In This Newsletter:

• Dean’s Message
• Alumni Spotlight

DIVISION UPDATES

• Counselor Education
• Educational Leadership
• Literacy and ESOL Ed
• STEM Center
• Teacher Education

Senior cadets partnering with a non-profit organization to raise awareness and streamline its operations for leadership day.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

- Nelson Mandela
The Citadel's Zucker Family School of Education is a leader in teacher and administrator professional development. Join The Citadel family today!

Stats of Pride

No. 1  **U.S. News & World Report** ranking Best Colleges for Veterans (Regional Universities) for 11 years in a row

13% More Diverse Students in Graduate Programs (from 2020 to 2021)

No. 1 Ranked Teacher Education and Educational Leadership Programs in SC

70% Beaufort County Educational Leadership (EdS) cohort grads hired as Assistant Principals this year

No. 1 Most recipients of Teacher and Principal of the Year awards in the Lowcountry

18 SC school district partnerships (and growing)!

Our graduates are principled leaders!
Resiliency has been the overarching theme in recent months especially for our students and district partners throughout the Lowcountry.

The ZFSOE has redesigned its retention plan with a core focus that goes beyond academics, embracing the social, emotional, and financial hardships that students may experience. We believe that through ongoing communication and timely responses to emergent needs can we can ensure that students complete their degrees on time but more importantly, understand that we are partners in education.

This concept of continuous improvement is foundational to student success. We recently created a sub-committee tasked with refining systems, enhancing curricular programs, and other services like our ZFSOE Mentor Program, Student Clubs, and he Alumni Network. In addition, we would like to celebrate our recent rankings in Teacher Education and Educational Leadership as #1 programs in the state of SC, as well as the tenure and promotion of Dr. Jennifer Albert, Director of the STEM Center! Our enrollment numbers continue to climb as more people become aware of the academic and economic impacts advantages of earning certifications and degrees, also known as something we call The Citadel Effect- that - where our graduates go on to earn more in their careers than graduates of any other university in South Carolina. Our graduates are positioned to lead and serve as agents of change in their communities. A select number of these become recognized as distinguished Wall of Fame inductees, such as this year’s recipients: Dr. Glenda Levine, Geri Henderson, Kayla McCombs, and Todd Garrett.

Education is constantly in motion and faculty and staff in the ZFSOE have been resilient in our quest to support their students through any means necessary. We look forward to hearing from you with any feedback on improvements that can further enhance our operations.

Sincerely,

Evan Ortlieb
Dean, Zucker Family School of Education
Alumni Spotlight
Deon Jackson
Berkeley County School District Superintendent
Deon Jackson was 18 when he visited The Citadel for the first time. Behind the uniforms, structure and early morning runs, Jackson discovered leaders who made an impression and shaped his life. He was making plans for a career in sports management and administration when Col. John S. Carter, a professor of health and physical education, encouraged Jackson to pursue a teaching certificate.

At the age of 23, he was offered a job in Lancaster County to teach and coach. After two years, Jackson and his now-wife Adrienne decided to settle in Charleston so he could finish up his master’s degree at The Citadel.

After securing a job at Goose Creek High School, Jackson completed his master’s degree in secondary school administration. Four years later, Jackson moved on to Timberland High School, where he served as assistant principal. Four years after that, he was named principal at St. Stephen Middle School and then Cane Bay Middle School. And then it was on to the district office.

In May, Jackson was named superintendent of Berkeley County School District.

- Article was originally published in The Citadel Magazine by Jennifer Wallace

“I love The Citadel. There are things I have learned at The Citadel that I didn’t realize I was learning until after I got out. I still walk at a pretty swift pace, not quite 120 (paces per minute), but I walk at a pretty swift pace.”
Led by Dr. Guy Ilagan, students enjoyed a three-day Student Veterans Backpacking Trip this summer in Western North Carolina.

We Salute Our Student Veterans

The Zucker Family School of Education is fortunate to enroll student veterans who have dedicated their time and talents in service to our nation and who are now studying to continue their service in K-12 schools as well as colleges and universities.

The ZFSOE was a proud sponsor of the Beaufort County Counselor Cohort at this year’s Homecoming game. Counselor Education faculty and Beaufort school counselors enjoyed a day together cheering on the Bulldogs.
Dr. Corey has served as a guest speaker for many of Dr. William’s courses. Dr. Williams considers Dr. Corey as one of his top career mentors whom he continues working with professionally and collaboratively. He is so appreciative and grateful for knowing “Jerry” for 40+ years.

Student veterans from the backpacking trip also attended an outdoor adventure trip in October. They camped, kayaked, and explored remote waterfalls.

A Special Guest Call
At the start of their Tuesday night Group Counseling class, Dr. George William’s phone just happened to ring. On the line was Dr. Gerald Corey, the author of their course textbook. The students had the wonderful opportunity to discuss their personal thoughts/comments concerning Dr. Corey’s course texts.

Lauren Roland, Cyra Valente, Nicole Singleton, Jen Roland.
The Division of Counselor Education launched a new LPC Cohort with Beaufort County School District (BCSD). BCSD school counselors completed a course on assessment, diagnostics, and treatment of psychological disorders in preparation for becoming licensed professional counselors. The Counselor Education program is excited to collaborate and provide on-site courses in Beaufort for a new cohort of aspiring school counselors within the Beaufort County School District.

Preparing for Upcoming CACREP Accreditation Visit

The Counselor Education program completed its CACREP self-study report this year and has been approved for a virtual site visit in 2022. The current accreditation cycle was extended to October 31, 2022 due to the pandemic. We look forward to showcasing the strengths of our school counseling program to the site team in the coming year.
Meet Our New Faculty

Dr. Gail Gilmore brings 25 years of school leadership experience to The Citadel, having served as a Connecticut superintendent of schools, assistant superintendent of schools, principal, and interim division director for educator effectiveness and professional learning at the Connecticut State Department of Education. She is utilizing her superintendency experience to support the Ed.S. program, primarily.

2021 Alumni Awards

Mrs. Geraldine Henderson was presented with The Outstanding Alumnae Award, a ZFSOE 2021 Citadel Wall of Fame Award, as she is instrumental in the partnership between Beaufort County Schools and The Citadel. Mrs. Henderson serves as the Director of School Counseling.

Mrs. Rene Harris, c/o 2001 of our Educational Leadership program, has been named 2022 South Carolina Elementary Principal of the Year by the South Carolina Association of School Administrators (SCASA).

Beech Hill Elementary School
Dorchester School District Two

Ranked #1 Program in the state of South Carolina!
Dr. Glenda Levine

Dr. Glenda Levine, a 2021 Ed.S. graduate, was presented with a ZF SOE 2021 Wall of Fame Award, Outstanding Educational Contributions to the Lowcountry. Dr. Levine has served as a school and district level administrator in the Berkeley County School District for over 20 years. Her most recent position was the first in the area, Chief Diversity Officer.

Adam Barnes

CCSD 2021 Teacher of the Year – Adam Barnes. Adam is an M.Ed. student at The Citadel and a teacher at West Ashley High School.

Abby Best

CCSD 2021 Teacher of the Year Runner Up – Abby Best. Abby is an M.Ed. graduate of The Citadel and is a team leader at James B. Edwards School of Global Leadership.

Todd Garrett

2021 ZF SOE Wall of Fame Recipient

Todd P. Garrett graduated from the Citadel in 1998. In 2012, Todd was elected to the Charleston County School District (CCSD) Board where he served as Chairman of the Audit & Finance Committee for eight years and Chair of the Committee of the Whole for two years. He led the planning and management of a $1 billion annual budget. Under his leadership, the district turned a deficit into a $141 million surplus.
New Student Perspective

Did you know?

A ZFSoE M.Ed. in Educational Leadership from The Citadel pays dividends!

In a recent Beaufort Cohort, 7 of 10 students were hired this year as Assistant Principals.

In the Charleston County School District, teacher leaders are financially supported in the M.Ed. program. These cohort members are interviewed first for administrative vacancies. There are too many to count!

In the Dorchester 2 School District, teacher leaders are also financially supported in the M.Ed. program in the hope of growing the leadership pipeline.

Berkeley County School District has begun a new M.Ed. cohort and hopes to be able to financially support future cohorts.

Charleston and Berkeley Counties have entered into 5 year agreements to offer new Ed. Leadership cohorts each year for five years.

Alethea Setzer
CCSD Cohort XI

In just a few months, I have already grown so much as an educator and leader. After 27 years in education, I thought I had seen every side of education, but the principal must see all pieces of the educational puzzle and how they work together. Dr. Westberry constantly shares real-world experiences and ways to think creatively to solve problems without creating too many ripples in the rest of our school systems. I learned to surround myself with others who have different strengths and talents and to delegate because the principal’s job is vast. Delegation doesn't mean handing it off and forgetting it. We must set timelines, goals, and train our teachers and other administrators on how to work together. These two classes have really opened my eyes, and I can’t wait for the next piece of this administrative puzzle!
Teacher Education

Cadet Spotlight

William 'Jay' Smith – Mike Company – Class of 2022

William 'Jay' Smith's journey at The Citadel began in the 'dawg days' of summer in 2018 with a short, nine-mile drive from his home in West Ashley. A graduate of West Ashley High School, Jay epitomized what it means to be a student athlete. His grade point average, upon graduation, was above a 4.0 and he was an all-state selection for both football and wrestling during his senior year.

Jay chose The Citadel because it was the place he felt would provide him the best chance to advance himself both academically and athletically. He believed that the small faculty-to-cadet ratio would help provide him the support he would need to adjust to athletics and academics as well as cadet life. He was given preferred walk-on status with the football team, meaning that he was not guaranteed a scholarship. Even with other offers available, he bet on himself - a decision that has certainly paid off. Jay earned a full athletic scholarship after his freshman season.

While Jay planned on majoring in biology, his academic trajectory would change, in part due to his time in his EDUC 101 class - a class that is based on topics associated with education in the modern age. It was in these moments that Jay became more eyes wide open for the need to grow students' understandings related to health-related fitness. After that initial semester, Jay made the decision to change his major to secondary education with an emphasis in physical education.

While trying to manage all of his responsibilities, Jay believes that much of his success has been a result of the structure of The Citadel, and the support of his coaches and the faculty in the ZFSOE. Jay is excited to graduate on-time after he completes his student-teaching experience in spring 2022. After graduation, Jay plans on teaching and coaching at a school here in the Lowcountry. For Jay, teaching became a calling - one that he believes is based on building meaningful relationships between himself and the young people he will have the good fortune to teach and coach.
The STEM Center supported SC teachers and schools in celebrating

Cookies, Cocoa, and Coding

Cadet volunteers packed over 200 Binary Bead Bracelet Kits to go out to Lowcountry students. The STEM Center also sent out over 40 Cookies, Cocoa, and Coding Lessons to rural and Lowcountry teachers to help with CSEd Week activities.

This FREE annual event was open to students in grades K-12 and aims to provide students with hands-on computing opportunities. Students used Code.org’s tutorials in order to practice computer science concepts and skills.

M.Ed. in Interdisciplinary STEM Alumni Spotlight

Stephanie Klixbull is a seasoned educator who has spent the past nine years teaching. She graduated from The Citadel with a M.Ed. in Interdisciplinary STEM Education in Summer 2021. While completing her degree, she taught STEM/STEAM classes as the Lower-School Idea Lab and Theater Teacher at Pinewood Preparatory School. Stephanie also received a $1,000 Delta Kappa Gamma Alpha Rho Grant. Stephanie is currently serving as an Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow with the US Dept. of Energy in Washington, DC.

For more information, contact Ashley Andrews at ashley.andrews@citadel.edu
The Citadel Welcomes Its First-Ever Lowcountry Literacy Cohort: Teachers to Learn about Literacy and Teaching Multi-Language Learners

This summer, 23 dedicated educators from around the Lowcountry began their coursework in the MEd in Literacy Education. The MEd in Literacy Education has been fully redesigned to offer teachers support and preparation in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) instruction, since South Carolina has one of the fastest-growing populations of multi-language learners in the US. The cohort is pursuing their degree online with synchronous and asynchronous meetings. It’s a great way for The Citadel to reach teachers in rural and urban areas and to accommodate the busy professional lives of teachers.

The Citadel Partners with Multiple Institutions of Higher Education across SC to Support Adolescent Literacy

With literacy professors from Clemson, USC, CofC, and Winthrop, Dr. Britnie Delinger Kane is representing The Citadel as part of Literacy in the Disciplines, 6-12 (LiD 6-12), a professional organization aimed at supporting South Carolina educators’ understanding of how to teach literacy in any content area. We boast many conference presentations and publications about the state of adolescent literacy in South Carolina and host a blog (literacy6-12.org) with resources for teachers on the teaching of literacy, especially through difficulties associated with the pandemic. Over the past three years, we have received over $75,000 in grant funding in support of these efforts.
The Summer Institute runs for three weeks. During the first two weeks, teachers earn graduate credit while improving their own writing abilities and their ability to support young writers in the classroom. During the third week, teachers work with promising writers from Title I schools to foster the next generation’s love of writing. Students’ writing is published in the LWP’s annual compendium of student work, and we host an autograph party at the camp’s end.

Director: Dr. Lauren Rule Maxwell
Associate Director: Dr. Britnie Delinger Kane
Recent graduate Elizabeth “Bette” Ceccoli won the prestigious 2021 Hirshey Award for the Literacy Program, which is offered by The Citadel to those who “exemplify excellence in education.”

Lauren Roche has been promoted to Master Reading Teacher at Pinehurst Elementary.
ZFSOE Contact Us

📞 843.953.5097
✉️ zuckerfamilysoe@citadel.edu
🌐 go.citadel.edu/education