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for Higher Education

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Honors, Awards & Scholarship Committee

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Each Magellan Scholar receives funds to conduct their research project, competing for this award with the submission of a research, scholarship, or creative project proposal developed in collaboration with his or her faculty mentor. Selection is based on the project’s educational and intellectual merit, the potential impact of the project, and the student’s previous academic success.

Magellan Scholars may be from any discipline or major, but must maintain an institutional GPA of 3.300 or greater, maintain consistent effort towards the completion of the project within the grant period, and dedicates his or her self to exploring the world while gaining valuable hands-on experience.

**Magellan Scholar Honorees**

Lauren Carroll  
Brittni Hall  
Bailey Hamilton  
Brandon Hill  
Reese King  
Karah B. Moulton  
Elizabeth Peck  
Sarah Rebecca Shealy
USC Aiken’s Honors Program offers academically talented, highly motivated students opportunities for enriched learning experiences both in and outside the classroom. Honors students participate in a unique learning community that enjoys small classes and independent study under the direction of USC Aiken’s best teacher scholars in a program that cultivates critical thinking, analysis and creative expression.

Honors students have completed at least 20 percent of their academic program in courses designated or related to the Honors program.

**Honors Program Graduates**

Hannah G. Bonham  
Kiana M. Franklin  
Ashlyn R. Freeman  
Wesley R. Greene  
Melanie L. Howe  
Katrina A. Hutson  
Drake A. Jones  
Nadia C. Jones  
Lillian D. Lightsey  
Karah B. Moulton  
Santanna M. Templeton
College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Mark S. Hollingsworth, DMA, Dean of the College

Outstanding Student Honorees

Lauren Marie Baker
Ernestine B. Law Communication Student of the Year

Bela Steele
Mona L. Martin Prize in Freshman Writing

Paige Randall Singer
Phebe Davidson Prize in Creative Writing

Emma Brooks Platte
Virginia Kaplan Writing Award

Anne Ramsey Deibel
Outstanding Student of English

Abigail Rice
Outstanding Student of History

Cheyenne Alibocas
Outstanding Student of Sociology

Stefany Harden
Outstanding Student of Art

Aubrey Schipp
Outstanding Student of Music

Leah Tucker
Dr. McCracken Theatre Award Student

Kenneth Carl Proffitt
Outstanding Student of Interdisciplinary Studies

Dylan Phillips
Outstanding Student of Political Science
College of Sciences and Engineering
Chad Leverette, PhD, Dean of the College

Outstanding Student Honorees

Karah B. Moulton
Biology

Sarah Rebecca Shealy
Geology

Gabrielle Connor
Chemistry

Pei-Te Tu
Physics

Zachary G. Gilmer
Exercise and Sports Science

Wei Jie Zheng
Applied Computer Science

Keith McBride
Applied Mathematics

Savannah Lawson
Industrial Process Engineering

Sara Anne McCommon
Psychology

Kylie Jupp
Psychology Outstanding Graduate Student
School of Business Administration

Michael J. Fekula, PhD, Dean of the School

Outstanding Student Honorees

Candace Elaine Davis
Accounting

Cameron McCloud Clamp
Finance

Rebekka Lucia Heigermoser
Management

Peyton Elizabeth Hartmann
Marketing

Wesley Ralph Greene
Overall Outstanding Business Student
School of Education
Judy A. Beck, PhD, Dean of the School

Outstanding Student Honorees

Savannah Jones  
Early Childhood Education

Darius Ross  
Elementary Education - Aiken

Bonnie Hunt  
Elementary Education - Salkehatchie

Samantha Gosselin  
Elementary Education - Sumter

Ashley N. Taylor  
Middle Level Education

Tiffany Zorn  
Secondary Education

Victoria Reyes  
Special Education

Jennifer Connelly  
Special Education Palmetto College

Tabatha Younts  
Masters of Education in Education Technology

Mary Norris  
Masters of Education in Educator Leadership
School of Nursing
Thayer McGahee, PhD, Dean of Nursing

Outstanding student Honoree

Kyle Tackeberry
Nursing (BSN Generic)

Stacy Record
Nursing (RN to BSN)
Kelsey Spurlin, originally from Gaffney, South Carolina graduated from Gaffney High School in 2016. At USC Aiken, Spurlin has maintained a 4.0 grade-point-average earning a spot on the President’s List all semesters. Majoring in secondary English education, Spurlin is a South Carolina Teaching Fellow and was awarded the university’s Secondary Education Student of the Year in 2019. Spurlin serves as vice president of Sigma Tau Delta International English Honors Society, treasurer of Kappa Delta Pi International Education Honors Society, member of Omicron Delta Kappa International Leadership Honors Society and a member of the Teacher Candidate Student Advisory Board. Accompanying Dr. Judy Beck, Dean of the School of Education, Spurlin represented the university at AACTE’s Day on the Hill in Washington, D.C. Spurlin has also presented at the SCAMLE Conference in Myrtle Beach on behalf of USC Aiken.

Spurlin has been a member of the volleyball team for four years. She and the Pacers have won the Peach Belt Conference championship three out of the last four years made the NCAA Tournament four years in a row, and have finished in the Elite Eight once and the Sweet Sixteen twice in their respective seasons. The Peach Belt Conference has named Spurlin to the All-Academic Team from 2017-2019. She was also awarded the Peach Belt Conference Elite 15 award two years in a row for having the highest grade-point-average in the conference. Named First Team CoSIDA Academic All-District her senior year, Spurlin was placed among the top scholar athletes in the nation.

As an active member in Student Life, Spurlin is a Chancellor's Ambassador, has served as an Orientation Pacesetter for two years, an Orientation Team Leader, participant in the Disney Leadership Exchange Trip and the Leadership Certificate Program. Spurlin has been accepted into Florida International University's Master's Program in Curriculum and Instruction and will begin pursuing her master's degree in the fall. After graduation, Spurlin will begin her teaching career at Aiken High School, where she will also coach the Junior Varsity Volleyball Team.
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Michael J. Fekula, PhD, Dean, School of Business Administration
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Chad Leverette, PhD, Dean, College of Sciences and Engineering
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Blake Leaphart, President, USC Aiken Alumni Association

Q'Ladrin Qourters, President, Student Government Association
Lynne Rhodes, PhD, Chair, Faculty Assembly
Carmen A. Williams, MBA, Chair, Staff Assembly