

NEWSLETTER

THE PALMETTO

SEPTEMBER 2024



SCCEC

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2025

Embassy Suites by Hilton Greenville Golf Resort and
Conference Center

Preconference- February 27

Conference-February 28-March 1



South Carolina Council
for Exceptional
Children



Greetings and welcome to the start of a new school year! I am Tiffany Hollis, the 2024-2025 SC CEC President. This is the first newsletter of the year, and it will detail some of the things that the SC CEC Executive Committee has been up to, share important dates, share any announcements and updates, and any other information as it relates to CEC and SC CEC.

Before sharing a bit about the upcoming year and the awesome things that are in store, I wanted to introduce myself and share a little bit with you about who I am and the vision for the year. I was born in Norwalk, CT but raised in Gaffney, SC. I received my special education certification in General Curriculum, K-12 in 2008 from UNC Charlotte. I received my PhD in Urban Education from UNC Charlotte in 2017. I taught in various settings such as resource, inclusion, in residential facilities, and in day treatment settings in Charlotte-Mecklenburg and Cabarrus County School Districts with students with Emotional and Behavioral Disabilities for 8 years before transitioning to a professor position at Coastal Carolina University in 2017.

Currently, I serve as an Associate Professor in the Spadoni College of Education and Social Sciences at Coastal Carolina University. I have been involved with SC CEC for several years and I have served in different capacities in various chapters and subdivisions. I am excited to continue my service this year as the president of this awesomely amazing organization! I am looking forward to a great year this year as we move forward together and advocate on behalf of exceptional children.

Warm regards,

Tiffany

Chapter 917 at Columbia College: A Year of Growth and New Beginnings



Relaunched last year, Chapter 917 of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) at Columbia College has made great strides in connecting students, staff, and alumni through both virtual and in-person opportunities. Under the guidance of two seasoned sponsors, Dr. Watson and Dr. Jeong, the chapter experienced significant success in its relaunch year, driven by the leadership of its officers and sponsors.



Already off to a strong start this year, Chapter 917 has launched a monthly newsletter and sponsored a breakfast for the 2024 Fall Directed Teachers at Columbia College. One thing the chapter is doing is hosting virtual meetings so students on campus and all across the state can connect with one another with a joint focus to become better educators. The chapter started the year off by sponsoring a breakfast for the Fall 2024 Directed Teaching teachers during their seminar classes on campus. With a focus on empowering professionals to be advocates for individuals with exceptionalities, the chapter is eager to increase community involvement and expand its influence throughout the year. If you're interested in joining or learning more about how you can get involved, be sure to stay tuned for more exciting initiatives from Chapter 917!

FROM

SC TED HELD A FREE ONLINE WEBINAR ON JUNE 11, 2024. THE WEBINAR WAS ENTITLED, HOW TO MAKE YOUR TEACHING LIFE EASIER: UNDERSTANDING BEHAVIOR. THE WEBINAR WAS OFFERED TO GEN ED AS WELL AS SPEC ED TEACHERS. WE HAD 50 PARTICIPANTS FOR THE 3 HOUR WEBINAR. PRESENTERS WERE AMY CLAUSEN (WINTHROP UNIVERSITY), RHONDA MILLER (COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY), AND MATTHEW COLLIER (LANDER UNIVERSITY).

DR. MATTHEW COLLIER FROM LANDER UNIVERSITY RECEIVED THE VIP AWARD FOR SC TED. CONGRATULATIONS, DR. COLLIER!

SC TED IS CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO SERVE AS SC TED VICE PRESIDENT. A VICE PRESIDENT, ONCE ELECTED, SERVES THE NEXT YEAR AS THE PRESIDENT, AND THEN THE PAST PRESIDENT OF TED. DUTIES OF THE VICE PRESIDENT INCLUDE:

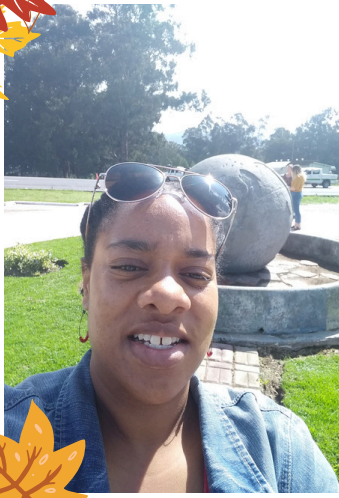
- 1.SERVE IN THE PLACE OR AND WITH THE AUTHORITY OF THE PRESIDENT IN CASE OF ABSENCE OR DISABILITY OF THE PRESIDENT;
- 2.SERVE AS THE SUBDIVISION'S REPRESENTATIVE ON THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE FOR THE ANNUAL SC CEC CONFERENCE;
- 3.DEVELOP THE PROGRAM FOR THE SUBDIVISION AT THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE SC CEC CONFERENCE.
- 4.ASSIST THE PRESIDENT-ELECT IN DEVELOPING THE PROGRAM AND PLANNING OTHER MEETINGS.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THE VICE PRESIDENT POSITION, OR IF YOU ARE JUST INTERESTED IN BEING A PART OF SC TED, PLEASE CONTACT RHONDA MILLER, SC TED PRESIDENT (RMILLER1@COASTAL.EDU).

SELECTED



SILENT AUCTION



by: Jamia Thomas-Richmond, Past-President

SCCEC will be seeking donations for the
Silent Auction

to be held at the 2025 Annual Conference in Greenville, South Carolina. More information will be provided in the next Palmetto Newsletter!



QUOTE OF THE DAY

I am a teacher born and bred, and I believe in the advocacy of teachers. It's a calling. We want our students to feel impassioned and empowered.

[Erin Gruwell](#)

2024-2025

Nominations



by: Jamia Thomas-Richmond, Past-President

SCCEC will hold elections for the positions of **Vice President and Treasurer**

vacancies to serve on the SCCEC Executive Committee and Board. More information regarding the Call for Nominations will be in the October 18, 2024, Palmetto Newsletter!



**SOUTH
CAROLINA**



CHAPTER/SUBDIVISION **VIP AWARD INFORMATION 2024-2025 FISCAL TERM**

THE VIP AWARDS WILL BE AWARDED AT THE 2026 SCCEC CONFERENCE. THIS AWARD IS GIVEN TO PRESIDENTS WHO MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- 1. ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHAPTER/SUBDIVISION PLANNING DOCUMENT FOR THE YEAR. DUE SEPTEMBER 25, 2024. THESE MAY BE BROUGHT TO THE SCCEC BOARD MEETING OR MAY BE EMAILED TO PAST PRESIDENT, JAMIA THOMAS RICHMOND, JRICHMON@COASTAL.EDU**
- 2. CALL A MINIMUM OF FOUR EXECUTIVE MEETINGS PER YEAR. DUE JUNE 30, 2025. MEETING AGENDAS AND MINUTES MAY BE EMAILED TO JAMIA THOMAS RICHMOND, JRICHMON@COASTAL.EDU**
- 3. ARRANGE FOR YOUR CHAPTER/SUBDIVISION TO BE REPRESENTED AT ALL SCCEC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS. ROSTERS MAINTAINED BY CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, NICOLE UPHOLD, NUPHOLD@COASTAL.EDU**
- 4. SUBMIT AT LEAST TWO ARTICLES TO THE PALMETTO (ONLINE NEWSLETTER). ARTICLES DUE SEPT.6TH, OCT. 18TH, DEC. 13TH, MAR. 14TH, AND MAY 23RD. ARTICLES MAY BE EMAILED TO PAST PRESIDENT, JAMIA THOMAS RICHMOND, JRICHMON@COASTAL.EDU**
- 5. HAVE DELEGATE(S) REGISTERED FOR THE SCCEC REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY. DUE FEBRUARY 14, 2025. DELEGATES REGISTER WITH VICE PRESIDENT, CARLA CLARDY, CARLACLARDY@ANDERSON5.NET**
- 6. SUBMIT OFFICERS' NAMES AND EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR THE FOLLOWING YEAR (2025-2026) BY JUNE 30, 2025. OFFICER NAMES MAY BE EMAILED TO PAST PRESIDENT, JAMIA THOMAS RICHMOND, JRICHMON@COASTAL.EDU**
- 7. SUBMIT A COMPLETED ANNUAL REPORT BY JULY 1, 2025. ANNUAL REPORTS MAY BE EMAILED TO PRESIDENT, TIFFANY HOLLIS, THOLLIS@COASTAL.EDU**
- 8. SUBMIT AT LEAST ONE NOMINEE FOR A SCCEC AWARD. AWARD NOMINATIONS ARE DUE BY NOVEMBER 22, 2024. NICOLE UPHOLD, NUPHOLD@COASTAL.EDU WILL KEEP A LISTING OF ALL NOMINEES AND NOMINATORS.**

NOTE: ALL CRITERIA MUST BE MET TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR AWARD.



Student CHAPTERS

HI! MY NAME IS EMILY HINSON, AND I'M THE PRESIDENT OF COASTAL CAROLINA'S CEC CHAPTER (1197). WE STARTED THE SCHOOL YEAR OUT WITH MANY EVENTS PLANNED. WE TABLED AT CCU'S ORGANIZATIONAL KICKOFF DAY TO BRING IN POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS. LATER THAT WEEK THE FIRST MEETING WAS HELD AND NUMEROUS NEW MEMBERS SHOWED UP WITH LOTS OF INTEREST! AT THE NEXT MEETING WE ARE PLANNING TO MAKE FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS AND PAINT TOTE BAGS. WE ARE ALSO CURRENTLY DOING A FUNDRAISER WITH KRISPY KREME. THIS FUNDRAISER WILL HELP RAISE MONEY FOR THE CLUB AND GIVE OUR MEMBERS NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPAND ACROSS CAMPUS AND Horry COUNTY. WE ARE HOPING TO HELP SPONSOR LOCAL CLASSROOMS AND HOST MORE EVENTS. OUR CHAPTER IS ALSO PLANNING TO HEAD TO GREENVILLE FOR THE SOUTH CAROLINA CEC CONFERENCE NEXT FEBRUARY. WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO A GREAT YEAR WITH LOTS OF GROWTH AND FUN!

EMILY HINSON (SHE/HER)

EPHINSON@COASTAL.EDU

COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY, SPADONI COLLEGE OF EDUCATION '25
SPECIAL EDUCATION MAJOR, PSYCHOLOGY MINOR
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN



From the National Office

CEC has a new and improved Teacher Candidate Support Network available for those students who will be student teaching anytime during the 2024-2025 school year.

This newly improved, free membership provides student teachers with a year long CEC membership and access to resources and an online community of other student teachers.

Students can sign up here: <https://cec1785.wufoo.com/forms/r64qmq30krc9ow/> and will receive a promo code they can use at checkout for **FREE Pre-Service Student Basic Membership**

**CEC Racial Justice Grants
Deadline: September 30**

The CEC Racial Justice Grant encourages and supports work focused on addressing the issues related to the ongoing racial disparities in educational experiences, opportunities, and outcomes for individuals with disabilities from minoritized racial groups.

**Yes I Can Awards
Deadline for nominations:
September 27
CEC proudly honors exceptional children and youth for their determination and achievements with the Yes I Can Awards, presented annually at the CEC Convention & Expo.**

The awards recognize 12 outstanding students in six categories and can be any student between the ages of 3 and 21.



**CEC's Diversity Leadership Academy
Deadline: September 26**

The CEC Diversity Leadership Academy is an empowering initiative for special education professionals dedicated to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Dates to Remember

**February 27- March 1
2025 CEC Conference**

**November 22
Award Nominations Due
Proposals for SCCEC Conference Due**

**December 7
Nominations for Officers Due**

**February 14
RA Reports and Representative
Names Due**

**March 1
Representative Assembly**

2024-2025 Officers

President - Dr. Tiffany Hollis

President-Elect - Mr. Michael Snipes

Vice President - Carla Clardy

Past-President - Dr. Jamia Thomas-Richmond

Recording Secretary - Ms. Haileigh Miller

Corresponding Secretary - Dr. Nicole Uphold

Treasurer - Dr. Olivia Enders

Parliamentarian - Vacant



/SouthCarolinaCEC



@MySCCEC



southcarolina.exceptionalchildren.org