The College of Charleston, founded in 1770 and chartered in 1785, is the oldest institution of higher education south of Virginia and the 13th oldest in the United States. The College’s emphasis, however, is as much about its future as its storied past.

Recently, the College completed a strategic plan that outlines its goals for the next generation of students and its path for becoming one of the nation’s leading public liberal arts and sciences universities. The College believes in structuring its future around its academic excellence, student-focused community and the power of place. These three robust pillars support a second-to-none education at the College.
The College of Charleston’s academic excellence is rooted in its six undergraduate schools, Honors College and 25 master’s and certificate programs within the Graduate School.

The College's six undergraduate academic divisions are:

- School of the Arts
- School of Business
- School of Education, Health, and Human Performance
- School of Humanities and Social Sciences
- School of Languages, Cultures, and World Affairs
- School of Sciences and Mathematics

Recently, The Princeton Review commented about the College of Charleston experience, noting, “It’s satisfaction guaranteed at the College of Charleston.” That’s not the only recent accolade. Consider that the College has been named:

- one of the best small public schools by Parade magazine,
- one of America’s best colleges by Forbes magazine,
- one of the most “interesting” colleges by Newsweek,
- one of the best values by Barron’s, Kiplinger’s Personal Finance and The Princeton Review,
- the fourth-best school among public universities in the South in U.S. News & World Report.

The College of Charleston is first and foremost a teaching institution. However, that doesn’t mean that our faculty are not also leaders in their respective fields of study.

- Edgar Allan Poe expert Scott Peeples (English) was awarded a Fulbright Specialist Grant in 2009 for his continued scholarship on the Gothic American writer and poet. Other Fulbright scholars include Frances Anderson (education), Joyce Barrett (communication), Isaure de Buron (biology), Tim Carmichael (history), Steve Litvin (hospitality and tourism), Marianne Mazzone (art history), Kay Smith (academic experience), Erik Sotka (biology) and Robert Westerfelhaus (communication).

- Andrew Shedlock (marine genomics) helped sequence the genome of an anole in 2011, which was the first time the genome sequence of a non-avian reptile has been mapped.

- Classical guitarist Marc Regnier (music) was nominated for a Grammy in 2010 for his recording of the chamber and solo works of Brazilian composer Radames Gnattali.

- Ted Rosengarten (endowed chair, Holocaust studies) was awarded the Governor’s Award in the Humanities in 2010 for his research and work regarding race relations, Holocaust studies and environmental history. Rosengarten, a 1989 MacArthur Fellow, received the National Book Award for nonfiction in 1975.

- Bret Lott (English), who earned international acclaim for his book Jewel (an Oprah’s Book Club Selection in 1999), has published 12 novels.

- Joseph Carson (physics and astronomy) was part of a research team that photographed the birth of a planet system around a young star. In 2009, Time magazine lauded Carson and his colleagues for their possible discovery of a new planet, naming that achievement one of the year’s Top 10 Scientific Discoveries.

- Leigh Moscowitz (communication) received the 2009 Nafziger-White-Salwen Award for her dissertation on media coverage of the debate on gay marriage.

- In 2010, Mike Flynn (health and human performance) conducted a final exam in his sport physiology and marathon training class by running the Music City Marathon with students. The marathon class is among a number of unique classes at the College, keeping company with a class on hip-hop and a music-management class taught by Hootie and the Blowfish guitarist Mark Bryan.

- Emily Rosko (English) was awarded the 2011 Akron Poetry Prize for her work Prop Rockery.

- Bill Manaris (computer science) and his research team of students developed an interactive music performance system with artificial intelligence capabilities.
The College of Charleston is proud to serve as a “living laboratory,” allowing its students to live within an urban setting featuring incredible and convenient access to historic resources, amazing culture and unique ecosystems. That access allows them to explore their interests in their own ways. Here are a few student highlights:

- **Jordan Thomas** was recognized as a CNN Top 10 Hero in 2009 for starting the Jordan Thomas Foundation, a nonprofit that raises money to provide prosthetics for children in need.

- **Katherine Gumps** (biology and discovery informatics) was awarded the prestigious National Institutes of Health Undergraduate Scholarship.

- **Sara Sphren ’11** is a Spanish major with minors in anthropology and chemistry, earned a full undergraduate-level Fulbright Scholarship in 2011. She is studying nutrition issues with the locals in southern Mexico.

- **Kevin Ryan** was elected to the S.C. House of Representatives in 2010. At 22 years of age, the M.P.A. student is the youngest state representative in South Carolina.

- **Melissa Huber ’11** (Classics and mathematics) received the Lionel Pearson Fellowship, the top national honor given in Classical studies.
PROGRAMS OF DISTINCTION
The College’s reputation for academic excellence is based on a first-rate, individualized liberal arts and sciences experience that provides a strong foundation for intellectual exploration, learning and discovery. Below are a few programs that have garnered national and international recognition.

Marine Biology Program: With the Lowcountry’s surrounding riverbeds, beaches and marshlands, it’s no wonder the College has the state’s flagship program in marine biology. Both undergraduate and graduate students work on grant-funded research with some of the top marine scientists, both at the state and federal level.

M.B.A. Program: As one of only 90 accredited accelerated M.B.A. programs in the world and the first full-time day program of its kind in South Carolina, this program offers high-achieving students a unique, concentrated one-year curriculum that is built around a core of innovative thinking, aggressive learning and real-world experience that will position graduates for career opportunities in the global marketplace.

Historic Preservation and Community Planning Program: Having set a national standard for community-based preservation and for protecting architectural, historical and cultural integrity, Charleston is the perfect setting for this interdisciplinary program. Coordinated by the Department of Art History and the School of the Arts, this undergraduate program is the only one of its kind in the country.

Discovery Informatics Program: As America’s only undergraduate program of its kind, this groundbreaking interdisciplinary program challenges and prepares students to be leaders in the next stage of the knowledge-acquisition revolution by integrating computer science and mathematics with specific application disciplines to create new information from existing information.

Global Business Resource Center: As the first South Carolina organization to offer the NASBITE Certified Global Business Professional Program, the GBRC taps rich resources within the School of Business and from local partners such as the S.C. World Trade Center and the State Ports Authority to offer in-depth education in international trade for mid-career professionals.

Joseph P. Riley Jr. Center for Livable Communities: Housing programs of academic study, research and community service, this center is committed to forging connections between the campus and the broader community through programs and projects directed at various aspects of developing and maintaining livable communities in urban, suburban and rural contexts.

Yaschik/Arnold Jewish Studies Program: Focusing on Jewish tradition, past and present, this interdisciplinary academic program offers courses in languages, religious studies, philosophy, history, literature and political science.

REACH (Realizing Educational and Career Hopes) Program: As one of the country’s two four-year inclusive, non-degree-seeking programs for students with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities, the REACH Program helps students participate in the College’s academic, social and cultural experiences so that they may realize their intellectual and personal potential and become responsible, productive members of society.

PLACES TO KNOW
The College is home to more than 30 centers and institutes whose collective work enriches the academic lives of students and others in the Charleston community. Here’s a sampling:

Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture: With 4,000 artifacts, books and source materials telling the history of S.C. Lowcountry blacks - from slavery to the rise of Gullah culture and on through the Civil Rights Movement - this museum/research facility plays a central role in Charleston’s black community through research opportunities and outreach programs.

Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art: Serving as the public face of artistic life at the College, the Halsey Institute exhibits some of the finest contemporary art in the Southeast; sponsors lectures,
film series and publications; and serves as an inspiring living laboratory for undergraduate art students.

Higdon Student Leadership Center: Designed to help students discover and develop the leadership skills that enable professional success and effective citizenship, this center sponsors several popular College programs, including the pre-freshman Cougar Excursion, the Leadership Seminar, the highly selective Leadership CoC program for juniors and seniors and the Dance Marathon, a student fundraising event on campus.

Dixie Plantation: Located 17 miles south of Charleston, 6 miles from the Atlantic Ocean and only 11 miles from South Carolina’s famed ACE Basin, this site was bequeathed to the College's Foundation by the late naturalist John Henry Dick and consists of 862 pristine acres, ranging from salt marshes to hardwood forests along the Stono River and the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway.

Grice Marine Laboratory: Located at Fort Johnson on James Island - just across Charleston Harbor from the main campus of the College - this lab is a core facility in support of the undergraduate and the graduate degree programs in marine and environmental sciences, and offers students the unique opportunity to collaborate and work with a large, diverse group of dedicated marine scientists at the Fort Johnson Marine Resources Center, including two state organizations (Medical University of South Carolina, S.C. Department of Natural Resources) and two federal institutions.
(National Ocean Services and the National Institute of Standards and Technology).

Sylvia Vlosky Yaschik Jewish Studies Center: At the heart of Jewish activity at the College, this center houses the administrative offices for the Yaschik/Arnold Jewish Studies Program, a lounge and office for the Jewish Student Union/Hillel and the offices of the Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina.

THE HIGHLIGHT REEL
For the approximately 350 student-athletes that make up the College's 20 Division I teams, each season is an opportunity to achieve greatness. Fortunately for College of Charleston fans, these Cougars don't disappoint.

• Sailor Allie Blecher was named the Quantum Women's Sailor of the Year in 2010 and was part of the national champion Cougar sailing squad in women's dinghy.

• Andrew Goudelock won the NCAA 3-point competition at the 2011 Final Four weekend celebration.

• Equestrian rider McKenzie Armour was the national champion in individual novice hunt seat equitation in 2010, and Kenzie Russell claimed a national championship in individual walk trot canter class in 2011.

• Sailor Juan Maegli, a 2007 Pan-American Games gold medalist, competed in the men's one-person dingy during the 2008 Summer Olympics in China.

• The Cougars continued their winning ways, claiming SoCon championships in volleyball (regular season), women's tennis and men's basketball (regular season). Several teams and individuals made it to their respective NCAA tournaments: baseball (2010), men's soccer (2010) and women's golf (2011).

• During the 2010 and 2011 seasons, the Cougars boasted several SoCon Players of the Year: Cole Dawley (volleyball), Andrew Goudelock (men's basketball), Lukas Koncilia (men's tennis) and Matt Leeds (baseball). The College also had three SoCon coaches of the year: Angelo Anastopoulo (women's tennis), Jay Bruner (men's tennis) and Bobby Cremins (men's basketball).

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS
Students who earn their degree at the College join the company of great men and women. The College’s alumni include three governors, two U.S. senators, a number of prominent writers and journalists, lawyers, diplomats, scientists, physicians, architects and athletes. Here are a few of the College's graduates making headlines today:

• Davis Adkisson ’84 is a bioengineer and scientist pioneering the technique for the human body to regrow cartilage.

• Lucy Garrett Beckham ’70, principal of Wando High School in Mt. Pleasant, S.C., was named the 2010 MetLife/NASSP National High School Principal of the Year.

• Nafees Bin Zafar ’98 and two colleagues won a Scientific and Technical Academy Award in 2008 for developing fluid simulation software used in many Hollywood movies, including The Lord of the Rings, The Day After Tomorrow and Pirates of the Caribbean.

• Matt Czuchry ’99 is a television and film actor, featured now in The Good Wife (CBS).

• Former Cougar standout Brett Gardner ’05 is playing for the New York Yankees.

• Arlinda Locklear ’73 was the first Native American woman to argue a case before the U.S. Supreme Court (and in true Cougar fashion, she won).

• Glenn McConnell ’69 is a longtime S.C. state senator and president pro tempore of the S.C. Senate.

• Padgett Powell ’74 is an acclaimed novelist and experimental writer, with noted works such as Edisto, Mrs. Hollingsworth's Men and The Interrogative Mood: A Novel?.

• Brian Rutenberg ’87 is an award-winning abstract painter.

• Kevin Summers ’91 is the award-winning corporate vice president and C.I.O. of Whirlpool Corporation.

• John Tisdale ’86, a lead researcher and physician at the National Institutes of Health, led the NIH team in their breakthrough discovery in treating sickle cell anemia.
QUICK FACTS

ACADEMICS
Majors: 49
Minors: 69
Master's degrees: 19
(and seven certificate programs)
Average class size: 26
Library volumes: 816,249

ANNUAL EXPENSES (2011–12)
Undergraduate tuition, full-time in-state: $9,616
Undergraduate tuition, full-time out-of-state: $24,330
Graduate School tuition: $10,580 (in-state); $26,764 (out-of-state)
Campus housing: $5,312–$9,124

ENROLLMENT (FALL 2011)
Undergraduate: 10,461
Graduate: 1,188
Total: 11,649
Female students: 63.6%
Male students: 36.4%
Minority students: 13.2%
Students living on campus: 3,290
Percentage of in-state students: 65.8%
Percentage of out-of-state students: 34.2%
U.S. states and territories represented: 50
Countries represented: 65