

CATHRYN H. MAHON '80



Interim Executive Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Interim Executive Director of the College of Charleston Foundation



Cathy Mahon serves as Interim Executive Director Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Interim Executive Director of the College of Charleston Foundation. She leads an organization of professionals engaged in a coordinated, campus-wide approach to university development, alumni relations, stewardship and advancement services. Mahon is also responsible for overseeing institutional funds management and growing the endowed funds held for the College by the College of Charleston Foundation. She works in close partnership with the president, provost, executive team, deans and volunteer boards.

Five years after graduating from the College with a degree in education and teaching in public as well as private schools, where she earned national teaching certifications, Mahon was recruited by the College's late and legendary Tony Meyer '69, to be his assistant in Alumni Affairs. Following that work, she made the decision to advance her Higher Education career at her alma mater, where she has served as director of Annual Giving, the Parent Advisory Council and the Major Gifts Department. Mahon has also been responsible for advancement of the Development Program as Associate Vice President. In each of these roles, Mahon has grown departmental capacity and delivered record-breaking results.

As Associate Vice President of Development, Mahon served as a member of the campaign management team. She was responsible for contributing to the design and execution of the campaign and the achievement of fundraising results for BOUNDLESS, the College of Charleston's largest-ever comprehensive fundraising campaign, which ran from 2008 to 2016. BOUNDLESS surpassed its goal of \$125 million by raising more than \$138 million.

In addition to supporting eight presidents during her tenure at the College, Mahon spent six years in corporate settings as a manager for State Farm Insurance Company and with Corporate Child Care, a Nashville-based company that placed and managed nationally accredited child development programs on corporate sites.

Mahon has participated in Leadership Charleston and served on the Women in Business board, the Early Childhood Education board and as a national accreditor for early childhood education centers. She has organized and led sessions and webinars for the Educational Association for Boards (EAB), the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) as well as the Association for Fundraising Professionals (AFP) and organized a national conference for the National Parent Fundraising Organization.

EDUCATION

1980: B.A., Education, College of Charleston

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

2021–present: Interim Vice President of Institutional Advancement, College of Charleston and Interim Executive Director of the College of Charleston Foundation
2018–2021: Vice President for Development, College of Charleston
2016–2018: Associate Vice President for Development, College of Charleston
2010–2016: Director of Major Gifts, College of Charleston
2007–2010: Major Gifts Officer, College of Charleston
1998–2007: Director of Annual Giving and the Parent Advisory Council, College of Charleston
1993–1998: Director, Corporate Child Care
1988–1993: Assistant Director, Alumni Affairs, College of Charleston
1986–1988: Manager, State Farm Insurance Company, California
1982–1986: Instructor, Far Horizon Montessori School, California
1981–1982: Flowertown Elementary School Teacher, Summerville, S.C.

HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

1990–2010: Special Olympic Volunteer
2008: Leadership Charleston
1980: College of Charleston Bishop Robert Smith Award (now President's Award), SGA President
1980: College of Charleston Alexander Chambliss Connelly Award
1980: College of Charleston Departmental Honors