

SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES, INC.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

ALLEN

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BOB JONES

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SOUTHERN**

CLAFLIN

COKER

COLUMBIA

**COLUMBIA
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METHODIST**

VOORHEES

WOFFORD



A VOICE FOR INDEPENDENT HIGHER EDUCATION IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Message from the Chair

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

This *Annual Report* marks my final year as Chair of the Board of Trustees of South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities. I am proud of what we have accomplished and grateful to the extraordinary individuals who contribute to SCICU's success. Thank you to Jeff Perez and SCICU staff, SCICU Presidents, Donors, and Trustees. Thank you especially to those trustees who embrace leadership roles as committee chairs and vice chairs. With your experience and engagement, SCICU continues to serve its member institutions with the high level of service on which they rely.

SCICU advanced its legislative priorities and financial goals through advocacy and fundraising. We cheered on the 2023 Excellence In Teaching winners from each institution and the Student of the Year with meaningful in-person celebrations. These award recipients remind us of the important work taking place at SCICU institutions and why SCICU's advocacy and funding matters in launching students into learning and leadership.

SCICU's capacity to support our member campuses depends largely on the generosity of its donors. In the past year SCICU exceeded its fundraising targets, and sent every penny raised to the campuses to support their students.

During my time as chair I have witnessed first-hand the dedication and hard work of the SCICU staff. I have marveled at their unwavering commitment to meet the needs of the member institutions and their students while also improving their own operations.

To Jeff Perez and SCICU staff, SCICU Presidents, Donors, and Board Members, thank you. You are all critical to the mission of SCICU and have played an integral role in its success. Thank you to the trustees who have rotated off the board this year for giving your time and talents to SCICU. Welcome new trustees, who bring new experience and energy to SCICU. You are in the wonderfully capable hands of Willis Cantey who will assume the role of board chair and lead SCICU forward. I look forward to serving with you in the coming year.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lucy Grey McIver".

Lucy Grey McIver
Chair, SCICU Board of Trustees
Attorney, McLeod Law Group

Message from the President

This *Annual Report* marks my fifth anniversary at SCICU. In November 2018 I looked ahead to the exciting opportunities of leading SCICU and supporting its member institutions. I had no idea that would entail a pandemic.

We all struggled to protect our communities and endured the tragedies borne of the pandemic. But we were also brought closer together. I am very proud SCICU was able to facilitate the many discussions and foster the collaborations that helped our member institutions emerge from the pandemic without a single serious outbreak. Those discussions continue because they proved so valuable not just for facing the pandemic but also the day-to-day business of running a college campus as well as meeting the challenges of working in a highly uncertain higher education environment.

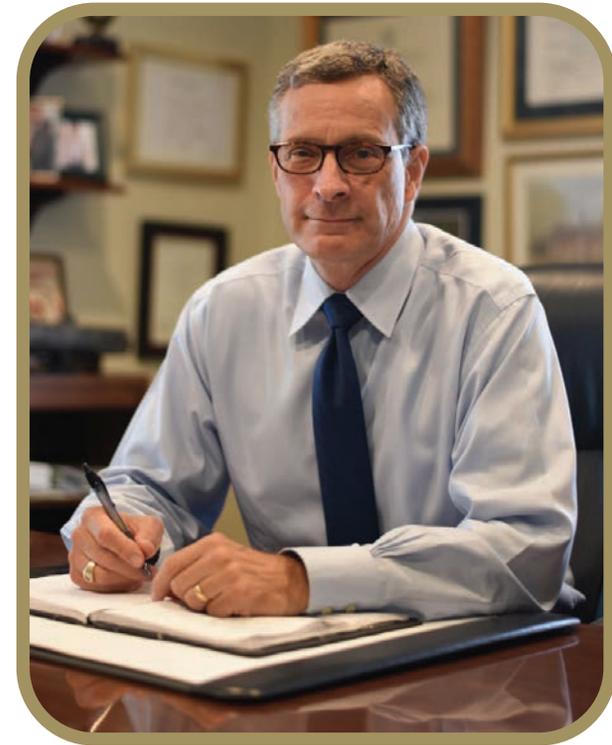
Over the last year the “SCICU 2.0” initiative sought to identify how we should be adapting to meet the evolving needs of our member institutions.

Based on interviews with campus presidents, discussions with the SCICU Board of Trustees, and a review of operations of similar organizations in other states, we identified that advocacy should remain our top priority, and we should continue complementing campus fundraising with SCICU development initiatives.

We are ramping up our campus services and will work to enhance SCICU’s public profile across the state. You will see “SCICU 2.0” throughout this Annual Report.

This year we said goodbye to Eddie Shannon who retired after 15 years of distinguished service as SCICU chief fundraiser. And we welcomed Emma Reabold, whose title, vice president for development and campus services, reflects our emphasis on meeting the needs of our 21 member institutions.

SCICU would not be successful without the work of Brenda Torrence and Shay Shealy West. And I am blessed with a board and leadership who possess the talent and experience to guide SCICU into a bright future.



L. Jeffrey Perez, Ph.D.
SCICU President and CEO

Our mission is to strengthen South Carolina’s independent colleges and universities through collaboration, governmental advocacy, fundraising, and public engagement so that every student may choose, afford, and earn an independent college education that fits their personal values, professional and social aspirations, and approach to learning.

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Front cover photo courtesy Anderson University (Spring 2023 Commencement)

ALLEN UNIVERSITY
Ph: 803/376-5700
1530 Harden Street
Columbia, S.C. 29204
Website: allenuniversity.edu
President: Dr. Ernest McNealey



ANDERSON UNIVERSITY
Phone: 864/231-2000
316 Boulevard
Anderson, S.C. 29621
Website: andersonuniversity.edu
President: Dr. Evans P. Whitaker

BENEDICT COLLEGE
Phone: 803/253-5000
1600 Harden Street
Columbia, S.C. 29204
Website: benedict.edu
President: Dr. Roslyn C. Artis



BOB JONES UNIVERSITY
Phone: 864/242-1500
1700 Wade Hampton Boulevard
Greenville, S.C. 29614
Website: bju.edu
Acting CEO: Dr. Alan Benson



CHARLESTON SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
Phone: 843/863-7050
9200 University Boulevard
Charleston, S.C. 29406
Website: charlestonsouthern.edu
President: Mr. B. Keith Faulkner

CLAFLIN UNIVERSITY
Phone: 803/535-5000
400 Magnolia Street
Orangeburg, S.C. 29115
Website: claflin.edu
President: Dr. Dwaun J. Warmack



COKER UNIVERSITY
Phone: 843/383-8000
300 East College Avenue
Hartsville, S.C. 29550
Website: coker.edu
President: Dr. Natalie Harder



COLUMBIA COLLEGE
Phone: 803/786-3012
1301 Columbia College Dr.
Columbia, S.C. 29203
Website: columbiacs.edu
President: Dr. John H. Dozier



COLUMBIA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
Phone: 803/754-4100
7435 Monticello Road
Columbia, S.C. 29203
Website: ciu.edu
President: Dr. William H. Jones



CONVERSE UNIVERSITY
Phone: 864/596-9000
580 East Main Street
Spartanburg, S.C. 29302
Website: converse.edu
President: Dr. Boone J. Hopkins



ERSKINE COLLEGE
Phone: 864/379-2131
2 Washington Street
Due West, S.C. 29639
Website: erskine.edu
President: Dr. Steven C. Adamson

FURMAN UNIVERSITY
Phone: 864/294-2100
3300 Poinsett Highway
Greenville, S.C. 29613
Website: furman.edu
President: Dr. Elizabeth Davis



LIMESTONE UNIVERSITY
Phone: 864/489-7151
1115 College Drive
Gaffney, S.C. 29340
Website: limestone.edu
Acting President: Mr. Jeremy Whitaker

MORRIS COLLEGE
Phone: 803/934-3211
100 West College Street
Sumter, S.C. 29150
Website: morris.edu
President: Dr. Leroy Staggers



NEWBERRY COLLEGE
Phone: 803/321-5127
2100 College Street
Newberry, S.C. 29108
Website: newberry.edu
President: Dr. Maurice Scherrens



NORTH GREENVILLE UNIVERSITY
Phone: 864/977-7021
P. O. Box 1892
Tigerville, S.C. 29688
Website: ngu.edu
President: Dr. Gene Fant, Jr.

PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE
Phone: 864/833-2820
503 South Broad Street
Clinton, S.C. 29325
Website: presby.edu
President: Dr. Anita O. Gustafson



SOUTHERN WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
Phone: 864/644-5000
PO Box 1020
Central, S.C. 29630
Website: swu.edu
President: Dr. William D. Barker



SPARTANBURG METHODIST COLLEGE
Phone: 864/587-4000
1000 Powell Mill Road
Spartanburg, S.C. 29301
Website: smcsc.edu
President: Mr. W. Scott Cochran



VOORHEES UNIVERSITY
Phone: 803/793-3351
213 Wiggins Road (PO Box 678)
Denmark, S.C. 29042
Website: voorhees.edu
President: Dr. Ronnie Hopkins

WOFFORD COLLEGE
Phone: 864/597-4000
429 Church Street
Spartanburg, S.C. 29303
Website: wofford.edu
President: Dr. Nayef H. Samhat



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Combined Insurance

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Acting President (08/01 to 09/01/23)
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Note: Asterisk () following names indicates new trustees as of September 1, 2023.*

2023 Honor Roll of Support

(Numbers following the donor name indicate the number of years the donor has contributed to SCICU.)

During our 2022-2023 fiscal year, the following individuals, foundations, and corporations supported independent higher education in South Carolina by making gifts to SCICU.

On behalf of our member institutions and their students, as well as the SCICU Board of Trustees and staff, we extend sincere appreciation to the following for their support and commitment to Opportunities for Excellence.

Thank you!

A

AffinityLTC LLC / 10
Allegiance Industries, Inc. / 2
Alwinell Foundation Trust / 54
AVI Food Services / 1

B

Bailey Foundation, The / 53
Barnet Foundation Trust, The / 37
Baruch Foundation, The Belle W. / 14
Bennett, Cynthia / 5
Blanton, Tyson / 1
BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina / 36
Bon Appetit/ 1
Broughton, LaJoia / 6

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Campbell Consulting Group, The / 20
Cantey Technology Consulting / 7
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CapinCrouse, LLP / 11
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Centrica Business Solutions / 2
Cheatham, Jerry A. / 9
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Coker, Charles W. / 25
Consolidated Management Resources / 1
Cook, Russell D. / 16
Council of Independent Colleges / UPS
Foundation / 49
Craig Gauden Davis Architecture/ 10

D

Daniel-Mickel Foundation, The / 57
Dickson Foundation, Inc., The / 38
Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation / 68
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Duke Energy Foundation / 68

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Find Great People / 8
Forvis / 1

G

Garrison, John J. / 5
Gentry, Ted / 6
Gillis Specialty Advertising / 10
GMK Associates, Inc. Foundation / 23
Groth, Steve / 2

H

Hagler, Scott / 4
Hall, Steve / 4
Hallmark Dining / 3
Ham, Annie E. / 4
Harrell, David / 2
Haynesworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A. / 14
HRP Associates / 12
HyperSign / 5

J

Jackson, Michael / 1
Jenzabar / 2
Johnson, Steven / 2
Jolley Foundation, The / 59
Jordan, Spencer / 4

K

Kashmer Interactive LLC / 5
King, Kathryn R. / 17

L

Laffitte, Montague and Lauren / 3
Lane Foundation, Mills Bee / 47
LeFever, Michael G. / 16
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Love, Brad / 6
Lynch, Dennis / 2

M

Maddrey Foundation / 34
Malloy Foundation, The / 65
Mayo, Jr., Earl L. / 20
McAbee, Jada / 2
McFadden, James / 6
McIver, Lucy Grey / 9
McKie, Robert / 3
McMillan Pazdan Smith LLC / 10
Metz Corp. / 8
Miles, Eugena F. / 4
Milliken & Company Charitable
Foundation / 57
Murphy, David / 2

2023 Honor Roll of Support *(Continued)*

N

NFP / 1

P

Pathify / 2

Perez, L. Jeffrey / 5

Pharos Resources LLC / 3

Pinkston, Brandolyn / 5

Pioneer College Caterers / 9

Pollock Company / 9

Porter, Robert / 3

R

Rawl & Sons, Walter P. / 12

S

S.C. Student Loan Corporation / 24

Sales Force / 1

Sanders, Family Foundation / 10

ScholarBuys LLC / 11

Security Federal Bank / 4

SEGRA / 2

SEKON Enterprises, Inc. / 3

Shannon III, Edward M. / 16

Simon III, David A. / 5

Sodexo / 29

Sonoco Foundation / 68

Spinks Family Foundation / 17

Staton, Robert and Phyllis / 9

T

TIAA / 16

TKC Management / 2

Torrence, Brenda S. / 25

Trane / 5

Transact Campus, Inc. / 4

Truist Charitable Fund / 21

U

Unum Group/Colonial Life & Accident / 61

V

Varsity Health LLC / 2

Vedane, Caryn S. / 3

Vetter, Danna / 1

Virtual Care Group / 2

Vulcan Materials Company Foundation / 54

W

Walsh Consulting Group LLC / 10

Weaver, Sr., Brent / 10

West, Shay Shealy / 8

Whitaker, Evans P. / 12

Williams, Sharon C. / 4

Willis, Dale / 5

Wyche P.A. / 11

Z

Zimmer, Chris / 1



*Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of donor information.
Should you note an error, please accept our apology and notify our office immediately.*

Donors by Gift Category

SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Bailey Foundation, The
Council of Independent Colleges / UPS Foundation
Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation
Duke Energy Foundation
Milliken & Company Charitable Foundation
Sanders Family Foundation
Security Federal Bank
Sonoco Foundation
South Carolina Student Loan Corporation
Truist Charitable Fund
Unum/Colonial Life & Accident

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH PROGRAM

Baruch Foundation, The Belle W.
BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina
Daniel-Mickel Foundation, The
Lane Foundation, Mills B.
South Carolina Independent Colleges & Universities Endowment
South Carolina Student Loan Corporation

SCICU STUDENT LIFELINE GRANTS

Alwinell Foundation Trust
Barnet Foundation Trust, Inc.
Bennett, Cynthia
Blanton, Tyson
Broughton, LaJoia
Campbell Consulting Group, The
Cantey, Willis

Cheatham, Jerry A.
Chubb Charitable Foundation
Coker, Charles W.
Consolidated Management Resources LLC
Cook, Russell D.
Dickson Foundation, Inc.
Dowd, M. Blake
Eidson, Kristin S.
Enterprise Holdings Foundation
Felk, Mark
Garrison, John J.
Gentry, Ted
GMK Associates, Inc. Foundation
Groth, Steve
Hagler, Scott
Hall, Steve
Ham, Annie E.
Harrison, Valerie E. and Gerald
Jackson Family Donor Advised Fund
Johnson, Steven
Jolley Foundation, The
Jordan, Spencer
King, Kathryn R.
Laffitte, Montague and Lauren
LeFever, Michael G.
Lesesne, Jr., Joab M. and Ruth O.
Lomax, John F.
Love, Brad
Lynch, Dennis
Maddrey, II, Erwin and Nancy
Malloy Foundation, The
Mayo, Jr., Earl L.
McAbee, Jada
McFadden, James
McIver, Lucy Grey
McKie, Robert

Miles, Eugena F.
Moore, John P.
Murphy, David
Perez, L. Jeffrey
Pinkston, Brandolyn
Porter, Robert
Ruh, Christopher P.
SEKON Enterprises, Inc.
Shannon, III, Edward M.
Shaw, Hal and Minor
Shiver, Candace
Simon III, David A.
Southeastern Freight Lines, Inc.
SouthState Bank
Spinks Family Foundation
Staton, Robert and Phyllis
Sulton, Daniel
Torrence, Brenda S.
United Community Bank Foundation, Inc.
Vedane, Caryn S.
Vulcan Materials Company Foundation
Weaver, Sr., Brent A.
West, Shay Shealy
Williams, Sharon C.
Willis, Dale

COLLEGE GUIDE SPONSORS

Allegiance Industries, Inc.
CapinCrouse LLP
Sodexo
South Carolina Student Loan Corporation
TKC Management
Varsity Health LLC

Donors by Gift Category *(Continued)*

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS DINNER SPONSORS

Allegiance Industries, Inc.
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Forvis
Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A.
Sodexo
South Carolina Student Loan Corporation
TIAA
Total Comfort Solutions
Varsity Health LLC
Vulcan Materials Company

IN-KIND GIFT SPONSORS

Bon Appetit/Milliken & Company
AVI Food Services

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Forvis
GMK Associates, Inc.
HyperSign
McMillan Pazdan Smith LLC
Metz Corp.
Pharos Resources
Pioneer College Caterers
Salesforce

South Carolina Student Loan Corporation
Sodexo
TIAA
Total Comfort Solutions
Trane
Varsity Health LLC
Virtual Care Group
Wyche, P.A.

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM SPONSORS

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Sodexo
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Varsity Health LLC



SCICU Fundraising

Thanks to our generous donors for helping SCICU exceed our FY 2022-2023 fundraising goals and helping more students at our 21 member colleges and universities!



FY 2022-2023 Results by Program - \$583,911 total gifts

Scholars Programs	\$ 368,335	Business Partners	\$ 8,888
Student LifeLine Grants	109,743	Excellence In Teaching Sponsorships	8,700
Undergraduate Research	52,500	College Guide Sponsorships	4,700
In-Kind Gifts	15,473	Research Symposium Sponsorships	1,822
Meeting Sponsorships	13,750		

FY 2023-2024 Giving Opportunities with SCICU

Scholars Programs - Businesses and charitable organizations are encouraged to invest in student scholars at SCICU's 21 member institutions through programs they customize based on academic achievement, major area of study, financial need, or leadership.

Undergraduate Student/Faculty Research Program - In its third decade, this program funds research projects conducted by undergraduate students under faculty mentorship. The program gives students a taste of graduate-level research – from submission of proposals for competitive funding review to professional research symposium presentation of findings.

Student Lifeline Grants Program - Lifeline Grants help SCICU students persevere through financial crises, stay in school, and complete their degree. Campus financial aid directors select grant recipients who are identified as at-risk for dropping out.

SCICU Business Partners - This program is designed for businesses that seek opportunities to grow relationships with SCICU member colleges and universities. A \$500 annual fee gives partners listings on the SCICU website, regular features in the SCICU newsletter, listings in the SCICU annual report, and package discount opportunities to sponsor SCICU events.

SCICU Event/Program Sponsorships - Businesses and individuals are invited to sponsor SCICU events, including the annual Excellence In Teaching Awards Dinner, the SCICU College Guide, trustee meetings, and more.

SCICU Endowment - Designated gifts may be made to the SCICU Endowment that provide income to support donors' goals, including student scholarship, faculty development, research support, and other areas.

Emma R. Reabold, Vice President for Development and Campus Services, can help you invest in South Carolina's future through SCICU's 21 member colleges and universities. Call her today at 803-799-7122 or email at emma@scicu.org.

2022-2023 Scholarship and Grant Programs

The SCICU Scholars Program was developed in 1994 to encourage investment in individual student scholars attending SCICU member institutions. Investors supporting SCICU's scholarship and grant programs recognize the need to assist talented and deserving students in achieving their goals for obtaining a college education.

BAILEY FOUNDATION

\$1,000 scholarships given at all 21 colleges to traditional students who are S.C. residents living in Laurens County.

COLONIAL LIFE (UNUM)



\$2,000 scholarships for 9 traditional students who are S.C. residents with a GPA of 3.0 or higher, who have high financial need as determined by the FAFSA, and attend Allen University, Benedict College, Claflin University, Columbia College, or Newberry College.

DOMINION ENERGY



Five \$1,000 scholarships are awarded at all 21 colleges and are available to traditional students with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Student, parent, or guardian must be a current customer of Dominion Energy.

DUKE ENERGY



Nine \$1,000 scholarships are awarded to minority juniors or seniors pursuing engineering degrees (3-2 program or engineering major). Eligibility is open to persons of color or female students.

MILLIKEN FOUNDATION



\$2,000 scholarships are given to S.C. residents attending SCICU's five HBCUs (Allen University, Benedict College, Claflin University, Morris College, and Voorhees University). Recipients must be full-time STEM majors with 2.5 or higher GPA and demonstrated financial need.

POWER:ED



Power:Ed, a philanthropic arm of S.C. Student Loan Corporation, funded \$48,135 in student completion grants designed to retain students and help them persist through financial challenges and graduate.

Power:Ed also provided \$25,000 to support student research participation among SCICU's five member HBCUs in the SCICU Undergraduate Research Program.

SANDERS FAMILY FOUNDATION

The foundation established by former SCICU Trustee Dan Sanders coordinates with the Furman University Bridges to a Brighter Future Program. This program assists at-risk youth with their educational goals. Up to 10 Furman Bridges participants will be selected annually to receive \$1,000 scholarships to attend a SCICU member college of their choice. Recipients will be sophomores, juniors, or seniors who have extenuating financial circumstances.

SECURITY FEDERAL



\$1,500 scholarships to one student each at Allen University, Benedict College, Columbia College, and Columbia International University. Recipients must be full-time S.C. residents with financial need and a minimum 2.5 GPA.

SONOCO FOUNDATION



Sixteen \$2,000 scholarships for traditional students who are S.C. residents with demonstrated financial need.

S.C. STUDENT LOAN CORPORATION



\$2,500 scholarships are given at all 21 SCICU member colleges for traditional full-time undergraduate students who are S.C. residents with a GPA of 3.0 or higher and have financial need as determined by FAFSA. The scholarships should be used to reduce the need for educational borrowing.

TRUIST CHARITABLE FOUNDATION



\$2,000 scholarships given at all 21 colleges for traditional students who are S.C. residents with a GPA of 3.0 or higher and have high financial need as determined by FAFSA.

UPS FOUNDATION



\$3,200 scholarships at all 21 member colleges for traditional students who are S.C. residents with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

SCICU Business Partners

We would like to express thanks to the SCICU Business Partners. The program is designed to enable SCICU member colleges, their employees, and their students and families to obtain information about goods and services available from the companies and businesses that have chosen to become SCICU Business Partners.

AFFINITYLTC, LLC
Harrisburg, PA



COURSEDOG
New York, NY



ALLEGIANCE INDUSTRIES
Columbia, SC



CRAIG GAULDEN DAVIS ARCHITECTURE
Greenville, SC



ARAMARK HIGHER EDUCATION
Cary, NC



DOMINION ENERGY
Richmond, VA



BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF SC
Columbia, SC



DUKE ENERGY
Greenville, SC



THE BUDD GROUP
Winston-Salem, NC



ENTERPRISE HOLDINGS
Columbia, SC



CANTEY TECH CONSULTING
North Charleston, SC



FIND GREAT PEOPLE, LLC
Greenville, SC



CAPIN CROUSE LLP
Lawrenceville, GA



FORVIS
Charlotte, NC



CBIZ
Maitland, FL



GENWORTH FINANCIAL
Richmond, VA



CENTRICA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS
Irving, TX



GIRAFFE WEB DEVELOPMENT
Greenville, SC



COLONIAL LIFE
Columbia, SC



GMK ASSOCIATES INC.
Columbia, SC



GRANITE GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS
West Palm Beach, FL



METZ CULINARY MANAGEMENT
Sarasota, FL



HALLMARK MANAGEMENT SERVICES
Columbus, OH



MILLIKEN & COMPANY
Spartanburg, SC



HAYNSWORTH SINKLER BOYD
Greenville, SC



NFP
Greenville, SC



HOUSING.CLOUD
New York, NY



PATHIFY
Denver, CO



HRP ASSOCIATES
Greenville, SC



PHAROS RESOURCES, LLC
Abilene, TX



HYPERSIGN
Spartanburg, SC



PIONEER COLLEGE CATERERS
Olathe, KS



IMA FINANCIAL GROUP
Greenville, SC



POLLOCK COMPANY
West Columbia, SC



JENZABAR
Boston, MA



PVC FITTINGS ONLINE
Rock Hill, SC



KASHMER INTERACTIVE
Fort Mill, SC



SALESFORCE
San Francisco, CA



MCMILLAN PAZDAN SMITH ARCHITECTURE
Spartanburg, SC



SCHOLARBUYS
Carpentersville, IL



SCICU Business Partners *(continued)*

SC STUDENT LOAN CORPORATION
Columbia, SC



TRANSACT
Phoenix, AZ



SECURE SOLAR FUTURES
Staunton, VA



TRUIST
Columbia, SC



SeKON
Reston, VA



UPS
Columbia, SC



SEGRA
Columbia, SC



VARSITY HEALTH LLC
Salem, OR



SODEXO
Spartanburg, SC



VIRTUAL CARE GROUP
Los Angeles, CA



SONOCO PRODUCTS
Hartsville, SC



VULCAN MATERIALS
Atlanta, GA



SPINX COMPANY
Greenville, SC



WELLS FARGO BANK
Columbia, SC



TOTAL COMFORT SOLUTIONS
Columbia, SC



WYCHE, P.A.
Greenville, SC



TRANE
Columbia, SC



Celebrating the 2023 McLean-Smith SCICU Student of the Year - Abigail McGillis

Abigail McGillis, a senior majoring in elementary education at North Greenville University, is the 2023 McLean-Smith SCICU Student of the Year. Her excellence in academics, student leadership, and community involvement were celebrated at the SCICU Board of Trustees meeting held on October 10 at Anderson University.

The McLean-Smith SCICU Student of the Year scholarship celebrates the combined decades of South Carolina independent higher education advocacy of J. Lacy McLean and Sterling L. Smith.



(L-R) North Greenville University President Gene Fant, 2023 McLean-Smith SCICU Student of the Year Abigail McGillis, and SCICU President and CEO Jeff Perez.

SCICU welcomes Emma Reynolds Reabold as Vice President of Development and Campus Services

In this newly-created leadership role, Emma directs SCICU's development efforts and spearheads increased collaboration with and among SCICU's 21 member colleges and universities.



Emma comes to SCICU from the University of South Carolina, where she was an integral leader in the award-winning University 101 first-year student program. She is a 2013 graduate of Presbyterian College and holds a Master's degree in counselor education and student affairs from Clemson University. Emma is currently working on a Ph.D. in higher education administration at the University of South Carolina.

SCICU honors Eddie Shannon for his half century of higher education advocacy in South Carolina



Eddie Shannon (center), former SCICU Executive Vice President, was honored at the SCICU 2023 Fall Board of Trustees meeting. Presenting the resolution are SCICU President and CEO Jeff Perez (left) and SCICU Board Chair Lucy Grey McIver (right).

Advancing S.C. higher education through legislative advocacy

SCICU advocacy achievements in 2023:

- Retained \$20 million in lottery funding for the Tuition Grants Program. The maximum grant increased from \$4,390 to \$4,500.
- State merit scholarships, received by more than one-third of undergraduates at SCICU member institutions, received full funding.
- The Partnership Among South Carolina Academic Libraries (PASCAL) received its \$1.5 million request in lottery funding. Each year PASCAL saves SCICU member institutions millions of dollars in savings while providing students access to greatly expanded academic resources.
- Legislation (H. 3591) passed the House that would provide for a referendum to remove the “Blaine Amendment” from the South Carolina constitution. This provision thwarts partnerships between state and local governments and private colleges and universities.
- SCICU and several member institutions were prominent participants in the S.C. Commission on Higher Education initiative to promote the smooth transfer of students from associate degree colleges to bachelor’s degree granting colleges and universities.
- The federal Pell Grant Program supports the most economically disadvantaged students. The maximum grant was increased \$500 to \$7,395. Nearly four in ten students at SCICU member institutions receive a Pell Grant.



Gov. Henry McMaster (at podium) met with students and discussed the importance of higher education to the growth of South Carolina.

Second annual Joint Higher Education Day held at S.C. State House April 19

Students from SCICU member institutions, public colleges and universities, and the technical colleges once again combined forces and held the Joint Higher Education Day April 19.

Students met with their respective members of the House and Senate, were recognized in the House Chamber with a concurrent resolution, and finished the day with Governor McMaster on the North State House Steps for the Higher Education Day proclamation ceremony and remarks from the Governor.



SCICU Tuition Grant recipients say 'Thank you' 7,109 times

In 2023, Tuition Grants recipients at SCICU member colleges and universities sent 7,109 thank-you letters to their members of the S.C. Senate and House of Representatives.

At left - Limestone University and many other SCICU member colleges and universities hosted special letter-writing events for Tuition Grants recipients.



Southern Wesleyan University joined SCICU and other member institutions in coordinated social media campaigns leading up to the April 19 Joint Higher Education Day at the State House.



On Higher Education Day, Governor Henry McMaster met with Charleston Southern University Tuition Grants recipients and with other SCICU member delegations.

SCICU Excellence in Teaching Awards

The hallmark of South Carolina's private, non-profit colleges and universities is the emphasis on individualized learning and student achievement. This can only be accomplished by a distinguished faculty working in a supportive environment that encourages and fosters serious inquiry, critical thinking, and a broader understanding of the world in which we live.

Each year, SCICU recognizes and celebrates outstanding faculty members with its Excellence in Teaching Awards. Each campus selects an Excellence In Teaching award winner, and SCICU is proud to award each recipient a \$3,000 professional development grant. This group of teacher-scholars represents many different academic disciplines and brings a rich diversity of education, experience, and interests to our campuses.

2023 marked our second year post-pandemic celebrating award winners in person at the SCICU Excellence In Teaching Awards Dinner. SCICU is proud to recognize 21 outstanding faculty members as the recipients of the 2023 Excellence In Teaching Awards.



Converse University's 2023 Excellence In Teaching Award recipient is Dr. Mary Carlisle (center holding award). She is joined by (L-R) Dr. Joe Wilferth, Converse University Provost; Converse President Boone Hopkins; Dr. Susanne Gunter; Dr. Chris Vaneman; Dr. Will Case; and Lucy Grey Mclver, SCICU Board Chair.

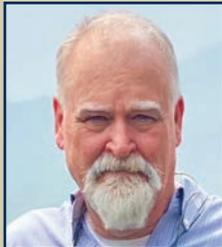


Spartanburg Methodist College's 2023 Excellence In Teaching Award recipient is Dr. Dalicia Raymond (center). She is joined by (L-R) SMC Provost Dr. Curt Laird, Dr. Kelly Neill, SMC President Scott Cochran, and SCICU Board Chair Lucy Grey Mclver.

2023 Recipients



Dr. Eddie Yancey
Allen University
English / History / Religion



Mr. David Williams
Anderson University
Criminal Justice



Dr. Victor Oyibo
Benedict College
Business Administration



Dr. Julie N. Hartman
Bob Jones University
Education



Dr. Melinda Walker
Charleston Southern
University
Biology



Dr. Shannon Bright Smith
Clafin University
Nursing



Professor Jonathan Garren
Coker University
Library and Information
Science



Ms. Jill Eversmann
Columbia College
Speech-Language
Pathology



Dr. Michael Naylor
Columbia International University
Bible



Dr. Mary E. Carlisle
Converse University
Art



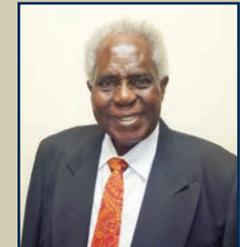
Dr. Keith D. Timms
Erskine College
Music



Dr. Kristy Maher
Furman University
Sociology



Dr. John Martin Knipe
Limestone University
English and Spanish



Dr. Joshua O. Oyekan
Morris College
Psychology



Dr. Carrie Caudill
Newberry College
Psychology



Dr. Darian Washington
North Greenville University
Music



Dr. Daniel Benjamin Bailey
Presbyterian College
Political Science



Dr. Michael Tapper
Southern Wesleyan University
Religion



Dr. Dalicia Raymond
Spartanburg Methodist College
English



Dr. Marcus L. Amos
Voorhees University
Sport Management



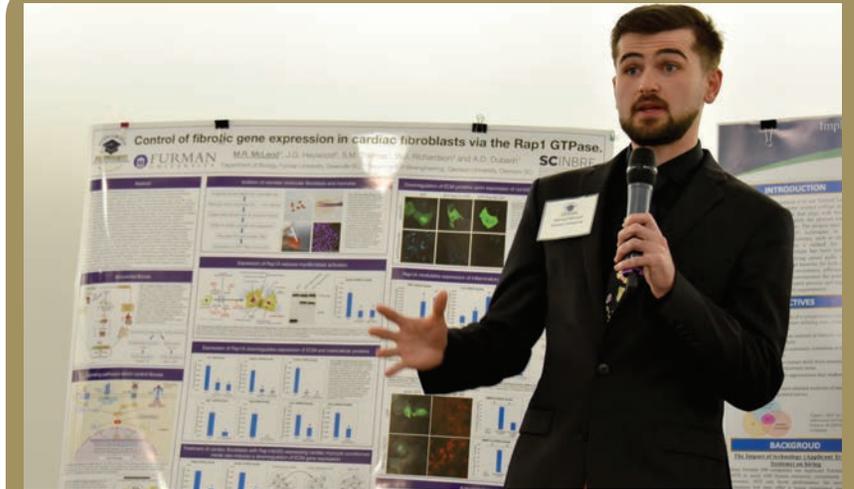
Dr. Begonia
Caballero-García
Wofford College
Spanish Studies

SCICU Undergraduate Student/Faculty Research Program

Initially developed in 1995, the SCICU Undergraduate Student/Faculty Program increases research opportunities for undergraduate students attending SCICU member institutions. Research projects are selected for funding based on rigorous subject-area expert review. Participating students have opportunities to develop professional research and presentation skills, the benchmarks of highly-qualified professional researchers.



Deborah Kifle, Benedict College student researcher, delivering project findings via multi-media presentation at the 2023 SCICU Research Symposium.



Michael McLeod, Furman University student researcher, delivering research findings via poster presentation at the 2023 SCICU Research Symposium.

Research projects completed in December 2023. Research findings will be presented at the February 22, 2024 Research Symposium.

Institution	Student(s)	Faculty Sponsor(s)	Research Topics
Anderson University	Daniel Boyd	Chad Rodekohr	Explorations in Controlled Sn Whisker Growth
Benedict College	Deanjay Knight	Larry Lowe	Lactate Dehydrogenase as a Biomarker Marker of Poultry Woody Breast Syndrome
Benedict College	Meisha Murray	Maima Naheed	Effects of Harvesting on Fish Population
Benedict College	Anthony Stubbs	Adrian Gale	Assessing the Regeneration Effectiveness and Sustainability of Combined Ion-Exchange Pretreatment of Drinking Water
Bob Jones University	Joey Brazovan	Stephen Chen	Examining the Relationship Between Physical Activity, Mental Well-Being, and Sleep: The PAWS Study
Bob Jones University	Rebecca Gomes, Emily Stark	Hannah Bengé	Strengthening the Aging Voice (STAG) Study: Evaluation of Respiratory Muscle Strength Training Plus Vocal Function Expense
Charleston Southern University	Alessandro Russo	Michael Martinez	A Threshold Based Model for Epidemiological Systems
Claffin University	Priscilla Fatokun, Oluwamayowa Owolabi	Shrikant Pawar	A Prospective, Community-Based Observational Study for Creating a Comprehensive Electronic Health Record (EHR) Database using Wearable Devices in African American Cohort

For the 2023-24 research cycle, a total of 27 research proposals involving 32 students from 14 SCICU member institutions were awarded research grants totaling \$107,519 in the spring of 2023. Project research concluded in December 2023. Student researchers will present their project findings via oral/multimedia presentations or poster presentations at the SCICU Research Symposium on February 22, 2024. Listed below are the students, faculty sponsors, and the project titles for the research projects selected for funding in 2023.

Research projects completed in December 2023. Research findings will be presented at the February 22, 2024 Research Symposium.

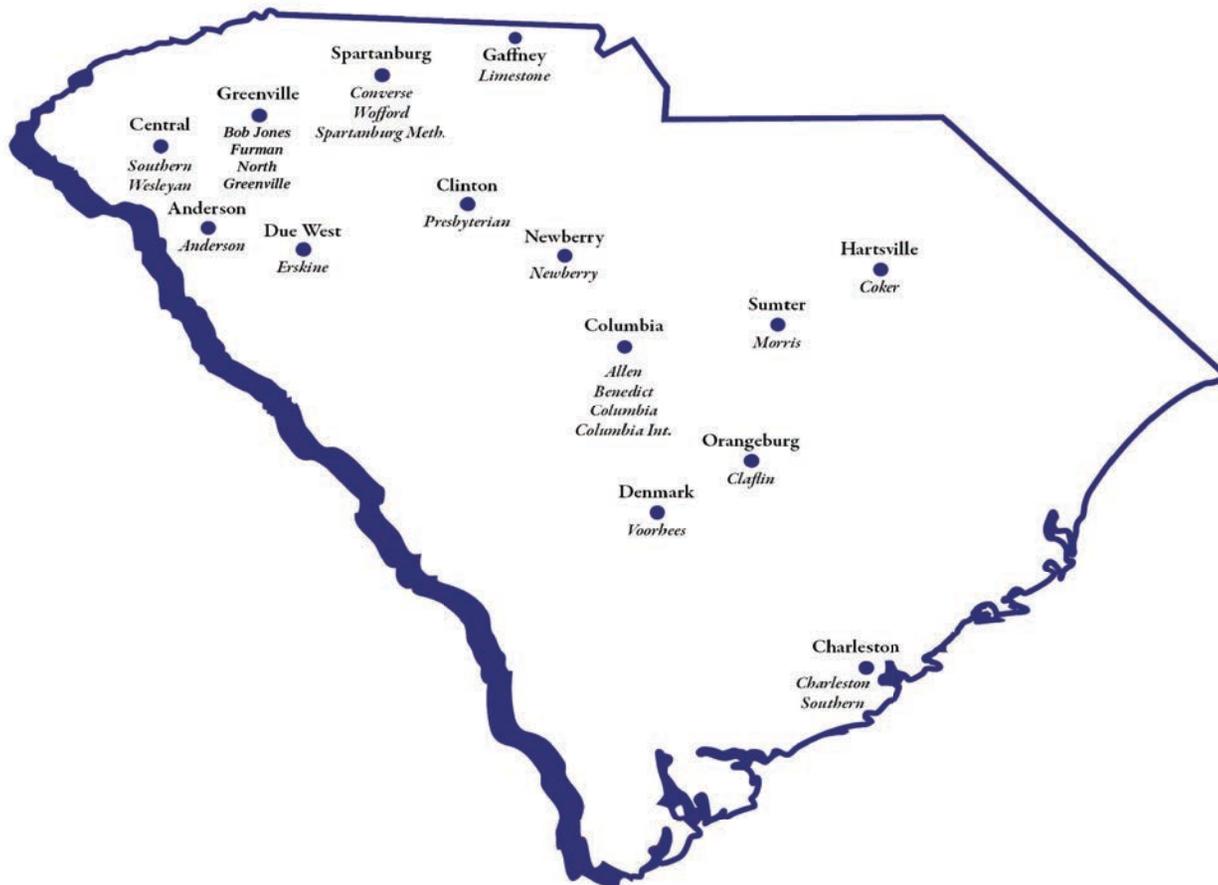
Institution	Student(s)	Faculty Sponsor(s)	Research Topics
Coker University	Isabella Delaney	Jennifer Borgo Raia	The Impact of Snag Characteristics on Species Use of Cavities at Kalmia Gardens
Coker University	Delaney Eaves, Jerry Reed	Gita Mohanty, Joseph Flaherty	Isolation and Screening of Microbes for Bioremediation Potential Using Silver Nanoparticles (AgNPs)
Coker University	Isabella Hessian	Gina Bennett	Capital and Kin: Family Networks of the St. Andrew's Society of South Carolina and Their Connection To Transatlantic Markets in the Eighteenth Century
Converse University	Caroline Blair	Jeffrey Howard, Allison Vick	Belle Baruch and the Women's Rights Movement During the World Wars
Converse University	Tessa Kramer, Cameron McGahee	Marie Lepage	The Impact of Hiking on Mental Health and Mood
Converse University	Madeline Owens	Edward Griffin	The Effect of Dental Microbes on Neurodegeneration in <i>C.elegans</i> Models of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Disease
Converse University	Carolina Jameson Stubbs	Jeffrey Howard, Allison Vick	Bernard Baruch: The Influence of Hobcaw Barony in Politics
Converse University	Shelisa Williams	Kevin DeLapp	Violence and Ethics in Manga
Converse University	Ella Ziel	Meg Tominaga	The Research and Application of Traditional Japanese Theatrical Forms' Influence on Brecht's Work
Erskine College	Sharon George	John Harris	Holy Textiles: The Relationship Between the Methodist Episcopal Church South (MECS) and Upstate South Carolina Textile Mills
Furman University	Emma Cooper	Stephanie Knouse	Language Learning Experiences
Furman University	Mia Mantovani	Stephanie Knouse	Spanish in the Upstate of South Carolina
Presbyterian College	Margaret Leonard	Austin Shull	IL32 as a Mediator of Breast Cancer Cell Death Resistance
Southern Wesleyan University	Kylie Morrison	Jeffrey Mohr	The Effects of Man-made Structures on Herpetofaunal Populations
Voorhees University	Vanessa Sherman	Zhabiz Golkar	The Overview Study of <i>Calendula officinalis</i> as a Botanical Agent for the Treatment of Skin-Related Conditions
Wofford College	Sarah Buckmaster	Alysa Handelsman	Planning, Purpose, and Investment: The Fight for Housing Equity in Una, Saxon, and Arcadia
Wofford College	Isabelle Dugle, Lilia Reihs	Katherine Steinmetz	Examining the Effect of Slow-paced breathing on Psychophysiology and Memory
Wofford College	Julia Richardson	Yongfang Zhang	Contextualized Grammar Instruction at the Novice Level Chinese Courses: A Student-Centered and Process-Based Training Approach

Educational and Economic Impact of Independent Colleges and Universities

SCICU represents 21 independent colleges and universities, each with a unique historical and cultural background. Many also have a strong faith-based emphasis. SCICU's member institutions currently include five historically black colleges and universities and two previously all-women's colleges that are now co-educational.

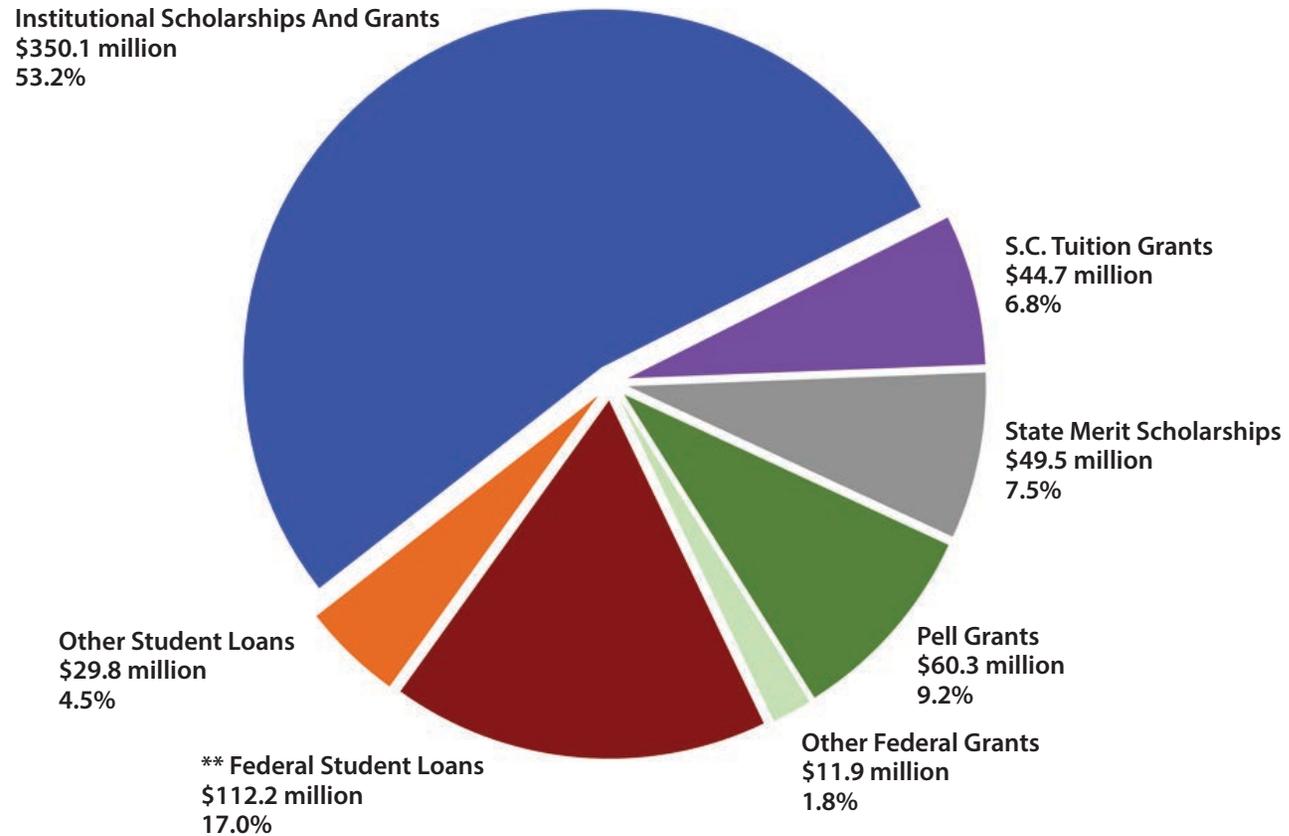
SCICU member colleges and universities:

- Enrolled **36,185** total students (Fall 2022)
 - o **30,367** undergraduate students (Nearly 24% of S.C.'s total undergraduate enrollment at four-year institutions)
 - o **65%** of undergraduate students are S.C. residents
 - o **48%** identify as minority
 - o **5,818** graduate students
- Provided **\$350 million** in institutional aid to undergraduate students (AY 2021-22)
- Awarded **5,879** bachelor's degrees (22% of S.C.'s bachelor's degrees) and **2,168** graduate degrees during AY 2021-2022
- Employed more than **8,300** faculty and staff and several thousand student workers (Fall 2022)
- Contributed more than **\$1 billion** in business expenses and payroll to South Carolina's economy (AY 2021-2022)



Student Financial Aid Sources by Category

SCICU Member Colleges and Universities – 2021-2022 Academic Year



- SCICU institutions invest substantially in the success of students. At \$350.1 million, or 53.2% of all financial aid, institutional scholarships and grants are the largest single source of student financial aid.
- Nearly four-fifths of the SCICU average student financial aid package does not require repayment by students. Federal grants/work study, state merit scholarships, tuition grants, and institutional scholarships collectively account for 77.2% of student financial aid for students attending SCICU member colleges and universities.

Data Sources:

IPEDS (Pell Grants, Other Federal Grants, Federal Student Loans, Other Student Loans)

SCICU Institutional Research Survey (Institutional Scholarships and Grants)

S.C. Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission (Tuition Grants)

S.C. Commission on Higher Education (State Merit Scholarships)

**Federal Student Loans -- Only includes loans with the student as the named borrower (Parent PLUS loans excluded). Higher Education Emergency Relief (HEERF) grants funded under the CARES Act are reported as Other Federal Grants (not Title IV) in Student Financial Aid.

FINANCIAL CONDITION: September 1, 2022 - August 31, 2023

The financial statements of SCICU are audited by The Hobbs Group, P.A. which has issued its unmodified opinion. The following is drawn from their 2023 audit. Total assets of \$4,898,954 on August 31, 2023 compares to \$4,869,816 on August 31, 2022.

Because our member colleges and universities are assessed dues to underwrite the entire administration and operating costs of this non-profit organization, 100 percent of all contributions raised from donors are distributed to the members for scholarships without any reductions for fund-raising costs. Gifts and awards totaling \$732,519 were distributed during the fiscal year.

SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, INC.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND NET ASSETS MODIFIED CASH BASIS

For the year ending August 31, 2023

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 451,067	
Prepaid Expenses	19,525	
Investments	<u>4,411,738</u>	4,882,330

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Building	\$121,531	
Building improvements	42,182	
Office furniture and equipment	<u>26,736</u>	
	190,449	
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>173,825</u>	<u>16,624</u>

Total Assets \$ 4,898,954

NET ASSETS

WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS

Undesignated	\$ 2,968,829	
Designated by the Board for endowment	<u>269,553</u>	<u>\$3,238,382</u>

WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS 1,660,572

TOTAL NET ASSETS \$ 4,898,954

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS — MODIFIED CASH BASIS

For the year ending August 31, 2023

REVENUES

Gifts and awards received	\$ 536,859
Member college assessments	553,344
Unrealized and realized gain on investments	160,707
Interest and dividends	133,205
Special functions	17,125
Buy-in revenues	20,479
Miscellaneous	<u>2,400</u>

Total Revenues \$ 1,424,119

EXPENSES

Gifts and awards distributed	732,519
Operating costs	<u>662,462</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 1,394,981</u>

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS 29,138

NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR 4,869,816

NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR \$ 4,898,954





SCICU Team

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scicu.org



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SCICU President - Jeff Perez
[@SCICU_JeffPerez](#)

SCICU Communications - Shay Shealy West
[@SCICU_ShayWest](#)

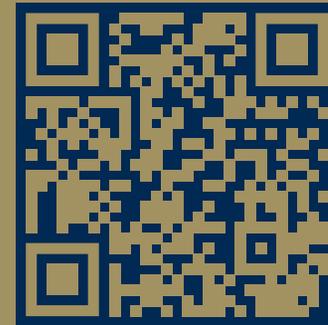




Guide to Private Colleges and Universities in South Carolina



SCICU's interactive College Guide is your best ONE-STOP source for information on college admissions, financial aid, and scholarships at South Carolina's leading independent colleges and universities. Great opportunities await you at SCICU colleges and universities!



Click [here](#) for College Guide

SCICU website:

www.scicu.org