



S.C. School Improvement Council

"Civic Engagement in Public Education"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, July 5, 2012

Contact: Tom F. Hudson, Associate Director, S.C. School Improvement Council
(803) 777-7658 HUDSONTF@MAILBOX.SC.EDU

Torres, Nicholson named to SC-SIC Board of Trustees

COLUMBIA – Myriam E. Torres of Columbia, and Jeff Nicholson of Rock Hill, have recently been named to the S.C. School Improvement Council Board of Trustees, Board Chair Sylleste Davis has announced.

“Dr. Torres and Mr. Nicholson have a demonstrated passion for public education, the strength of our schools and their impact on South Carolina’s future,” said Ms. Davis. “The Board looks forward to their contributions and experience as we assist the S.C. School Improvement Council in offering vital services to our schools, our children, and our communities.”

Both Dr. Torres and Mr. Nicholson were appointed to the SC-SIC Board to fill unexpired terms. The Board is composed of 21 members from all corners of the state and acts in an advisory capacity to the S.C. School Improvement Council (SC-SIC), which serves more than 15,000 members of local School Improvement Councils in the state’s 1,100-plus K-12 public schools.

Dr. Torres is Director of the Consortium for Latino Immigration Studies and a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University of South Carolina’s Arnold School of Public Health in Columbia. She has been at USC in various faculty, research and grad student capacities since 1989.

She holds PhD in Epidemiology and Master of Science in Public Health from USC’s Arnold School of Public Health, the Master of Public Health from Universidad de Antioquia (Medellin, Colombia), and a nursing degree from Universidad Javeriana (Bogota, Colombia).

Dr. Torres has conducted research in the areas of Latina health issues, immigration and rural health issues; author of numerous professional publications; has made numerous professional presentations. She has been a member of SC Department of Health and Environmental Control’s Commissioner’s Advisory Council on Elimination of Health Disparities, has served on Board of Directors of My Amigos Bilingual Education Center (MABEC) and the South Carolina Hispanic/Latino Health Coalition, and she has served on the Hispanic Advisory Committee of the SC Commission for Minority Affairs.

---more---

Mr. Nicholson is an estimator with Laboratory Design & Equipment in Fort Mill. A native of Greenwich, Connecticut who has lived in South Carolina since 1975, he is the recipient of numerous Rock Hill School District 3 and state volunteer awards. He has been involved with several groups at Rock Hill's South Pointe High School, including serving as a member and Chair of that school's local SIC.

He previously served on the SC-SIC Board of Trustees from 2004 until 2011, including service as Board Chair from 2007 to 2009. In 2005, Mr. Nicholson was awarded the Board's statewide SIC Advocate of the Year Award recognizing his exemplary efforts on behalf of School Improvement Councils in his district and across the state.

Located at the University of South Carolina's College of Education, the S.C. School Improvement Council was established in state law over three decades ago to provide the member training, technical assistance, statutory accountability, and operational resources vital to the continued success of the community-based School Improvement Councils in each of the state's K-12 public schools.

Additional information on the S.C. School Improvement Council and its services can be found online at <http://sic.sc.gov>.