Welcome to the South Carolina Academy of Science
2016 Annual Meeting

Dear Students, Teachers, Scientists, and Colleagues,

I am very pleased to welcome you to Winthrop University for the 89th annual meeting of the South Carolina Academy of Science (SCAS). As the President-Elect of SCAS, it is my privilege to host this year’s meeting on our beautiful campus.

The SCAS is a state-wide, interdisciplinary science organization established in 1924. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in science and includes undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, administrators, and related professionals. The Academy also sponsors the South Carolina Junior Academy of Science (SCJAS), which includes high school students and teachers and provides an opportunity for students throughout the state to present original research at the annual meeting. Our mission is to promote the creation of scientific knowledge; to improve the quality of science education in our state; to foster the interaction of business, industry, government and education in the academic scientific community; to improve public understanding and appreciation of science; and to encourage young people to become involved in science.

We are thrilled that nearly 500 students, faculty, teachers, and scientists in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Astronomy, Engineering, Mathematics, Health sciences and more are participating in this year’s meeting and sharing their discoveries through oral presentations and poster sessions. We are also excited to present the Governor’s Awards for Excellence in Scientific Research and Scientific Awareness. We are thrilled and honored to have as our plenary speaker Dr. Prakash Kara from the Medical University of South Carolina. Dr. Kara will be discussing the revolutionary high resolution imaging techniques his lab uses to examine the vasculature and microanatomy of the brain.

These events do not happen without significant teamwork. I would like to sincerely thank all of our sponsors and donors for their generous support of this important event. We are so grateful to Winthrop University and especially for College of Arts and Sciences Dean Karen Kedrowski’s generous hospitality and support for this meeting. While all of the SCAS councilors participate in one way or another in supporting the delivery of our spring meeting I would like to recognize a few individuals specifically. Special thanks to our current and past presidents (Dr. John Kaup and Dr. Laurie Fladd) for guiding me throughout the past year; to Dr. Bill Pirkle for his outstanding leadership and service as judging coordinator for the SCAS; to Dr. David Ferris for his annual delivery of an outstanding program; and to Dr. Edna Steele for her countless hours serving as Treasurer for the SCAS and SCJAS. In addition, a very special thank you to all of the students, teachers, mentors, parents, scientists, and volunteers who have worked so hard to bring us their outstanding work today.
I hope that you enjoy the meeting and look forward to working with you over the next several years as we continue to strengthen and expand our effort as the South Carolina Academy of Science.

Heather J. Evans Anderson

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President–Elect; South Carolina Academy of Science
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