SC State University Foundation

As we move deeper into this academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your loyal support of SC State University. In spite of the numerous challenges, last year’s contributions increased versus the prior year. I am pleased to report that SCSU Foundation has now grown to over $3 MM with half representing endowed funds. As a result of sustained growth, the Foundation Board voted to eliminate the 5% maintenance fee effective January 1, 2008. Thereafter, contributions are no longer assessed upfront service charges and operating expenses will now be incurred via investment returns.

Additionally, the Foundation continues to identify and assess process improvement opportunities. After benchmarking several peer institutions, it became apparent that the University Foundation needed to restructure its operation. The University Foundation has been in existence for more than 13 years and the number of accounts has grown to nearly four hundred. We have been increasingly challenged to effectively manage this number of accounts with limited resources. As we transition to a new state of mind, we are streamlining operations to allow more focus on scholarship and portfolio management. Therefore, the Foundation has restructured its operation by consolidating into five broad areas of fund accounts.

Endowment Fund: Limited to $50,000 and above, governed by a gift agreement between the University Foundation and donor.

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General Scholarship Fund: Governed by criteria set by the University and Foundation.

Presidential Scholarship Fund: Established to attract freshmen with high GPA and SAT scores. Criteria will be established by the University and the Foundation.

Unrestricted Funds: Established to fund items/projects that are not covered by State funding but are necessary for the operation of the University. Those items will be approved by the Foundation based on an operating agreement with the University.

Misellaneous Fund: This fund will house any non-cash contributions such as real estate and personal property.

Please recognize that we will continue to honor all existing accounts based on their gift agreements but all new contributions will be received and managed within one of the above five accounts.

This restructured format will improve efficiencies and overall effectiveness, thereby allowing more focus on portfolio management with quarterly comprehensive reports.

Again, thank you for supporting SC State University and our new state of mind!

Jackie Epps, B.D.
Interim Vice President, Institutional Advancement
Interim Executive Director, SCU Foundation

SC State University Foundation 2009 Scholarship Gala & Tribute
Saturday, February 21, 2009

Shannon Blair, a sophomore biology honors scholar, was crowned Miss Homecoming 2008. Miss Blair was escorted by Antoin Burroughs, a senior sport and fitness management major who attends Troy University in Troy, Alabama.
Greetings,

South Carolina State University’s students, faculty, staff and alumni are continuing to excel in all facets of life.

We recently held our Homecoming Weekend which was quite successful. This served as a delightful event in our many constituents convened on the campus for a most celebratory time. We thank all of you who attended and supported the game and our weekend events. We also thank all of the individuals who made this Homecoming a success.

Also during this time, the University hosted the Shades of Promise participants from Colorado State University. The University continues to embrace diverse cultures as a major part of the learning experience. The Shades of Promise program is a collaboration between South Carolina State University and Colorado State University which embraces diversity and creates working teams dedicated to servant leadership principles, with the goal to complete both domestic and international service projects.

Based on results of Board elections in June 2008, Mr. Lumus Byrd, Jr. has assumed the role of Chairman of the South Carolina State University’s Board of Trustees, effective late September. The University also welcomes the new Vice Chairman, Dr. John H. Corbitt (Seat 4, District 4) and Secretary, Mr. Robert M. Nance (Seat 7, Art-Large). The University also recognizes the outstanding service of former Chairman Mr. Maurice G. Washington (Seat 6, District 6) and we thank him for his six years of service as Board Chairman.

As we continue to celebrate our history and transition for the future we do so during a very economically challenging time for our state and nation.

As some of you may be aware, as of mid-August, a 1.9 percent reduction in our state general fund expenditures for fiscal year 2008 was imposed. With a focus on maintaining the quality and integrity of academic programs and other critical operations of the university, several cost savings measures were put into place.

Fast forward to October, an additional cut for Higher Education institutions across the state was approved bringing the total cuts for South Carolina State University to approximately 2.5 percent academic year alone.

What does this mean for our institution? This means that we must understand that the state in which the economy current stands and how we are able to find alternative ways of meeting the needs of students by continuing to provide the academic excellence we have been known for.

Despite this challenge that we face, we continue to be optimistic. We know the importance of education and we will be diligent in ensuring that our students continue to receive valuable education.

I will continue to update you on our strategy moving forward as we prepare for this most difficult financial time. As always, I thank you for your continued support of South Carolina State University.

Dr. George E. Cooper

SC State University and Colorado State University partner for program...

SC State University (SC State) and Colorado State University (CSU) continue to collaborate on a project to bring students from both campuses together to create working teams dedicated to servant leadership principles. The Shades of Promise program once again brought the two groups together at CSU students visited SC State during Homecoming 2008 weekend.

In March, SC State students and officials traveled to CSU to begin a multicultural leadership project with the hope of bringing a better understanding of each student’s different and similarities. Additionally, the students discussed multicultural issues and social justice.

SC State’s campus is 83 percent African American and 13 percent other ethnicities, while CSU is 90 percent white and 10 percent other ethnicities.

The Shades of Promise is an exchange of values and beliefs of ideals between students with very different backgrounds,” said Jake Blumberg, Shades of Promise organizer at Colorado State. “Students from both campuses are able to come together and learn from their unique differences and understand diversity. This project shows that we can work toward social justice and equality.” Blumberg continued.

Colorado State students arrived at Charleston International Airport in Charleston, SC with greetings from SC State students and Shades of Promise advisor, Cammy Grate. They then took a Gullah Tour in Charleston, SC, guided by Alphonso Brown, a 1966 SC State alumnus and owner of Gullah Tours.

During the welcome breakfast on Friday morning, CSU students received a warm welcome from Orangeburg Mayor Paul Miller. Mayor Miller encouraged the students to visit some of the unique sites that the community has to offer. They received that opportunity as they prepared for the Homecoming Parade on Saturday morning, which began at Edwin Memorial Gardens. Colorado State students also experienced a first as they opened the Homecoming step show with SC State students.

The biggest difference shared by both teams as they visited each other’s campuses the climate! “Colorado has a lot of dry air and it was a little difficult for me to breathe when we visited in March,” says Amann Holden, senior mathematics and social studies education major at SC State. “The humidity here in the south is definitely different for me. It’s something I would have to get used to,” stated Blumberg.

The SC State team is led by Dr. Yolanda Fields, interim vice president for Student Affairs and Cammy Grate, Shades of Promise advisor. Dr. Blanche Hughes leads the CSU team.

“Shades of Promise” will be traveling to Tanzania, East Africa in January 2009 to participate in various service learning projects. Additionally, the team proposed to work with the Oprah Foundation in an effort to complete the international service project in South Africa at her newly built Academy for Girls.

Both teams will also be traveling to various locations in Louisiana to assist with service learning projects.

First Lady and President Cooper (right) was honored to have (from left) Mrs. Margaret Lesesne, ‘51 and Mr. Hank Allen, ‘78, serve as grand marshals in the Homecoming Parade.
Chairman Lumus Byrd, Jr. prepared to lead the Board of Trustees

On September 21, 2008, Trustee Board Chairman Maurice Washington officially handed over the gavel to chair-elect Lumus Byrd, Jr. Pictured are (from left to right front row) Trustee Linda K. Edwards-Duncan, SC State President George E. Cooper, Chairman Lumus Byrd Jr., former Chairman Marcus Washington, Trustee Dr John H Carter, Trustee Robert M. Nance, Trustee Dr. Shirley Portee Martin, (back row) Trustee Earl A. Bridges Jr, Trustee Walter L. Tobias, Trustee Reggie Gatlin, Trustee Ken V. Green, and Trustee Jonathan Pinson. Not pictured, Trustee Martha Scott Smith.

THE INTERLINK ALLIANCE
Nine Colleges announce new educational partnership

Nine colleges and universities officially announced a new educational partnership — The Interlink Alliance. The unique alliance will address some of the most pressing issues facing these and other higher education institutions.

The Interlink Alliance includes Ohio University in Athens, Ohio; Spelman College in Atlanta, Hampton University in Hampton, Va.; Wilberforce University and Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio; Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, NC; North Carolina Central University in Durham, NC; SC State University in Orangeburg, SC; and Virginia State University in Petersburg, Va.

The alliance have pledged to work cooperatively in three key areas: faculty development, student leadership and an infrastructure that fosters deeper understanding of cultural perspectives on educational policies, laws and resources.

Consortium initiatives include, but are not limited to:

• Initiative for African-American males — Establishes partnerships with K-12 schools, focusing on projects to support access and opportunity for African-American males to pursue a college education.

• Faculty development — Integral to the consortium is the opportunity for faculty training, advancement and the pursuit of doctoral degrees.

• Student leadership development — This initiative will provide a multipronged approach to preparing students for high-level careers in educational institutions, corporations and governments in the global economy.

• Research collaboration — This will bring researchers together from multiple fields with special emphasis on cancer and biomedical research.

• Infrastructure — Member institutions will collaborate on infrastructure improvement through sharing best practices of successful programs, services and partnerships.

Deputy Administrator for U.S. Defense Programs visits SC State

Robert Smolen, National Nuclear Security Administrations (NNSA) deputy administrator for US defense programs recently visited the James E. Clyburn University Transportation Center (JEUTC) at SC State. Smolen directs the Stockpile Stewardship Program (SSP), which is responsible for maintaining the safety, security and reliability of the Nation’s nuclear weapons stockpile.

Smolen’s visit was in conjunction with the James E. Clyburn University Transportation Center’s Environmental Policy Institute (EPI), which conducts research for the National Nuclear Security Administration on the safe and secure transportation of nuclear sources.

On Sept. 27, 2008, the EPI’s proposal was approved by the NNSA and provided $2 million in funding to continue research, outreach and training, and curriculum development for the Nuclear Engineering program at SC State.

During his visit, Smolen toured engineering facilities, ROTC units and 8000 departments. He also held group sessions with SC State nuclear engineering students and ROTC cadets, stimulating their involvement with engineering and technology services.

The National Nuclear Security Administration has been very active in partnerships with SC State for some time. We are interested in providing practical opportunities for SC State graduates by placing them in environmental and National security programs, and Smolen.

Smolen also met with University officials to include President George E. Cooper, Dr. Leonard McIntyre, interim vice president for Research and Curriculum Development, Mr. Elliott Malon, assistant vice president for Sponsored Programs, Dr. Krenthart Brown, interim executive director of the JEUTC, Dr. Kenneth Lewis dean of the College of Science, Mathematics, and Engineering, Col. Heyward Stackhouse and Capt. Norman Garvin.

For more information about the DEP Program, or to register for the Inaugural Leadership Symposium, contact Dr. Aus S Winstead, director, Leadership and Professional Development Program, at 803-534-4861 or Ms. Pat McDonald at 803-534-4806.
SC State University Department of Business Administration was recently awarded a United States Department of Education Business and International Education grant (BIE) to assist with the launch of an international business minor at SC State.

The grant, entitled "Engaging Globalization through Curriculum Development," supports study abroad opportunities for students and assists with SC State faculty development in international business and community outreach. The total value of the grant is $393,370.

"Globalization is having a huge impact in our society. It is important for our students to become exposed to ideals and learn about business opportunities outside of the United States," said Dr. David Jamison, associate professor of Marketing and International Business minor advisor.

The four primary objectives of the BIE grant are:

- To enrich the business curriculum with additional international content through the creation and delivery of new and enhanced courses in international business.
- To motivate students to pursue studies and careers in international business by offering a minor in international business supported by enhanced international study and travel opportunities.
- To enhance faculty expertise in the field of international business through training, teaching, and travel opportunities.
- To create partnerships with businesses in the community which takes advantage of the emergent international business focus and faculty and student expertise at the University.

SC State has been awarded the BIE grant three times, in the past twelve years. In 1996, the grant was awarded to assist SC State faculty with the development of the International Business minor. Between twenty-five and thirty BIE grants are awarded nationwide each year. SC State is the only Historically Black College and University (HBCU) to receive the grant this year.

"It is an honor for SC State to receive this grant. The development of the International Business minor is an important step in enhancing the University's educational offerings. Through this program our graduates will become globally aware and internationally engaged," said SC State President George E. Cooper.

SC State’s international business minor has been approved and is currently available as an enrollment option for students. Additionally, SC State students who declare the international business minor are eligible to receive scholarships to participate in international study abroad programs currently being planned in Africa, Brazil, China, Europe, and other locations.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to be exposed to other cultures as they will gain knowledge of new languages, skills and attitudes of global business programs," said Dr. Jamison.

SC State professors, Dr. Reinhart Brown, international marketing, and Dr. Gouhua Ma, international finance, were significant contributors in SC State's attainment of the grant.

For more information about SC State's international business minor, contact Dr. David Jamison at (803) 536-8443 or djamison@scsu.edu.

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**Saba Hamidi Vadeghani**

SC State student and National Science Foundation (NSF) Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) scholar, Saba Hamidi Vadeghani, won first place in the Liquid Crystal Day Poster Presentation session, recently held at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio.

Liquid Crystal Day serves to provide platforms for intellectual and enlightening interactions between students and researchers from different academic and professional areas. Originally from Iran, Vadeghani moved to Orangeburg, S.C. and researchers from different academic and professional areas.

"I enjoyed the intellectual and inspiring atmosphere that was throughout the variety of presentations. I highly encourage my fellow students who are enthusiastic about physics and dedicated to do research, to consider LCI as a possible internship site," she continued.

Prior to participating in the Liquid Crystal Day Poster Presentation session in Sept. 2008, Vadeghani completed a ten-week summer research internship at Kent State University through the 2008 Summer Research Experience for Undergraduate Students (REU).

Vadeghani also won first place for her liquid crystal poster at the 2008 Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Programs (HBCU-UP) National Research Conference in Atlanta, Ga. in October.

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**Smolen continued from page 2**

"We look forward to creating opportunities with the National Nuclear Security Administration and deputy administrator Smolen as we further our research at SC State and the James E. Clyburn Transportation Center," said Dr. Kenneth Brown, interim executive director for the JECUTC.

Prior to his retirement in Aug. 2007, Smolen was commander of the Air Force District of Washington (AFDW), the Air Force component to the Joint Forces headquarters-National Capital Region, organizing, training, and equipping combat forces for the aerospace expeditionary forces, homeland operations, civil support, national special security events and ceremonial events.

His career includes operational experience in both ground and airborne nuclear missile command and control. He served on the staff of the Secretary of Defense and was the Director of Manpower and Personnel on the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He twice served on the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force in the Office of Legislative Liaison on Capitol Hill first in the House of Representatives and later in the Chief of the Senate office. While assigned to Air Force Headquarters in the Pentagon, he was both the Deputy and later the Director of the Air Force Office of Nuclear Counterproliferation.

Smolen received his bachelor of arts degree in communications from Allegheny College in Meadville, PA. He earned two advanced degrees, the first in public administration from the University of Oklahoma and a second in international relations from Auburn University. Additionally, he was a fellow in the Seminar XXI Programs, Foreign Policy and the National Interest, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the National and International Security Programs at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

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**SC State University**

Invest in the next generation of leadership here at SC State University as we prepare our students to compete in a dynamic global society.

George E. Cooper

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