The Division of Student Affairs and Department of Academic Support fosters a community of Carolinians guided by integrity, engaged in collaboration, and committed to the success of one another. Student Affairs and Academic Support offer programs and services that produce academic achievement, promote personal development, and encourage engagement, curiosity, integrity, purpose, community, collaboration, and well-being. The unit comprises more than 40 departments, including those devoted to undergraduate admissions and student retention, student development and university housing, and student life.

Carolinian Creed
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.

Quick Facts
Hallmarks
Gamecock Guarantee, a need-based financial aid and academic support program, makes a University of South Carolina education more affordable and accessible to S.C. residents. The program promises that each eligible student’s tuition and technology fee will be covered for up to four years if the student meets the program’s academic, financial, and participation criteria.

Priorities
- Increase the financial support available to students of merit and of need.
- Provide opportunities for learning beyond the classroom, including study abroad and living/learning residential communities.
- Build on the national reputation of our first-year experience programs and expand the services of the student success initiatives so that every Carolinian is given the assistance needed to achieve his or her academic potential and personal goals.

Partnerships
- The Division of Student Affairs is involved with every academic and administrative unit on the Columbia campus.
- The division partners with community constituents in order to provide outlets for student development. Partnerships with established national and community organizations and local schools supply students with endless opportunities to serve the community and gather valuable experiences in leadership.

For the sixth consecutive year, U.S. News & World Report has recognized the University of South Carolina for its outstanding programs for first-year students. University 101, the University’s freshman seminar, is cited in the magazine’s “Programs to Look For” category.

About 2,400 undergraduate students live in 15 special living and learning communities on campus. One of these, the Green Learning Community, is housed in (West) Green Quad, the 500-bed “green dorm” that was the largest residence-hall complex of its kind in the world when it opened in 2004.

Healthy Carolina is a major campus-wide initiative to improve the well-being of students, faculty, and staff by making healthy choices simple. Healthy Carolina promotes healthy behaviors to enhance student learning; improve the recruitment, retention, and productivity of faculty and staff; and act as a catalyst for health research. By focusing on the three major areas of nutrition, physical activity, and tobacco cessation, Healthy Carolina encourages all Carolinians to follow President Pastides’ example of a healthy lifestyle.

The University’s study abroad office is busier than ever as a record number of students are participating in study-abroad and exchange programs in 35 countries spanning six continents. In the 2007–2008 academic year, more than 800 students studied, interned, volunteered, or conducted research abroad, a 13.6 percent increase from the previous year’s participation rate.