Academic program’s funding grows
Increase follows more use of Student Success Center
Sarah Ellis & Nick Lawe
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The Student Success Center (SSC) has received a “significant increase” in funding after the center saw an increase in use, according to Eric Moschella, its director.

Now, it’ll work with $500,000 each year. Demand increased last year, and a merger with the ACE academic success coaching program.

That, Moschella said, presented a need to expand the scale of both centers’ services.

“The reason for [the merger] was to create sort of a one-stop shop for academic and student success initiatives,” Moschella said. “When we combined the centers, the scale of everything just really grew, and that’s exciting.”

Much of the SSC’s operating budget will go toward personnel funding, allowing the center to hire more staff members and expand some of its most important programs, such as Supplemental Instruction (SI) and ACE coaching.

Stacey Bradley, Student Affairs’ associate vice president for administration, said expanding support for these services is important for student success.

“The critical nature of follow-up opportunities, the need to supervise and strategically manage the call center and the new early intervention partnership with [University 101] and [English 101] require an adequate level of support,” Bradley wrote in an email response.

New full-time positions are being added to meet needs in cross-campus advising, online learning, early intervention and at-risk services, Moschella said.

The center is also in the process of selecting two new ACE coaches and plans to expand its SI program from one center to two.

$5 million spent for new faculty
University adds 120 professors, plans to hire more next year
Andrew Askins
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

As far as Provost Michael Amiridis is concerned, it’s a buyer’s market.

“Through the recession, few faculties — here and elsewhere — required raises. Others found themselves feeling stagnant, open to a new challenge,” Amiridis said.

Over the last decade, the university has leveraged those realities to bring in new faculty members for the 2012-2013 academic year, and last year was no different as university researchers who are also new professors themselves feel彼ら selves feeling stagnant, open to a new challenge.

They represent the “first wave” of a plan to replenish USC’s stagnant faculty over the next four years, Amiridis said. The university had been barely replacing the 30 to 50 faculty it lost in a year, he said.

Over the last decade, the university has added about 1,000 tenured or tenure-track faculty, but when the plan’s completed, it should employ between 1,200 and 1,250.

But doing so comes at a cost, and the university will drop about $5 million each year for a “wave” of hires — a total of $20 million.

On average, each new position will pay between $70,000 and $100,000, depending on how many USC opens, and they’ll be paid with tuition money the university has gathered as enrollment has increased.

That’s competitive pay, Amiridis said. “It’s going after senior-level professors.”

Most new faculty at a round-table discussion Thursday afternoon were looking to move; instead, USC approached them.

Over the last few years, waves of senior faculty retired as the university faces the stress of its retirement plan; some left for other opportunities. They weren’t consistently replaced.

To fill them and draw new people to Columbia, USC has often added years of work elsewhere — taking some convincing, Amiridis said. That means competitive wages and other incentives, including a program that finds — or makes — jobs for top candidates’ spouses.

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The set of new faculty are scattered throughout the university’s colleges, Amiridis said, and roughly follow students’ distribution among them.

But they weren’t hired among those lines, explicitly.

Instead, colleges and departments made pitches for openings and suggestions for new positions that new faculty could fill.

For his part, Michael Amiridis, a professor in the College of Education who’s establishing a graduate degree in teaching gifted students, said his faculty is “looking to do something new and intellectually stimulating — something more than a day job.”

In terms of Provost Michael Amiridis, he’s concerned, it’s a buyer’s market.

“It’s going to have a great pay back in the future,” said Amiridis. “If we go to other institutions with this idea, and they all have told me their centers pay off extremely well. It’s a business investment.

Alumni center on track for 2014 debut
Caroline Dady
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

USC’s alumni center may not have found a contractor to break ground on the $30 million facility, but the My Carolina Alumni Association is confident in the speed and direction the center is moving, said Jack Claypoole, its executive director.

“It at a major university like ours, one of the greatest strengths is the power of our alumni,” Claypoole said.

“We don’t have a home base where students can come to a place that’s their school,” he said. “We are not in the heart of Columbia as a home place for all Carolinians.”

USC is the only school in the Southeastern Conference that does not have an active alumni center, and if other SEC alumni organizations have found a successful center she should reap benefits.

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Iranian activist talks women’s rights

Haghhighatjoo specializes in Islam, gender

Sarah Gayn
sagayn@dailygamecock.com

Fatemeh Haghhighatjoo's last name may look like a jumble of consonants to Westerners, but, as she told a crowd Thursday evening, "It's by alumni for alumni," Claypoole said.

The Vista was chosen as the prime location for the center because, Claypoole said, it embodies "That's kind of become our motto.”

While the $10 million that will pay for the center hasn't been raised yet, Claypoole said the project is on track for a 2014 opening. It will be funded entirely through private donations and use no state or tuition money, he said.

"It's by alumni for alumni," Claypoole said. "That's kind of become our motto.”

Fatemeh Haghhighatjoo and a panel will discuss women’s issues on a live Wednesday evening web developer.

Iranian activist talks women’s rights

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Fatemeh Haghhighatoo and a panel will discuss women’s issues on a live Wednesday evening.
There’s a certain quiet on the weekends of away games — away from student section and thousands of screaming Carolina fans.

But that feeling was certainlyimitated Thursday night, as students came to the Russell House in droves to cheer with their fellow classmates. That — or the free food.

Students filled the Russell House Ballroom and Theater and spilled out into the lobby, where they munched on tailgating staples — pizza, breadsticks, chicken fingers, chips and more, all courtesy of Student Government.

And while the Gamecocks may have slogged through the game’s last quarters, their fans didn’t.

After a scoreless third quarter, the crowd erupted as Marcus Lattimore ran the ball in for a touchdown in the fourth.

For a moment, they evoked the feel of the student section, screaming loud as ever, a rousing “Game — Cocks” cheer.

— Compiled by Andrew Askins

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FREE NECKLACES
NEW Hires Cont. From 1

“Adding sections to expand SI to scale is critical to our successful retention efforts,” Bradley Moschella said.

The online academic support system is important for the SSC’s goal of meeting a variety of student needs in a variety of formats, he said. “An online academic support presence is critical,” Bradley wrote.

“We don’t want to just cater to students that are having problems, but to all students because most of our students aren’t having problems. We want to work with all students on becoming more efficient, more effective learners,” Moschella said.

“My hope is to design a program that helps students progress toward their degree quicker.”

The SSC served about 8,000 to 9,000 individual contacts, Moschella said.

The SSC has also learned of some 51,000 visits or 66 class sections to 99, increasing 68 percent since Fall 2011, a 78-percent increase since Fall 2009 for ACE and a 146-percent increase since Fall 2010 for cross-campus advising, Moschella said.

But the center hopes to keep expanding and to improve its student-based programs, he said. “My hope is to design a program that helps students progress toward their degree quicker.”

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New USC faculty hires beneficial to students

This year, USC hired 120 new faculty members, the first wave of increased efforts to attract top-tier professors from across the United States and from all over the world. This large feat marks USC’s first over the United States and from all over the world. For the first time, members, the first wave of increased efforts to attract top-tier professors from across the United States and from all over the world.
It may be the most imaginative, cinematic experience that mashes the magical and the dirt-real in ways never seen before. The name may make the film sound dour and stressful, but this film is the exact opposite. Trust me.

"Beasts of the Southern Wild" is loosely adapted from a one-act play called "Juicy and Delicious" — though it's difficult to see that anything so cinematic, and shot in a wondrous locale, could have come from the stage.

The opening shot introduces us to the 6-year-old Hushpuppy, a fearless girl who lives with her alcoholic but loving father, Wink, in a tiny, rundown bayou community called the Bathtub. The Bathtub is actually its own island located south of the Louisiana levees, where the residents share a unique ideology of the outside world. Hushpuppy shares this sense of optimism in a community that sees an essence of living in what others would call junk, thinking of her as somewhat of a paradise.

"We's got the best place on earth," Hushpuppy says about her community, where everyone parties on whatever alcohol they can find and lights up fireworks when it's not even the Fourth of July.

However, Hushpuppy, along with all of the residents of the Bathtub, faces a multitude of challenges as her reality becomes victim to similar troubles from the outside world. With her father's health failing as a historic storm heads toward the Bathtub, Hushpuppy learns she has to have a fierce love of life to survive in her "Where the Wild Things Are" world.

As for the "beasts" the title alludes to, that's where the creative and imaginative elements of the movie really come into play. The beasts could be one of two things in the film: They could be the residents of the Bathtub since they practically live as "animals" away from modern society, or they could be the Aurochs, boarlike prehistoric beasts Hushpuppy imagines have been thawed from collapsing polar ice caps.

This notion of seeing the world through Hushpuppy's point of view gives "Beasts" a sense of innocence not felt since "Forrest Gump." In voice-overs, Hushpuppy speaks of things seen through the naiveté of youth, such as how the world is filled with small parts that make up a bigger part and how her mother "swam away" constantly looking at the water for her to return home.

At the center of the film, newcomer Quvenzhané Wallis is a force to be reckoned with at such a young age. She effortlessly portrays the optimistic Hushpuppy, who also has a menacing side thanks to the tough life she lives.

Dwight Henry also strikes the perfect note as the gruff Wink, a man whose fathering may be seen as borderline abusive. But deep down, he is a caring parent who spends his final days on earth preparing his daughter for the real world.

Unfortunately, "Beasts" is by no means perfect — though it comes close despite one flaw: the camera work. Cinematographer Ben Richardson does capture some breathtaking images of the nature that surrounds the Bathtub, but the handheld framing makes the overall feel a bit too self-consciously gritty and ruins opportunities to truly soak in the visuals.

There's also the question of what "Beasts of the Southern Wild" is trying to tell us — but asking what this movie is about is like asking why the sky's blue. "Beasts" simply presents itself as a magical film that is simply more of an experience than anything else, even an argument.

Similar to Terrence Malick's "Tree of Life," director Benh Zeitlin presents a surrealistic style that desperately requires patience from its viewers. It isn't a film for those who demand simple logic or easy answers.

This is an imaginative, independent film whose small budget is a complete blessing, allowing the filmmakers to work with their own style of storytelling. It would always make sense, but, as Hushpuppy would say, the universe manages to fit it together exactly right.

With its wondrous sense of magic realism, dreamlike quality and breathtaking performances from nonprofessional actors, "Beasts" may very well be the hidden gem of the summer.
Bohemian in Five Points hosts trunk show

Five Points boutique Bohemian will host a trunk show today featuring three coveted designers from 3 to 7 p.m. The brands featured will be Mamie Ruth, designed by Emily Bargeron, and Satchel, designed by both Elizabeth Seeger and Mahala Lewis. Bargeron’s brand Mamie Ruth began in Savannah, Ga., and is known for its eclectic essence-bold patterns and colors, soft jerseys and elaborate jewelry. Each piece is unique in that Bargeron handmade absolutely everything with her favorite eco-friendly fabrics and wax African prints.

And in addition to new pieces, Bargeron will be offering a small collection of exclusive designs. Satchel, designed by Elizabeth Seeger and Mahala Lewis, is also coming to Columbia from Savannah. The brand focuses on leather goods — clutches, handbags, shoulder bags, wallets and bracelets — all also handmade. Seeger and Lewis will debut their newest signature pieces tonight. The pair also offers made-to-order leather goods.

For more information on Mamie Ruth and Satchel, visit their respective websites at www.mamieruth.com and www.shopsatchel.com.

— Compiled by Sophie Kerr-Dinan

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— Compiled by Sophie Kerr-Dinan
WEAR YOUR COLORSTODAY

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North Carolina tailback Marcus Lattimore could tell quarterback Connor Shaw was in pain. After taking a blow to the shoulder on a 2-yard run toward the end of the first half, Lattimore couldn’t open his arms wide with a shoulder contusion, not returning until halfway through the third quarter.

"I never had that before," Shaw said. "I knew he needed us to take over and be a leader." 

Shaw had been hurt, but he wasn’t going to come out, Lattimore said. "That’s what you expect from a senior."

Cunningham said Shaw "was very disciplined in taking care of his responsibilities, like loading the box and play man-to-man outside. He was well aware of what we had been doing a lot down there, so we were going to load the box."

"I knew he caught the ball," Cunningham said. "I had to hold the ball onto the line of scrimmage."

The pass was the longest of the night for USC offense, going to 20 yards passing, tallying 205 yards rushing. Shaw kept it on the ground the rest of Cunningham’s catch, running 12 yards to the Vanderbilt 1-yard line, diving into the end zone and landing awkwardly on his shoulder. He came out for the next play, but came back in to hand off to Lattimore for the go-ahead touchdown, giving the Gamecocks a 17-13 lead they didn’t relinquish.

"I’m proud of him. He pulled it out, and he came through when we needed him," Lattimore said.

The night started poorly for USC. With six minutes to play in the first quarter, Shaw lofted a pass to senior tight end Justice Cunningham to put USC in scoring position. Cunningham was interfered with by Jordan Matthews. Sophomore safety Brison Quarles intercepted Vanderbilt’s Jordan Rodgers’s pass in the first quarter.

Without Shaw, the Gamecocks couldn’t get a first down, watching Vanderbilt take a three-point lead on a 44-yard field goal.

Immediately after the score, Shaw returned to the field, but couldn’t get the Gamecocks a first down in the third quarter.

"There was no time to panic," Shaw said. "I knew that we were going to bounce back."

The first drive of the fourth quarter, Shaw found Lattimore for an 8-yard gain. The senior then broke a breathless life back into the stagnant USC offense.

Shaw left a pass to senior tight end Justice Cunningham who leaped in the open field before being hit hard, forcing him to end on a helmet-to-helmet hit by Vanderbilt’s Anthony Chickillo. Cunningham’s helmet off. A 11-yard personal foul penalty followed the unnecessary roughness penalty on the Gamecocks to the Vanderbilt 22-yard line.

"I knew I caught the ball," Cunningham said. "I had to hold the ball onto the line of scrimmage, but I knew it was going to be a big hit coming."

His 37-yard return set up the Gamecocks’ first touchdown of the night, giving the Gamecocks possession in USC territory.

"It was really, really nervous, knowing I was about to get hit for the first time," Lattimore said. "I’m here to hold the Commodores on a fourth-down attempt, but on the next USC offensive possession, Shaw’s first pass was intercepted by Vanderbilt’s Kenny Ladler. Vanderbilt couldn’t capitalize after quarterback Jordan Rodgers was intercepted by senior linebacker Shaq Wilson, who returned the pick to the Vanderbilt 49-yard line.

Two plays later — two rushes by Shaw and Lattimore, respectively — the Commodores were in the end zone to take a 7-0 lead.

Fittingly, the Gamecocks secured the victory on Shaw’s legs and not his shoulder. With Vanderbilt out of timeouts and a minute and a half left in the game, Shaw’s 7-yard run to the sideline, sliding and staying in bounds to keep the clock moving, secured the victory for the Gamecocks. He finished second to Lattimore’s 110 rushing yards with 92.

"If we don’t make that first down, we’ve got 1:27 left, and who knows what’s going to happen," said coach Steve Spurrier. "Connor said, ‘I can get it, Coach. Don’t worry.’"

Backup quarterback Dylan Thompson, who mostly directed USC’s offense in the fourth quarter, agreed. "Connor is a true leader."

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