

# USCB™

# SHARK TALES

Vol. 4 • No.1

Celebrating Stories of USCB Student and Alumni Success

FALL 2022

## Celebrating Stories of USCB Student Success

Happy New Year, Sand Sharks! The beginning of a new year and a new semester provides an opportunity for us to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year and congratulate ourselves on a job well done. Similarly, recognizing and celebrating the accomplishments of our USCB students is essential for promoting a positive and supportive learning environment, and for helping students to achieve their full potential. In this edition of the newsletter, we are proud to share the many accomplishments of our dedicated and hardworking students who have excelled in a wide range of areas, including academics, research, leadership, and community service. These achievements are a testament to their hard work, dedication, and talent. Congratulations to all of our students, and best wishes for a successful and prosperous 2023.

**Eric Skipper**  
Provost & EVCAA

**Angela Simmons**  
Vice Chancellor for Student Development

## STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS:

USCB Celebrates These Success Stories



USCB's Intro to Sport and Event Management class put on a 5K race and 1-mile buddy run benefitting **Pockets Full Of Sunshine**. Students, faculty, staff, "Rays" and their families came for a great time. [Source Link](#)



USCB Department of English, the Arts, & Interdisciplinary Studies in "Proof," a play by David Auburn. So proud of these students and director Libby Ricardo. [Source Link](#).



The future of science is at USCB! These student researchers presented their projects: **Joanna Boney**, historic shorelines of local barrier islands; **Denia Lopez**, red tide internship at Motes Marine Lab in Florida; **Abby Rogers**, planarian (flatworm) regeneration; **Savannah Reid**, brain tissue analysis; **Sabrina Jones**, chicken embryo skeletal staining and development. [Source Link](#)



Spring Island, SC where USCB early elementary and elementary future teaching learned about place-based life science. These USCB  
*(Continued on page 2)*



# STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS:

(Continued from front page)



students enjoyed this fantastic field trip to Spring Island! [Source Link](#)



19 USCB students toured the Gulfstream Aerospace facilities in Savannah, GA with Dr. Ron Erdei and Mr. Matt Heightland (CIO at USCB), with two alumni of the USCB CSCI program (**Ivana** and **Mike**) who now work at Gulfstream. [Source Link](#)



**Isabella Sineo** and **Samantha Taylor** (Psychology Majors at USCB) worked with Dr. Carmen Farrell on their capstone research projects and presented their results at the Georgia Undergraduate Research Conference in November 2022. [Source Link](#)



**Outstanding Student Workers** USCB Facilities - by Norman Varnes: **Caleb Freeman** and **Aiden Driscoll-Sadusky**. Fins Up!



**Edra Stephens (USCB ENGLISH MAJOR)** is the first USCB student to be selected as a manuscript fellow for a prestigious writer's retreat: "The Watering Hole." The retreat will begin December 26th, where she will hone in on her professional writing skills and bring her own literary works such as a piece of her novel "Born White Dying Black." [Source Link](#)



**Tgaja Johnson (Information Science and Technology Major)** won scholarships to Two Computing Conferences for this fall. She attended the 2022 *CMD-IT/ACM Richard Tapia Celebration of Diversity in Computing Conference* in Washington D.C in September. At the same time, she

will be attending the *Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing* virtually. [Source Link](#)



**Beaufort College Honors Students** visited the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) headquarters and Emory University in September 2022. They saw presentations from major contributors of Public Health at the CDC which expanded on the knowledge they learn in the classroom. The students also received insight on the journey to graduate programs from graduate students at Laney Graduate School at Emory University. [Source Link](#)

## Honors Nursing Majors Raise Funds, Featured in the News



When **Nursing Honors** students at the University of South Carolina Beaufort were assigned a service-learning project this spring, Dr. Jo Kuehn, Assistant Professor of Nursing, asked them to address a health need of a vulnerable population. The students chose Beaufort-based children's advocacy, domestic violence, and substance use. *(Continued on page 3)*



# STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS:

(Continued from page 2)

tic violence and rape crisis center Hopeful Horizons. The class raised \$1,345 by holding a kickball tournament on the university’s Bluffton campus, partnering with Evolve Nutrition of Beaufort to create special drinks for the fundraiser, and conducting a GoFundMe.com campaign. The class then presented a symbolic check to Hopeful Horizons Community Educator Rose Ewing. [News Media Source Link](#)

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## Math Summer Camp



Twenty-one students from the Jasper County School District received hands-on STEM training at USCB during summer 2022 with the Math Opportunities in the Summer for Ridgeland-Hardeeville High School students.

Dr. Volkan Sevim, Associate Professor in Mathematics, helped organize the event. [News Media Source Link](#)

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## Transatlantic Mobility Grant



The French Embassy’s Transatlantic Mobility Grant awarded grant funds for USCB students to study in France

and Europe during summer 2022. The scholarships funded by the grant—and additional money provided by the Provost Eric Skipper’s office and Beaufort College Honors (for the 3 honors students) —made a huge difference in the lives of (L to R) **Kari Dennis, Kai Bangs, Jules Duterte, Jarrett Kizer, Sherry Rodriguez, Jessica Garcia Zena, Kaylee Aiken, and Madelyn Morzenti.** The students used the funds to enroll in the Maymester course “French Francophone Pluralities” and prepared to learn how immigration to France has shaped the country’s culture, politics, and economy. [Source Link](#)

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## USCB students were featured by the French Embassy’s Instagram.

[Source Link](#)



 frenchcultureus • Follow ...

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 frenchcultureus • Everybody say fromage 🍷

Check out this study abroad group from @uscbeaufort! USCB was one of only 6 American institutions to receive a Transatlantic Mobility Grant from the Cultural Services of the French Embassy this year, which helped them expand their study abroad program to include francophone cultures, increasing curricular scope with the

34 likes  
MAY 17

[Log in to like or comment.](#)

## Beaufort College Honors

Five USCB Honors Biology majors graduated early at the inaugural December Commencement exercises.



Joanna Boney



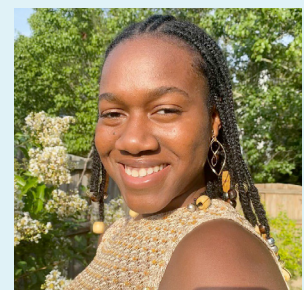
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Ashley Hensley



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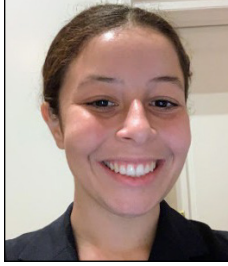


Ilesha Shannon Varia Whittaker



# Accolades for These Students and Alumni!

**Carmella Coughlin-Torres (USCB Senior – Psychology Major & Communication Studies Major)** co-published a research article, “Solitude, seclusion, and survival: Stories from older adults in the Lowcountry during the COVID-19 pandemic” with co-authors (Violette, Roberts, Lahar, Nadeau, & Reindl) in the Carolinas Communication Annual journal. [Journal Link](#)



**Sophia Peach (USCB Alumna Communications Major) SOUTHEAST EMMY STUDENT PRODUCTION AWARD WINNER (2022)- Live Sports/Game Category.** Play Like a Girl: An Equitable Sports Production of Softball. Southeast Emmy Student Production Awards. [Source Link](#)



**Poppy Miller (USCB Alumna Communications Major)** was awarded the “Best Presenter” by the World Soccer Talk organization. [Source Link](#)



**Melfry Gonzalez (USCB Honors Biology Major)** was accepted to UofSC School of Medicine – Greenville.



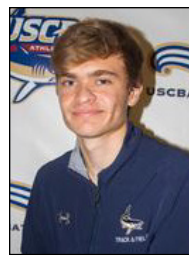
**Jeremy Smalls – (USCB Alumnus Communications Major) SOUTHEAST EMMY STUDENT PRODUCTION AWARD NOMINEE (2022)- Documentary.** How History Shaped the Identity of the Black Community. Southeast Emmy Student Production Awards.

of the Black Community. Southeast Emmy Student Production Awards.

## STUDENT ATHLETE ACHIEVEMENTS



USCB’s Women’s Soccer players **Kristin Beltestad (Business Administration), Anniken Brodersen (Psychology), Synne Bye-Andersen (Business Administration), Aurya Downey (Biology), Henriette Harr-Haga (Business Administration), Mari Kalvatn (Business Administration), Lexi Kaeser (Biology), Marcela Shartouny (Business Administration), Tine Ebbesen Vangen (Business Administration), and Emily Worrell (Sociology)** were awarded the honor of being named Daktronics Women’s Soccer Scholar-Athletes. The 2022 list includes students who achieved at least a 3.5 GPA at their institution.



**Jacob Mitchell (Computational Science)** placed 157th out of 318 male runners at the NAIA Cross Country Nationals in Tallahassee, Florida in November.



**Ashleigh Mead (Business Administration)** tied for 5th place at the Music City Fall Invitational. It was held at Twelve Stones Golf Club in Tennessee in October.



**Jacob Thomas (Business Administration) and Christofer Hammar (Business Administration)** tied for 8th after day one at the Coastal Georgia Fall Invitational in September. The two players from USCB men’s golf team tied at 6-under 210.



**Cydney Stevenson (Honors Nursing)** placed 1st at the 16th Annual Sand Shark Invitational in October. She clocked a 20:02.8 mark in the 5k race and took home the gold.

