Dear Prestonite,

Allow me to welcome you to Preston College. Let me also assure you that by making the decision to become a Prestonite, you simultaneously made a decision to be a part of the most diverse and dynamic community on campus. I am thrilled you’re here and hope to meet you in the coming weeks. Before you get all settled in and begin to establish a routine, you should know that Preston residents are expected to demonstrate four principles: community, passion, knowledge and responsibility.

You’ll recognize the community aspect immediately. Be it by bonding with your peers in the Junior Common Room or by playing flag football on the Horseshoe, I can promise you, there is a place for you in this diverse community.

Why, you might ask, is passion a Preston principle? Well, the answer will become clear pretty quickly. You will find that your passion differs from your roommate’s and his passion will differ from your suitemate’s. But passion, no matter what we’re passionate about, has a unique way of tying us all together. The Preston Community understands that provides an environment in which your passion will blossom.

Knowledge. It’s probably why you’re here in the first place. Whether it’s to gain more of it, expand the existence of it or perhaps change the way you process some of it, you have chosen to live in a place that fosters every kind of learning, ensuring that you will gain the knowledge you need to be productive members of the Carolina community.

Finally, as a Prestonite, I hope you will not waste any time in developing your sense of responsibility. One of the perks of coming to a large university is the numerous opportunities you will have to get involved. I encourage you to take advantage of those opportunities and assume responsibility however you decide to get involved.

Again, welcome to Preston College. Welcome to the most diverse community on campus. Welcome to what is sure to be one of the best semesters of your life. Welcome to tradition. Welcome home.

For Carolina,

**CJ Lake**

University of South Carolina, ‘14
Public Relations, B.S.
Freshman Council Advisor, Student Government
University Ambassador