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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COLUMBIA, S.C.

SG official approves of COI decision

BY BRANDON LARRABEE
STAFF WRITER

The court of impeachment's decision to dismiss charges against Student Body Treasurer Elizabeth Fordham amounts to an acquittal and can't be overturned, according to an opinion by Student Government Attorney General Chris Dorsel.

Dorsel's decision was prompted by a controversy that broke out during Wednesday's student senate meeting. When the court announced its decision to dismiss the charges, senators questioned the court's right to do so.

Sen. John Tidikis said the court of impeachment had to recommend acquittal or conviction instead of simply throwing out the charges.

"Is that a recommendation, or what?" he asked.

According to Dorsel's opinion, the court's decision amounts to an acquittal.

"In this case, the COI found on all charges that Ms. Fordham had not committed any acts worthy of impeachment," the opinion read. "In short, they acquitted her."

Dorsel said the senate can't hold a trial after the court's decision because that would mean double jeopardy.

"Ms. Fordham's case has already been tried once," Dorsel wrote, "and to bring her case and the recommendation from the [court of impeachment] of acquittal to the Student Senate would not only vio-

late her rights, but also the laws of our state and our nation."

Finally, Dorsel recommended a change to the SG Constitution in his statement. The change would deal with the portion of the constitution dealing with the court's decision. "Conviction or acquittal shall require a two-thirds (2/3) concurrence vote of the recommendation of the Court of Impeachment by the Student Senate," the constitution reads.

Dorsel would change the clause to keep the student senate from voting on the articles of impeachment if the court chooses to acquit.

"It needs to read along the lines of 'If the Court of Impeachment recommends conviction, then conviction or acquittal shall require a two-thirds

(2/3) vote by the Student Senate,'" the opinion read.

Judiciary Committee Co-Chairman Patrick Gearman said he was pleased with Dorsel's opinion.

"I'm glad he supports the court of impeachment," Gearman said.

Gearman said the Judiciary Committee was also considering recommending a change in the constitution.

"I don't know if I support that exact change," he said. "We are considering something along those lines."

Fordham also said she agreed with the decision. "I feel like there's a double jeopardy clause, and I can't be tried for the same thing twice," she

IMPEACHMENT SEE PAGE 2



Spirit Week Activities

MONDAY

• **Blood Drive**
11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Russell House
Ballroom

• **Clemson tickets**
available from 9 a.m.
to 4 p.m., RH 205

TUESDAY

• **Blood Drive**
11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Russell House
Ballroom

• **Carolina Productions and LoU's Crew**
giveaways all day
outside RH Ballroom

• **Clemson tickets**
available from 9 a.m.
to 4 p.m., RH 205

WEDNESDAY

• **Blood Drive**
11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Russell House
Ballroom

• **Carolina Productions and LoU's Crew**
giveaways all day
outside RH Ballroom

THURSDAY

• **Blood Drive**
11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
RH Ballroom

• **Carolina Productions and LoU's Crew**
giveaways all day
outside RH Ballroom

FRIDAY

• **Carnival**
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Greene Street

• **Tigerburn Grill-Out**
4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
RH Patio

• **Tigerburn**
6:30 p.m.
State Fairgrounds

SATURDAY

• **Great Gamecock Tailgate**, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., next to Seawall's

• **USC vs. Clemson**, 12:30 p.m., Williams-Brice Stadium

USC receives \$4 million federal grant

BY GRAY STEVENSON
STAFF WRITER

South Carolina universities were awarded a \$4 million federal grant in October for improvement of their teacher training programs.

The U.S. Department of Education awarded the grant to Benedict College, Furman University, Winthrop University, USC and the preschool through 12th grade schools in Richland County.

These schools will be collectively known as the Partners for the Enhancement of Clinical Experiences in Teacher Education as they share the grant for their teacher education programs.

The funding period is from Oct. 15, 1999, to Oct. 15, 2004.

Dr. Jane Zenger, USC grant director, explained the principal goals of the partners.

The first of the goals is to create a "standards-based model" that will improve teachers' understanding of the educational process as well as the utilization of new technology in the classroom. Second, "clinical sites and field requirements" will

be established to meet state and national standards.

Also, the collaboration of the faculties of the universities and P-12 schools will be encouraged to promote the "renewal of P-12 schooling and teacher development."

Finally, the spread of the work of the "South Carolina Network for Educational Renewal to other school and universities" will also be initiated.

Zenger said she hopes the development of these programs will lead to a strong commitment from trained teachers to remain in South Carolina to further improve the educational system.

Also, the spread of new and effective ways to train teachers will provide South Carolina with a "consistency across the whole state," Zenger said.

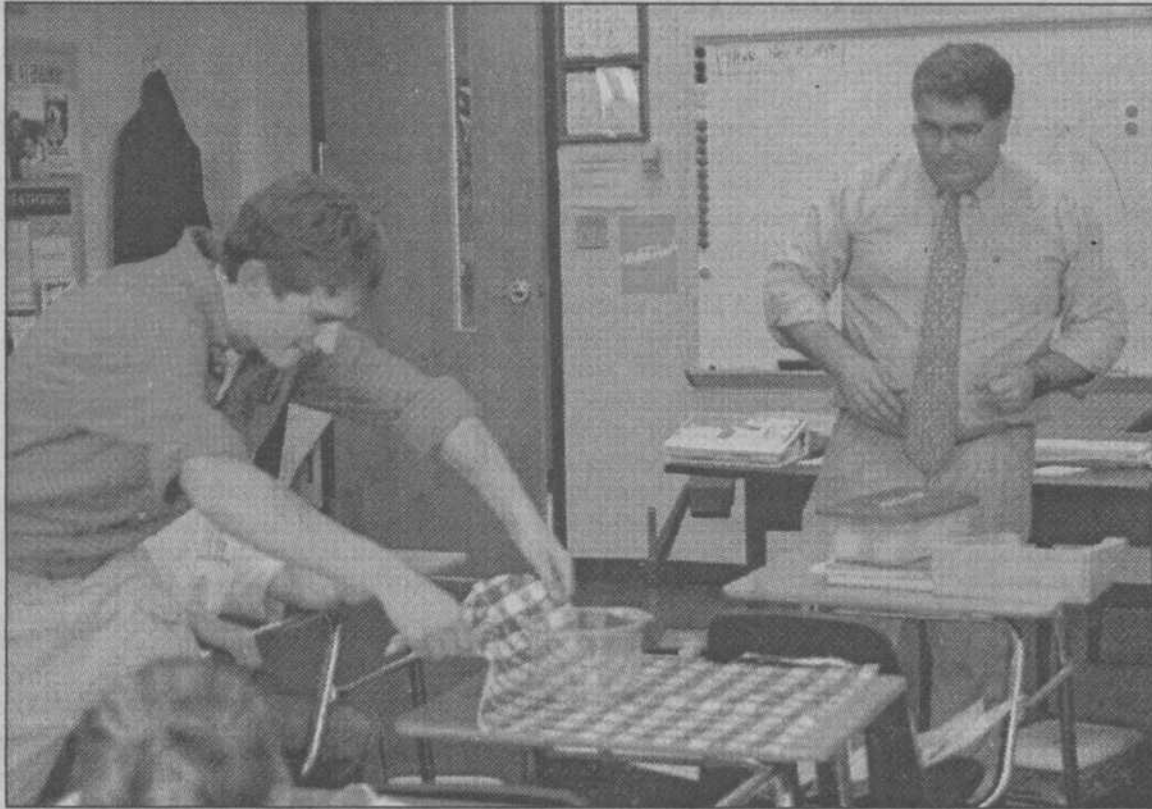
With their allotted funds, each school will pursue the development of one of these goals and will eventually incorporate every goal into their program. Furman will organize internships for student teachers.

Benedict will look at creating new strategies for discipline and development of academic skills for special needs students.

Winthrop will focus on the expansion of mentoring programs, for which 42 people have already joined. USC is responsible for long-term evaluation of the various programs' objectives and how to improve them.

USC will also host summer seminars where student teachers, first-year teachers and teachers who have earned master's degrees will be able to train together.

Seminars will include areas such as classroom



Above: Heathwood Hall private school ninth grade physics teacher James Morris experiments with friction, gravity and horizontal force. Left: Students at McCants Elementary School, a public school, participate in an after-school program that begins in the school's cafeteria.

ALL PHOTOS BY SEAN RAYFORD, PHOTO EDITO

management and preparation of students for standardized testing.

Theresa Kuhs, principal grant investigator and chairwoman of the Department of Instruction and Teacher Education, said the focus of the program is to work to prepare USC graduates to be better teachers through "teacher education courses [that require students] to go out and work in a school setting."

USC has worked with schools in Richland County for other projects. But no schools have agreed to participate in the program yet.

"In the past, we have had the opportunity to

work with [schools such as] Meadowfield Elementary School, Crayton Middle School, and Dreher High School," Kuhs said.

The schools that agree to be in the program will be known as the Professional Development Schools and will help with recruiting new teachers and allowing teachers to learn how to work with special needs students.

Students may contact Dr. Zenger at jzenger@sc.edu or at 777-6239 with questions about the developing teaching programs at USC.



USC signs 15-year Baruch environmental contract

BY DENISE LEVEREAUX
STAFF WRITER

USC researchers will be able to maintain a close watch on the environment because of a 15-year contract between USC and the Belle W. Baruch Foundation.

The contract, signed Nov. 5, allows USC to continue working with the Baruch Foundation at the Baruch Institute for Marine Biology and Coastal Research.

The agreement also lets USC use the Kimbel Conference Center and the Marine Field Laboratory, near Georgetown.

Established in 1969 by USC and the Baruch Foundation, the Baruch Institute for Marine Biology and Coastal Research provides a place for USC and the Baruch Foundation to conduct joint research of environmental conditions at the S.C. coast.

One research focus is the effect of human activity in the coastal area.

The impact of human presence along South Carolina's coast is studied in various aspects, from changes in the microscopic makeup of the area to the ecosystem as a whole.

One of the most notable results of the contract is the continuation of one of the world's most complete and ongoing sets of measurements for a coastal ecosystem, according to the USC News website.

The Baruch Institute's data on the biological, physical and chemical makeup of the area are measured and evaluated by staff researchers to aid in the understanding of ecosystem stability in the coastal area.

"The results of our basic and applied research have contributed new information critical to the wise use and management of coastal resources," Madilyn Fletcher said.

Fletcher is the director of USC's Baruch Institute for Marine Biology and Coastal Research.

As an individual part of the College of Science

and Mathematics, the Institute's headquarters and laboratory are at the USC Columbia campus.

The field laboratory is at the east coast, about 150 miles from Columbia.

The 2,630-acre field site is comprised of a multitude of habitats, including tidal salt marshes, beaches, islands and swamps.

These habitats are home to more than 120 species of fish and 130 species of algae.

Although the institute's main focus is the North Inlet estuary, research is conducted nationally and worldwide, as well.

The institute has more than 90 projects in progress, covering several environmental issues.

One project analyzes the effects of dinoflagellate Pfiesteria, a type of phytoplankton.

Pfiesteria are unique in that they survive by eating other organisms instead of by photosynthesis. The toxic Pfiesteria is believed to be the cause of more than half of the fish kills in North Carolina.

Another project monitors the quality of golf course water.

Studying this water leads to an understanding of the effects on underdeveloped areas of minerals found in fertilizers that are associated with more developed areas.

Along with research, the institute provides public information through seminars, outreach programs and education workshops given by its Continuing Education Program.

Funding for the Institute's programs comes from federal agencies such as the U.S. Department of Defense and the National Science Foundation, as well as from private foundations.

WEATHER

TODAY
60
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TUESDAY
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INSIDE



Gamecocks
get chopped
by Gators.

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DATEBOOK

NOVEMBER
15

TODAY

• 3-on-3 basketball begins
• Entries open for basketball

• Fraternity Council, 4 p.m., RH 322/326
• Sorority Council, 5 p.m., RH 322/326
• CP, 3:30 p.m.

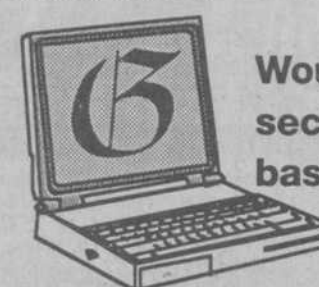
NOVEMBER
16

TUESDAY

• AAAS, 6 p.m.
• FOCUS, 8:15 p.m., Women's Club
• S.C. Student Legislature, 9 p.m.

• Dance Marathon, 8 p.m.
• Spring Board, 5:30 p.m.
• RHA, 7 p.m., RH 307

ONLINE POLL



Would a specific student section benefit the USC basketball teams?

Go to www.gamecock.sc.edu to vote in this week's poll.