

Dr. Walter Percy Collins, III

Columbia, SC | (803) 272-1310 | collinsw@sc.edu | www.linkedin.com/in/walter-p-collins-iii

I am a strategic and detail-oriented higher education leader who prioritizes student experience and achievement, faculty and staff accomplishment and well-being, and community and external stakeholder connections and engagement. My progressively responsible and successful leadership experience comprises highly effective regional campus leadership and management, online learning advocacy and promotion, academic and student affairs management, superior interpersonal and communication skills, strong financial management, comprehensive strategic and master planning efforts, and successful donor relationship building and stewardship. The results of my solutions-oriented work have led to strong and positive campus relationships, the implementation of innovative programs, robust fundraising, and the establishment of a culture of access, opportunity, and engagement.

Education

- 2004 **Doctor of Philosophy** (Ph.D. in Comparative Literature, emphases in French, English, and Philosophy) University of South Carolina Columbia, Director: Dr. Kwame S. N. Dawes.
Dissertation: Tracing Personal Expansion: Reading Selected Novels by Buchi Emecheta, Tsitsi Dangaremba, and Calixthe Beyala as Modern African *Bildungsromane*.
- 1993 **Master of Arts** (French Literature) University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Director: Dr. E. Jane Burns. **Thesis:** The “Joys” of Medieval Marriage: A Study of Conjugal Manipulations and Power in Les Quinze Joyes de Mariage and La Farce du Cuvier.
- 1991 **Bachelor of Arts** (French Literature, minor: English) Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC.

Experience

University of South Carolina Palmetto College 1/2024-present
Executive Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs and Associate Provost

Lead the Academic and Student Affairs areas of USC Palmetto College to ensure that core mission and values as well as strategic priorities are met—academic planning, assessment and curriculum review, regional and program accreditation, evaluation, honors and bridge programs, research, development, faculty hiring, recruitment, and continuing education. Coordinate university wide with Provost Office staff and Dean colleagues on matters related to academic and student success while serving on committees relevant to that work. Build organizational capacity through connections with external stakeholders such as the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education and the South Carolina Technical College System. Foster a culture of collaboration, mutual support, innovation, and success across all efforts.

Responsibilities:

- Consult with the Chancellor of Palmetto College on matters related to daily operations and strategic oversight of unit responsibilities.
- Lead and support major unit projects. Examples:
 - Palmetto College Strategic Plan, 2024-2029
 - Academic credentialing of unit instructional faculty
 - Palmetto College Tenure and Promotion Processes

- Oversight of Faculty Affairs strategic efforts
- Oversight of Online Degree articulation agreement documents to serve current and prospective students
- Continuous improvement and report preparation related to SACS-COC Five Year Review and Reaffirmation of Accreditation
- South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (SC CHE) matters relating to new programs and academic requirements and regulations
- Consult with various representatives in the Office of the Provost on matters related to Academic Affairs such as new collaborative programs and initiatives.
- Consult with members of the Council of Academic Deans (CAD) including Columbia campus Deans and other Academic Leaders for shared information and to build dynamic partnerships.
- Regularly attend meetings of the SC CHE standing committees—the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing, the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services, the Committee on Finance & Facilities, the Committee on Strategic Initiatives & Engagement, and the monthly Business Meeting. Represent Palmetto College in matters which intersect with the responsibilities of the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education.
- Regularly lead monthly meetings for Associate Deans for Academic and Student Affairs on the Palmetto College campuses for shared discussions of matters pertaining to our work across the state.
- Liaise with and support the work of the Palmetto College Campuses Faculty Senate prioritizing shared governance and academic freedom.
- Serve on the Chancellor’s Cabinet and serve in the absence of the Chancellor or a Palmetto College Regional Campus Dean.
- Serve as an informal thought partner to other institutional leaders as well as contribute to institutional effectiveness through formal committee service. Examples of committee work:
 - University Policy Advisory Committee
 - Provost’s Interdisciplinary Advisory Council
 - University Emergency Management Team
 - AI Certificate Working Group
 - Academic Program Liaisons.
- Actively engage in professional associations to continuously learn and improve. Select examples:
 - National Association of Branch Campus Administrators
 - Regional and Branch Campus Administrators
 - Association for Continuing Higher Education
 - SACS-COC
 - UPCEA

University of South Carolina Lancaster

4/2013-12/2023

Palmetto College Campus Dean

Led USC Lancaster, a USC Palmetto College Campus of 2239 students (Fall 2023 enrollment figure) with responsibilities for oversight and management of academic and student affairs, enrollment management, human resources, planning, information technology, fiscal management (\$14 million budget), physical plant, community outreach and development, law enforcement and security, and athletics. Campus has 150 acres (50 acres developed) with 10 campus buildings including the collaboratively established Native American Studies Center and the Indian Land Location in Indian Land, SC adjacent to the city of Charlotte, NC. Direct and indirect supervision of 300 individuals—faculty, staff, temporary employees (full- and part-time), and student workers. Partnered with five affiliate bodies in support of campus operations, special projects, and enhancements—Lancaster County Commission for Higher Education with commissioners appointed by the Governor of the State of South Carolina, the Educational Foundation of USC Lancaster, the USC Lancaster Board of Visitors, the Town-Gown Advisory Council, and the Indian Land Location Business Advisory Group.

Professional highlights related to the USC Lancaster Campus Dean Position

- Led the institution while USC Lancaster was named No.1 two-year campus in South Carolina by niche.com from 2019 to 2024 based on academics, professors, student life, location, and safety.
- Regularly led three administrative bodies—Dean’s Administrative Council (office and department leaders), Dean’s Executive Council (associate dean, HR, finance, enrollment management), and Dean’s Advisory Council (associate dean, faculty organization executive committee, and three elected faculty).
- Co-led USC Lancaster’s Town-Gown Advisory Group and USC Lancaster’s Indian Land Business Advisory Group. Managed implementation of initiatives deriving from these groups. Examples: Hiring of Indian Land Location Director and Outreach Coordinator, Hiring of Coordinator of Internships, Hiring of Director of Corporate Partnership and Engagement, and the *Light the Cupola!* project to recognize accomplishments of students, faculty, and staff.
- Made strategic decisions in early years in service as Campus Dean to erase deficit in operating funds and build a fund balance to the current level of 3+ months of operating costs. The results have been transformational for the campus from a financial health perspective.
- Provided ongoing updates, additions, and expansions of campus IT infrastructure (computer labs, mobile computer cart, wi-fi coverage, electronic campus information screens, campus webcam, and security cameras). In 2022 and 2023, supported the addition of Apple Labs (Palmetto College iCarolina Lab) on campus in Bradley and at the Kershaw Branch of the Lancaster County Library System. Apple Labs funded for use by the campus and community by a grant from GEER Funding provided by Henry McMaster, Governor of South Carolina.
- Provided ongoing support for academic enhancement programs such as USC’s Graduation with Leadership Distinction, undergraduate research, travel study, and theatrical/musical productions.
- Provided guidance, leadership, and institutional support for USC Lancaster’s 60th Anniversary Celebration (2019-2020, curtailed due to onset of COVID-19 pandemic) as well as its upcoming 65th Anniversary Celebration (2024-2025).
- Facilitated public/private partnerships such as the transition in 2017 of management and fitness operations of the Gregory Health and Wellness Center to the YMCA of Upper Palmetto (becoming the Gregory Family YMCA) located on the USC Lancaster campus.
- Supported the planning, construction, and ongoing upgrades of the BSN Nursing Simulation Laboratory (opened in 2015) for the collaborative program with the USC College of Nursing.
- Provided funding and facilitated awarding of the USC Lancaster Research and Productive Scholarship Grants. Competitive, peer-reviewed process with faculty and staff committee determining awardees. Increased funding by 20% beginning in FY 2023.
- Provided funding for faculty travel for presentations and professional development. Increased funding by 20% beginning in FY 2023.
- Supported faculty and staff efforts to begin and finish graduate degrees and increased compensation accordingly.
- Supported USC Lancaster faculty in individual credentialing as it brought added value to their primary campus responsibilities (CPA, CPR, Certified Health Coach, and other credentials).
- Worked with Native American Studies faculty members to create an Indigenous Land Acknowledgement for the campus by placing a public sign near Founders Hall. Similarly, developed Land Acknowledgement statements for official campus ceremonial events.
- Supported the recruitment of minority students to the USC Lancaster campus and to programs like TRiO and others which support them after matriculation.
- Coordinated transition of two on-campus community health clinics to private practices operating in the local community.
- Established in coordination with student leaders a campus lactation room for faculty, staff, and student use leading to the designation of Mother Friendly Campus in 2017.

- Maintained regular and consistent communication with the campus business officer and central budget office in Columbia to manage local campus budget effectively and efficiently.
- Maintained conversation and information flow with the Dean's Budget Advisory Group and scheduled yearly campus budget update for the entire campus.
- Led efforts to initiate an update to the Campus Master Plan (previously completed in 2008). Update completed in Fall 2020. Continuous work on implementation of recommendations including items related to campus beautification.
- Worked with the Lancaster County School District to renovate the Automotive Technology Building at former Indian Land High School to serve as the new USC Lancaster location in Indian Land, SC.
- Launched an eSports team and completed their competition space on campus.
- Oversaw establishment of scholarships and other fundraising support. Despite the slowdown of most every aspect of society during the pandemic, the USC Lancaster campus saw the establishment of 7 new endowed scholarships in a period of 12 months (2020-2021).
- Led the campus during a decade that saw the establishment of approximately 50 new endowed scholarships (2013-2023).
- Regularly participated in visits with local and regional corporations and industry for conversations regarding mutual support.
- Regularly participated in visits and meetings with individual donors and perspective donors for conversations about supporting aspects of the USC Lancaster mission.
- Partnered with development officers to identify and cultivate donors for USC Lancaster's portion of the University of South Carolina's Carolina's Promise Capital Campaign and achieved the best and strongest outcome for funds raised among the Palmetto College campuses.
- Worked with campus advancement office to coordinate visits with individual prospective donors, planned and oversaw the annual advancement newsletter, assisted with the coordination of recognition gifts and other donor acknowledgements.
- Served on numerous boards (trustee, advisory) across the Lancaster community (details below).
- Attended community events, functions, and activities as chief representative of USC Lancaster.
- Sustained strong relationships with community partners (hospital, local foundations, financial institutions, county and municipal government, Chambers of Commerce, and local state legislative delegation) by regularly meeting with representatives and remaining open to work together on mutually beneficial areas.
- Engaged with USC Lancaster Board of Visitors to extend the campus reach across the greater six county service area.
- Initiated the Town-Gown Reading and Discussion Group and co-facilitated the group to read about and study typologies of town-gown relationships to enhance USC Lancaster's already strong relationship with the City and County of Lancaster.
- Taught at least one section of English or French each academic term as Campus Dean to retain direct connection with students in academic setting.
- Supported the teaching and pedagogical needs of teaching colleagues including professional development, IT and audio/visual equipment, and software.

University of South Carolina Lancaster
Dean of Students

7/2008-4/2013

Led in the management, oversight, and coordination of all matters pertaining to Student Affairs including supervisory responsibilities of several departments and direct coordination of programs and initiatives. Oversaw budgets, facilitated strategic planning, and supervised the respective directors and other personnel in the following areas:

- Department of Athletics

- Office of Student Life and New Student Orientation Programs
- Office of Law Enforcement and Security
- Counseling and Disability Services

Personally coordinated the following USC Lancaster programs and initiatives:

- University 101
- USC Connect (now Graduation with Leadership Distinction)
- Travel Study/Study Abroad
- Behavioral Intervention (CARE) Team

University of South Carolina Lancaster

Professor of French and English since 8/2015
Associate Professor of French and English (tenured) 8/2009-8/2015
Assistant Professor of French and English 1/2005-8/2009
Instructor of French and English 8/2002-12/2004

Central Carolina Technical College

Instructor of English and French 8/2001-8/2002

University of South Carolina

Instructor of French 8/1999-8/2001

Courses Taught:

- Composition 2002-2008
- Composition and Literature 2002-2008
- Critical Reading and Composition 2008-2023
- Rhetoric and Composition 2008-2023
- World Literature 2003-2006
- Great Books II 2008
- Beginning French, I and II 1996-2013
- Elementary French 1996-2013
- Basic Proficiency French 1999-2013
- French Conversation 2008
- Student in the University (First Year Experience Course; education majors' section) 2005-2007

Scholarly Areas of Interest and Expertise related to Teaching and Research:

- Sub-Saharan African Literature and Post-Colonial Theory
- Self-development in African Literature
- Emerging African Writers
- World Literature and Critical Literary Theory

Professional Skills, Key Professional Development, and Administrative Accomplishments

Professional Skills:

Highly successful in progressively responsible leadership positions
 Deep understanding of current trends in higher education including online learning as well as current and future workforce development needs in South Carolina and the region
 Insightful and inclusive collaboration as well as skillful negotiation
 Superior interpersonal and communication skills

Demonstrated ability to solve problems creatively with a solutions-oriented approach to challenges
Proven ability to enhance operational efficiency and revenue generation
Highly effective and respected leader, teacher, and professional role model
Demonstrated ability to work transparently and ethically while initiating and facilitating change

Key Professional Development:

- Completed the Academic Peer Evaluator Training through SACS-COC, 2024.
- Attended multiple sessions of the SACS-COC Annual Meeting, Austin, TX, December 2024.
- Attended multiple sessions and presented/co-presented several sessions at the Association for Continuing Higher Education, October 2024, 2023, 2022, and 2018.
- Attended multiple sessions of the SACS-COC Summer Institute including the Pre-Institute session Accreditation 101, New Orleans, LA, July 2024.
- Attended all sessions and co-presented at the Regional and Branch Campus Administrators Conference, Longboat Key, FL, 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015.
- Completed the Crisis Leadership in Higher Education professional development program through the Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government’s Executive Education Department, February 23-March 3, 2023.
- Participated in the virtual Promise Neighborhood Leadership Development Program, May to November 2022. Led by the Center for the Study of Social Policy, Washington, DC.
- Attended several sessions and presented my Branch Campus Leadership Institute IV Case Study culminating project at the annual National Association of Branch Campus Administrators Conference, May 2022.
- Completed the National Association of Branch Campus Administrators’ Branch Campus Leadership Institute IV cohort for academic year 2021-2022.
- Completed LEAD supervisory training sessions, University of South Carolina Organizational and Professional Development. Sessions: Coaching for Improved Performance, Sexual Harassment Recognition and Prevention, Interviewing and Selecting Employees, Parts I & II, Flexible Leadership: Basics and Beyond, Managing Employee Performance Using EPMS, and Diagnosing Performance Problems. April 2016.
- Participated in the Harlem Children’s Zone Practitioners Institute with a Lancaster County (SC) Delegation, October 23-25, 2019, Harlem Children’s Zone Promise Academy, New York, NY.
- Attended New Dean’s Conference, Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Indianapolis, July 2013.
- Graduate of Leadership Lancaster, Lancaster County Chamber of Commerce, Class of 2009.
- Attended multiple sessions at NASPA—Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education Conference, Boston, MA, March 2008.

Examples of Administrative Accomplishments:

- Managed a difficult budget situation in my first year as USC Lancaster Campus Dean which led to a reduction in force, a budget realignment, but ultimately a much stronger financial situation after several years of diligent effort. Financial prospects for the campus, including rebuilding of reserves and additional funding to support faculty scholarship and travel as well as student support and success initiatives, have never been stronger.
- Oversaw unprecedented enrollment growth on the local campus in both traditional and dual credit enrollment. There was historic enrollment in several of my last semesters in the position for Fall, Spring, and Summer.
- I created and/or enhanced the following academic spaces at the local campus level: art studio and gallery space, nursing simulation laboratory and teaching space, computer laboratory space, theatre performance and production space, new general academic building and several outdoor common area spaces.
- I initiated the transition of the local campus operated and community based Physical Education Center to a YMCA-branded facility with all new exercise equipment and many other upgrades. These efforts

enhanced the offerings of the longstanding community and campus center and removed the unit's operations from the campus budget. I was recognized with a state-wide YMCA award for these efforts.

- I coordinated with the Lancaster County School District and managed the addition of a new campus location in Indian Land, SC, a dense population center in northern Lancaster County adjacent to Charlotte, NC, the 15th most populated city in the US.
- I managed a campus shut down and eventual return to online/virtual teaching and operations during the COVID-19 global pandemic. I coordinated with offices and departments of the greater University as well as other State of South Carolina agencies, and local and regional health care facilities while responding flexibly to the needs of students, faculty, and professional staff. Neither campus enrollment nor hiring of faculty and staff suffered for the campus in this period.
- I initiated/approved new and innovative programs—eSports, Travel Study, Community Health Coaching—and sustained and enhanced existing programs such as the Native American Studies Center and Lancers Athletics.
- I worked diligently with the Lancaster County Commission for Higher Education and the Educational Foundation of USC Lancaster to identify and to gain supplemental funding to support Study Abroad and to recruit international student athletes to the local campus.
- Extramural Funding garnered for USC Lancaster Programming/Initiatives while I served as Campus Dean—Supported and participated in the application processes for the following grant awards to enhance USCL instruction and academic support:
 - Center for Healthcare Workforce Development (nursing instruction upgrades), \$2,800,000 awarded from the US Department of Health Resources and Services Administration, FY 2024 Earmark Allocation.
 - Nursing Simulation Equipment, \$110,000 awarded from the US Department of Health Resources and Services Administration, FY 2023 Earmark Allocation.
 - Upward Bound (TRiO) grants awarded from the US Department of Education,
 - 2017--\$1,355,053
 - 2022--\$916,389 (with two years of eligibility remaining)
 - Student Support Services (TRiO Opportunity Scholars Program) grants awarded from the US Department of Education,
 - 2015—\$1,370,465
 - 2020—\$1,552,986

Awards and Honors

- 2023 Volunteer of the Year award. Presented by the Lancaster County Chamber of Commerce, February 2024.
- Inducted into the Male Leadership Hall of Fame for Lancaster County, nominated by Engaging Men, a partnership of Palmetto Citizens Against Sexual Assault, November 2018.
- Community Ambassador Award. Presented by the South Carolina Alliance of YMCAs, October 2018, for work with the YMCA of Upper Palmetto in transitioning the USC Lancaster Health and Wellness facility to a YMCA branch.
- Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International.
 - First recognition presented by the Lancaster Breakfast Rotary, July 2012.
 - Second recognition presented by the Columbia Rotary Club, September 2024.
- Faculty of the Year. Presented by TRiO/OSP at USC Lancaster, 2010-2011.
- Servant's Heart Award. Presented by the Student Government Association at USC Lancaster, 2007-2008.
- Professor of the Year. Presented by TRiO/OSP at USC Lancaster, 2005-2006.
- Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant in a Doctoral Program. Awarded by the Department of French and Classics, University of South Carolina Columbia, 1998-1999.

International, National, Regional, and Local Board and Committee Service

- Research Committee, Association for Continuing Higher Education, 2024-present.
- Executive Committee, National Association of Branch Campus Administrators, 2022-present.
 - Association President-Elect, 2025-2027.
 - Research Committee, Chair, 2024-present.
 - Membership Committee, Chair, 2023-2024.
 - Membership Committee, Vice Chair, 2022-2023.
- Conference program committee, Regional and Branch Campus Administrators, 2016-present.
- Community Member of Steering Committee, Lancaster County 2040 Comprehensive Plan. March 2022 to October 2022.
- Board of Directors; Partners for Youth Foundation, 6-year term, July 2019-December 2025.
- Board of Directors; Lancaster County Chamber of Commerce, two 3-calendar year terms, 2011-2013 and 2019-2021.
 - 2011-2013 term
 - Community Development Committee Member.
 - Chamber Membership Campaign Drive, USC Lancaster team member.
 - 2019-2021 term
 - Public Policy Committee Member.
 - Search Committee Member, Chamber President and CEO position, May to August 2021.
- Board of Directors, Olde English Consortium, April 2013-December 2023. Represented the USC Lancaster campus on this Board of education leaders (higher education and various K-12 school districts) from several counties across the Olde English District of South Carolina (northern central area of the state).
- Lancaster County Economic Development Advisory Board, January 2019-December 2023.
- Lancaster County Team Member; National Association of Counties Rural Impact County Challenge, January 2018-December 2018.
- Community Indicators Leadership Team; Arras Foundation, August 2017-2018.
- Advisory Board; Lancaster Promise Neighborhood Project, October 2017-December 2023.
- Governing Board; Discovery Charter School, Lancaster County School District, September 2016-May 2018.
- Board of Directors; Medical University of South Carolina Health: Lancaster Medical Center, January 2015-December 2023. Vice Chair 2019-December 2023.
- Public Policy Committee; Lancaster Chamber of Commerce, April 2013-December 2023.
- Advisory Board; Discovery Charter School, Lancaster County School District, May 2013-September 2016.
- Board of Directors; Communities in Schools of Lancaster County, January 2012-2014.
- Conference Program Committee Member (Chair, 2012), South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Fall 2007-Spring 2012.
- Member, Rotary International,
 - Columbia Rotary Club, March 2024-present.
 - Scholarship Committee, April 2024-present.
 - Lancaster Breakfast Rotary Club, October 2008-December 2023.
 - Recording Secretary, July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012.
- Chamber Ambassador; Lancaster County Chamber of Commerce, 2009-2010.
- Committee member, Highway 521 and SC 9 Corridor Study, Project Advisory Committee, USC Lancaster representative, June-December 2009.

- Advisory Board Member, Southern Comparative Literature Association (now Society for Comparative Literature and the Arts), Fall 2006-Spring 2008.
- Board Member, Montessori School of Camden, June 2007-May 2009.
- Executive Board Member, South Carolina American Association of Teachers of French liaison to the South Carolina Foreign Language Teachers Association, 2006-2007.

Service

Service to USC Lancaster, Palmetto College, the Greater University

USC Palmetto College Committee Work:

- Provost's Interdisciplinary Advisory Council, August 2024-present
- Council of Academic Deans, January 2024-present
- Provost's Advisory Council, January 2024-present
- USC Policy Advisory Committee, August 2024-present
- USC Emergency Management Team, January 2024-present

USC Lancaster Campus Committee Work:

Standing Committees of the Faculty Organization

- Campus Tenure and Promotion Committee, 2010-2013.
- Assessment Committee, 2008-2013.
- Athletics Advisory Committee, 2008-2023.
- Commencement Committee, 2008-2023.
- Scholarship Committee, 2008-2013.
- Student Affairs Committee, 2008-2013.
- Library Committee, 2003-2005, Chair 2004-2005.

Other Ad Hoc Committees and Working Groups

- NEH Two-Year Campus Challenge Grant Work Group, 2011, Co-Chair.
- Community Service Work Group, Fall 2010-Spring 2011.
- Social Networking Group, Fall 2010.
- Behavioral Intervention (CARE) Team, 2009-2013; Chair.
- English Search Committee (2 positions), Spring 2007.
- Exercise Science Search Committee, Spring 2007.
- Various Interviewing Committees
 - Interviewing Committee to select USCL Peer Advisors (PALs), 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012.
 - Interviewing Committee to select USCL Scholarship recipients, 2004, 2006, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019.

Other Campus and University Service:

- Search Committee Member, Faculty Executive Director for the Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning. February-March 2025.
- USC System Affairs Council, Palmetto College Representative for Research. March 2021 to Summer 2022.
- Chair, USC Union Campus Dean Search Committee. Academic year 2020-2021. Successfully named Dr. Randy Lowell to the position.

- Committee Co-Chair, Palmetto College Campuses Safety and Security Committee, convened in Fall 2018.
- Committee Member, USC Salkehatchie Promotion Committee, Fall 2017, service needed due to full professor promotion candidates.
- USC Connect Advisory Council member, Representative of the Palmetto College campuses, Fall 2014 to Spring 2018.
- Committee Member, USC Sumter Campus Dean Search Committee. Academic year 2013-2014. Successfully named Dr. Michael Sonntag to the position.
- Organizer and Co-presenter, Integrative Learning Workshop at the Center for Teaching Excellence, USC Columbia, March 2012.
- Member, Third Year Review Committee for Extended University Unit, Fall 2010.
- Presenter/Round Table Facilitator, Regional Campuses Annual Tenure and Promotion Workshop, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018.
- Coordinator, External Review of the Organization and Services of USC Lancaster's Counseling Services, June 2010.
- Presenter, "What is African Literature?", USC Lancaster Faculty Colloquium, November 2009.
- Presenter, Tenure and Promotion Power Lunch for Regional Campuses Faculty at the Center for Teaching Excellence, USC Columbia, October 2009.
- Member, Junior Scholars Standing Sub-Committee of the Olde English Consortium, 2008-2013.
- Organized Junior Scholars Day events at USC Lancaster for high-achieving 10th and 11th grade students in the USC Lancaster six-county service area, Fall 2007-Fall 2012.
- USC Lancaster Faculty Organization Leadership,
 - Chair. Fall 2006-Spring 2008. Organized and facilitated meetings of the Faculty Organization.
 - Coordinated an Academic Advising Workshop for USC Lancaster academic advisors, September 2006.
 - Vice-Chair. Fall 2005-2006. Assisted the Chair and the Executive Committee in carrying out the business of the Faculty Organization.
- Coordinator, USC Lancaster University 101 Program, Spring 2006-Spring 2013.
- Member, USC Lancaster Welfare and Grievance Committee, Fall 2005-Spring 2006.
- Ex-Officio member, Friends of the Medford Library Board, Fall 2005-Spring 2009.
 - Coordinator, Elliott White Springs Fiction Prize for student writers at USC Lancaster, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009.
- Shared Governance Service
 - Senator, USC Lancaster representative to the USC Columbia Faculty Senate, Fall 2005-Spring 2006.
 - Senator, Regional Campuses (now Palmetto College Campuses) Faculty Senate, Fall 2003-Spring 2008.
 - System Affairs Committee, 2003-2006.
 - Faculty Welfare Committee, Chair 2006-2008.
 - Organized and facilitated the Regional Campuses Tenure & Promotion Workshop, 2007 and 2008.
- Co-presenter, Plagiarism Workshop to TRiO/OSP students, Fall 2005, 2006, 2007.
- Academic Advisor for students majoring in early childhood, elementary or middle education, Spring 2003-2019.
- Organizer, USC Lancaster Literary Coffee House for campus/community, 2003-2008.
- Organizer, French Film Series for campus/community, 2002-2008 and 2013.

Service to the Community

- As USC Lancaster Campus Dean, speak or make remarks at community events; routinely at civic clubs, 55+ communities, local or regional workshops, seminars, and conferences, county councils, schools, community celebrations, and funerals.
- Career Day Speaker,
 - A. R. Rucker Middle School Career Day, Spring 2019.
 - Fort Mill High School Career Day, Fall 2009, 2010, 2011.
- School Improvement Council Member; Indian Land High School, Lancaster County School District, August 2014-2018.
- Organizer of Writing Workshops for Community and Campus,
 - Discovering Self: A Writing Workshop, USCL, Fall 2007.
 - Creative Non-Fiction Writing Workshop, USCL, Fall 2006.
 - Short Fiction Reading and Writing Workshop, USCL, Fall 2005.

Service to the Profession

Review of Scholarship and Teaching/Committee Work for Professional Associations:

- Peer Reviewer of teaching for colleagues on the Lancaster campus and in USC's Extended University (now PC Columbia) unit; asked to observe at least four classes and write feedback letters since 2010.
- Reviewer, scholarly articles for publication in various journals:
 - South Atlantic Review*
 - Genre*
 - Access*—Journal of the National Association of Branch Campus Administrators
 - Journal of Continuing Higher Education*—Association for Continuing Higher Education
- External Reviewer for Dr. Ali Erritouni's application for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor at Kent State University, East Liverpool, Summer 2010.

Panel Chair/Organizer at Academic Conferences in Scholarly Expertise Area:

- Chair of "Crossing Boundaries II" at Southern Comparative Literature Association, October 2012.
- Organizer of "Literature of Sefi Atta" at African Literature Association, April 2012.
- Organizer of "The Sequel in African Literature" at South Atlantic Modern Language Association, October 2011.
- Chair of panel, French Literature Conference at USC Columbia, March 2010.
- Organizer of "African Diasporic Differences" at South Atlantic Modern Language Association, October 2009.
- Organizer of "Works of New African Writers" at Northeast Modern Language Association, March 2009.
- Chair of panel, French Literature Conference at USC Columbia, March 2009.
- Chair of panel, French Literature Conference at USC Columbia, March 2008.
- Organizer of "Literature of Africa and the Diaspora" at South Atlantic Modern Language Association, November 2007.
- Organizer of "Rejection and Acceptance in Literature of Africa and the Caribbean" at Northeast Modern Language Association, Spring 2007.
- Organizer of "Literature of Africa and the Diaspora" at South Atlantic Modern Language Association, November 2006.
- Chair of "African Identity" at Southern Comparative Literature Association, September 2006.

Academic and Scholarly Accomplishments

Book

Tracing Personal Expansion: Reading Selected Novels as Modern African Bildungsromane.
Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 2006.

Edited Books (served as sole editor)

Writing Contemporary Nigeria: How Sefi Atta Illuminates African Culture and Tradition.
Amherst, NY: Cambria Press. 2015.
Emerging African Voices. Amherst, NY: Cambria Press. 2010.

Article and Chapter Publications

- 8- Themes in Nadine Gordimer's *Burger's Daughter* for General Themes in Literature. Ed. Jennifer McClinton-Temple. New York: Facts on File, Inc., 2010.
- 7- "Postcolonial Africa" Subsection (23-page chapter) in The Cultural History of Reading. Eds. Gabrielle Watling and Sara Quay. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2009.
- 6- "J. M. Coetzee." Entry on South African author for The Encyclopedia of Africa and the Americas. Eds. Richard Juang and Noelle Morrisette. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, Inc., 2008.
- 5- "Tsitsi Dangarembga." Entry on Zimbabwean author for The Encyclopedia of Africa and the Americas. Eds. Richard Juang and Noelle Morrisette. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, Inc., 2008.
- 4- "Edwidge Danticat." Entry on Haitian author for The Encyclopedia of Africa and the Americas. Eds. Richard Juang and Noelle Morrisette. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, Inc., 2008.
- 3- "Myriam Warner-Vieyra." Entry on Guadeloupean author for The Encyclopedia of Africa and the Americas. Eds. Richard Juang and Noelle Morrisette. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, Inc., 2008.
- 2- "Interview with Sefi Atta" in scholarly journal English in Africa. October 2007.
- 1- "Interview with Kwame Dawes" in scholarly journal Obsidian III: Literature in the African Diaspora; special edition commemorating Ghanaian independence. Ed. Shelia Smith-McKoy, Fall/Winter 2007.

Solicited Book Reviews

- 2- Review of Donald Wehrs's Pre-Colonial Africa in Colonial Narratives: From Ethiopia Unbound to Things Fall Apart, published in Recherche Littéraire | Literary Research, 25 (Summer 2009).
- 1- Review of Michael Bell's Open Secrets: Literature, Education, and Authority from J-J Rousseau to JM Coetzee, published in Studies in the Novel, 41.2 (Summer 2009).

Scholarly Paper Presentations within Academic Specialty

- 19- "Sustaining Contentment Across Cultures: Sefi Atta's *A Bit of Difference*" at South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Atlanta, GA, November 2014.
- 18- "Through Music and Drama: Escape, Freedom and Redemption in Two Short Stories" at Southern Comparative Literature Association, Las Vegas, NV, October 2012.
- 17- "May Favour Dwell in your Family, in Jesus' name, Amen: Mapping Nigerian Internet Scamming in Two Recent Literary Works" at Southern Comparative Literature Association, Charlotte, NC, October 2011.
- 16- "Not what I expected: Tsitsi Dangarembga's The Book of Not and the Struggles of Postcolonial Self-Development" at Southern Comparative Literature Association, Baton Rouge, LA, October 2010.
- 15- "'It's my turn to speak.': Talking Towards Cultural Stabilization in Sefi Atta's Swallow" at Southern Comparative Literature Association, Arizona State University, October 2009.
- 14- "Uzodinma Iweala's Beasts of No Nation Takes its Place in World Literature" at Southern Comparative Literature Association, Auburn University, October 2008.
- 13- "She liked to cook?: Food as Cultural Influence in Chris Abani's GraceLand" at Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, Bellingham, WA, November 2007.

- 12- "Charting another Other in Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's Purple Hibiscus" at Southern Comparative Literature Association, North Carolina State University, September 2007.
- 11- "The Ambivalence of Western Culture in Chris Abani's Graceland" at Northeast Modern Language Association, Baltimore, MD, March 2007.
- 10- "Tracing Identity & Belonging: The Familial Circumstances of Three Children's Adoption Stories" at Southwest/Texas Popular Cultural Association /American Cultural Association, Albuquerque, NM, February 2007.
- 9- "Highs and Lows: Dis/Abilities and Agency in Tsitsi Dangarembga's Nervous Conditions" at Midwest Modern Language Association, Chicago, IL, November 2006.
- 8- "Chinua Achebe's Personal Voice: Facilitating Identity and Authenticating Voices of a Continent" at *The Personal Voice in Literary Criticism*, a seminar session at the Association of Literary Scholars and Critics, San Francisco, CA, October 2006.
- 7- "Tracing Transition and Transcendence: Reading Sefi Atta's Everything Good Will Come as a Modern African *Bildungsroman*" at Southern Comparative Literature Association, University of Georgia, September 2006.
- 6- "Reading Beyala's La petite fille du réverbère as a Modern African *Bildungsroman*" at Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, November 2005.
- 5- "Pliancy & Self-Development in Two Autobiographical Novels of Buchi Emecheta" at South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Atlanta, GA, November 2005.
- 4- "The Work of the Mother in Mariama Bâ's Une si longue lettre" at Southern Comparative Literature Association. University of Alabama, October 2002.
- 3- "Debunking Stereotypes in Calixthe Beyala's Le Petit Prince de Belleville" at The Carolina Conference on Language and Literature. University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, March 2000.
- 2- "(De) Colonization and Power in Senegal: A Foucauldian Perspective" at History, Technology and Identity: After Foucault. University of South Carolina, March 2000.
- 1- "The Construction of Gender in Calixthe Beyala's Le Petit Prince de Belleville" at The Poetics of Subjectivity: Constructions of the Self. University of South Carolina, April 1999.

Grants and Extramural Funding

Grant to Support Teaching

Teaching Excellence Technology Grant (sole PI): Tablet PCs in Teaching from the Center for Teaching Excellence, University of South Carolina (AWARDED April 2008): The grant offered the use of a Tablet PC and teaching support for one calendar year. The grant supported implementation of two complementary projects: a primary project dealing with improving writing instruction in French and a secondary project dealing with decoding strategies in the skill of reading French.

Grants to Support Research and Scholarship (all sole PI)

- 4- USC Lancaster Research and Productive Scholarship Grant for \$800.00 submitted in November 2012 for costs of indexing third book project, The Sefi Atta Reader (later retitled: Writing Contemporary Nigeria: How Sefi Atta Illuminates African Culture and Tradition). AWARDED but unused.
- 3- Summer Stipend Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. \$6000.00 (not awarded) to support the editing and proofreading work on second book project, Emerging African Voices, during summer 2008.
- 2- USC Lancaster Research and Productive Scholarship Grant for project entitled "Interviews with authors Kwame Dawes and Sefi Atta." Grant of \$6608.68 AWARDED in December 2006 for travel, equipment, interviews, and publications.
- 1- USC Lancaster Research and Productive Scholarship Grant for "Reading Calixthe Beyala's La petite fille du réverbère as a Modern African *Bildungsroman*," scholarly conference paper and publication. Grant of \$1528.00 AWARDED for conference travel and book publication expenses.

Grants to Support Teaching and Service (all sole PI)

- 5- French American Cultural Exchange (FACE), \$1800.00 cultural grant AWARDED in November 2012 to show five current French films on the USCL campus in Spring 2013.
- 4- French American Cultural Exchange (FACE), \$1800.00 cultural grant AWARDED in August 2007 to show five current French films on the USCL campus in Fall 2007.
- 3- Charlotte Area Educational Consortium, \$500.00 grant AWARDED in October 2006 to support a Creative Non-Fiction Reading and Writing Workshop at USCL in Fall 2006.
- 2- Charlotte Area Educational Consortium, \$500.00 grant AWARDED in September 2005 to support a Short Fiction Reading and Writing Workshop at USCL in Fall 2005.
- 1- French American Cultural Exchange (FACE), \$1800.00 cultural grant AWARDED in August 2005 to show five current French films on the USCL campus in Fall 2005.

Grant to support upgrades with Palmetto College Campuses websites

Chancellor's Innovation Grant, \$35,000 AWARDED to assist in offsetting the cost for upgrading the respective web presences of the four Palmetto College campuses. Primary grant writer; written in Spring 2016 for the four PC campuses.

Professional Organization Affiliations (current and past)

- UPCEA | The Online and Professional Education Association
- Association for Continuing Higher Education
- Regional and Branch Campus Administrators
- National Association of Branch Campus Administrators
- African Literature Association
- Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences
- Modern Language Association
- National Orientation Directors Association
- South Atlantic Modern Language Association
- Society for Comparative Literature and the Arts