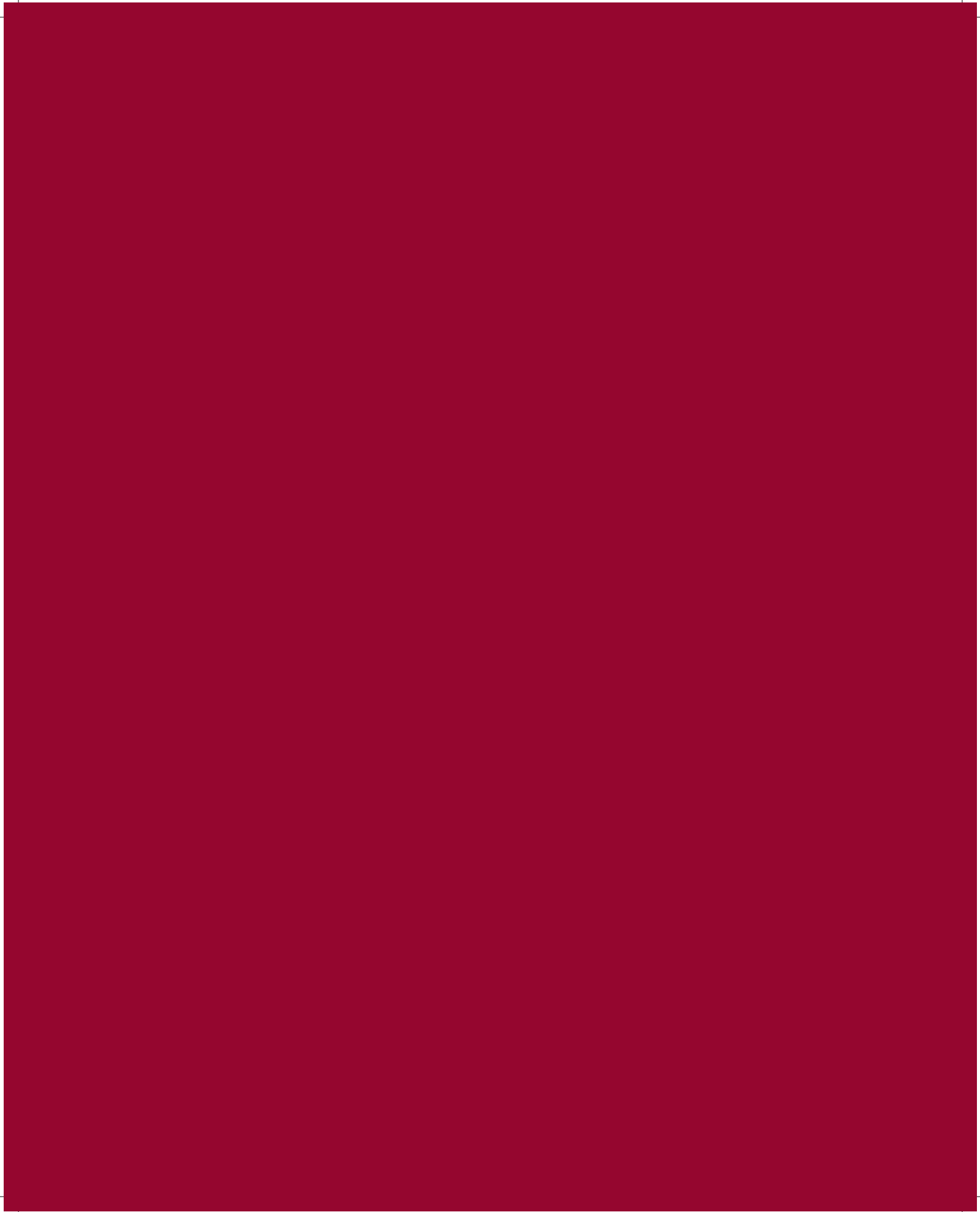




University of South Carolina



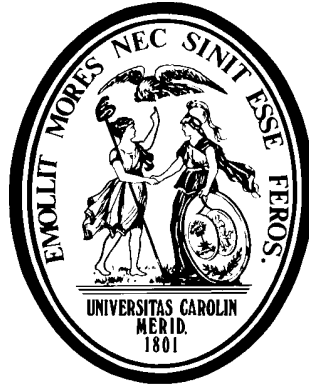
Alma Mater

“WE HAIL THEE, CAROLINA”

(Tune: Flow Gently, Sweet Afton)

We hail thee, Carolina, and sing thy high praise;
With loyal devotion, rememb’ring the days,
When proudly we sought thee, thy children to be;
Here’s a health, Carolina, forever to thee!

G.A. Wauchope



University of South Carolina

Commencement Exercises
Conferring of Doctoral Degrees

May 8, 2025

Koger Center for the Arts

Today's Ceremony

Welcome to the University of South Carolina on this day of special recognition of our doctoral candidates for graduation. We hope you will find this ceremony — a culmination of the efforts of faculty, administration, our students, and their families — both meaningful and impressive.

While awaiting the start of the ceremony, you may wish to read the historical note on South Carolina's oldest university on the following pages. There follows a brief description of the Carolina Mace, symbol of the university's immortal dignity and of the combined endeavors of the university community, as well as a detailed description of the academic costumes worn by members of the processions and our candidates for graduation.

The exercises will begin with a series of academic processions. They are headed by the university mace, followed by doctoral candidates and faculty escorts, representatives of the university faculties, deans, members of the university Board of Trustees and distinguished guests, and the university president.

When the president closes the ceremony following the awarding of all degrees, the audience is asked to rise for the singing of the Alma Mater, after which the platform party will recess. The words of the song were penned by Professor George Wauchope of the English Department in 1911 and were adopted in 1912. The tune is that of "Flow Gently, Sweet Afton." "Here's a health, Carolina!" is a phrase which is repeated in Carolina's Alma Mater. Over the years, the custom has arisen of raising the right hand, with the fingers cupped, when the phrase "Here's a health, Carolina!" occurs, as if offering a toast. The Alma Mater is always sung with heads uncovered.

Following the conclusion of the ceremony a reception for doctoral candidates, their guests, and the faculty will be held in the lobby.

Once again, welcome to the Spring 2025 Doctoral Commencement Exercises of the University of South Carolina.

Order of Exercises

PRESIDING

Dr. Michael D. Amiridis
President

PRELUDE

University of South Carolina Faculty Brass Quintet

PROCESSIONS

The University Mace
The Doctoral Candidates and Faculty Escorts
The University Faculty
The University Deans
The University Board of Trustees
The President

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Mr. Brian Louis Fenderson
Doctor of Musical Arts in Performance Candidate, School of Music

INVOCATION

Mr. Ben Burchardi
Carolina Navigators

OPENING REMARKS

The President

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

Dr. Ann Vail
Dean, The Graduate School

REMARKS

Dr. Gregory J. Carbone

*Carolina Distinguished Professor of Geography and Director, Hazards Vulnerability and Resilience Institute
McCausland College of Arts and Sciences*

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

Dr. Donna K. Arnett

Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

The President

HOODING AND RECOGNITION OF CANDIDATES

Dr. Vail

and

The Major Professor Escorting Each Candidate

Music by University of South Carolina Graduate String Quartet

CLOSING REMARKS

The President

ALMA MATER

Dr. James John-Michael Allen

Doctor of Musical Arts in Performance Graduate, School of Music

RECESSIONAL

University of South Carolina Faculty Brass Quintet

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The university is governed on behalf of the people of South Carolina by a Board of Trustees. Sixteen trustees are elected by the General Assembly, one from each judicial circuit. There are three ex officio members, including the governor of South Carolina or a designee, the state superintendent of education

and the president of the University of South Carolina Alumni Association. There is also one at-large gubernatorial appointee. The president of the Student Government and the chair of the Faculty Senate serve as nonvoting members of the board.

The current composition of the board is as follows:

Henry D. McMaster Governor of South Carolina <i>ex officio Chair</i>	C. Dan Adams Gubernatorial Designee	Richard A. Jones Jr. Gubernatorial Appointee	Ellen Weaver Superintendent of Education
Thad H. Westbrook 11th Judicial Circuit <i>Chair</i>	W. Michael Bond USC Alumni Association	Hubert F. Mobley 6th Judicial Circuit	Charles H. Williams II 1st Judicial Circuit
Rose Buyck Newton 14th Judicial Circuit <i>Vice Chair</i>	Coleman Floyd Buckhouse, M.D. 12th Judicial Circuit	Leah B. Moody 16th Judicial Circuit	Luther Cameron Howell IV Secretary
C. Dorn Smith III, M.D. 3rd Judicial Circuit <i>Chair Emeritus</i>	Alex English 5th Judicial Circuit	Emma W. Morris 10th Judicial Circuit	F. Wayne Outten Faculty Senate Chair
	Brian C. Harlan 8th Judicial Circuit	Reid T. Sherard 13th Judicial Circuit	
	Henry L. Jolly Jr., D.M.D. 7th Judicial Circuit	John C. von Lehe Jr. 9th Judicial Circuit	Courtney Tkacs Student Body President

COMMITTEE ON COMMENCEMENT

Anna Edwards and Caroline Hulett, <i>Co-Chairs</i>			
Kendall Barnes	Laveta G. Gibson	Cherrie Markey	Joe Sasso
Ellen Elaine Belesky	Eric Grabski Sr.	Aaron Marterer	Alec Shettle
Pamela Bowman	Cary Graham	Kimberley Massey	Marie Spell
Marissa Buck	Doug Helms	Nainaa Oberoi	Elizabeth Suddeth
Courtney Buzan	Chris M. Horn	F. Wayne Outten	CJ Tamasco
Curt Derrick	L. Cameron Howell IV	Diane Parham	Nate Terracio
Barrington Duvall	Sidney Kenyon	Garrick Queen	Courtney Tkacs
Susan Elkins	Karen Magrady	Kirk Randazzo	J. Rex Tolliver
Valerie Gerfin			Dana Woodward

ANNOUNCER

Chris M. Horn
University Communications and Marketing

MUSICIANS

USC Faculty Brass Quintet
Prelude and Recessional

USC Graduate String Quartet
Hooding Ceremony Accompaniment

USC Jazz Strings
Reception Accompaniment

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA UNIVERSITY OFFICERS

Michael D. Amiridis, Ph.D., *President*
Caroline Agardy, M.P.A., *Vice President for Human Resources*
Donna K. Arnett, Ph.D., *Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost*
John Bible Jr., M.B.A., *Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer*
Stephen J. Cutler, Ph.D., *Vice President for Economic Development*
Dan Dillon, M.B.A., *Vice President for Marketing*
Michelle Dodenhoff, M.A., *Vice President for Development*
Jeremiah Donati, J.D., *Director of Athletics*
Anna Edwards, Ph.D., *Chief of Staff*
Susan A. Elkins, Ed.D., *Chancellor, Palmetto College*
Julius Fridriksson, Ph.D., *Vice President for Research*
Bennie L. Harris, Ph.D., *Chancellor, USC Upstate*
Daniel J. Heimmermann, Ph.D., *Chancellor, USC Aiken*
Al M. Panu, Ph.D., *Chancellor, USC Beaufort*
Walter H. Parham, J.D., *General Counsel and Executive Director of Compliance Programs*
J. Rex Tolliver, J.D., *Vice President for Student Affairs and Academic Support*
Scott Verzyl, Ph.D., *Vice President for Enrollment Management and Dean of Undergraduate Admissions*
Edward L. Walton, B.A., *Executive Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer*
Julian R. Williams, J.D., *Interim Vice President for System Affairs and Vice President for Access, Civil Rights and Community Engagement*

UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC OFFICIALS

Lara Lomicka Anderson, Ph.D., *Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs and Dean of Undergraduate Studies*
Jeannette O. Andrews, Ph.D., *Dean, College of Nursing*
David Banush, M.L.I.S., *Dean, University Libraries*
Teri Browne, Ph.D., *Dean, College of Social Work*
Courtney Catledge, D.N.P., *Interim Palmetto College Campus Dean, USC Lancaster*
April R. Cone, D.N.P., *Palmetto College Campus Dean, USC Salkehatchie*
M. Ron Cox Jr., Ph.D., *Palmetto College Campus Dean, USC Columbia*
Stephen J. Cutler, Ph.D., *Dean, College of Pharmacy*
Mary Anne Fitzpatrick, Ph.D., *Interim Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs and Dean of the Faculty*
Hossein Haj-Hariri, Ph.D., *Dean, Molinaroli College of Engineering and Computing*
C. Tayloe Harding Jr., D.Mus., *Dean, School of Music*
Gerald Harmon, M.D., *Interim Dean, School of Medicine Columbia*
Thomas E. Hodges, Ph.D., *Dean, College of Education*
William C. Hubbard, J.D., *Dean, Joseph F. Rice School of Law*
Randy Lowell, Ph.D., *Palmetto College Campus Dean, USC Union*
Steven Lynn, Ph.D., *Dean, South Carolina Honors College*
Phyllis MacGilvray, M.D., *Dean, School of Medicine Greenville*
Shannon Means, M.P.A., *Vice Provost for Strategy and Innovation*
Tom Reichert, Ph.D., *Dean, College of Information and Communications*
Eric Reisenauer, Ph.D., *Interim Palmetto College Campus Dean, USC Sumter*
Tara Sabo-Attwood, Ph.D., *Dean, Arnold School of Public Health*
Michael Sagas, Ed.D., *Dean, College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management*
Joel H. Samuels, J.D., *Dean, McCausland College of Arts and Sciences*
Samuel Y. Todd, Ph.D., *Vice Provost and Associate Vice President for Global Affairs*
Ann Vail, Ph.D., *Dean, The Graduate School*
Rohit Verma, Ph.D., *Dean, Darla Moore School of Business*

CAROLINA — A HISTORICAL NOTE

“FAITHFUL INDEX TO THE AMBITIONS AND FORTUNES OF THE STATE”

The Palmetto State established South Carolina College on December 19, 1801, as part of an effort to unite South Carolinians in the wake of the American Revolution, promoting “the good order and harmony” of the state. The founding of South Carolina’s state college was also part of the Southern public college movement spurred by Thomas Jefferson. Within 20 years of one another, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia established state-supported colleges.

In the antebellum era, the Palmetto State generously supported South Carolina College. Its faculty included noted European scholars, such as Francis Lieber and Thomas Cooper, as well as renowned American scholars John and Joseph LeConte. Offering a classical curriculum, South Carolina College became one of the South’s most influential colleges, earning a reputation as the training ground for South Carolina’s antebellum elite.

South Carolina’s secession from the Union unleashed the devastation of the American Civil War, and the state and South Carolina College paid dearly. The institution closed for want of students, and in the ensuing decades, it struggled to regain its former status.

As Reconstruction from the Civil War proceeded, the state’s General Assembly chose the first African Americans to serve on the university’s Board of Trustees in 1868, and in 1873 the first Black students enrolled. While politically controversial, this development was an extraordinary opportunity at a time when opportunities for higher education were rare. The University of South Carolina became the only Southern state university to admit and grant degrees to African American students during the Reconstruction era.

Following the end of Reconstruction in 1877, South Carolina’s conservative leaders closed the university. They reopened it in 1880 as an all-white agricultural college, and during the next 25 years, the institution became enmeshed in the state’s political upheaval. South Carolina went through several reorganizations in which the curriculum changed and its status shifted from college to university and back again. The university also struggled to adjust to the arrival of intercollegiate athletics in 1892 and the admission of white women in 1894.

In 1906, the institution was rechartered for the final time as the University of South Carolina. In 1917, it became South Carolina’s first state-supported college or university to earn regional accreditation, and the 1920s brought the introduction of new colleges and degree programs, including the doctorate.

The Great Depression temporarily stalled progress, but the outbreak of World War II launched an era that transformed the university. South Carolina hosted

naval training programs during the war, and enrollment more than doubled in the postwar era as veterans took advantage of the G.I. Bill. In the 1950s, the university began recruiting national-caliber faculty members and expanded its footprint with the establishment of campuses across South Carolina.

In 1963, the University of South Carolina became desegregated. As the result of a federal court order, Henrie D. Monteith, Robert Anderson and James Solomon became the first Black students to enroll at the university in the 20th century. Minority enrollment would continue to grow in their wake and was complemented by a substantial international student population in subsequent decades.

At the same time, the university was undergoing explosive growth as the baby-boom generation entered college. Enrollment stood at 5,660 in 1960 but nearly quadrupled 20 years later. That increase in the student body was accompanied by the introduction of many new programs, including three that would prove to be momentous.

University 101 became a national model for cultivating freshman-year success; the accompanying National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition is based at the university. The international Master of Business Administration program, also launched in the 1970s, has consistently ranked among the country’s top three such programs. The honors program blossomed into the South Carolina Honors College and is hailed among the nation’s finest.

As the result of concerted efforts to expand its research capabilities, the university in 2006 was designated by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as a research institution of “very high research activity,” the foundation’s highest classification. The university is one of a select number of public universities to receive both the Carnegie Foundation’s top-tier research designation and community engagement designation.

South Carolina’s Bicentennial Campaign helped usher in the 21st century as the university celebrated a 200-year legacy of educating leaders for the state, the nation and the world. In recent years, the University of South Carolina system has launched an online degree-completion program through Palmetto College. Together with the college’s four campuses across the state, the online program offers students greater flexibility to complete coursework and speeds bachelor’s degree completion. These comprehensive programs have helped the university secure its place as a first-choice destination for students seeking the lifelong value of a quality higher education experience.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

The Graduate School was established in 1906 by an act of the General Assembly. The act transformed the South Carolina College, which had celebrated its centennial in 1905, into the University of South Carolina. During its first century the institution had awarded more than 100 master's degrees and one Ph.D., but graduate study had been highly individualized rather than systematic. The new Graduate School began its work in fall 1906 under the direction of a Graduate Committee chaired by Dr. George Wauchope, the beloved author of the USC Alma Mater. Only the master of arts degree was offered during the next 17 years as enrollments increased and degree requirements were refined.

In 1922 President W. S. Currell resigned to accept the newly created position of Dean of The Graduate School. During the next six years Dean Currell gave The Graduate School the boost it needed. Graduate student head count during the academic year tripled, averaging around 150 in the latter part of the decade; and hundreds of teachers attended the summer schools that began in 1923. Ph.D. programs were established in English, history, and education. When Dean Currell stepped down and the highly respected English Professor Reed Smith succeeded him in 1929, the future of

The Graduate School seemed assured. But in the early 1930s the Great Depression turned back the clock. Enrollments declined, and only 11 Ph.D. degrees were awarded before inadequate funding in 1934 necessitated a moratorium on Ph.D. admissions that lasted for 10 years.

After the Second World War, The Graduate School entered a growth phase that lasted more than four decades. The number of students increased steadily until enrollment leveled off around 10,000. The number of doctoral programs (excluding the purely professional J.D., M.D. and Pharm.D.) grew to 56, and the master's to 156. Degrees awarded annually in the late 1990s and later have averaged around 1,600 master's and 275 doctorates. Much of this growth has taken place in the science departments and the various professional colleges and schools that developed over the years.

We can be proud that women were admitted to The Graduate School from the beginning in 1906 and have outnumbered men much of the time since then. Also, during the past two decades, The Graduate School has been among the leaders in recruiting and graduating minority students.

ACADEMIC COSTUMES

The academic costumes worn in today's procession and at other formal university occasions trace their origins to those worn by faculty members and students at medieval European universities. With only minor modifications, these costumes have remained largely unchanged since the 16th century. Standards for colleges and universities in the United States were established in 1895 with the adoption of an intercollegiate code that specifies design and color appropriate for various degrees. As in medieval times, the costumes worn on formal academic occasions denote the wearer's academic heritage.

The modern academic costume consists of three parts: the gown or robe, a headpiece and a hood. The gown denotes the wearer's level of education.

The baccalaureate gown is the simplest in design. Usually black, it is distinguished by a wide yoke with shirring in front and back and by open, flowing sleeves that end in a point. The baccalaureate gown is worn closed.

The master's gown is similar to the baccalaureate gown except that it has a closed or glove sleeve that is open at the wrist. The master's gown has no other trim and may be worn either open or closed.

The doctoral gown is full-flowing and has large, bell-shaped sleeves. It is trimmed with velvet panels down the front and has velvet bars on the sleeves. While black is still the predominant color for doctoral gowns, the trim may be in a color that denotes the wearer's discipline, or the color of the gown may denote the wearer's university. The University of South Carolina's doctoral gown is garnet with black velvet panels and bars. The university seal is embroidered on the panels. In today's procession, this gown is worn by the members of the Board of Trustees and university officers, chancellors, deans, faculty members and administrators.

The mortar board is the headpiece most often worn at American universities for formal occasions. It is appropriately worn with the board flat on the top of the head and with the tassel falling from the left quarter of the board. Tassel colors denote the field or discipline in which the wearer's degree was earned. Doctoral tassels are often gold. The soft velvet Tudor cap is also worn by many who hold the doctorate.

While the gown and headpiece denote the wearer's level of education, it is the hood that adds meaning and dimension to the academic costume. Changed little since medieval times, the hood is worn falling from the shoulders, down the back of the gown in a display of vivid color. It is edged in velvet, which by its color denotes the field or discipline in which the wearer's degree was earned, and it is lined in two colors of silk that represent the college or university from which the degree was earned. Hence, the University of South Carolina hood is lined in garnet and black and edged with the appropriate discipline color.

The USC president's ceremonial gown is black with four garnet velvet bars on the sleeves and garnet velvet panels down the front, all trimmed with antique-gold cording. The university seal is embroidered on the panels. Presidents are the only academics entitled to wear the fourth bar on their sleeves. The president's regalia is completed by a black velvet doctoral tam with an antique-gold tassel. The ceremonial hood is edged in garnet velvet and lined with garnet-and-black silk, representative of the University of South Carolina.

A partial listing from the Intercollegiate Code for colors signifying disciplines follows:

Arts, Letters, Humanities: white
Accountancy, Business, Commerce: drab
Education: light blue
Engineering: orange
Fine Arts: brown
Journalism: crimson
Law: purple
Library Science: lemon
Medicine: green
Music: pink
Nursing: apricot
Pharmacy: olive green
Philosophy: dark blue
Physical Education: sage green
Physical Therapy: teal
Public Health: salmon pink
Public Service: peacock blue
Science: golden yellow
Social Science: cream
Social Work: citron

THE UNIVERSITY MACE AND PRESIDENT'S MEDALLION

The University Mace was designed and fashioned by Leslie Durbin, distinguished silversmith of London, England. Academic maces are historically regarded as manifestations of the “immortal dignity” of universities and thus represent the past, present and future. Officially adopted in 1967, the mace was presented to the university as a memorial to Susan Richardson Guignard by an alumnus, Dr. George Curry.

The brilliantly gleaming silver-and-gilt mace is nearly four feet long. Mounted on the head are the seal of the university, the seal of the State of South Carolina and the Great Seal of the United States. From the middle of these arises a stylistic representation of the State Tree, the palmetto, the fronds of which are formed by a group of 13 stars representing the founding colonies, which include South Carolina. The shaft is decorated with eight stars, reminding us that South Carolina was the eighth state to enter the Union.

The University Mace is carried in procession on occasions of outstanding importance, such as commencements, convocations and formal dedications. The placement of the mace on its stand signals that the proceedings are about to come to order; its retirement indicates the conclusion of the exercises. The mace is carried in procession by the president of Student Government and escorted by the university chaplain and representatives of the faculty, emeriti, alumni, the Board of Trustees and the university community at large.

The significance of the mace is mirrored in the Presidential Medallion and Chain of Office, which designate the wearer as the temporary embodiment of the institution's power and authority. The gift of the medallion accompanied the gift of the mace, and the linked silver Chain of Office was commissioned in 1991 by the Presidential Candidate Search Committee

THE CAROLINIAN CREED

The community of scholars at
the University of South Carolina is dedicated to
personal and academic excellence.

Choosing to join the community obligates each member
to a code of civilized behavior.
As a Carolinian...

I will practice
personal and academic integrity;

I will respect
the dignity of all persons;

I will respect
the rights and property of others;

I will discourage
bigotry, while striving to learn from
differences in people, ideas, and opinions;

I will demonstrate
concern for others, their feelings, and their need for
conditions which support their work and development.

Allegiance to these ideals requires each Carolinian
to refrain from and discourage behaviors which threaten
the freedom and respect every individual deserves.

PRESIDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Jonathan Maxcy <i>President, 1804-1820</i>	William Spenser Currell <i>President, 1914-1922</i>
Thomas Cooper <i>President pro tem, 1820</i> <i>President, 1821-1834</i>	William D. Melton <i>President, 1922-1926</i>
Robert Henry <i>President pro tem, 1834</i> <i>President, 1841-1845</i>	Leonard T. Baker <i>Acting President, 1926</i> <i>President, 1931-1936</i> <i>Acting President, 1944-1945</i>
Henry Junius Nott <i>Chairman of the Faculty, 1834-1835</i>	Davison M. Douglas <i>President, 1927-1931</i>
Robert W. Barnwell <i>President, 1835-1841</i> <i>Chairman of the Faculty, 1865-1873</i>	J. Rion McKissick <i>President, 1936-1944</i>
William C. Preston <i>President, 1845-1851</i>	Admiral Norman M. Smith <i>President, 1945-1952</i>
Francis Lieber <i>President pro tem, 1851</i>	Francis W. Bradley <i>Acting President, 1952</i>
James H. Thornwell <i>President, 1851-1855</i>	Donald S. Russell <i>President, 1952-1957</i>
Charles F. McCay <i>President, 1855-1857</i>	Robert L. Sumwalt <i>Acting President, 1957-1959</i> <i>President, 1959-1962</i>
Augustus B. Longstreet <i>President, 1857-1861</i>	Thomas F. Jones <i>President, 1962-1974</i>
Maximilian LaBorde <i>Chairman of the Faculty, 1861-1865</i>	William H. Patterson <i>President, 1974-1977</i>
Benjamin B. Babbitt <i>Chairman of the Faculty, 1873-1875</i>	James B. Holderman <i>President, 1977-1990</i>
Anson W. Cummings <i>Chairman of the Faculty, 1875-1877</i>	Arthur K. Smith <i>Interim President, 1990-1991</i>
William Porcher Miles <i>President, 1880-1882</i>	John M. Palms <i>President, 1991-2002</i>
John M. McBryde <i>Chairman of the Faculty, 1883-1891</i> <i>President, 1883-1891</i>	Andrew A. Sorensen <i>President, 2002-2008</i>
James Woodrow <i>President, 1891-1897</i>	Harris Pastides <i>President, 2008-2019</i> <i>Interim President, 2021-2022</i>
Frank C. Woodward <i>President, 1897-1902</i>	Robert L. Caslen Jr. <i>President, 2019-2021</i>
Benjamin Sloan <i>Acting President, 1902-1903</i> <i>President, 1903-1908</i>	Michael D. Amiridis <i>President, 2022-present</i>
Andrew C. Moore <i>Acting President, 1908-1909</i> <i>Acting President, 1913-1914</i>	
Samuel Chiles Mitchell <i>President, 1909-1913</i>	

Degrees in Course

The following list of candidates for graduation was prepared before final grades were reported and inclusion herein does not constitute evidence of graduation. The listing of a name in this program should not be construed as an indication that the person will in fact receive a degree from the University of South Carolina at this commence-

ment. Conversely, the absence of a student's name from this list does not necessarily mean that the person will not be awarded a degree.

An asterisk (*) following a candidate's name indicates the student is a graduate from a previous term.

MCCAUSLAND COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Christopher Anthony Alduino
Physics
B.S., University of South Carolina
Search for Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay of ^{130}Te to the First Excited State of ^{130}Xe with CUORE
Co-Directors: Drs. Frank Avignone and Jeffery Wilson

Andrés Felipe Arroyave
Spanish
B.A., M.A., University of South Carolina
Demonios, Nazis, Y Brujas en la Literatura Colombiana Del S. XXI: Un Análisis Del Mal Cotidiano Y la Violencia Transpolítica en la Narrativa de Mario Mendoza
Director: Dr. Mercedes Lopez Rodriguez

Alexandra Elizabeth Bethlenfalvy
History
B.A., McGill University
M.A., Clemson University
Democracy's Sanctuary: Highlander Folk School's Campaign for Justice from the Labor Movement to the Civil Rights Movement, 1932-1962
Director: Dr. Patricia Sullivan

George Henry Brooks
Mathematics
B.S., Saginaw Valley State University
Explorations in Extremal Combinatorics: Graph Spectra, Codegree Squared Sum of Hypergraphs and Lin-Lu-Yau Ricci Curvature
Director: Dr. Linyuan Lu

Jonathan Brent Butler
English
B.A., M.A., University of South Carolina
Invention beyond the Author
Director: Dr. Christina Friend

William Michael Dodd
Comparative Literature
B.A., Clemson University
M.A., Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary
M.A., Winthrop University
The Dialogic Self: Persius Satires 4 and Oikeiosis in Stoic Philosophy
Director: Dr. Paul Miller

Caroline Driscoll*
Comparative Literature
B.A., Lingnan University
M.A., The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Counterspace of Nostalgia: British and Hong Kong Literature in the 1980s and 90s
Director: Dr. Agnes C. Mueller

David Eap
Chemistry
B.S., Clayton State University
Investigating the Role of Metallothioneins in Fungal Iron Homeostasis
Director: Dr. Caryn Outten

Jingyu Fan
Chemistry
B.S., M.S., Central South University, China
Engineering Bioactive Surfaces: The Role of Tmv-RGD1 in Cell Aggregation and Differentiation
Director: Dr. Jie Li

Nathalia Francio Cocenza
History
B.A., Southwestern Oklahoma State University
Cultivating Smiles on the Frontier: The Making of Brazil's Soy Bean Capital and Community Building in Sorriso, 1980-2020
Director: Dr. Matt Childs

Kristin Leigh Harrell
English
B.F.A., University of South Carolina
M.A., University of New Mexico
Margery's Visions: Sight, Emulation, and Medieval Wall Paintings in the Book of Margery Kempe
Director: Dr. Holly Crocker

Christian James Harrison
Chemistry
B.S., State University of New York Cortland
Non-Covalent Interactions in Organocatalysis: Isothioureas and Silicon Phthalocyanines
Director: Dr. Sheryl Wiskur

Abigail Violet Hassett
Political Science
B.A., Stetson University
"Some of Them Went to Yale": Ambition, Legal Careers, and Nominations to the Federal Bench
Director: Dr. Kirk Randazzo

Gwendolyn M. Hopper
Chemistry
B.S., North Carolina State University
Characterizing Dissolved Organic Matter Composition in a Blackwater Southeastern United States Watershed
Co-Directors: Drs. Claudia Benitez-Nelson and Timothy Shaw

William Hull
History
B.A., University of Georgia
M.A., University of South Carolina
Black Steel in the Hour of Chaos: Hip-Hop and the Carceral State in the East San Francisco Bay Area
Director: Dr. Patricia Sullivan

















Amanda Lynn Humphries
Chemistry
 B.A., University of South Carolina
Reactivity of Redox-Active Carboranyl Diphosphines and Carboranyl Diphosphoniums: Metal-Free Pathways for Small Molecule Activations and Transformations
 Director: Dr. Dmitry Peryshkov

Bethany Lynn Johnson
History
 B.A., Nyack College
 M.Phil., University of Glasgow
In the Aftermath of the "Lost" Pandemic: Philadelphia, 1918-1923
 Director: Dr. Joseph November

Arjun Karki
Physics
 B.S., M.S., Tribhuvan University
 M.S., University of Minnesota Duluth
Dust, Gas, and Stellar Properties of the Interstellar and Circumgalactic Medium of Absorption-Selected Galaxies
 Director: Dr. Varsha Kulkarni

Jihyun Kim
Statistics
 B.S., M.S., Ewha Womans University
Regression Analysis of Arbitrarily Censored Data and Group-Tested Current Status Data
 Co-Directors: Drs. Lianming Wang and Joshua Tebbs

Joseph John Kuchta
Chemistry
 B.S., Delaware Valley University
Determination of Structure-Function Relationships in Hybrid Catalysts on Metal Oxide Supports
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*Perinatal Maternal Attachment in Bangladesh: Understanding
 Determinants and Impacts of Enhanced Nutrition and Cash
 Transfers*
 Director: Dr. Leila Larson

Tony Akeime Brown
Health Services Policy and Management
 B.S., Furman University
 M.P.H., University of South Carolina
*Usual Provider Continuity and Its Association with Viral
 Suppression Rates and Antiretroviral Adherence for Individuals
 Newly Diagnosed with HIV*
 Director: Dr. Brian Chen

Prasun Kumar Dev
Exercise Science
 B.Eng., Rajiv Gandhi Proudhyogiki Vishwavidyalaya
 M.S., Central University of South Bihar
*Investigation of the HDL Molecular Architecture before and after
 Exercise Training*
 Director: Dr. Mark Sarzynski

Katherine Eileen Devivo
Exercise Science
 B.S., Slippery Rock University
 M.P.H., University of South Carolina
*Understanding the Factors Influencing Movement Behaviors among
 Dog Owners*
 Director: Dr. Christine Pellegrini

Rajat Das Gupta
Epidemiology
 M.B.B.S., University of Dhaka
 M.P.H., BRAC University
*Characterising the Relationship between Body Mass Index and
 Lung Cancer Using Causal Inference Methods*
 Director: Dr. Anthony Alberg

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Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior
 M.B.B.S., University of Dhaka
 M.P.H., BRAC University
*From Pregnancy to Postpartum: A Longitudinal Analysis of
 Maternal Depressive Symptoms and Hemoglobin Concentration in
 Uttar Pradesh, India*
 Director: Dr. Edward Frongillo

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Health Services Policy and Management
 B.A., Capital University
 M.S., Otterbein University
Disease Self-Management Behaviors and Self-Rated Health Status among the U.S. Population with T2DM and Chronic Metabolic Conditions
 Director: Dr. Sudha Xirasagar

Sophia Nancy Dennett Negaro
Health Services Policy and Management
 B.A., Mount Holyoke College
 M.S.W., University of South Carolina
Utilization of Psychedelic Substances and Unmet Need for Mental Health Services in the United States: A Nationally Representative Study
 Director: Dr. Christina Andrews

Xuanxuan Yu
Biostatistics
 B.S., M.S., Nanjing Medical University
Comprehensive Statistical Frameworks for Copy Number Analysis and Causal Effect Estimation
 Director: Dr. Feifei Xiao

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Bryan Peterson
Physical Therapy
 B.S., Merrimack College
The Immediate and 24-Hour Effects of the Application of Body Tempering to the Hamstring Muscles Compared to Static Stretching to Increase Hamstring Muscles Range of Motion: A Pilot Study
 Director: Dr. Cathy Arnot

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Brooke Morgan Bullard
Biomedical Science
 B.S., Belmont University
Dietary Interventions Alter the Intestinal Microenvironment following an Inflammatory Insult
 Director: Dr. E. Angela Murphy

Chao Gao
Biomedical Science
 B.M., China Medical University
 M.S., Temple University
Functional Characterizations of Port Wine Birthmark IPSC-Derived Extracellular Vesicles in Laser-Resistant Endothelial Phenotypes
 Director: Dr. Wenbin Tan

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS

James John-Michael Allen
Music Performance
 B.M., Georgia Southern University
 M.M., University of South Carolina
 Dissertation Requirement: Four Public Recitals and the Research Document: *A Performance and Pedagogical Guide to William Butler Yeats Songs by Ben Moore*
 Director: Prof. Dominic Armstrong

Michael Bunny
Music Performance
 B.M., State University of New York Fredonia
 M.M., Austin Peay State University
 Dissertation Requirement: Four Public Recitals and the Research Document: *Exploring Modernist Traits in the Guitar Works of Manuel María Ponce*
 Director: Dr. Mak Grgic

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 B.S., Universidad Nacional Experimental Francisco de Miranda
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 Dissertation Requirement: Four Public Recitals and the Research Document: *Trios for Oboe, Bassoon, and Piano by Underrepresented Composers: An Annotated Bibliography and Performance Guide*
 Director: Dr. Michael Harley

Olivia Grace Bradstreet Colomaio
Piano Pedagogy
 B.S., Roberts Wesleyan University
 M.M., Campbellsville University
Approaches to Teaching Music Reading to Students with Dyslexia: A Guide for Piano Teachers
 Director: Dr. Scott Price

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Music Performance
 B.A., Lincoln University of Pennsylvania
 M.M., University of Delaware
 Dissertation Requirement: Four Public Recitals and the Research Document: *The Double Bar-Line: A Qualitative and Quantitative Study of Career Readiness for Historically Black College and University Voice Performance Majors*
 Director: Prof. Dominic Armstrong

Zhenyu Gao
Piano Pedagogy
 B.S., B.A., Stony Brook University
 M.M., Texas Tech University
 Dissertation Requirement: Two Public Recitals and the Research Document: *Exploring the Minuet: A Study in Piano Instruction Including Stylistic Concerns, Technical and Musical Challenges, and Pedagogical Analyses*
 Director: Dr. Scott Price

Joseph Lee Gaskins
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 B.M., University of South Carolina
 M.M., Carnegie Mellon University
 Dissertation Requirement: Four Public Recitals and the Research Document: *Unaccompanied Double Bass Literature: History, Pedagogy, and Performance Practice*
 Director: Dr. Craig Butterfield

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 B.M., Carson-Newman University
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 Dissertation Requirement: Three Public Recitals and the Research Document: *A Conductor's Rehearsal and Performance Guide to Christopher Tin's The Drop That Contained the Sea*
 Director: Dr. Alicia Walker

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B.M., Stetson University
M.M., Michigan State University
Unveiling Narrative in Liszt's Dante Sonata through Topical Analysis
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B.M., M.M., Georgia Southern University
Dissertation Requirement: Four Public Recitals and the Research Document: *Transcribe Par L'Auteur: Analyzing and Performing the Piano-Vocal Scores of Maurice Ravel's Operas*
Director: Dr. Charles Rugo

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Piano Pedagogy
B.M., Eastern Kentucky University
M.M., Samford University
Reclaiming the Body: Gender Politics and Embodied Meaning in Piano Performance and Pedagogy
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B.A., Wingate University
M.M., East Carolina University
Dissertation Requirement: Four Public Recitals and the Research Document: *Unveiling Hidden Voices: A Guide for Expanding Collegiate Coursework to Include Female Opera Composers and Their Works*
Co-Directors: Dr. Sarah Williams and Prof. Janet Hopkins

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B.M., Oklahoma Baptist University
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Dissertation Requirement: Four Public Recitals and the Research Document: *The Impact of Ballet Techniques on Singing Performers*
Director: Dr. Serena Hill-LaRoche

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Dissertation Requirement: Four Public Recitals and the Research Document: *Teaching the Twenty-First Century: A Pedagogical Approach to Contemporary Violin Repertoire from Beginner to Advanced*
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Dissertation Requirement: Four Public Recitals and the Research Document: *Contemporary Voices of China: Biographical Introduction of Four Contemporary Chinese Composers and Their Chinese Language Art Songs*
Director: Dr. Tina Stallard

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Dissertation Requirement: Four Public Recitals and the Research Document: *Integrating Traditional Chinese Aesthetic Culture with Contemporary Music through Violin*
Director: Dr. Ari Streisfeld

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