



February 2004

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Dear Board Members, Contributors and Governmental Leaders:

Welcome to the first issue of The *SCEconIndex*, SCCEE's email newsletter. I will use this venue to keep you informed of the Council's activities.

Governance:

SCCEE welcomes five new members to the Council's board of directors. From the Columbia area are: **John Baker**, *Baker & Baker*; **Louis Lynn**, *ENVIRO Ag Science*; and **Jasper Salmond**, *Wilbur Smith*. From the Lowcountry are: **Chris Fraser**, *barkleyfraser.com*; and **Robie Scott**, *The Post and Courier*.

Our next board meeting is Friday, February 20, 12 noon, at The National Bank of South Carolina, 1241 Main Street, Columbia.

Programs:

We have great news to report on the impact of our efforts. The Council more than doubled the number of teachers participating in our programs from nearly 350 teachers in 2002 to 714 teachers in 2003.

Fund Raising/Finance:

John Baker, **Bryson Thomason** and **Larry Wilson** have made personal contributions to the Council of \$1,000 or more, and are charter members of *The Chairman's Society*, a fundraising level created by the Council's newly instituted Development Committee. **John Baker** chairs this committee.

On November 21, 2003 the board of directors approved a FY04 budget of \$210,200. This budget will provide the resources for: 25 training workshops for K-12 teachers; an intensive all-day training for our ELITE teachers; coordination of the SC Stock Market Simulation; graduate level courses at our four Centers for Economic Education; and the Financial Fitness Institute, among other activities.

Your assistance is needed to generate the funding so the Council may continue to provide these resources at no cost to participating teachers. **You can help by providing us direct funding or leads to possible funding sources.**

SC Stock Market Simulation:

Partnership with the Office of the Attorney General

South Carolina Attorney General Henry McMaster and SCCEE announced our new partnership at a press conference at Forest Lake Elementary School, Richland School District Two on Friday, February 13, 2004. The purpose of our partnership is to promote economic and financial literacy by encouraging participation in the South Carolina Stock Market Simulation.

Hootie and the Blowfish Take Stock in South Carolina

Through a generous grant from the Hootie and the Blowfish Foundation, SCCEE will pilot *Hootie and the Blowfish Take Stock in South Carolina*, a new twist on the stock market simulation in which investment teams will trade only public companies that are headquartered in South Carolina,

have state offices or subsidiaries in South Carolina or are of special interest to the economy in our state. The pilot will be conducted during fall semester 2004.

Awards Banquet

Directors are invited to the annual Stock Market Simulation awards banquet that will be held on Friday, April 23 at the Riverbanks Zoo. First to 4th place teams in elementary, middle and high school divisions from fall and spring semesters are given trophies, t-shirts and certificates.

Many thanks to director **Chip McLeod, Hilliard Lyons**, for continued support of this program.

The Odom Challenge:

The Council has met the Odom Challenge requirements for the first year of the challenge: to raise \$50,000 in new or increased funding and for each director to make a personal contribution to the Council. The second year of the challenge begins in January 2004 with the same requirements and potential award.

Bill Odom, Ford Motor Credit Corporation, president & CEO (retired), is a native of Lake City, South Carolina. He has served as chairman of the board of the National Council on Economic Education, was appointed to the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago—Detroit branch, was a founder of the national Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy, and is a member of the Southeastern Michigan Business Hall of Fame. We are grateful that Bill has shared his passion and commitment for youth financial literacy with South Carolina's Council.

We truly appreciate the support each of you has given the Council during the past fiscal year and look forward to strengthening our network of support in FY04.

Sincerely,



Helen Meyers
President

P.S. Plans are underway for the two-day **Financial Fitness Institute** to be held June 8 and 9, 2004 at the University of South Carolina. The institute will help teachers improve the outcome of their own personal finances and show them how to integrate personal financial skills into the school curriculum. Topics include: The Perils of Too Much Debt, Banking Basics, Consumer Fraud, Wealth Building: The Road to Homeownership, and much more. The Council is seeking funders for the institute. This is a good opportunity for your company to spend two days with 100 teachers. Please contact me for additional information, 803-777-8677.