Cynthia Lowenthal became dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences in 2006, taking the helm of the largest school at the College. The School of Humanities and Social Sciences, with 170 full-time faculty members in eight departments, is home to nine majors, two undergraduate interdisciplinary majors and four graduate degrees; supports six interdisciplinary minors; and serves as a partner with the Graduate School for the environmental studies and historic preservation programs. Dean Lowenthal facilitated the creation of the major in Women’s and Gender Studies, supported the creation of a combined master’s of environmental studies and public administration degree, and expanded the mission of the Joseph P. Riley Jr. Center for Livable Communities. She is currently working toward creating a B.A in public health.

Dean Lowenthal joined the English department at the College as an award-winning teacher, specializing in Restoration and 18th-century British literature, with special attention to drama and women’s writing. Her first scholarly book, *Lady Mary Wortley Montagu and the Eighteenth-Century Familiar Letter*, was published in 1994, and her second book, *Performing Identities on the Restoration Stage*, was published in 2004. Dean Lowenthal has served as the peer reviewer for several university presses, is a member of the editorial board for a national journal and has written numerous journal articles and book chapters. She was invited to give the plenary address at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, the university lecture at the University of Wisconsin, the Mellon Colloquium Lecture at Tulane University and a panel presentation at the American Association of Higher Education’s “Faculty Roles and Responsibilities” Conference.

At the College, Dean Lowenthal has served on the President’s Executive Team, the Provost’s Academic Council, the Dean’s Council, the Ad Hoc Faculty Senate Governance Committee and the College-wide Space Committee. She has modernized the processes of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences; supported the hiring and mentoring of an extraordinary and accomplished group of faculty; worked to increase the research, internship and study-abroad opportunities for students; and facilitated the design and implementation of the school’s strategic plan.

Dean Lowenthal believes in the value of a liberal arts and sciences education, which will enable students to become good writers, confident speakers, creative problem-solvers, and informed citizens of the world.