



The Office of the Chancellor
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA AIKEN

Dear Faculty and Staff,

The University is proud of the relationships we have with the SRS and the SRNL. While the extension of the lab destined for our university, the Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative (AMC), is mired in politics, we are still guardedly optimistic that our patience will eventually be rewarded with final approvals by the federal agencies. Once built, one of the most exciting aspects of the AMC is that it will increase our university's ability to harness the intellectual capital at the National Lab for the benefit of our students.

Working over the past year with the former and current Directors of the SRNL we have found another way to leverage the talents and knowledge of SRNL employees to augment and complement our work at USC Aiken. Soon, we will be receiving a grant of \$105,000 from SRNS LLC to establish a *Collegiate Affiliate Program*. The program will bring retiring SRNL scientists and engineers to our campus to enrich the educational opportunities of students.

Here is how it will work: annually, we will receive applications from interested retiring scientists, engineers, chemists, technologists at SRNL. A committee of faculty will be formed to review the applications, interview, and recommend the candidates (the five individuals who will be "affiliated" with the university) to the dean. The provost will coordinate the program and make certain the appropriate processes are in place to ensure success. Naturally, the provost and dean will work closely with you to ensure a best-fit (appropriate fit) for any affiliate interested in participating in your department or lab.

Once selected, individuals will receive "affiliate" status and be selected to teach (based on departmental needs), mentor students, assist with undergraduate research projects, and/or support the work advancing the mission of the Ruth Patrick Science Education program. The Affiliate program will provide the same kind of synergy between the Lab and USC Aiken that we are hoping will happen when the AMC is built. And, eventually, this program will serve as a model for the way we interface with the SRNL employees once the AMC is finalized and built facing second base of our softball field.

In September, Dr. Vahid Majidi, Executive Director of the SRNL and I will formalize this new partnership through the signing of an MOU.

This creative project, funded by the SRNS Board, should begin this January.

Best wishes for a productive and happy semester!

Sandra J. Jordan
Chancellor