

University history full of changes and growth

From Staff Reports

Chartered in 1801 as South Carolina College, the University of South Carolina was the first college to be supported continuously by annual state appropriations.

USC is one of the oldest state universities in the country and has

been through many changes before emerging as an institution dedicated to providing both liberal arts and professional education to the people of South Carolina.

The period around and after the Civil War was one of great change for the university. The School was

closed from June, 1862 until 1865 when the entire student body volunteered for the Confederate Army.

After re-opening, the university went through six name changes before being chartered for the third and final time as the University of

South Carolina in 1906. During the period of Reconstruction, the schools of business, journalism and law were founded and the graduate school expanded.

During World War II, the campus was transformed into a military training campus. Classes were taught year-round and many professors were reassigned to teach navigation and communication.

After World War II, the campus expanded both physically and academically. In the 60s, a state-wide network of smaller campuses was

introduced. The historic Horseshoe area was renovated in 1971 and is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Engineering Center, opened in the fall of 1987 and the Ira and Nancy Koger Center, opened in 1989, are the two most recent additions. A new music school is currently being built.

The University of South Carolina now boasts 17 academic units, including a law school and a school of medicine.

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Photo Courtesy: Homecoming Commission

The last Homecoming Parade at USC was held in 1983. After that, groups built displays on the Horseshoe.

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