Annual Alumni and Friends Weekend at the Coast
May 29-30, 2015
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 17,500 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 nights. 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.artsandsciences.sc.edu/baruch/
• For more information about the Belle W. Baruch Foundation, visit: http://hobcawbarony.org

Program Highlights:
EXPLORE the Hobcaw Barony’s 17,500 acres through exciting and interactive sessions.

EXAMINE the breathtaking scenery and unique wildlife sightings.

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

ENJOY the fireside chat led by Professor Timothy Mousseau, Department of Biological Sciences at USC.

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

This session will be limited to twelve participants.

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

Exploring Gullah/Geechee Culture and History! (Morning Session)

Participants in this session will examine the culture and history of the Gullah/Geechee. Lead by Dr. Melissa Cooper, a historian whose current book project traces the construction of the Gullah/Geechee identity, this session will be an exciting mix of multi-media materials, lecture, and discussion. Dr. Cooper promises that the session’s participants will discover the historical origins of these unique low country communities, and the ideas and phenomenon that encouraged researchers, writers, artists, and scholars to explore, collect and preserve their culture. Participants in this session are in for a special treat as two of Georgetown's best known cooks of Gullah cuisine will serve samples, including okra, tomatoes, rice, peanut candy, potato bread, and spicy lemonade. You won't want to miss this!

Instructor: Melissa L. Cooper, Research Assistant Professor, Institute for Southern Studies at USC
Unleash Your Creativity - Photographing the Low Country Landscape!
(Morning Session)

What better backdrop to learn how to use your camera as a creative tool than this rich and breathtaking scenery? Your instructor will answer questions and guide you through a variety of photography techniques. You will become more comfortable with your camera as you encounter several manual modes of exposure. This hands-on learning will give you the technical instruction you need with gorgeous scenery to inspire you. Participants can use their own camera or borrow one from the College for the session.

This session will be limited to twelve participants.

Instructor: Kathleen Robbins, Coordinator of the Photography Program and Associate Professor of Studio Art at USC

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

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 questions 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: James L. Pinckney, Professor of Biological Sciences and the Marine Science Program at USC
Social Dances for All Occasions!  
(Afternoon Session)

Do you shy away from dancing in public because you are intimidated? Or, are you an experienced dancer who would like some guided instruction to enhance your performance? Regardless of skill level, directed focus on the details of social dances can lead to a greater understanding and conviction on the dance floor at parties, weddings, and other social occasions. Come and learn popular line and couples dances frequently performed at social gatherings. In addition to learning a few dances, participants will learn about the origins of specific dances, how to recognize the musical and movement patterns inherent in each that contribute to their overall structure, and technique for performing them with ease and confidence. Comfortable clothing and shoes will allow for freedom of expression while kinesthetically exploring different dances that reflect movement traditions from a variety of historical and cultural contexts.

Instructor: Stephanie Milling, Head of Dance Education and Professor of Theatre and Dance at USC

Rediscovering Geography: Ducks, Disasters, and Drink!  
(Afternoon Session)

Twenty-nine thousand rubber ducks lost at sea. Thousands of homes flattened by Hurricane Katrina’s storm surge. Peru and Chile wrangling over the “ownership” of brandy. The thread that links them all: geography. In this session, participants will experience how South Carolina students are using geography to integrate science, mathematics, and literature in their learning (the ducks); how a geographic perspective is useful in uncovering imbalances in recovery from natural disasters (the hurricane); and how politics and culture interconnect in specific places to create curious patterns of consumption and trade (the stiff drink). Forget what you think you know about memorizing the names of rivers and state capitals. This geography is about solving a number of problems related to how we educate our children, protect ourselves, and rethink our economy.

Instructor: Jerry T. Mitchell, Research Associate Professor and Director, Center of Excellence for Geographic Education, Department of Geography at USC
Saturday Evening Fireside Chat
Do Nuclear Accidents Generate a “Garden of Eden” for Wildlife? Lessons from the Chernobyl and Fukushima Disasters

Professor Timothy Mousseau, Director of USC’s Chernobyl + Fukushima Research Initiative in the Department of Biological Sciences, will unravel the health and environmental consequences of the Chernobyl and Fukushima disasters, including DNA, birth defects, infertility, cancer, and longevity. Of special interest, he will discuss the latest findings on whether organisms are adapting to radioactive environments. You don’t want to miss this unique opportunity to hear first-hand experiences of Professor Mousseau’s exploration and vital work on the true impact of these natural disasters. All participants will receive a copy of Chernobyl’s Wild Kingdom: Life in the Dead Zone, by Rebecca L. Johnson.

Come See Our Feathered Friends - Spring Songbird Walk
(Optional Saturday Morning Session, 6:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.)

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 fourteen participants.

Instructor: Wendy Allen, NERR Manager at the Baruch Marine Field Laboratory

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

The cost to attend the 2015 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
• Arts & Sciences hat
• Hardback copy of *Chernobyl’s Wild Kingdom: Life in the Dead Zone*, by Rebecca L. Johnson

Accommodations

**Pawley’s Plantation Golf and Country Club**  
www.pawleysplantation.com

Participants are responsible for their own accommodations. We have reserved a block of rooms and suites at a reduced rate, so ask for the University of South Carolina’s room block. Contact **1-800-367-9959** for room descriptions and reservations.

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 send 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, 2015.

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, 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

Friday, May 29, 2015
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
8:00 p.m. Presentation by Dean Mary Anne Fitzpatrick

Saturday, May 30, 2015
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 Professor Timothy Mousseau
9:00 p.m. Adjourn

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.

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#attending Optional Saturday Morning Spring Songbird Walk: ________