



Rayburn Barton
Executive Director

October 5, 2000

MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Dalton Floyd, Chair, and Members,
Commission on Higher Education

From: Ms. Susan Cole, Chair, and Members,
Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services

2000-01 Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Awards

The Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Program is a merit-based scholarship program designed to recognize the most academically talented high school seniors in S.C., encourage them to attend college in the State, and help retain talented minority students who might otherwise pursue studies outside the State. Each Palmetto Fellow may receive a scholarship of up to \$5,000 per year for a maximum of eight full-time terms. The scholarship must be applied towards the cost-of-attendance to pursue the first baccalaureate degree at a participating public or private senior institution in the State.

In order to be eligible to apply for a Palmetto Fellows Scholarship, a student must meet the following minimum academic requirements: (1) score at least 1200 on the SAT or 27 on the ACT; (2) earn a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale at the end of the junior year; and (3) rank in the top five percent of the class at the end of either the sophomore or the junior year. The selection process is very competitive since the Commission on Higher Education usually receives more qualified applicants than available funding.

For the 2000-01 academic year, the Commission on Higher Education received 1,165 Palmetto Fellows Scholarship applications and 873 new scholarships were awarded. All applicants were offered a scholarship for attendance at a public college or university. However, based on available funding levels, eighteen applicants were not funded a scholarship for attendance at a private college or university.

The following report provides: number of new and continuing Palmetto Fellows; African-American participation; Palmetto Fellows by classification; retention statistics; Palmetto Fellows by institution; applicants by county of origin; and, recipients by county of origin.

2000-01 Palmetto Fellows			
New Awards Public Institutions	New Awards Private Institutions	Continuing Awards Public Institutions	Continuing Awards Private Institution
679	194	1489	294
Total New Awards = 873		Total Continuing Awards = 1783	
TOTAL AWARDS = 2656			

<i>2000-01 African-American Palmetto Fellows</i>	
<i>New Awards = 21 (2.41%)</i>	<i>Continuing Awards = 54 (3.03%)</i>
TOTAL AWARDS = 75 (2.82%)	

<i>2000-01 Palmetto Fellows by Classification</i>			
Year in School	Public Institution	Private Institution	Total
Freshmen	679	194	873
Sophomores	555	89	644
Juniors	468	102	570
Seniors	465	103	569
Total	2168	488	2656

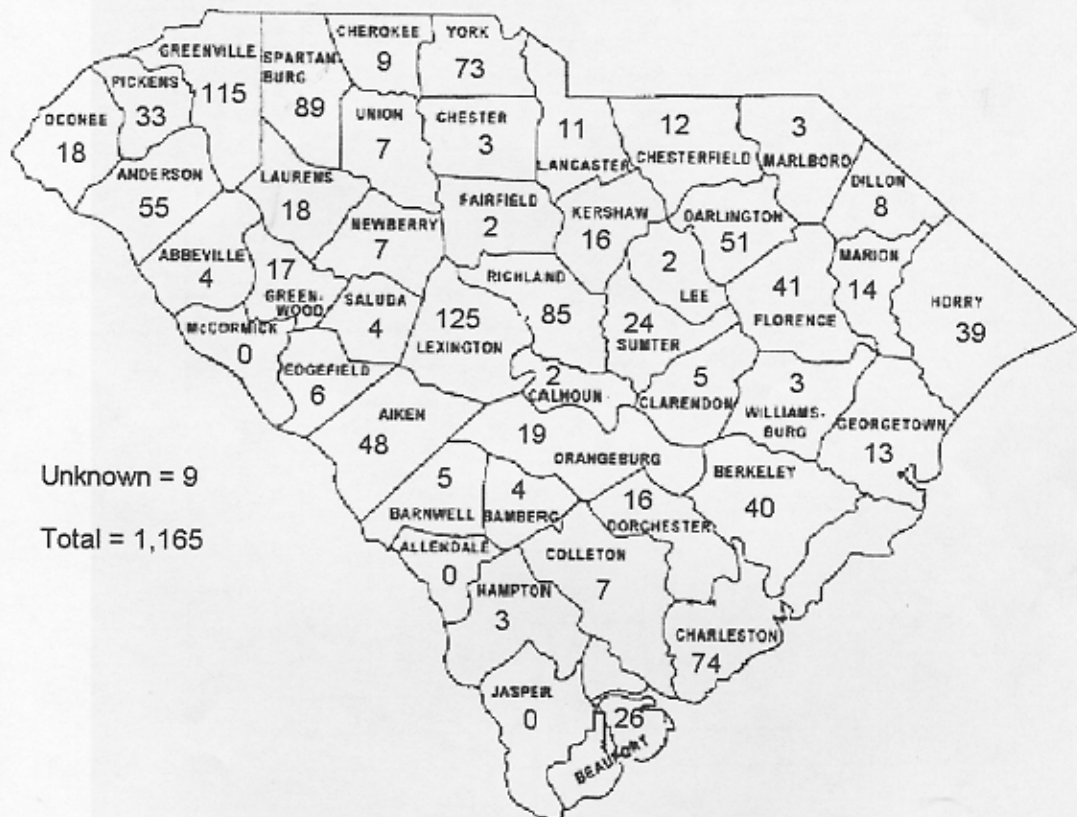
<i>2000-01 Retention Statistics</i>		
Freshmen Fall 1999	Sophomores Fall 2000	Percent Retained
698	644	92.26%

2000-01 Palmetto Fellows by Institution

<i>Public Institutions</i>	<i>New Fellows</i>	<i>Continuing Fellows</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
Clemson University	301	587	888
U.S.C. – Columbia	206	526	732
College of Charleston	92	183	275
Winthrop University	37	81	118
Lander University	7	28	35
Francis Marion University	10	20	30
U.S.C. – Spartanburg	10	18	28
The Citadel	3	19	22
USC – Aiken	7	14	21
Coastal Carolina Univ.	4	9	13
S.C. State University	2	3	5
MUSC	NA	1	1
TOTAL	679	1489	2168

<i>Private Institutions</i>	<i>New Fellows</i>	<i>Continuing Fellows</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
Furman University	79	156	235
Wofford College	38	61	99
Presbyterian College	22	29	51
Erskine College	13	21	34
Anderson College	7	7	14
Columbia College	7	4	11
Charleston Southern Univ.	6	5	11
North Greenville College	9	2	11
Converse College	6	1	7
Columbia International Univ.	1	3	4
Southern Wesleyan Univ.	3	1	4
Coker College	1	2	3
Limestone College	0	2	2
Clafflin University	1	0	1
Newberry College	1	0	1
TOTAL	194	294	488

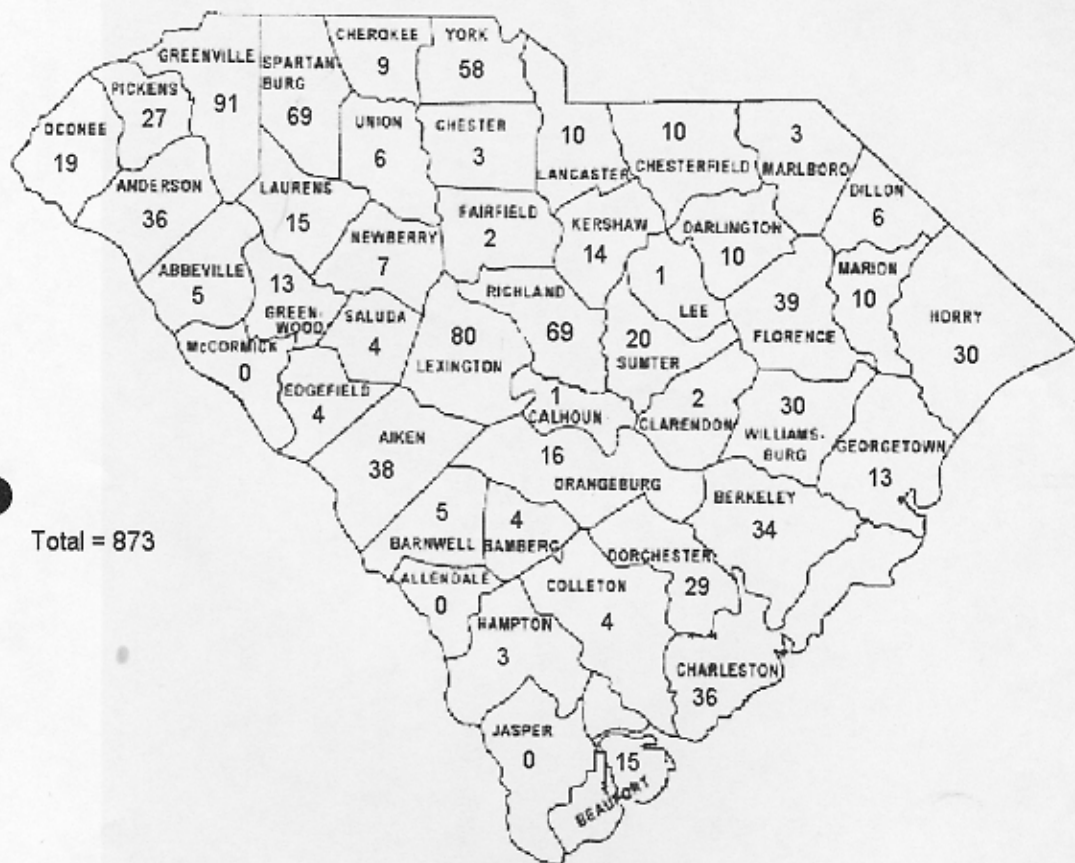
2000-01 Applicants by County of Origin



Unknown = 9

Total = 1,165

2000-01 Recipients by County of Origin



Total = 873