



UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
UPSTATE

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### University and the Upstate Overview

The history of the University of South Carolina Upstate is a chronicle of remarkable development. In 1967, the University was founded to primarily avert a serious health care labor shortage crisis when Spartanburg General Hospital announced plans to eliminate its diploma program for registered nurses. The Spartanburg Regional Campus, as it was first known, opened its doors in the fall of 1967 to 177 students on the first floor of the Spartanburg General Hospital nursing residence.

Enrollment continued to increase, which resulted in the school becoming a four-year university in 1975 and being renamed the University of South Carolina Spartanburg. During the next 20 years, the campus began to take physical shape with the construction of additional academic buildings as enrollment continued to grow and degree offerings were expanded.

In 2004, the University changed its name to USC Upstate to include its campus in Greenville and to recognize the continued expansion of partnerships and services across the I-85 corridor. USC Upstate has grown into one of the leading metropolitan universities in the Southeast. This growth has been a direct response to the needs of the Upstate - a tradition that began with the University's creation. The University has expanded well beyond nursing to include 40 bachelor's programs in the liberal arts, sciences, business, informatics, teacher education and nursing. Master's programs are offered in education.

Today, USC Upstate boasts a diverse student enrollment of 4,600, with students from 38 states and 71 nations, and an alumni base of nearly 16,000, of which 85 percent of these graduates remain in the Upstate to build their lives and careers.

Dean: Darrell Parker

Sam Walton Fellow: Brian Smith

Student: Dana Gillespie



# Upstate SIFE

STUDENTS IN FREE ENTERPRISE '06-'07



## USC Upstate SIFE Mission Statement

To *empower* USC Upstate students as agents of change by fostering *leadership, teamwork, and communication* skills through the learning, practicing and teaching of *free enterprise* principles.

### Business Round Table: (Criteria I, 2, 3, 5)

This project was a collaborative effort between SIFE and USC Upstate's Executive in Residence, who was instrumental in helping SIFE align the five keynote speakers for this round table event. The event included individual presentations by the keynote speakers followed by an open forum inviting questions from attendants. Discussion targeted the challenges of managing in today's uncertain business environment, but a broad array of topics were discussed including ethical challenges, managing change in a technology business, and success skills. Speakers included Bill Cobb, Chairman, CEO, and President of QSI Data Systems; Ken Couch, President of Smith Drug Company; Russ Weber, President of Integral Solutions; Jimmy Wilson, CFO of the JM Smith Corporation; and Mike Webb, President of Smith Premier Data Services. General response from the participants was that the seminar was informative, the subject matter diverse and interesting. A total of 18 people participated.

### Regenesis Project: (Criteria I, 2, 5)

The purpose of this project was to make information available to potential business investors and policy-makers about the needs of consumers in the Southside of Spartanburg. The Southside community is home to two waste sites: a former landfill and an abandoned fertilizer plant both covering a total of 76 acres. The area was initially designated as a cleanup sight in 1998 after the EPA uncovered 70 contaminants; 30 of which were three times above the maximum contamination level. Now considered an area for revitalization, the project will include housing, transportation, healthcare, education, job development and training for its residents. 144 people were impacted by this survey.

### Ethics Event (Criteria I, 5)

SIFE and our University Business Society joined forces to hold an event addressing ethical decisions in the corporate environment. Students were educated on ethical dilemmas arising in the workplace. A 2003 accounting scandal illustrated the damage inflicted by "white-collar" crime and how one corporation responded and rebuilt itself internally. A survey was administered before and after the event to measure and document the retention levels of the audience. A total of 15 people participated.

### On Sustainability:

Our first year SIFE chapter at USC Upstate currently serves as an umbrella organization in the School of Business. Officially known as the Dean's Advisory Council, SIFE members work through other School of Business organizations, i.e., the Accounting Club, the Marketing Club, Diversity in Business Society, and the University Business Society, to identify, initiate, and direct projects that conform to judgement criteria. Although SIFE is housed in the School of Business and Economics, our membership, recruitment activities, and projects reach across campus. For example, campus participation in the Regenesis project is coordinated by the College of Arts and Sciences. With our focus on success skills the SIFE team has been named as the School of Business student advisors for the University Career Center in planning its annual career fair. SIFE USC Upstate's unique structure has enhanced its ability to garner administrative and student commitment and has assured the availability of funding for project initiatives, thus promoting sustainability.

