

Office of the Chancellor

From: Office of the Chancellor
Sent: Friday, December 14, 2018 9:02 AM
Subject: Holiday Message from Chancellor Jordan

Dear USC Aiken Colleagues,

During the recent State of the University Address and then at the joint meeting of the Aiken County Commission on Higher Education and the Legislative Delegation, I outlined the progress we've made the past several years toward achieving our bold aspirations outlined in the *Forward Together* Strategic Plan.

The joint delegation members were impressed by the progress of our institution, which can be attributed to the collective hard work by each member of our academic community. Thanks to you, our reputation is gaining additional luster, we maintained the academic readiness and diversity of our student body; we have created a safe and supportive environment; and we are delivering an excellent education in ways that meet the needs of more of our students.

As an institution, we are gaining broader recognition for our association with COPLAC and our curriculum, including a strong liberal arts core that helps all our students, regardless of major, prepare for their futures. We are recognized for our continued high U.S. News and World Report rankings, for our academic quality and for our ability to help our students succeed.

Several of our programs (both graduate and undergraduate) have received accolades from beyond our campus. Our athletic programs are recognized for their emphasis on "life in the balance," and the Veteran and Military Student Success Center and the university as a whole have been recognized with additional awards and accolades, such as our designation as a College of Distinction.

Convocation was last evening and for many, and the semester will conclude next week when grades are posted. It has been a busy but rewarding semester, and we have many exciting things on the horizon, including the launching of the new QEP and *Leading Forward* Strategic Plan.

As I've said on many occasions, I believe in USC Aiken. I look at our past and all we've accomplished recently and know we have the talent and ability to build the future that our region and people so richly deserve. I am immensely honored to be counted as a colleague among you. I will continue to work both with you and for you, and I deeply appreciate all that you have done this past year.

During the holiday break, I hope you have time to catch your breath and find yourself in the company of friends and family. Thank you for all you do to make USC Aiken an exceptional place to live, learn, and work.

Enjoy the winter break!

Sincerely,

Sandra Jordan
Chancellor