FY19 Career Center Messaging

Celebrate the successes of and opportunities presented by the Career Center. Share compelling stories about the contributions and achievements of students, faculty, staff and alumni.

Facts & Statistics

- The Princeton Review says the College of Charleston has “tons of opportunities to gain the authentic, real-world experience they need to launch great careers.”
- The Princeton Review ranked the College of Charleston #18 in the nation for Best Career Services among all institutions and #1 among all public master's level institutions.
- According to *U.S. News & World Report*, the College of Charleston accelerated one-year MBA program tied for 1st place for 100 percent job placement three months after graduation.
- Sixty-seven percent of College of Charleston graduates complete at least one internship before graduation, which is higher than national averages.
- Twenty – twenty-five percent of College of Charleston graduates have been student employees at the College at some point during their tenure, gaining valuable and transferable office, team work and networking skills.
- More than 1,200 CofC students are working part-time, on-campus jobs.
- Approximately 300 business representatives come to the College of Charleston each year to recruit.
- Fourteen students participated in the Summer 2018 internship program with opportunities ranging from the Whitney Museum in NYC to Ernst & Young in Chicago to Tommy Hilfiger in NYC to the South Carolina Department of Commerce in Munich.
- Two-thirds of all internships lead to full-time job offers.
- The College of Charleston Career Center reaches more than 4,000 students per year, offering professional development and training to transition to the workforce, graduate school, and other experiences.

Anecdotes & Examples

- Hands-on experiential learning contributes to CofC students being ready to work upon graduation.
- The College of Charleston Career Center coordinates job shadowing programs so that students can gain firsthand knowledge about various industries. Students are able to better grasp how companies operate along with the roles and responsibilities of different positions.
- To prepare students for their post-graduate careers, the Career Center has career counselors who prep students one-on-one and through workshops. The Career Center maintains a job board for students (*Handshake*) and holds bi-annual career fairs.
- The College of Charleston’s Career Center, School of Business and Department of Supply Chain and Information Management work with Mercedes (Daimler vans) to mentor students and provide scholarship, internship and career opportunities.
  
The College of Charleston Career Center created the CLIMB program. CLIMB establishes a timeline for students’ professional development starting when they are freshmen. Members of the Career Center work individually with students to help them identify their interests, outline their academic career at the College and determine the experiential learning opportunities that need to be accomplished.

- Pre-enrollment: Accessing Values, Interests and Skills
- First Year: Exploring Jobs and Career Paths
- Sophomore: Taking Courses Related to Career Goals
- Junior: Gaining Experience Related to Goals
- Junior/Senior: Building a Network
- Senior: Finalizing Plans
- Graduate: Being Engaged Alumni

The Career Center collaborates with faculty to participate in the First Year Experience program in order to increase students’ awareness of the resources available to them for professional development.

The Career Center has augmented training programs for the approximately 13 students who receive the Career Center Internship Award to increase students’ preparation for both their internship search and the internship itself. The same type of assistance is available to all students during the Career Center daily drop-in hours. Students can also set up 1:1 appointments to prep.

Quotes

- “I can tell you that we have more employers who want to hire our students than we have students who are job ready. That’s why we continue to dedicate significant resources and time to student professional development and preparedness.”
  — Jim Allison, executive director, Career Center

- “Mercedes-Benz Vans has enjoyed a partnership with the College of Charleston for many years. We established a scholarship program with the College’s Business School in 2015 and have hired several Cougar interns and graduates as a result of this strengthened partnership.”
  — Michael Balke, president and CEO, Mercedes-Benz Vans

- “Student employment meant a lot. I didn't necessarily understand how much while I worked at CofC, but being in the workforce has showed me just how much of a help it was. I had several jobs while at CofC. I worked in the Multicultural Center my freshman year, the Career Center for 3 years, I was a Peer Facilitator for 2 years, and I was the Student Coordinator for a program called SCOPE in the Office of Victim Services for my senior year. In those positions, specifically the Career Center, I learned about using a multi lined phone, different Microsoft programs such as Outlook, professionalism, resume building...all of which I used in my first job out of college and the positions I've had since then. Working while in college also gets you used to being in a work environment overall-- having to interact with your coworkers, and just being held accountable. I am a Social Worker, and I have to interact with people constantly, and I HAVE to be organized and able to do multiple things at once. Working at CofC definitely helped me with working toward that.”
  — Ciera Jones '13

- “Although I was hired to ‘assist’ I believe you guys assisted me the most. I learned the value of being resourceful and the value of putting my best foot forward...earning me a job after graduation and a spot in University of South Carolina School of Medicine.”
  — Maja Grzejdziak ’17