Dear USC Aiken Colleagues,

I am pleased and proud to announce that, once again, USC Aiken has been ranked #1 among top public regional colleges* in the South in the 2015 edition of U.S. News & World Report’s guide, “America’s Best Colleges.” Ever since U.S. News & World Report created this ranking category seventeen years ago, the University has been ranked in the top three public regional colleges every year -- totaling seventeen consecutive years. USC Aiken has been ranked first ten times in the last seventeen years: 2002, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2015.

In addition, U.S. News & World Report added a new ranking this year identifying the “2015 Best Colleges for Veterans.” USC Aiken ranked as #1 top public regional college in the South in this category as well.

As you are aware, universities across the U.S. are experiencing unprecedented challenges and disruptions to the way we have traditionally delivered and financed education...and those challenges are driving change at a rate we’ve not experienced in the past. As we celebrate this remarkable achievement, I encourage all of us to remain focused on our primary mission of offering the most transformative, engaging, and high-quality educational experience possible to our students. This student-focused approach served us well in the past and will continue to do so well into the future.

Congratulations to the USC Aiken staff and faculty! These exceptional achievements are due to your hard work and dedication. USC Aiken is able to provide a high quality educational experience because of your incomparable commitment! Well done!

With gratitude,

Sandra Jordan
Chancellor

*Note: If you wondering what is meant by “regional” rankings,” U.S. News & World Report’ describes this category as follows: “According to the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, these schools focus almost entirely on the undergraduate experience and offer a broad range of programs in the liberal arts (which account for fewer than half of all bachelor’s degrees granted) and in fields such as business, nursing and education. They grant few graduate degrees. Because most of the 364 colleges in the category draw heavily from nearby states, they are ranked by region.”