



# cau•se•rie

## Division of Student Affairs and Department of Academic Support

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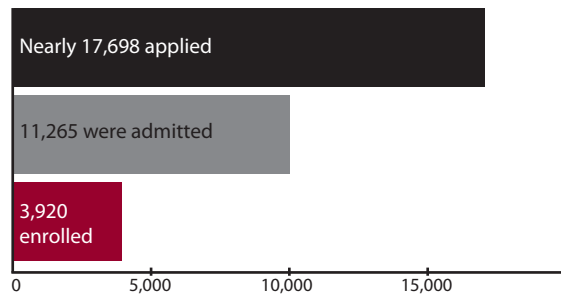
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**Note:** This report features admissions data as of 10.23.09.

**Fall 2009** In this month's issue, we introduce you to the class of 2013, the largest and most academically gifted class in University history. We'll also provide you with information that we hope you'll share with your students about resources offered by the Division of Student Affairs and Department of Academic Support.

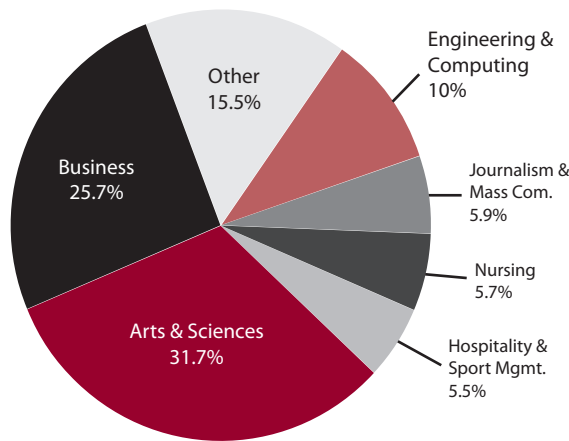
### Record number of applicants for fall freshman class



### Freshmen continue family traditions

- 578 freshmen—15 percent of the first-year class—have a parent who also attended the University.
- 43 freshmen have a parent who works for the University.

### Most popular programs of study among first-year students



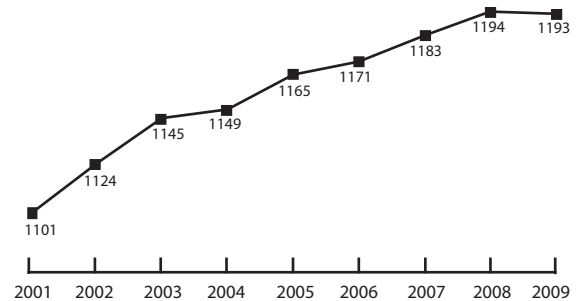
### Most freshmen are South Carolinians

The majority of freshmen call the Palmetto State home, but students in the class of 2013 also hail from 39 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. The top five states represented—other than South Carolina—are North Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, Maryland and New Jersey.

### The 2009 freshman class includes:

- 48 National Merit, National Achievement and National Hispanic Scholars
- 77 Valedictorians
- 318 Honors College Students
- 481 Capstone Scholars
- 10 sets of twins!

### The average SAT score remains high



First-year students' mean high school GPA is 3.74.

### For many, bachelor's degree is only the beginning

- 44.7% plan to earn a master's degree
- 15.1% plan to earn a Ph.D or Ed.D
- 9.2% plan to earn an M.D.
- 6.6% plan to earn a J.D.

### Percentage of first-year students who rate their abilities above average

- Academic Ability— 81%
- Drive to Achieve— 79 %
- Self-Confidence (intellectual)— 68 %
- Writing Ability— 49 %
- Computer Skills— 43 %
- Artistic Ability— 27 %

{ On the reverse side, find resources to help all of our first-year students. }

# Resources to help make our students **better** students.

## For your reference file

For additional copies, call 777.4172 or e-mail [gudridge@sc.edu](mailto:gudridge@sc.edu).

### The data

The information for this issue came from Undergraduate Admissions and the 2009 freshman survey administered by the University as part of the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) at the Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA. Complete data from the 2009 CIRP will be available at <http://kudzu.ipr.sc.edu>. For more information on CIRP, visit [www.heri.ucla.edu](http://www.heri.ucla.edu).

### Comments

Your comments and suggestions for future issues of "Causerie" are welcome. Please e-mail [saas@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:saas@mailbox.sc.edu).

## Gamecock Connection

[www.gamecockconnection.org](http://www.gamecockconnection.org)

Gamecock Connection, an academic and social networking site for first-year students, helps students learn about campus resources, get tips to improve academic and personal success, define goals and make friends.

Services offered by the site include:

- advice on academic and life-skills topics
- videos and quizzes
- networking and communication tools

Currently, **73% of first-year students** have profiles on the site.

For more information, including login details, call Jordan Edelman at 803.777.0684.

## Academic Centers for Excellence

[www.housing.sc.edu/ace](http://www.housing.sc.edu/ace)

The Academic Centers for Excellence (ACE), located in residence halls and at the Student Success Center, offer students an opportunity to improve their academic success.

ACE offers four major services:

- academic skills consultations
- writing consultations
- math tutoring
- online learning inventories

Last year, **more than 2,476 students** benefited from ACE's programs and services.

## University 101

[www.sc.edu/univ101](http://www.sc.edu/univ101)

University 101 is the award-winning program designed to help first-year students succeed in academic and life transitions at the University.

The elective course offers:

- tips on note-taking and time management
- introduction to more than 200 student clubs and organizations
- methods for sharpening critical-thinking and decision-making skills

Currently, about **75% of first-year students** are enrolled in U101. Studies have found that students in U101 tend to excel academically and to achieve higher retention and graduation rates.

## Student Success Center

[www.sa.sc.edu/ssc](http://www.sa.sc.edu/ssc)

The Student Success Center, housed in the Thomas Cooper Library, is the central campus location for academic support services.

The center's offerings include:

- peer tutoring
- Supplemental Instruction (SI)
- scholarship retention programs
- early intervention programs

On average, students who attend SI regularly earn **a third of a letter-grade higher** than those who don't.

*The University of South Carolina is an equal opportunity institution.*

*n. 1. An informal discussion or chat. 2. A publication of the Division of Student Affairs and Department of Academic Support describing timely topics of interest at the University of South Carolina.*

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