



## ***Southeastern Conference Academic Initiatives***

*(Revised: June 10, 2021)*

The SEC supports and promotes collaborative programs and activities designed to highlight the teaching, research and service accomplishments of SEC students, faculty and staff, including related successes within the Conference's intercollegiate athletics programs. It showcases these achievements on regional, national and international levels using digital and social media platforms.

**SEC Academic Leadership Development Program (SEC ALDP)** – This professional development program seeks to identify, prepare and advance academic leaders for roles within SEC institutions and beyond. It has three components, a university-level development program designed by each institution for its own participants (i.e., fellows); two, SEC-wide three-day workshops held on specified campuses for all program participants; and a competitive fellowship designed to provide administrative growth opportunities for former fellows. The campus workshops are typically held in October and February.

**SEC College Tour** – The SEC College Tour occurs twice annually, once in the fall (mid-September) and once in the spring (mid-April). Enrollment and admissions administrators from all SEC universities participate in events designed to introduce the SEC universities to students, parents and school counselors who might not otherwise have heard of the institution. The goal is to advance the merit and academic reputation of SEC universities beyond the traditional SEC region through college fairs and counselor breakfasts. The spring event is generally held in April with the smaller, counselor-focused event happening in the fall.

**SEC Faculty Achievement Awards Program** – These awards recognize faculty from SEC member universities with outstanding records in research and scholarship. There is one winner/nominee per campus and one overall winner for the Conference, and all are announced in late March and early April. All receive an honorarium and memento from the SEC. The top recipient, the SEC Professor of the Year, is honored during the annual SEC Awards Dinner in Destin, Florida, and recognized in conjunction with the SEC Symposium in Atlanta, Georgia.

**SEC Faculty Travel Program** – To enhance collaboration that stimulates initiatives between SEC universities, this program provides faculty members from each SEC university the opportunity to travel to other SEC campuses to exchange ideas, develop grant proposals, present lectures, conduct research and deliver performances. Participation in this program is continuous throughout the academic year, with recipients being announce in mid-October.

**International/Education Abroad Activities** – As part of an exchange agreement, Italian engineering students enroll at SEC universities each fall, and engineering SEC students study in Italy each spring at the Politecnico di Torino. In addition, by utilizing a cooperative programming agreement, students from all SEC universities have access to education abroad programs offered at other SEC universities.



**SEC MBA Case Competition** – This graduate level competition provides an opportunity for SEC MBA students to demonstrate their skills at solving simulated, real-world problems that cover the spectrum of business disciplines (e.g., organizational dynamics, budgeting, capitalization, etc.). The competition is held on one SEC campus in early April and teams of four MBA students compete against other SEC teams, the best receiving various awards and recognition.

**SEC Student Music Ensemble** – The SEC provides performance opportunities during the SEC Football Championship weekend for undergraduate SEC students. Student musicians may participate during the SEC Legend’s Dinner and/or the SEC Pregame Hospitality Party.

**SEC Student Pitch Competition** – This event provides a showcase for young entrepreneurs as it pits teams of students representing each SEC university against one another in an idea pitch competition. Students present their innovative business ideas to a panel of judges to determine those most worthy of a funding investment. The top teams receive various awards and recognition.

**Additional SEC Activities** – The SEC also supports collaboration between university personnel groups (e.g., deans of colleges, chief administrators, etc.); engages media partners in developing television and radio public service announcements and general academic messaging; and highlights the academic success of SEC student-athletes and athletics departments.