Dear Student,

On behalf of the faculty and staff, I am pleased to welcome you to the University of South Carolina Upstate! As we begin the 2011-2012 academic year, we do so with a renewed commitment to student engagement and success.

This University promotes student growth and development on our main Spartanburg campus with its full range of excellent facilities, at the Greenville Campus (conveniently located at the University Center in Greenville) for upper level students working to complete degrees, and in downtown Spartanburg where the George Dean Johnson, Jr. College of Business and Economics puts students at the heart of business activity in the city. In all locations the focus is on how students develop and demonstrate the capacities they need for successful careers and lives.

As we begin this new academic year, I want to encourage you to become familiar with the Student Success Center, which encompasses Academic Advisement, Academic Support Center, Career Center, and Opportunity Network. This Center exists to help students succeed in academic endeavors, as well as, prepare to start careers and graduate study. Getting acquainted with the staff and the services provided here will be to your benefit. The Student Success Center is readily accessible in the Rampa Center.

While your academic work demands most of your time and effort, you should take advantage of the numerous and varied clubs and organizations available on campus, Greek organizations, academic clubs, leadership programs, intramural sports, community service projects, to multicultural events and more provide near endless opportunities for growth and development beyond the classroom, laboratory, and studio; and the skills and friendships they develop are invaluable.

This Handbook is a valuable resource for information about opportunities and expectations of all members of the USC Upstate community. Please become familiar with that information. The coming academic year holds much promise and opportunity for each of us. On behalf of the faculty and staff, I welcome you as a member of our campus community and wish you the very best in 2011-2012.

Sincerely,

Thomas F. Moore, Ph.D.
Chancellor
students without respect to race, creed or national origin.

B. Freedom of Inquiry and Expression
Students and student organizations should be free to examine and discuss all questions of interest to them and to express opinions publicly and privately. Expression may be subjected to reasonable regulations of time, place, number of persons, and form under established regulations. They should be free to support causes by lawful and orderly means that do not disrupt the regular and essential operation of the institution and that do not interfere with the rights of others. At the same time, it should be made clear to the academic and larger community that in their public expressions or demonstrations, students or organizations speak only for themselves.

Students should be allowed to invite and to hear any person of their own choosing subject to routine procedures provided for off-campus speakers. These procedures should be designed only to assure that there is orderly scheduling of facilities and adequate preparation for the event, that the occasion is conducted in a manner appropriate to an academic community, and that the safety of individuals, the University and the community are not endangered. While the University is properly concerned with the prevention of unlawful conduct, the institutional control of campus facilities should not be used as a device for censorship of ideas. It should be made clear to the academic and larger community that sponsorship of guest speakers does not necessarily imply approval or endorsement of the views expressed, either by the sponsoring group or the institution.

C. Student Participation in Institutional Government
As constituents of the academic community, students should be free, individually and collectively, to express their views on issues of general interest to the student body. The student body should have clearly defined means to participate in the formulation and application of institutional policy affecting academic and student affairs. The role of the student government and both its general and specific responsibilities should be made explicit, and the student government within the areas of its jurisdiction should be reviewed only through orderly and prescribed procedures. The University should provide sufficient governing freedom and sufficient financial autonomy for the student government to maintain its integrity of purpose as elected representatives of the student body.

D. Student Publications
Student publications and the student press are a valuable aid in establishing and maintaining an atmosphere of free and responsible discussion and of intellectual exploration on campus. They are means of bringing student concerns to the attention of the faculty and the institutional authorities and of formulating student opinions on various issues on the campus and in the world at large.

In the delegation of editorial responsibility to the students, the University must provide sufficient editorial freedom and sufficient financial autonomy for the student publications to maintain their integrity of purpose as vehicles for free inquiry and free expression in an academic community.

Institutional authorities, in consultation with students and faculty, have a responsibility to provide written clarification of the role of the student publications or the standards to be used in their evaluation, and the limitations on external control of their operation. At the same time, the editorial freedom of student editors and managers entails corollary responsibilities to allegations, attacks on personal integrity, and the techniques of harassment and innuendo. As safeguards for the editorial freedom of student publications the following provisions are necessary:

The student press should be free of censorship and advance approval of copy, and its editors and managers should be free to develop their own editorial and news coverage.

Editors and managers of student publications should be protected from arbitrary suspension and removal because of student, faculty, administrative or public disapproval of editorial policy or content. Only for proper and stated causes should editors and managers be subject to removal and then by orderly and prescribed procedures. The agency responsible for the appointment of editors and managers should be the agency responsible for their removal.

All University-published and financed student publications should explicitly state on the editorial page that the opinions there expressed are not necessarily those of the University or the student body as a whole.

E. Access and Accommodations
Students with documented disabilities are considered and admitted in the same manner as all other students. Students with disabilities may request physical or academic accommodations, which will be considered on a case-by-case basis. To receive accommodations, students must complete an intake form, provide documentation that is appropriate and