



*College of*  
**ENGINEERING, COMPUTING  
AND APPLIED SCIENCES**

Academic Program Fee  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
FY2020



College of Engineering, Computing and Applied Sciences  
Clemson University  
117 Riggs Hall  
Clemson, SC 29634

## World Class Educators

Funds generated by the Academic Program Fee have allowed the College of Engineering, Computing and Applied Sciences to support 33 instructional faculty including tenure/tenure-track positions. The support has allowed us to increase faculty size and quality. More faculty translates to smaller classes. Higher-quality faculty provide our students with a better experience and a higher-quality education, helping create more successful future alumni.



Our efforts in this area also have a direct impact on our national reputation and rankings. As revenues continue to grow, we will increase our expenditures, deepening the positive impact we have on our students. They will feel the impact as they learn from the world-class educators these funds support.

## Student Success, Retention & Graduation

By reducing student-to-advisor and student-to-faculty ratios, we were in a better position to serve our students during the COVID-19 disruptions. We also invested in new laptops as part of a laptop loaner program to help students bridge the technology gap when they have issues.

Through the Faculty Champions program, we were able to offer an online seminar series for undergraduates focusing on pursuing research opportunities and advanced degree planning. This was led by Dr. Molly Kennedy and consisted of 24 synchronous modules over eight weeks this summer. This opportunity was developed in response to many students losing their opportunity to participate in Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs) due to the pandemic.

These funds also supported various initiatives across the college. They included:

- Using more than half the funds from this category to support the increased number of professional staff advisors in the college. The purpose was to decrease the student-to-advisor ratio so that students receive more personalized service as they seek guidance in their progress toward their degrees.
- The college has invested in a limited number of laptops that are available to be checked out to students on a temporary basis through a new laptop loaner program.



- The Faculty Champions Program was launched to empower CECAS faculty to develop sustainable programs and experiences that will enable students to develop and broaden their technical and professional skillsets and mindsets
- CUHackit and HelloWorld Hackathons: Creativity, learning, and problem-solving marathons where students from different disciplines come together in small teams to work on real projects



- #CECASRecess, an event that debuted in August 2018 to help welcome students to campus
- GEARS2, a collection of retention programs that help first-time freshman students who struggle with calculus and students who are transferring from technical colleges
- Software that will provide better feedback to students on homework and tests
- Innovation and travel grants for undergraduate students, helping them develop products, ideas and businesses, while competing for the chance to travel to Silicon Valley to meet potential investors

- A director for LEADForward, a program that provides leadership training and experiences for CECAS undergraduates
- Support for the Automotive Engineering Undergraduate Certificate Program
- An undergraduate advanced manufacturing track that launched in fall 2019 at the Clemson University International Center for Automotive Research
- An interdisciplinary undergraduate energy track at the Clemson University Restoration Institute
- An assessment and continuous improvement director, who measures student success outcomes in programs made possible by the Academic Program Fee and the college's previously established student enrichment activities
- Other staff support services to ensure accountability in the use of Academic Program Fee funds and to showcase the college's efforts in supporting student success, retention and graduation
- A director of student engagement to focus specifically on developing and supporting programs to help CECAS undergraduates grow and develop outside the classroom.

### State-of-the-Art Instructional Environments

It is essential that we continue to improve the environment in which our students learn and grow. We continued this commitment in FY20 with the support of the new State of the Art learning studios in Lowry Hall that will go to support Civil Engineering's new project-based undergraduate curriculum enhancements. The School of Computing continued to improve its newly renovated advising and student lounge space in McAdams Hall.



**Approved Programs and Fees:**

**Engineering Program Fee:**

Full Time: \$1,250 per semester

Part Time: \$105 per credit hour

**Computer Science Program Fee:**

Full Time: \$500 per semester

Part Time: \$42 per credit hour

**Total Actual Expenditures:**

**\$5,709,803**

**State-of-the-Art  
Instructional  
Environments**

