



UNIVERSITY OF  
**South Carolina**

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**School of Medicine Columbia**

**Faculty Handbook**

**2024-2025**

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## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the University of South Carolina (USC) School of Medicine (SOM) - Columbia. As a SOM faculty member, your role in assuring that the SOM fulfills its three-fold mission to “serve the people of South Carolina and beyond through exemplary medical and health education, transformative research, and compassionate patient care” is crucial. This handbook, which serves as the SOM’s Bylaws, was written to orient you to the SOM’s organization, policies, and functioning; to answer questions that may arise during the course of your daily educational, clinical, and research activities, and to serve as a reference guide to other sources of useful information for SOM faculty members.

## UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

**USC History.** Located in the capital city of Columbia, the University of South Carolina has a long and colorful history. Chartered in 1801, it had developed into an institution of national repute by the mid-1850s. Its antebellum faculty boasted scientists such as Thomas Cooper and John and Joseph LeConte. Hard hit by the Civil War and Reconstruction, it struggled for many years to survive.

Its renaissance began in earnest at the end of World War II. Since 1951 its student population had increased from 3,000 to its current size of more than 33,000. The University attracts students from throughout the state and nation, as well as from over 144 countries.

The historic Horseshoe, the original campus of the University, is surrounded by restored 19<sup>th</sup>-century buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places. By contrast, the remainder of the campus is composed of contemporary facilities.

Today, the University of South Carolina is one of the most progressive and intellectually exciting institutions in the Southeast. The University offers over 300+ areas of study from bachelor’s to doctorate, with accelerated or dual degree programs, specializations, and certificates as well as professional doctorates in medicine, law, and pharmacy.

In recent years, outside support of research and sponsored programs topped \$235 million. The University’s endowment exceeds \$989 million.

**USC Motto.** The USC motto is “Emollit mores nec sinit esse ferus.” The motto is translated as follows, “learning humanizes character and does not permit it to be cruel.”

**The Carolinian Creed.** The community of scholars at USC is dedicated to personal and academic excellence. Choosing to join the community obligates each member to a code of civilized behavior.

*As a Carolinian...*

*I will practice personal and academic integrity; I will respect the dignity of all persons;  
I will respect the rights and property of others; I will discourage bigotry, while striving to learn from differences in people, ideas, and opinions;  
I will demonstrate concern for others, their feelings, and their need for conditions which support their work and development.  
Allegiance to these ideals requires each Carolinian to refrain from and discourage behaviors which threaten the freedom and respect every individual deserves.*

**Rule of Academic Responsibility.** Students enrolled in the SOM adhere to the USC Rule of Academic responsibility, as follows:

*It is the responsibility of every student at the University of South Carolina to adhere steadfastly to truthfulness and to avoid dishonesty, fraud, or deceit of any type in connection with any academic program. Any student who violates this rule or who knowingly assists another to violate this rule shall be subject to discipline.*

## SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

**USC SOM Mission:** We serve the people of South Carolina and beyond through exemplary medical and health education, transformative research, and compassionate patient care.

**USC SOM Vision:** To be part of a vibrant academic health center that provides access to the best evidence-based medical care and biomedical education, supported by research and cutting-edge technologies.

**USC SOM Values:** Excellence; Professionalism; Collaboration; Diversity and Inclusion; and Compassion.

**USC SOM History:** To improve health care for the citizens of the state, planning for the establishment of the SOM began in the late 1960s. In 1973, the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (CHE) and the State Legislature authorized USC to apply for a grant from the Veterans Administration (VA) to assist in the development of the medical school; the grant was approved in 1974.

Faculty recruitment and curriculum planning began in 1975; in 1976, the SOM received provisional accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) of the American Medical Association and the Association of American Medical Colleges. In February 1977, the SOM was granted approval for the fall 1977 admission of the first class of 24 medical students.

The Charter Class graduated in May 1981 at which time the SOM was fully accredited by the LCME. Medical student class size has quadrupled since the entrance of the first class, and approximately 300 medical students are enrolled in the four-year program.

The SOM's educational programs were further augmented by the establishment of the Ph.D. program in Biomedical Science in 1981, the M.S. program in Genetic Counseling in 1985, the Masters of Nurse Anesthesia program in 1994, and the M.S. program in Biomedical Science in 1998. USC's Masters of Rehabilitation Counseling program was transferred to the SOM in 1994. A Masters of Science in Physician Assistant Studies started in 2017, and the Nurse Anesthesia program converted to a doctorate in 2021. Residency programs in emergency medicine, dental medicine, family practice, internal medicine, neurology, obstetrics and gynecology, ophthalmology, orthopedic surgery, pediatrics, plastic surgery, preventive medicine, psychiatry, and surgery are co-sponsored with the Prisma Health and the Columbia VA Healthcare System. Fellowships in medical and psychiatric specialties are offered by individual SOM departments.

The SOM's basic science campus, consisting of fully renovated historic buildings, is located four miles from the USC-Columbia campus. The complex provides teaching and research facilities that are unexcelled nationally. Most clinical departments are located on the rapidly expanding campus at Prisma Health Richland in central Columbia. Affiliated hospitals include the Dorn VA Medical Center (DVAMC)/Columbia VA Health Care System; Prisma Health (PH) including the Prisma Health Richland, Prisma Health Baptist, Prisma Health Parkridge; the South Carolina Department of Mental Health (SCDMH); McLeod Regional Medical Center; MUSC Health–Florence Medical Center; Grand Strand Health; Greenwood Genetics Center; Lexington Medical Center; and the teaching hospitals affiliated with the South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium (AHEC).

In 2015, after a one-year pilot, a new regional medical campus was established in Florence with the help of Francis Marion University and two new clinical affiliates: McLeod Regional Medical Center and Carolinas

Hospital System (now MUSC Health–Florence Medical Center). Third-year medical students began their first permanent clinical rotations in Florence in July 2015.

The SOM has become a national leader in primary care medical education and ultrasound education. The SOM also collaborates closely with state agencies involved in health service delivery, sponsors research focused primarily on South Carolina health care needs, and provides a wide range of clinical care services to South Carolinians.

The SOM is reaccredited every eight years by the LCME following a three-day site visit and extensive programmatic review. The SOM received a full eight-year accreditation in 2019 and is scheduled for its' next site visit during the 2024 -2025 academic year. The LCME also monitors progress at the SOM by means of annual questionnaires. The full text of the LCME accreditation standards can be found at the LCME website: <http://www.lcme.org/>

**Guiding Principles.** The medical education program in the SOM is conducted in accordance with a set of guiding principles. These principles, as follows, are based upon a commitment to meeting societal expectations regarding the attributes of practicing physicians and can be used as a screen for periodic review and renewal of the medical education program. The educational program in the SOM shall:

- Be centrally coordinated by the Curriculum Committee.
- Foster interdisciplinary and interdepartmental collaboration.
- Promote curricular flexibility.
- Respond to changing societal needs and conditions.
- Recognize students' individual talents, interests, and needs.
- Foster students' abilities to be independent and life-long learners.
- Promote a cooperative, collegial, and mutually respectful environment.
- Prepare students for the ethical challenges of medical practice.

**Program Objectives.** The USC SOM Columbia utilizes the overall program objectives to optimize the personal and professional development of our medical students as they develop professional identity as future physicians. We see the program objectives as a framing for assessment and a tool for students to develop ownership of their learning and confidence in professional activities. Graduates from the USCSOM meet the following program learning objectives:

1. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: demonstrate awareness and commitment to ensuring equitable access to high-quality care for patients, fostering a diverse and inclusive workplace for colleagues, and cultivating and sustaining relationships with suppliers and community partners to enhance a physician's understanding of the communities they serve.
2. Interpersonal and Communication Skills: demonstrate verbal and nonverbal communication skills that promote effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, their families, and other healthcare professionals.
3. Medical Knowledge: master a foundation of scientific and clinical knowledge and apply that knowledge to clinical practice.
4. Patient Care: provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the promotion of health and the treatment of health problems.
5. Practice-Based Learning and Improvement: investigate and evaluate the care of patients, appraise, and assimilate scientific evidence, and continuously improve patient care based on constant self-evaluation and life-long learning,
6. Professionalism: demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities and an adherence to ethical principles.
7. Systems Based Practice: demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources in the system to provide optimal health care.

## ***Guidelines for Conduct in Teacher/Learner Relationships.***

### **I. Statement of Philosophy**

The University of South Carolina School of Medicine Columbia is committed to fostering an environment that promotes academic and professional success in learners and teachers at all levels. The achievement of such success is dependent on an environment free of behaviors which can undermine the important mission of our institution. An atmosphere of mutual respect, collegiality, fairness, and trust is essential. Although both teachers and learners bear significant responsibility in creating and maintaining this atmosphere, teachers also bear particular responsibility with respect to their evaluative roles relative to student work and with respect to modeling appropriate professional behaviors. Teachers must be ever mindful of this responsibility in their interactions with their colleagues, their patients, and those whose education has been entrusted to them.

### **II. Responsibilities in the Teacher/Learner Relationship**

#### **A. Responsibilities of Teachers**

1. Treat all learners with respect and fairness
2. Treat all learners equally regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, disability, or sexual orientation.
3. Provide current material in an effective format for learning.
4. Be on time for didactic, investigational, and clinical encounters.
5. Provide timely feedback with constructive suggestions and opportunities for improvement/remediation when needed.

#### **B. Responsibilities of Learners**

1. Treat all fellow learners and teachers with respect and fairness.
2. Treat all fellow learners and teachers equally regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, disability, or sexual orientation.
3. Commit the time and energy to your studies necessary to achieve the goals and objectives of each course.
4. Be on time for didactic, investigational, and clinical encounters.
5. Communicate concerns/suggestions about the curriculum, didactic methods, teachers, or the learning environment in a respectful, professional manner.

### **III. Behaviors Inappropriate to the Teacher-Learner Relationship**

These behaviors are those which demonstrate disrespect for others or lack of professionalism in interpersonal conduct. Although there is inevitably a subjective element in the witnessing or experiencing of such behaviors, certain actions are clearly inappropriate and will not be tolerated by the institution. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- unwanted physical contact (e.g., hitting, slapping, kicking, pushing) or the threat of the same;
- sexual harassment (including romantic relationships between teachers and learners in which the teacher has authority over the learner's academic progress) or harassment based on age, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, disability, or sexual orientation;
- loss of personal civility including shouting, personal attacks or insults, displays of temper (such as throwing objects), use of culturally insensitive language;
- discrimination of any form including in teaching and assessment based upon age, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, disability, or sexual orientation;
- requests for another to perform inappropriate personal errands unrelated to the didactic, investigational, or clinical situation at hand;

- grading/evaluation on factors unrelated to performance, effort, or level of achievement.

The procedure designed to provide students an opportunity to address non-academic complaints and problems they have been unable to resolve through other channels may be found at:

<http://www.sc.edu/policies/staf627.pdf>

## FACULTY

All individuals who participate in the education of SOM medical and graduate students are considered SOM faculty. From the *The Faculty Manual* “The university faculty consists of the president, provost, and deans; professors, associate professors, and assistant professors; full-time academic instructors and full-time lecturers who are not degree candidates in the units of their appointments; clinical and research professors, clinical and research associate professors, and clinical and research assistant professors; visiting faculty and emeriti professors; librarians; and such other persons as the faculty chooses to elect to its ranks.” Several designations are commonly used to describe SOM faculty.

**Basic Science and Clinical Science Faculty.** One common differentiation among SOM faculty members is between “basic science” and “clinical” faculty members. In general, basic science faculty members hold their primary faculty appointments in one of the three SOM basic science departments: Cell Biology and Anatomy; Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology; Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience. These basic science faculty members teach primarily in the first two years of the medical school curriculum and in SOM graduate programs. Notwithstanding the foregoing, SOM clinical departments also employ some basic science faculty members. These basic science faculty members employed by clinical departments are faculty members who are actively involved in the SOM’s clinical, research, and educational programs.

In general, “clinical” faculty members hold their primary faculty appointments in one of the nine SOM clinical departments: Family and Preventive Medicine, Internal Medicine, Neurology, Neuropsychiatry and Behavioral Science, Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Orthopedic Surgery, Radiology, and Surgery. These clinical science faculty members provide clinical services at SOM-affiliated hospitals and agencies in Columbia, Florence, and other sites in South Carolina, while simultaneously providing clinical instruction to SOM medical students and to residents in SOM-affiliated residency training programs. Many clinical science faculty members also participate in clinical research activities and provide instruction in the first- and second-year SOM Introduction to Clinical Medicine (ICM) course continuum, and in clinical correlations to SOM basic science courses.

**USC-Salaried, Prisma Health Medical Group-Midlands, Hospital-Salaried, and Private Practice Faculty Members.** SOM faculty members also fall into three categories: those salaried by USC or the Prisma Health Medical Group Midlands, those salaried by SOM-affiliated hospitals, and those whose income derives from private clinical practice and other sources. The contributions of all three types of faculty members are essential to the SOM educational program. Another common differentiation among USC-salaried faculty members is between “tenure-track” and “professional-track” faculty.

**USC-Salaried Faculty Members.** USC-salaried faculty members can be either tenure-track or professional-track faculty. Tenure-track faculty members must meet both University and SOM-determined criteria in the areas of teaching, research/scholarly activity, and service/patient care prior to making application for tenured status and/or for promotion to Associate Professor or Professor status at USC. Once tenured, these faculty members become permanent USC employees, although they are subject to post-tenure review policies. Professional-track, USC-paid faculty members are salaried, on a full-time or part-time basis, on an annual contractual basis; they participate in a SOM-determined promotion process, but not in the USC promotion and tenure application process.

USC-salaried faculty members are subject to the USC policies and procedures contained in *The Faculty Manual*; the full text of *The Faculty Manual* can be found at:

[http://www.sc.edu/policies/facman/Faculty\\_Manual\\_Columbia.pdf](http://www.sc.edu/policies/facman/Faculty_Manual_Columbia.pdf)

**Prisma Health Medical Group-Midlands and Hospital-Salaried Faculty Members.** Faculty members can also be paid by the Prisma Health Medical Group-Midlands, SOM-affiliated hospitals (e.g., Prisma Health, South Carolina Department of Mental Health, Dorn VA Medical Center, and Florence Regional Campus). These faculty members are subject to the policies and procedures of the Medical Group/hospital by which they are salaried, and they participate in the same SOM-determined appointment and promotion process applicable to USC-salaried, professional-track faculty.

**Affiliated (Volunteer) Faculty Members.** Affiliated “Volunteer” faculty members are those in private practice or employed by agencies or institutions not formally affiliated with the SOM and who participate in SOM educational programs as guest lecturers, community preceptors, and fourth-year elective directors without financial recompense from the SOM. Appointment and promotion of affiliated “volunteer” faculty are determined by department-specific procedures.

**Responsibilities and Privileges of the Faculty.** A current list of faculty privileges may be found at: [https://sc.edu/about/offices\\_and\\_divisions/human\\_resources/benefits/index.php](https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/human_resources/benefits/index.php)

SOM faculty have full access to the resources of the Charles S. and Donna H. Bryan School of Medicine Library which serves as the School of Medicine's information gateway to over 178,000 electronic journals, over 1,200 electronic textbooks, over 90 biomedical databases and more.

### **Faculty Commitment to the Carolinian Creed**

We, the faculty of the University of South Carolina, recognize our special responsibility to honor and exemplify the values and principles expressed in the Carolinian Creed.

*We will practice personal and academic integrity;*

*We will respect the dignity of all persons;*

*We will respect the rights and property of others; We will discourage bigotry, while striving to learn from differences in people, ideas, and opinions;*

*We will demonstrate concern for others, their feelings, and their need for conditions which support their work and development.*

*Allegiance to these ideals requires us to refrain from and discourage behaviors which threaten the freedom and respect every individual deserves.*

We, the faculty of the University, hold ourselves to the highest standards of personal and professional conduct as teachers, colleagues, and researchers. Specifically,

**As Teachers**, we commit ourselves to pursuing our classroom and individual mentoring responsibilities conscientiously with high intellectual standards and clear pedagogical goals. We also commit ourselves to dealing fairly and respectfully with all students.

**As Colleagues**, we commit ourselves to supporting faculty colleagues in their pursuit of excellence in research, teaching, and service and to dealing with all university personnel in a civil and responsible manner. We also recognize that disagreement on issues of importance is inevitable and even welcome in a University environment. We therefore affirm our commitment to academic freedom, even as we pledge ourselves to civil and responsible discourse.

**As Researchers and Scholars**, we commit ourselves to pursuing our research with rigor guided by the highest ethical and intellectual standards of our disciplines and to presenting the results of our research honestly and

accurately. We further commit ourselves to carrying these high professional and personal standards into all work that we might perform outside the university.

Finally, in all our dealings we commit ourselves to respecting the rights and feelings of others; to maintaining the confidentiality of sensitive personal or institutional information; to being good stewards of University resources; and to being active agents for promoting the values inherent in the Carolinian Creed.

## **APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, AND/OR TENURE PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA**

### ***Tenure and Promotion Procedures and Criteria for Tenure-Track Basic Science and Clinical Faculty.***

Consistent with the policies and procedures of *The Faculty Manual*, the SOM revised its Tenure and Promotion Procedures and Criteria for Tenure-Track Clinical Faculty (18 December 2018) and its Tenure and Promotion Procedures and Criteria for Tenure-Track Basic Science Faculty (7 February 2018). These documents received approval from the USC Committee on Tenure and Promotion. Of note the Tenure and Promotion Procedures and Criteria for Tenure-Track Basic Science Faculty were revised in June 2022 and are awaiting final approval from the USC Committee on Tenure and Promotion. These documents outline annual procedures related to applications by faculty in SOM basic science or clinical departments for promotion and/or tenure, as well as criteria in the areas of teaching, research/scholarly activity, and service/patient care for promotion to the rank of Associate Professor or Professor and/or tenure at the rank of Associate Professor or Professor. Copies of these documents can be obtained from the appropriate department chair or from personnel in the Office of the Dean. Current criteria can also be found here: <http://www.sc.edu/tenure/unitcriteria.shtml>

***Criteria for Tenure of Librarians in the SOM.*** The SOM has adopted criteria in the areas of excellence of performance, scholarly ability, effectiveness of service to the institution and community, and professional growth for tenure as a medical librarian in the SOM; these criteria were rewritten on 18 October 2001 and received approval from the USC Committee on Tenure and Promotion. Of note the Tenure Procedures and Criteria for Library Faculty were revised in August 2024 and are awaiting final approval from the USC Committee on Tenure and Promotion. A copy of these materials can be obtained from the Director of Library Services or from personnel in the Office of the Dean. Current criteria can also be found here: <http://www.sc.edu/tenure/unitcriteria.shtml>

### ***Appointment and Promotion Procedures and Criteria for Professional-Track Basic Science Faculty.***

The SOM basic science faculty adopted the Appointment and Promotion Procedures and Criteria for Professional-Track Basic Science Faculty in December 2011 and were approved by the Provost's Office on 14 June 2017. This document outlines procedures for initial appointment of professional-track faculty to basic science SOM departments and procedures and criteria in the areas of teaching, research/scholarly activity, and service for promotion of non-tenure-track faculty in the SOM basic science departments to the rank of Associate Professor or Professor. A copy of this document can be obtained from the appropriate department chair or from personnel in the Office of the Dean.

### ***Appointment and Promotion Procedures and Criteria for Professional-Track Clinical Faculty.***

The SOM adopted, in September 2004, revised Appointment and Promotion Procedures and Criteria for Professional-Track Clinical Faculty. The most recent revision was approved by the Provost's Office on 26 February 2019. This document outlines procedures for initial appointment of non-tenure-track faculty to clinical SOM departments and procedures and criteria in the areas of teaching, research/scholarly activity, and service/patient care for promotion of professional-track faculty in SOM clinical departments to the rank of Associate Professor or Professor. A copy of this document can be obtained from the appropriate department chair or from personnel in the Office of the Dean.

***Appointment, Reappointment, and Promotion Procedures for Affiliated (Volunteer Faculty).*** The SOM adopted, on 11 January 2000, revised Appointment, Reappointment, and Promotion Procedures for Affiliated (Volunteer) Faculty. This document outlines procedures for initial appointment, reappointment, and promotion of volunteer SOM faculty members who are not salaried by the SOM or its affiliated institutions. A

copy of this document can be obtained from the appropriate department chair or from personnel in the Office of the Dean.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE**

The administrative organization of the school is illustrated in Figure 1. The Dean is the medical school's chief academic and administrative officer. The responsibilities of the Dean, Vice Dean, and Senior Associate and Associate Deans are outlined in *The Faculty Manual* and listed below. The Dean and Vice Dean are assisted by senior associate and associate deans in each of the following areas: Admissions, Graduate Medical Education, Undergraduate Medical Education, Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Research, Graduate Education, Continuous Professional Development and Strategic Affairs, and Medical Student Education - Florence. In addition, there are several senior assistant and assistant deans in the areas of Administration and Finance, Pre-clerkship Curriculum, Clinical Curriculum and Assessment, Clinical Learning, Student Success and Wellness, , and Information Technology. Department chairs and vice-chairs are responsible to the Dean for the educational, clinical, and scholarly activities of faculty members in their department. The responsibilities of USC department chairs are outlined in *The Faculty Manual* and listed below. The functioning of the medical school is also assisted by faculty, administrative, and advisory committees and subcommittees (see SOM Committees, below) that oversee the necessary functions of the institution; in general, these committees are advisory to the Dean (with the exception of the Admissions Committee, the Curriculum Committee, the Basic Science Unit, Clinical Science Unit and Library Unit Tenure and Promotion Committees, and the Student Academic Review Committee which function independent of the Dean).

### **Administration**

#### **Interim Dean**

**Gerald E. Harmon, M.D.**

Office of the Dean, 6311 Garners Ferry Road, VA Building 3, Suite 306, 803-216-3391

The **SOM Dean** is the chief academic officer and is responsible for the medical school's personnel and program administration. The Dean reports directly to and serves as the pleasure of the executive vice president for academic affairs and provost. The Dean reviews programs in the SOM, appoints chairs of departments and assigns their duties, supervises the use of funds, space, and equipment allotted to the SOM, and supervises the preparation of the budget of the division. The Dean is the presiding officer of the faculty of the SOM. The Office of the Dean also has responsibility for development and public affairs activities.

#### **Vice Dean**

**Jeffrey L. Perkins, C.P.A., C.I.A., C.F.P., M.B.A.**

Building 3

The **Vice Dean** supports the dean in meeting the strategic goals and many of the operational aspects of the SOM.

#### **Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs**

**Caughman Taylor, M.D.**

9 Medical Park, Suite 200A, 803-434-2069

The **Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs** assists the SOM Dean, associate and assistant deans, faculty, and staff to evaluate and improve the clinical climate of the SOM, and strengthens key external relationships of clinical partners with the SOM.

**Senior Associate Dean for Research**

**Leonardo Bonilha, Ph.D.**

Building 3, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room 234 DVAMC Campus

The **Senior Associate Dean for Research** serves as the senior leader of the research enterprise within the SOM, creating a vision for research excellence and developing strategic plans and tactics which turn that vision into reality.

**Assistant Dean for Clinical Graduate Programs**

**Paul Toriello, Rh.D.**

Building 3, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room 234 DVAMC Campus 252-561-5703

The **Assistant Dean for Clinical Graduate Programs** provides leadership and oversight of the SOM's four clinical graduate programs (in Nurse Anesthesia, Genetic Counseling, Physician Assistant, and Rehabilitation Counseling), ensuring a vibrant state-of-the-art learning environment.

**Associate Dean for Continuous Professional Development and Strategic Affairs**

**Matt Orr, Ph.D.**

15 Medical Park, Suite 100, 803-434-2799

The **Associate Dean for Continuous Professional Development and Strategic Affairs** leads the Office of Continuous Professional Development, oversees continuing medical education programs, and assist with strategic planning in the SOM Columbia.

**Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education**

**Charles Carter, M.D.**

15 Medical Park, Suite 202, 803-434-4416

The **Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education** is responsible for coordinating graduate medical education programs in conjunction with Prisma Health.

**Associate Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education**

**Predrag Krajacic, M.D.**

Office of Undergraduate Medical Education, Building 3, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, DVAMC Campus, 803-216-3654

The **Associate Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education** is responsible for the SOM's education programs.

**Assistant Dean for Clinical Curriculum and Assessment**

**Brian Keisler, M.D.**

Building 3, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, DVAMC Campus 2803-16-3610

The **Assistant Dean for Clinical Curriculum and Assessment** is responsible for coordination of SOM educational activities related to the development and mastery of clinical knowledge and skills by medical students, for coordination of the SOM's clinical education program across SOM departments and campuses and for multiple objective and subjective assessment activities to ensure that students have achieved the learning objectives established for them by SOM faculty members, including course and clerkship directors.

**Assistant Dean for Pre-clerkship Curriculum  
Sandra Kelly, Ph.D. (Interim)**

The **Assistant Dean for Pre-clerkship Curriculum** is responsible for coordination of SOM educational activities related to the development and mastery of basic science knowledge by medical students and for coordination of the SOM's preclinical education program across SOM departments.

**Assistant Dean for Clinical Learning James Cook, M.D.**  
Building 3, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, DVAMC Campus, 803-216-3645

The **Assistant Dean for Clinical Learning** oversees clinical education in the first two years and serves as the director for the two-semester introduction to Clinical Medicine I (ICM-I) course.

**Associate Dean for Medical Student Education- Florence  
Alan G. Sechtin, M.D.**

Office of Medical Student Services  
200 West Evans Street, PO Box 6466, 843-665-3156

The **Associate Dean for Medical Student Education- Florence** is responsible for multiple educational components of the program, as well as various aspects of student life in the SOM program at Florence. The position reports to both the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education and to the Dean of the SOM.

**Associate Dean for Student Affairs/Director of the Office of Student Affairs and Career Advising  
Eric R. Williams, M.D.**

Building 3, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, DVAMC Campus, 803-216-3616

The **Associate Dean for Student Affairs/Director of the Office of Student and Career Services** is responsible for multiple aspects of student life in the SOM, including advisement of student organizations, financial aid, counseling, and referral of students with academic and nonacademic problems, career counseling, residency application, and insurance issues.

**Assistant Dean for Student Professional Development and Director of Educational  
Innovation  
Donna Ray, M.D.**

Building 3, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Room 129, DVAMC Campus, 803-216-3624

The **Assistant Dean for Student Professional Development and Director of Educational Innovation** oversees the general career advising program for SOM medical students and assesses the effectiveness of the career advising system.

**Assistant Director of Student and Career Services  
Jerel Arceneaux**

Building 3, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, DVAMC Campus, 803-216-3629

The **Assistant Director of Student and Career Services** assists the Director of Student and Career Services with various aspects of student life for students enrolled in SOM graduate programs and with financial aid.

**Director of Medical Student Health Service  
Mark E. Humphrey, M.D.**

Department of Family and Preventive Medicine Family Practice Center, 3209  
Colonial Drive, 803-434-6113

The **Director of the Medical Student Health Service** is responsible for the development and implementation of health policies for medical students and for assisting students who have been injured or exposed during the course of their medical education.

The SOM has written policies and procedures regarding injuries and exposures sustained by students during the course of their medical education. Personnel in the Student Health (Ms. Jennifer Evans (803) 216-3374) are available to answer questions from faculty members and students about these policies and procedures.

**Associate Dean for Academic Affairs**

**Joshua T. Thornhill IV, M.D.**

Building 3, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, DVAMC Campus, 803-216-3601

The **Associate Dean for Academic Affairs** is responsible for the development and assessment of academic programs including oversight of the Medical Library and the Office of Admissions and Enrollment Services. They serve as the Academic Program Liaison to the Provosts' Office, including oversight of academic program policies.

**Associate Dean for Admissions and Student Recruitment and Registrar**

**Robert Rhinehart, Ph.D.**

Building 3, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, DVAMC Campus, 803-216-3620

The **Associate Dean for Admissions and Student Recruitment and Registrar** oversees the SOM application and admissions process and is responsible for certification of enrollment and graduation for current students and alumni, for student records, and for clerkship and elective scheduling.

**Director of Medical Student Recruitment**

**James R. Stallworth, M.D.**

Department of Pediatrics, 14 Medical Park, Suite 400, 803-434-7945

The **Director of Medical Student Recruitment** assists the Associate Dean for Admissions and Student Recruitment with recruitment efforts for applicants to each year's entering class and with relationships with health professions advisors on undergraduate campuses in the state and region.

**Senior Assistant Dean for Education Projects and Executive Director, CQI**

**Bobby Miller, M.D.**

Building 3, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, DVAMC Campus, 803-216-3607

The Senior Assistant Dean for Education Projects and Executive Director, CQI will assist the Office of the Dean with targeted education projects as well as leading CQI projects within the SOM.

**Director for Educational Program Assessment**

**Travien Capers, Ph.D.**

Building 3, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, DVAMC Campus, 803-216-3609

The **Director for Program Assessment** is responsible for overseeing the SOM's educational program assessment and continuous quality improvement activities.

**Senior Assistant Dean for Student Success and Wellness**

**Falicia Harvey, Ph.D.**

Building 3, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, DVAMC Campus, 803-216-3610

The Senior **Assistant Dean for Student Success and Wellness** serves as the director for the Student Success and Wellness center and oversees student wellness activities in the SOM, as well as providing educational resources and assessment for students to reach their academic goals.

**Assistant Dean for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer**

**Lindsie Cone, M.D.**

Office of Information Technology, 1 Medical Park, Suite 330, 803-545-5100

The **Assistant Dean for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer** is responsible for the information technology infrastructure, systems, and applications that support the educational, research, and service goals of the School of Medicine.

**Assistant Dean for Finance and Administration**

**Derek Payne**

Building 3, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, DVAMC Campus/15 Medical Park, Suite 212, 803-216-3304/803-545-5229

The **Assistant Dean for Finance and Administration** is the Chief Financial Officer of the SOM, whose areas of responsibility include operational finance, business affairs and facilities.

**Director of Library Services**

**Roz McConnaughy, M.S. (Interim)**

Medical Library Building, DVAMC Campus, 803-216-3220

The **Director of Library Services** is responsible for overall direction, strategic planning, and evaluation of library programs, services, personnel, budget, and collections.

**Director of Legal Affairs**

**Craig R. Stanley, J.D.**

Office of Legal Affairs, 15 Medical Park, Suite 300, 803-545-5220

The **Director of Legal Affairs** is responsible for providing legal advice and counsel to the Dean and the clinical faculty and staff regarding activities of the SOM clinical departments and the SOM Educational Trust.

**Director of the SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare and Director of the Research Center for Transforming Health**

**Kevin Bennett, Ph.D.**

240 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 206, Columbia, SC 29210 803-545-6306\*

15 Medical Park, Suite 211, 803-545-5373\*\*

The **Director of the SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare\*** leads the team that accelerates the development of healthy rural communities through support of healthcare delivery, community, engagement, workforce support, and research.

The **Director of the Research Center for Transforming Health\*\*** advances translational research by leading a team that provides project management, education, training, and grant and project support.

**Director of the Cardiovascular Translational Research Center**  
**Clinton Webb, M.D.**  
Building 3, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room 260, DVAMC Campus 803-216-3905

The **Director of the Cardiovascular Translational Research Center** leads the interdisciplinary center which focuses on transformative and translational discoveries relevant to cardiovascular diseases.

**Senior Director of Development and Alumni Affairs**  
**Bryan Winters**  
Building 3, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, DVAMC Campus, 803-216-3314

The **Senior Director of Development and Alumni Affairs** oversees the offices that direct the offices overseeing development, alumni affairs, and communications for the SOM.

**SOM Ombudsperson – M-I and M-II Students**  
**Jay Potts, Ph.D.**  
Department of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience Building 1,  
DVAMC Campus, 803-216-3515

**SOM Ombudsperson – M-III and M-IV Students**  
**Jeanette Epstein, M.D.**  
Department of Pediatrics, 14 Medical Park, Suite 400  
716-903-3747

**SOM Ombudsperson – Florence**  
**Brittany Rainwater, Psy.D.**  
McLeod Family Medicine Center, 843-777-2826

The **SOM Ombudspersons** are empowered to receive and investigate reports of mistreatment in a completely confidential manner, to mediate between the parties involved, and, in the event mediation is not successful, to make recommendations directly to the Dean regarding appropriate resolution of any complaint.

### Department Chairs

**Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy**  
Edie Goldsmith, Ph.D. (Interim)

**Department of Family and Preventive Medicine**  
Jamee H. Steen, M.D.

**Department of Internal Medicine**  
Sharon B. Weissman, M.D.

**Department of Neurology**  
Souvik Sen, M.D.

**Department of Neuropsychiatry and Behavioral Science**  
Meera Narasimhan, M.D.

**Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology**  
Berry A. Campbell, M.D.

**Department of Orthopedic Surgery and Sports Medicine**  
Christopher G. Mazoue', M.D.

**Department of Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology**  
Mitzi Nagarkatti, Ph.D.

**Department of Pediatrics**  
R. Caughman Taylor, M.D.

**Department of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience**  
Marlene A. Wilson, Ph.D.

**Department of Radiology**  
Floyd E. Bell, III, M.D.

**Department of Surgery**  
Amy N. Hildreth, M.D.

Department chairs are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Dean. The chair has a responsibility to departmental faculty in matters relating to teaching and research and is also responsible to the Dean and other officers of the university for implementing university policies as they apply to the affairs of the department.

The department chair is responsible for the general conduct of departmental affairs and reports to the Dean. The chair is responsible for appointments and non-reappointments, promotions, and tenure, except as delegated to the faculty in *The Faculty Manual*, resource allocation, and all other matters relative to the successful implementation of the department's educational and scholarly objectives in accordance with university policies. The chair will consult with and seek the advice of appropriate committees of the faculty with respect to educational policy and departmental governance.

## COMMITTEES

**Authority.** Except as otherwise required by USC and/or LCME regulations and policies, SOM committees and subcommittees are advisory to the Dean and operate in accord with the policies and procedures contained in *The Faculty Manual*. The following committees are empowered with exclusive authority and are not advisory to the Dean:

- Student Academic Review Committee
- Curriculum Committee
- Admissions Committee
- The Basic Science, Clinical Science, and Library Units of the Tenure and Promotions Committees.

**Nomination/election process.** The Faculty Representation Committee is responsible for developing and administering the procedures for nomination and election of faculty members to SOM committee and subcommittee places designated for elected members. The Faculty Representation Committee also advises the Dean on the selection of faculty members for committee and subcommittee places designated for appointees. It is expected that each faculty member under consideration for nomination for an elected committee and subcommittee position will, prior to the election, discuss his/her nomination with the chair of his/her department.

**Voting privileges/Quorum/Chair Election.** Consistent with the policies and procedures of *The Faculty Manual* for operation of USC colleges, schools, and departments, all faculty, students, administrators, and non-faculty SOM staff members who are members of SOM committees and subcommittees, whether elected, appointed, or ex officio, are eligible to vote unless otherwise specified. Consultants and other individuals specifically identified as staff to committees and subcommittees are not eligible to vote on SOM committees and subcommittees. A quorum for all committees will consist of half the total of voting members plus one and a majority of those voting

must be faculty. Unless otherwise noted due to ex officio status or committee guidelines, the chair of each standing committee will be elected by the voting members for a two-year term. A chair may serve no more than two consecutive terms.

**Selection of student members.** In the spring semester, the Associate Dean for Student Affairs sends members of the M-I and M-III classes a memorandum to invite them to self-nominate for service on SOM committees and subcommittees for the next academic year. Each student may self-nominate for up to two committees, for which members of that class vote for those committee representatives, in addition to the Admissions Committee and/or Curriculum Committee, whose student members are selected through an interview process by the Offices of Admissions and Undergraduate Medical Education, respectively. To be eligible to serve on SOM committees and subcommittees, a student must be currently enrolled and in good academic standing. No student repeating an academic semester or year is eligible for service on SOM committees or subcommittees until the repeat semester/year has been completed successfully.

**Other USC and SOM committees.** The SOM committee structure does not relate to membership on other committees of USC, the SOM Educational Trust, the SOM-affiliated hospitals, or the SOM strategic planning process. The process of selection for membership on these committees is distinct from the selection process for faculty, administrative, and joint faculty/administrative committees.

**Minutes of committee and subcommittee meetings.** The chair of each committee and subcommittee will ensure that minutes of each meeting are kept and distributed to committee and subcommittee members and made available to the SOM faculty upon request.

**Service on SOM Committees and Subcommittees.** In the spring of each academic year, the Faculty Representation Committee distributes a memorandum to all SOM faculty in which faculty interest in service and participation on SOM committees and subcommittees for the next academic year (July 1-June 30) is solicited. After faculty members have expressed interest in elected and appointment positions on SOM committees and subcommittees, the Faculty Representation Committee supervises the nomination and election processes for vacancies for all elected positions on SOM committee and subcommittees. For appointed positions, the Faculty Representation Committee advises the Dean on selection of interested faculty members for vacancies. Prior to the beginning of the academic year, personnel in the Office of the Dean will publish a listing of membership on SOM committees and subcommittees, distribute this listing to department chairs, and post this listing on the SOM website:

[https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges\\_schools/medicine/internal/documents/2024\\_2025\\_committee\\_document\\_082024.pdf](https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/medicine/internal/documents/2024_2025_committee_document_082024.pdf)

**Descriptions and Charges of Key Committees and Subcommittees: (for a more detailed description of each committee, including membership please see the 2024-2025 Committee Membership document.**

[https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges\\_schools/medicine/internal/documents/2024\\_2025\\_committee\\_document\\_082024.pdf](https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/medicine/internal/documents/2024_2025_committee_document_082024.pdf)

I. Committees related to the University of South Carolina

Committees mandated by the University of South Carolina *Faculty Manual*

- A. **Basic Science Unit Tenure and Promotion Committee:** Responsible for formulating and updating specific criteria for the appointment, retention, promotion, and/or tenure of faculty members in SOM basic science departments. The committee also assesses candidates for appointment, retention, promotion, or tenure (as the case may be) and makes recommendations to the SOM Dean regarding the candidate faculty member based on the applicable established criteria.

Authority: The committee has the sole authority to formulate criteria for appointment, retention, promotion, and tenure of basic science faculty members and make candidate recommendations to the Dean, Provost and the University Committee on Tenure and Promotions.

Chair: The Chair of the Basic Science Unit Tenure and Promotion Committee shall be elected by the members of the committee for a two-year term.

Membership: All tenured faculty members in the SOM basic science departments.

- B. Clinical Unit Tenure and Promotion Committee:** Responsible for formulating and updating specific criteria for the appointment, retention, promotion, and/or tenure of faculty members in SOM clinical science departments. The committee also assesses candidates for appointment, retention, promotion, or tenure (as the case may be) and makes recommendations to the SOM Dean regarding the candidate faculty member based on the applicable established criteria.

Authority: The committee has the sole authority to formulate criteria and make candidate recommendations for appointment, retention, promotion, and tenure of clinical science department faculty to the Dean, Provost and the University Committee on Tenure and Promotions.

Chair: The Chair of the Clinical Unit Tenure and Promotion Committee shall be elected by the members of the committee for a two-year term.

Membership: All tenured faculty members in SOM clinical departments.

- C. Medical Library Unit Tenure Committee:** Responsible for formulating and updating specific criteria for the appointment, retention, promotion, and/or tenure of SOM medical librarians. The committee also assesses candidates for appointment, retention, promotion, or tenure (as the case may be) and makes recommendations to the SOM Dean regarding the candidate librarian based on the applicable established criteria.

Authority: The committee has the sole authority to formulate criteria and make candidate recommendations for appointment, retention, promotion, and tenure of SOM medical librarians to the Dean, Provost and the University Committee on Tenure and Promotions.

Membership: All tenured librarians in the SOM library.

II. Committees related directly to the Office of the Dean:

- A. Faculty Representation Committee:** Responsible for soliciting nominations, prescribing procedures for, and supervising all elections by the faculty of faculty members who have been nominated for committee and/or subcommittee electable positions to any such committees. The Faculty Representation Committee is also responsible for recommending faculty members for service as appointed members of committees to the Dean for any such appointable positions. Furthermore, the Faculty Representation Committee is responsible for resolving disputes and questions related to such faculty nomination and election processes and procedures if and when they arise.

Authority: solicits interest and nominations of faculty candidates for service on SOM committees and subcommittees. Administers elections for all electable faculty representation seats on such committees. Advises the Dean on the appointment of

faculty members to SOM and University committees; advises the Dean on the number and purpose of SOM committees and subcommittees; and clarifies, with elected and appointed committee chairs, the charges for each SOM committee and subcommittee; addresses with the Dean all matters referred to it by faculty members; and assists the Dean in obtaining faculty members' input into decision making. The members of the FRC elect 3 members (2 of whom must be from basic science departments) of this committee to represent the faculty on the Executive Committee and 3 members (2 of whom must be from basic science departments) to represent the faculty on the Student Promotions Committee.

Chair: The Chair of the Faculty Representation Committee shall be elected by the members of the committee for a two-year term.

Membership:

2 elected basic science faculty members  
2 elected clinical faculty members  
2 faculty members elected at large  
2 faculty members appointed by the Dean  
1 faculty member appointed by the Dean from the Florence Regional Campus  
Dean  
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs  
Senior Associate Dean for Research  
Representative from the Columbia VA Health Care System

- B. **Executive Committee:** Advises the Dean about administration of the SOM. The committee approves school-wide policies, oversees the CQI process and strategic plan for the SOM, and approves the Faculty Handbook.

Authority: Approves the Faculty Handbook of the SOM and advises the Dean on administrative and operational matters of importance to the SOM and the medical and/or graduate education programs.

The Chair of the Executive Committee shall be the Dean of the SOM.

Membership:

All department chairs  
1 member appointed from the Florence Regional Campus  
3 members elected from the Faculty Representation Committee  
1 Faculty Senator Representative (chosen by the faculty senators who represent the SOM in the University Faculty Senate)  
1 Staff Senate Representative  
All vice deans, associate and assistant deans  
Directors of: Cardiovascular Research Center, Educational Program Assessment, Human Resources, Employee Development and Special Projects, Legal Affairs, Alumni Engagement and External Affairs, Communications and Marketing, and Advancement  
Columbia VA Health Care System

1. **Culture and Climate Committee:** Duties: Assesses and monitors the overall culture and climate within the SOM and recommends organizational strategies, policies, and practices that will enable a diverse, welcoming, and supportive working/learning environment that embodies the SOM values and builds a culture of civility, professionalism, inclusion, and wellbeing. Reports through the SOMC Executive Committee. The Staff Council Subcommittee reports through the Culture and Climate Committee.

Authority: Advises the Executive Committee

Membership: See 2024-2025 Committee Membership Document

- C. **Basic Science Advisory Committee:** advises the Dean about issues related to the basic sciences in the SOM. Membership: See 2024-2025 Committee Membership Document
- D. **Biomedical Engineering Advisory Committee:** advises the Dean on issues related to biomedical engineering in the SOM. Membership: See 2024-2025 Committee Membership Document
- E. **Student Promotions Committee:** The Student Promotion Committee addresses allegations of student breaches in professional behavior that have been referred to them by the Honor Committee. The Student Promotions Committee in addressing allegations of misconduct and will ensure the due process rights of the individual in question.

Authority: The Student Promotions Committee will make decisions concerning the appropriate action and improvement for a student who has been found to have violated the Honor Code.

The Chair of the Student Promotion Committee shall be elected by the committee members for a two-year term.

Membership: All department chairs plus three faculty members elected from the membership of the Faculty Representation Committee

- F. **Honor Committee:** comprised of students and faculty this committee educates the students about the USC Honor Code.

Authority: Makes recommendations to the Promotions Committee regarding non-academic issues of professionalism and student behavior.

Membership: 18 medical and graduates students and two elected faculty advisors

- G. **Academic Review committee:** The Academic Review Committee reviews students who have not met academic standards and ultimately makes decisions regarding the students continued enrollment and/or academic progress in the SOM.

Authority: The committee is empowered with the authority to require a student to remediate coursework or be dismissed.

Chair: The Academic Review Committee will have co-chairs. The Associate Dean for Student Affairs will serve as one co-chair (ex officio). The other co-chair will be elected by the committee members and serve for one year.

Membership: three elected basic science faculty, three elected clinical faculty, three faculty appointed by the Dean upon recommendation of the Faculty Representation Committee.

- H. **Women in Science and Medicine Committee:** advises the Dean on issues related to women students, faculty, and staff of the SOM.

Membership: See 2024-2025 Committee Membership Document

- I. **Appointment and Promotion Committee for Professional-Track Basic Science Faculty:** evaluates the curriculum vitae and application materials for candidates requesting appointment at the Associate Professor or Professor level or promotion to the Associate Professor or Professor level and recommends to the Dean the appropriate faculty rank for the candidate.

Membership: See 2024-2025 Committee Membership Document

- J. **Appointment and Promotion Committee for Professional-Track Clinical Faculty:** evaluates the curriculum vitae and application materials for candidates requesting appointment at the Associate Professor or Professor level or promotion to the Associate Professor or Professor level and recommends to the Dean the appropriate faculty rank for the candidate.

Membership: See 2024-2025 Committee Membership Document

- K. **Conflict of Interest Committee:** addresses situations when outside financial interests may overlap or conflict with their activities at the USC SOM and manage compliance with University, SOM, and national policies regarding intellectual or financial conflicts of interest. The committee will provide oversight for recognizing the importance of the research and educational missions to the University and acknowledge that it is enhanced when members of the University community interact with other groups and organizations, including businesses, government entities, not-for-profit groups, professional societies, and other academic institutions, and reasonably address potential conflicts of interest.

Membership: See 2024-2025 Committee Membership Document

- III. Committees related to the Office of the Dean through the Offices of Undergraduate Medical Education, Academic Affairs (Offices of Admissions and Enrollment Service, Student Affairs and Career Advisement), and Office of the Research and Graduate Education.

Through Office of Undergraduate Medical Education:

- A. **MD Program Policy and Procedure Committee:** ensures that the content of policies governing the MD program meet University guidelines, LCME requirements for Element 4.6, and are aligned with the SOM's Strategic Plan. The purpose of the committee is to review and revise or approve policies submitted by administrative and other units of the MD program, in addition to developing policies and procedures for the MD program to ensure that all students, faculty, and staff are treated equitably, and expectations of behavior are clear.

Authority: The committee is advisory to the Dean in regard to policies that involve the MD program and makes recommendations to the Executive Committee concerning policies that involve other educational/research/clinical/administrative programs in the SOM.

Membership: See 2024-2025 Committee Membership Document

Through Office of Admissions and Enrollment Services:

- B. **Admissions Committee:** The Admission Committee holds the responsibility of applying the requirements for admission to the medical education program. This charge extends to students applying to any joint graduate/ MD program(s) that may exist. The Admission Committee will decide which of the candidates meeting these requirements will be admitted. All decisions made by the Committee are final. The Admission Committee is also responsible for evaluating applicants in alignment with the academic standards, mission, vision, and values of the SOM, and developing a wait list from which additional candidates are chosen to receive an offer of admission as positions become available. In cooperation with the Curriculum Committee, the Admissions Committee is also responsible for maintaining, updating the technical standards, and ensuring that the technical standards are properly disseminated to applicants at an appropriate time during the application process.

Authority: The Admissions Committee alone has the authority to admit, deny, and develop a waitlist for the admission of applicants to the medical education program.

Chair: The Associate Dean for Admissions and Student Recruitment serves as the chair of the Admissions Committee (ex officio).

Membership:

28 faculty members, students, alumni, and community representatives.

18 faculty members are elected for three-year terms and up to three community members/alumni/faculty appointed by the Dean upon recommendation of the Faculty Representation Committee for a one-year term.

Membership should be broad based and include clinical partner representatives and at least one representative from the Florence Regional Campus

Up to 7 medical students serving one- year terms, including at least one representative from the Florence Regional Campus

Ex-officio:

Associate Dean for Admissions and Student Recruitment and Registrar  
Director of Medical Student Recruitment

Through Office of Undergraduate Medical Education:

- C. **Curriculum Committee:** Responsible for the development of, oversight over, and the periodic review of the content, structure, and pedagogy of the curriculum leading to the MD degree, and for ensuring that students learn the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors necessary for the successful practice of medicine. The Curriculum Committee is also responsible for ensuring that the educational curriculum adheres to applicable accreditation requirements. Furthermore, in cooperation with the Admissions Committee, the Curriculum Committee is responsible for reviewing and updating the Technical Standards to ensure that the standards adequately reflect the physical and cognitive requirements of students necessary to properly participate in and complete all required curricular activities and satisfy applicable learning objectives.

Authority: The Curriculum Committee shall have the authority to determine policy, overall design, integration, management, evaluation, and enhancement on any matter

concerning the MD curriculum, in order to ensure a coherent and coordinated medical curriculum.

Chair: The Chair of the Curriculum Committee is elected by the members for a two-year term, the first year as Chair-Elect and then the second year as Chair. The Chair-Elect position is elected annually and alternates between a basic science and a clinical committee member.

Membership:

1 faculty member from each clinical department

2 faculty members from each basic science department

1 faculty member from the Florence Regional Campus

5 medical students with at least one representative from the Florence Regional Campus

1. Standing subcommittees:
  - a. **M-I/M-II Subcommittee:** is responsible for periodic review and update of all required M-I and M-II courses.
  - b. **M-III/M-IV Subcommittee:** is responsible for the periodic review and update of all required M-III and M-IV courses.
  - c. **Distributed Curricula Subcommittee:** is responsible for the periodic review and update of vertical curricula and for the integration of interdepartmental and interdisciplinary educational efforts.
  - d. **Assessment and Evaluation Subcommittee:** is responsible for serving as consultants for assessment projects, and otherwise serving as leaders to support a culture of assessment throughout the SOM; regularly reviewing SOM assessment policies and procedures and recommending improvements to the SOM Curriculum Committee; supporting SOM assessors with information and resources, including technology recommendations, to maintain and carry out assessment plans- this includes recommending or providing assistance in the development of specific assessments of student learning outcomes.
  - e. **Academic Standards Subcommittee:** is responsible for the maintenance of academic excellence in the SOM, establishes criteria for determination of satisfactory academic performance for promotion and graduation of medical students, and establishes consistent standards for methods of assessing quality, assigning grades, and correcting academic deficiencies of medical students.
    1. **Grade Change Subcommittee:** hears, assesses, and decides upon requests from faculty members and students for grade changes in courses, clerkships, and electives.

Through Office of the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education: For membership in each of these committees, see the 2024-2025 Committee Membership Document

- D. **Graduate Education Committee:** oversees all of the Graduate Programs in the SOM. Establishes policies and procedures for the graduate programs consistent with USC and SOM guidelines.
- E. **Biomedical Sciences Graduate Committee:** establishes policies and procedures for the Biomedical Science Graduate Program consistent with USC and SOM guidelines. Ensures that program requirements are met by departments, research focus groups, and students.
- F. **Integrated Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program Committee:** reviews applications for admissions to the Integrated Biomedical Sciences first-year program
- G. **Nurse Anesthesia Graduate Committee:** establishes policies and procedures for the Biomedical Science Graduate Nurse Anesthesia Program consistent with USC and SOM guidelines. Ensures that program requirements are met.
- H. **Nurse Anesthesia Program Admissions Committee:** evaluates applications, interviews potential candidates, and makes recommendations for admission to the Graduate Program in Nurse Anesthesia in accordance with University policy.
- I. **Nurse Anesthesia Curricular Review/Planning Committee:** evaluates, discusses, and makes recommendations regarding the didactic and clinical curriculum. It is a major component of the Continuous Self-Assessment Plan to determine purposeful change and needed improvement.
- J. **Rehabilitation Counseling Graduate Subcommittee:** establishes policies and procedures for the Biomedical Science Graduate Rehabilitation Counseling Program consistent with USC and SOM guidelines. Ensures that program requirements are met.
- K. **Genetic Counseling Graduate Subcommittee:** establishes policies and procedures for the Biomedical Science Graduate Genetic Counseling Program consistent with USC and SOM guidelines. Ensures that program requirements are met.
- L. **Physician Assistant Graduate Committee:** establishes policies and procedures for the Physician Assistant Program consistent with USC and SOM guidelines. Ensures that program requirements are met.
- M. **Physician Assistant Graduate Program Admissions Committee:** establishes policies and procedures for the Physician Assistant Program consistent with USC and SOM guidelines. Ensures that program requirements are met.
- N. **Physician Assistant Graduate Program Student Progress and Promotion Committee:** interviews and selects Physician Assistant Program applicants.

Through Office of Student and Career Advising: For membership in each of these committees, see the 2024-2025 Committee Membership Document

- O. **Leave of Absence Committee:** makes recommendations to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education regarding leaves of absence from the SOM for medical students.
- P. **Scholarship and Loan Committee:** awards all SOM scholarships and awards all long-term loans administered by the SOM.
- Q. **Student Services Committee:** makes recommendations to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs on ways to improve or implement services to students; selects recipients of annual SOM student awards; makes recommendations to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs and the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education regarding SOM student publications and the SOM *Bulletin*; hears appeals regarding student assignment to the Florence Regional Campus program on those occasions when students do not self-select.

IV. Committees related to the Office of the Dean through the Office of Administration and Finance:

- A. **Faculty Budget Committee:** serves in an advisory capacity to the school's financial and academic leaders regarding financial and budgetary issues. This committee will serve as a liaison between the unit administration and the faculty on matters pertaining to the SOMC budget, advocating for faculty priorities on matters of budget and budgetary policy, and providing a venue for discussing faculty questions and concerns about the SOMC budget and budgeting process. This committee will support the key role that chairs and directors play in the school's budget decision making.

Membership: See 2024-2025 Committee Membership Document.

V. Committees related to the health and safety of SOM faculty members, students, and staff members:

- A. **Wellness Promotion Committee:** coordinates and promotes wellness activities for SOM faculty, staff, and students.

Membership: See 2024-2025 Committee Membership Document.

VI. Committee related to the Office of the Dean through the Office of Access and Engagement:

- A. **Access and Engagement Committee:** plans and implements means of increasing the number of students from groups under-represented in the medical profession who are prepared for, recruited to, matriculate at, and graduate from the SOM, and who are committed to considering their residency training at Prisma Health; plans, implements, and supports efforts to increase the number of basic science and clinical faculty members from under-represented backgrounds.

Membership: See 2024-2025 Committee Membership Document.

VII. Committee related to the Office of the Dean through the Medical Library:

- A. **Library Committee:** advises Director of Library Services on policy matters, especially relating to the collection and staffing of the Medical Library.

Membership: See 2024-2025 Committee Membership Document

VIII. Committee related to the Office of the Dean through the Office of Information Technology:

- A. **Information Technology Committee:** advises the Assistant Dean for Information Technology on policy matters, especially relating to computer needs of students and faculty as they relate to educational programs and research activities and to the structure and function of the SOM computer network and communication systems.

Membership: See 2024-2025 Committee Membership Document

IX. Members of the Faculty Senate

- A. **Faculty Senate:** The Faculty Senate of the University of South Carolina, having been created by direction of the University Faculty to act by and for that body, is endowed with all the powers and authority of the University Faculty except for those powers specifically reserved by that body to itself, provided that the University Faculty may amend or repeal any general policy decisions adopted by the Faculty Senate

Membership: The Faculty Senate is composed of the voting members of the University Faculty chosen by each college or school or other academic units for membership in the Senate. 5 SOM tenure-track faculty members and 3 clinical (professional-track) faculty members are elected by their respective SOM faculty (tenure-track or professional-track) to serve three-year terms in the USC Faculty Senate.

For members see the 2024-2025 Committee Membership Document.

## SOM COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP RECUSAL POLICY

**Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to formally state those instances when committee members should recuse themselves from voting on actions specifically aimed at applicants and current students in the School of Medicine.

**Rationale:** While participation, particularly of faculty, on SOM committees is not only encouraged, but necessary for the SOM to function and conduct business; there are instances, specifically involving actions concerning applicants or current students, where the faculty member is expected to recuse his/herself from voting. This is necessary to protect the applicant/student from unfair bias in the process. While the list of committees and potential conflicts is not meant to be all inclusive, it is expected that committee members will exercise good judgement and will recuse themselves from the committee prior to the discussion of the applicant/student. A faculty member's recusal should be noted as part of the official minutes of the committee meeting.

### Academic Review Committee

- Close personal relationship with the student
- Current course/clerkship director of student
- Relative of student

### Admissions Committees

- Current or former close personal relationship with applicant
- Current professor of applicant
- Relative of applicant (unable to serve during the academic year that the relative is applying to medical school)

### Honor Committee

- Close personal relationship with the student
- Current course/clerkship director of student
- Relative of student

### Leave of Absence Committee

- Close personal relationship with the student
- Current course/clerkship director of student
- Relative of student

### Student Promotions Committee

- Close personal relationship with the student
- Current course/clerkship director of student
- Relative of student

### Student Services Committee

- Close personal relationship with the student
- Current course/clerkship director of student
- Relative of student

Endorsed by the Faculty Representation Committee – 5/29/15

Approved by the Executive Committee – 7/07/15

Additional guidelines concerning faculty recusals associated with financial and supervisory conflicts can be found in the Conflict of Interest Policy:

[https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges\\_schools/medicine/internal/additional\\_resources/index.php](https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/medicine/internal/additional_resources/index.php)

## CAMPUSES

**The Basic Science Campus.** The SOM basic science campus is located four miles from the main USC campus and adjacent to the DVAMC. The three basic science departments are located on this campus.

### **The Clinical Campuses.**

**Prisma Health Richland** is one of the largest acute-care facilities in South Carolina, Prisma Health Richland is a community teaching hospital that serves patients from every corner of the state. Boasting the region's only Level I emergency/trauma center, the Richland campus also includes the state's only freestanding heart hospital, the first children's hospital in South Carolina, and the region's only comprehensive stroke center. Prisma Health Richland is also the Midlands' hub of surgical excellence, offering robotic surgery and incision-free gamma knife radiosurgery in addition to hosting operating rooms for neurosurgery; heart surgery; and orthopedic, laparoscopic and ear/nose/throat procedures. Among the hospital's other world-class facilities and specialty services are a simulation center, breast center, cancer centers, women's services, a mental/behavioral health services network and an acclaimed research division that sponsors and conducts innumerable clinical trials. Through its affiliation with the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, Prisma Health Richland hosts residency and fellowship programs in a wide range of specialties and subspecialties. The hospital is the clinical home to residencies in dentistry, emergency medicine, family medicine, internal medicine, neurology, obstetrics/gynecology, ophthalmology, orthopedic surgery, pediatrics, plastic surgery, preventive medicine, psychiatry, and surgery. Fellowship programs include EMS, emergency medicine global health, primary care - ultrasound, family medicine global health, sports medicine, cardiology, endocrinology, geriatrics, infectious disease, pulmonary and critical care, hospice and palliative medicine, child and adolescent psychiatry, forensic psychiatry, geriatric psychiatry, and surgical critical care.

**The WJB Dorn VA Medical Center which is part of the Columbia VA Health Care System** is one of the most active VA Medical Centers in the South Carolina-Georgia region which includes Primary Care, Specialty Care, Mental Health, Acute, Medical, Surgical, Psychiatric, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Neurology, Oncology, Dentistry, Geriatrics and Extended Care. Community-Based Outpatient Clinics are located in Anderson, Greenville, Florence, Orangeburg, Spartanburg, Sumter and Rock Hill, SC. VA Administrative support is provided for the Florence National Cemetery in Florence, SC and Fort Jackson National Cemetery in Columbia, SC; the Vet Centers located in Greenville, SC and Columbia, SC; and the VA Regional Office, which is located on the west side of the Dorn VAMC campus. Dorn VAMC is one of the most active VA Medical Centers in the South Carolina-Georgia region.

Various clinical facilities of the **South Carolina Department of Mental Health** provide a diverse clinical experiences for medical students: G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital provides inpatient psychiatric and forensic treatment and evaluation services to adults; Morris Village, provides inpatient treatment for adults with alcoholism and drug abuse or addiction and addiction accompanied by psychiatric illness;

**McLeod Regional Medical Center** is located in Florence and serves the Pee Dee region of South Carolina. A Level II Trauma Center and one of four designated Perinatal Centers in the region; the facility includes a Heart and Vascular Center and one of the nation's largest hospital-based health and fitness centers.

**MUSC Health – Florence Medical Center** is located in Florence, SC. Home to the area's first accredited Chest Pain Center, the hospital provides comprehensive acute care, cancer care, cardiac care, emergency/trauma services, maternity care, and an array of specialized rehabilitation programs.

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

**Curriculum.** The SOM curriculum is organized in a traditional “2+2” model. The first two years of the medical education program emphasize basic science content and the correlation of basic science and clinical science materials; the second two years (M-III and M-IV) emphasize clinical content and experiences and the development and mastery of clinical skills. In 2018 the Curriculum Committee approved a change in the curriculum to focus on curricular innovation. These changes would begin in 2020 and include a reorganization of the M-I course work and the integration of the M-II course work by organ systems. Additional coursework has been developed in Health Systems Science, and Case-based Learning.

**Academic Policies.** Policies regarding the administration of the SOM academic program can be found here:

**Academic Assessment and Assessment of Personal and Professional Conduct.** Academic assessment of medical students includes an evaluation of their knowledge and skills that results in a letter grade in the course or clerkship and an evaluation of their attitudes and behavior, by means of the SOM Policy on Evaluation of Personal and Professional Conduct. Any student receiving an unsatisfactory assessment in Personal and Professional Conduct in a M-III or M-IV clerkship will receive an Incomplete grade for that clerkship until the Unsatisfactory grade has been remediated.

**Grading Policies.** The School utilizes A, B+, B, C+, C, D and F grades for all M-III clerkships. Pass/Fail grading is permitted for the M-III Intersession, M-IV Capstone Month, and all electives. Beginning with the Class of 2026 in the Fall of 2022 all M-I and M-II classes in the Fall of 2023 will be graded Pass/Fail. Information about specific SOM grading policies, including policies regarding grade changes, is available from the Director of Enrollment Services/Registrar.

In M-III clerkships, students are assessed by means of department-specific criteria, but all M-III clerkships must include National Board of Medical Examiner (NBME) subject examinations and Objective Structured Clinical Evaluations (OSCEs) as components of the final clerkship grade.

**Evaluation of Courses and Clerkships.** At the conclusion of each M-I and M-II course and every M-III and M-IV required clerkship, medical students anonymously complete a course or clerkship evaluation form developed by personnel in the Office of Educational Program Assessment. These forms are returned to the Office of Educational Program Assessment where data are collated and reported to the Office of Undergraduate Medical Education, the department chair, the course/block/clerkship director, and the members of the Curriculum Committee.

**Evaluation of Faculty Members.** During or at the conclusion of each M-I and M-II course, medical students complete an evaluation form developed by personnel in the Office of Educational Program Assessment for each faculty member who taught in that course or clerkship. Data from these forms are collated by personnel in the Office of Educational Program Assessment and reported to the Office of Undergraduate Medical Education, the department chair, the course, block or clerkship director, and the faculty member. Faculty teaching in M-III and M-IV clinical rotations are evaluated by department-specific evaluations.

**Technical Assistance with Teaching Activities.** Assistance with teaching activities in the M-I and M-II classrooms and other classrooms on the SOM basic science campus is readily available from Faculty Support Technicians in the Office of Information Technology (545-5100). They provide instruction on and support for the use of the computer and audiovisual equipment in these classrooms.

## RESEARCH

Research and scholarly activity constitute a significant responsibility of faculty members in an academic community. Faculty members' accomplishments in basic science, clinical, and/or educational research and

scholarly activity are assessed regularly in the annual faculty review process, in the promotion and tenure processes, and in the post-tenure review processes.

**USC Office of Sponsored Awards Management (SAM)** serves as the research administration offices for the University, and also has responsibility for certain pre-award and post-award functions. Specific functions of both pre-award and Contract and Grant Accounting (CGA) include the following:

- Reviewing and approving proposals to assure that they comply with both sponsor and University guidelines; that budgets are accurate and consistent, with clear and concise justifications; and that both direct and indirect costs are appropriately recovered.
- Negotiating and accepting grants and contracts on behalf of the University.
- Issuing subcontracts.
- Serving as the principal liaison between the University and its sponsors.
- Approving programmatic and budgetary changes to sponsored projects (including the establishment of new fund codes).

[https://www.sc.edu/about/offices\\_and\\_divisions/sponsored\\_awards\\_management/index.php](https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/sponsored_awards_management/index.php)

**The Office of Research Compliance (ORC)** coordinates the development and implementation of university policies and facilitates research integrity in the following areas: use of humans in research; laboratory animal welfare; use of biohazardous materials, including rDNA; and conflict of interest. ORC, working closely with Animal Resource Facilities (ARF) and Environmental Health and Safety (EHS), provides support to the Institutional Review Board, the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, and the Institutional Biosafety Committee. ORC also is responsible for maintaining the institution's federal assurance related to research misconduct and has responsibilities relating to export control policy, compliance, and education. All research compliance and IRB issues for the SOM are handled through main campus offices. Tommy Coggins (803-777-4456) is the Director of Research Compliance for USC, and Lisa Johnson (803-777-6670) is the IRB Manager.

[https://sc.edu/about/offices\\_and\\_divisions/research\\_compliance/](https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/research_compliance/)

**Research Involving Human Subjects.** In accordance with federal law, accepted ethical principles, University policy, and the University's federal wide assurance of compliance, filed with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, every USC investigator conducting human subject research, whether or not funded by a federal sponsor, must submit a proposed research plan to the University's Institutional Review Board (IRB) for review and approval. In addition, investigators who participate in human subject research must complete training in human subject research, and otherwise must comply with IRB policies and procedures. Research may not begin until the IRB has approved the research plan and all related consent documents. Further information and a full statement of applicable University policies and procedures are available on the Office of Research Compliance website at:

[https://sc.edu/about/offices\\_and\\_divisions/research\\_compliance/irb/index.php](https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/research_compliance/irb/index.php)

**Use of Animals in Research and Teaching.** The University of South Carolina recognizes that the use of laboratory animals for teaching and research is fundamental to advances in biology and medicine, and is a privilege regulated by a variety of agencies. The University endorses the Principles for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals of the National Institutes of Health; has implemented the recommendations of The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (2010); and is complying, and will continue to comply, with the Animal Welfare Act and other applicable statutes and regulations concerning the care and use of laboratory animals. Work with live vertebrate animals may not begin until approval by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) is obtained. Faculty members contemplating using live vertebrate animals in research, teaching, or testing should refer to the Animal Care website for complete information regarding applicable policies and procedures.

[https://sc.edu/about/offices\\_and\\_divisions/research\\_compliance/iacuc/index.php](https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/research_compliance/iacuc/index.php)

**Outside Professional Activities (Consulting/Conflict of Interest).** The University of South Carolina is committed to ensuring that the research, consultation, and other activities of faculty and non-faculty employees are conducted properly and consistently with the principles of openness, trust, and free

inquiry that are fundamental to the autonomy and well-being of a university and with the responsible management of the University's business. Toward that end and consistent with federal regulations, USC has formulated a policy and procedures to identify and address potential, actual, and apparent conflicts of commitment and conflicts of interest. The policy and procedures can be viewed at <http://www.sc.edu/policies/acaf150.html>. The fundamental premise of this policy (ACAF 1.50 – Outside Professional Activities) is that each member of the USC community has an obligation to act in the best interests of the University and must not let outside activities or outside financial interests interfere with that obligation. Financial

COI are handled by Tommy and Lisa. Conflicts of commitments are handled through the Provost's office, and if dealt with ahead of time, should result in a written management plan.

COI that comes in through USCeRA for individual research projects are reviewed initially by Tommy and Lisa. If they are financial in nature and need further review, they are then forwarded on to the COI Committee. This committee determines if it is a conflict, and if so, a plan for how to manage it is developed.

**Use of Recombinant DNA and Biohazardous Materials.** The University of South Carolina (USC) utilizes various recombinant DNA molecules (rDNA) in scientific research. All projects involving recombinant DNA techniques must comply with the *NIH Guidelines*. The *NIH Guidelines* require the university to establish an Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) whose responsibilities need not be restricted to recombinant DNA. The scope of USC's Institutional Biosafety Committee has been expanded to review all research and educational activities involving the use of potentially infectious materials. Each Principal Investigator will be notified of the results of the IBC review and approval. IBC policies and procedures can be viewed at:

[https://sc.edu/about/offices\\_and\\_divisions/research\\_compliance/ibc/index.php](https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/research_compliance/ibc/index.php)

As part of the **Office of Economic Engagement, USC's Technology Commercialization Office** works with business and entrepreneurial interests to leverage the intellectual property owned by USC for the benefit of the University, its faculty, the public, and the state of South Carolina. Resource specialties include identifying, protecting, licensing, transferring, marketing, and commercializing the University's intellectual property.

#### ***Institutional Policies Related to Sponsored Research:***

Data Access and Retention	<a href="#">RSCH 1.05</a>
Debarment/Suspension Federally Sponsored Projects	<a href="#">RSCH 1.01</a>
Research and Human Subjects	<a href="#">RSCH 1.03</a>
Intellectual Property Policy	<a href="#">ACAF 1.33</a>
Care and Use of Laboratory Animals	<a href="#">RSCH 5.03</a>
Misconduct in Research	<a href="#">RSCH 1.00</a>
Outside Professional Activities for Faculty	<a href="#">ACAF 1.50</a>
Sponsored Programs Through USC Foundations	<a href="#">RSCH 1.02</a>
Research or Time Limited Positions	<a href="#">HR 1.85</a>

## **CLINICAL SERVICES**

Prior to 2017, the clinical services of the School of Medicine were managed through the USC SOM Educational Trust. In 2017, the Palmetto Health-USC Medical Group assumed operational control and billing responsibility for the clinical services. In early 2020, following the establishment of Prisma Health, the medical practice plan was renamed as the Prisma Health Medical Group – Midlands. The USC SOM

Educational Trust will remain as a vehicle for retirement and payroll for USC SOM faculty who will be leased to the new group.

**HIPAA & Privacy Office.** It is the policy of the USC SOM to protect the privacy of patients' medical information. All medical students, staff, and SOM faculty are expected to complete the required HIPAA privacy training associated with the clinical systems with which they are affiliated. The USC SOM HIPAA & privacy office is comprised of the attorney for the SOM Educational Trust and its Chief Information Office. The office may be reached at 545-5219 and 545-5100 respectively.

## USC AND SOM PUBLICATIONS

Various USC and SOM publications can be valuable to faculty members in the course of their academic, research, and clinical activities. Student Handbooks can be accessed through the SOM website at: [https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges\\_schools/medicine/internal/forms\\_documents/index.php](https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/medicine/internal/forms_documents/index.php).

*The Faculty Manual*, published by the USC Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, is available at: [http://www.sc.edu/policies/facman/Faculty\\_Manual\\_Columbia.pdf](http://www.sc.edu/policies/facman/Faculty_Manual_Columbia.pdf)

All university policies are housed in the USC Policies and Procedures Manual, maintained by the Office of the Provost. The policies, which are displayed in their entirety and in their most current version, may be viewed by subject or administrative division or searched by keyword. The university reserves the right to change these policies and procedures without notice.

[https://sc.edu/about/offices\\_and\\_divisions/provost/policiesandprocedures/universitypolicies/policies\\_and\\_procedures\\_manual/index.php](https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/provost/policiesandprocedures/universitypolicies/policies_and_procedures_manual/index.php)

The SOM *Student Handbook to Clinical Rotations*, published by the SOM Office of Undergraduate Medical Education, contains information for students in clinical rotations at SOM-affiliated hospitals in Columbia and Florence.

[https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges\\_schools/medicine/internal/documents/23\\_24\\_student\\_handbook\\_to\\_clinical\\_rotations.pdf](https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/medicine/internal/documents/23_24_student_handbook_to_clinical_rotations.pdf)

The SOM *Fourth-Year Electives* catalog, published by the Office of Admissions and Enrollment Services, and available on OASIS it contains a listing of all M-IV electives available to enrolled students in the SOM. The *Financial Opportunities for Medical School* brochure, published by the Office of Student Affairs and Career Advising, contains information about financial planning and a listing of available loan and scholarship opportunities.

The *School of Medicine Bulletin*, published annually by the University, contains both general and detailed information about the SOM <https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/medicine/school-medicine-columbia/>

## STUDENTS

**Enrollment.** The SOM enrolls approximately 100 new medical students each August. In addition, there are approximately 334 graduate students enrolled annually in the SOM: in the Master's program in Genetic Counseling, Master's program in Physician Assistant Studies, Master's program in Rehabilitation Counseling, Doctoral program in Nurse Anesthesia, Master's program in Biomedical Science, Doctor of Philosophy program in Biomedical Science, and in the and the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Certificate Program.

**Courses and Clerkships.** Basic science courses are taught in the first two years of the medical education program primarily on the SOM basic science campus. Clinical clerkships in the third and fourth years can be completed on the Columbia campus or the Florence Regional campus.

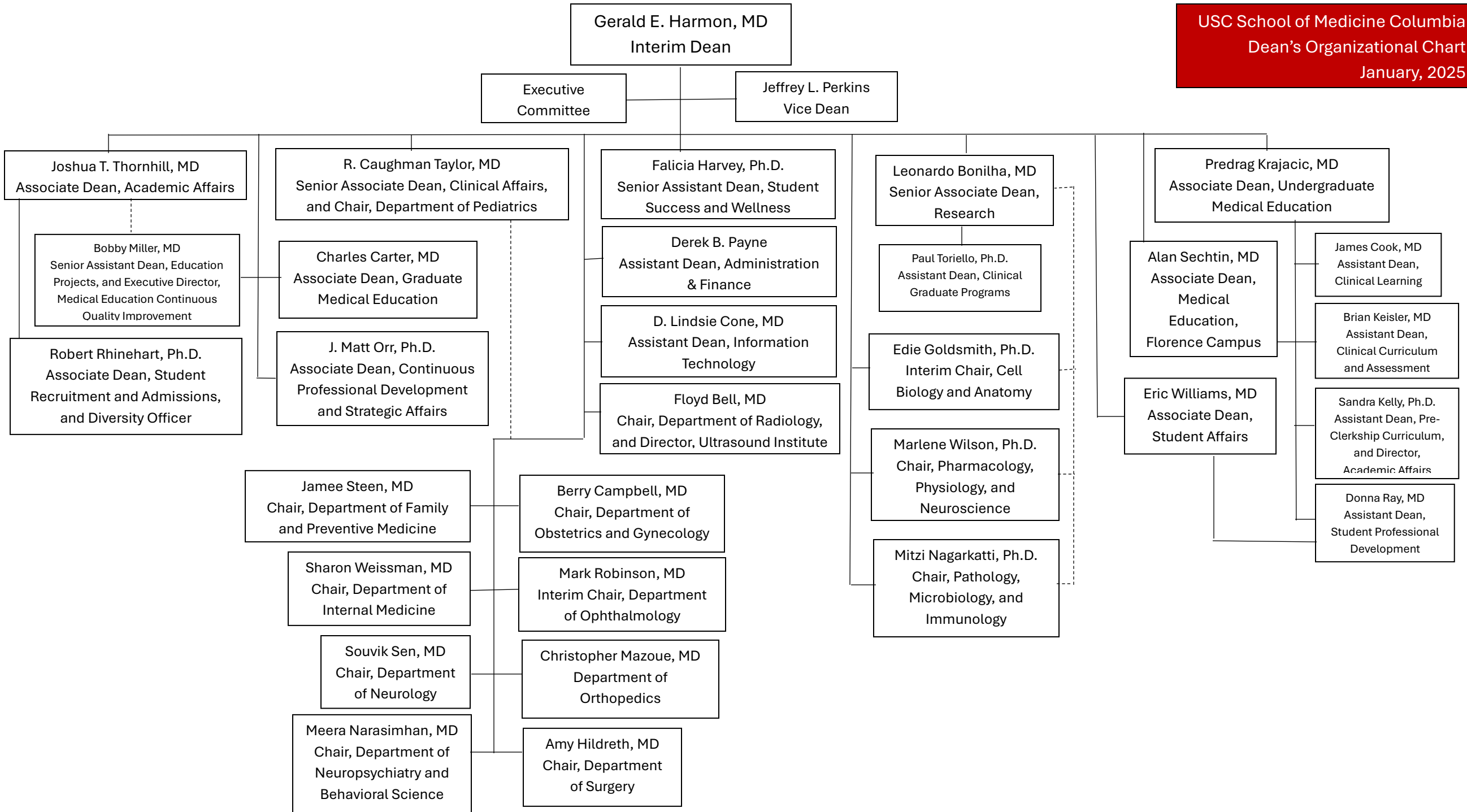
**Admission.** As a state-supported institution, preference for admission to the M.D. program is given to residents of the state of South Carolina. Approximately 75 percent of enrolled medical students are residents of South Carolina; the remaining students generally have close ties to the state of South Carolina through family, marriage, employment, and/or education. Each year admitted students represent approximately 25 undergraduate institutions in South Carolina, the Southeast, and the nation. Since its Charter Class in 1977, the SOM has admitted students from each of its 46 counties.

**Student Health.** Students are required to document annually coverage by a medical insurance policy. Students are also required to purchase an approved disability insurance policy at the beginning of each academic year. The SOM purchases Workers Compensation Insurance annually for all enrolled medical students. Information about other student health policies (i.e., Policy on Contagious Infections and/or Diseases, Policy on Chemical Dependency) is contained here:

[https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges\\_schools/medicine/internal/students/md\\_program/md\\_policies\\_and\\_procedures/index.php](https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/medicine/internal/students/md_program/md_policies_and_procedures/index.php)

The SOM has written policies and procedures regarding injuries and exposures sustained by students during the course of their medical education. Personnel in the Medical Student Health Service (Jennifer Evans, SOM Nurse) are available to answer questions from faculty members and students about these policies and procedures.

**Medical Student Advisory Systems.** Faculty members are recruited by the Office of Student Affairs and Career Advisement from all SOM departments to serve as general advisors to each medical student. Aligned with the Careers in Medicine program of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), advisors meet with students each semester to discuss progress through the medical curriculum and coach students in career exploration. Building relationships and assisting students to build a well-rounded portfolio of experiences relevant to future career choices is the goal of the advisory programs. When a student is ready to explore or select their specialty choice, our general advisors help students connect with specialty advisors for selection of electives and furthering readiness for residency application.



# Undergraduate Medical Education

