With each passing day, it never ceases to amaze me the amount of progress we have made at South Carolina State University as we focus on being a globally recognized and highly competent and competitive comprehensive University. Our standing in the higher education community speaks for itself with solid nationally recognized academic programs and starting edge research. From the successful SCSU Foundation Scholarship Gala benefiting our annual scholarship fund, to the substantial gift for our endowment by Congressman James E. Clyburn, SC State is shining brightly in all fields of human endeavor. SC State is on a journey to greatness, and with continued support of alumni and friends, we will reach our destination.

In this issue of our FOCUS newsletter, I’m sure you will be enlightened by the many initiatives and programs which took place this summer on the SC State campus, thanks to your continued support. For example, we were privileged to have Gen. Colin L. Powell visit the University and deliver a significant message that will forever resonate with our graduates, current students and prospective students who visited Oliver C. Dowdun Stadum during our Spring Commencement. He will forever be immortalized in our ROTC Hall of Fame, along with the Bulldog Battalion and our 15 general officers, thanks to the efforts of alumni like Gen. George Price.

In addition to Gen. Powell’s visit and the many summer camps which took place, we also strive to develop our resources for athletics through your investments in the Bulldog Wall. With a continued decline in state appropriations, we hope to obtain your support in continuing a stellar program. Without you, our progress will be hampered.

I must say that I’m honored to serve as vice president for Institutional Advancement at SC State University, and I do not take lightly the awesome responsibilities bestowed upon me. As you can see from this summer’s FOCUS, we have achieved much, but challenges lie ahead as our institution continues to grow. However, if we work together towards a common vision of greatness, we can achieve anything.

Sincerely,

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

“I WANT TO GIVE TO SC STATE”

Visit www.scsu.edu/givetoscstate

Give to SC State TODAY!
"Bulldog Wall," the new showpiece

Make your reservation for SC State's Homecoming. For more information, call (803) 536-8143 by Sept. 1, 2011.

The new showpiece for SC State's Homecoming is the Bulldog Wall. It is a public awareness campaign that will have your name engraved on a brick. All former athletes and fans are encouraged to support this initiative.

While the appeal of the Bulldog Wall is primarily for the enthusiastic supporters of the football program, SC State Athletics Director Jeffries understands that the reputation of the Bulldog football program will be propelled by the reputation of the institution's latest fundraising effort. According to Anthony Holloman, vice president of University Advancement, "It took me four and a half years to get through school, two changes of major, and the only way I got out of there was that I got straight As in ROTC for four years. They rolled those straight As into my grade. I love the Army, I love military service, and I didn't say get out, get out while you can," he lamented.

"The faculty was happy to see me go, hoped the Army could make something out of me and said goodbye with a sigh of relief," he said as the stadium filled with laughter. "Now of course I am considered one of the greatest sons CCNY has ever had. So those of you that are not graduating with a 3.8 or better, have faith my young friends, have faith."

While he may not have thrived in his college setting, Powell dominated the military sector which he thoroughly enjoyed and was an obvious sign that he was moving in the right direction. "I loved the Army. I was a professional soldier and I was a good soldier," he said. Recalling his successful path, Powell shared that while in Vietnam he served as a captain and was privileged to meet SC State alumnus and Gen. George Price, '31. "George was an example to me of being what an officer meant. He was a professional. He looked the part and he watched over me. We began a friendship that has now lasted over a century," he reflected. "What he gave me he had given to thousands of other young soldiers over the years and I shared it with others, and I thank South Carolina State for producing George and all others."

Powell went on to discuss his appointment as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He was the first ROTC graduate from CCNY to attain such a prestigious position. "Perform and you go places; don't perform and you won't," he noted. "But I didn't need to go to the top. I didn't need to have a name engraved on a brick and to be recognized."

It is a distinguished honor to have Gen. Colin L. Powell on the campus of SC State University," stated Corbett. It is also an honor for him to be inducted in our ROTC Hall of Fame. It is Gen. Powell's tenets of service and commitment to the community that will provide an example for our future leaders of tomorrow.

Gen. Colin L. Powell Inducted Into SC State's ROTC Hall of Fame by Tameka Keran

Get your name engraved on the "Bulldog Wall," the new showpiece for Oliver C. Dawson Stadium.

Personalized bricks are $500. Make your reservation by Sept. 1, 2011. For more information, call (803) 536-8143.

As Gen. Colin L. Powell USA (Ret) walked into the John W. Matthews 1890 Extension Auditorium on the SC State campus, the poker face that he normally exhibits when speaking on military issues and national policies, transitioned into a smiling one when SC State Lt. Col. Derrick Corbett, professor of military science, presented him with a plaque and inducted Gen. Powell into the University's ROTC Hall of Fame. Corbett honored bestowed upon Army ROTC Battalion graduates and other individuals including those who have made significant contributions to society. Gen. Powell's case, however, has achieved national prominence.

Gen. Powell's prominence was not expected, however, as he was an average student at the City College of New York. But a new high position with the ROTC, he was given a sense of discipline and purpose and decided to pursue a career in the military sector which he thoroughly enjoyed and was an obvious sign that he was moving in the right direction. "I loved the Army. I was a professional soldier and I was a good soldier," he said. Recalling his successful path, Powell shared that while in Vietnam he served as a captain and was privileged to meet SC State alumnus and Gen. George Price, '31. "George was an example to me of being what an officer meant. He was a professional. He looked the part and he watched over me. We began a friendship that has now lasted over a century," he reflected. "What he gave me he had given to thousands of other young soldiers over the years and I shared it with others, and I thank South Carolina State for producing George and all others."

While noting the importance of these events, he joyfully urged the graduates not to forget one important detail about that night. "I'm worried that with all of that you might forget who your commencement speaker was. That's P.O.W.E.L.L. and don't you forget that," he humorously expressed.

Delivering a message of triumph and success, Powell told of his humble beginnings as a native of Harlem, raised in the South Bronx section of New York City. Upon graduating from Morris High School, he attended the City College of New York (CCNY). While there, he says he was not considered one of CCNY's most promising students. "It took me four and a half years to get through school, two changes of major, and the only way I got out of there was that I got straight As in ROTC for four years. They rolled those straight As into my grade. I love the Army, I love military service, and I didn't say get out, get out while you can," he lamented.

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Gen. Colin L. Powell Offers Resonating Message during SC State University's Spring Commencement by Ashley Elliott

This is a remarkable day for you, and your families, as your years of intense study and hard work have paid off. I know that you all are looking forward to this day, to see your names engraved on individual bricks that will be placed on the Bulldog Wall at Oliver C. Dawson Stadium.

“Of the things that was important to us was to find a way to create resources to support our athletics facilities,” says Holloman. “Clearly the greatest expenses would lie in the maintenance of the surface of the football stadium.” Therefore, Holloman, former coach and chairperson for the Bulldog Wall committee, Willie Jeffries, and the athletics department at SC State have undertaken the Bulldog Wall initiative with the initial goal of selling 500 bricks at $500 per brick, ultimately raising $250,000 by Homecoming. Currently, the University has raised nearly $20,000 for the campaign, and Jeffries hopes that the reputation of Bulldog football will propel our former athletes and all citizens to help the University surpass their goal. Holloman, former coach and chairperson for the Bulldog Wall committee, Willie Jeffries, and the athletics department at SC State have undertaken the Bulldog Wall initiative with the initial goal of selling 500 bricks at $500 per brick, ultimately raising $250,000 by Homecoming. Currently, the University has raised nearly $20,000 for the campaign, and Jeffries hopes that the reputation of Bulldog football will propel our former athletes and all citizens to help the University surpass their goal.
Orangeburg-Wilkinson High school graduate wins USDA's 1890 Scholarship

by Terri Byrd

Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School (Orangeburg, S.C.) graduate Deondre Glover, the 2011 USDA/1890 National Scholar selected to attend SC State University.

Since his establishment in 1947, SC State University's Army ROTC has developed 15 general officers. Following in the footsteps of these 15 gentlemen, Col. Bruce Crawford was recently nominated for the leadership position of brigadier general. Crawford is a native of Hopkins, S.C., Crawford received his Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering and was commissioned in the SC State University as a member of the Army ROTC program shaped my thinking and laid the foundation for my overall outlook on leadership as a commissioned officer in the US Army.

Based on the incomparable leadership and the foundation that was implemented from three Bulldog Battalion alumni, including Lt. Col. Chris Jenkins (Ret), Maj. Gen. Abraham Turner (Ret) and Col. Ted Bowden (Ret), Crawford learned that you have to strive for excellence and that you have to earn respect; nothing would be given to you in the Bulldog Battalion. The professional example that I set has made this all possible," says Crawford. "My initial reaction was to take people with dignity and respect, regardless of their station in life or class," says Crawford. As the oldest of four siblings, Crawford has always led by example.

Crawford's family principles that he kept throughout his life which positioned him for leadership. Raised by an encouraging single-parent mother in Columbia, S.C. who taught him and his siblings discipline and character. His grandparents, who could barely read or write, placed in Crawford values and morals to live by. "I was always taught to treat people with dignity and respect, regardless of their station in life or class," says Crawford. As the oldest of four siblings, Crawford has always led by example.

Crawford first heard of SC State University through his high school instructor, Clarence W. Hill, who now serves as the assistant professor of electrical engineering at SC State. Hill became a friend and mentor to Crawford. "Clarence W. Hill, an army veteran, was the first to mention the Army ROTC program and electrical engineering as an option at the University. He instilled in me that by enrolling in the Army ROTC program I was a part of something much greater than myself," declares Crawford. "It gave me and many others a sense of immense pride in the Army ROTC program and our history."
Teenagers from across the country took a peek inside America's past on June 13 while visiting Freewoods Living Farm Museum hosted 16 high school students who were selected by Dervedia Thomas, program director, Dr. Christopher C. Mathis at cmathis@scsu.edu or (803) 536-8974.

The program, which ran for the second time at SC State, allowed participants to live on the campus and learn about agriculture-related fields from University professionals, practicing veterinarians and professionals working for the U.S. Government. Students gained experience through hands-on activities at the U.S. Vegetable Laboratory in Charleston S.C., where they learned about various fruits and vegetables and the Clemson Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in Pickens County, S.C., where they conducted mock diagnostic testing of artificial demonstration chickens. Additionally, students attended workshops on financial management, replication of a farm businesses and farmhouses adorned with furniture relevant to that time.

The goal of AgDiscovery is to help students learn about careers in agriculture including animal science, veterinary medicine, agriculture marketing, ag-education, agriculture extension education and ag-marketing. According to the camp coordinator, Dr. Christopher C. Mathis Jr., agriculture is a profitable industry which offers numerous career opportunities.

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