Coastal Carolina University is on the rise. The energy is palpable. Intense work in every area of campus is underway with a strong emphasis on one overarching theme—ensuring that students experience a learning environment at CCU that prepares them for global citizenship.

Coastal’s learning environment encompasses the myriad experiences our students gain inside and outside classroom walls. Students engage by helping a small-business owner in the community; they get their hands dirty transplanting endangered plants; they spend time working with the homeless population; they reach far beyond what they imagined their university experience could be.

In order to create the best possible experience for our students, CCU’s strategic plan has been updated, concentrating on six key areas: academic and instructional quality; student excellence; an engaged staff and faculty; accessibility inclusion and diversity; the CCU story (communication); and financial stability and infrastructure.

An 18-member steering committee was formed nearly two years ago, and the planning process involved 69 task force members, 284 alumni, 389 students, 22 focus groups of faculty and staff, and 15 administrators. The Student Government Association, the Staff Advisory Committee and the Faculty Senate approved the plan prior to the Board of Trustees’ final authorization in August 2016.

Each strategic area identifies measurable goals and actions with timelines. In the area of staff and faculty engagement, we are well on our way. We encourage faculty and staff to share their knowledge with appropriate community groups. This helps others gain a better understanding of the broad expertise our people bring to the area and, ultimately, it enhances the community that has been so good to us.

Diversity and inclusion are major focal points as we move forward, including adding the position of a chief diversity and inclusion officer. This campus leader will work with students of all different backgrounds and perspectives to help ensure that CCU has a learning environment that is characterized by understanding and respect.

This strategic plan also addresses communication—telling the CCU story. We have great stories to relate about the achievements of our students, faculty, staff and alumni. I believe that positive and effective communication creates an atmosphere in which people feel free to speak their minds.

CCU’s 2016-2021 strategic plan is a living, breathing document and does not sit on a shelf. It guides every plan we make, every policy we create and every motion we take to our Board of Trustees. We will study the benchmarks we do not reach, and we will celebrate the accomplishments we achieve.

I am confident that this strategic plan will promote Coastal Carolina’s core institutional values: tradition, integrity and excellence.

David A. DeCenzo, President
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On the cover: Growing Up Coastal (see Page 10)
Sophia Johns, daughter of Chuck ’04 and Judy Johns ’05

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A group of 36 education majors at CCU is in training to become teacher-leaders through the state Teaching Fellows program. The prestigious program recruits talented students into the teaching profession and helps them develop leadership qualities.

“Teaching Fellows at CCU are held to a very high standard,” says Amanda Darden, director of the program in CCU’s Spadoni College of Education. The college began participating in the program two years ago and now has 21 freshmen and 15 sophomores enrolled.

The fellows receive a $6,000 annual scholarship ($24,000 over four years) funded by the South Carolina General Assembly. Each fellow is paired with a public school teacher for a mentor relationship that entails spending two hours every week in the mentor’s classroom and participating in a series of professional development seminars.

“By working with my mentor-teacher at Homewood Elementary, Sandy Norris, I am able to see what it is like in the classroom from the teacher’s point of view,” says Alex Del Castillo, a junior math major and communication minor from Myrtle Beach. “I am able to understand the struggles that a teacher must face.”

The overall goal of the program is to develop teachers who will have the skills and the background to become leaders in their communities, according to Darden. Fellows are required to teach in South Carolina public schools upon graduation for each year they receive the fellowship. Homewood Elementary School has been an important partner in the success of the program, as well as Carolina Forest Elementary. The program will expand to other local schools in the future.

The professional development component of the program includes seminars, conferences and “Hill Day,” a senior-year visit to the state capitol to meet with education leaders. An international opportunity is being planned as part of the fellows’ junior year experience.

“Through the seminars and field experiences, I have been given the tools to be an effective educator in the future,” says Zakira Felder, a sophomore special education major from Gresham, S.C.

The fellows are recruited during their senior year of high school through a competitive interview process involving the S.C. Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention & Advancement (CERRA). The prospective fellows give their top three choices of the South Carolina colleges and universities they prefer to attend. For the 2016-2017 academic year, 868 students applied for 200 openings. CCU is allowed to accept up to 25 students a year. Eleven higher education institutions in the state participate in the Teaching Fellows program.

According to Darden, about half of the CCU fellows are from Horry County, and three fellows from other S.C. universities have transferred into CCU’s program. Upon graduating, teaching fellows are highly sought after by state school districts.

“Teaching Fellows get real experience in the classroom so much earlier than traditional education majors do,” says Bailey Lewis, a sophomore early education major from Rock Hill, S.C. “The program is definitely preparing me for a future in education by giving me plenty of opportunities I would not have otherwise had, which will help me be the best teacher possible.”

Teaching Fellows receive a $6,000 annual scholarship ($24,000 over four years), funded by the South Carolina General Assembly.
Forty-two Coastal Carolina University students volunteered to help count the local homeless population for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Point-In-Time (PIT) count, taken every year in January, helps to identify needs and allocate federal resources.

The students, mostly from CCU’s social inequality and race and ethnicity classes, visited 12 different shelters and places where the homeless gather, according to Stephanie Southworth, lecturer of sociology at CCU, who is also HUD’s county coordinator for Horry County.

“Every county in the state conducts a PIT count,” said Southworth. “In addition to participating in the count, the students also spent time volunteering in the shelters this semester. The more homeless we count, the more resources HUD will provide. In the past, the homeless have been vastly undercounted. Hopefully, with all the student volunteers, we will have an accurate count this year.”

Public awareness and volunteer participation are crucial for a successful outcome. Volunteers are essential to locate the homeless who have not been counted by outreach workers and homeless organizations.

ECHO is the regional nonprofit program that assists the homeless with resources such as housing. It covers 12 counties: Horry, Sumter, Florence, Georgetown, Chesterfield, Marlboro, Darlington, Clarendon, Dillon, Lee, Williamsburg and Marion.

CCU’s Swain Scholars are also working on a homelessness project with the Athenaeum Press.

Coastal Carolina University President David A. DeCenzo has formed an ad-hoc committee to research opportunities for improving student and pedestrian safety in the S.C. 544 area of the campus community. The group includes representatives from CCU’s Department of Public Safety, University Counsel, Campus Life and Student Engagement, Student Rights and Responsibilities, and the Student Government Association.

“This committee is charged with critically important work, founded on the primary goal of providing a safe campus for students,” said DeCenzo, who began the process by meeting with Mike Wooten, chairman of the South Carolina Transportation Commission. Wooten committed to working with the University to determine options and develop additional safety measures.

“Hopefully, we will be able to identify some structural and nonstructural elements that will discourage students from taking unnecessary risks and, at the same time, alert drivers to the danger associated with pedestrian traffic on Highway 544 near the CCU campus,” said Wooten. The committee met with S.C. DOT engineers in February.

University administration began conversations four years ago with county and state officials to address concerns regarding student pedestrian traffic across S.C. 544 as more residential facilities (both private- and University-owned) on the highway have been constructed. A crosswalk and traffic light were installed at the Founders Drive entrance to campus on S.C. 544 in 2013, and shuttle service to and from the campus residence facilities on S.C. 544 has been modified to better suit student schedules.

These measures are part of an overall strategy to make the campus more pedestrian-friendly and safer for students, in accordance with the University’s Campus Master Plan. During the two years since CCU acquired University Boulevard, the University has constructed four crosswalks and lowered the speed limit from 40 mph to 30 mph on that roadway. Vehicular traffic has been restricted on a foot-traffic heavy section of Chanticleer Drive, improving safety for students accessing the academic center of campus from the on-campus residence halls. As parking areas continue to be relocated to the perimeter of campus, additional crosswalks, sidewalks and bike lanes have been added.
One student and two professors recently received Fulbright awards.

- Peter Seifarth, a senior theatre arts major from Young Harris, Ga., is the first CCU student to receive a Fulbright U.S. Student Program Study/Research Grant. During the 2017-2018 academic year, he will conduct research in Kathmandu, Nepal, on new and effective Nepali forms of sociopolitical physical theater.

- Var Limpasuvan, Kearns Palmetto Professor of applied physics and coastal and marine systems science, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to conduct research in Norway on the atmospheric tidal behaviors under conditions of major stratospheric sudden warming (SSW).

- Maggi Morehouse, the Burroughs Distinguished Professor of Southern History and Cultures, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar Research/Teaching Fulbright Award to teach and tutor in the United Kingdom on African American topics at the University of Nottingham in 2018. Her research project focuses on the attitudes of British African Americans toward Brexit.

Over the last seven years, seven CCU professors have received Fulbright Awards to work in Austria, Turkey, Czech Republic, Madagascar, Norway, Nepal and the United Kingdom, according to Darla Domke-Damonte, associate provost for global initiatives at CCU.

CCU students set up botanic bank for rare plants

Guided by biology professor Jim Luken, the students have been working on an independent study project involving the rescue and relocation of carnivorous plants to a new botanic bank at the Horry County Solid Waste Authority (HCSWA).

The purpose of the project is to save those rare plants that would otherwise be destroyed by development and relocate them to a safe site where they can flourish. The botanic bank, a two-acre tract of land provided by the HCSWA, is located near the recycle facility on Environmental Way off S.C. 90. All carnivorous plants tend to be relatively rare due to the unique type of habitats they require in order to grow: wet, open, nutrient poor and subject to frequent fire, according to Luken.

Green pitcher plant (Sarracenia oreophila), Sundew (Drosera), Venus flytrap (Dionaea muscipula) and Wild orchid (Orchidaceae) are some of the plants that are threatened by the paving project.

After he graduates this semester, Wimberley, who is from Durham, N.C., plans to pursue a career in environmental consulting, conducting wetland delineations, plant inventory and other environmental tasks. Flo, who is from Conway, plans to apply for the Master of Arts in Teaching program at CCU, hoping to teach high school biology.
CCU delegation takes top honors at student legislature competition

Coastal Carolina University’s student team to the 2016 South Carolina Student Legislature (SCSL) was named the best large delegation at the annual competition in Columbia, beating out Clemson University and the College of Charleston. Other higher education institutions that sent delegations were Charleston Southern, Erskine, Bob Jones, Winthrop and the Citadel.

Brooke Morris, a senior political science major from Georgetown, S.C., brought home the Best Legislation Award, which recognizes legislation that employs thorough research, topicality and excellent use of language. Taylor Repp, a junior from Myrtle Beach, was elected Speaker of the House and a member of the executive committee of the Student Legislature.

Other students wrote bills on topics such as establishing a state-operated insurance program for farmers to protect against natural disasters, creating an animal cruelty registry, reforming the education system and other public safety measures.

In addition to Morris and Repp, students who attended the legislature included Benjamin Anderson, Shadda Corwin, Phillip Davis, Alexis DiMarzo, Ates Emiroglu, D’Jenique Inge, Ariel Lasher, Austin Nichols, Jonathan Pacheco-Arriaga, Dallina Vera, ArRone Washington and Charles Williams.

Three Coastal Carolina University students were in Washington, D.C., recently for the 21st annual Posters on the Hill, a distinguished annual undergraduate research competition. What made the event even more auspicious for our students is that CCU was the only university in the state to be invited to the event this year.

Kerry Dittmeier, Emma Kroger and Nancy Phillips, all CCU Swain Scholars, are conducting a research project on public perceptions about people who are homeless. Their research compares public opinion findings with real data collected through firsthand interviews.

“We were all excited to have been accepted to this prestigious event,” said Dittmeier. “It was a unique opportunity to represent CCU as we presented our research on homelessness to congressional members and our representatives.”

Dittmeier is a senior public health major with special interest in underserved populations, global health and health policy. She hopes to pursue her master’s degree and Ph.D. in global health after graduating from Coastal. Kroger is a senior exercise and sports science major pursuing a career in occupational therapy. Phillips is a biology major with a specialization in cell, genetic and molecular biology.

The mission of CCU’s Swain Scholars program is to partner with community agencies in researching health-related issues and implement community health programs. Sharon Thompson, professor of public health at CCU, is coordinator of the program.

CCU was invited to present at Posters on the Hill in 2000 (Jessica Haussman, marine science), 2007 (James Perkins, computer science), 2012 (Olga Tweedy, marine science) and 2013 (Marcello Garofalo, graphic design, and Brandon Rudolph, interdisciplinary studies).
Coastal Carolina University’s Office of Counseling Services was recognized for its outstanding programming and students at the national 2016 BACCHUS General Assembly.

BACCHUS is an initiative of the Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, which supports collegiate peer educators and advisers by empowering students and student affairs administrators to create campus environments that are healthy and safe.

Chris Donevant-Haines, assistant director of counseling services at CCU, was nominated for Advisor of the Year, and Kelsie Miller, a senior psychology major from Chambersburg, Pa., was named Peer Educator of the Year. The Students Helping Others Reach Excellence (SHORE) organization, which acts to raise awareness about suicide prevention, was nominated for Peer Educator Group of the Year, and its spring event “Out of the Darkness Walk to Fight Suicide” was nominated as Program of the Year.

The SHORE group organizes outreach events each semester. “Out of the Darkness Walk to Fight Suicide” raised more than $6,000 that was donated to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

For the past 10 years, Shaowu Bao has spent most of his working life studying hurricanes, but he never experienced one up close until Hurricane Matthew visited the South Carolina coast last October.

When Bao and his fellow scientists on CCU’s Hurricane Genesis & Outlook (HUGO) team predicted back in June that the 2016 Atlantic hurricane season would produce one hurricane that would make landfall on the Gulf Coast and one on the U.S. East Coast, he had no idea that one of them would wind up in his own backyard.

But when he looked out of his kitchen window on Oct. 8 and watched the wind uproot a tree, the meaning and importance of his career were driven home to him as never before.

“I have always been aware that our work is useful and that it helps the community,” said Bao, “but in this case, the community was mine. It definitely makes it all more real.”

Bao, a computational, deterministic numerical modeler specializing in meteorology and oceanography, is a key member of the distinguished team of scholars assembled by veteran climatology scientist Len Petrafesa and Paul Gayes, longtime director of CCU’s Burroughs & Chapin Center for Marine and Wetland Studies. The other members are Tingzhuan Yan, a meteorological oceanographer with a background in statistical modeling of climate and weather systems; and Mansur Ali Jisan, a CCU student earning a master’s degree in coastal marine and wetland studies.

Even though they had to deal with some downed trees, damaged roofs and missing shingles from Matthew, they all felt a sense of triumph in having produced a forecast product that was right on the money—more accurate, in fact, than those of many other respected organizations and institutions.

The team’s updated outlook in June proved to be correct in nearly every major category, as the adjacent graph indicates.
“The HUGO forecast aced the 2016 season,” said Pietrafesa, senior research professor in CCU’s School of the Coastal Environment and a former chair of the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Advisory Board. “CCU was the only forecast organization to correctly predict one landfall in the Gulf of Mexico and one landfall on the Eastern Atlantic seaboard, and the other HUGO forecast predictors were highly accurate.”

Hurricane Hermine made landfall as a Category 1 hurricane on the Florida Panhandle’s gulf coast on Sept. 2, 2016. Hurricane Matthew made landfall on the U.S. East Coast as a Category 1 hurricane near McClellanville, S.C., on Oct. 8.

The HUGO team worked tirelessly before and during Matthew. Ali Jisan kept the CCU model system running every six hours from Oct. 3 through Oct. 10. Bao, Pietrafesa and Gayes were on multiple conference calls with S.C. State Guard Major Marguirete McClam. CCU Outreach Specialist Deb Stirling helped advise the State Guard on the incoming wind and precipitation forecasts. CCU President David DeCenzo and computer science professor Mike Murphy were able to keep the CCU computational platform up and running until Matthew finally struck.

Paul Gayes, who has led the Burroughs & Chapin Center for Marine and Wetland Studies since 1989, says that this remarkable achievement by the HUGO team fits into a broad framework of research the center is conducting.

The HUGO team’s forecast for the 2015 Atlantic hurricane season was also highly accurate. The 2015 outlook correctly forecast a most likely scenario that no hurricanes would make landfall on either the East or Gulf coasts. It also accurately forecast the number of hurricanes at four for 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>April Outlook</th>
<th>June Outlook</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TS</td>
<td>13 (11-15)</td>
<td>14 (12-19)</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH</td>
<td>7 (6-10)</td>
<td>8 (6-11)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MH</td>
<td>3 (2-5)</td>
<td>3 (3-6)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECLF</td>
<td>0.67 (0-2)</td>
<td>0.80 (0-2)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GMLF</td>
<td>1.19 (0-2)</td>
<td>1.08 (0-2)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Legend:**
- **TS** = named storms per season
- **NH** = number of hurricanes
- **MH** = major hurricanes (category 3 or higher)
- **ECLF** = number of landfall hurricanes on the U.S. East Coast
- **GCLF** = number of landfall hurricanes along the U.S. Gulf Coast

The numbers in parentheses represent the range of probability. The number of landfalls is given as a probability in order of decreasing likelihood in three stages.

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**CCU online programs get high ranking**

Coastal Carolina University was named one of the Best Online Colleges in South Carolina for 2016-2017 by Affordable Colleges Online (ACO), a resource for online learning and college affordability information.

“This recognition from ACO is a wonderful acknowledgment of all the hard work and dedication put forth by our faculty and the staff who support our online learning initiative on the CCU campus,” said Sherri Restauri, director of the Coastal Office of Online Learning (COOL).

CCU ranked No. 3 on the list, above the University of South Carolina (No. 5) and Clemson University (No. 6).

The online student population in the country is now more than 7 million, including more than 70,000 students in South Carolina enrolled exclusively in distance education courses, according to a recent study by the Babson Survey Research Group. CCU has 3,670 online students enrolled, with 3,251 undergraduate and 419 graduate students taking online courses.

For a university to qualify, it must be a public institution and offer at least three online bachelor’s degree programs with an annual tuition fee of less than $25,000. The schools are then evaluated based upon published tuition fees, the percent of full-time undergraduate students receiving financial aid, the number of online programs offered and student to teacher ratio. CCU scored a 99.33 percent.
PUBLISHED

Disability and Art History
Edited by Ann Millett-Gallant and Elizabeth Howie
Routledge

Co-edited by Elizabeth Howie, associate professor of visual arts, this is the first book that merges the disciplines of art history and disability studies scholarship. According to the editors’ introduction, “Art historians have traditionally written about images of figures with impairments and artworks by disabled artists, without integrating disability studies scholarship, while many disability studies scholars discuss works of art, but do not necessarily incorporate art historical research and methodology. The chapters in this volume emphasize a shift away from the medical model of disability that is often scrutinized in art history by considering the social model and representations of disabled figures from a range of styles and periods, mostly from the 20th century.

“Topics addressed include visible versus invisible impairments; scientific, anthropological and vernacular images of disability; and the theories and implications of looking/staring versus gazing. They also explore ways in which art responds to, envisions, and at times stereotypes and pathologizes disability. The insights offered in this book contextualize understanding of disability historically, as well as in terms of medicine, literature and visual culture.”

Becoming Southern Writers
Edited by Eldred E. Prince Jr. and Orville Vernon Burton
University of South Carolina Press

This unique book of essays honoring esteemed Coastal Carolina University professor and historian Charles Joyner was published earlier last year by the University of South Carolina Press before his death in September 2016. Becoming Southern Writers: Essays in Honor of Charles Joyner is a “festschrift” (German for “celebratory writings”), a collection of essays written by 27 of Joyner’s colleagues and admirers—who happen to be some of the best Southern historians and authors on the scene today.

Co-edited by historians Orville Vernon Burton and Eldred “Wink” Prince Jr., who have both held positions at CCU that Joyner created, the book includes essays by Coastal faculty members Roy Talbert, John Navin, Maggi Morehouse and Rod Gragg, as well as such distinguished writers as Josephine Humphreys, Natasha Trethewey, William Ferris, Walter Edgar, Hank Klibanoff, David Hackett Fischer, Theodore Rosengarten and others.

In their introduction, the editors write that Joyner “probably has more friends in the history profession than anyone. The contributors in this volume have built special relationships with Joyner and wanted to share their memories to honor a great historian and wonderful person.” Joyner retired in 2007 after nearly two decades as Burroughs Distinguished Professor of Southern History at CCU.

Antologia de la Cronica Modernista Hispanoamericana
By J. Alberto Perez

According to J. Alberto Perez, associate professor in CCU’s Department of Languages and Intercultural Studies, his new book is “a researched anthology, specifically on the modernist Spanish American chronicle, that strives to fulfill three purposes: first, to understand what is meant by ‘modernist’ Spanish American chronicle; second, to illustrate the tensions of journalism at the end of the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th century; third, to highlight the extraordinary feat of writing by the modernists who turned journalistic prose into a literature and who wound up imposing their superiority over the North American reporter and the French chroniqueur.”

All by Myself: Essays on the Single-Artist Rock Album
Edited by Steve Hamelman
Rowman & Littlefield

Longtime CCU English professor Steve Hamelman’s primary field of scholarship is American literature, but he has also written extensively about rock ’n’ roll. For this collection of essays, Hamelman has coined the term AlphaSoloism to describe recordings on
which one artist composes, plays, sings and (often) produces each track.

The 11 essays in the book, according to the publisher’s note, “illuminate aesthetic, technical and theoretical elements that distinguish AlphaSolo recordings from conventional ones. In addition to providing historical background on studio, live, original and cover recordings released between the 1970 to the present, the essays explore questions of intention, craft, performance and reception…. To date, no study exists on this unique genre of music-making, and All by Myself serves as a call for future investigations into this present and growing phenomenon in rock culture.”

Among the artists discussed in the book are Neil Young, Stevie Wonder and Prince.

**The Politics of Perfection: Technology and Creation in Literature and Film**  
By Kimberly Hurd Hale  
*Lexington Books*

The thesis of this book allows Kimberly Hurd Hale, assistant professor of politics, to combine her major fields of scholarly interest: political philosophy, literature and film. The book, according to her introduction, explores the “relationship between modern technological progress and classical liberalism. Each chapter provides a detailed analysis of a film or novel, including Fritz Lang’s *Metropolis*, Ridley Scott’s *Prometheus* and Margaret Atwood’s *Oryx and Crake*. These works of fiction are examined through the lens of political thinkers ranging from Plato to Hannah Arendt. The compatibility of classical liberalism and technology is questioned, using fiction as a window into Western society’s views on politics, economics, religion, technology and the family.”

**Ethics in Politics: The Rights and Obligations of Individual Political Agents**  
Edited by Emily Crookston, David Killoren and Jonathan Trerise  
*Routledge*

This collection of essays co-edited by CCI associate professor of philosophy Jonathan Trerise poses the theory that, in the field of political philosophy, too much scholarly attention is paid to the role of institutions (states, governments) and not enough to individuals (voters, politicians).

The collection, according to the editors, “provides a timely discussion of normative questions concerning political agents and the systems in which they act. The book contains 18 original chapters by leading scholars which cover a range of topics including irrational voting, bribery, partisanship and political lying.” *Ethics in Politics* is intended “for students, researchers and all interested readers, and sheds light on important but underexplored issues in ethics and political philosophy.”

**One Million Frogs: Lessons about Entrepreneurship Learned the Hard Way**  
By Peter Gasca and Rhett Power  
*Mill City Press*

This book chronicles the struggles and adventures of starting and establishing a business. Peter Gasca, a teaching associate in the E. Craig Wall Sr. College of Business Administration, and his business partner Rhett Power quit good jobs in 2007 to start up a new company, Wild Creations, that specializes in toys and specialty gifts. Just as they were getting started, the recession hit.

According to the authors, *One Million Frogs* “is for everyone, not just for aspiring entrepreneurs. If you have ever had a dream or a grander aspiration to achieve something bigger in life but have been held back by the nagging apprehension of failure and uncertainty, this book will resonate with you… because we traveled that road.”

“Through our story, you will come to understand, like we did, that no failure is so great that it can’t be overcome (or negotiated) through sheer determination. Indeed the greatest failure you will ever make is to never have tried at all.”

**The Southern Rock Revival: The Old South in a New World**  
By Jason T. Eastman  
*Rowman & Littlefield*

CCU sociology professor Jason T. Eastman explores a cultural phenomenon in contemporary American culture brought on by economic developments in our postindustrial society. “Faced with limited options to earn a living-wage, many… blue-collar workers are instead changing who they are, embracing a deviant, rebellious identity expressed by the contemporary southern rock revival musicians studied in this book,” according to the introduction.

“Combining interviews, participant observation and a lyrical analysis, this book explores these aspects of rebellious ‘southerness’ through music as it exists in the ideal sense and as individual men try to live up to these subcultural ideals in their daily lives.”
In the generation since Coastal Carolina became an independent university, the strong sense of affiliation and identification that CCU alumni and friends feel toward the institution has played a big part in transforming its stature and its significance as a force in the region, the state and beyond. As this sense of connection grows, an increasing number of families are passing their Coastal genes down to new generations. The birth of Teal Nation is proof that Coastal is growing up.
Chauncey seems to be everywhere you look these days. On bumper stickers, license plates, clothing, business signage, department store racks, the Coastal Carolina University image is ubiquitous. It’s hard to believe, considering the great proliferation of Coastal “gear” in the local culture and the rapid spread of the CCU identity beyond our region and state, that just a few years ago, this was not the case.

Coastal was founded in 1954 as a junior college, a place for local residents to pursue higher education. Often in the early years, Coastal was viewed both as an opportunity for those who couldn’t afford to leave the area and sometimes as a second or third or final choice for students who didn’t qualify to attend elsewhere.

From these humble origins, Coastal’s prospects rose slowly but steadily. The college became a branch campus of the University of South Carolina system in 1960, an affiliation that continued until 1993, when Coastal Carolina College became Coastal Carolina University, an independent, state-supported institution of higher education.

Since 1993, enrollment at CCU has increased 137 percent. The average enrollment increase of degree-awarding postsecondary institutions during the same time was 18 percent, according to the National Center for Education Statistics. The number of undergraduate programs offered has increased 102 percent in that time, from 36 to 73. In 1993, CCU had 27 campus buildings; now it has 115. More than $8 million in grants, scholarships and other financial aid was awarded in 1993. In 2016, that number has grown to more than $83 million. From an almost exclusively local enrollment in the early years, CCU now welcomes students from every state in the country and 144 foreign nations.

CCU is now the fourth largest university in the state, following the University of South Carolina, Clemson and the College of Charleston.
Charleston. The growth is evident and unique. The momentum had been gathering long before the College World Series win last June, but that unforgettable event has magnified the scale of Coastal’s ascent.

Longtime faculty and staff members have a deep perspective on how far we’ve come. Eldred E. “Wink” Prince Jr., the director for the Waccamaw Center for Cultural and Historical Studies and professor of history, started teaching at CCU in 1987. His father, Eldred Prince Sr., played a role in Coastal’s founding and early years of growth. As a lifetime local resident and faculty member for 30 years, Prince has watched Coastal’s growth and evolution from within and without.

“I would not have thought in 30 years we’d be where we are now,” he says. “I thought we’d continue to grow, maybe to 5,000 or 6,000 students and another building or two here or there, but we’ve grown a lot faster. There’s a difference between growth and evolution; something can grow but not get any better, it just gets bigger. Coastal has evolved into a significant higher education program.”

That kind of growth, he says, is not typical. “When I go to conferences and interact with colleagues from other universities, some of them have been growing, others are having a hard time keeping their heads above water.”

Others feel the same way. In a media interview Athletic Director Matt Hogue gave in the weeks following the baseball team’s national championship, he recognized the uniqueness and rarity of not just the win, but of the rapid evolution of CCU in general.

“In terms of the totality of what has happened at Coastal in such a short time, we are unique,” he says. “We have so many innate ingredients that make this university attractive.”

John Beard, associate provost and former professor of English, agrees. He started teaching at Coastal in 1988, and has served in a number of capacities during his tenure, including director of freshman composition and interim dean.

“I never predicted or expected what Coastal is today,” he says. “We had a building plan and aspirations, but I don’t believe anyone, no matter how ambitious, could have seen this 30 years ago, or even 20 years ago.”
Growth has always been part of the plan for CCU, and it has kept pace with the growth of the surrounding community. Census records show Horry County’s population in 1990 at 144,053. The estimated population in 2015, according to census.gov, was 309,199, an increase of 114 percent. The area has been among the fastest-growing in the nation since 2010.

Beard credits the University’s strong, consistent leadership over the years as being the one constant quality amid so much change. “I’m very impressed by the people who are in charge and taking responsibility,” he says. “You want the students to do well, but if you don’t have good leadership and dedicated people, it can’t go very far. We’ve been lucky to have these dedicated people with responsibility and integrity.”

Coastal has been blessed with devoted alumni since its first group of two-year and continuing education students attended in the mid-1950s. Many of those dedicated alumni from the 1950s, ’60s and ’70s worked tirelessly to develop the foundation for the CCU we have today. Although it has taken years to build an alumni base large enough to fuel Coastal’s current trajectory, the seeds of pride and affiliation have been sewn over a long period, and by now they have developed deep, multigenerational roots.

Conway natives Ray and Robin Causey met while they were attending Coastal in the 1980s. Ray earned a bachelor’s degree in business in ’86, and Robin received an associates degree in ’84. Their daughter Morgan Causey Pierce graduated in 2012 after meeting her then-future husband and fellow Chant Josh Pierce ’13. Coastal has always played a significant role in Morgan’s career and her life.

“Tisted to attend Coastal because it was where my family went to school and a place that I grew up supporting,” she says. “Coastal brought me the wonderful guy I get to call my husband, and some of my most favorite memories are attending athletic games. But professionally, the biggest impact CCU had on me was how well prepared I was for my postgraduate studies. I excelled in graduate school and was more successful than many of my peers who attended more ‘prestigious’ universities.”

After earning her undergraduate degree at CCU, Morgan earned a doctorate of pharmacy degree from the Medical University of South Carolina and an MBA from the Citadel. She works as an infusion pharmacist at the Cancer Center at McLeod Regional Medical Center in Florence, and Josh is a physical education teacher and football coach at Marlboro County High School.

Morgan and Josh’s son, Ryan, may have been the youngest Chanticleer in attendance at the College World Series, she says. "Ryan was in Omaha to watch Coastal win the CWS—he was just in my womb!"

She can’t wait for Ryan to grow up experiencing CCU as she did.

“To see where we have come is truly amazing. Coastal stands on its own and has risen above USC in so many ways,” she says. “It has made such a positive impact on our community. I can’t wait to see where Coastal is headed, and when people ask Ryan [someday] if he is a Clemson or a Carolina fan, he will say, ‘Neither, I’m a Coastal fan,’ because that’s always my answer.”
Alumna Susan Kenny’s boys say the same thing. She earned a bachelor’s degree in early childhood education from CCU in 1998 and a master’s degree in 2004. Her husband, Sean, graduated in 2000, and their two boys, Liam, 12, and Lucas, 9, already call Coastal their home.

“Liam bleeds teal!” she says. “His bedroom, school binders, everything shows his pride for Coastal. He hopes to play baseball for CCU in his freshman year. And Lucas is very proud of his Coastal roots. He’d like to attend CCU in 2025 and play soccer! Both boys have their names on my alumni brick as my CCU legacy.”

Kenny, who has lived in Myrtle Beach since 1996, has noticed over the past decade how the community has developed more pride in its hometown university and embraced the school and teams as its own. Though both her boys have athletic aspirations and motivations, Coastal’s impact extends far beyond sports, she says.

“Coastal produces teachers every year eager to begin their teaching careers,” says Kenny, an Horry County teacher herself. “As a parent, I feel confident in my children’s teachers when I know they are from CCU. I know they are prepared and have been trained with the latest teaching methodologies.”

Kali says Jake had a similar experience. “He decided to attend Coastal for the baseball program and because it was a smaller school that had a more intimate learning setting. He now takes the knowledge and passion for the game that he learned at CCU and gives it to the next generation as a high school baseball pitching coach.”

Athletics opened the door for Kali Banghart Hurry, a 2006 graduate who played volleyball for Coastal, and baseball player Jake Hurry ’06, as well, but it was the educational experiences Coastal offered that had a lasting impact on their lives.

“I chose Coastal because I didn’t want to be just another number at a larger university,” Kali says. “I wanted to be able to get my education at a place where I could know my professors and they would know me. … The educational experiences that Coastal had to offer allowed me to learn firsthand skills, challenges and practices that I needed to be successful. Some of those experiences have stuck with me so much that I still reference them today.”

Being a part of the evolution of Coastal Carolina University is a unique experience. So unique, in fact, there’s a name for it.

Teal Nation.

If you’re a member of Teal Nation, you know what it means.

“Teal Nation means a giant family,” Kali Hurry says. “Anyone who currently is or has ever been a Chant is part of that family and understands what it means to be a Chant.”

“It’s being connected to complete strangers because of our love for our school,” says Morgan Pierce. “It is about being a part of something big and something that is making an impact in both our community and our nation.”

Perhaps Teal Nation can best be described via an experience Wink Prince’s youngest son had during the football game CCU played against Penn State in State College, Pa., in 2008.

“His seats were up in the area they’d sold for Coastal, and he said that people from all over the United States were there,” Prince fondly recalls, tears of pride in his eyes. “He told me everyone was hugging and that it was just like a bit of a reunion. And ‘the football game was OK,’ he told me, ‘but that was just secondary.’

“Here he is in Pennsylvania, and here are all these people wearing their teal and black and bronze, and he talked about what an almost spiritual experience it was.

“That’s a good place to hang your hat, don’t you think?”

A milestone for all teenagers as they grow up is getting their driver’s license and, perhaps, a car of their own. When that day comes, Teal Nation teens now have two options for license plates that will tout to everyone on the road which university they support and plan to attend. A contemporary teal and bronze design with the Chanticleer logo has been available from the Department of Motor Vehicles since 2013, but now this year is a plate design that highlights the 2016 College World Series baseball champions.
Walt Disney once said, “If you can dream it, you can do it.” Meet five young Coastal Carolina University alumni entrepreneurs who have used the tools they acquired through their CCU education to start successful business ventures.
“YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE.” IT SEEMED THE RIGHT MOMENT TO MAKE A CHANGE, AND SO FAR ALL SIGNS INDICATE THAT IT WAS THE RIGHT MOVE.”
On the wall of their workroom, located on the second floor of their house in Myrtle Beach, is a map of the world. Small pins are stuck in various places all across its surface: Florida, California, Denmark, Israel, Guam, the Philippines. From this small home office overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway, Meg Carter ’06 and her husband, Jonathan ’06, are doing business around the world with their sea glass jewelry company, Made by Meg.

Meg, originally from Woodbury, Conn., describes herself as a born treasure hunter. She grew up scouring the beaches for sharks’ teeth and seashells on family vacations. On a trip to Maine as a teenager, she spotted her first piece of sea glass.

She transferred to Coastal Carolina University from Rhode Island College to study art, and she met Jonathan in a painting class taught by Maura Kenny during her first year.

Meg’s creative talent found its most natural expression in designing and crafting jewelry. After graduation, she worked for two area jewelers, and she apprenticed with Myrtle Beach jeweler Jim Huntley. Focusing on sea glass jewelry, she started her company, Made by Meg, in 2008, working primarily nights and weekends.

She began networking, blogging, doing all she could to get her brand recognized. With Jonathan’s support, she quit her job as a drafting artist at SimplixGrinnel to devote herself full time to the company in September 2009.

Sea glass is a special type of gem. Each piece started out as some type of functional glass—a bottle or jar, for example—that, winding up in the ocean, has been recycled and transformed by
contact with the waves and the sand. It’s the reverse process of traditional gems such as rubies or diamonds that are made by nature and refined by man.

“It takes probably 50 years of churning in the waves to produce sea glass,” says Meg. “The glass has a unique frosted quality. The value increases with the rarity of the particular color.” You don’t find much sea glass on Grand Strand beaches, according to Meg, who says that most of her inventory comes from Puerto Rico, where the prevalence of discarded glass objects and the texture of the sand produce an especially choice gem in high quantities.

Neatly lined along the walls of her workshop are stacks of about 50 trays containing sea glass, organized according to color and size.

Meg makes earrings, necklaces, pendants, bracelets, rings and other artwork. Her custom-made engagement rings have become popular and account for a large share of the business. Though Made by Meg creations are found in a few select retail stores, the primary sales vehicle for the company is online marketing, and the Carters have also created an elaborate 20-foot showcase display for the six sea glass tradeshows and expos they attend every year.

“Orders from the Myrtle Beach area are rare,” says Meg. “We get a lot of orders from New England and California. Last week we made a shipment to Australia.”

Jonathan came to Coastal Carolina University from Jefferson Township, N.J., following two older siblings who are also CCU graduates. (His brother, Chris Carter ’01, was a Chanticleer
“THE GLASS HAS A UNIQUE FROSTED QUALITY. THE VALUE INCREASES WITH THE RARITY OF THE PARTICULAR COLOR.”

baseball player and is now baseball director of operations. His sister, Allison Carter Burlyn ’03, is chair of the math department at Horry Georgetown Technical College.) After graduation, he worked for an ad agency and was an IT manager with Horry County government. He has been involved with the business since its inception, designing the website (madebymeg.net) and steadily learning the art from Meg. In the meantime, the couple had two children, Clara and Autumn, now 4 and 2 years old, respectively.

“Last year, things were so busy that I couldn’t keep up with the business alone because I was wearing so many hats,” says Meg. Jonathan joined the company full time in April 2016.

“You only live once,” says Jonathan. “It seemed the right moment to make a change, and so far all signs indicate that it was the right move.” The couple plans to expand the operation, implementing new technological advances in the craft.

In addition to jewelry, the company has had great success with its Carter Sea Glass Color & Rarity Guide, a poster that Meg created illustrating 81 different shades of sea glass and rating their rarity. The chart, of which more than 2,000 copies have been sold, has become a standard for collectors and has a usefulness similar to the Pantone system in color printing.

In their spare time, the Carters enjoy walking on the beach with Clara and Autumn, teaching them to identify sharks’ teeth and seashells—and, on rare occasions, sea glass.

“We hope they will become treasure hunters, too, and will be interested in the business,” says Meg.
"I'M A STUDENT BEFORE I'M AN ATHLETE, AND I'M A COMPUTER PROGRAMMER AT HEART."

MAURICE SIMPKINS
In the summer of his 12th year, Maurice Simpkins was helping his grandfather dig graves in the 100-degree heat near his hometown of Batesburg-Leesville, S.C. When Maurice asked why they were working so hard in the blistering heat, Andrew Simpkins advised his grandson that there were two lines of work that would always provide steady employment: funerals and education.

“He said,” recalls Simpkins, “that there would always be people dying and there would always be people wanting to learn.”

Simpkins, who graduated in 2006 with a double major in computer science and business administration, has followed the path of education both in his business pursuits and in his approach to life.

Many remember him as Coastal Carolina University’s first football player. Simpkins transferred from Catawba College, accompanying coach David Bennett when he was tapped to build CCU’s premiere football program in 2002. The 6-foot, 225-pound linebacker was a key contributor to the Chanticleers’ 6-5 record that first year (2003) and to the team’s back-to-back Big South Championships in 2004 and 2005. He holds the CCU single-game record with three sacks versus Charleston Southern.

Simpkins was also named to the conference’s All-Academic Team, reflecting his intense determination to succeed in the classroom as well as on the playing field. Having a natural aptitude for computers, especially coding, he majored in computer science and minored in business. In his senior year, seeing that he was only a few credits short of having a major in business, Gina Markland, then the academic adviser for Coastal Athletics, pointed out the advantages of getting a double major.

“I’m a student before I’m an athlete, and I’m a computer programmer at heart,” he says. “The Coastal faculty, especially [math professor] Prashant Sansgiry and [computer science chair] Jean-Louis Laszez, made me feel at home and encouraged me.”

After he graduated, Simpkins pursued football and computer code simultaneously with equal passion. He went on to play...
professionally, first with the indoor teams the Rock River Raptors and the Green Bay Blizzards. In 2010, he joined the Green Bay Packers as a free agent, was signed to the practice squad, but was released. He was with the St. Louis Rams for about eight months in 2011.

In the meantime, Simpkins began programming software for a community college in Illinois in 2007 and later for Morehouse College School of Medicine. He found his groove in information technology (IT) for higher education, and soon discovered the world of consulting.

“After I was released from St. Louis, I made up my mind to focus my career solely on higher education software consulting,” says Simpkins. He was hired by Suffolk University in Boston, and he began building his own client base. In a few short years, he had
more IT and consulting work than he could handle, and he often found himself banging out code 15 hours a day. His wife, Laqwacia Simpkins, advised him to start a company and hire programmers to help. The couple started AMSimpkins & Associates in 2015. The company, based in Lawrenceville, Ga., near Atlanta, now has more than 20 employees.

His own success has given Simpkins the impetus to reach out to the younger generation of kids who are from disadvantaged areas. Last year, he started two summer camps for children ages 5 to 7 years old—Spark IT, a summer camp focusing on computer technology and a summer football camp, both held in Batesburg-Leesville.

“A lot of kids growing up without the benefit of good role models see sports as the only way to make it out,” says Simpkins. “But I promise you, if I could have seen my IT career laid out before me when I was a kid, I would have never picked up a football.”

Partnering with a higher education consulting firm and involving members of the Omega Psi Phi Inc. fraternity, the Simpkinses organized their first IT camp during the summer of 2016 in conjunction with Lexington School District III. Plans are underway to expand the event this summer to other locations: Denver, Colo., and Myrtle Beach. The three-week IT camp focuses on coding during the first week, robotics for the second week, and winds up with a week of electronics.

The camp is administered through the Andrew Simpkins Innovation Foundation, a nonprofit association that Simpkins created in memory of his grandfather. “One of the purposes of the camps is to build character,” says Simpkins. “My character comes from my grandfather. He taught us to work hard and never to give up. We couldn’t go outside until our homework was done. If there was no homework, he had a set of World Book encyclopedias under the TV, and we had to read those. By the time I finished high school, I had read the whole set. He taught us not to allow someone else to limit what we could achieve. I live by that.”
"I had seen how others had started successful businesses, and I wanted to see if I could do it for myself."

CHRIS EVANS
Chris Evans ’09 opened the Grumpy Monk, he worked an entire year, often from 8 in the morning until midnight, before he took a day off.

“A lot of restaurants fail because people don’t understand the responsibilities involved,” says Evans, who earned a bachelor’s degree in resort tourism management from Coastal Carolina University. He says that during many of the long hours of hard work he has often thought of something that CCU economics professor Yoav Wachsman always told him: “You have to love what you do.”

Evans always loved the hospitality industry. One of his first memories is of raiding the maids’ carts at Disney World when he was a kid, fascinated by the inner workings of the resort business. “There’s something about it that’s always busy, happy, active.”

He grew up in the Buffalo area of New York, where he studied business management at a community college before enrolling at CCU. “I was considering transferring to Niagara University, but my brother was going to Winthrop and a friend of his ran track at CCU. When I visited the campus with them, I knew it was where I wanted to complete my degree. Plus the fact that Myrtle Beach has a higher percentage of job placements.”
During his first year at Coastal Carolina University as a junior transfer student, Evans found himself going to school full time and working five nights a week as night auditor at the Baymont Inn and Suites on Restaurant Row. But it was a casual encounter at a job fair on Prince Lawn that set the trajectory of his future career in motion.

“I was sitting in Taylor Damonte’s class,” Evans recalls. “He invited us all to go to the career fair, and I met with a representative of the Marriott Grand Dunes in Myrtle Beach.” Evans was offered a full-time job in the hotel’s food and beverage operation. During his senior year, he took 18 hours a semester to finish the coursework for his degree and worked 40 hours a week in an evening position at Marriott.

Two years after he graduated from CCU, Marriott promoted Evans to a new position at their hotel in Albany, N.Y. He found that he respected the company’s professional ethos of hard work and excellent service, and he recommends company founder Bill Marriott’s memoir, *Without Reservations*, to anyone considering a career in the hospitality business. After Albany, he climbed further up the Marriott ladder at its New Orleans hotel. Although it was a good position in a major, high-volume market and an exciting city, Evans eventually got the itch to start his own business.
“I had seen how others had started successful businesses, and I wanted to see if I could do it for myself,” he says. After considering his options, his experiences and his hunches, he decided that he wanted to go into the restaurant business, and he wanted to do it in Myrtle Beach.

In the course of putting together a business plan, the project evolved in several significant ways. Evans acquired two partners: Heri Heyadi, a sushi expert whose company provides sushi for about 50 restaurants in the region; and Greg Hicks, an area restaurateur with a proven record of success. They decided to focus on sushi and craft beer, a unique combination for this market. After several hurdles, the financing came through and they secured the building located near the entrance to Carolina Forest that had started as Desperados. The Grumpy Monk opened in March 2015.

The name was Evans’ idea. “When I used to travel for Marriott, I made a point of noticing creative business names. The Trappist monks of Belgium are famous for their beer, and I had seen a ‘Thirsty Monk’ and a ‘Hungry Monk,’ so I wanted to come up with a catchy name to go with ‘monk.’ ‘Grumpy’ seemed the right choice, funny and memorable. When customers ask me about it, to save time I just tell them it was my college nickname.”

The tourist trade accounts for only 5 percent of his business, according to Evans. The restaurant has doubled its original sales goals, and Evans and Heyadi, who recently bought out Hicks’ interest in the business, recently opened another location in the Charlotte area.

Evans says the advice and instruction his CCU professors gave him are never far from his mind when it comes to running the business. “I try to instill in my employees what Dr. Wachsman told us. You have to love your job. It’s like a circle: when your employees enjoy what they’re doing, the guest is happy. And if the customer is happy, I’m happy!”
“THE BEST ENTREPRENEURS CAN SEE WHAT OTHERS DON’T. THEY FIND COMPLICATED PROBLEMS, BUT BREAK THOSE PROBLEMS DOWN AND COME UP WITH SOLUTIONS THAT FEEL SIMPLE TO CUSTOMERS.”
hen Coastal Carolina University professor Michael Latta was lecturing to his marketing students about emerging digital trends a few years ago, Zac Maurais ’11 was taking careful notes. Two years later, he and a high school pal launched an app-based company called Favor with a simple mission: deliver whatever people want whenever and wherever they want it.

Based in Austin, Texas, Favor has grown into a successful business that started with some coding, an app built from scratch and the simple tagline: “Get anything delivered.” Four years later, the company is now located in 15 Texas cities, has about 100 corporate employees, has made millions of deliveries and has about 15,000 runners on the platform who deliver their customers’ orders to them at work, home or wherever they are.

Maurais and Ben Doherty, who went to high school together in Litchfield, N.H., were recently named two of the Top Texans Under 30, a program by CultureMap, a Texas-based online publication that celebrates the 20-something power players making a difference in their industries and communities.

Their business started with a simple question—why can’t you get a delivery from anywhere? The partners raised more than $16 million in funding and ran the idea through two business incubators, one in California and one in Austin.

Maurais says Favor generates revenue from the delivery fee and from the restaurants/stores that pay the company for leads generated through its app. Their business partners range from local favorites like the Austin eatery Kerbey Lane to national vendors like Chipotle.

“Businesses we partner with see a rise in sales since we highlight their food inside our app,” says Maurais. “We serve as a marketing vehicle for their brands for special programs like free food...
promotions or seasonal offerings. We take care of the headache about delivery so they can focus on what they do best—make great food.”

Their weirdest request for delivery was probably a last-minute call for a penguin suit, says Maurais. But most requests are for food from “fast-casual restaurants.” Diapers are also an oft-requested delivery. Alcohol, pets and people are not available for delivery.

“People use Favor to get groceries, items from a pharmacy, or even flowers when they’re in the doghouse,” says Maurais, who uses his own service, especially when he’s busy at the office and can’t make it out for breakfast or lunch.

When asked about his time at CCU, Maurais cites the professors and the people he met as his most significant takeaway.

“I believe it’s important for professors to augment their lesson plans with the most current knowledge and always push boundaries,” says Maurais. “The tech and digital marketing landscape are so fast these days. By the time something finds its way into a textbook, it’s old news.”

And, since he met his wife, Kelly (née Cann ’11), at Campus Edge during their undergrad days, he believes relationships are critical to future success.

“It’s important to build strong relationships with good people,” says Maurais. “You’ve probably heard the saying that you’re the average of the five people you spend the most time with. In college, I jumped around in social circles and found a group of friends who encouraged me to dream lofty goals. Today, I’m still friends with some amazing people I met at Coastal Carolina
University, especially my wife, Kelly.”

Looking ahead, Maurais plans to be a lifelong entrepreneur. “The best entrepreneurs can see what others don’t,” he says. “They find complicated problems, but break those problems down and come up with solutions that feel simple to customers. There’s an approach to this I’ve learned from working on Favor. At some point I’d like to apply what I’ve learned to other industries that are ripe for disruption.”

When asked when the Grand Strand might expect a Favor app and delivery service, Maurais says there are no plans to launch here in the near future, but he plans for Favor to eventually be the delivery brand of choice around the world.

“After all, Chanticleers really like wings from the Coastal Ale House!”

Anytime, Anywhere: Favor delivers (above) all over Texas. Customers order online (below).
“I THINK WE ARE SELLING A REAL COMMUNITY SERVICE, AND I BELIEVE IN IT, SO THAT MAKES IT EASIER.”
Matthew McCoy ’12 knew from a young age that he would be a professional performer. Founding and managing a musical theater company is a career he has been preparing for all his life. The role that he did not envision, however, was that of businessman/fundraiser, which he is currently playing to the hilt.

In 2015, McCoy and a group of partners started Bay Area Musicals, a San Francisco theater company that produces only musical shows. The company, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, puts on three productions a year, and McCoy is encouraged by the success of the endeavor and optimistic about its future.

The education McCoy received at Coastal Carolina University was essential to his present career. Born in Florida and raised in Columbia, S.C., where he grew up acting in community theatre productions at the Workshop Theatre and Town Theatre, he enrolled at CCU to take advantage of its unique and highly respected B.F.A. program in musical theatre.

“I loved it at Coastal Carolina University,” says McCoy. “I learned so much from the faculty. Coastal is very close to my heart because of everything I learned there.”

McCoy relocated to San Francisco after graduating from CCU in 2012. He found work right away with the Berkeley Playhouse and
other area venues, where his experience at CCU had equipped him to fill a variety of capacities, including casting director, associate artistic director, director and choreographer.

Choreography was an area in which he had little experience before he started at Coastal. “I had never taken a dance class, but the program at CCU really helped me grow,” he said. After he received the first of two nominations for Best Choreography from the San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle, the first thing he did was send a thank-you message to former Coastal faculty member Barbara Hartwig, who instructed him in dance.

McCoy saw the need in the Bay area for a venue focusing solely on musical productions. Stepping into a new role as theater founder, organizer and business executive has been a stretch.

“I never took a business or a marketing course in college,” he says. “I had never done a business plan or a budget. I learned it all by experience.”

Fundraising is a constant challenge and a significant part of his responsibilities. “I think we are selling a real community service, and I believe in it, so that makes it easier.”

Each show costs about $100,000 to stage, according to McCoy. The company uses local designers, stagehands and a mix of equity and non-equity actors. For the company’s first show, How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, he and his colleagues raised about $48,000. Although the first season (2015-2016), which also included Hair and La Cage aux Folles, lost money, they made ends meet by giving an end-of-the-year benefit concert.
starring Broadway star Eden Espinoza (Wicked, Rent). Bay Area’s second season was more successful, featuring productions of The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (which McCoy starred in when CCU put it on in 2010), Stephen Sondheim’s Assassins and Suessical: the Musical.

He thinks it would be a good idea for CCU’s theatre department to require students to take at least one business class.

“I learned the basics of my craft so well at CCU, and everything I’ve achieved I have built on those strengths. I believe, however, that theater students would really benefit from some business knowledge, because my job is definitely a balance of business and art.”
Coastal Carolina University is drawing on one of its greatest untapped resources to create a great collegiate environment.
Going off to college traditionally marks a turning point in the relationship between a student and his or her family. Since their primary focus is on educating the students, too often colleges don’t pay enough attention to the importance of parents and families in higher education. Coastal Carolina University has developed a program that recognizes and utilizes the potential of family members to help facilitate student success in ways that haven’t been tried before.

The establishment of the Family Council had been a longtime goal of Debbie Conner, vice president of campus life and student engagement. Based on observations made during her long career at CCU, she saw the need for a permanent body composed of parents and family members of current students who could provide a new web of connectivity to benefit students and the University.

With approval and support from President David A. DeCenzo and Provost Ralph Byington, Conner invited interested parents to apply for membership in a new committee whose general mission is to serve as a liaison between the University and family members of our students. A charter group of six individuals met for the first time in 2015 to begin the process of developing effective methods to carry out this goal.

“One of the things that excites me most about the Family Council,” says Conner, “is the potential of this group to provide guidance and feedback based on a perspective that we haven’t had before.”

More than a year later, the original nucleus has grown to an organization of 29 members. During the first year, Conner and her team led a series of meetings designed to orient the group to the unique culture and traditions of CCU. In addition to developing a mission statement, the group has identified a few major projects it will focus on.

“One of the strongest projects we are working on,” says original council member Bill Branch of Nashville, Tenn., “is the establishment of a Family Fund, a monetary mechanism designated to assist families in emergency situations. For example, if a student is hospitalized due to an accident, the fund could help pay for the parents’ lodgings or travel.”

Branch, is the father of Bonnie Branch, a May 2016 graduate who is now enrolled in the Master of Teaching (MAT) program at CCU.

I believe the Family Council can be a useful liaison between the parents and the school. We can relate to parents on many of the issues they may have.”

–Bill Branch, Family Council member

Peer to peer: Family Council member Maria Elias-Williams (right) gets to know new CCU parents Lee and Jamie Lane after an Orientation session in July.
The council is now developing plans to raise money for the fund. The group is also brainstorming on ways to assist CCU’s Office of Admissions in student recruitment. Members of the group are making themselves available during Orientation and Family Weekend to answer questions posed by new families on campus.

“Even though the Coastal staff does a great job at Orientation in giving a realistic picture of what students and families can expect at CCU, the peer-to-peer perspective that parents offer to other parents is especially valuable to new families,” says council member Maria Elias-Williams, a Loris, S.C., attorney whose son Charles Cobi Williams is a junior majoring in economics and finance.

Many of the Family Council members say they were motivated to get involved because of their belief in the future of CCU. Brian Baker of Huntersville, N.C., whose daughter Andrea is a senior exercise and sport science major, thinks that Coastal is destined to be ranked with the biggest and best universities in the state. “Twenty years from now, when people from anywhere in the country ask Andrea where she went to college, they’re going to say ‘Wow, that’s a great school!’ ”

Renée Johnson of Dumfries, Va., the mother of biology major Ella-Chanel Benton, believes she is “getting in on the ground floor of something exciting!”

“The more time I spend on campus and the more I get to know the people at CCLU, the more impressed I am,” said Branch. “The overall commitment from the University administration and faculty to the students is tremendous; it made me want to be a part of it and try to contribute in some way. I believe [the Family Council] can be a useful liaison between the parents and the school. We can relate to parents on many of the issues they may have.”
“One of the things that excites me most about the Family Council is the potential of this group to provide guidance and feedback based on a perspective that we haven’t had before.”

—Debbie Conner, vice president of campus life and student engagement

During the summer of 2016, eight members of the council participated in Orientation, answering questions and interacting with parents as part of the family sessions.

“It was good to talk to another parent, someone who understands the emotions and feelings you’re going through when you prepare to separate from your child for the first time,” said Jamie Lane, a parent from Manawa, Wis., who attended Orientation in July with her husband, Allen. Family Council member Elias-Williams helped facilitate the session, and the Lanes spoke with her afterward while their daughter Saharra, a freshman majoring in marine science, was involved in student sessions.

“Maria had been through what we were experiencing, so we could all relate on the same level,” said Lane. “The Coastal staff are wonderful, but they can seem somewhat like salesmen, which is only natural since they work for the University. Talking with people like Maria provides a different perspective. It’s a great support system for families.”

Family time: Orientation is a time of transition for students and families. Beginning in the summer of 2016, individual Family Council members have participated in every scheduled Orientation.
Chanticleer Gear

**COASTAL RISING:** One demonstration of the rise of Teal Nation is the prevalence and popularity of Coastal Carolina University merchandise. The rise in sales of Chanticleer gear is an indication of CCU’s growing status as a major institution. It’s everywhere!

**SHOW YOUR PRIDE**
Visit coastal.edu/licensing/currentretailers or coastal.bncollege.com to find your gear.

**LICENSING AND SALES:** In just eight years, sales of CCU merchandise has increased to almost $3 million annually through more than 200 licensed vendors.

**UNIQUE APPAREL:** CCU works with outside brands to offer unique Chanticleer apparel on a time-limited basis, so check often!
DRIVING WITH CHAUNCEY:
Chauncey hits the road with a selection of custom South Carolina license plates, available through the S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles.

WEAR IT • DRIVE IT • STUFF IT

CCU LICENSE PLATES

CCU SUN SHIELDS

CCU HATS

CCU PLUSH

COASTAL RISING
SUN BELT CONFERENCE
The starting point for “Growing up Coastal” comes at a young age for many, as CCU’s latest social media campaign, #FutureChants, indicates. Since the beginning of the year, photos of Chanticleer babies decked out in Coastal gear have taken over the CCU Facebook page. From precious grins to adorable onesies to pretty bows, this campaign has touched the soft spot of #TEALnation. Here are a few of the submissions as seen on our Facebook page.
Vienna Lynn - 6 months
Parents - Leah '13 and Brad Davis '13

Jeremiah - 2 years
Mom - Taylor Estes

Charlee - 1 year
Mom - Brittany Parker '09

Lucas - 5 months
Parents - Sara '05 and Douglas Greene '06

Dylan - 3 months
Parents - Yoshio Guzman and Isabel Shen '11

Landon - 4 months
Parents - Marissa '09 and Luke Morris

Aubrey - 3 years
Parents - Victoria '13 and Brentley Broughton '09

Keegan - 2 years
Parents - Michael and Lori Ruggieri '03

#CCU
[SOCIAL MEDIA]
@CCUchanticleers
/CoastalCarolinaUniversity
@CCUchanticleers
On July 1, 2016, Coastal proudly took its place as the newest member of the Sun Belt Conference. It didn’t take long for the Chanticleers to make a name for themselves in their new league as the men’s soccer and volleyball teams each brought home conference titles. The women’s soccer and women’s cross country teams finished conference runners-up while Annie Bothma was named the Sun Belt’s Women’s Cross Country Newcomer of the Year. Annie Bothma earned the Sun Belt’s women’s cross country most outstanding performer and freshman of the year honors, and in volleyball, Leah Hardman was tabbed the conference’s player of the year and Tahleia Bishop newcomer of the year.

“I am very pleased to have been a part of the University’s Sun Belt Conference Championship this year,” said Shaun Docking, who has served as Coastal’s head men’s soccer coach since 1998. “We all realize this is going to be a very challenging league for all of our sports, and I am delighted that as a University we have decided to step up to the challenge of playing at the top Division I level for all of our sports and as an institution. It has raised the profile of our institution within the state of South Carolina and across the country.”
In Fall 2017, the Chanticleer football program will transition into the Sun Belt Conference and make its debut in the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS). The conference will hold its inaugural football championship game in 2018.

The Sun Belt is a permanent part of the “Group of Five” conferences, joining the American Athletic Conference, the Mountain West Conference, the Mid-American Conference and Conference USA, which sends its highest-rated champion to a “New Year’s Six” bowl game every season. The conference has secured ties to no fewer than five bowl games. In addition to the potential of the College Football Playoff, the league has guaranteed berths in the R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl, the GoDaddy Bowl in Mobile, Ala., the Raycom Media Camellia Bowl in Montgomery, Ala., the AutoNation Cure Bowl in Orlando, and the NOVA Home Loans Arizona Bowl in Tucson, Ariz.
1978

Tim Hardee has been named the president and executive director of the South Carolina Technical College System, which includes 16 schools located across the state and two other statewide programs. He is a graduate of Leadership South Carolina and the South Carolina Economic Developers Program. Hardee also serves on the South Carolina Workforce Development board.

1984

John Gardner has been elected mayor of Aynor, S.C. He is the chief financial officer for Horry County Schools.

1988

John Faidley, head golf professional the last 16 years at Forsyth Country Club in Winston-Salem, N.C., was named the golf professional of the year by the Carolinas PGA.

1992

Sachin “Sunny” Gupta is the co-founder, president and CEO of Apptio, a leading provider of cloud-based technology business management software for managing information technology.

1994

David Maningding has joined SunTrust Mortgage as a producing sales manager for the Charleston region. He has 19 years of mortgage industry experience.

Sarah Loudin Thomas, who oversees fundraising and communications for a Christian children’s home in Black Mountain, N.C., has written her third novel, A Tapestry of Secrets. Her previous novels are Miracle in a Dry Season and Until the Harvest. She also has written for the publications Mountain Homes Southern Style, Now & Then and The Asheville Citizen-Times.

1995

Michele Olds is the senior vice president of Nationstar Mortgage, where she manages the master servicing division. She serves as treasurer on the Structured Finance Industry Group (SFIG) board of directors and is on the SFIG executive committee.

1997

Brian Batten, Ph.D., has been promoted to an associate at Dewberry’s office in Richmond, Va. He is a senior coastal scientist and project manager with the firm’s resilience solutions group and leads the sea level rise (SLR) practice. Batten has more than 20 years of experience in coastal marine sciences and is an expert in coastal hazards, including coastal flooding, coastal erosion and SLR. He earned a doctorate in coastal oceanography and a master’s degree in marine environmental science from Stony Brook University.

Bill Langfitt was promoted to senior vice president of CresCom Bank and will continue to serve as a commercial loan officer in the Myrtle Beach market.

Regina Treadwell-Pertell has been appointed principal of Conway Middle School.

1998

Stu Riddle has been named head coach of the men’s soccer program at Northern Kentucky University. He previously served for four years as the men’s head soccer coach at the University of Buffalo. Riddle also was the head coach at Western Michigan University for four years. He holds a master’s degree in public service administration from Evansville University.

Brent Whalen was promoted to logistics branch manager for the U.S. Navy’s Submarine Combat Control Systems.

1999

Michelle Ruthenberg studied traditional ecological knowledge of the Makushi people and the potential of local wisdom to guide conservation initiatives in Guyana as part of a master’s degree course in Miami University’s global field program. She is director of dive safety and special projects at Ripley’s Aquarium in Myrtle Beach.

2001

Kathy Grannis Allen was named the managing director of the airline industry public relations and communication division of Airlines for America, an industry trade organization for the leading U.S. airlines. She previously served as the senior director for media relations.

2002

Brandi Wyatt Biehl is the co-executive officer of Sea Turtle Recovery, where she provides long-term care for aquatic amphibians.

2003

Dale Ketola has been named the director of instruction and club fitting at the Golf Performance Center at Grande Dunes. He also is the director of the Myrtle Beach chapter of the South Carolina Junior Golf Association Hootie & the Blowfish Chapter Series.

Richard McGonnigal was appointed director of sales and marketing, overseeing sales, catering, public relations and reservations for the...
Tracy Bailey •
The power of reading

By Monica Trepiccione

Tracy Bailey ’09 believes that children should be free to aspire to be whatever they want to be, regardless of race, gender or socioeconomic class. As the founder and CEO of Freedom Readers, a nonprofit organization devoted to improving the reading skills in low-income communities, Bailey is putting her beliefs into action.

A South Carolina native, Bailey majored in English education at the College of Charleston and went on to earn a master’s degree in secondary education from Coastal Carolina University in 2009 and a Ph.D. in education with a specialization in language and literacy from the University of South Carolina in 2013.

As her final project for the master’s program at CCU, Bailey created a program designed to teach small groups of children about Civil War heroes. While raising her two children, she realized that other kids deserved the love and education that she was giving her own.

Feeling inspired by her project and her desire to give back to children, Bailey approached her pastor for advice about how to apply her ideas to help the community. She began by restructuring the project to focus on reading rather than history, and she recruited volunteers from her church to assist with tutoring. Freedom Readers was born.

“Once you learn to read, you are forever free,” wrote Frederick Douglass. This principle reflects the basic goals of Freedom Readers, which provides one-to-one volunteer-based literacy tutoring and free books. The organization serves more than a dozen communities in Horry, Georgetown and Richland counties. The young scholars in the program meet with their tutors in weekly sessions of eight to 14 weeks, depending on the season of the year.

Bailey says her impetus to start Freedom Readers can also be traced to the example her family set for her. After seeing her parents serve their community, she was instilled with a similar desire, one that is shared by her husband Issac Bailey, an award-winning writer and columnist. Bailey has already identified this same attitude in her daughter, Lyric, who one day hopes to start her own charitable organization.

“By helping youngsters form healthy relationships with adult tutors who help them with their reading skills, we are opening doors for the future and broadening horizons,” Bailey says. “We are reading them into academic and lifelong freedom.”

At the end of every reading session, the children are offered a book to take home. In 2016, Freedom Readers distributed more than 6,600 books. The books are received through donation from bookstores, nonprofit organizations and community book drives.

One Freedom Readers location partners with SOS Healthcare, a local nonprofit that works with autistic people in the community. Through this program, autistic adults are given the opportunity to tutor a child in Freedom Readers.

Bailey also works as a curriculum and implementation manager with Achieve 3000, an international digital reading program. In her spare time, she likes to run marathons, visit national parks and, of course, read.

Monica Trepiccione is a student writer in the Office of University Communication.
2008
Frances Farrar and Frank Fields Jr. were married on Dec. 3, 2016, at North United Methodist Church in North, S.C. She works with the Columbia Children’s Theatre and the S.C. Shakespeare Company as an educator and company member.

Stephanie Kozikowski is a third-grade teacher in her hometown at Shelburne (Vt.) Community School.

Jack Leasure is the head boys’ basketball coach at his alma mater McQuaid Jesuit High School in Rochester, N.Y. The Knights played in the 2016 Beach Ball Classic in Myrtle Beach in December 2016. As a member of the Chanticleer men’s basketball program, Leasure finished his career with 411 3-pointers, which is still good for 10th on the NCAA’s all-time list.

2009
Susan Scarce has been named development officer for the Conway Medical Center Foundation. She previously served as marketing and social media manager for Myrtle Beach Golf Holiday. Scarce also is a member of the Chanticleer Athletic Foundation board of directors.

Andrew Thompson graduated summa cum laude from Northwestern University, where he earned a master's degree in global studies and international affairs.

2010
Marianie Staab, an independent photographer/journalist, recently spent five weeks in the Middle East taking photos of Syrian refugees in Jordan and Iraq. In June, several of her photos from the Zaatari Refugee Camp were on display during a public art installation at the 2016 Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival in Pittsburgh, Pa.

2011
Roosevelt Corbett has been named program director and professional development coordinator at WINGS for Kids, an Atlanta-based education program that teaches children how to behave well, make good decisions and build healthy relationships.

David Duran was recently named youth pastor at Christ United Methodist Church in Myrtle Beach. He oversees both the middle school and high school programs.

Amy Haggard was recently named administrative specialist in the Office of Alumni Relations at Coastal Carolina University. She is pursuing a master’s degree in student affairs at Colorado State University.

2012
Alyson Boltz is engaged to be married to Erich Iberle. She works for NCGS Corporation in Charleston.

Emily Brockway played the title role in the Syracuse Stage/Department of Drama co-production of Mary Poppins. Now based in New York City, she has worked for Disney Cruise Lines and at theaters around the country.

Mary Cathryn Eberly married Brad Bundrick in March 2017, in Farmville, S.C. She is a fiscal analyst with the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education.

2013
Jessica Dennison is a physical therapist assistant at Emerge Ortho of Raleigh, N.C.

Spencer Lange has been named coach of Endicott College’s new women’s track and field program, which will officially begin as a varsity sport in Fall 2017. Lange has been the head coach of Endicott’s cross country program the past two years.

2014
Jonathan Kinsey and Kristina Lewis were engaged on Jan. 7, 2017, in Banner Elk, N.C. They will be married on Oct. 20, 2018, in South Carolina.

Deborah Tollison is engaged to Brad Yarborough. She is a life enrichment leader at Brightwater, a continuing care retirement community in Myrtle Beach.
2015

Aaron Aiken recently signed as a quarterback with the Arizona Rattlers of the Indoor Football League.

Joseph Beattie graduated into the fleet of the U.S. Coast Guard in July 2016. He will utilize his marine science degree during his assignment on the fast patrol cutter Sea Horse out of Portsmouth, Va.

Darbie Kelley is an inside sales consultant for the Charlotte Hornets.

Austin Kerr has signed to play professional baseball with the Schaumburg (Ill.) Boomers of the Independent Frontier League.

Shelby Manekin is a member of the Los Angeles Chargers Dance Team.

Joan Medvar and Jim Swanton are engaged to be married. She is employed at Cornell Medclaim in Millburn, N.J., and he is a financial adviser for Edward Jones in Bridgewater, N.J.

Geordan Miller was recently named a junior syndicated analyst at CresCom Bank’s 48th Avenue office in North Myrtle Beach.

LeAna Norman is pursuing a certificate in clinical psychology at Fielding Graduate University. She has been invited to present her research results at a forensic psychology conference in San Diego, Calif.

Symphony Thompson organized a drive to feed the homeless in the Myrtle Beach area during Thanksgiving and Christmas 2016. She received help from CCU students and alumni.

2016

Kaitlin Eriksen was named a 2016 National Club Softball Association first team All-American as an outfielder. This fall, she will be teaching physical education at Johnsonville (S.C.) Middle School. She has also been named the Johnsonville High School junior varsity softball coach.

Angelica Mourges is a teacher at Maison des Enfant de Dieu, an orphanage in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

[ Alumni Profile ]

Kristin Etzkorn, M.D.

Growing up in Springfield, Ill., Kristin Etzkorn ’05 had no doubts about where she was going to college. She went on family vacations to the Myrtle Beach area throughout her childhood and attended summer soccer camps at Coastal Carolina University, where her aunt worked in the Department of Athletics.

“The choice was very easy,” says Etzkorn, a rheumatologist who practices in Murrells Inlet and Myrtle Beach.

When she arrived on campus in fall of 2001, her plan was to study pharmacy, but she ultimately decided to switch to medicine.

“Coastal gave me a great overall education that prepared me well for medical school,” she says.

One of Etzkorn’s favorite classes was organic chemistry, one of the most difficult courses in the curriculum, according to many students. “Professor David Evans taught organic chemistry. He was very knowledgeable and enthusiastic about his area of expertise. He made it exciting for us to learn and was a great influence on me.”

After graduating from CCU in 2005, she spent four years at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine followed by a residency in internal medicine at the University of Tennessee in Memphis. Then she conducted a two-year fellowship for her specialty in rheumatology at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta.

Her education completed, she was eager to begin her medical practice on the Grand Strand, which she now considered “home.” Her parents had retired to the area when she was studying at CCU, and her husband, Jeremy Church, was born and raised in Surfside Beach.

Etzkorn joined Carolina Rheumatology and Neurology Associates in Myrtle Beach and Murrells Inlet in 2014. She specializes in treating such conditions as rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, lupus and uveitis.

Though most of her free time is taken up by her 18-month-old daughter Addison, Etzkorn loves coming back to visit campus. “I try to get back as often as I can for events like Homecoming,” she says, “and I’m blown away by the fact that it’s always more beautiful than the last time I visited. I have great memories of CCU and gratitude for the education I got there. I am where I want to be with my career and excited to be back in the area to raise our child.”
NEW YORK CITY ALUMNI EVENT

Michael Kelly ‘92, who stars in House of Cards, made a guest appearance at CCU’s alumni gathering at the West Bank Café in Manhattan on March 7. The annual event is held in conjunction with the New York Showcase event, during which CCU senior theatre students perform for professional casting directors and agents.

NEW YORK SHOWCASE

Michael Kelly ‘92, who stars in House of Cards, made a guest appearance at CCU’s alumni gathering at the West Bank Café in Manhattan on March 7. The annual event is held in conjunction with the New York Showcase event, during which CCU senior theatre students perform for professional casting directors and agents.
GIVING

I’M IN — the Endowment Campaign for Coastal Carolina University has attracted the following gifts. The goal of the campaign, launched last year, is to increase CCU’s endowment by $20 million by 2020.

Conference room named in memory of Waddell brothers

Tommy Lee Waddell of Loris has made a gift in memory of his two sons to the Department of History at CCU. A second-floor conference room in CCU’s Brittain Hall has been named the Waddell Conference Room in memory of Christopher Lee Waddell, a 2012 graduate, and Miles Thomas Waddell. In addition, an established history department scholarship will now be called the Waddell History Faculty & Alumni Scholarship.

Christopher Waddell earned a history degree from CCU and was pursuing a second degree to become a certified registered nurse anesthetist. Miles Waddell was an honor student at Loris High School. The brothers were returning home from Christmas shopping when they were involved in a head-on car accident on Dec. 22, 2014, and died eight days apart. They were 26 and 17, respectively.

“Naming this space is a tribute to both of my sons,” said Tommy Waddell. “Christopher graduated from CCU and Miles wanted to go there, too. Both of them were very athletic and loved sports. Christopher had a big influence on Miles, and I feel certain that CCU is where he would have gone once he graduated from Loris High School. It is such an honor for my family and me to be able to make this donation to CCU in memory of Christopher and Miles.”

CCU announces first-ever TEAL 1000 scholarship recipient

Alex Del Castillo of Myrtle Beach is the first-ever TEAL 1000 Endowed Scholarship recipient.

TEAL 1000 is a new endowed scholarship fund created to allow area individuals and businesses to show their support and appreciation for Coastal Carolina University by making an annual investment of $1,000. All TEAL 1000 donations go into an endowed fund and the interest supports scholarships for students from Horry and Georgetown counties. More than 60 individuals, businesses and foundations have contributed to TEAL 1000.

“From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank all of the individuals and businesses who contribute to the TEAL 1000 Endowed Scholarship Fund,” Del Castillo said. “I am a first-generation college student and my parents cannot afford to pay for my education. By attending Coastal, I hope to set a great example for my younger brothers.”

Del Castillo is an applied mathematics major and communication minor at CCU. He is a member of Coastal’s Teaching Fellows Program, and his career goal is to become a high school mathematics teacher. He also is pursuing a certificate in sustainability and is a member of Coastal’s Residence Hall Association, the American Sign Language Club and the Eco-Club.

Del Castillo previously attended Horry County Schools Early College High School and Horry Georgetown Technical College. He works part-time at Ripley’s Aquarium to help pay for college.

TEAL 1000 is an initiative of I’M IN – The Endowment Campaign for Coastal Carolina University.
Berner endowed scholarship at CCU benefits engineering students

The Walter T. Berner Jr. Endowed Scholarship at Coastal Carolina University will benefit students enrolled in the College of Science’s dual-degree engineering program. Berner’s wife, Muriel Berner, and daughter Claudia Berner recently established the fund in his memory.

To be eligible for the scholarship, students must be rising sophomores and enrolled in the program, which offers the opportunity to begin pursuing a bachelor’s degree at CCU while preparing for an engineering degree from Clemson University. The scholarship recipient will spend three years at CCU majoring in one of four degrees and then spend two years and one summer at Clemson majoring in one of eight engineering degrees that is compatible with their major at CCU. While at Clemson, the student will complete the remaining courses needed for the CCU degree.

“Higher education is expensive,” said Claudia Berner. “It’s hard for many people to afford. This scholarship is inspired by my father’s love of learning. He would be very proud to see new engineers join the workforce since engineering was his passion.”

A native of Miami, Fla., Walter Berner earned a mechanical engineering degree from Tulane University. He served in the U.S. Navy and was an engineer with Exxon for more than 40 years. He died in 2010.

Long scholarship benefits nursing students at CCU

David and Fran Long of Conway have donated a parcel of land in Horry County to Coastal Carolina University. As part of the agreement, proceeds from CCU’s sale of the property will be used to establish an endowed scholarship in memory of David’s aunt, who willed the land to the couple. The Mary Brittie Long Endowed Scholarship in Nursing will be the first scholarship to assist students in CCU’s nursing completion program.

To be eligible for the scholarship, students must be enrolled in CCU’s nursing completion program, have a GPA of 2.75 or higher and demonstrate financial need. Preference will be given to students from Horry County.

Mary Brittie Long (1901-1994) graduated from the Mullins Hospital School of Nursing in Mullins in 1924. She practiced as a registered nurse for many years at Conway Hospital and as a private duty nurse.

“Aunt Brittie was a special lady,” said David Long, who owned Long Construction Co. in Conway for more than 30 years. “There were seven siblings in her family and they all went to college. She really valued higher education.”

Fran Long, who worked in nursing and public health for more than 30 years, has been a teaching associate in CCU’s nursing completion program since January 2012.

The nursing program, which reported a 100 percent job placement rate for graduating seniors for the 2015-16 academic year, is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.
Thanks to the support of many of you, Coastal Carolina University has experienced extraordinary progress. The determination of the people here is unmatched by any that Terri and I have ever encountered. Now is the time for transformational philanthropy to shape the University’s future. With your financial support during this campaign, imagine how many more students will discover their passions and follow their dreams. Together, we will help extend CCU’s impact well beyond Horry County, beyond our state borders, and beyond even the expectations of our founding fathers who, 63 years ago, made higher education a priority and this University a reality.

I’m in. Are you?”

– David A. DeCenzo, Ph.D.
President, Coastal Carolina University

Campaign goal:
Increase CCU’s endowment by $20 million by 2020

What it means:
$800,000 in additional funding for student scholarships and academic excellence
Bunton scholarship to benefit physics students

Brian Bunton, an associate professor of physics in the College of Science at Coastal Carolina University, has made a financial commitment to support students majoring in physics at the University. He has established the Dr. Brian Bunton Endowed Scholarship for Physics and also has designated a portion of his estate to the University to further fund the scholarship.

To be eligible for the scholarship, recipients must be full-time students at Coastal Carolina University majoring in physics, have a GPA of at least 2.00 and demonstrate financial need.

“Last year, a student told me he had to drop out of CCU because he couldn’t afford to continue,” said Bunton, an avid fan of the Chanticleer baseball program. “He wasn’t a straight-A student, so he wasn’t eligible for many academic scholarships. Had he stayed, though, he most likely would have successfully graduated and gone on to a job he wanted in his field. I’m sure there are others with similar stories. It is my hope that my scholarship can help those students avoid such situations.”

Bunton joined the Coastal faculty in 2007. He earned a bachelor’s degree in physics from Clemson University in 2000, and master’s and doctorate degrees in physics from Duke University in 2003 and 2007, respectively.

OLLI@CCU receives its second $1 million grant

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Coastal Carolina University (OLLI@CCU) has received its second $1 million endowed grant from the Bernard Osher Foundation to support the operations of the institute. The initial grant was received in 2013. Receiving a second grant from the foundation is very rare, according to Carol Osborne, director of community outreach at Coastal Carolina University.

“A consistent standard of excellence and a model of active member involvement have become hallmarks of Coastal Carolina University’s fine program,” said Osher Foundation President Mary G.F. Bitterman. “We recognize that the institute’s success represents the collective achievement of its excellent staff and dynamic community of intellectually vigorous members, who give generously of their time, talent and financial resources.”

OLLI@CCU is housed in CCU’s Office of Academic and Community Outreach. It provides opportunities for adult, noncredit students age 50 or older to achieve intellectual stimulation, as well as cultural and social growth. Nearly 400 noncredit classes and workshops, as well as a variety of special interest clubs and travel opportunities, are offered each semester for mature learners. Courses are offered during day and evening hours at outreach centers in Conway, Georgetown, Litchfield and Myrtle Beach.

Lifelong learning at CCU dates back to 1987 with the establishment of the Third Quarter program. In the 1990s, the program evolved into the Lifelong Learning Society and expanded to four service sites. It was renamed the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Coastal Carolina University in 2007 when it was awarded its first $100,000 grant from the Osher Foundation.
## Lifetime Giving Recognition Society Levels

Any donor who has given $10,000 or more to Coastal Carolina University as of December 31, 2016, is listed below under their respective Lifetime Giving Recognition Society Level.

Please note total lifetime giving does not include pledges or planned gifts, but only actual funds received.

In addition to receiving membership into the following Lifetime Giving Recognition Societies, each Coastal Carolina University alumnus has also received an Alumni Association Lifetime Membership.

*† an acknowledgement of the gift of more than 1,000 acres at Waties Island given for educational and research purposes by the estate of Mrs. Boyce

### FOUNDERs SOCIETY
($10,000,000+)
- Anne Tilghman Boyce *†

### TRUSTEES SOCIETY
($5,000,000 - $9,999,999)
- C. L. Benton and Sons Inc.
- Mr. and Mrs. Fred F. DuBard Jr.
- Mrs. Selma M. Graham*
- Mr. Harvey Graham Sr.* and Mrs. Audrey A. Garland '80
- Mr. Wilbur L. Garland and Mrs. Audrey A. Garland '80
- Mr. and Mrs. G. David Bishop
- Mr. and Mrs. William S. Biggs
- Mr. Keith A. Benton Sr.
- BB&T
- Mrs. Kitty L. Tilghman*
- TEAL SOCIETY
($250,000 - $499,999)
- Bank of America
- Mr. and Mrs. Mike Brown
- City of Conway
- Feltburn Foundation
- Mr. Dalton B. Floyd Jr. and Mrs. Linda B. Floyd '75
- Gabelli Funds, Mario J. Gabelli, Chairman
- Mr. William L. Garland and Mrs. Audrey A. Garland '80
- Mr. Harvey Graham Sr.* and Mrs. Selma M. Graham*
- Hayden Blackwell Quattlebaum
- Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Jackson Jr.
- Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce
- Ocean View Memorial Foundation Inc.
- Dr. Eldred E. Prince Sr.* and Mrs. Mildred E. Prince* '75, '76
- Mr. Michael D. Pruitt '84 and Mrs. Mary S. Pruitt
- The Honorable H. Tom Rice Jr. and Mrs. Wrenzie Rice
- Santee Cooper
- Sparks Toyota
- Rick and Susan J. Sparks
- Patrick '95 and Susan D. Sparks
- Mr. Kenneth E. Swain
- The Jackson family
- Nelson* and Mary Emily* Jackson
- Manuel and Mary Emily Vallarino
- Winston and Laura Hoy
- Johnny and Kaki Williamson
- John and Rachel Gandy
- Joe and Jeanne Mize
- The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation
- Mr. Horace Tilghman Jr.* and Mrs. Kitty L. Tilghman*

### ATHENEUM SOCIETY
($1,000,000 - $2,499,999)
- AVX / Kyocera Foundation
- Ms. Rebecca Randall Bryan*
- Burroughs & Chapin Company Inc.
- Citigroup Business Services
- Colonel* and Mrs. * Lawrence B. Clark
- Mr. Thomas W. Edwards* and Mrs. Robin W. Edwards
- General* and Mrs.* James F. Hackler
- Mr. Keith C. Hinson ’69, ’71 and Mrs. Dixie W. Hinson ’69
- Mr. Wendell E.* and Mrs. Lucille C.* Hinson
- Mr.* and Mrs.* Raymond Kearn
- Mr.* and Mrs.* William A. Kimbel
- Dr.* and Mrs.* R. Cathcart Smith
- Mr.* and Mrs.* William L. Spadoni
- The Bernard Osher Foundation
- The E. Craig Wall Sr. and E. Craig Wall Jr. Families

### UNIVERSITY SOCIETY
($500,000 - $999,999)
- Mr. James C. Benton Sr.* and Mrs. Emma Ann L. Benton
- Citigroup Payment Services
- Mrs. Jodie L. Hyatt*
- Musco Sports Lighting LLC
- Mrs. Novie M. Nelson*
- Palmetto Chevrolet
( Mr. William O. Marsh ’86 and Mrs. Elizabeth L. Marsh ’85)
- Strand Orthopaedic Consultants LLC
(Dr. Richard W. Ward)
- The Clay D. Brittain Jr. Family
- Mr. Lindsey H. Vereen* ’68 and Mrs. Vivian E. Vereen

### BRONZE SOCIETY
($100,000 - $249,999)
- Mr. Mark R. Adkins ’89 and Mrs. Janet Adkins
- Mr. William N. Adkins ’89 and Mrs. Lavinia V. Adkins
- Mr. William H. Allford ’77 and Mrs. Dawn S. Allford
- Mr.* and Mrs. Neil J. Ammons Jr.
- BB&T
- Mr. Keith A. Benton Sr.
- Mr. and Mrs. William S. Biggs
- Mr. and Mrs. G. David Bishop
- Mr. Franklin C. Blanton ’65 and Mrs. Nancy T. Blanton
- Ms. Florence Bouvy*
- Dr. Jessie M. Brown and Mr. Thomas P. Brown Jr.
- C. L. Benton and Sons Inc.
- Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Calliham
- Carolina Trust Federal Credit Union
- Mr. B. Chad Casselman ’98
- Coastal Orthopedic Associates
- Conway Chrysler Dodge Jeep Inc.
- Conway Ford Inc.
- CresCom Bank
- Mr.* and Mrs.* Archie S. Dargar Jr.
- Mr. and Mrs. Fred F. DuBard Jr.
- Mr.* and Mrs. Henry J. Faison
- Mr. and Mrs. Carl O. Falk Jr.
- Georgetown Memorial Hospital
- Mr. and Mrs. Anthony P. Grant
- Mr. Wyatt Henderson ’98 and Mrs. Stacy H. Henderson
- Dr. Hal B. Holmes Jr. and Mrs. Margaret Holmes
- Horry County Higher Education Commission
- Mr. A. Edward Jackson III ’70 and Mrs. Sarah P. Jackson
- Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jones
- Mr. Charles B. Jordan ’64 and Mrs. Margaret P. Jordan
- Dr. R. Blake Kline ’90
- Larry and Marian Lyles
- Mr. and Mrs. J. M. McMillan
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