

Executive Committee Meeting Reports

October 7, 2025

Senior Associate Dean's Report – Dr. Caughman Taylor

No report - any interim or more final items will be presented verbally.

Operational Finance and Administration Report – Derek Payne

USC School of Medicine Educational Trust: The financial statement and retirement plan audits have been issued. The 5500 will be filed with the IRS this week and work on the 990 is underway.

School of Medicine Finance and Administration: *Purchasing Card Program Changes:* The State has audited the purchasing card program and has mandated a 50% reduction in the number of cards at USC. This reduction is being made at the department level. Cardholders, liaisons, and department heads have been made aware of the required reduction. Responses are due directly to Purchasing by this Friday. Non-responses will force the University to arbitrarily select cards for elimination in your department.

Telecommuting Guidelines: The State Office of Human Resources has mandated weekly reporting of variations from approved telecommuting schedules. This includes not only employees who have an approved telecommuting arrangement, but also any employee without a telecommuting arrangement who telecommutes for longer than 45 minutes at a time. For example, if you have a doctor's appointment at 10:00am and work from home from 8:00 until 9:30, you will need to report that hour and a half of remote work in your weekly report. SOM HR has been asked to combine all reports for the School of Medicine on a weekly basis so we will only submit one report.

Reminders: Open Enrollment began on October 1st and runs through the end of the month. The SOMC Benefits Fair and flu shot clinic will be held on Tuesday, October 21st from 12:30 – 4:00 pm on the second floor of the library. A second flu shot clinic will be held on Friday, October 31st, from 12:30 – 4:00 pm in the M2 classroom in conjunction with the Fall Festival.

International Travel Reminder: International travel requires advance approval by the Office of the Dean and grant or other external funding.

Facilities Update: Parking continues to be a challenge on the VA campus. Work remains temporarily paused on Lot 19 pending approval on some modifications.

Current larger project status updates are as follows:

1. Medical Park 15 – Medical Park 15 remains closed for renovations.
 2. Security Reminder – A webpage is live to list training opportunities, call lists, and other information: [Security - My School of Medicine Columbia | University of South Carolina](#)
 3. Reminder – Updated Emergency Plan for USCSOM-C may be found at: [Emergency Management - My School of Medicine Columbia | University of South Carolina](#)
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Faculty Affairs Report – Dr. J.T. Thornhill

No report – any interim or more final items will be presented verbally.

Undergraduate Medical Education & Academic Affairs Report

Dr. Predrag “PK” Krajacic

No report – any interim or more final items will be presented verbally.

Student Affairs Report – Dr. Eric Williams

No report – any interim or more final items will be presented verbally.

Graduate Medical Education Report – Dr. Chuck Carter

Announcements:

USCSOM-C residencies are formally beginning annual recruitment for the 2026 resident classes. The Associate Dean for GME continues to place a high priority on recruitment of USCSOM students into the training programs.

Accreditation:

There are no pending ACGME site visits for Prisma Health/USCSOM Columbia programs.

All Prisma Health/USC School of Medicine Columbia residency and fellowship programs have submitted their annual updates for ongoing accreditation to the ACGME.

Strategic Initiatives & Accreditation

Dr. Bobby Miller

No report – any interim or more final items will be presented verbally.

Continuous Professional Development & Strategic Affairs –

Dr. Matt Orr

- Our Faculty Development and CME teams supported the development and implementation of continuing education in precepting learners for Prisma Health Advanced Practice Providers/Clinicians (APPs/APCs).
 - Strategic Planning Steering Committee met on September 29 for its Fall meeting. No substantive changes to goals or objectives.
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Research Report **Dr. Leo Bonilha**

Research Funding Updates

Refer to slide provided.

Graduate Education Report **Dr. Paul Toriello**

Clinical Graduate Programs (Toriello) (Counseling & Rehab, Genetic Counseling, Nurse Anesthesia, PA)

1. General: No report.
 2. Program-specific:
 - a. Counseling and Rehabilitation:
 - i. Awarded a 5-year, \$790k grant from the DOE Rehabilitation Services Administration to support the training of Clinical Rehabilitation Counselors. Dr. Walsh voted for the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Certification Commission.
 - b. Genetic Counseling: Significant community engagement recently: Walk, Run, Roll 5K for the Spinal Cord Injury Association, the SC Walk to End Hydrocephalus at 2 Med Park, and volunteering at the Sickle Cell Symposium this past weekend, in addition to hosting our booth at the health fair.
 - c. Nurse Anesthesia:
 - i. No report.
 - d. Physician Assistant:
 - i. Drs. Brown and Cranford met with legislators in DC to advocate for patient access.
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Faculty Senate Report – Dr. Cameron McCarthy

President’s Address – Dr. Michael Amiridis

- University enrollment: 40,200 students.
- Welcomed 140 new faculty members.

Provost’s Report – Dr. Mary Anne Fitzpatrick

- Emphasized AI use in classrooms; instructors should include an AI policy statement in syllabi.
- All teaching materials must be accessible; Center for Teaching Excellence available for support.

Information Technology – Ms. Rhiannon Mayer

- Learning Management System (LMS) Review: Blackboard evaluated against Brightspace and Canvas.
- Decision: Continue with Blackboard Ultra (Anthology) — meets institutional needs and ensures stability.
- Features include AI tools, plagiarism detection, and strong accessibility.
- Full report available through the Division of IT.

Courses & Curriculum Committee – Dr. Michel Dickson

- Offered orientation presentation for interested academic units.

Faculty Senate Chair – Dr. Liam Hein

- Acknowledged Dr. Wayne Outten (Past Chair) for service.
- Approved nominees for the Carolina Core Committee (CCC) and Faculty Research Committee (FRC); no School of Medicine representatives.

Staff Senate Report – Emily Miles

- 2026 Staff Appreciation Day has been set for May 14, 2026
- There is a need for donations at the USC Community Shop
- Several volunteer opportunities upcoming: <https://linktr.ee/USCVolunteer>
- Employee survey results from the ModernThink survey have been returned. Look for a town hall to be announced soon
- Reminder that all Staff Senate meetings can be viewed via the Staff Senate website on sc.edu

Interim Dean's Report – Dr. Gerry Harmon

1. Organizational Structure Update
2. Admissions Ad Hoc Task Force Update
3. Committees Ad Hoc Task Force Update
4. Student Success & Wellness Ad Hoc Task Force
5. HSC Construction Update
6. 9/20/25 Curing Kids for Cancer Lookback
7. 10/3/25 Dean's & Alumni's Awards Ceremony
8. 10/4/25 Health Fair
9. Brain Health SmartState Search Update
10. Other General Updates