for college and what needs to be done in high school to ensure the best success. Established by JB Schramm, the program was designed to utilize workshops and curriculum in assisting high school students through the navigation process of enrolling in college and finding the money to help pay for college. Over a decade later, College Summit is a phenomenon that is growing at a rapid rate. "Now, we're probably doing 70 of these workshops during the summer," says Dwight Huell, program manager for the College Summit. "The program has grown to serve over 25,000 students in over 12 different states this year. "Here locally, we are serving 1,100 students in over seven districts." These areas include Orangeburg County Districts Three, Four and Five, Sumter County, Richland District One, Hampton County, Berkeley County, Spartanburg and Florence.

So, how has this program, based in Washington, D.C. and housed locally at a small office in SC State University's Staley Hall, reach the populous at high schools throughout the nation? It begins with the implementation of a college based curriculum for all seniors. "We initially implemented a classroom based college curriculum for all seniors," says Huell. "We expanded that curriculum to serve ninth through 12th graders. We have math, science, college classes and more." The launch curriculum, as it is titled, helps to ease the transition from high school to college. It also makes high school relevant for younger students, one of the top reasons that students give for dropping out—"high school is not relevant for my future."

In addition to curriculum, College Summit also provides professional development for the educators that they work with in the high schools, according to Huell. "We have local training that gives them the best results on how to work with our curriculum in the classroom on a day to day basis," says Huell.

see SUMMIT on page 3

You're Invited
Willie Jeffries Day
 Saturday, November 6, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.
 Smith-Hammond-Middleton Memorial Center
 Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at the ticket office. Casual attire required
 Call (803) 536-8579 for tickets and additional information
Celebrating the Legacy

SC State Research Team Documents Green Technology Value for Pollution Cleanup at Savannah River Site

by Antia Dawkins

When nature works to break down manmade pollution, not only are tax dollars saved, but ecosystems are preserved from impacts of constructed cleanup operations. This breaking down of pollution by nature's bacteria and plants is called natural attenuation and is one form of green technology that an SC State University research team has determined will assist with the cleanup efforts at the US Department of Energy (DOE) Savannah River Site (SRS). Dr. John B. Williams, professor of biological sciences at SC State University, and his team of SC State student interns including Stephanie Roach, Charmaine Wells, Eric Foxworth and Jeremy Clayborn, reported their findings to officials recently at SRS and were commended for their efforts. Research activities by Williams' interns began in early June and concluded in August.

Findings by this SC State research team have documented the actions of natural attenuation in cleaning up a plume containing chlorinated solvents from an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) -designated Super Fund Site at SRS. This is the name given to the environmental program established to address abandoned hazardous waste sites. Williams and his students may be one of the few undergraduate research teams in the country approved for monitoring Super Fund Site cleanup.

The SC State research team's topmost priority during this monitoring is safety. Williams has appreciated this safety emphasis by SRS and how his student interns have benefited from required safety training. Their efforts included working deep within a swamp-forest and drilling holes into swamp and stream sediments to detect water movements, which detects the form of effluent in water or emissions in air and chemistry. Their chemical analyses helped to determine the success of natural conditions for assisting the SRS cleanup.

During the Super Fund Site Cleanup, groundwater contamination from two clear non-flammable liquids, perchloroethylene (PERC) and trichloroethylene (TCE) is a common pollution problem worldwide. In the United States alone, TCE was present at 852 of the 1,416 sites proposed for the EPA National Priorities List of cleanup sites. At the Savannah River Site, PCE and TCE were used in large quantities during its construction and plant operations. SRS activities over the years disposed of much PCE and TCE into large, unlined excavations. Disposal of much PCE and TCE was placed into unlined pits along with other chemicals, metals and pesticides. SRS engineered remediation actions near the plume source included soil vapor extraction of volatile organic compounds and soil excavation and removal. For the more distant fringes of the plume, natural attenuation was proposed as a possible remediation action. Williams and his interns have been monitoring this activity and have documented some successful



(Second from left) Dr. John B. Williams, professor of biological sciences, and SC State research interns conduct plume remediation sampling at the Savannah River Site.

degradation of PCE to a third stage dechlorinated product called vinyl chloride. "Our results will help SRS determine plume movements and the relative effectiveness of natural attenuation in reducing contaminant loads into SRS streams," says Williams.

Student interns gained valuable real-world professional training that will better prepare them for future employment. Their hands-on environmental sampling experiences, combined with their exposure to working as a team in the field, will make them strong candidates for graduate studies and the professional workforce. "Teamwork played an integral role in this internship because we had to work together on various projects in the field. This instilled friendships and made the rigorous tasks easier to overcome," said Stephanie Roach. During summer research, students also learned the importance of team work. "Without teamwork, we would not be able to get many tasks done," said Eric Foxworth of Marion, S.C.

Other students gained skillful tactics, utilizing their mental and physical abilities. Jeremy Clayborn, a native of Chicago, Ill., says "the work experience strengthened my mental and physical abilities through productive, strenuous labor." Charmaine Wells of Savannah, Ga. shares that same sentiment. "The SRS internship has improved my scientific skills dramatically. I am now well aware of their goals and missions and I greatly respect all of their work and the great opportunity they have given us," said Wells.

For additional information about this research effort, contact Dr. John B. Williams at (803)536-8518.

SC STATE UNIVERSITY LAUNCHES MOBILE GIVING CAMPAIGN

by Tameka Kenan



SC State University has announced a partnership with Connect2Give, Inc., an authorized application service provider through the Mobile Giving Foundation, which provides an opportunity for parents, students, alumni and patrons of SC State to donate to the institution utilizing a mobile phone and text messaging. The Mobile Giving Campaign was launched on Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010 during the first home game of the football season.

Supporters only need a \$10 donation for the Mobile Giving Campaign. Funds will go directly to the South Carolina State University Foundation, and with Connect2 Give, Inc., organizations retain up to 90 percent of all donations.

Anthony Holloman, vice president of Institutional Advancement for SC State, is exuberant about this innovative effort. "With the Mobile Giving Campaign, we have joined the latest technological advances and moved into an arena that everyone utilizes, which is text messaging," says Holloman. "This campaign will not only make it easier to donate, but such a small donation may mean additional support and more leverage for our institution, ultimately providing additional scholarship dollars for current and prospective students."

To participate in SC State's Mobile Giving Campaign, text BULLDOG to 52000 to donate \$10. For additional information, call the Office of Institutional Advancement at (803) 536-8742.

SUMMIT continued from page 2

Although the curriculum and the introduction of professional development has aided in a 16 percent overall increase in college enrollment for schools implementing College Summit, student influencers, more commonly called "peer leaders," has been the biggest incentive to increase the number of high school students choosing higher education.

Howard, now an operations associate for the S.C. region, initially became a peer leader at the request of his guidance counselor, but was elated about his position after finding out its significance. "I was actually a part of the inaugural class that was invited to go to College Summit, and we had our first workshop at the University of Denver," says Howard. Upon completion of the summer workshop, which teaches these students about the college admissions and financial aid process, and trains them on how to promote the college-going among their peers, the students are automatically deemed peer leaders.

A co-hort of rising seniors participate in the four-day workshop annually. "We were charged with making sure that we helped our fellow peers know what they needed to have and what people were looking for when you're enrolling in college," says Howard. Howard, who graduated from Sumter High School, says that the average graduating class is between 400 to 550 students, so how did they promote College Summit to each student? "There were five of us who attended the workshop and we put together a power point presentation for all of our senior class," says Howard. "We made sure that we systematically had every single senior sit through that presentation, which extended from September through winter break."

Tymon Graham, an alumnus of College Summit and a 2010 graduate of SC State University, is also exuberant about what College Summit can do. "It's so much that goes on to help students find themselves, get ready for college, and expand your views on where you will go and what possibilities you will have," says Graham. That is probably why Graham decided not to curtail his experience with College Summit as just a peer leader, but also becoming an alumni leader, an alumni leader coordinator, and later a technology coordinator. The alumni initiative consists of having former peer leaders attend workshops to speak on their college experience.

Graham, who is currently attending the University of West Georgia to pursue a master's degree in professional counseling with a concentration in college student affairs, is still contemplating how he can assist College Summit in the future. "I'm looking to see where I can help with College Summit. There are several volunteer roles that you can participate in," says 22-year-old Graham. Howard agrees. "Students should come back and be a part of giving to our next generation and our next wave of students," says Howard.

Former College Summit participants like Graham and Howard are reasons why the program can continue to promote a college-going culture at high schools across the country, ultimately increasing retention rates and driving students to attend college. "We help schools to, instead of seeing students as the recipient of school culture, see students as the drivers of school culture," says Huell. "We help to change the thinking of public schools, instead of looking at themselves as destinations, to seeing themselves as launch pads. We help public schools to see that college is not for the select few, but for all students."

According to Huell, students who participate in the summer program see a 20 percent increase in college enrollment rates, meaning that 1/5 more students across the nation are going to college

because of College Summit. Eighty percent of the students who attend workshops attend college, and of that 80 percent, 79 percent stay in college. The results are rewarding to past participants like Graham. "The best feeling that I have is when a student graduates high school and gets into college. That means success for me," says Graham.

For additional information on College Summit, contact Dwight Huell at 536-7183, or via e-mail at dhuell@collegesummit.org.

SC State University Hosts Exhibition of Artist Karen Ann Myers

by Ashley Elliott

SC State University's Fine Arts Center Gallery is pleased to host an exhibition by artist Karen Ann Myers. The exhibition will be on view through Friday, Oct. 22, 2010.

"Posing Beauty" is an exhibition of large-scale oil paintings exploring the experiences of women in a media saturated world. Lush colors and textures surround figures ripped from contemporary culture and personal experience.

"I'm inspired by the cult of beauty in contemporary mass media, and exploring how this world affects my central female figures," says Myers. "By highlighting the dualities of confident but confused women, and flat but somewhat three-dimensional compositions, I strive to present a personal yet universal depiction of the world of women."

Myers is an artist, educator and curator. She received her Master of Fine Arts degree in painting from Boston University and her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in painting, graphic design and art education from Michigan State University in East Lansing, Mich. She was instrumental in coordinating the Boston Young Contemporaries Exhibition, which has continued to be an annual exhibition at the 808 Gallery in Boston, Mich. Myers is currently serving as the executive director at Redux Contemporary Art Center in Charleston, S.C.

She has exhibited extensively throughout the country. Her paintings and prints exist nationally in private collections and have most recently been exhibited at LUIS DE JESUS gallery in Los Angeles, Calif.; Robert Steele Gallery in New York, N.Y.; the Commonwealth Gallery in Boston, Mass. and the Katzen Arts Center in Washington, D.C. Upcoming solo exhibitions include SCOOP Studios in Charleston, S.C., where Myers's is also represented as an artist.

For more information on Karen Ann Myers' exhibition, visit her website at www.karenannmyers.com; or contact James Arendt, director of the SC State Gallery, at (803) 536-8918, or via email at jarendt@scsu.edu.

FAB GALLERY is in the department of Visual & Performing Arts at SC State University. It is located at 300 College Street, NE Orangeburg, S.C. 29117. Gallery Hours are M-F, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. (It is closed on weekends and all University holidays.) For more information, visit <http://www.scsufabgallery.blogspot.com/>