Executive Summary

Blueprint for Academic Excellence
Rhodos Fellows
AY2022-2023

Highlights

Entering our 4th year, the Rhodos Fellows Learning Community for Information, Design, and Computing Has evolved into a seasoned community. With 349 students from 48 majors, we have our first wave of seniors who have been with the program, along with our returning students and Colossus Scholars for advanced undergraduate research. Our Makerspace has been the hub for over 70 programs, and has matured into a sophisticated site for student leadership and experiential learning.

Led by our founding team of Simon Tarr as Faculty Principal and Amelia Quint as Assistant Principal, we served students from linked courses for first-year students to rich internships for juniors and seniors to encourage students on pathways to digital leadership.

Mission Statement

The Rhodos Fellows program is a next-generation living learning community for students interested in professional pathways related to information, design and computing. Rhodos welcomes every student with the curiosity and desire to be a maker—someone who creates something new in the world. Students come together to participate in interdisciplinary projects and events, connect with faculty and national leaders, and use the Rhodos Makerspace to bring creative technology innovations to reality.

Updated: 08/24/2019

Vision Statement

Rhodos will be the home for creative students from every discipline who want to design an exciting and fulfilling life path in an information-rich world.

Updated: 08/24/2019

Values Statement

We are at our best when we are curious about our world, unorthodox in our approach, generous with our ideas, mindful of our presence, and pioneering in our plans.

Updated: 08/24/2019

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Goals - Looking Back

Goal 1 - Connections to Faculty Principal

Goal Statement	Enhance resident students' living and learning experience by encouraging interactions and connections with the Faculty Principal.
Linkage to University Goal	• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Spur innovation and economic development through impactful community partnerships.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Close connection with a faculty member is a high-impact practice of a faculty-led living learning community. As Faculty Principal, Dr. Tarr guides and communicates the mission and vision of the Rhodos Fellows program through direct interaction with residents in programs that he personally leads as well as through events and interactions he participates in, supporting community members' pursuits in information, design, and computing.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	Maintain current and develop new programs and initiatives which have made a positive impact.
Achievements	Colossus Scholars program had 10 students in its second year, with upper-division students pursuing undergraduate research projects. Rhodos linked classes served 121 students, including new offerings relevant to our most common majors. Continued effective programs and flagship events where possible adapted for COVID environment, including outdoor large-screen events and workshops in podcasting and game design. Opened Makerspace as adapted grab-and-go environment, to provide support, mentorship, and instruction for Rhodos Fellows in physically distanced space.Continued individual consultations and Cafe Rhodos modified for COVID environment.During COVID all attendance at events has been generally suppressed but with quality engagements with those who attend.
Resources Utilized	Time and effort from Rhodos team for new and recurring content creation. Budget for equipment and program materials. Budget for food/refreshments.
Goal Continuation	Continuing in future.
Goal Upcoming Plans	(Anticipating relaxed physical distancing restrictions) Increase individual consultations in Rhodos Makerspace. Conduct more experiential workshops to encourage independent

	projects. Increase undergraduate research mentorship through fellowships, grant programs, and independent projects. Continue to teach Rhodos linked classes, as well as remain connected to other linked classes. Continue effective programs and repeat flagship events.
Resources Needed	Continuing current budget.
Goal Notes	

Goals - Looking Back

Goal 2 - Support academic attainment

Goal Statement	Provide supportive living and learning environments that promote academic attainment of resident students.
Linkage to University Goal	• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Provide a sustainable campus infrastructure that supports academic excellence and preeminent student life.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	The Rhodos Fellows fosters an environment of original research and creative activity, high academic performance, and collaborative learning.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	Maintain current and develop new linked courses, tutoring sessions. Expand and further integrate linked courses. Add additional UNIV 101 sections. Expand peer tutoring sessions. Develop study abroad program and support grants.
Achievements	Dr. Tarr taught a linked media arts course (MART 210) and two sections of UNIV 101, and visited all other linked courses. Instituted Colossus Scholars for students who are returning to the building, or who are moving out and want to remain active. The first cohort of 10 Colossus Scholars proposed plans for undergraduate research projects in information, design, and computing. Instituted Rhodos Maker Magellan awards to fund undergraduate research projects for all Rhodos Fellows (including first year students) and awarded first grant. Weekly Cafe Rhodos continued to flourish as an informal collaboration time for students to develop research projects (for example, programming and building a retro-style arcade game cabinet system).
Resources Utilized	Time and effort from Rhodos team to coordinate and participate in linked courses. Seats set aside for Rhodos students in linked courses.
Goal Continuation	Continuing in future.
Goal Upcoming Plans	Maintain current and develop new linked course pathways. Add additional UNIV 101 sections. Promote and cultivate applicants to Rhodos Magellan Program. Increase undergraduate research mentorship through existing Colossus Scholar programs.
Resources Needed	Collaboration with residential curricular initiatives, Student Success

Goals - Looking Back

	Center and UNIV 101. Collaboration with study abroad office. Budget for grants to encourage study abroad.
Goal Notes	

Goals - Looking Back

Goal 3 - Diverse connections to UofSC

Goal Statement	Connect resident students to UofSC opportunities and activities both as part of the living and learning community and outside of the community to cultivate a sense of belonging with the University.
Linkage to University Goal	• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive. • Spur innovation and economic development through impactful community partnerships.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Rhodos Fellows program connects and develops residents through strategic partnerships within and outside of the University community, positioning students to gain competitive, unique academic and professional experiences in information, design, and computing.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	Maintain current and develop new partnerships across campus and within the wider community that have had a positive impact. Prepare returning students to be mentors for the Rhodos incoming class through leadership roles in our student organizations.
Achievements	Continued internship pathways through the Center for Digital Humanities for students to partake in challenging professional development early in their academic career. Employed and trained 8 Rhodos Fellows as Maker Staff to lead in the new Makerspace.Two Rhodos Fellows developed the first Rhodos mobile app to promote direct communication from the leadership team to the students, and among students and groups within Rhodos. Continuing development of Rhodos student groups to strengthen bonds within our community around shared affinities.Built new connections with university admissions to communicate directly with prospective students in high school.
Resources Utilized	Budget for Rhodos events.
Goal Continuation	Plan to continue all programming.
Goal Upcoming Plans	Encourage growth in interest in Rhodos for both incoming and prospective students. Continue to develop role of returning students in creating a sense of belonging for our community and to the university as a whole. Formalize Rhodos beyond-the-classroom opportunities with CIEL.
Resources Needed	Continuing current budget.
Goal Notes	The Rhodos Makerspace, which serves as the central hub of

	programming for information, design, and computing, was open for students to check out equipment, ask questions, and submit 3D prints through the shortened on-campus Fall 2020 environment due to COVID-19. The space was available with limited capacity and assigned seating in the Spring 2021 semester, but was generally not open for gatherings.

Goals - Looking Back

Goal 4 - Promote academic and professional pathways in information, design, and computing.

Goal Statement	
Linkage to University Goal	• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Spur innovation and economic development through impactful community partnerships. • Provide a sustainable campus infrastructure that supports academic excellence and preeminent student life.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	The Rhodos Fellows program fosters experiential learning, cultivates internship and career insights, and creates co-curricular opportunities for students in information, design, and computing fields.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	Maintain current and develop new programs, guest speakers/scholars/artists, workshops, and field trips. Connect with more local offices and businesses to foreground appropriate jobs and internships.
Achievements	During COVID-19 crisis, modified the use of the Makerspace to a grab-and-go service model, allowing students to check out more equipment and tools than ever so that they can continue to work on projects in their apartments.The Makerspace also increased capacity to 3D print, and students are able to bring their projects there for output. The facility has produced 253 3D prints and 59 laser cut items this academic year, among many other projects. There were 275 visits to the makerspace after it was opened in a limited capacity during the Spring 2021 semester.We also developed remote programs for mentorship in design and use of all our gear and facilities. Remote experiential programs during COVID included podcasting, game design, and more.Developed and distributed an in-home maker kit for each apartment in the building, with materials to encourage quick prototyping of ideas to develop into more significant projects.Leveraged the new Rhodos app to incentivize and recognize student engagement and experiential learning, focusing on remote experiences during the COVID-19 crisis.
Resources Utilized	Time and effort from Rhodos team to develop and enact all new programs. Budget for space rentals, equipment, operations, and speaker honoraria.
Goal Continuation	Plan to continue all programming.
Goal Upcoming Plans	(Planning for relaxed physical distancing restrictions) develop additional workshops to encourage independent projects. Recruit and develop the next cohort of Colossus Scholars for undergraduate

	research mentorship. Cultivate Rhodos Magellan grant applicants. Continue effective programs and restart flagship events. Evaluate next phase for Rhodos app or equivalent community building technology. Maintain current and develop new programs, guest speakers/scholars/artists, workshops, and field trips. Connect with more local offices and businesses to foreground appropriate jobs and internships. Cultivate new guest programs, collaborating with other units when possible.
Resources Needed	Continuing current budget.
Goal Notes	

Goals - Real Time

Goals for the current Academic Year.

Goal 1 - Connections to Faculty Principal

Goal Statement	Enhance resident students' living and learning experience by encouraging interactions and connections with the Faculty Principal.
Linkage to University Goal	• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Spur innovation and economic development through impactful community partnerships. • Build teams that win with excellence and character.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Close connection with a faculty member is a high-impact practice of a faculty-led living learning community. As Faculty Principal, Dr. Tarr guides and communicates the mission and vision of the Rhodos Fellows program through direct interaction with residents in programs that he personally leads as well as through events and interactions he participates in, supporting community members' pursuits in information, design, and computing.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	(Anticipating relaxed physical distancing restrictions) Increase individual consultations in Rhodos Makerspace. Conduct more experiential workshops to encourage independent projects. Increase undergraduate research mentorship through fellowships, grant programs, and independent projects. Continue to teach Rhodos linked classes, as well as remain connected to other linked classes. Continue effective programs and repeat flagship events. Increase faculty principal voice and presence in and through social media.
Achievements	Our Colossus Scholars program has 7 students in its third year, with upper-division students pursuing undergraduate research projects. Rhodos linked classes serve 149 students, including new offerings relevant to our most common majors. Employed and trained 10 Rhodos Fellows as Maker Staff for Fall 2021 to lead in the fully operational Makerspace. Built new connections with university admissions to communicate directly with prospective students in high school.

Goals - Real Time

Resources Utilized	Time and effort from Rhodos team for new and recurring content creation. Budget for equipment and program materials. Budget for food/refreshments.
Goal Continuation	Continuing in future.
Goal Upcoming Plans	Continuing all current activities.Develop program of microcredentialing pathways.Develop a study abroad program.
Resources Needed	Continuing current budget.
Goal Notes	The Rhodos Makerspace, which serves as the central hub of programming for information, design, and computing, was open for students to check out equipment, ask questions, and submit 3D prints through the shortened on-campus Fall 2020 environment due to COVID-19. The space was not available for gatherings.

Goals - Real Time

Goal 2 - Support academic attainment

Goal Statement	Provide supportive living and learning environments that promote academic attainment of resident students.
Linkage to University Goal	• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Provide a sustainable campus infrastructure that supports academic excellence and preeminent student life.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	The Rhodos Fellows fosters an environment of original research and creative activity, high academic performance, and collaborative learning.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	Maintain current and develop new linked courses, tutoring sessions.Expand and further integrate linked courses.Add additional UNIV 101 sections. Expand peer tutoring sessions.Develop study abroad program and support grants.
Achievements	Our Colossus Scholars program for returning Rhodos Fellows retained 7 students in its third year, all pursuing their proposed undergraduate research projects in information, design and computing. 149 students served in 8 linked courses. Our Faculty Principal, Dr. Simon Tarr, will teach UNIV 290: Rhodos Maker Seminar in Spring 2022, a 1-credit course for structured development of undergraduate research projects in the makerspace. Developed undergraduate research connection to Biological Sciences Planktonscope initiative, in which Rhodos Fellows will use our laser cutters to build underwater cameras for use in SC's ecosystem. Our upper division students have begun entering the workforce with internships at General Dynamics (Department of Defense contract), Naval Research Enterprise, INVISTA, Deloitte and Zillow, with Zillow leading to a job offer after graduation.
Resources Utilized	Time and effort from Rhodos team to coordinate and participate in linked courses.Seats set aside for Rhodos students in linked courses.
Goal Continuation	Continuing in future.
Goal Upcoming Plans	Maintain current linked courses. Add additional UNIV 101 sections.Increase undergraduate research mentorship through existing Colossus Scholar programs.We also plan to be more targeted in our recruiting of prospective students, and are

	developing a plan to accept students into Rhodos before allowing them to choose roommates. We hope that this will yield more students in the building who are placed based on their interest in the program and less on roommate choice.
Resources Needed	Collaboration with residential curricular initiatives, Student Success Center and UNIV 101.Collaboration with study abroad office. Budget for grants to encourage study abroad.
Goal Notes	The Rhodos Makerspace, which serves as the central hub of programming for information, design, and computing, was open for students to check out equipment, ask questions, and submit 3D prints through the shortened on-campus Fall 2020 environment due to COVID-19. The space was not available for gatherings.

Goals - Real Time

Goal Statement	Connect resident students to UofSC opportunities and activities both as part of the living and learning community and outside of the community to cultivate a sense of belonging with the University.
Linkage to University Goal	• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive. • Spur innovation and economic development through impactful community partnerships.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Rhodos Fellows program connects and develops residents through strategic partnerships within and outside of the University community, positioning students to gain competitive, unique academic and professional experiences in information, design, and computing.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	Encourage growth in interest in Rhodos for both incoming and prospective students. Develop role of returning students as mentors and leaders in creating a sense of belonging for the Rhodos community and to the university as a whole. Continue collaborative environment with housing staff to increase residence life integration with larger learning community mission.
Achievements	As we enter our fourth year, we have adopted a student-led staffing model for our Makerspace to provide meaningful opportunities for professional development and increased ownership. Our student staff of 10 is overseen and advised by the Assistant Principal and led by a Maker Staff Lead, who is in their senior year with our program. We have also instituted Section Lead roles, who are responsible for a specific area (3D design, laser cutting, textiles, media production, and programming). These Section Leads are developing workshops and will offer peer-to-peer instruction in their assigned area. All Maker Staff positions will be formalized as beyond-the-classroom opportunities with CIEL. Form new undergraduate research pathways centered on our Maker Magellan grant program to connect students to opportunities in a variety of fields. Current collaborations for student placement include the Department of Biology, CIEL/QEP/iHub, and more. Build new connections with university admissions to communicate directly with prospective students in high school.
Resources Utilized	Budget for Rhodos events.

Goals - Real Time

Goal Continuation	Plan to continue all programming.
Goal Upcoming Plans	Encourage growth in interest in Rhodos for both incoming and prospective students.Continue to develop role of returning students in creating a sense of belonging for our community and to the university as a whole.
Resources Needed	Continuing current budget.
Goal Notes	The Rhodos Makerspace, which serves as the central hub of programming for information, design, and computing, was open for students to check out equipment, ask questions, and submit 3D prints through the shortened on-campus Fall 2020 environment due to COVID-19. The space was not available for gatherings.

Goals - Real Time

Goal 4 - Promote academic and professional pathways in information, design, and computing.

Goal Statement	Provide interdisciplinary opportunities for students to pursue academic and professional pathways related to information, design and computing.
Linkage to University Goal	• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Spur innovation and economic development through impactful community partnerships. • Provide a sustainable campus infrastructure that supports academic excellence and preeminent student life. • Build teams that win with excellence and character.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	The Rhodos Fellows program fosters experiential learning, cultivates internship and career insights, and creates co-curricular opportunities for students in information, design, and computing fields.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	(Planning for relaxed restrictions) Develop additional workshops to encourage independent projects.Develop next cohort of Colossus Scholars for undergraduate research mentorship.Cultivate Magellan Applications.Continue effective programs and restart flagship events.Refine community building technologies pioneered by the Rhodos app.Maintain programs, guests, workshops, and trips. Connect local businesses to foreground jobs and internships.Cultivate new guest programs, collaborating with other units.
Achievements	Makerspace involvement has increased significantly with 77.7% of Rhodos Fellows having received orientation and card access, up 30% from previous years. The space has had 256 visits since opening in August, nearly exceeding last semester's total within the first two months. Our student-led Maker Staff will continue to develop workshops and lead peer-to-peer instruction in their areas of expertise within the Makerspace, providing training in 3D printing, laser cutting, textiles, media production, programming, and other areas in alignment with student interests. Having the Makerspace fully operational and open for students to gather while following COVID safety protocols has sparked organic interest in independent student projects which have the potential to be awarded the Maker Magellan grant. We are cultivating these individuals with one-on-one consultations, connecting them to existing research opportunities, and helping them craft their own

	proposals for this pipeline.
Resources Utilized	Time and effort from Rhodos team to develop and enact all new programs.Budget for space rentals, equipment, operations, and speaker honoraria.
Goal Continuation	Plan to continue all programming.
Goal Upcoming Plans	Continuing all current activities.Continue evaluating effective microcredentialing technologies that interface with university systems.Continue to make more connections with job/internship sites, and guest speakers.
Resources Needed	Continuing current budget.
Goal Notes	The Rhodos Makerspace, which serves as the central hub of programming for information, design, and computing, was open for students to check out equipment, ask questions, and submit 3D prints through the shortened on-campus Fall 2020 environment due to COVID-19. The space was not available for gatherings.

Goals - Looking Ahead

Goals for the next Academic Year.

Goal 1 - Connections to Faculty Principal

Goal Statement	Enhance resident students' living and learning experience by encouraging interactions and connections with Faculty Principal.
Linkage to University Goal	• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Spur innovation and economic development through impactful community partnerships. • Build teams that win with excellence and character.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Close connection with a faculty member is a high-impact practice of a faculty-led living learning community. As Faculty Principal, Dr. Tarr guides and communicates the mission and vision of the Rhodos Fellows program through direct interaction with residents in programs that he personally leads as well as through events and interactions he participates in, supporting community members' pursuits in information, design, and computing.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	Maintain current and develop new programs and initiatives which have made a positive impact.
Achievements	
Resources Utilized	Time and effort from Rhodos team for new and recurring content creation. Budget for equipment and program materials.
Goal Continuation	Continuing in future.
Goal Upcoming Plans	Cultivate additional internship pathways for students to partake in challenging professional development early in their academic career. Continue to employ and train Maker Staff to lead in the Makerspace.Continue development of Rhodos student groups to strengthen bonds within our community around shared affinities.Build new and strengthen existing connections with university admissions to communicate directly with prospective students in high school.
Resources Needed	Budget for food/refreshments.
Goal Notes	

Goals - Looking Ahead

Goal 2 - Support academic attainment

Goal Statement	Provide supportive living and learning environments and encourage engagement and high impact practices that promote academic attainment of resident students.
Linkage to University Goal	• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Provide a sustainable campus infrastructure that supports academic excellence and preeminent student life.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	The Rhodos Fellows fosters an environment of original research and creative activity, high academic performance, and collaborative learning.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	Maintain current and develop new linked courses, tutoring sessions.Expand and further integrate linked courses.Add additional UNIV 101 sections.Expand peer tutoring sessions.Develop study abroad program and support grants.
Achievements	
Resources Utilized	Time and effort from Rhodos team to coordinate and participate in linked courses.Seats set aside for Rhodos students in linked courses.
Goal Continuation	Continuing in future.
Goal Upcoming Plans	Maintain current linked courses. Add additional UNIV 101 sections.Increase undergraduate research mentorship through existing Colossus Scholar programs.We also plan to be more targeted in our recruiting of prospective students, and are developing a plan to accept students into Rhodos before allowing them to choose roommates. We hope that this will yield more students in the building who are placed based on their interest in the program and less on roommate choice.
Resources Needed	Collaboration with residential curricular initiatives, Student Success Center and UNIV 101. Collaboration with study abroad office. Budget for grants to encourage study abroad.
Goal Notes	

Goals - Looking Ahead

Goal 3 - Diverse connections to UofSC

Goal Statement	Ensure that students from all groups are connected to UofSC and that all students are exposed to diversity and develop an attitude of inclusiveness and understanding of equity.
Linkage to University Goal	• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Cultivate a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus culture where every individual, regardless of background, has the full opportunity to flourish and thrive. • Spur innovation and economic development through impactful community partnerships.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	Rhodos Fellows program connects and develops residents through strategic partnerships within and outside of the University community, positioning students to gain competitive, unique academic and professional experiences in information, design, and computing.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	Encourage growth in interest in Rhodos for both incoming and prospective students.Develop role of returning students as mentors and leaders in creating a sense of belonging for the Rhodos community and to the university as a whole.Continue collaborative environment with housing staff to increase residence life integration with larger learning community mission.
Achievements	
Resources Utilized	Budget for Rhodos events.
Goal Continuation	Plan to continue all programming.
Goal Upcoming Plans	Encourage growth in interest in Rhodos for both incoming and prospective students.Develop role of returning students in creating a sense of belonging for our community and to the university as a whole.
Resources Needed	Continuing budget for Rhodos events.
Goal Notes	

Goals - Looking Ahead

Goal 4 - Promote academic and professional pathways in information, design, and computing

Goal Statement	Provide interdisciplinary opportunities for students to pursue academic and professional pathways related to information, design and computing.
Linkage to University Goal	• Attract, inspire, challenge and enable our students to become innovative thinkers and transformative leaders. • Create new pathways to research excellence to become AAU eligible. • Spur innovation and economic development through impactful community partnerships. • Provide a sustainable campus infrastructure that supports academic excellence and preeminent student life. • Build teams that win with excellence and character.
Alignment with Mission, Vision, and Values	The Rhodos Fellows program fosters experiential learning, cultivates internship and career insights, and creates co-curricular opportunities for students in information, design, and computing fields.
Status	Progressing as expected (multi-year goal)
Action Plan	(Planning for relaxed restrictions) Develop additional workshops to encourage independent projects.Develop next cohort of Colossus Scholars for undergraduate research mentorship.Cultivate Magellan Applications.Continue effective programs and restart flagship events.Refine community building technologies pioneered by the Rhodos app.Maintain programs, guests, workshops, and trips.Connect local businesses to foreground jobs and internships.Cultivate new guest programs, collaborating with other units.
Achievements	
Resources Utilized	Time and effort from Rhodos team to develop and enact all new programs.Budget for space rentals, equipment, operations, and speaker honoraria.
Goal Continuation	Plan to continue all programming.
Goal Upcoming Plans	Continuing all current activities.Develop program of microcredentialing pathways.Continue to make more connections with job/internship sites, and guest speakers.Formalize beyond-the-classroom opportunities with CIEL.
Resources Needed	Continuing current budget.
Goal Notes	

Programs or Initiatives

Effective Programs or Initiatives

List your most effective programs/initiatives toward fulfillment of mission.

Cafe Rhodos- a weekly gathering for snacks with the Faculty Principal and Rhodos staff. Professional development workshops- these trainings equip students with skills and tool proficiency in a variety of areas, including audio production for podcasts (in collaboration with SVAD and the Honors College) and game design.

Maker Magellan Grant- our collaboration with the Office of Undergraduate Research launched with an intro workshop that resulted in our first awardee.

Rhodos U101 sections and linked courses- our most engaged students were a part of this cohort.

Program Launches

List any programs/initiatives that were newly launched during the Academic Year or any programs/initiatives you would like to launch in the coming year(s). Describe the program/initiatives, provide financial requirements (including additional staff), and academic year in which you would launch. What key performance indicators are you utilizing to track the success of this program?

No new initiatives; continuing previous year's programs and initiatives.

Program Terminations

List any programs that were newly terminated or discontinued during the Academic Year. Provide justification as to why the program was discontinued.

None.

Program Rankings

List any nationally ranked or external recognition during the Academic Year. For each, provide the formal name of the program followed by the name of the organization that issued the ranking, the date of notification, effective date range, and any other relevant information.

Initiatives and Fees

Initiatives

Describe any new initiatives your unit will need for the coming year.

Fees

List any new or changed fees that your unit has implemented or had to take on in the last academic year.

Community Engagement

Community Perceptions

Describe how your unit assesses community perceptions of your engagement, and how the unit assesses the impact of community engagement on students, faculty, community and the institution. Provide specific findings.

Students have appreciated returning to normal operations now that we are post-pandemic. Average attendance at our most visible signature event, Café Rhodos, is already increased 150% from the previous year.

We continue to adjust our public communications methods to keep pace with changing student habits. This year we are approaching public communications with a "both/and" strategy, using traditional email for richer detailed messaging and segmented audiences (different communications for families, or to connect to specific majors) selected texting for in-the-moment reminders of events, and social media for effective communications. Beginning the 2021-22 academic year this has already resulted in higher engagement, both in terms or raw attendance for our opening Rhodos Rally event, and for more targeted calls for participation in specific undergraduate research opportunities such at the Planktonscope initiative with Biologial Sciences.

Collaborations

Internal Collaborations

List your Unit's most significant internal collaborations and multidisciplinary efforts that are internal to the University. Details should be omitted; list by name only.

Office of Undergraduate Research
School of Visual Art and Design
McNair Institute
Entrepreneurship and Innovation LLC
South Quad
Student Success Center
Center for Integrated and Experiential Learning (CIEL)
Quality Enhancement Program
Apple iHub
Department of Biology
Department of Linguistics
Planktonscope (Biological Sciences)

External Collaborations

List your Unit's most significant external collaborations and multidisciplinary efforts that are external to the University. Details should be omitted; list by name only.

Indie Bits (The Nickelodeon)
Residential College Society
Richland County Public Library

Campus Climate and Inclusion

Campus Climate and Inclusion

Activities the unit conducted that were designed to improve Campus, Climate, and Inclusion.
While nationally diversity, equity, and inclusion in tech fields may remain low, women and people of color (BIPOC) are well represented among our Maker Staff, which is comprised of 60% women and 40% BIPOC for the current year. Additionally, the Rhodos app was developed by a student team of 2 Black women.

Concluding Remarks

Weaknesses and Plans for Improvement

What is your unit struggling with? What plans do you have to overcome the weakness that you have faced in the next academic year.

A significant increase in staff turnover at the university affects most aspects of our operations; This includes our business manager and the Housing Residence Life Coordinator for our building, each of whom started a new job at the beginning of AY 2021-22. This has slowed our operations down, however we are currently searching for a new office manager. The high turnover in the rest of Housing will take longer to overcome, however now that we have a more robust long-term relationship with the RMs in our building we do not anticipate major disruptions.

Key Issues

Identify key issues or potential challenges your unit will encounter this coming year and the steps you plan on initiating.

Housing made significant positive changes to the student assignments process last cycle—for AY 2021-22, students chose roommates normally, but only from the pool of students who were already accepted to the Rhodos program. This has already had a huge effect on the overall level of engagement of the students—where in past years a large number of students did not engage because they had not applied to the program and only "bubbled in" as roommates, we now have a much more solid foundation of students who are inclined to engage. Housing is changing the assignments process again this year, and we will need to be mindful of potential surprises if the experience for students is negatively impacted, however since the main aspects of the process will remain in place (as we understand them), we anticipate a similar effect for next year's assignments.

Quantitative Outcomes

Explain any surprises regarding data provided in the quantitative outcomes modules throughout this report.

Our opening face-to-face event, the Rhodos Rally, had a response much higher than we anticipated, nearly outstripping our capacity. We suspect this was because of three coinciding events. First, housing's new roommate selection process meant that more Rhodos Fellows in the building were fully invested in being Rhodos Fellows. Second, there was pent-up demand for face-to-face events for students who had been attending high school remotely. Third, this was the first event where we directly texted Rhodos Fellows a short time before the event to remind them about it.

Cool Stuff

Describe innovations, happy accidents, good news, etc. that occurred within your unit not noted elsewhere in your reporting.

As the Rhodos Fellows program starts its fourth year, our students have flourished entering the working world, with internships at General Dynamics (Department of Defense contract), Naval Research Enterprise, INVISTA data science, Deloitte and Zillow (with Zillow leading to a job offer after graduation). Our students also excel in their on-campus involvement, with

Concluding Remarks

participation in UofSC Fashion Week, WUSC Radio, and leadership in RM Council, among many others. They are community-minded in their independent projects, using their talents in a variety of arenas outside the university, including hosting open mic shows at NoMa's Warehouse and sewing toys for local K-12 special education classes.

Equipment available in the Makerspace has spurred creativity in academic endeavors, with students opting for unique mediums such as audio drama, video, and podcasting where allowable for projects over traditional papers, using Rhodos gear to execute.

Rhodos RMs won most spirited at this year's IMPACT training.