



UNIVERSITY OF
South Carolina
UNION

A Regional Palmetto College

FO Minutes
October 11, 2024 – 12:30 PM
Whitener Building, Community Room

Attendance online

Sarah Heuss
Caroline Wilson
Greta Bailey
Sandy Phillips-Long
Tekla Johnson
Steve Lowe
Neill Hance
Ashley Rabanal
Sarah Carter
Joe Anderson

Attendance in person

Randy Lowell
Steve Lownes
Andrew Pisano
Allan Charles
Andrew Kettler
Emily Schafer
Katie Klik
Courtney Pinnell
Avery Fouts
David Hudson
Lee Morris
David Mitra
Gale Ashmore
Jennifer Triplett
Maggie Aziz
Randy Ivey

The meeting was called to order at 12:40 by Dr. Pisano.

Approval of minutes from September 13 meeting

Approved as submitted.

Dean's Report: Dr. Randy Lowell

Dr. Lowell's report is attached to these minutes.

Academic Dean's Report: Dr. Maggie Aziz

Dr. Aziz' report is attached to these minutes.

Dr. Pisano announced that the Faculty Senate is working on a way for instructors to go up for **senior instructor**. An ad-hoc committee was formed to work on this policy. The committee will consist of: Randy Ivey, Sandy Phillips-Long, Andrew Pisano (chair), Steve Lownes, and one more person. Follow-up discussion indicated that other PC campuses such as Lancaster and Sumter already have a senior instructor position in place.

Committee Reports

Change in wording for **Faculty Welfare (and Grievance) Committee**

Dr. Johnson mentioned areas of grievances, such as discretionary raises, course releases, conflicts with colleagues, etc.

Dr. Lownes pulled up the wording and projected it on the screen for everyone to see during the ensuing discussion.

Dr. Klik indicated that the faculty welfare committee did do much less than what they're taking on now. To take on grievances now is getting to be too much.

Confidentiality question brought up by Dr. Kettler; Dr. Johnson wants to take that back to the systems committee and report in November and we will discuss again and possibly move forward to a vote in January.

Dr. Lownes announced that the **Latin American Film Festival** will start back up after Fall Break. The film *Home is Somewhere Else* will play again, since its run was interrupted by the hurricane. Emily already did a talk on that film. For the next film, *City of the Future*, Tekla will do the talk.

Batwoman is the last film in the set.

Dr. Lowell announced that December 06 has been set for the **Faculty-Staff Christmas Party**. We will do the white elephant exchange with a cap of \$20 max.

Dr. Johnson announced that the **African American Film Festival** will be held on Wednesday October 23 in the student center from 12:30 to 6:30. The films to be shown are *School Daze*; and *Queen and Slim*. There will be discussions of these films following each one.

Adjournment

1:45 PM

Submitted by:
Gale Ashmore, FO Secretary

Attachments:

- Campus Dean's Report
- Academic Dean's Report

Randy Lowell, USC Union
Dean's Report
October 11, 2024

- Fall enrollment, as of yesterday, is 1 behind last Fall's record high final headcount, at 1,353 (compared to 1,354 at freeze last Fall), and 5 ahead of last Fall's FTE, at 780 (compared to 775 at freeze last Fall). Freeze this semester has been pushed back slightly more toward the end of October, so there is still an opportunity to potentially add a few new students in time for the start of Fall II classes next week.
- In the most recent Niche.com 2025 best colleges rankings, we moved up to the #5 spot in the category of Best Community Colleges in South Carolina, and #223 (out of 755) in America.
- One of our candidates for the Education Coordinator position, Carolyn Conley (goes by Cari), has accepted our offer and will be joining us starting October 21.
- USC Columbia's Student Government Association, spearheaded by their student body President, Patton Byars, organized a major stuff-the-bus donation drive last weekend in Columbia, and had all of those items delivered here on campus in Union on Monday for our students. This was a massive load of donations of food, hygiene products, paper supplies, burners, pet food, baby supplies, bottled water, etc., so we are extremely grateful for their support and assistance in restocking our campus food pantry as well. If you are aware of anyone on campus who is particularly in need of baby wipes or diapers, there were a lot of those included in what was dropped off, so we want to make sure they make it to people who need them as well. We had a load of those supplies taken over to our Laurens Location in Clinton to be available to students there as well. United Way of the Piedmont had to postpone the originally planned Fall Food Drive push for campus for next month in order to devote sufficient attention toward hurricane recovery efforts in the Upstate. They did, however, encourage their corporate partners in this area to donate items for our campus over the course of this week.
- At our Laurens Location in Clinton, the National Guard had set up an operation in the parking lot to distribute MREs and bottled water to the community starting last week. By October 7, they had given out 16,128 meals and 864 cases of water, and have continued steady distribution through this week as well. Our location there in Clinton had also served as a drop-off site for other donations from the community that the United Way collected to deliver to others around the region who were severely impacted by the hurricane.
- Financial Aid Director, Bobby Holcombe, and team put on another great annual Guidance Counselor Luncheon on 9/20. There were dozens of guidance counselors from all over the state in attendance to get updates on financial aid from SC CHE staff and updates from us about our campus.
- The new Palmetto College Staff Senate is poised to launch in the near future, likely in 2025. This entity will mirror the same type of shared governance for the staff at the PC campuses that has already existed for some time for the faculty through the Palmetto College Faculty Senate. Each campus will have membership from its staff on this new body.
- Taylor Atkinson, Director of the Union County Carnegie Library, will be providing Mental Health First Aid training on campus in Union on 11/1, starting at 9:00am. There will be 2 hours of pre-coursework prior to training day, and a cap of 20 people can enroll in this by 10/21.

- Research Club will be had a great Lunch & Learn presentation from Dr. Jennifer Triplett last month, which you can check out a recording of on our Research Club Instagram page if you missed it (@uscu.research). Coming up for the club, we will have a Bake Sale fundraiser on October 22, in case you would like to participate in some way in that effort, with some baked goods to sell or by enjoying some of the inventory that day. It will be located in Whitener Central Building first floor lobby and outside the Academic Success Center in the Family Life building, from 9:30 until around 2:30 that day. We will also have another Lunch & Learn event coming up on November 11, featuring a presentation by our PSC provider, Dylan Wong, related to some of his doctoral research.
- Faculty/Staff campus holiday party will be on 12/6. More details to come as we get closer to December.
- Some campus project updates include the following:
 - o Main Building renovation continues to make progress, with the bid going out for the put back work in that building, looking to have the work completed sometime toward the middle or end of the upcoming Spring semester.
 - o The softball field had all of the below-ground work completed, which accounts for a significant portion of the budget for that project, and has now entered into the above-ground staking and framing of structures that will be going up around that field.
 - o A number of other projects that already have state funding allocated and in place for them continue at various stages of planning and contracting, including the Jonesville gym, and the Laurens Location kitchen, cafeteria, gym, bathrooms, offices, and weight room.
 - o Boudreaux is close to having a full draft of the updated Campus Master Plan to be able to share for additional feedback before finalizing that document.

Academic Dean's Report
Dr. Majdouline Aziz
October 11, 2024

Department Updates:

Faculty Accomplishments:

- Randy Ivey –

"Ol' Fred: A Tribute to Fred Chappell," publication for the Abbeville Institute, January 2024

"William Goyen, Texas Literary Rebel," essay for the Fleming Foundation, Feb., 2024

"My Father, Man of the South," personal essay, for the Abbeville Institute, June 2024

Three poems in Chronicles magazine, "Unmasked," "Green Eyes," and "An Iris in Late Winter,"
September 2024

Forthcoming:

Brussels Review (Fall 2024) poems: "Dark Hearts of Southern Boys," "In Passing," "Intellectus," "Last Poem," and "Mouth."

Dead Mule School of Southern Literature (Winter 2025): "Call Me Aa-ron."

Alabama Literary Review (Fall 2024): "Paradise Lost: A Review of David Middleton's *Outside the Gates of Eden*."

Courtship of the Winds (Winter 2025): "Mama and Bolero."

The Gift of Gab and Other Stories from Green Altar Books (November 2024).

- Dr. Majdouline Aziz –

Conducted peer review of article submitted for publication in the American Journal of Orthopsychiatry

Invited to speak on a panel for the Chronicle of Higher Education on USC Union's efforts to increase humanities education. Hurricane Helene interrupted those plans.

Athletics:

- General –

On September 25, 2024, an audit review for Men's Golf was sent from NJCAA. This process has to be mailed in to the National office within one day of receiving this process, it takes a long time to print and have all documents in on time. We found out recently on 10/2 that we cleared the Audit.

- Bass Fishing –

On September 27-30, 2024, Caleb and Tanner outperformed 1,500 anglers to participate in an 8-man event at Tims Ford in Tennessee. Although Tanner fished well, he came up short and finished 7th. Caleb made it to the semi-finals and ended up finishing 4th. Both were on TV for 4 days for everyone to see.

On October 6, 2024, Isaac Greene and Joe Bontrager won first place in the Clemson Bass Trial with a combined weight of 16.75 LBS, and Kaleb Hudson came in 11th out of 150 boaters at the Logan Park tournament

On October 7, 2024, the Bass Fishing team has a winter clothes drive for the community of Laurens for hurricane victims who have lost items during this disaster.

- Volleyball –

On September 14, 2024, the volleyball team won its first game of the season with a 3-2 victory over Lenior Community College.

- Softball –

On September 14, 2024, the softball team held a fundraiser camp where 20 girls came out to check out our indoor facility and practice. The money that was raised for this event went in for softball and this event also gave them a great opportunity to see potential future Bantams.

On September 21, 2024, students went to Clemson University and worked the football game, doing various jobs. This event brings in typically around 1,500-2,300 dollars for the day.

On October 5, 2024, the team traveled to Salem University (D3). Softball won the first game with a 13-4 victory. The second game Salem ended up shutting us down losing 0-4. In the third game we came out and won 5-3.

- Baseball –

On September 15, 2024, the Bantams won big over Rockingham Community College 10-4. The Bantams made 11 hits in the game. Talarico provided pop in the middle of the lineup and led the Bantams with four runs batted in. Hayden Friend and Josh Jackson each had two hits. Overall, the team had patience at the plate, amassing eight walks. The Bantams also had six stolen bases in the game.

On September 16, 2024, the Baseball team went and worked Miracle League.

On September 19, 2024, the Baseball team went out to Sims Middle School to help run the chains for the football team.

On September 19, 2024, Micah went to Woodruff school and spoke with some high school students about life as a collegiate athlete and USC Union Bantams.

On September 22, 2024, Bantams Beat Showtime On Powerful Performance from Markus Kirksey. Kirksey hit two home runs and drove in five as Bantams defeated Showtime 13-3. The Bantams tallied 11 hits in the game. Hayden Friend, Talarico, Kirksey, and Jackson each got two hits. The Bantams were sure handed on the day and didn't commit a single error.

On September 22, 2024, Bantams Defeats Showtime Of Clutch Display From Colin Ingle 20-8. The Bantams collected 20 hits in the game. Ingle, Joseph, Murphy, and Alex Kiniry each had four hits. Blake Baldwin led things off on the hill for the Bantams. The hurler gave up one hit and zero runs over one inning, striking out one and walking none.

On September 23, 2024, Baseball helped with the Miracle League.

- Golf –

On September 14-17, 2024, The Bantams golf team played in the Fincastle Collegiate golf tournament in Bluefield VA. The team finished 11th out of 14 teams. Bantam golfer Carson Williams finished tied for 21st place.

The team is involved in a fund raiser through the National Turkey Federation which runs through November 15th.

On October 12-15, 2024, The team will travel to Wagram, NC for the St. Andrews Fall Men's Classic.

- Rifle –

On September 19, 2024, Attended the Ole Miss Open in Oxford MS which is both SB and air rifle, with the SB portion being a 3x20 and air being 60 shot SAR. Keagan scored 533 in SB and 572 in air. Mekayla shot 521 in SB and a 584 in the air. This was both girls' 1st match that incorporated both disciplines and Mekayla's 1st SAR match. Mekayla placed 7th in the air portion of the match against some of the best young ladies from across the country. Their scores are consistently improving and will continue to improve throughout the season. Compared to scores from last year's Club National Championships, they would be in the top 50% in SB, Mekayla would be in the top 3 in SAR, and Keagan would be in the top 10 SAR.

DEFINITIONS

1. 3x40 & 3x20- the 3 refers to the 3 positions that are shot during all SB matches. The 3 positions are kneeling, prone, and standing. 40 or the 20 refers to the number of record shots (the points that count) for each position.
2. SB- smallbore
3. SAR- standing air rifle
4. sporter- 3 position air rifle that has an age limit of high school graduation.

Fundraising will occur Nov. 7-9 with the Bantam Open being held in Tru Luck Gym, this will be a 3x20 sporter air rifle match for high school teams that will also include campus tours for teams and individuals that are interested. This will also create recruiting opportunities for the rifle program as well as exposure to the university for more potential students in general.

- Soccer –

On September 21, 2024, For the first time in school history, USC Union Men's Soccer team defeated Richard Bland 5-1. This is also the first time Richard Bland has lost at home in 4 years.

On October 5, 2024, USC Union Men's Soccer traveled to SWCC and won 3-0 putting us in 4th in the region 1 point behind 3rd.

Nursing:

The Dedication of Hands ceremony was held on Wednesday 9/18 to celebrate first-semester nursing students going into the clinical environment to begin taking care of patients. It was hosted by Dr. Chargualaf and Dr. Abraham-Settle from the Aiken School of Nursing and well attended by family, faculty, and staff. Our first clinical for those students was postponed by one week due to Helene but they will begin this week.

Lynn has multiple recruiting sessions scheduled to increase enrollment.

Monica is working hard on getting Intro to Public Health ready for the spring semester for any student interested in the field of healthcare or public health.

We will also be working with Dr. Lownes to coordinate a live simulation involving a Spanish-speaking patient using a medical interpreter. This will be a great experience for students to get an idea of how medical interpreters work in the healthcare environment and how to provide culturally competent nursing care.

Student Academic Success Center:

Student Success Center:

Wednesday, October 23
Second Half Success- Get n/Game & Win!
12:15 pm
Academic Success Center

Wednesday, October 30
Pre-Registration for Spring
Noon - 1 pm

Intramurals:

Ping Pong Competition
8-Ball - Challenge the Dean
Cornhole Competition

Student Activities:

Fall Frenzy
Tuesday, Oct. 15
10 am - 2 pm
Central Bldg. - patio

Human Resources:

Please be reminded that open enrollment ends Oct. 31.

Academic Affairs:

Upcoming Events:

- MycoWorks: MycoWorks is interviewing officials & community members in the next couple of weeks for a documentary they're working on. Annie would like to know if any faculty have had any type of interactions with Mycoworks - job-related, business partner, etc.
- First Generation College Celebration Day: On Wednesday, November 13, we're celebrating First-Generation College Day with a lineup of engaging activities. One of our goals is to foster connections between students and our dedicated faculty and staff throughout the day. Please encourage your students to attend the various events scheduled throughout the day and if you can, please provide incentives to encourage participation. Also, please excuse students from the afternoon first-generation celebration party, this portion of the day is by invite only (2:45-4:00). All events will be held in the gym. Attendance will be recorded and sent to all faculty after the event has concluded.
 - 9:00-10:30 – Biscuits and Brainiacs – please consider volunteering to play trivia. Currently, 11 faculty/staff members have volunteered. Breakfast is provided by Bantam Chef. This is open to all students, faculty, and staff.
 - 11:30-2:30 – Expo – currently we have 25 booths reserved. Please submit any printing/purchase requests to Amber Ivey no later than November 1. Students will be required to visit a minimum of 10 booths to earn a food ticket. Mac Attack will be the food vendor. Food options include Brisket Burnt End Mac, Carolina Pulled Pork, Nashville Hot Chicken, and Classic Mac Attack. All dishes will include a cookie and drink. This is open to all students, faculty, and staff.
 - 3:45-4:45 – First-Gen Party – Open only to first-generation college students, faculty, and staff.
- Student-Athlete Workshops: Each November, the Office of Academic and Student Affairs hosts a workshop series for student-athletes. While mandatory for student-athletes, these will be open to all students so please encourage your students to attend and help us get the word out. Faculty are also invited. This year, the workshop series is scheduled for November 18-21. List of workshops below: Each workshop will be held in the auditorium.
 - Monday, November 18 (2:30-4:00) – Dylan Wong is speaking to athletes on mental health and stress.
 - Tuesday, November 19 (2:30-4:00) –Project Rest is presenting on sexual assault prevention.
 - Wednesday, November 20 (2:30-4:00) – MADD is coming to speak on alcohol awareness and drunk driving. Also, on that day, the USC-Columbia Substance Abuse Prevention & Education Office is speaking to the athletes on drug awareness and will show how to use Narcan.
 - Thursday, November 21 (2:30-4:00) – Safe Passage is then coming to speak on domestic abuse awareness for the athletes.
- Community Training Modules: Academic Affairs is currently working on supporting community training modules for students through Vector. The current completion rate for students is 95/255, or 37%. We need to raise these numbers in general and are working with the Athletic Department, U101, and the Student Success Center to create incentives and situations for students to complete these required training. Please provide students with information about when you can complete these Vector modules, which are due in December for all non-dual enrollment students.

- **Mental Health First Aid Training:** On 11/1, Taylor Atkinson is providing mental health emergency training in the Community Room for an all-day event. Registration is posted this week with location and time. Attendance through the event provides students, faculty, and staff with certification to become emergency mental health trainees themselves. Registration closes on the 21st. Please provide this information for your classes and other campus spaces.
- **Food Pantry:** The fresh food pantry is running well, and we have filled up the 24 students for each two-week distribution per the South Carolina Physicians Charity Grant. We are on a pause now for the distributions through RobinHood due to the hurricane and expect to be up and running with distribution again in late October. If you know of a specific student in need, please be in contact as we can get a few extra bags each distribution and some students may not return the correct calls each time to keep our current roster of 24. Currently, we also have other food drives from the United Way due to a large shipment up from the Stuff the Bus campaign from the main campus in Columbia. Distribution for students and community members is occurring at the Student Success Center.
- **Faculty Professional Development:** We are planning Faculty Development workshops for the late fall and the spring semester. Initially, we expect to have someone come up to teach Faculty and Staff training on Narcan. We are also open to any faculty who would like to present their research or other topics of interest for the campus. These meetings will be after FO and on other Fridays when they begin to be scheduled in late fall and early spring. If you would like to present or propose a topic please be in touch.
- **History Suite Library:** For any professors who want to unload books or journals, the history suite is building a lending library and research area for students. Please get in touch, or simply bring any boxes by for that creation.

Faculty Action Items:

- **Guidance on Assignments and Exams Following Hurricane Helene:** Below is some important information regarding assignments and exams that were scheduled during our campus closure:
 - **Rescheduling of Assignments and Exams:** Any assignments due and exams scheduled between September 27 and October 6 will need to be rescheduled. Students should not be penalized for not submitting their assignments during this period. This applies to both in-person and online classes. For online courses, if students had an assignment due on the 27th and were unable to complete it, even if they waited until the last day to do so despite having several days to complete it, they should not be penalized, since they were technically given until Friday to complete it.
 - **Consideration for Students:** Some students still lack power and internet access. Please work with each student individually based on their unique circumstances and needs.
 - **Communication with Students:** Reach out to your students as soon as possible through Blackboard announcements and emails to inform them of the adjustments being made to your course schedule and assignments.
 - **Student Academic Success Center:** Students are welcome to use the computers available in the Student Academic Success Center, which is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **HERD Forms:** Each year, the National Science Foundation, conducts an annual survey of Higher Education Research and Development expenditures at U.S. colleges and universities. The survey collects information on R&D expenditures by field of research and source of funds and gathers

information on types of research, expenses, and headcounts of R&D personnel. It is conducted by the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES) within the National Science Foundation and is used to determine the Carnegie Classification of higher education institutions and other ratings and rankings, including membership to the Association of American Universities (AAU). To capture true R&D expenditures, the University has developed the HERD Reporting eForm to allow faculty members to report research time not already captured on internal and external research funding sources. Supervisors carefully review the salary information in the report to ensure its accuracy. For instance, they check if any external grants the employee is working on are included in the report. They also examine the amount charged to the University Accounts section and record the time spent on research-related activities by entering a value from 0-100 in the research percent column on the form. If necessary, they have discussions with employees to help them complete the form. Therefore, I may reach out to you individually if information is needed. I will need quick responses as this is due by Oct. 25.

- Columbia IT Training: Currently scheduled for Oct. 18, however Columbia is looking at alternate dates. I will keep you updated on a change of date.
- Faculty Information Forms and Individual Research, Scholarly Activity, and Service Reports will be emailed Nov. 1 and are due back to me by the end of January. I will forward the reports to the appropriate committees for peer review.

To conduct a thorough review, please consider incorporating the following in each section:

- Teaching – teaching load, # of preps/new courses, locations, formats, results of course evaluations, descriptions of each course taught each semester (including course design, link to USCU mission, Carolina core fulfillment, professional development, etc.
- Scholarship – list and describe each activity (papers in preparation, presentations, papers under review, publications, grants, creative activities, consultations, workshops, etc.)
- Service – list and describe each activity (advising, committees, attendance at university functions, club activities, peer reviews, etc.)
- Adjunct Peer Reviews have begun. I have already started reaching out to those who require a review and enlisting volunteers to conduct those reviews.
- Advising for Spring 2024 will begin October 28. I will send the final advising schedule soon. The schedule has been emailed out to all faculty advisors. Reach out to your advisees directly to schedule appointments. New students will be assigned via Calendly. Keep a lookout for those appointments and make sure to put in your availability.
- Summer and Fall 2024 Schedule Planning: I will begin reaching out to all faculty before the end of this semester to plan Summer/Fall 2025. Please begin thinking about what you would like to offer.

Search Committees:

- Tenure-Track Psychology, Chair: Dr. Klik
- Instructor of Spanish, Chair, Dr. Lownes
- Instructor of Biology, Chair, Dr. Phillips-Long
- Tenure-Track Political Science, Chair, Dr. Rinehart

New/Prospective Programs & Partnerships:

- USC Upstate Center of Excellence Grant: The grant submitted in partnership with USC Upstate, USC Union, and Union County School District has been funded. Beginning in Spring 2025, we will

incorporate a literacy component into the PCAM 299 After School Alliance course. As a portion of their internship requirement, students will be placed at Jonesville Elementary School where they will serve as reading facilitators to pk-3 students. Students will be paid \$10 per hour for training and clinic hours. We will also hire a clinic facilitator, most likely the Education Coordinator. This will run each semester with 10 students being eligible to participate. They do not have to take PCAM 299 to participate, however, it will be built into that curriculum. If you know of any students who are interested in participating, please send them my way.

- I submitted a prospectus to add Fountain Inn High School as a dual enrollment partner. The ACAP meeting for approval is scheduled for next week.
- As you may recall, we submitted prospectuses on behalf of Gray Collegiate Academy and Clover High School, who were seeking to offer 50% or more of the AA and AS degree program through USC Union. Both were approved and these schools are now USC Union sites.
- As you begin advising students for Spring 2025, please keep in mind the transfer pathways with USC Upstate - Fast-Track to Teaching and USC Columbia - College of Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management (HRSM). Advising forms for all transfer pathways are in the faculty drive.
- I am getting closer to finalizing the transfer pathway with USC Columbia – BS in Pharmaceutical Sciences/PharmD.

SPRING 2025 Updates

Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE): This spring, USC Union will be participating in the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE), a national survey of institutional practices and student behaviors. CCSSE is an initiative of CCSSE at the University of Texas Austin. This assessment tool will provide information on student engagement and is comprised of items that assess institutional practices and student behaviors that are highly correlated with student learning and retention. Survey data will be used for feedback to the campus and faculty/staff related to how our students are engaging with the campus, which contribute to learning, retention, and successful completion of degree requirements. Results will assist our campus in strategic planning and SACSCOC accreditation and allow us compare engagement across the PC campuses.

The survey will be administered during the spring academic term (March through April). Note: depending on timely receipt of survey packets from UT-Austin, it may be possible to administer surveys prior to the start of spring break.

It will be administered in the classroom as a pencil-and-paper survey to students in randomly selected credit courses.

Faculty are not responsible for administering the surveys. The administration of the surveys will be handled by designated staff on campus. I will reach out to those selected as staff administrators in a separate email.

Historically, the survey has taken up to 45 minutes for students to complete within the classroom. Therefore, survey administration will take up an entire class period for selected course sections. Should your course section(s) be selected, faculty are not required to participate, although they are strongly encouraged so that the campus receives useful student data for reasons stated above. Faculty teaching full-term F2F courses may choose to build in “wiggle-room” in their syllabi in case one or more of their sections are selected and/or record and upload lectures for selected sections as they are notified. If

faculty choose to have their selected sections participate, there is no need to inform students that it will be taking place to ensure maximum attendance during those class periods.

Faculty of selected course sections will be notified shortly after the first add/drop period of the spring semester (mid-January).

First-Year Freshman Academic Recovery Program: This spring, we will roll out the First-Year Freshman Academic Recovery Program. This program was developed based on the USC First-Year Freshman Academic Recovery Program (included in the Academic Bulletin). Through this program, if a student's Total Institutional GPA falls below 2.00 by the conclusion of any semester, they are placed under academic probation. Specifically for first-year freshmen at USC, a program known as the First-Year Freshman Academic Recovery Program is initiated when their Total Institutional GPA is below 2.00 at the end of their inaugural semester. During the initial six weeks of their second semester, these students are required to engage in academic coaching before becoming eligible for course registration in the third semester.

Per the USC Union Bulletin:

Academic Probation: When a student's Total Institutional GPA at the end of any semester is less than a 2.00, he or she is placed on academic probation.

Removal from Academic Probation: When a student's Total Institutional GPA at the end of any semester is a 2.00 or above, he or she is not on academic probation.

Continuing on Academic Probation: Any student who is on probation at the beginning of a fall or spring semester must achieve a certain Total Institutional GPA at the end of that semester in order to avoid suspension. A student may also continue on probation and avoid suspension if the semester grade point average is 2.50 or greater. Standards for continuing on probation are based on the cumulative grade hours the student has attempted at USC . The chart below shows the grade point averages required in order to avoid suspension.

Total Institutional GPA Hours	Placed on Probation	Continue on Probation (avoid suspension)	Removed from Probation
12-35	below 2.00 Total Institutional GPA	1.500 or higher Total Institutional GPA	2.00 or higher Total Institutional GPA
36-71	below 2.00 Total Institutional GPA	1.800 or higher Total Institutional GPA	2.00 or higher Total Institutional GPA
72+	below 2.00 Total Institutional GPA	only with semester reprieve (see below) or by college petition	2.00 or higher Total Institutional GPA

Semester Reprieve: Regardless of the Total Institutional GPA, a student may continue on probation and avoid suspension if the Current Term grade point average is 2.50 or greater.

Students placed on probation will be encouraged to participate in this program which will provide students with assistance in academic planning, general advisement, major exploration, degree audit,

self-assessments, and success strategies. At USC Union, academic coaching will extend beyond six weeks giving students more academic coaching throughout the course of the semesters. Students who do not complete the program will not be restricted from registering for classes.

Advisors will receive a list of advisees who are eligible to participate in this program.

The recovery program consists of four requirements:

1. Academic Success Plan: Upon notification of an advisee on probation, the advisor should schedule a meeting to discuss the student's Academic Success Plan. Advisors will receive the Academic Success Plan Form, which can be customized to suit the student's individual circumstances (highlighted areas only). This form must be initialed by the student and signed by both the student and advisor. The advisor should retain a copy of the form and submit another to the University Registrar, Blake Wilson, at bentleyt@mailbox.sc.edu.
2. Academic Wellness Check: Students on probation are required to meet with their advisor once per month for an Academic Wellness Check. After each meeting, advisors will complete the Monthly Academic Wellness Check Form to document progress towards successful completion of the Academic Wellness Plan. Advisors should retain a copy for their records and submit another to the University Registrar, Blake Wilson, at bentleyt@mailbox.sc.edu at the end of the semester.
3. Mid-Semester Progress Report (Faculty Evaluation): Students on probation must have each faculty member complete a mid-semester progress report form, which is then submitted to the student's advisor. Faculty members should keep a copy of this progress report for their records. Students are required to submit these forms, one for each class in which they are registered, to their advisor by the second Monday following Fall/Spring Break. Advisors will retain a copy for their records and submit another to the University Registrar, Blake Wilson, at bentleyt@mailbox.sc.edu.
4. Professor-Student Check-In: Students on probation must schedule at least two meetings with their professors during the semester, preferably during the professor's scheduled office hours. If the course is virtual, a virtual meeting is sufficient. During these meetings, the student will have the professor complete the Professor-Student Check-In Form. The completed form must be submitted to the advisor before the last day of final exams. Advisors will retain a copy for their records and submit another to the University Registrar, Blake Wilson, at bentleyt@mailbox.sc.edu at the end of the semester.

If the student completes all requirements outlined in the Academic Success Plan, they will be eligible to receive a \$500 scholarship to be applied towards tuition at USC Union for the subsequent semester.