BOUNDLESS
HONORS COLLEGE
BOUNDLESS is the promise of our students, the dedication of our faculty and the enduring spirit of our supporters, friends and alumni.

BOUNDLESS represents the next era of the College of Charleston Honors College.

CoC Honors serves academically talented, committed students who wish to pursue and achieve excellence across a broad range of disciplines.

Here, students find an enriched academic and personal experience and an environment that fosters active, innovative learning and self-discovery.

We emphasize individualized academic program planning rather than a tightly prescribed set of courses. Our curriculum is rooted in the liberal arts tradition and challenges students to equip themselves with the tools to address issues in diverse contexts. With small, seminar-style classes led by faculty members whose work is well known and respected among their peers, students are encouraged to tackle significant ideas and issues that require deep analysis.

Our vibrant living-learning community provides students with the personal attention and support they need to reach their goals during and after college. Our students live, learn and grow together while pursuing their unique interests through study abroad, internships and fellowships; collaborative research projects; and local and global service-learning projects.

The Honors College is essential to the College of Charleston as it strives to recruit highly engaged, intelligent, innovative and diverse students from across South Carolina, the nation and the world.

Given this momentum, now is our time to push beyond conventional pathways to knowledge, beyond the limits of our campus footprint and beyond our very own expectations.

Now is our time to build a bolder, ever-stronger Honors College.

“Irthe students in this lab are part of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute–funded SEA Phages program. We move these students farther faster by introducing them to research, connecting them to the research community in the biology department and by giving them the opportunity to see what it is like to be part of the wider scientific community.”

—Chris Korey, professor of biology and director of the first-year experience program

BOUNDLESS: The Campaign for the College of Charleston

BOUNDLESS is a $125 million comprehensive fundraising initiative, and it is your opportunity to shape the next era of honors education.

The magnitude of our goal reflects the breadth of our aspiration: to attain higher levels of excellence for our program as we challenge our students academically and foster a supportive living and learning environment.

BOUNDLESS is the vehicle to achieve this vision. We are asking you to consider an investment in one or more of our five strategic priorities:

1. COMPETITIVE SCHOLARSHIPS that attract, support and retain intellectually curious and engaged students;

2. WORLD-CLASS FACULTY who inspire greatness in our students and provide highly attentive advising and mentoring;

3. DISTINCTIVE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS that engage our scholar-citizens through broad and diverse involvement on campus and in the community and equip them to lead in their field;

4. DYNAMIC LIVING AND LEARNING COMMUNITIES that encourage collaboration and integration of academic, leadership and professional development; and

5. THE DEAN’S EXCELLENCE FUND, which provides support to students as they strive to reach their full potential and to faculty who commit to excellence in teaching and mentoring.
The Power of Partnership

Moving boldly forward while preserving our distinctive identity will require your dedication and partnership. As federal and state support for higher education declines, our success requires philanthropy.

By uniting the power of your generosity with the untapped potential of CofC Honors, we can seize a unique opportunity. As an investor, you will shape the next era of honors education at a time when the opportunity to attract the best students and to challenge them with cutting-edge global and experiential opportunities has never been stronger.

Become our partner in catapulting CofC Honors to national recognition for academic excellence and a one-of-a-kind living and learning community characterized by robust mentoring, community engagement and international programs.

“We are creating the future for the College of Charleston now. The growth of the College and the future of our students, our region and beyond very much depend upon you.”

– Steve Swanson ’89, campaign co-chair

“I would say that a liberal arts education is one of the most valuable parts of my life. It taught me what I am today, without letting me think critically and appreciate knowledge for its own sake.”

– Sarah Harvey Ali ’08, program assistant for the Middle East and North Africa with the Center for Private Enterprise in Washington, D.C. Ali wears the Arabic symbol of passion for life.
SCHOLARSHIPS

Merit-based scholarships are a powerful launching pad for success because they support students who thrive on intellectual challenge and who seek to explore the world in unfamiliar ways. Scholarships help the Honors College attract highly engaged, intelligent and diverse students from around the world. These top students set the intellectual pace at the College and then help to draw attention to the College of Charleston by attending elite graduate schools, often obtaining renowned scholarships and fellowships. BOUNDLESS will increase the number of merit-based scholarships to aid in student recruitment and retention, particularly for those students who require financial support for their education. BOUNDLESS will also increase the availability of summer enrichment scholarships so students may continue their experiential learning such as internships, research and study abroad during the summer.

“Scholarships allowed me to come to the College. Without them, none of what I achieved at the College would have been possible.”

- Levi Vonk ’13, 2014 Fulbright Award recipient continuing his undergraduate research interests on migrant workers in Mexico

WORLD-CLASS FACULTY

Great professors and mentors make all the difference in a challenging academic environment. Our Honors faculty advisors work with students as part of a comprehensive, four-year support and mentorship program. Professors and staff are there every step of the academic journey to guide students toward collaborative research with faculty and participation in innovative professional development programs, including Pre-Law Mentoring, SPECTRA (diversity), International Scholars, Medical Humanities, Project Impact (entrepreneurship) and Equipping Leaders. BOUNDLESS will support eight faculty fellows who commit to teaching, advising and mentoring in CoC Honors as part of their faculty workload. Support is also sought for visiting scholars in the Honors College Summer Institute that will offer research, study abroad and coursework in fields such as global affairs, human rights advocacy, neuroscience, non-profit management, international business and world literature.
DISTINCTIVE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

The Honors College is designed to integrate classroom experiences with impactful service on campus and in the community. BOUNDLESS will fuel opportunities for students to be world citizens with global perspectives. Opportunities for supporting our distinctive academic programs include the following:

- **INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS** develop a clear and comprehensive understanding of global issues and international perspectives. They move between different cultures and languages and are committed to finding solutions to critical global issues. This prestigious multi-disciplinary program produces leaders who have the knowledge and skills needed to make a difference at home and abroad.

- **HONORS SUMMER INSTITUTE** offers a year-round, deeply enriching living-learning community in Berry Residence Hall complete with coursework, research, internships and professional development opportunities. The Summer Institute will also host weeklong programs for prospective high school students, as well as collaborative programs with our international partners.

- **HONORS ENGAGED** provides a student-governed and leadership-focused context for students to attend to the needs of the community around them. Each year, all students in our freshman class are matched with organizations in the community who have mentoring programs. They, along with upperclassmen, will work to improve literacy, health and well-being for youth and adults.

BOUNDLESS directly enhances the student experience and inspires success in our students after graduation.
The International Scholars program prepares students to succeed in the 21st-century marketplace by crossing borders to engage new people, new things and new ideas. The three-year-old program has already produced four nationally competitive award winners (Fulbright, Critical Language Scholarship, DAAD, Gates Millennium) and students are currently studying abroad in Ghana, Japan, Jordan, the Netherlands and Spain.
While our long-term goals sustain the Honors College vision, Dean’s Excellence Funds go to work immediately to meet the most critical needs and priorities. Gifts to the Dean’s Excellence Fund provide annual support that is essential to retain students, to strengthen academic offerings, to build community, to sustain partnerships and to ensure good stewardship.

Contributions to the Dean’s Excellence Fund are used to support new and exciting experiences for our students such as enrichment grants for summer engagement, scholarships for retention of top-performing students, and stipends for faculty to develop interdisciplinary courses. These gifts also provide flexibility to seize opportunities as they emerge.

“The Honors living-learning community provides a vibrant and warm setting where our students strengthen relationships with each other and with faculty, staff and alumni. The Honors network is a core asset of our program that signals a lifelong commitment to the success of our students.”

– Trisha Folds-Bennett, dean

“The College helped me appreciate the impact that I can have and we all can have when we just let ourselves be heard. When we put our voices together, it can be powerful.”

– Bri Sanders ’14, a peer facilitator with the Honors College for three years and an Honors ambassador

DEAN’S EXCELLENCE FUND

PRIORITY NO. 4

DYNAMIC LIVING AND LEARNING COMMUNITIES

The dynamic living-learning community for which CoC Honors is known must have up-to-date facilities and collaborative spaces that sponsor academic, leadership and professional development.

BOUNDLESS will support the renovation of the Residential Commons in Berry Residence Hall. These spaces—classrooms, student and faculty living quarters, and faculty and staff offices—will create a collaborative environment in which exciting academic, leadership and professional activities can thrive.

Funding is also sought for the renovation of the historic Honors Center to provide state-of-the-art learning facilities and administrative support of students at the heart of campus.

PRIORITY NO. 5

DeAN’S EXCELLENCE FUND
JOIN US.

The Honors College at the College of Charleston was established in 1979 as an Honors Program with just 26 students. Today, the program has evolved into an Honors College with close to 700 students from across the nation and the world who represent every discipline on campus. As our community of students, alumni, faculty and staff continues to grow, our commitment to academic excellence remains at the core of our program.

Given our momentum, private support has never been more critical to our ongoing success. We recruit students who are destined to make a difference and are sure to bring the College of Charleston national recognition. In that recruitment, we make a promise that these students will be exposed to a world of innovative ideas, a network of unique opportunities and a setting that supports their journey to self-discovery. The College of Charleston Honors College is the place where students can rise to the highest heights and expand to the broadest borders. We offer them a boundless experience.

Partner with us to deliver on the promise. Partner with us to create boundless opportunities in a transformative Honors College education – one that has a life-changing impact and one that ensures College of Charleston students are leaders locally and globally.

With boundless enthusiasm,

TRISHA FOLDS-BENNETT, DEAN