

Native American Studies Quarterly



NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA LANCASTER



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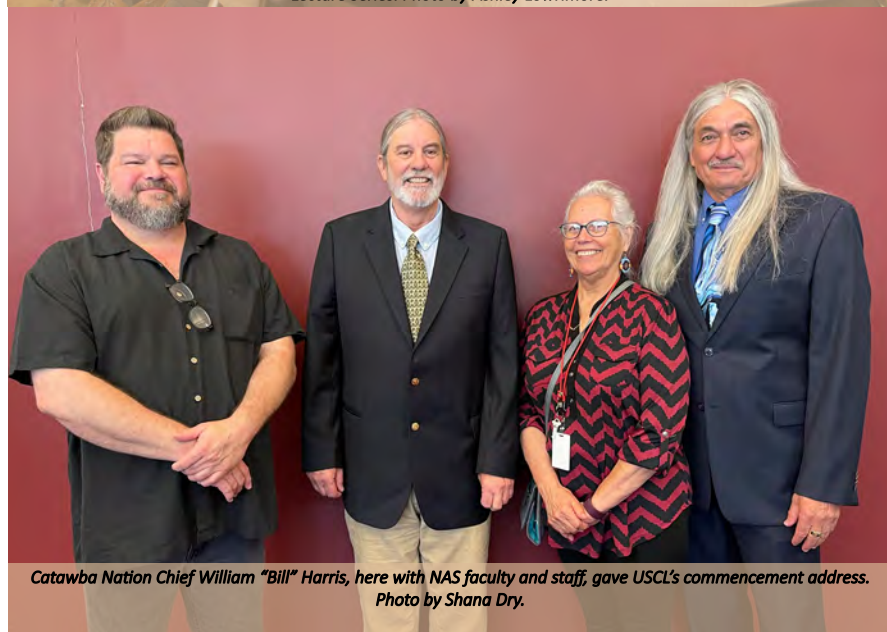
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It is with immense sadness that we share the news of Professor Brent Burgin's passing this June. Burgin helped establish the Center's Archive and USCL's University Archive, and developed the Center's monthly Lunch and Learn Lecture Series. Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.



Catawba Nation Chief William "Bill" Harris, here with NAS faculty and staff, gave USCL's commencement address. Photo by Shana Dry.

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DISCLAIMER: This column was written prior to the passing of Professor Brent Burgin. For his obituary, see page six. Over the past few months, as part of our on-going Lowcountry Native American Oral History and Cultural Documentation Project, I have had the pleasure of visiting with members of the Wassamasaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians and attending the Edisto Natchez-Kusso pow wow. In late April, I was honored to introduce Catawba Chief Bill Harris as USC Lancaster's Commencement speaker, who was preceded at the podium by Beckee Garris, who gave an invocation in the Catawba language. I also recently had the opportunity to work with Catawba artists on a photography project and had the pleasure of interviewing members of the Sumter Tribe of Cheraw Indians. And as I write this column, I am preparing for this weekend's annual art and craft sale at the NAS Center.

These experiences remind me of the tenacity of culture, particularly the cultures of South Carolina's Native peoples. In the face of hostility, neglect, even attempted cultural and historical erasure, Native cultures and communities in our state have not only survived but have thrived! Stories, pottery-making, foods and recipes, music, customs, beliefs, and a whole host of other cultural traditions have been preserved and maintained through countless generations. We are lucky to live in a state with such communities that recognize the value and importance of cultural traditions—both for themselves, for future generations, and for those of us outside of these communities. I want to take the opportunity to thank our friends and colleagues in Native South Carolina for their support. I look forward to working with more Lowcountry communities in the coming months and with tribes and groups from the rest of the state soon.

I also wanted to take the opportunity in this column to remember two friends we recently lost. Lorraine Wilner moved in 2016 from New York to South Carolina and soon began taking classes at USCL, particularly art classes. In 2018, Lorraine joined a group of us on a memorable travel study trip to Washington, D.C. and Cherokee, N.C. She was a delight to travel with; despite hours on a crowded, uncomfortable, rough-riding bus, she kept her positive attitude and good humor. Her passing in April is a great loss to the whole USCL family.

Dr. Susan Gardner passed away shortly after the beginning of this year. Susan, a professor at UNC Charlotte, was a guest speaker for our 2015 Native American Studies Week, and was a great resource. She was a scholar of post-colonial literature and worked with the Lumbee on several projects. On a personal note, she had a profound influence on my career as a mentor, a teacher, and a friend. She introduced me to Native American literature and helped me understand the commonalities in the creative work of oppressed and marginalized communities worldwide (She also helped me find employment when I had a dissertation to finish and a new baby to feed!). She was an excellent teacher and scholar and a wonderful person.

I hope you enjoy reading the pages that follow, and I want to invite everyone to the Native American Studies Center's 10th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, Oct. 8, 2022. Look for more details soon.

-Dr. Stephen Criswell

USCL Holds Historic Commencement

By Ashley Lowrimore

USC Lancaster's 2022 [spring commencement](#) made history with several significant "firsts." Not only was history made as Chief William "Bill" Harris of the Catawba Nation addressed the crowd as this year's speaker, marking the first time that a Native American leader has given the address to USCL graduates, but it was also the first time that the Catawba language was spoken from the platform and the first time that USCL publicly recognized the campus' location on ancestral Catawba lands, as well as the Esaw, Kadapau, Cheraw, Wateree, Sugaree, and other smaller tribal groups in the Piedmont region like the Waxhaw.

In his opening remarks, USC Lancaster Dean Walt Collins gave the verbal land acknowledgement, remarking to the crowd, "These lands were the traditional territory of the Catawbans and their ancestors. The land continues to carry the stories of the Catawbans and the challenges they confronted regarding survival and identity. We recognize generations of Catawbans as stewards of the land, a fact that calls on USC Lancaster's commitment to continue learning how to be better stewards of the land where the University sits."

A land acknowledgement sign has been installed on campus near Founders Hall, where guests may read the full text; the Center also is due to soon receive its own land acknowledgement marker. The text for the acknowledgement was written by former NAS Co-Director Dr. Brooke Bauer, who now is Assistant Professor of History at the

University of Tennessee Knoxville.

"USCL is built on the ancestral land of the Catawba Nation and along an Indian/colonial path of trade and travel for the Catawba, and later, early settlers (Highway 521)," the sign reads. "The purpose of this land acknowledgement is to reveal to people- many for the first time- the presence of the ancestral inhabitants of the Catawba who occupied the region."

In the development of the acknowledgment, Native American Studies Director Dr. Stephen Criswell said that it was important that the text of the acknowledgement be as historically accurate as possible and reflect the perspective of the Catawba people.



Chief Harris was recognized by Dean Walt Collins (right) at a pre-commencement ceremony in the Anne Springs Close Outdoor classroom in the courtyard of Founders Hall. Dean Collins concluded his remarks by presenting Chief Harris with a commencement speaker gift of a USCL sculpture created by Lancaster artist Bob Doster. Photo by Shana Dry.



Beckee Garris, Catawba Language Keeper for the Catawba Nation, begins delivering the invocation in the Catawba language. Screen capture by Ashley Lowrimore.

"It's so important that we recognize that the land the university buildings, as well as the NAS Center, are on are historically Catawba lands," said Criswell. "I hope that the acknowledgement reflects the respect and admiration we have for the Catawba and how much we value our relationship with the Nation."

Beckee Garris, Center Program Assistant and Catawba Language and Cultural Keeper for the Catawba Nation, gave a blessing in Catawba shortly before Chief Harris' address. Garris serves on the Catawba Language Committee, a group that creates words in Catawba for today's modern technology as part of its official duties.

"It was an honor and a privilege to be involved in such a historic occasion and to share the Catawba language with an audience of people who may never have heard it spoken aloud before," said Garris.

After the invocation, Criswell introduced Chief Harris, who has led the Catawba Nation for 11 years now.

"Bill's biggest passion can be found in his studio," Criswell said in his introduction. "He learned how to make Catawba pottery from his grandmother,

and he inherited her love for the artform. He is considered a master potter and received the Jean Harris Laney Folk Heritage Award through the S.C. Arts Commission for his pottery in 2016. He has very little spare time, but when he has the opportunity, he likes to practice the craft of making his Nation's pottery. He also feels the importance in teaching this important artform to the next generation. In doing so, he feels bound to his ancestors, and he becomes another link in the chain that connects the Catawba Nation's past to its future."

Criswell ended his introduction by inviting the audience to visit the Center, where they can see some of Chief Harris's work on display.

In his speech, Chief Harris addressed some of the difficulties students faced in the past few years.

"Today, let us not overlook, but instead acknowledge the incredible challenge the graduates of 2022 had to overcome to stand before all today," he said. "I share this phrase: People have a tendency to learn better when they are out of their comfort zone. I believe you and I can attest to this as a truth due to the circumstances of 2020. For not since the time of World War I has the world been attacked by an

invisible invader. The students met an obstacle they could not physically see, but at the same time, they could feel its physical impact.



Catawba Nation Chief William "Bill" Harris (left) and Director of Native American Studies Dr. Stephen Criswell stand on the platform as USCL commencement exercises begin on Saturday, April 30. Screen capture by Ashley Lowrimore.

To describe this time in the world of education as stepping out of one's comfort zone would be defined as an insult to the students, who courageously faced the enemy they could not see. And due to their mettle and their perseverance, will be forever examples for those who follow. You, the graduates here today, deserve our recognition of your resistance to surrender, your ability to face each day a personal challenge, even when the invisible enemy's impact was felt on a more personal, individual basis."

Chief Harris acknowledged that, through these challenges, graduates were determined to pursue their goals each day. He also urged graduates to never let anyone other than themselves define who they are.

"Always define yourself, for no one knows your strengths and weaknesses better than you," he said. "And never allow your flames of passion to be doused by the wet blanket of negative thoughts of others. For it is your passions that will blaze a new and better path for the future. It is your dedication to change that will create the devotion to a better

and more just society for all.

And never allow others to take away your dreams, for I stand before you as a testament for holding onto your dream. Many told me my dream would never see the light of day. But after 13 years, my dream did see the light of day. Because I never gave up on my dream, there has been an economic path that has been paved for Catawba Nation for generations and generations, so never ever give up on your dreams."

In concluding his nearly 10-minute address, Chief Harris reminded graduates to remember their impact on the past and the bearing it may have in their futures.

"In closing, I leave you with these words," said Chief Harris. "As you make your path into the future, stop, and look behind you to see where you have been, because you've left your footprints. Read the impact the footprints have created, and by reading the footprints of the past, they will guide you for the future."



A sign placed on campus in late April acknowledges that USCL is located on the ancestral lands of the Catawba Nation. Photo by Walter Collins.

Obituary of W. Brent Burgin



After a heroic and admirable battle with ALS, Brent Burgin passed away June 20, 2022.

Watson “Brent” Burgin was born on May 3, 1959, in Spartanburg, South Carolina. He went to elementary school there; West End Christian Middle School in Hopewell, Virginia; and High School at Colonial Heights, Virginia and Boiling Springs, Spartanburg.

Brent decided to attend college after a successful career in hotel sales and operations from 1978-2006. He pursued a career in academia receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies from USC Spartanburg Campus (now Upstate) in 2000, a Master of Library and Information Science from the University of SC in 2002, and a Certificate of Graduate Study in Library and Information Science, also from USC, in 2006. Later he had a practicum at Wofford University Archives and Records Management during which he found a land grant from 1709, which led to a career in Archives. His graduate assistantships at USC Spartanburg’s Library and at the South Caroliniana Library at USC Columbia led him to USC Lancaster and an internship that turned into a career.

At USCL he established the Native American Studies Archive and the University Archive. The NAS archive received the 2010 Brenda McCallum National Prize from the American Folklore Society and the 2014 Program Innovation Award from the South Carolina Archival Association. In 2017 Brent received the Wilkerson Award, an advocacy honor from the American Indian Party of Charlotte. In 2018 the Archaeology Society of SC named him Distinguished Archaeologist of the Year and the South Carolina Archival Association created an endowment in his name. In 2019, The University of South Carolina Lancaster created an endowed lecture series in his honor. In 2021 he received the Katawba Valley Land Trust’s D. Lindsay Pettus History Award, the first ever bestowed.

Few, if any, archivists can boast that they built an archive from scratch, but Brent did just that. He became an expert in both the archival materials donated by Tom Blumer as well as the Blumer Catawba pottery collection purchased by USCL from D. Lindsay Pettus. Neither of those was an easy task. Quickly after his arrival at USCL he forged a partnership with Oral Historian Nicholas Meriwether at the South Caroliniana Library at USC Columbia to digitally restore decaying

Catawba History tapes. Not only did he build an archive devoted to the numerous South Carolina State Tribes, but he also acquired the papers and research of several prominent non-Indian scholars whose seminal scholarship on South Carolina tribes is now housed in the NAS Archive.

Brent served as principal investigator of the largest grant NASC ever received – an ASPIRE grant (with USC's Institute for Southern Studies and USC Digital Libraries) that resulted in the Native American South Carolina Archive.

Brent developed the NASC's most important public outreach program in the Lunch and Learn Lecture Series, bringing up-and-coming and notable scholars to the campus. He bought every speaker lunch out of his own pocket. His family, friends and colleagues, cognizant of this wonderful gift, commemorated him with a named lecture – the W. Brent Burgin Annual Lunch and Learn Lecture, and raised the necessary funds to endow the lecture into the future.

While Professor Burgin did not teach classes, he was and remained a popular faculty member amongst the student body, mentoring interns who were fortunate to land in the archives with him. Every one of them ended their internship with the gift of a piece of Catawba pottery from Brent. Several have become professionals in related fields. Brent mentored interns in USC's Bachelor of Liberal Studies Program (BLS) and in 2009 spent 500 hours, in 2010 spent 700 hours, and in 2012 spent 672 hours supervising BLS students. In 2016 he lectured at Sun City community for a public outreach course that was widely attended and well received. And, for a time, he served as Director of Distributed Learning.

Professor Burgin served on numerous USCL faculty committees including Native American Studies Advisory Committee 2007-2021, Student Scholarship and Awards Committee, and the Honors Day Committee. Brent gave many lectures from Morehead City, NC to Hilton Head, SC and from Greenville, SC to Pembroke, NC and everywhere in between. In 2013, he gave 22 public

lectures!

Brent was a long time, active member of the Katawba Valley Land Trust attending many outings and meetings. He especially enjoyed the Christmas bird counts and took anyone who would go to see the Spider Lilies bloom at Landsford Canal.



He hosted numerous Land Trust Board meetings and other events at the Native American Studies Center. He enjoyed hiking, particularly at 40 Acre Rock Heritage Preserve, and on March 23, 2015, he accompanied author Scott Huler who was walking the former course of English Naturalist John Lawson's epic trek of 1701.

Brent was a Board member of the Lancaster County Society for Historic Preservation. While Chair of the Cemetery Committee he inventoried graves as part of a cemetery restoration project at the Olde Presbyterian Church cemetery where his ashes will rest in perpetuity.

Obituary of W. Brent Burgin

Other interests include Rock and Blues music, Gamecock football and partaking of only the finest ports, madeiras, wines and craft beers. At The Craft Stand pub in Lancaster, Brent was well-known. Like the character "Norm" from the television sitcom "Cheers," everyone knows his name. He liked good movies, was outgoing, generous, and extremely funny. And he especially enjoyed spending time with his numerous friends. Brent is survived by his father Watson Burgin of Boiling Springs, South Carolina, his mother, Susan Emory Kelly (husband Curtis Kelly) of Dryden, Virginia, his brother Michael Moody of Archer Lodge, North Carolina, his sister Allison Brady (partner Mark Canton), three nephews, two nieces and three grandnephews. He had numerous colleagues and friends. One friend in particular, Mr. Garrett Smith, was a great inspiration for Brent and Garrett took wonderful care of Brent during the final years. Brent cherished his friendship with D. Lindsay Pettus who inspired him in many ways.

Following a private ceremony at the Historic Cemetery of the Old Presbyterian Church, the family of W. Brent Burgin invite you to join them Sunday July 10th at 1:30pm for a celebration of life at USC Lancaster's Native American Studies Center at 119 South Main Street, Lancaster, SC.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the W. Brent Burgin Archives Fund within the Educational Foundation of USC Lancaster.



Upcoming & Recent Exhibit Openings

By Ashley Lowrimore

Thank you to all who came out to our exhibit openings and receptions this spring! Earlier this year, we opened two new exhibits: "A People Once Lost Now Found: The Sumter Tribe of Cheraw Indians," "Over Time."

Mark your calendars as we open two new exhibits in our galleries this August: "Resilience and Revolution: Native Peoples in 18th Century South Carolina," which we previewed in our 2021 Winter Edition, and "Unearthing Our Forgotten Past: Fort San Juan," an exhibit created by the Exploring Joara Foundation that explores the town of Joara, one of the largest towns in Western North Carolina where Spanish explorer Juan Pardo founded Fort San Juan.

See our exhibit descriptions at the end of this issue for more exhibit details!

In March, the Sumter Tribe of Cheraw Indians held a private celebration, featuring dancer Doug Carter, celebrating the new exhibit "A People Once Lost, Now Found: The Sumter Tribe of Cheraw Indians." The exhibit is on display through Feb. 15, 2023. Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.

Did you miss the last newsletter? Don't worry, just [click here!](#)

Come fly with us!
[Click here](#) for a drone tour of the Center!



Upcoming & Recent Exhibit Openings



"A People Once Lost, Now Found" includes a variety of artwork, artifacts, regalia, and more, including this headdress owned by and painting of Chief Ralph Oxendine. Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.



"Over Time," features works from USC Lancaster Distinguished Professor Emerita of Art and Art History Fran Gardner. A special reception was held during the first week of the exhibit's opening, where Gardner gave an in-person and virtual artist talk. Gardner is pictured second from left here, with (from left to right) Dr. Todd Lekan, USCL Associate Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, Dr. Susan Elkins, Palmetto College Chancellor, and Dr. Walt Collins, Palmetto College Campus Dean at USCL. Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.

Fran Gardner gives a talk about her artistic process and discusses her work featured in "Over Time," as Professor Brittany Taylor-Driggers, Assistant Professor of Art and Director of Campus Collections and Galleries, and Dr. Susan Elkins, Palmetto College Chancellor, watch the presentation. Photo by Alex Osborn.



Its companion exhibit, "COVID Diary," features never-before-displayed pieces by Gardner in USCL's Bradley Arts & Sciences Building. Both exhibits are on display through Friday, Aug. 5. Photo by Brittany Taylor-Driggers.

We now have another great new virtual exhibit available to view online! “A People Once Lost, Now Found; The Sumter Tribe of Cheraw Indians,” highlights the arts and culture of the Sumter Tribe of Cheraw Indians through a display of photographs, artifacts, artwork, regalia, and more. Curated by members of the Sumter Tribe of Cheraw Indians, this is the fifth exhibit created for the Center by a South Carolina tribe or tribal group. Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.



View “A People Once Lost, Now Found; The Sumter Tribe of Cheraw Indians” [here](#) and find our other virtual exhibits [here](#).

Local School Partners with Master Potter, Center

By Ashley Lowrimore

Thanks to the Equitable Arts Advancement Program grant, Brooklyn Elementary School Art Teacher Lisa Stamper received \$8,660 to introduce the traditional art of Catawba pottery in her classroom.

Though Stamper’s students worked with clay when she first came to the school, she says that maintaining such a program became too expensive to sustain. She wrote the grant to give her students the opportunity to work with clay and to provide them the opportunity to learn from Catawba potter and storyteller Keith “Little Bear” Brown.

In addition to Brown appearing as Artist-in-Residence and bringing the medium of clay back to the class, the grant also allowed Stamper to order a new kiln, art displays, and clay sculpting tools.

“Part of this is for the students to learn about the Catawba culture because it is such a huge part of this area,” said Stamper. “They’re most excited about getting their hands into clay, and I’m very excited about that, too, but I’m more excited about them getting to work with Keith.”



Brown demonstrates rolling clay in preparing to make a duck bowl on his second day of residence at Brooklyn Springs Elementary. Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.

For five days in late March, Brown visited with four fourth grade classrooms and the school’s fifth grade art club. Spending about an hour’s time of instruction with each class, Brown discussed Catawba culture, demonstrated his art form, and taught students how to create a pinch pot and duck bowl. When the bowls became leather-hard, Brown then showed them how to sculpt and

burnish their pieces. After drying completely, the pieces were fired in the kiln.

The Center was honored to play a small role in the residency. One afternoon before his residency began, Brown filmed a walk-through of the Center's exhibit, "The Story of Catawba Pottery," on display in the D. Lindsay Pettus Gallery. He discussed key pieces in the exhibit, the pottery-making process, and ended by discussing his own artforms. The video was shown to the classes after Brown's residency to reinforce what they've learned.

"What I love most about the aesthetics of the Catawba pottery is the way the burnishing is done and also the variations in colors, which you get naturally from the woods and grasses and whatever else is put in there, and how it's not uniform," said Stamper.

Catawba potter Keith "Little Bear" Brown and Brooklyn Springs Elementary School Art Teacher Lisa Stamper tour the Center's exhibit, "The Story of Catawba Pottery." Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.



Like, subscribe,
and ring that bell! Now you can
find us on [YouTube](#), where you can
watch previous virtual Lunch and
Learns, our Columbus Day Controversy
Panel Discussion, NAS Week,
and more!



A fourth grade student works to create a duck bowl with a pottery tool in Lisa Stamper's art class. Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.

Center Welcomes New Faculty

By Ashley Lowrimore

We're pleased to announce that the Center will welcome two new faculty members this August, Dr. F. Evan Nooe, Assistant Professor of History, and Christine Anderson, Director of Archives.



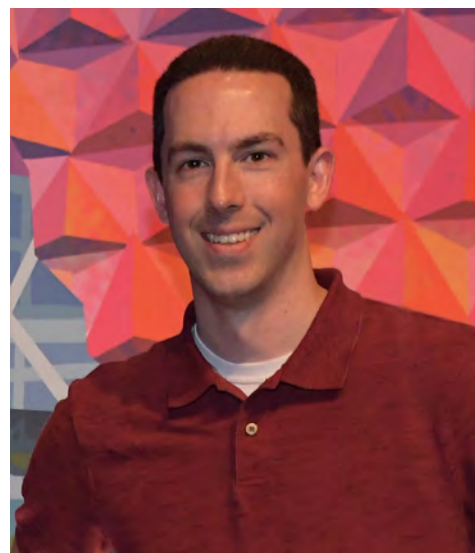
*Christy Anderson joins the Center as Archivist this August.
Photo courtesy of Christy Anderson.*

Anderson comes to USCL from Kimbel Library at Coastal Carolina University and has earned an MLIS focused on Archives and Engagement from the University of North Carolina Greensboro and a BA in English from Coastal Carolina University.

Anderson has over 20 years of writing, editing, and photography experience, having written and edited for Fodor's Travel Guides, SC Alive Magazine, and various newspapers from around the state. Her research interests include cultural heritage education within galleries, libraries, archives, and museums.

Currently, Anderson is collecting oral histories of Georgetown County for the Georgetown County Museum under a South Carolina Humanities Grant and she serves as the consulting archivist for the Waccamaw Indian People as they create their tribal archives. She is also digital communications manager for the Charleston Hub, the umbrella for the Charleston Library Conference and Against the Grain Media.

Nooe comes to USCL from teaching American Studies at the University of North Carolina Charlotte and teaching History at Central Piedmont Community College. He earned his PhD in History from the University of Mississippi and holds an MA in History from Clemson University. He also holds a BA in Psychology and a BA in History, both from the University of Florida.



*Dr. Evan Nooe joins the Center as Historian this August.
Photo courtesy of Evan Nooe.*

Recently, Nooe has presented at the Southeastern American Studies Association Conference this March and at the Pop Culture Association National Conference in April. He has also published numerous articles, some of which have been published in the *Journal of Tourism History*, the *Journal of Florida Studies*, and the *Southern Quarterly*. He is a member of the Southern Historical Association, the American Society for Ethnohistory, the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, the Southern Foodways Alliance, and is an Associate of the Omohundro Institute.

Nooe is currently wrapping up work on two manuscripts: "The Southern Indians and the Coalescence of the Old South," which will be published in the University of Alabama Press' "Indians and Southern History" series in 2023, and "The Source of Inspiration: Indigenous Erasure and Settler Creations of Florida History at Walt Disney World's Disney Springs," which will be

submitted to the University of Florida’s “Florida in Focus” series in 2024.

We’ll be sharing more in-depth features about our new faculty in upcoming issues of the Native American Studies Quarterly, so stay tuned!

Welcome, Dr. Nooe and Professor Anderson!

Visit [NASCA](#) to learn more about South Carolina’s Native communities and access letters, images, videos, timeline, an interactive map, and more!

“Broadening Narratives” Update

By Ashley Lowrimore



Continuing through this fall, Dr. Stephen Criswell (pictured in the lower right corner) is gathering oral histories of South Carolina Lowcountry tribal communities, thanks to a generous donation from the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation. Here, Criswell hears the stories of citizens of the Wassamasaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians (from left to right, Charlie Burbage, Tammy Leach, Janie Shumak, Tribal Administrator Lisa Collins, and Darren Clark). Photo courtesy of Stephen Criswell.

In our last newsletter, we announced that the “Broadening Narratives” grant generously given to the Native American Studies Center from the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation would allow our faculty to tell the underrepresented stories of South Carolina’s Lowcountry tribal communities.

This spring, Director of Native American Studies Dr. Stephen Criswell began conducting oral history interviews with tribal leaders and citizens of the Wassamasaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians in Summerville, S.C. and the Edisto Natchez-Kusso in Ridgeville, S.C.

“I had a very productive visit with several members of the Wassamasaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians and documented the Edisto Natchez-Kusso powwow,” he said. “I am often struck by the tenacity of these communities and how they have maintained their identity and culture in the face of, at worst, the hostility and, at best, the indifference of the larger surrounding population.”

Criswell will continue his fieldwork with Lowcountry state-recognized tribes and tribal groups this summer and fall, planning to meet next with citizens from the Beaver Creek Indians, the Waccamaw Indian People, the Santee Indian Organization, and the Pine Hill Indian Tribe.

Oral histories, artifacts, and other research

“Broadening Narratives” Update / Lowrimore Receives Prestigious Award from S.C. Press Association

supported by the grant will culminate in an interactive traveling exhibit featuring the culture and traditions of these Lowcountry area tribes.

Recorded oral histories and other materials will be archived and featured on the Center’s website and/or the Native American South Carolina Archive.

The Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation supports land conservation, artistic vitality, and regional collections for the people of the Chicago region and the Lowcountry of South Carolina.

For over five years, the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation has convened five advisory groups to assist with the formation and execution of the “Broadening Narratives” funding initiative by providing important feedback, keeping the Foundation apprised of trends in the field, and serving as valuable connectors and conveners.

The groups include Black Metropolis Research Consortium, Chicago Collections Consortium, Chicago Cultural Alliance, College of Charleston’s Lowcountry Digital Library, and the Southeastern Museums Conference.

For more information on the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, visit www.gddf.org.



**GAYLORD AND
DOROTHY DONNELLEY
FOUNDATION**

Lowrimore Receives Prestigious Award from S.C. Press Association

By Christopher Judge

There is an unsung hero at the Center who many of you may not know. You have read her articles in the NASQ and you have seen her photographs here and on our social media platforms. She plays a crucial role of spreading the word about faculty research, staff achievements as well as our events

and collective accomplishments. However, she tends to avoid the spotlight at all costs, that is until now. That person is the incomparable Ashley Lowrimore, our Public Relations Coordinator. She is on hand for all our events photo documenting and reporting all that we accomplish—and she always makes us look good. Now the tables are turned!

Ashley, who also is a freelance correspondent for The Lancaster News and the Carolina Gateway, won top honors in Enterprise Reporting for The Lancaster News for the article, “Will you or won’t you?” chronicling the local debate about COVID-19 vaccinations. She was bestowed her First Place Award by the South Carolina Press Association at an awards luncheon in early March. Her award category was for a large weekly newspaper with over 6,500 subscribers, beating out the Greenville Business Journal and the Post and Courier’s Free Times. Ashley was nominated by TLN editor Jane Alford and only found out she had been both nominated and awarded one week before the ceremony was held in Columbia.



Ashley Lowrimore (left) received a first-place award for Enterprise Reporting from the South Carolina Press Association at their ceremony in mid-March. Photo courtesy of the South Carolina Press Association.

“I am so pleased to see Ashley win this first-place state press award for her for “Will you or won’t you?” story on the local debate about COVID-19 vaccinations,” said Alford. “Ashley is a longtime freelancer for the paper, and she always goes above and beyond my expectations on her assignments. She is my go-to freelancer for

complicated, multi-source stories. We are lucky to have her working with us.”

Upon receiving this honor Lowrimore stated, “I’m very honored to have been nominated and to have received this award from the South Carolina Press Association,” and “I feel very lucky that I get the best of both worlds in sharing the experiences of those in our local community for the newspaper and also promoting our works and mission here at the Native American Studies Center.” Ashley is the first to arrive at the Center in the morning where I find her upon my arrival diligently typing at her computer or interviewing folks by phone. She often comes to my office door to pick my brain in the tradition of an investigative sleuth. She leaves no stone unturned in her reporting.

As a young girl she heard a comment on TV about public relations and asked her father what that meant. Later she would work for her high school yearbook before earning a BA in Mass Communication from Francis Marion University in Florence, S.C. While in college, Ashley worked on business profiles on Wellman and Sonoco as a student contribution to The Florence Morning News.

Ashley joined the staff of the Center as Public Relations Coordinator in 2017. She began her professional career earlier by volunteering at the South Carolina State Museum in Public Relations that ultimately led to a position there as Public Programs Manager. Later she served in a Public Relations role for the Lancaster County Library’s Indian Land Branch. In 2013, she began freelancing for The Lancaster News, specializing in human interest stories as well as arts and culture. Ashley tells me that this is the first award she has received during her career, even so, I trust it will certainly not be her last. Now that you know what she looks like and the role she plays at the Center, make sure to stop by and say hello to her when you are next at the Center.



Award winners from The Lancaster News, Carolina Gateway, and sister paper Pageland Progressive at the S.C. Press Association awards ceremony. Photo courtesy of The Lancaster News/ Dale Morefield.

Fundraising News

By Ashley Lowrimore

As the Native American Studies Center approaches its 10th Anniversary this fall, Center Archaeologist and Fundraising Coordinator Christopher Judge has issued a challenge.



“If 50 People give \$100 and 100 people give \$50, we can raise \$10,000 for the Center’s 10th Anniversary,” said Fundraising Coordinator Christopher Judge. “Now, it’s if 49 people give \$100 and 99 give \$50. I donated one of each to the Henry Shute Archaeology Lab Fund.” Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.

“If 50 people give \$100 and 100 people give \$50, we can raise \$10,000 for the 10th Anniversary,” said Judge.

No matter what time of year supporters feel led to give, we're grateful for the contributions that help support our mission to promote the documentation, preservation, and study of Native American cultures and heritages.

This quarter, we'd like to recognize Rick Nichols, a military dentist from Columbia, S.C., who has generously made a gift to the Fred "Henry" Shute Archaeology Fund. One of five funds at the Center, this fund supports the needs of the Center's archaeological lab (read on to learn more about the Center's unique funds).

Nichols took anthropology classes at UofSC in Columbia and has volunteered with Judge at an archaeology dig site in the Pee Dee region. After meeting up at the Annual Conference on S.C. Archaeology this February, Nichols asked Judge how he could help support the Center's mission.

"Rick was a student of mine when I taught in Columbia and he volunteered a number of years at the Johannes Kolb Archaeological Site in Darlington County," said Judge. "He has always been an ardent supporter of archaeology in South Carolina."

We appreciate the support from our donors, whose gifts allow us to operate our facility, present public programming, engage in scholarly research, and more!



Rick Nichols talks with UofSC First Lady Patricia Moore-Pastides at a Palmetto College 10th Anniversary Reception at the President's House on the Horseshoe in mid-March. Photo by Chris Judge.

Donate Today!

Tax-deductible gifts to any of the Center's five different funds may be given in person, online, by phone, or by mail to the Education Foundation of USC Lancaster. Here are the following ways donor may give gifts, as well as the codes by which to identify the fund so that gifts go directly into that fund:

- In person: When visiting the Center, guests may select an envelope at the front desk and may mark which of the five funds they would like their gift to go toward.
- Phone: Gifts may be given over the phone by contacting Shana Dry, USC Lancaster's Director of Public Information, at 803-313-7008.
- Mail: Checks may be written for the fund the gift is to be applied toward and mailed to the Educational Foundation of USCL, 476 Hubbard Dr. Lancaster, SC 29720.
- Online: Donations may be made online at <https://donate.sc.edu/direct-your-gift>, where visitors may complete all information, typing in the fund number in the line for fund name (example below):

Instructions:

Type the fund number as the line below:

Search funds by fund name

Results are loaded as you type

Numbers for the Center's funds:

- A31912- Samantha Criswell Memorial Fund- Named in memory of the late wife of Native American Studies Director Dr. Stephen Criswell, this undesignated fund supports programs, exhibits, and activities designed to improve the visitor experience.
- B12216- Native American Studies Center Endowment- This fund supports the Center's programs, research, and other activities.

- B12328- W. Brent Burgin Lunch and Learn Lecture Series Endowed Fund- Named for the Center's Archivist Brent Burgin, this endowment funds honorarium, hotel, and travel expenses for the speaker at the Annual W. Brent Burgin Lecture.
- A32522- W. Brent Burgin Archives Fund- This fund is designated for the archives.
- A32521- Fred "Henry" Shute Archaeology Lab Fund- Named for Archaeology Lab volunteer Henry Shute, this fund is designated for the archaeological lab.

Recent Events

By Ashley Lowrimore

Director Presents Tours for Indigenous Peoples Day



In March, Native American Studies Director Dr. Stephen Criswell presented tours of the "The Language of Clay" exhibit during the Charlotte Museum of History's Indigenous Peoples Day event. "The Language of Clay," on loan from the Center, is on display at the museum through the end of this year. Learn more about the Charlotte Museum of History and its exhibits by visiting their [website](#). Photos by Kristina Jones.

Osborn Photographs Artists-in-Residence



Thanks to a South Carolina Arts Commission Folklife and Traditional Arts Grant, the Center's 2021 Contemporary Artist-in-Resident and Assistant Curator Alex Osborn is working on a new project photographing former Center Artists-in-Residence, including Monty "Hawk" Branham, Keith "Little Bear" Brown, Beckee Garris, Faye Greiner, and Caroleen Sanders. Here, Osborn photographs Branham outside of the Center's entrance on Main Street. Osborn's portraits will be on display in an exhibit opening at the Center this August. Photo by Stephen Criswell.

Spring Art & Craft Festival

What a great turnout for our first art sale of 2022! Thanks to all of our artists and visitors for coming out for this year's event, held in conjunction with the City of Lancaster's Red Rose Festival and Ag+Art! Photos by Ashley Lowrimore.



Nancy Basket, basket maker and kudzu paper artist, speaks with a guest at the festival.



Lisa Lindler (ceramics, wood carvings) carves a dancing figure at the festival.



Artwork by Barbara MorningStar Paul.

Taylor-Driggers Induction into Art Society



Congratulations to Professor Brittany Taylor-Driggers, Assistant Professor of Art and Director of Campus Collections and Galleries, who has been accepted into the National Association of Women Artists (NAWA)! Taylor-Driggers will be formally inducted into the group during their annual induction ceremony this November in New York. According to their website, the group is the oldest women's fine art organization in the country and is open to professional, emerging, and student artists who are 18 years-old or older and are U.S. citizens or permanent U.S. residents. Taylor-Driggers is also a member of the South Carolina Chapter of NAWA.

Further congratulations are in order for Taylor-Driggers, who was elected Vice Chair of the USCL Faculty Organization the April faculty meeting. Director of Native American Studies Dr. Stephen Criswell also was elected to the Palmetto College Academic Advisory Committee and Tenure and Promotion Committee during the meeting. The two professors also recently completed a term on the Town-Gown Advisory Council. Photo by Shana Dry.

Osborn's Artwork Displayed in USCL iCarolina Lab



The work of Catawba artist and Center Assistant Curator Alex Osborn is featured in the new Palmetto College iCarolina Lab at USC Lancaster, an Apple computer center serving the local community. Osborn (on right) is pictured along with Brittany Taylor-Driggers, Assistant Professor of Art, Director of Campus Collections and Galleries, in front of his spider lily artwork. Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.

Center Represented at USCL Sunset Tour



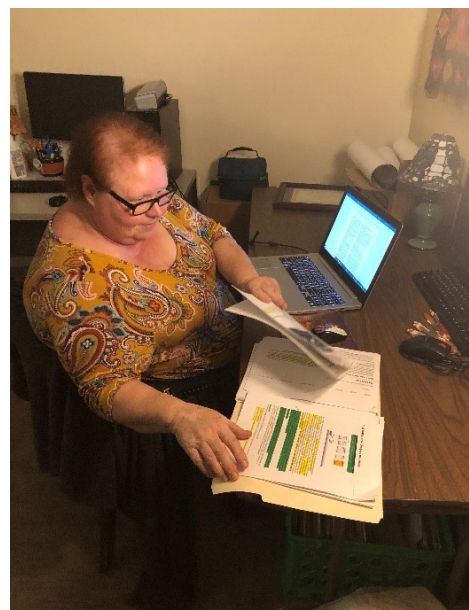
Visitor and Project Coordinator Assistant Crystal Melton (left) and Visitor Coordinator Katelyn Shull represented the Center at the April VIP Sunset Campus Tour for prospective USC Lancaster students. Photo by Christian Stines.

Judge Speaks at Brookgreen Gardens



Center Archaeologist Christopher Judge presented "Native Americans of Eastern South Carolina" in late April at Brookgreen Gardens in Murrells Inlet, S.C. Photo by Brendan Judge.

Congratulations to Friends of NASC



Congratulations to Palmetto College students and friends of the Center Teresa "Missy" Melton and Cynthia Curtis for their recent achievements! In April, Melton (pictured above), a former Center student worker whose Palmetto College Capstone project focused on the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Movement under the

mentorship of NAS faculty, received the Outstanding Senior Award from UofSC and was inducted into UofSC's National Society of Leadership and Success. Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.



Also in April, Cynthia Curtis (pictured above), Archaeology Lab volunteer and student of Anthropology and Native American Studies, was inducted into Alpha Sigma Lambda, the oldest and largest national honor society for non-traditional students. Congratulations again, ladies! Photo by Chris Judge.

Spring Powwows



Two tribes held powwows this spring, hosted by the Eastern Cherokee, Southern Iroquois and United Tribes (pictured above) and Edisto Natchez-Kusso Tribe of S.C. (pictured right). Photo of Eastern Cherokee, Southern Iroquois and United Tribes powwow courtesy of Chief Lamar Nelson. Photo of Edisto Natchez-Kusso Tribe powwow by Stephen Criswell.

Congratulations to Helen Champion

Congratulations to Helen Champion (pictured right), Custodial Staff Member, for receiving the Servant's Heart Award as part of USC Lancaster's annual Spring Fling event, celebrating the end of the academic year. Photo courtesy of Shana Dry.

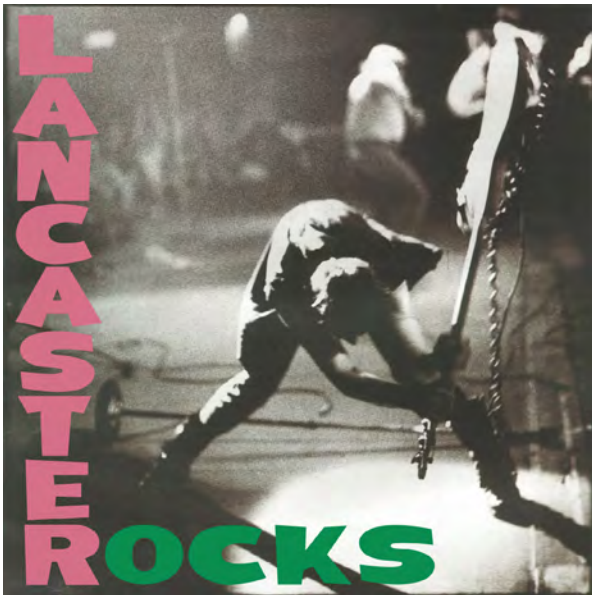
S.C. Welcome Centers Tour Center



It was a pleasure to have the Olde English District and representatives from S.C. Welcome Centers tour the Center in May! Photos by Ashley Lowrimore.

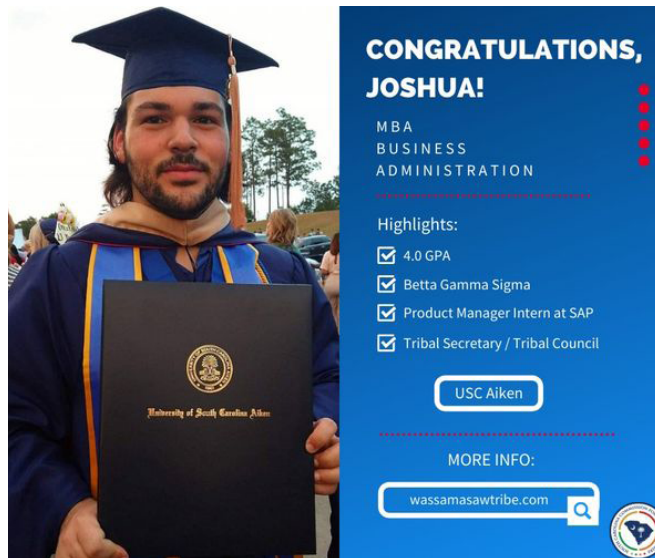


Exhibit Based on NAS Director's Research Now Open



Based on the research of Native American Studies Director and Folklorist Dr. Stephen Criswell, the exhibit "Lancaster Rocks!: The Contributions of Lancaster, SC to American Popular Music," celebrates Lancaster's contribution to American popular music of all genres. Learn how Lancaster has produced a surprising number of musicians and producers, not only artists who have gained fame, but ones who shaped and continue to shape American popular culture. The exhibit is now on display at USC Lancaster's Founders Hall through March 2023. Image edited by Elisabeth Avelar. Original photo by Pennie Smith.

Congratulations to Lisa Collins, Administrator of the Wassamasaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians, and Joshua Shumak, Tribal Secretary of the Wassamasaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians! Collins was recently named a History Hero by the [Daniel Island Historical Society](#) and Shumak graduated from USC Aiken with an MBA in Business Administration. Lisa Collins photo from the [Daniel Island Historical Society website](#). Joshua Shumak photo from the [S.C. Commission for Minority Affairs Facebook page](#).



News from the Wassamasaw



Upcoming Events

July 15, Noon**Lunch and Learn: "Environmental Racism, Injustice, and Inequity"**

Lecture by Professor Claudia Y. Heinemann-Priest, USCL Native American Studies.

July 30**Exhibit Opening**

First day to see the exhibit "This is Us: Native American Studies at the University of South Carolina Lancaster."

Aug. 5**Exhibit Closing**

Last day to see the exhibit, "Over Time."

Aug. 10**Exhibit Opening**

First day to see the exhibit, "Exploring Our Forgotten Past: Fort San Juan."

Aug. 18, 5 – 7 p.m.**Exhibit Opening and Special Reception**

First day to see the exhibit, "Resilience and Revolution: Native Peoples in 18th Century South Carolina," with a special reception that is free and open to the public.

Aug. 19, Noon**Lunch and Learn: "Making the Hampton Massacre: Native Resistance, Settler Memory, and White Solidarity in South Carolina"**

Lecture by Dr. Evan Nooe, USC Lancaster Assistant Professor of History.

Aug. 25**Exhibit Closing**

Last day to see the exhibit, "Identity and Color," supported by a RISE grant from the Office of the Vice President for Research at the University of South Carolina.

Sept. 16, Noon**Lunch and Learn: "Home Front in World War I South Carolina"**

Lecture by Dr. Fritz Hamer of the Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum.

Sept. 24**Exhibit Closing**

Last day to see the exhibit, "Resilience and Revolution: Native Peoples in 18th Century South Carolina."

Sept. 24, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.**PAIA Lower Eastern Cherokee Nation SC Powwow**

Join the PAIA for the 15th Annual Powwow in Gray Court, S.C. [Click here](#) for more information.

Oct. 8, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.**10th Anniversary Celebration**

Join the Native American Studies Center as we celebrate our 10th Anniversary in downtown Lancaster's Cultural Arts District. Enjoy items from the Smokin' Butts food truck beginning at 10 a.m.

November**Native American Heritage Celebration**

Instead of hosting a traditional 17th Annual Native American Studies Week, we're celebrating with a month of programming featuring Native Americans in popular culture. Dates to be announced.

Dec. 3, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.**Native American Art & Craft Sale**

Held in conjunction with Christmas in the City, shop for jewelry, Catawba pottery, baskets, quilts, and more one-of-a-kind artwork at the ninth annual Native American Art and Craft Sale!

Dec. 16, Noon**Lunch and Learn: "How Indigenous People Helped Start and Win the American Revolution"**

Lecture by Professor Woody Holton, Department of History at USC Columbia.

D. Lindsay Pettus Gallery: *The Story of Catawba Pottery*: This National Endowment for the Arts funded exhibit traces the art, culture and history of Catawba pottery, the oldest Native American pottery tradition in the United States. *Permanent Exhibit.*

Five Points Gallery: *Identity and Color*: See the photographs, digital collages, and drawings showing Catawba heritage and culture through a contemporary lens by Contemporary Artist-in-Residence Alex Osborn. This work is supported by a RISE grant from the Office of the Vice President for Research at the University of South Carolina. *Through Aug. 25, 2022.*

Duke Energy Gallery: *A People Once Lost, Now Found: The Sumter Tribe of Cheraw Indians*: View regalia, photographs, artifacts, artwork, and more in this exhibit curated by the Sumter Tribe of Cheraw Indians. *Through Feb. 15, 2023.*

Red Rose Gallery: *Over Time*: Experience the artwork of award-winning mixed media and fiber artist, Fran Gardner, USC Lancaster Distinguished Professor Emerita of Art and Art History, who was instrumental in the development of Native American Studies at USCL. *Through Aug. 5, 2022.*

Red Rose Gallery: *Unearthing Our Forgotten Past: Fort San Juan*: Developed by the Exploring Joara Foundation as part of the 450th anniversary celebrations of the Juan Pardo expeditions through Western North Carolina, this exhibit showcases the Spanish occupation of Fort San Juan and the lives of the native people who lived in the Joara area. *Opens Aug. 10. Through Dec. 20, 2022.*

North Gallery: *Scientific Discoveries: Indigenous Inventions Through Time*: Learn more about the contributions of Indigenous inventors and innovators to the field of STEAM in this exhibit opened in conjunction with the 16th Annual Native American Studies Week. *Extended now through July 30, 2022.*

North Gallery: *Resilience and Revolution: Native Peoples in 18th Century South Carolina*: This traveling exhibit highlights some of South Carolina's more well-documented Native nations before and during the era of the Revolution, looking at Native cultures, gender, and relations with Europeans in this era. This exhibit is funded by South Carolina Humanities, the Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, and the "A More Perfect Union" initiative from the National Endowment from the Humanities. *Opens Aug. 18. Through Sept. 24, 2022.*

Back Gallery: *This is Us: Native American Studies at the University of South Carolina Lancaster*: This exhibit celebrates the history and 10th Anniversary of USCL's Native American Studies, including artifacts and artwork from Collections, and a history of the building our Native American Studies Center calls home. *Opens July 30. Semi-permanent Exhibit.*

Digital Exhibitions:

[**A People Once Lost, Now Found; The Sumter Tribe of Cheraw Indians**](#)

[**Humor, Parody, and Satire:**](#) The Artwork of Tom Farris and Chris Olszewski

[**The Story of Catawba Pottery Exhibit:**](#) An Exhibit from the Native American Studies galleries on the Catawba Indian pottery tradition

[**Georgia Harris and Catawba Indian Pottery**](#)

[**USC Lancaster's 60th Anniversary Exhibit:**](#) Highlights the campus's growth and community connections over the last sixty years

Hours and Location:

Monday: Closed to the public
 Tuesday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Wednesday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Thursday: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
 Friday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

119 South Main Street
 Lancaster, SC 29720
 To visit our website [click here!](#)

Contact Information:

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 Email: usclnasp@sc.edu

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Claudia Y. Heinemann-Priest, Linguist, Catawba language, Native American Literature

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W. Brent Burgin, Archivist, Director of Native American Studies Archives

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Brittany Taylor-Driggers, Artist, Assistant Professor of Art, Director of Campus Collections and Galleries

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taylorbd@mailbox.sc.edu

Christopher Judge, Archaeologist, Assistant Director of Native American Studies

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The Center's Staff:

Elisabeth Avelar, Special Projects Coordinator

Helen Champion, Custodial Services

Beckee Garris, Program Assistant

Ashley Lowrimore, Public Relations Coordinator

Crystal Melton, Visitor and Project Coordinator Assistant

Alex Osborn, Assistant Curator

Katelyn Shull, Visitor Coordinator

Sharon Simmers-Norton, Program Assistant

Christian Stines, Student Worker

The Center's Advisory Committee:

Purpose: This committee advises the Native American Studies Director.

Dr. Stephen Criswell, NAS Co-Director, ex officio
 Jerrod Yarosh, BBCE Division Representative
 Todd Scarlett, MSNPH Division Representative
 Garane Garane, Humanities Division Representative
 Tania Wolochwianski, Administrative Appointment
 Pat Lawrence, Administrative Appointment
 Claudia Heinemann-Priest, NAS Director Appointment
 Brittany Taylor-Driggers, NAS Committee Chair, NAS Director Appointment

We've now returned to our normal operating schedule! Please note the following information before your visit:

- Masks or face coverings are strongly encouraged for entry to the Center.
- Guests are strongly encouraged to make use of the hand sanitizing station upon entry.
- Guests are also strongly encouraged to stay home if feeling unwell and to maintain a distance of 6-feet between their party and others.
- In order to maintain social distancing and safety protocols, advance reservations are required for large tour groups. Tour groups may call the Center at [\(803\) 313-7172](tel:803-313-7172) to schedule an appointment time to visit.
- Walk-up tour groups without appointments will be limited to 10 people.
- As school policies around our region vary regarding field trips, educators are encouraged to check back with the Center in the coming months to determine availability for field trips.
- Follow the Center's [social media pages](#) for the latest news or updates to programs and events.