

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA AIKEN



2019-2020 Academic Honors

Award Recipients
May 6, 2020

Aiken County Commission for Higher Education

Teresa H. Haas, *Chair*
Clarence G. Jackson, *Vice Chair*
Charles H. Marvin IV, *Secretary/Treasurer*
Carlos F. Garcia*
King Laurence*
Sandra J. Jordan, PhD*
Daren J. Timmons, PhD*
Kelly Brannon
Jackie Busbee
LaWana McKenzie
Sallye W. Rich
Timothy W. Simmons
** ex officio*

Ernest R. Allen, *Commissioner Emeritus*
Barbara Hendrich, *Commissioner Emeritus*
Rebecca T. Robbins, *Commissioner Emeritus*
Eugene S. Sawyer, *Commissioner Emeritus*
Gasper L. Toole III, *Commissioner Emeritus*

Aiken County Legislative Delegation

Senator Thomas R. Young Jr., *Chair*
Senator A. Shane Massey
Senator Nikki G. Setzler
Representative Bart T. Blackwell
Representative William C. Clyburn
Representative William M. Hixon
Representative Melissa Oremus
Representative William W. Taylor

Honors, Awards & Scholarship Committee

Robyn L. Havens, RN, PhD
Jami W. Craps, MEd
Brandy R. Horne, PhD
Jeremy Rinder, EdD
William Westermeyer, PhD

Magellan Scholars

Chad Leverette, PhD, Director of Sponsored Programs

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

Brittini Hall

Bailey Hamilton

Brandon Hill

Reese King

Karah B. Moulton

Elizabeth Peck

Sarah Rebecca Shealy

Honors Program

Michelle Petrie, PhD, Director of the Honors Program

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)

2020 Outstanding Senior

Kelsey Lynn Spurlin



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.

University of South Carolina Aiken Officials

Sandra J. Jordan, PhD, *Chancellor*

Daren J. Timmons, PhD, *Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs*

Mary C. Driscoll, *Vice Chancellor for University Advancement and External Affairs*

Ernest M. Pringle, MPA, *Vice Chancellor for Information Technology*

C. Cameron Reagin, MBA, *Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance*

Ahmed F. Samaha, MA, *Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs*

Jim Herlihy, MS, *Director of Athletics*

Judy A. Beck, PhD, *Dean, School of Education*

Michael J. Fekula, PhD, *Dean, School of Business Administration*

Mark Hollingsworth, DMA, *Dean, College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences*

Chad Leverette, PhD, *Dean, College of Sciences and Engineering*

Thayer W. McGahee, PhD, *Dean, School of Nursing*

Rodney Lippard, MLIS, *Director of the Library and the Center for Student Achievement*

Timothy Lintner, PhD, *Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs*

Nicole Spensely, MS, *Director, Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Research and Compliance*

Monica Key, *President, The Aiken Partnership Board*

Stephanie Franklin, *Chair, Inclusion Advisory Council*

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*



University of South Carolina Aiken
471 University Parkway
Aiken, SC 29801