

**University Advisors' Network: Weds, January 14<sup>th</sup> 2026**  
**Close-Hipp Suite 301, Advisor Training Room.**  
**TEAMS: [Join the meeting now](#)**

**Welcome and review of [December UAN minutes](#)**

**Nora Dragovic**  
**Claire Robinson**

**Attendees:** Kerry Armbruster, Charlie Ball, BJ Beckham, Lilly Benitez, Jillian Bigony, Phillip Blackwell, Jane Bouknight, Matt Boylan, Rebecca Boyd, Caitlyn Brockington, Bill Brown, Della Bryant, Brandi Byers, Katy Caulder, Latecia Cobbs, Anna Cunningham, Kelly DeShazo, Mike Dial, Diana Diaz Lopez, Michaela Donahue, Nora Dragovic, Brian Dusel, Lauren Dymock, Lauren Epps, Pinkney Epps, Teresa Florentin, Christy Friend, Jessica Gibson, Courtney Godwin, Liz Hamilton-Thomas, Richard Hartley, Dawn Hiller, Kiisha Hilliard, Trena Houpp, Ashley Hubbard, Sarah Jerald, Deanie Kane, Kristi Kinslow, Lauren Kozlik, Mia Lacey, Alison Leach-Hughes, Jenny Leist, Sophie Legare, Xinfeng Liu, Madison Lollis, Laken Long, Ali Mathwig, Anna May, Sabrina McClure, Chris Miller, Destinee Moreaux, Caleb Morris, Sheila Mull, Alexis Mynio, Kayla Payne, Claire Robinson, Lauren Sanborn, Amanda Shores, Brittany Sparks, Alyssa Stephens, Kay Thomas, Charles Tisdale, Tanner Ulland, Kate Weaver, Vivianna Williams, Andrew Winterfeldt, Sam Young

- Minutes were approved

**New student incoming credit process, pre-orientation Advising considerations**

**Cliff Murphy**

- Fall/Summer 2025 counts
  - Freshmen – 59642 applied; 7812 enrolled
  - Transfer/System Transger – 4097 applied; 1655 enrolled
  - Readmit – 348 applied; 163 enrolled
  - Gamecock Gateway – 177 enrolled
  - Gamecock Verto Semester- 92 enrolled
- Spring 2026 (preliminary data)
- Freshmen – 921 applied; 79 enrolled
- Transfer/System Transfer – 1090 applied (86 VERTO); 415 enrolled (86 VERTO)
- Readmit – 340 applied; 146 enrolled
- Timeline –
  - August 1 – start freshman application or next year; finalizing just admitted students and late admit
  - September 1 – start spring application
  - October 15 - freshman early action deadline
  - November 1 – spring application deadline
  - December 1 – freshman application deadline; Dec. 15 – spring credentials deadline; release freshmen early action decisions
  - February 1 – summer/fall non freshmen application.
  - Mid-March release remaining freshmen decisions; release university scholarship

- May 1 freshmen cohort enrollment deposit deadline; summer application deadline; May 15 summer credential deadline; begin finalizing for summer/fall new students
  - July 1 fall non freshmen application deadline
- Credential requirements –
  - Freshman –
    - application/application fee
    - Hs transcript
    - Unofficial through jr yr submitted
    - Final official submitted for deposited admits after high school graduation
    - Dual enrollment college transcripts or officially AP/IB exam credits not required
    - SAT/ACT – test optional
  - Transfer –
    - application/application fee
    - All college transcripts
    - Unofficial transcript can be submitted for decision release
    - Final official transcripts are requested once an admitted decision is released
    - Note – we release decision while students are currently enrolled in courses.
- Credit Process
  - Admissions receive all college transcripts – dual enrollment, new transfers, readmits with transfer work
  - It goes through the National Clearinghouse and Parchment
  - Once the work is entered into banner it is then passed to the Registrar's staff to pull to place courses on the student record.
  - All dual enrollment college transcripts need to be received and enter before the Registrar's Office is notified to roll to the student record
  - Admitted students with active enrollment will need to submit final official transcripts before courses are entered into Banner.
  - Will code continuing students in Slate so they fall into a query that the registrar's office pulls
- Incoming credit process – Office of the Registrar
  - Process transfer work for current and continuing students
  - Articulates transfer credit
  - Manage transfer course evaluation process
  - Processes exam credit (except AP)
    - CLEP
    - IB
    - DANTES
    - Cambridge A Level
  - Manages transfer tables
  - Process transfer work for the regional campuses
- Pre-Orientation Academic Advising (POAA) Considerations
  - Timing

- May is a very busy month in their office
- Entering and collecting final high school transcripts and class rankings
- They will be prioritizing by the advising date of the student for processing so all is processed when advisement occurs
- Communication that students receive all of dual credit if they have multiple institutions to keep one from rolling to the history. Guide the students back to the admissions portal to look at their checklist and if a dual enrollment is missing it has a **red X** when it is received there is a **green check mark**
- What happens when all the work is reported and the student now would not be admissible but we have admitted the student ? Admissions reaches out to the student to discuss options if they fall below transfer requirements after we receive their final work. We'll consult with the college/department as needed.
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## **VERTO update**

**Cliff Murphy**

- Partnership started a year ago.
- We were hoping to have 40; we had 92 and 6 moved to the Verto Direct Program
- Applications in the spring
- First Semester/ Year Abroad
  - Buenos Aires, Argentina
  - Florence, Italy
  - London, England
  - Prague, Czech Republic
  - Seville, Spain
- 2 different programs
  - Gamecock Verto Semester (freshmen bridge program)
  - VERTO Direct Transfer (transfer program)
- Gamecock VERTO Semester
  - Launched Fall 2025
  - 1445 waitlisted freshmen expressed interest; 582 inquired; 209 applied; 92 enrolled
  - Spring 2026 – 87 applied; 86 enrolled
  - Coded in Banner as TV (transfer VERTO)
  - Business and Nursing majors were required to select a different major and were notified these were not options for this program
  - All major specific requirements must be met to be admitted
  - 12hrs and 2.75 to be admitted into the program
- VERTO Direct Transfer
  - Fall 2025 – 7 applied and 1 enrolled
  - Coded as TV with an attribute of 3VDT – Columbia Verto Direct Transfer
  - Require 24 hrs encourage 30 hrs 3.0 gpa
- Focus group hosted with parents
- Communicating with students while abroad
- Specific U101 sections for VERTO students

- University of New Haven offers courses. They are domestic courses taught by local faculty. It will be American grades so they will have a gpa.
- Questions contact – Cliff Murphy, 8037774894, cliff.murphy@sc.edu

### **Math Placement test update (Christy Friend, Matt Boylan, Claire Robinson)**

- Move to ALEKS (by McGraw-Hill): Launch March 16, 2026
- The current test does a pretty good job, but it is not nationally known test which means students are compared across the country for stronger validation than our in-house test.
- We have had 300% of students taking remedial math (college algebra). We are seeing a dramatic and steady decline in student readiness for math courses.
- See good increases in our students progress in the math courses
- Tests will be online, before advised, scores will pop up
- Benefit – students will have access to enhance practice materials before the test
- User friendly interface which students will find ease of access
- Email announcements are going out to all parties on campus
- Very user friendly
- The announcement sent out through the advising newsletter a letter from MCAS
- The email has a link to the SHARE point site – advising and faculty resource with information.
- There will be a student resource page which is being vetted currently.
- Here is the link for the landing page

## **ALEKS landing page for Advisors & Faculty**

### **• ALEKS landing page for Advisors & Faculty**

(status updates shared here)

### **• [COTEAM-DOIT-ALEKS-MATHPLACEMENT – Home](#)**

- Here is the screen shot of the landing page

CD

COTEAM-DOIT-ALEKS-MATHPLACEMENT

Public group Not following 5 members

Home

Spring 2026 ALEKS Launch

Placement Policies

Information for Advisors

Information for Faculty

About ALEKS PPL FAQs

Recycle bin

Edit

New

Page details

Preview

Analytics

Published 1/13/2026

Share

Edit

ALEKS PPL

For Math Placement

Advisor & Faculty Hub

Have a question about ALEKS? Submit below:

ALEKS Inquiry

Other Resources

ALEKS Placement, Preparation and Learning - McGraw Hill

Spring 2026 Launch at a Glance

- 1/13/2026: ALEKS announcement to leadership
- 1/14/2026: ALEKS announcement at University Advisors Network
- 2/26/2026: ALEKS Campus-kick off event (more info coming soon)
- 3/15/2026: ALEKS Go-Live!
- 3/21/2026: Admitted Student Day
- 3/21/2026: Admitted Student Day

What is ALEKS PPL?

ALEKS PPL is an AI-powered assessment tool that evaluates a student's math knowledge, identifies strengths and weaknesses, and provides personalized learning modules to help students improve their knowledge to reach the level needed for course placement.

ALEKS PPL stands for Assessment and Learning in Knowledge Spaces: Placement, Preparation and Learning.

Why It Matters

The ALEKS Math Assessment, developed by McGraw-Hill, ensures students are prepared for challenging courses in math, statistics and chemistry. Starting in the right course is essential for success. Students cannot enroll in these courses without demonstrating readiness.

After the initial assessment, students who want to improve their placement can use ALEKS learning modules to strengthen their skills before retaking the assessment.

Based on a student's ALEKS score, they will be placed into the USC mathematics course for their knowledge level.

The Role of Advisors and Faculty

Advisors and faculty play a critical role in ensuring ALEKS is interpreted consistently and communicated accurately. This site serves as the

- There will be an opportunity to do the test in person at the Admitted Student Days.
- 5 attempts
- Will be translating the current MAPP scores to sync with ALEKS scores
- Here is a screenshot of the scores and the amount of attempts-

#### How Many Attempts will a Student have with ALEKS PPL?

Students will have five (5) attempts within one year.

Students may take their 2nd attempt without waiting after their 1st attempt. After the 2nd attempt, students must wait 3 hours and also complete 3 hours of personalized learning within ALEKS. This personalized learning is meant to refresh their math skills to prepare them to place higher on their next attempt.



#### ALEKS Cut Scores

ALEKS Score	USC Math Course	Course Title	Math Level
76-100	MATH 141	Calculus I	Advanced
71-100	MATH 141 with MATH 151	Calculus I with Calculus Workshop I	Advanced
71-100	MATH 174	Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science	Advanced
61-100	MATH 170	Finite Mathematics	Intermediate
61-100	MATH 122	Calculus for Business Administration & Social Sciences	Intermediate
51-100	MATH 115	Precalculus Mathematics	Intermediate
36-100	MATH 111	Basic College Mathematics	Basic
0-35	MATH 111i	Intensive Basic College Mathematics	Basic

### Minor Spotlight: Jewish Studies Minor (Dr. Saskia Coenen Snyder, Professor of Modern Jewish History)

- 5 faculty – 2 History, English, 1 in RELG, 1 in Linguistics, 1 College of Education
- Students can take Hebrew language classes in the minor
- Courses we teach –
  - Modern Jewish history (HIST/JSTU)

- Literature and Film of the holocaust (ENGL/JSTU)
- Jewish mysticism (Kabbalah)
- African and Jewish American convergence and divergence (EDTE/JSTU)
- Jews and Muslims (RELG/JSTU)
- American -Jewish history (HIST/JSTU)
- History of Holocaust (HIST/JSTU)
- We depend on cross-listing – ex. HIST 380/JSTU 492 – 62 students under HIST and 2 under JSTU
- New courses JSTU 101 – Introduction to Jewish Studies (GHS); part of Carolina Core – not a religion to several fields of study. 40 students enrolled into the course
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**~~Interdisciplinary Certificates & CPoS clarification for Advisors (Joey Derriek) will reschedule~~**

#### **UAN Technology Sub-committee report**

**Jillian Carey  
Kerry Armbruster**

- Waitlist options are now available to all departments for all classes
- AI in Advising through automation: Lesson from HRSM
- Still working on deadline when waitlist will be pulled or stopped
- Discussion about SEPS and duplicate work: future conversation about stakeholder needs
- Community education modules: student deadlines, email visuals
- Fall 2025 registration command center operational, minimal concerns, speedily addressed
- Discussion about CPOS and undergraduate certificates continues next step conversation forthcoming
- Digital SERF returns for Spring 2026 – link available through the registrar’s website
- Clarified workflow for new and existing concerns, improved resolution and visibility of procedures
- A dashboard for tech progress will be reviewed at each meeting, improved communication
- Co-chairs will meet with advising technology admin after tech committee for additional discussions
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#### **Announcements**

Josh Weakland is transitioning to the GARNET office in a data management role.

Next meeting is **February 18, 2026**

Adjourn

**Reminder: Nominate an Advisor, Advising Administrator, or Advising initiative! [Academic Advisor Awards - Academic Advising | University of South Carolina](#)**