



THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COLUMBIA CAMPUS


Department of Physics and Astronomy

June 30, 1992

Columbia, SC 29208

## MEMORANDUM

TO: John L. Safko, Secretary  
Faculty Senate

FROM: Timir Datta, Chair   
Savannah River Review Committee

RE: The 1991 -1992 Annual Report  
Savannah River Review Committee

The SRRC convened their meeting three times during the past academic year. From these and additional the discussions during the year it is clear that the members feel the relationship between the SRS and USC is beneficial.

Access to current research projects, topics and funds are positive aspects of this inter-institutional relationship. Several departments particularly some of those in the engineering college appear to have greatly increased research activities. These efforts need to be encouraged.

Research possibilities in the environmental as well as health related sciences are two very topical academic areas that can be further promoted at USC vis a vis SRS.

SCUREF and it policies as experienced by the members or by their colleagues is one of the nagging questions. Some of us believe that the USC-SRS relationship need not be restricted to the SCUREF conduit. SCUREF sponsorship is good but it has also resulted in what can be perceived as infighting and inter-institutional rivalry in place of comraderie.

The processes of determination of need of research and award of funds has never been perceived to be open. The SCUREF mission would improve in its efficiency if researchers can participate and have an input in some of these key steps. The university should not be regarded, as a mere vendor for research goods.

Perhaps the USC community may be encouraged to develop alternate communication routes to the researchers at SRS.

All the institutions of higher learning in the state have an obligation to the tax payers in providing the scientific and technical knowhow needed to keep SRS a safe and efficient place to work. USC faculty are doing their best to live up to their commitment. But some of the bureaucratic procedures need to be improved to take full advantage of the SRS-USC relationship.

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