Greetings from Clemson! We hope you are enjoying a beautiful fall wherever you are. As we close out this academic year, we are proud of our students, faculty, and staff for their hard work and dedication. Let me share some highlights with you.

Changes across the University. We can and will continue to succeed because of determination, and the University community stands together to chart a course forward. I am proud of our faculty, staff, and students who have continued to support Biological Sciences through philanthropic gifts. These provide 45% of our operating budget and facilitate tremendous success.

Herbertian renovation provides new home for global collection of marine specimens. A faculty-led team recently completed a renovation of the Herbertian Herbarium, part of the Bob and Betsy Campbell Museum of Natural History. The renovation has provided a new home to the largest single collection of marine life in the U.S., the Bob and Betsy Campbell Museum of Natural History. The renovation was made possible by support from the LeGrand McIver Sparks ’41 and Mary Sears Sparks Endowment (A Class of 1941 Initiative), the Professor John E. Fairey III Quasi-Endowment for Natural History, the Biological Sciences Excellence Fund and the Friends of the Department of Biological Sciences.

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Faculty receive NSF, DoD, NIH, and NOAA funding for research. Recent years have seen an increase in federal funding for research. Our faculty have received funding from the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Defense, and the National Science Foundation for their research. These grants have supported cutting-edge research in areas such as the oral microbiome, developmental disorders, and marine ecosystem health.

Our students are also making contributions to research. For example, the Childress’ Conservation of Marine Resources Lab focuses on marine debris as a habitat for marine life, specifically studying the impact of plastic pollution. Additionally, Kea Peyton, a Ph.D. student, is featured in a Keys Weekly article for her research in Michael Childress’ lab on coral health.

Barbara Campbell, Anna Seekatz, Sharon Bewick

Find out more about the
Department of Biological Sciences

Notes:

More on Biological Sciences

Vincent Richards named Clemson University’s 2020 Junior Researcher of the Year. Vincent Richards, associate professor of Biological Sciences, uses microbial genomics to further our understanding of the oral microbiome, specifically the bacterial and fungal communities that inhabit the mouth. His work has earned him a nomination for the University’s 2020 Junior Researcher of the Year award.

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Undergraduates win national scholarships! Recent graduates in Biological Sciences have won prestigious national scholarships, including the Fulbright, Goldwater, and NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates awards. These scholarships provide funding for graduate study and research, allowing students to pursue their academic and research interests. Congratulations to our talented undergraduates who have received these awards.