Annual Alumni and Friends Weekend at the Coast

June 2-3, 2017

Baruch Marine Field Laboratory
Georgetown, South Carolina
Enjoy a Weekend Break!
The College of Arts and Sciences invites you to experience the untouched ecology of this historic 16,000 acre research reserve located on the Hobcaw Barony near Georgetown, SC.

Learn from the Experts!
Renowned faculty and staff from the College of Arts and Sciences will lead several compelling sessions that are both exciting and interactive.

Extraordinary Hospitality!
Scrumptious dinners will be served in Kimbel Lodge by Carefree Catering on Friday and Saturday night. Reconnect with old friends and make new friends over the course of the weekend.

Brief History about the Baruch Institute
The Baruch Institute was established through the joint efforts of the Belle W. Baruch Foundation and the University of South Carolina, and is an internationally recognized scientific research center.

• For more information about the Baruch Institute, visit: http://www.baruch.sc.edu
• For more information about the Belle W. Baruch Foundation, visit: http://hobcawbarony.org

Program Highlights:
EXPLORE a portion of the Hobcaw Barony’s 16,000 acres through exciting and interactive sessions.

EXAMINE the breathtaking scenery and unique wildlife sightings.

ENCOUNTER migratory songsters during the early morning Spring Songbird Walk on Saturday (optional).

ENJOY the fireside chat led by Dr. Lacy Ford, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at USC.

We will convene on Friday evening for a delicious dinner at Kimbel Lodge. On Saturday, you will choose from an eclectic variety of morning and afternoon sessions. Our program will conclude Saturday evening with a low country sunset dinner, followed by our fireside chat.

North Inlet

Hobcaw House, home of Bernard Baruch
Discovery Learning: Examine Beach and Creek Ecology
(Morning Session)

Explore for yourself the world-renowned North Inlet Estuary in an adventure that includes plankton nets, seines, and your powers of observation. Be captivated by a nature walk on a resplendent, undeveloped beach and a boat ride in an inlet. Experience first-hand the untouched beauty of the beaches and creeks that this lush landscape provides.

This session will be limited to 12 participants.

Instructors: Dennis Allen, Resident Director of the Baruch Marine Field Laboratory; and Wendy Allen, Manager of the North Inlet-Winyah Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve; Paul Kenny, Matt Kimball, and other Baruch Field Lab faculty and staff

Parallel Lives: Minnie A. Kennedy and Belle W. Baruch
(Morning Session)

Minnie A. Kennedy, born in 1916 on Christmas Day on Hobcaw Barony located in Georgetown, SC, lived to the ripe old age of 97. Belle W. Baruch was born in 1899, and at her death in 1964, transferred Hobcaw Barony property to the Belle W. Baruch Foundation. One born to lower class status and the other to upper class status, these women made tremendous impacts on their world and the world of others. One became an heiress, pilot, and conservationist; the other became an educator and civil rights activist. The parallel, and sometimes intersecting lives of these two women provide a rich source of information about them individually as well as the times in which they lived.

Instructor: Val Littlefield, Associate Professor, Department of History and Director of the African American Studies Program at USC
Putting it together again for South Carolina  
(Morning Session)

Believe it or not, not all archaeology is “dirt” archaeology. Do you like puzzles, or have an appreciation for art, or simply want to do something a little outside of the box? Then come be a part of South Carolina history, and work side-by-side with archaeologists to put together 4,000 year old fragments of pottery collected from the Spanish Mount Point site, Edisto Island, South Carolina. You will also learn about Native American settlements on the southern Atlantic coast. No experience or equipment necessary. Simply bring your curiosity!

Instructor: Karen Smith, Director of Applied Research Division, South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology

Salt Marsh Ecology: Learn about Pluff Mud, Oyster Reefs and Marsh Grass Aboard Guided Skiffs  
(Afternoon Session)

Life in the estuary is dependent on the resources provided by the salt marsh. This expedition will explore some of these resources with a guided skiff tour of the marshes along the intertidal creeks of the North Inlet Estuary. Jay Pinckney, distinguished Marine Ecologist, will be your tour guide, accompanied by several marine science students. Each skiff will have either a marine scientist or marine science student to answer questions during the excursion, such as, “Why does the marsh smell bad?” “What do oysters eat?” and “Why is the marsh so muddy and rusty?” Activities will include seining, collecting mud cores, creek walking and oystering. Old lace-up shoes and shorts are recommended attire, and ties are not required. Grab your sunglasses and immerse yourself in discovery as our scientists take you on a journey through the pristine habitat of the North Inlet Estuary. Space is limited, so make your reservation today.

Instructor: Jay Pinckney, Professor, Department of Biological Sciences and Director of the Belle W. Baruch Institute for Marine and Coastal Sciences at USC

“The most enjoyable aspect of the weekend was being with old friends, meeting new ones, and always learning something new.”
**Exploring the Microscopic World of the Plankton**

(Afternoon Session)

Have you ever wondered what microscopic world lives in the ocean that we cannot see? Planktonic organisms – floating plants and animals that are at the mercy of ocean currents – are among the most abundant creatures on Earth. Their importance to ocean ecology however, is often overlooked because of their small size and low visibility. In this session we will sample for plankton using bottles and nets at nearby Oyster Landing. We will process these samples in the Baruch Marine Field Lab, and take a closer look at the planktonic world through the eyes of a microscope. Our discussions will center on species composition, the trophic interactions that occur within plankton communities, and how this lower food web energy eventually makes it to higher trophic levels in the form of fish, shellfish and marine mammals.

_Instructor: Tammi Richardson, Professor, Department of Biological Sciences and the School of the Earth, Ocean and Environment at USC_

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**Imagining Slavery: Architecture and Interpretation at Hampton Plantation**

(Afternoon Session)

The memory of slavery – whether at national historic landmarks, in county squares or on college campuses – is a hotly debated topic. Buildings are essential components of these “landscape of memory” that not only educate Americans about our past but also make specific arguments inseparable from contemporary political and social debates. This session will use Hampton Plantation as a laboratory for exploring the interpretation of America’s history of human bondage. One of the earliest rice plantations on the Santee, Hampton is now a state park where the colonial architecture is a poignant story teller of the enslaved who made their homes in the region for generations after emancipation. Its Georgian-style mansion inspired the works of South Carolina’s first poet laureate, Archibald Rutledge, who wrote a number of books about his ancestral home.

_This session will be limited to 13 participants._
Saturday Evening Fireside Chat
Understanding History; Understanding the History of the American South

In recent years, history as a discipline has experienced something of an existential crisis: what is its value, why should people study it, does it make any difference in our own lives, or the life of our state, or nation, or world? With all the technology we now command, can’t we just make it up as we go? Why reckon with the dead hand of the past? We must prepare for the careers of the twenty-first century economy.

In this fireside chat, Dr. Lacy Ford, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, will explain why history matters and why understanding it is so critical to our efforts to cope with a necessarily uncertain future. In particular, these remarks will focus on understanding the meaning of the history of the American South, a region that at times seems hyper-American but also brings with it an historical experience decidedly unlike the rest of the nation. Southerners, unlike the rest of the nation, have experienced war on their native soil, defeat, occupation, poverty, economic stagnation and even a measure of social stigma. Indeed, in 1938 President Roosevelt called the South the “nation’s number one economic problem.” For most of the past 150 years, with the exception of Texas, Florida and Virginia, southerners are still the poor country cousins of the American People of Plenty.

This chat will conclude with some thoughts about why the southern counterpoint to the prevailing American myths of wealth, power, virtue and innocence can still be instructive and why such instruction is needed. Dr. Ford will show that the study of history remains not merely a valuable but indeed an indispensable guide to what our future may hold.

The woods and marshes come alive with song in the spring. You will visit areas on Hobcaw Barony in search of migratory songsters, including wood thrushes, hooded and prothonotary warblers, and painted buntings. Heighten your senses with the thrill of their songs! Participants are asked to bring binoculars and wear comfortable walking attire. Long pants and long-sleeved shirts are recommended.

This session will be limited to 14 participants.

Instructor: Wendy Allen, Manager of the North Inlet-Winyah Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

“The entire experience has been outstanding. The instructors were very knowledgeable and approachable. The hospitality was fabulous.”
Cost

The cost to attend the 2017 Annual Alumni and Friends Weekend at the Coast is **$180 per person**, which includes:

- Access to facilities on Hobcaw Barony
- Friday dinner; Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner
- All program materials

Accommodations

Participants are responsible for their own accommodations. Below are three convenient options for lodging:

**Hampton Inn Georgetown Marina** 1-843-545-5000
420 Marina Drive
Georgetown, SC  29440
Distance to Hobcaw Barony: 2.6 miles
Reduced rate available
Group name: **USC, College of Arts and Sciences**

**Litchfield Beach and Golf Resort** 1-843-237-1300
14276 Ocean Highway
Pawleys Island, SC  29585
Distance to Hobcaw Barony: 12.1 miles
Reduced rate available
Group name: **USC, College of Arts and Sciences**

**Mansfield Plantation Bed and Breakfast** 1-866-717-1776
1776 Mansfield Road
Georgetown, SC  29440
Distance to Hobcaw Barony: 7.4 miles

The Alumni and Friends Weekend at the Coast is limited to 45 participants.

Please register early to reserve your space! To register for this exciting weekend, please mail the registration form, along with a check for **$180.00** per person attending made payable to the USC College of Arts and Sciences, to:

College of Arts and Sciences
Alumni and Friends Weekend at the Coast
Attn: Ann Cameron
Petigru College, Room 210
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC  29208

Reservation deadline is May 22, 2017.

Due to popular demand, we must receive a check in order to reserve your space for the Alumni and Friends Weekend at the Coast.

Please note: Many sessions involve walking and other exercise. Please contact us if you have any health-related concerns.

If you would like additional information, please contact Ann Cameron, Director of External Relations, at 803-777-9201, or visit us on the web at http://artsandsciences.sc.edu.

“I hope more of our alumni will take the opportunity to learn more about this unique program.”
Alumni and Friends Weekend at the Coast
Schedule of Events

Friday, June 2, 2017

6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Check in at Kimbel Lodge
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Welcome and Dinner
7:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Introductions and Overview of the Weekend Activities

Saturday, June 3, 2017

6:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Optional Spring Songbird Walk
8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast at Kimbel Lodge
8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Overview of Hobcaw Barony by Dr. Dennis Allen
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Morning Sessions
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch at Baruch Marine Field Lab
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Afternoon Sessions
4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Free Time
6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Champagne Reception at the Hobcaw Barony Discovery Center
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Low Country Sunset Dinner at Kimbel Lodge
8:00 p.m. Fireside Chat by Dr. Lacy Ford
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For liability reasons, we cannot permit children under the age of 15 to attend this event.

Please note that all sessions have limited enrollment. We ask that you pick two or three sessions that are of interest to you in each time slot and rank them according to your preference. We will make every effort to assign you to the sessions that interest you most. Each participant will be placed in one morning and one afternoon session, and participation will be on a first come first served basis.

Morning Sessions
Beach and Creek Ecology
______ 1st choice
______ 2nd choice
______ 3rd choice
Salt Marsh Ecology
______ 1st choice
______ 2nd choice
______ 3rd choice
Parallel Lives
______ 1st choice
______ 2nd choice
______ 3rd choice
Hampton Plantation
______ 1st choice
______ 2nd choice
______ 3rd choice
Archaeology
______ 1st choice
______ 2nd choice
______ 3rd choice
Exploring Plankton
______ 1st choice
______ 2nd choice
______ 3rd choice

#Attending Optional Saturday Morning Spring Songbird Walk