

USCB SHARK TALES

Vol. 6 • No.2

Celebrating Stories of USCB Student and Alumni Success

SPRING 2025

Celebrating Stories of USCB Student Success

USCB is on the rise—growing stronger and shining brighter—powered by the passion and drive of our students.

Inside the classroom and out, Sand Sharks take learning to the next level. From hands-on experiences to bold independent projects, they're showing what it means not only to understand but to apply knowledge.

And it doesn't stop at academics. Our students are getting involved in the community, excelling in athletics, and growing in leadership.

This past semester, they've gone above and beyond—breaking barriers, reaching milestones, and shining a bright light on USCB. Let's take a moment to cheer on our Sand Sharks and celebrate all the amazing things they accomplished in Spring 2025.

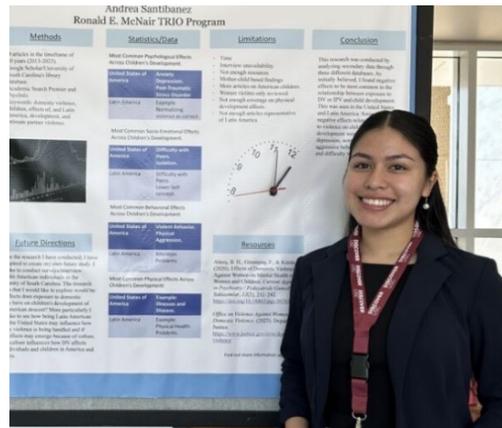
Eric Skipper
Provost & EVCAA

Angela Simmons
Vice Chancellor for
Student Development



STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS:

From USCB to a Doctoral Program



Psychology major and graduate Andrea Santibañez was accepted into Michigan State University's doctoral program for Ecological/Community Psychology. She was awarded their University Distinguished Fellowship, granting her five years fully funded plus an additional \$10,000 stipend per year! Andrea is an outstanding McNair scholar of the 2024 cohort and has also received a Magellan grant to continue her research on domestic violence. Among other extracurriculars she also interned at Lowcountry Legal Volunteers. Congratulations, Andrea! [Link](#)

valuable service by working concessions at one of South Carolina's premier sporting events and giving back to the community. Kudos to our hardworking students! [Link](#)

Scholarship Celebration

Recipients of the Life, Hope, and Palmetto Fellows Scholarships were invited to USCB's Scholarship Celebration, which honors our students' achievements and highlights the requirements met to maintain these scholarships. Congratulations! [Link](#)



Sand Sharks at Heritage



Sand Sharks represented USCB at the 57th RBC Heritage on Hilton Head Island. They gained

The Pen Crimson Issue



USCB's award-winning literary and art journal, "The Pen" unveiled its latest edition, "The Crimson Issue". The Pen is published twice a year by The Society of Creative Writers, a student-led organization that features the work of USCB students. The unveiling showcases the poetry, prose, and various other art forms of our talented Sand Sharks. [Link](#)

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS:

(Continued from front page)

Inaugural USCB Pageant Queens



USCB held its inaugural pageant and celebrated the pageant queens of 2025, **Olivia Attaway**, Miss USCB, and **Hailey Dillahunt**, Miss Junior USCB. Congratulations! [Link](#)

USCB Student Research and Scholarship Day 2025



SRSD Winners

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Certificate of Excellence

Megan Callahan: Collection of Life
Patricia "Elizabeth" Blanchard: Memories to Date

Best in Category

Charles Merritt: American Casket

VISUAL ARTS

Certificate of Excellence

Kinsley Malatesta: Renderings of Reality:
Reframing Hopper in 3 Dimensions

Best in Category (tied)

(Ivy) Tangelia Phifer: Enhancing
Reproductive Health and Safety for Women
Sylvia Smith: Tranquil Treasures

HYPOTHESIS-DRIVEN

Certificate of Excellence

Grace Wagner: The Effect of Hyperbaric Oxygen
Therapy for Treating PTSD.
Jessica Wilford: Long-Term Passive Acoustics and
Visual Surveys of Tamenand's Bottlenose Dolphins
as Evidence for Bottom-Up Ecology in Estuaries
Cybella Migliaccio: The long term effects on
memory from Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT)

Best in Category

Garrett Wilford: The Estuarine Soundscape
Observatory Network in the Southeast
(ESONS): Does Climate Variability and Noise
Pollution Affect Fish Chorus in Estuaries
of South Carolina?

ISSUE-BASED

Certificate of Excellence

Aaliyah Newman: Mental Health in Collegiate
Athletes
Loren Quintana, Ian deNeeve, Dan Morgan:
Tracking Shoreline Erosion on South Carolina's
Barrier Islands Using GIS

Best in Category

Bella DuBois, Alyssa Marian, Patrick
Jones, Jessica Miller, Lilly Blake, Garrett
Willford, Hayden Greenwalt, Warren
McClellan: Hurricanes and Salinity Drops in
the May River, SC: Possible Impacts on Fish
and Dolphin Acoustics

DESCRIPTIVE

Certificate of Excellence

Peter Phillips: Disparities Among the Lakota People:
First-hand Experience
Claire Albergotti: Meta-Analysis on the Effects of
Parental Drug Use on Child Cognitive Development
Christoph Hagenauer, Shaun Poole, Daniel Scheer:
SQLi Prevention and Response in the Age of AI: A
review of Recent SQLi Literature
Ashley Duggan, Parker Craven, Elliot Suiter, Mariel
Baker, Lexie Castro: Mosquito Feeding Patterns and
Host Preferences: A Literature Review of Vector-Host
Interactions
Jude Roman, Mariel Baker, Brendan Cruz, Makayla
Brown, David Wise, Chloe Mullinax: Monitoring the
Summer Water Quality of Beaufort County
Mariel Baker, Jude Roman, Chloe Mullinax, David
Wise, Makayla brown: Processing and Culturing Local
Phytoplankton

Best in Category

Brooke Wrigley: The Effects of Cardiovascu-
lar Disease among Hispanic Americans and
Non-Hispanic Americans
Chloe Mullinax: The Sampling of 8 Ponds
around Spring Island to Determine the
Effects of Chlorophyll and other Factors to
the Ponds

INNOVATION-APPLICATION

Certificate of Excellence

Jarrett Kizer, Bruce Brasseur, Jennifer Oviedo,
Shishir Nath: Pseudo Random Number Generator
Test Result Collecting
Rachel Valvo: Make Your Move: An Exploration of
non-Euclidean Principles in Player Experience
Roddey Sims, Jocelyn Beliveau, Zuri Fleurinord,
Kinsley Malatesta: The Hidden Truth: A First-Person
Horror Experience Developed Through Agile
Methodologies
Shourish Kothawale, Eisa Chaudary: Pass Fail
Prediction for STAT B201 using Machine Learning
Tyler Hlusek, Shourish Kothawale: Interception
~Redux~

Best in Category

Lindsey Baker, Matheson Bray: Develop-
ment of a Novel Fluorometric Enzyme-Cou-
pled Arginase Assay for Leishmaniasis
Target-based Therapeutic Drug Discovery

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Certificate of Excellence

Peter Phillips: Disparities Among the Lakota
People: First-hand Experience
Tyler Rice: Unspoken Legacy
Collin Best: Social Justice: A Superhero's Real Power
Tshawaniah Griffin: Breaking the Age Barrier:
Assessing Age Inclusivity at USCB

Best in Category

(Ivy) Tangelia Phifer: Enhancing Reproductive
Health and Safety for

STUDENT RESEARCH

Beaufort-Jasper Higher Education Commission

Kari Hill, Matty Holt, and Andrea Santibañez presented their research to the Beaufort-Jasper Higher Education Commission. They also presented their work to USCBEF a month prior, a testament to how valued and impactful our students' research is.



Student Research Beyond the Lowcountry



USCB students presented their research at USC Discovery Day. Lily Blake, Jessica Miller, Garrett Willford, Grace Wagner, Boomi Mahesh, Brittney Aquino, Matheson Bray, Lindsey Baker and Milla Wojciechowski attended the conference, representing USCB with pride, alongside their mentors, Dr. Osbaldiston, Dr. Montie, and Dr. D'Antonio. [Link](#)

STUDY ABROAD

The Bahamas

This past May, Biology and Communication Studies students explored the island of San Salvador, Bahamas. At the Gerace Research Centre, they learned about the natural history of the island, both sand and sea, creating art inspired by nature and learning how to tell the stories of the Earth through documentary media. [Link](#)



AWARDS

Daniela Lopez named McNair Scholar



USCB Biology major, Daniela Lopez, was selected as a Ronald E. McNair Scholar for the 2025 cohort. This honor is reserved for high-achieving students who aspire to attend graduate programs. The McNair program is hosted by the University of South Carolina and is designed to encourage students from first-generation, low-income, and underrepresented backgrounds to pursue Ph.Ds. Lopez will receive faculty mentoring, hands-on research experience, and academic enrichment, while exploring how Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS) affects women of reproductive age, culminating in a presentation at USC's Summer Research Symposium. [Link](#)

AWARDS

Nursing Pinning Ceremony

Congratulations to the USCB Nursing Class of 2025! The Nursing Pinning Ceremony marked the culmination of our students' hard work and commitment to the nursing call. To the future nurses of the class of 2025, we are so proud of you and know you'll leave your mark on the world! [Link](#)



Peach Belt Conference Connecting Communities Award

USCB was awarded the Peach Belt Conference Connecting Communities Award for the first time this season! This award celebrates outstanding community engagement by our Sand Shark student athletes.



Our athletes were recognized by their efforts in the Flybrary Project at Savannah Hilton Head International Airport wherein our Student-Athlete Advisory Committee collected 556 children's books during games to help restock the airport's free children's book library. Our athletes will personally hand out books to traveling families in September, further displaying their heart and character. Congratulations, Sand Sharks! [Link](#)

HONOR SOCIETIES

Honor Society in Communications

USCB Communication students were inducted into Lambda Pi Eta, the national Honor Society for communication studies! Tyler Rice delivered an inspiring keynote address and Sand Shark family and friends were present for celebration following the ceremony. Congratulations to the new members of Lambda Pi Eta Honors Society! [Link](#)



Honor Society in Psychology



14 USCB students were inducted into the International Honor Society in Psychology (Psi Chi). This year, USCB Psi Chi marked 10 years of having a chapter on our campus, celebrating the academic excellence, fellowship, and research excellence that its members exhibit. Psi Chi provides students additional opportunities for internships, scholarships, and graduate school opportunities. [Link](#)

2025 ACADEMIC AWARDS



Outstanding Biology Student of the Year –
GARRETT WILLFORD



Outstanding Business Student of the Year –
TINE EBBESEN VANGEN



Pamela J. Cooper Communication Studies Student of the Year –
MARIA SACCANI



Outstanding Computational Science Student of the Year –
JARRETT KIZER



Information Science and Technology Student of the Year –
RACHEL VALVO



Outstanding Early Childhood Education Student of the Year –
ALEXANDRIA STANLEY



Outstanding Elementary Childhood Education Student of the Year –
RYLIE BUCHANAN



Tombe/Eby Outstanding English Student of the Year –
ABIGAIL VINING



Madison Riley Adkins Award for Outstanding Secondary English Education –
JORDAN MCCAMMON



Governor Paul Hamilton Sons of the American Revolution Outstanding Student in History –
SEBASTIAN BIGGS



Outstanding Hospitality Management Student of the Year –
REBECCA POLLARD



Outstanding Public Health Student of the Year –
KARI HILL

2025 ACADEMIC AWARDS



Lynn M. Mulkey Human Services
Program Outstanding Student of the
Year – **QUISTO COSTELLO**



Palmetto College Human Services
Outstanding Student of the Year –
MATTIE WOLFF



Gordon Haist Interdisciplinary Studies
Outstanding Student of the Year –
JENNIFER LARSSON



Outstanding Interdisciplinary Studies
Online Program Student of the Year –
JO LITTLE



Outstanding Nursing
Student of the Year –
EMMA TROUP



Outstanding Online Psychology
Student of the Year –
KRISTIN YANAROS



Outstanding Sociology
Student of the Year –
SHANNON ADAMS



Charles L. Spirrisson
Psychology Student of the Year –
ANDREA SANTIBAÑEZ TRUJILLO



Outstanding Studio Arts
Student of the Year –
SYLVIA MARIE SMITH



Founding Chancellor Jane T. Upshaw
Outstanding Student in Mathematics –
ALEX LONG



Newman Civic Fellowship Award –
LUCIE DOLLARHYDE



Darwin B Bashaw Student of the Year –
EMMA OSMENT

SPRING 2025 BEAUFORT COLLEGE HONORS GRADUATES



Lindsay Baker



Myrandha Tracy Baptiste



Emmajyn Blair



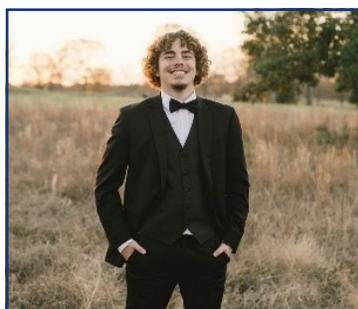
Lillian Blake



Sierra Brown



Rylee R. Burnett



Austin Carter



Daytona M. Cooper



Isabelle N. Davis



Piper Davis



Emma Rose Gilman



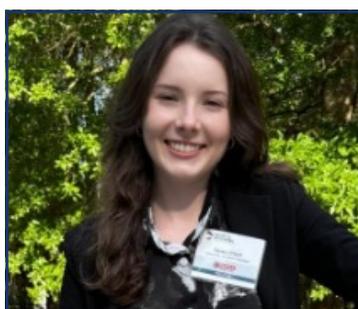
Daniela Husted



Olivia Krouse



Logan Mina



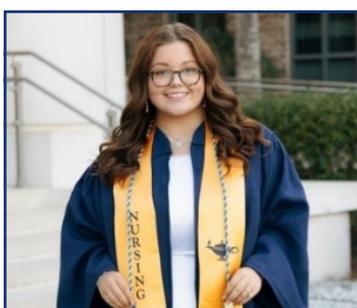
Destiny O'neill



Maya Stovcsik



Andrea Santibañez Trujillo



Emma Troup



Kennedy Washington



Garrett Willford

STUDENT LIFE AWARDS 2025



Hall of Leaders -
GABRIELA HERNANDEZ



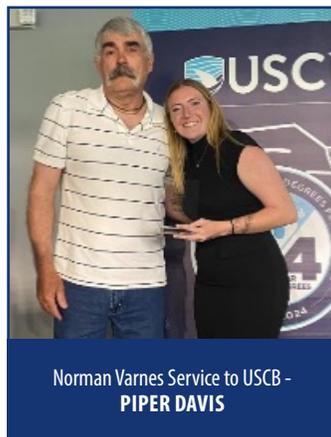
Hall of Leaders -
CONNOR SHUMPERT



Hall of Leaders -
OLIVIA ATTAWAY



Hall of Leaders -
LOGAN CLARK



Norman Varnes Service to USC B -
PIPER DAVIS



Toy Drive Champion -
BEST BUDDIES



Community Impact -
JOHN PICKENS



Unsung Student Hero -
LACEY MUELLER



Unsung Faculty/Staff Hero -
DR. RICHARD OSBALDISTON



Emerging New Student Org -
WOMEN IN BUSINESS COUNCIL



Outstanding Student Org -
PRE-PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION



Student Org Advisor of the Year -
DR. EMILY WEBB



Stand Out Student Life Intern -
CAMERON BURGESS





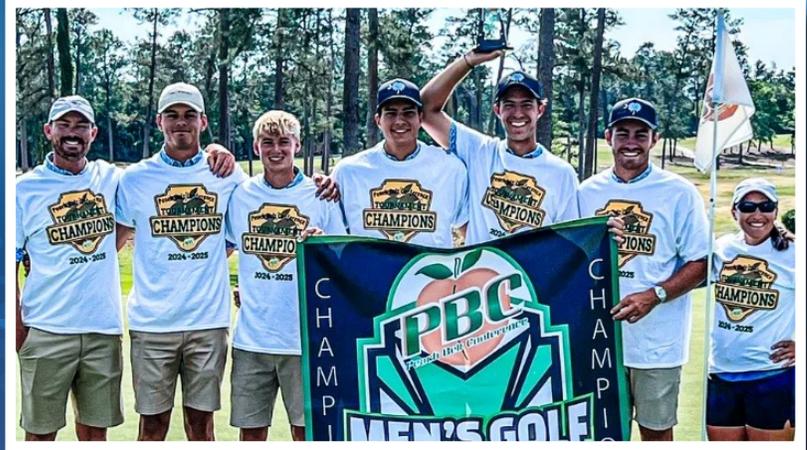
ATHLETICS

CHAMPIONS!

Men's Golf claims program's first PBC crown [Link](#)



NCAA Division II



PBC Men's Golf Individual Champion, Erik Rengardt [Link](#)



PBC Women's Golf Individual Champion, McLain Neal [Link](#)

A Spectacular Second Season

Men's Basketball flourish, become Southeast power in 24-25 [Link](#)



Track & Field

Two gold medals, eight podiums as USCB wraps up season at PBC Championships [Link](#)

