

February 24, 2009

The Honorable Henry Brown
130 Cannon HOV
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Brown,

Thank you for your support of Charleston Southern University. The entire Charleston Southern family, particularly the students, is very appreciative of your efforts on our behalf.

The Charleston Southern University is asking for your help with a **Congressional Directed Grant of \$330,000.00 in science equipment** (see attached list) to continue strengthening our nursing and science programs. This equipment will provide much needed upgrades in the Schools of Nursing, and Math and Science. With approximately 350 students majoring in nursing and other science related fields, our students will greatly benefit from the upgrades which will strengthen their academic experience. By providing this science equipment you will be assisting in the preparation of future nurses, doctors, science teachers, pharmacists as well as a host of other medical and environmental professionals that will impact South Carolina for decades to come. As explained in the paragraphs below we believe Charleston Southern is worthy of consideration for this grant based upon its performance and service to the people of our state and nation.

In 2008 our graduates from the School of Nursing for the second consecutive year had a 100 percent first time pass rate on the NCLEX-RN exam. Charleston Southern is the only nursing school in South Carolina to hold such a distinction. The School of Nursing offers a program leading to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. The selection process is very competitive with more than 120 applying to the program last year. Working with grants provided by area hospitals, we were able to bring 40 students into the nursing program each year. Not only do we provide education opportunities for our regular four year students we also provide opportunities for those nurses who have a two year degree and want to earn their BSN. The nursing program has Full Approval of the SC Board of Nursing and is accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).

The School of Nursing was chosen by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation as one of 15 pilot schools in the country implementing quality and safety competencies into the BSN curriculum. As part of this initiative, the school is expanding the skills laboratory to include high fidelity simulation technology (supported

Promoting Academic Excellence in a Christian Environment

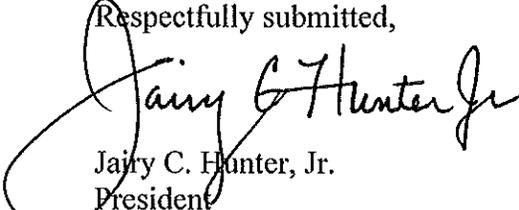
by University strategic funds of \$150,000) to be integrated throughout the curriculum. Also, in order to accomplish the goal of increasing the quality and safety aspects of the nursing program through technology, the University and the School of Nursing are underwriting the costs needed to complete the nursing lab upgrade. The outcome would be increased safety of the patient population and increased quality of the BSN program.

In the fall of 2005 Charleston Southern University opened the new state-of-the-art 54,000 square foot Science Center, with a \$15,000,000.00 total project cost which we believe is the finest undergraduate science facility in the state. The University financed the construction through private donations and debt instruments, and we continue to raise funds (private donations of \$1,103,290.00 have been collected) to equip this facility with the latest equipment available. This grant would assist the University in providing part of the equipment needed. Also, we now have seven full-time faculty members in Biology alone. In addition, work has begun on a Life Science Initiative (LSI), within the Strategic Plan of the University that will strengthen our overall program, especially in the biomedical and environmental areas. To enhance these specialties, we now have two full-time faculty members that have a research component to their contract.

Charleston Southern values diversity and hard work in order to create an educational environment to prepare students for a variety of careers in the sciences, nursing and other medical fields as well as in business and education. Eighty-four percent of students come to us from South Carolina. Thirty-two percent of our students are minorities, and ninety-five percent of our students receive some form of financial aid. Charleston Southern is committed to creating a teaching and learning environment that helps each student achieve his or her goal, while recognizing the varying circumstances from which each student comes.

Your support will encourage and assist many students and will support our efforts to increase the number and educational level of teachers, registered nurses, environmental workers, and other science professionals in the state. The funding will also improve the ethnic balance in these professions and enhance the needs of the underserved minorities and rural communities in South Carolina.

Respectfully submitted,



Jairy C. Hunter, Jr.
President

Congressional Directed Grant
Funding Request

Derry Patterson Wingo School of Nursing – Simulation Laboratory Needs

- 7 Hill Rom hospital beds – beds for mannequins and student practice scenarios. The current beds are 12 years old and out-of-date.
- Defibrillator – Students currently do not have an opportunity to train with a defibrillator prior to going into the hospital setting.
- Flat screen wall mounted monitor for cardiac – This would add more realism to the student simulation scenarios.
- 2 IV pumps – The current IV pump is broken and out of date. These two pumps would match what students in our area hospitals.
- 2 computers for student use in lab- We currently are two computers short for the increased enrollment numbers. Students test online and complete online simulation modules.
- 2 computer tables and chairs – These are needed for the two computers we are lacking.
- Pediatric Simulator by Meti – Currently, students have no clinical lab training opportunities in the area of pediatrics. They need this for increased quality and safety of patient care when they move into the hospital setting for clinical coursework.
- Infant Simulator by Meti- Currently, students have no clinical lab training opportunities in the area of infant care. They need this for increased quality and safety of patient care when they move into the hospital setting for clinical coursework.
- Noelle Birthing Simulator – Currently, students have no clinical lab training opportunities in the area of maternity. They need this for increased quality and safety of patient care when they move into the hospital setting for clinical coursework.
- Pyxus Machine – Students are spending a large amount of time in the hospitals learning to use medication dispensing machines, Pyxus. A clinical simulation lab Pyxus machine would allow us to train the students prior to their hospital clinical work so that more time is spent on patient care.
- Stretcher – The lab does not have a stretcher, so students are not able to practice patient transfers.
- Over Bed Table for 7 beds – The current over the bed tables are 12 years old and broken.
- Wall Surface Mount Console Unit for 7 beds – Hospital beds have these units with oxygen capabilities. The school is wired for them, but we do not have any. This would add realism to the scenarios and allow practice for the students.
- Crash Cart Stocked by Waterloo – Students do not receive any code blue (cardiac arrest) practice at this time as we do not have a crash cart.
- 1 Linen Hampers – Lab does not currently have hampers for linens.
- Linen Cart – We do not have a cart to carry linens out for cleaning.

- Total Cost: \$292,693

School of Science and Mathematics – Models for Anatomy

- MRI Torso
- CT sections of head
- Pregnant Torso
- Entire human
- Fetal circulatory system
- Human cell intestine
- Human arm
- Human leg
- Lymphatic system
- Head and neck
- Circulatory system
- Fertilization
- Human kidney
- Motor neuron
- Human ear
- Mammary gland
- Nursing mammary gland
- Eye in orbit
- Knee joint
- Human larynx
- Skin model
- Human torso
- New living Body DVD set
- Human 3D dissection CD
- Visualizing cells CD
- Total Cost: \$37,673

- Combined cost: \$330,673