

USC Aiken News

URS and SRR Support USC Aiken through STEM Initiatives

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Contact: Jennifer Conner, 803.641.3569



Photo – from left to right: Jim French, president and project manager of Savannah River Remediation; Tom Hallman, USC Aiken chancellor; Suzanne Ozment, executive vice chancellor for academic affairs at USC Aiken; and Dave Pethick, president of URS Washington Division Energy and Environmental Group

Aiken, S.C. — A major gift of \$75,000 has been made to USC Aiken through the generosity of URS Corporation and the URS led company, Savannah River Remediation LLC. URS continues to support initiatives at the University with a focus on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The gift will support three major areas including: scholarships for academically-talented students in science, mathematics, and engineering; a feasibility study to assess the interest and support for a locally-delivered undergraduate engineering program; and support for STEM initiatives at the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center.

“A major concern for our country is our ability to maintain our global technological competitive advantage in the future with fewer U.S. students pursuing degree programs in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields,” said USC Aiken Chancellor Tom Hallman. “Through this generous gift, URS and SRR are making a difference in the lives of students today, while making an important investment in our future.”

Dave Pethick, president of the URS Energy & Environment Group, said, “We are proud to continue our longstanding support of USC Aiken and to be able to provide funding that will help students further their education in science, math, and engineering”.

Jim French, president and project manager for Savannah River Remediation said, “Like other technology-oriented companies, we need highly skilled employees. To meet our needs, we want the best and brightest graduates who can help us in the future. We know that through the funding of these programs USC Aiken will provide a pipeline of talent from which we can draw.”

USC Aiken is a senior institution of the University of South Carolina system. The University offers bachelor’s and master’s degrees to more than 3,200 students in 35 degree programs. USC Aiken is ranked the #1 public baccalaureate college in the South by *U.S. News & World Report’s* guide “America’s Best Colleges.” 2009 marks USC Aiken’s 11th consecutive ranking among the top three in this category and its fifth time in first place.

The Savannah River Site’s Liquid Waste contractor on July 1 will be Savannah River Remediation LLC, whose partners include URS, Bechtel Corporation, CH2M Hill and Babcock & Wilcox.

Jennifer Conner
Director of Marketing & Community Relations
University of South Carolina Aiken
471 University Parkway
Aiken, SC 29801
phone: 803.641.3569
fax: 803.641.3362
jconner@usca.edu