Alumni/Donors/Volunteer Leaders Listening Sessions and Online Surveys

Two listening sessions: March 28 and April 4

Number of participants: approximately 253 (6 in person and 247 online)

Facilitators: Chris Tobin (Division of Institutional Advancement), Jeff Kinard (CofC Foundation), Michael Renault (Alumni Association) and David Crowley (Cougar Club)

What attributes, characteristics, credentials and qualifications should the Presidential Search Committee look for in our next president?

Key themes:
• higher education pedigree  
• experience in higher education  
• fundraiser  
• proven track record of success  
• energy  
• experience with students  
• business-minded/business savvy  
• outgoing personality  
• progressive  
• ethical, honest, integrity  
• diverse (woman or person of color emphasized)  
• strategic thinker/visionary  
• good communicator  
• visible on campus  
• alumna/alumnus status

What are the three most important responsibilities of a 21st-century university president?

Key themes:
• cultural awareness/diversity/inclusion  
• communication  
• raise stature/profile of College (nationally)  
• attracting best students, faculty and staff  
• thought leader in higher education  
• budget savvy  
• technology, innovation  
• a uniter of campus  
• open-minded  
• presence on campus  
• fundraising  
• focus on student life/experience  
• community minded/engaged  
• campus safety  
• sets high expectations  
• relevant academic programming
How would you measure the success of a president at the College?

Key themes
• fundraising
• rankings
• enrollment
• raising reputation/prestige/positive coverage of the College of Charleston
• recruitment of top faculty
• likeability/campus satisfaction surveys
• new programming
• increasing diversity
• fiscally minded
• strategic planning
• facilities improvement
• job placement of alumni/career development

How can the next president best help increase philanthropy, foster more donor stewardship and grow alumni engagement?

Key themes
• listening
• being present on campus/being accessible
• enthusiasm and energy
• community building
• student engagement
• respect for diversity and inclusion
• Have support of faculty
• keeping the College affordable/tuition control
• big thinker/risk taker
• community engagement/increased city relations

What should the top priorities of the next president be?

Key themes
• Raising academics
• fundraising
• branding/national profile
• campus safety
• budgeting
• student engagement
• sustainability
• career development for students
• relevance of academic programs
• smart growth
• affordability of CofC degree
• attracting top students/top faculty
APPENDIX

Please note: any responses containing defamatory, personal or irrelevant statements were not included.

What attributes, characteristics, credentials and qualifications should the Presidential Search Committee look for in our next president?

“Find an alumnus or alumna who has all of the qualifications; Glenn being here, he knew the drill, he soared helping us - someone who knew and loved the place who is in charge; certainly hope it is an intelligent person, who can raise money; we want a superior group of candidates; nice to find an academician with a terminal degree with all of the qualities we revere; this person is going to have to glad-hand and be comfortable with groups of people”

“An alum status is just a bonus; an alum status should not elevate the candidate; someone must be a good listener, someone must be willing to learn the oddities of the S.C. Legislature and learn to negotiate their way through that; this hire will be looked at very closely by the legislature and other colleges; someone who has great connections (not just in South Carolina); this is not only an important school in this state and in this country, but also globally; someone who has an openness or experience with people of other cultures and corporations; someone who has a deep respect for higher education (meaning our professors as well); if the professors don’t feel that their opinions are important, they get irritated and it spreads; someone who has achieved a PhD or equal standing in their field; a person who is willing to participate in a lot of College activities”

“The qualifications we are seeking are the ones that will help the College survive; higher education is in a real pickle; we need a president that is aware of what the College needs to survive; a president who is going to be a visionary; We can grow in the right directions; higher education needs to maintain relevance in the lives of today’s students; inspiration is a big thing; president needs to be outwardly looking, welcoming and including our existing base; working with its leadership groups in order to expand our reach city wide, regionally, statewide, nationally and internationally; someone respectful of higher ed and its systems (which are mysterious, inefficient and frustrating); our real talent is our faculty; we need someone who can appreciate what we have and build on that; needs to be honest, straightforward, strength of being able to say they can’t do something and not string people along; someone with vision and direction; we have to identify what we want; Should they have taught? Honestly, it depends on the person; they have to respect and appreciate the academic world; The president is our face; the person we see and the person we follow”

“someone who is concerned about quality, focused on improving all aspects of student life (especially dormitories); a quality-assurance type person – not always obtainable in the academic community”

“someone who can get out in the community and wave the flag; get community and alumni involved; there is a financial component – someone who is able to inspire people to mentor, write a check; someone who can help on the alumni side and get friends of the college more engaged”
“leadership, leadership, leadership; it is a big company with almost 2,000 employees; someone with leadership in large organizations is important and significant; it is easy to get trapped in the stresses and time commitments; it is an almost impossible job to some degree; have to be approachable; massive leadership experience in a massive organization and the students still can approach this person; this person needs to get out and hear regularly from the university in town halls or listening session”

“an alumnus/alumna is an important criteria; having an alum can speak in a different voice, it does make a difference in connecting with students; also someone who can build an incredible team and then lead that team; they had a laser-like focus on what they wanted to achieve and they changed the College in their tenure; someone with vision, someone who can set the trajectory; they have to have a team they trust and inspire to do that work; team-builder, cheerleader”

“the idea of trust and delegate; allows them to travel and expand the College’s influence; having some sort of corporate strategy”

“strong higher education experience can be successful; or someone from business with a strong provost; it is helpful to have higher education experience; I want to have more an open mind about the person coming in; not such a narrow criteria; someone who can see the unpolished gem that is the College”

“look for someone with a strong business background and then round out the team with those with higher education backgrounds”

“have to think out of the box, could be someone coming through up through the military”

“Liberal & able to raise money”

“Educator, Fundraiser, aligned with the College’s mission and history.”

“A president concerned about educating not indoctrinating students”

“Leadership, vision and a track record of leading top tier universities.”

“An intelligent, qualified, non-reactionary individual who is good at listening to the opinions of others and the challenges of the job and makes and takes qualified and reasonable decisions and actions that value long-term success over short term gratification.”

“The next president should be able to balance the substantial history and accomplishments of the College with a vision to help it continue to evolve to meet the needs of its future students and faculty as part of the community.”

“Experience in academia, as a professor, dean, or other administrator”

“Past presidential experience. I want to see someone who specifically has grown masters and doctorate programs as they are lagging at CofC!”
“Integrity/Ethics, Energy, Intelligence, Pedigree, and Experience to be overqualified for the job.”

“A successful academic leader with a liberal arts background is a requirement. It is long past time for the College of Charleston to have a president who is a woman or person of color. In line with the institution's commitment to diversity, this should not be overlooked.”

“Honesty and transparency should top all characteristics.”

“Open-minded, dedicated, forward thinking, heart”

“Ability to build endowment, history of growing prestige of universities.”

“Independence, quality of character, lack of political affiliation”

“Visionary with higher education and fundraising experience”

“A political neutral but savvy in the ways of the Statehouse. He should be outgoing, student friendly, athletics friendly and alumni friendly.”

“Diversity more reflective of the entirety of CofC would be welcome.”

“A candidate who can market and raise the profile of the school.”

“Education background, someone diverse and who cares about our diverse communities and programs.”

“A leader with a vision and the experience to execute that vision”

“Racist-free personal history. Academic credentials and a good track record of working with stakeholders including staff and locals.”

“Fundraising Contacts, Public Profile”

“experience in higher education”

“Diverse, Well-connected, Driven, Inspiring, Determined, Skilled, Personable”

“Conservative values. I’m concerned about the extreme liberalism from CofC showing itself all over social media right now.”

“Extensive experience in the workforce, inclusivity, diversity”

“Excellent people skills, main priority is promoting CofC and not self, being visible”

“Diversity - CofC has never had a woman or minority as president and that needs to change! Higher education experience is also critical. The next president should not have ties to the South Carolina legislature or have any connections to divisive activities. This person should be able to lead an
inclusive campus community - which is especially important because CofC is the college that in state students come to for a liberal arts experience. Where they seek acceptance from the potentially conservative attitudes of their hometowns.”

“Someone that is willing to take responsibility for ways that CofC needs to grow, and make an effort to change those things. … There needs to be a president aware of how much sexual assault goes on at the college, and ready to take initiative to change these statistics.”

“Diversity, including gender (it's time for a female) & ethnic (black, Latino, Asian?)”

“I would like to see a qualified woman become President of the college. Even better if she is a woman of color!”

“charismatic, visionary, finance background, academic record, & on the younger side (so he/she can take us into the next generation)”

“Open minded to diversity, willing to compromise and help students.”

“Academia background, a non-former politician”

“A distinguished South Carolinian who can represent the historical prestige of the college”

“Program Expansion, Global Alumni Engagement, Post-College Job Placement Enhancement”

“A leader who supports and promotes diversity and inclusion.”

“Strategic planning, academic focus, fundraising capacity”

“An experienced Academic with leadership background”

“An actual background and experience in higher education.”

“Good fundraiser, traditionalist and conservative demeanor”

“Diversity, educational experience, no radical views, graduate degree”

“A man that will cherish the history of The College and hold fast to its traditions.”

“History of successfully managing a budget.”

“Diversity, commitment to social justice and change on campus, commitment to the college

“Pride in our community”

“Excellent character and ability to change with the evolution of collegiate experience.”

“Diversity for the love of God.”
“Academic/Academia Admin Background, Ties to the College (alumn), Forward Thinking with Appreciation for Transdisciplinary/Liberal Arts studies”

“Someone with knowledge of CofC, but not part of the ‘good old boy’ network.”

“A current or former academic, a woman.”

“A woman; no history (even a hint) of sexual harassment, corruption, nepotism, or gender, racial, sexual orientation, socioeconomic, or disability discrimination; experience as a faculty member; extensive experience with programming and fundraising”

“A person who is willing to lead CofC graduates into lives outside the college … having a leader that is connected to the larger communities outside of academia.”

“The school needs an educator/administrator at the helm.”

“An individual who is willing and able to represent the college in the 21st century. The individual must be able to represent the College on a national stage, representing EVERY single student and encapsulate the core values of the College. We are a diverse, liberal and forward thinking institution, that just so happens to be in the state of South Carolina. They should have a long pedigree in higher education administration, proven success in dealing with a complex and diverse campus, and a willingness to learn and hear others opinions.”

“Honest, excellent history of leadership and a genuine interest in education (rather than in politics)”

“Experienced in growing a public university, especially endowment. Preferably alumnus.”

“Progressive, holistic view, background as a teacher”

“Academic Authority”

“Extensive work experience outside academia coupled with some experience in academia (All things being equal, a CofC Alumnus).”

“In this higher education climate, the ability to clearly articulate a value proposition for a private college education at College of Charleston and niche in the marketplace, someone who is marketing savvy, understands market and financial pressures on enrollment, can be a good fiscal steward of the College’s resources and student tuition dollars, someone who understands the importance of building relationships and trust with key stakeholders”

“Compassionate, Caring, Understanding and Supportive of minority programs and groups”

“Sound business sense, a firm understanding of student development and a desire for a vibrant campus life … to include support of Greek Life.”

“Leader, people centered, business background, regional focused in southeast, out of the box ideas”
“credentials: PhD - lots of focus in past two presidents on business, while it is increasingly important for a President to be a good fundraiser in this political climate and when states are cutting funding to universities, the College is first and foremost an educational center.”

“The candidate should recognize the importance of diversity.”

“To date, all CofC presidents have been white men. I believe the next president should reflect other characteristics of the student body and encourage the committee to strongly consider candidates of color and women. All candidates should have significant experience in higher education with an understanding of administration, business management, and fundamentals of learning. Given the growing use of technology in higher education, it would benefit the College to recruit a professional who can advance distance and online education.”

“Rising star in serious academic leadership circles, track record of fundraising success, younger and dynamic, NOT a parochial South Carolina good old boy!”

“Please give us someone who will elevate the academic reputation of our school. Not someone who will just sell the amenities of Charleston. Qualities: 1) strong liberal arts background, and 2) significant demonstration of leadership in a higher ed setting.”

“Student engagement oriented; someone who is in the hallways, visible, in the student section for basketball games and not the president’s box (if they even go).”

“Someone with past experience and/ or credentials as a college president. Someone who can remain fair and unbiased in the face of increasing pressure from far right/far left influences.”

“Committed to the College and its students; diversity and social justice”

“Integrity, charisma, but mostly the ability to learn from and listen to the student body leading growth toward the future but keeping CofC’s traditions alive.”

“Good public sector experience - entrepreneur; CEO. Some higher ed experience but not a career bureaucrat. Please search for a president from our alumni body!”

“Female, Person of Color, More diverse”

“strong leadership, open-minded, good listener, someone who doesn’t ‘job hop’ every 4 years. experience in U.S. and internationally, very well connected with politicians and donors, alumni would be ideal.”

“Strong willed. Ability to lead and not pander to majority or minority.”

“Comes from outside academics or significant experience in other areas”

“Visionary leader, experience in higher education, and strong consensus making abilities”
“Focus on student experience, understanding of Charleston history and College of Charleston history, broad vision for college experience in city of Charleston, values diversity”

“Progressive thinking, diversity and stellar academic credentials”

“Transparency, Communication, Bridge between students, faculty, and administration”

“Someone who has a career in higher education with extensive experience, someone from a diverse background who will work to improve diversity at CofC, someone who is not a part of politics in South Carolina or elsewhere, and someone who is dynamic, creative, and innovative.”

“Friendly, intelligent, sober”

“Demonstrated leadership coupled with strong local ties.”

“Preferably, an alumni of the College, but certainly a significant part of the community. At very least having served long term at a college of similar size and tradition. Someone who can respect tradition and history without being afraid to shake things up.”

“Alumni if possible, free thinking, lead by example”

“Foremost, someone who has experienced tenure and promotion and has served as a faculty member for a long enough to understand academia. Second, someone who has substantial leadership experience in academia at the Provost level. Third, someone who has successfully led major change in the academic environment. Fourth, someone with substantial experience in fund-raising. Fifth, someone who is capable of managing the demands of the State while fulfilling the true mission of higher education in protecting The College of Charleston’s liberal arts and sciences tradition. Sixth, someone who also understands the value of career preparation for students and holds the tension between the notions of ‘education for the sake of education’ and “education to train students for a career.”

“Someone in touch and integrated in the diverse world, knowledgeable about racial minorities, financial struggles, LGBTQ population. Someone inspirational”

“Outgoing spirit, experience with student life”

“A perfect blend of respect for the best traditions and forward-thinking, cutting edge approach to higher education; an ability to be unswayed by educational fads; a lobbyist’s talent for keeping friends while asking for what’s needed and wanted; a deep respect for the city in which the College is located.”

“Strong Background in Academia; Strong ties to the local and state community; no allegations of sexual misconduct in their past that can be dredged up and can embarrass the school”

“Someone who is an alum, or connected to the College. It is certainly a plus if they have experience in higher education, but I do not think it is a necessity. Anyone who has gone to the College has
experience in higher education! Most important to me would be someone who is excited about the school, and has a bold vision for how to keep the College competitive, relevant, and unique.”

“Integrity, experience in collegiate administration, someone who understands the challenges that face underpaid professors and overworked students”

“Integrity, Ambition, Purposeful direction, Someone with wisdom gained through various leadership roles.”

“Dedicated to the City of Charleston, the College of Charleston, an Alumnus of the College of Charleston. Not politically active, not outspoken about politics. Focused on teaching students how to live and give back to the community.”

“Nationally known; Good administrator with a respect of what CofC is and with an eye to the future”

“Honest, well respected, conservative, influential”

“Not part of the ‘southern good ol boys’network”

“Transparency, honesty, fairness, compassion, judiciousness and nonpartisanship.”

“history of success leading an academic unit or institution”

“Outgoing, Alumnus/alumnae of College, supportive of all fields, experience in teaching, good reputation.”

“Transparency, candor, a willingness to try new approaches and experiment.”

“Environmentally Conscious, Sensitive to inclusiveness on campus, willing to fight to LOWER tuition to a reasonable rate so that no one has to choose between tuition and food on their table.”

“Transparency, honesty, fairness, compassion, judiciousness and nonpartisanship.”

“someone who embodies the future of CofC and not just the ‘old south.’ I would love to see the college’s first minority president”

“servant leadership, integrity, good communicator, creative”

“Liberal Arts Education, Experience in higher education, Experience with diversity & sustainability projects. Young enough to not retire, old enough to be looking for a long term position. Connection to CofC.”

“The College should seek a president with strong background in academic leadership, preferably one who has spent some time as a faculty member before moving into university leadership. A president with this background is likely to understand the diverse concerns of campus stakeholders, including students, faculty, staff, and administration. A president who has a history of working with students through engagement with student leadership, clubs, and perhaps academic mentoring would also be
beneficial to the College. A good understanding of student perspectives and the faculty-student relationship is imperative to a university leader who will be tasked with creating policies that strengthen these relationships on campus. Further, the new president should have the ability to develop a good rapport with students and to understand and take seriously their needs - higher education is ultimately about preparing students to be engaged citizens, and a president who engages students in the policy-making process on campus is helping to teach students about how to advocate for themselves.”

“An alumni of the college”

“Integrity, common sense, a vision for the future, thought leadership, an engaging and positive personality. Less concerned about academic credentials, as many who possess them have not served the College well over time. Need someone who understands the value proposition of the College and truly believes there is still a place for liberal arts education in the U.S.”

“Work experience in higher ed. Respectable. Honest. Committed to our students and school. Passionate about diversity and being involved with the students and faculty/staff.”

“A leader who can balance tradition/history with the current needs of the community/students.”

“A leader who can balance tradition/history with the current needs of the community/students.”

“Proven leadership experience in institutions of higher learning, an understanding of what CofC means to our city and its people, someone with a plan to push the school forward with 5/10/15 year plans, and someone that can truly represent all of the schools stakeholders (alums, students, faculty, etc).”

“Business Leader, fundraiser, public & private experience site large organizations, real world experience. Someone other then a pure academic!!”

“Someone with a degree and multi-year background in education both as a teacher/professor & administrator, PH.D. preferred. Integrity, honesty and frankness. Open communication style and the ability to lead by example as well as support and stand behind/with subordinates”

“Educational leadership experience; business experience; multi-cultural awareness and experience”

“Accessibility to all students, visibility on campus, expertise in working in academic field, inclusive, support/acceptance of causes that matter to students, faculty and staff, tolerance, business knowledge”

“Background in higher education, progressive, hands-on”

“Out of the box.”

“Alum”

“Someone with respect for the culture, history, and nurturing (vice competitive) environment offered at CofC.”
“Commitment to staying for an extended period of time.”

“Someone who knows how to manage a large operation well and position it for the future. Someone who is unafraid of critics (or the General Assembly). If he/she is from another higher education institution, please ensure it’s a peer or aspirational institution to the College (in other words, a prestigious/well-known school). Someone who can communicate well and inspire students, faculty, staff, and alumni like President Pastides at USC, President Teresa Sullivan at UVA, or President Fred Carter at Francis Marion (who used to teach at CofC and has been considered for this position in the past).”

“Charleston is an amazing location. You need a president who appreciates the opportunities that are unique to such a fragile, beautiful, historic, and creative place.”

“Proven collegiate administrator”

“Kind! Patient. A clear vision of the College’s place in the community, the state, and national level education. Basketball fan.”

“Someone with a background and proven track record in university leadership who is willing to stay in the position for 10+ years. Someone who will support/be supported by faculty.”

“They should be a baller. A shot caller. Should have 20-inch blades on his impala.”

“Progressiveness”

“Someone with experience at being a president of an university. Someone with leadership skills and integrity. Someone with business savvy to help the College financially.”

“A person who is a mix of Judge Alex Sanders and Victor Wilson”

“The Honorable Judge Alex Sanders - really he held all the qualities and attributes we have always looked for in a leader that defines our values and characteristics.”

“Diverse, passionate, give back to the community, students first, continuous improvement, visible, community/business/student relations”

“Vastly improve sports and facilities”

“1) Should be an academic 2) Should be politically savvy 3) Would like to see someone who is more politically and culturally progressive 4) Are women being considered? One hopes so.”

“Respected, progressive experience in academia with demonstrated commitment to social justice; ability to lead”

“Experience, and someone who will stay more than four years!”
“It would be nice to have a president that is well respected within the college community and city as a whole than just a small group. Some diversity would be great. Someone with strong leadership skills demonstrated through past roles but who also has a connection with the school is important. I’d love to see someone in the office who is not afraid to make changes.”

“Someone knowledgeable and familiar with South Carolina politics, budgeting, success on a large stage.”

“Business Leader, fundraiser, public & private experience site large organizations, real world experience. Someone other then a pure academic!!”

“Open to female president, welcomes diversity and forward thinking, unafraid to embrace change.”

“Someone who actually has experience working in an institute of higher education.”

“Effective communicator, history of dedication to liberal arts values, experience in higher education specifically engaging with students”

“A vision for the future with respect for our past.”

“Financial acuity, doctoral level education, belief in the importance of diversity, ability to communicate to donors and students”

“Someone who is chosen through a real impartial search along with input from students, faculty, staff, and alumni (not in spite of their input). We need a President that proves the Board of Trustees is looking ahead and understands the dire need for diverse leadership at the College.”

“The next President needs to be someone who has worked in higher education for a long time, preferably with both teaching and administrative responsibilities. Ideally, the top candidate will be someone who has been a Vice-President, Provost, or Dean. Preferably, they will have a terminal degree, either in higher education or a subject area.”

“Diversity and a background in education/academia should strongly be considered.”

“First and foremost, the next president should have a long history in higher education, preferably with experience in teaching, administration, and student services. He or she should also have extensive knowledge and appreciation for the liberal arts curriculum, and be strongly in favor of maintaining College of Charleston’s character as a liberal arts institution in the face of pressure from outside groups. As a public institution, it’s also important that the President have a proven track record of community outreach and engagement with policymakers at the local, state, and federal levels. And finally, the president must be a forward-thinking individual who supports the faculty and students’ desires to innovate new curricula, challenge established norms, and uplift historically disenfranchised groups across the College.”

“a person who identifies as a woman”
“Expert in strategic planning, leadership, organizational relationships, strong interpersonal skills, effective public speaker and thought leader who can help market the college to the masses and increase its brand equity to match the tuition expenses”

“Supportive, open minded, savvy”

“Prior higher ed experience that involves courting corporate and governmental allies/sponsors. Possibly prior development work. Would need to have an affinity to listening to academia’s desires and challenges.”

“Humility, Leadership, Ambitious, Respectful”

“Someone with a Ph.D. in a discipline offered by the College, preferably in the Liberal Arts. It should be someone with experience in academe, both as a professor and as an administrator with a significant history of authority. She or he should be an accomplished scholar if at all possible.”

“An academic with public higher ed Leadership experience.”

“The last few Presidents all have taken the role as a temporary job on their path to retirement, probably because it comes with a rather nice housing stipend in the most relaxing city in America, which is key to a retiree. This type of person isn’t inclined to doing anything transformational. Please don’t look at experience as a driving factor. Instead look for someone resembling Joe Riley or Earl Grant - someone who has proven capable at a young age of taking on big responsibility and deliver transformational change.”

“Business oriented, entrepreneurial, politically influential to drive more state dollars to CofC.”

“Progressive, visionary, authentic, transparent, and personable”

“Nationally prominent candidate, prolific fundraiser capable of making CofC nationally relevant.”

“Experience in Academia especially in the management of an institute of higher learning”

“Qualified to lead and inspire a student body, respectable track record in advanced education, open-minded in their philosophies and perhaps more diverse than the past candidates and placeholders”

“They should have gone to the College of Charleston”

“A graduate of CofC and Veteran.”

I am from Class of 2009... :) Our new president needs pride for the College, pride of Charleston proper and its surrounding areas, long-term vision and goals for the College, special attention to history and the preservation of CofC’s culture, history and traditions.”

“Business person who has seen the ups AND downs. One who can give voice to all sides with fairness and not let one side get drowned out.”
“In terms of attributes, I believe the president should be confident, approachable, forward-thinking, honest, inspirational and passionate. In my opinion, those qualities are much more important than their credentials.”

“Well-spoken, engaging, and willing to be involved with/develop the Charleston community.”

“1) Integrity 2) Knowledge of Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives, 3) Working knowledge of current Academia capabilities & Leadership trends; 4) A strong knowledge and sensitivity of the demographics of our current users - i.e., college age, returning to college, alternative students, International Students, Military students; 5) Strong team work abilities to work between academic staff as well as students”

“Inclusive, international-thinking, empathetic, experience leading a world-class institution, respect for tradition while being forward-looking; more like Ted Stern”

“Integrity, Education”

“Not politically motivated, service oriented, well-travelled and willing to preserve the integrity of the organization by gathering people who are interested in the college’s reputation for the future.”

“The most important is an absolute commitment to the liberal arts education- the broad-spectrum education that allows students to experience the full complexity of human thought before specializing. This is what I got from CofC that made my time there so special, and it is being lost in too many places.”

“Someone with ties to the College and/or Charleston area, experience in higher education, as well as someone who wants to stay for many years.”

“Innovative, student focused, ability to make college more affordable”

“College of Charleston Alum; Business leadership skills; Professional appearance; Well-spoken in front of the camera; Role model for today’s students.”

“Honest, non pandering, non liberal”

“The next CofC President must be someone who will support diversity in the workplace, promote inclusiveness across the student body and workforce, endorse equal pay for women, interact routinely with the student body in both planned and ad hoc opportunities.”

“The next president should be open minded, have a doctorate degree, and a proven fundraising record. She or he should also preserve the College’s rich history.”

“Diverse background, experience in academia as both a professor and administrator.”

“A worldly person, VP of a successful business that understands working quality processes in a college work place. Hire a leader who surrounds himself or herself with leaders. Not shy of dismissing non
leaders in VP positions. Holds all state employees accountable in their positions and not scared to fire non working state employees of all levels. No guts, no glory, no money.”

“Track record of inclusion/bipartisanship is essential. No more divisiveness”

“A blend of both the traditional and the modern - evenly balanced - just like the beautiful city.”

“Integrity”

“Must possess integrity, passion for academia, knowledge of the greater Charleston Community. Must be committed to research and innovation and keeping our tuition low to attract talent.”

“NOT politically controversial, respected within academia (likely requires higher education, i.e., JD, MD, PhD)”

“Someone who can be an attentive listener to all stakeholders but not one who can be pushed or bullied by the most vocal groups who often pursue non-mainstream ideals. Campuses today are being pushed far left and conservative speakers are often not allowed on campus or are shouted down. We need an environment that is open to dialogue from both sides so the students can learn to think for themselves.”

“Mix of both public and private sector experience. A leader not an appeaser! Someone who can fundraise, understands our unique history and has the ability to grow and promote its stature.”

“Diverse and/or woman, experience in public education, wide array of leadership experiences”

“Work experience within the education system. Leadership roles throughout their career. How they assess public education versus private education.”

“Non-political, impartial, transformative leadership skills”

“Accessible, open-minded, liberal arts background, works well with others”

“The next CofC president should be a philosophical thinker who will make moves to bring the college together and expand the school in new areas. He/she should be a risk taker and be willing to make moves in areas that no other president has made before. The college needs an innovative and motivated individual that brings big ideas and plans.”

“Significant higher education experience; student-focused attitude; strong communication skills”

“Experience, Knowledge and Academic Credentials, Approachable and Inclusive”

“Commitment to recruiting and retaining diverse students and faculty; Experience as a professor (best); Experience in academia (minimal)”

“someone who is personable to employees of all levels, PhD in any field, experience in any level of college administration”
“1. A diplomatic presence amongst numerous and diverse stakeholder audiences; 2. Relevant executive experience, preferably in an academic setting; 3. Experience leading a large, complex and diverse organization successfully through meaningful and substantial change”

"Personable and well-liked by current community they serve. "A local hero". We need someone very friendly and folksy in a town like Charleston!"

"The new President should possess excellent communication skills as well as the requisite background in running an organization of scale."

"Smart, accepting, non-political, independently wealthy, artistic"

"Someone who has vast experiences in higher education leadership and academia. Particularly someone who not only understands the nature of the classroom at a university, but also understands the unique and nuanced experience of leading students, faculty, staff."

"The next President should have academic credentials, teaching experience, effective public speaking abilities, as well as both wit and patience."

"broad intellectual credentials. demonstrated success in an academic field. proven leadership in a scholastic environment. solid fundraising ability, humility, humor."

"Liberal Arts College - key word, "LIBERAL"."

“Can bench press thrice his or her body weight.”

“Experience raising significant money and driving rankings.”

“Superlative and "in-spiriting" communicator ... which includes listening skills. Flexible intellectually and politically ... thinks outside the box because "the box" is changing. Knows how to take advantage of teachable moments - generally brought about through bad press! Keeps big picture in the forefront of all members of the community ... keeps constituent groups out of silos. Strategic thinker. Proof that he/she can bring people together. Experience managing a large organization (numbers of people and budget). Future oriented. Proven ability to fundraise at 7, 8 figure levels.”

“Should have served as a President before - not a Dean but actual President of a smaller institution or wanting to move from Private to Public University”

“Academic background, extensive involvement with liberal arts institutions, extensive and successful leadership experience in higher education”

“Integrity, Leadership, Courage, emotional intelligence, educational expertise.”

**What are the three most important responsibilities of a 21st-century university president?**
“Quality assurance is the first thing; you seek out someone who can fix areas of weakness, like student life; the Greek system needs to be looked at pretty seriously; we need to look at a candidate’s past and see how they have fixed things internally in their experience; they have to be a good salesman - we have to sell the College”

“Find a rainmaker - someone who can find the business and bring in new customers (same concept applies); visible and approachable (this alleviates a lot of other issues)”

“Strategic thinker; someone who clearly states where the university is going (something clear and concise); the academic world is changing, especially online, which is a challenge to traditional schools; someone who is looking out 10 to 15 years and positioning”

“honesty, a good grammarian, someone who speaks well”

“someone who can raise funds; someone with good contacts (prior to coming here); someone who likes challenges”

“a good manager, someone spends less time in the office, outwardly facing leadership; determination to get us there (wherever ‘there” is)”

“someone willing to run the social aspect of the job; someone willing to spend their weekends here”

“Diversity, Cultural Awareness, Openness to new ideas”

“Education, Fundraising, alignment with the College’s history”

“knowledge base of different types of students and their families, hiring professors that merely want to teach and not brainwash students and exposing students to all types of educations without judgment or opinion”

“Vision for the future, encouraging a vibrant school community and safeguarding the future success of the school.”

“Critical thinking, listening, and not being reactionary.”

“Good Communication Skills, Ability to Advocate, Vision to Build an Inclusive Environment”

“Diversify relationships, build relationships, and maintain relationships.”

“Fostering a diverse atmosphere, encouraging student learning/research, fundraising”

“Awareness and willingness to immediately address student life, as in their needs and barriers (i.e., tuition, lack of academic programs). Personality, as in presence on campus and events. Engagement, as in role model student spirit and get the kids out to basketball games, for example, to increase campus community.”
“To care about the students first, be able to raise the stature of the College academically and all around, and to be able to raise the necessary funds to get us where we need to be (a multiple of where we are today where local high schools have endowments more than 3x our size - truly alarming).”

“Presence and visibility, provide visionary leadership, support the faculty and student body.”

“internationally-minded, flexibility, integrity”

“Soliciting donations, recruiting world class talent (faculty, but even students), growing recognition of the university.”

“Raise money for CofC, Increase prestige/raise admissions standards, avoid ‘flavor of the week’ national debates/scandals”

“Understand the changing needs of faculty and students”

“Organizational skills and political skills not to diminish the Robo fundraising”

“Experience in the position. Experience in academia. Fundraising.”

“Fund raising, promotion of athletics, and maintaining a reasonable tuition”

“Students come first, the ability to truly listen and integrate change that will better the students and faculty.”

“Ability to promote, advance, and spread the college’s values”

“Lead with integrity, including not covering up ethical violations, e.g., sexual harassment by staff. Balance needs of institution, staff, and students to thrive. Honorable representation of the College to donors, state legislators, and other academic bodies.”

“Fundraising, raising the College’s profile, managing operations”

“fostering a welcoming environment for peoples of all backgrounds; encouraging academic freedom; providing opportunities for growth for students, faculty, and staff”

“1) Ensuring the university is offering the best education possible and looking out for the students who attend. 2) Fundraising and working with donors and the government, if applicable, to garner the best support possible for the school. 3) Expanding widespread appeal for the university by making visits, cultivating alumni relations and drawing new people into the school.”

“Keeping the College relevant and not letting it be lumped in with the extreme left as so many universities are now. Encouraging diversity without divisiveness. Ensuring that the College’s offerings align with the business world as it really is to best prepare students for life outside academia.”

“Progressive, inclusive, creative”
“fostering student academics, being a good role model, organized”

“Leading an inclusive campus community. CofC needs to walk their talk. Taking action to eliminate campus sexual assault by going beyond the rollbacks of DeVos. Supporting the culture of the college as a progressive institution in a conservative state.”

“Their students well-being, the quality of education being given to the students, access to things that a student may need”

“academic standards, endowment growth, good public relations”

“1. Educated; 2. Experienced in higher education; 3. Promote a diverse body of professors, students, and ideas.”

“fiscal responsibility, improve academic record & reputation, making the student experience the best it can be (from athletics, dorms, cafeteria & engagement)”

“Diversity, being open minded, understanding”

“Awareness of their community, student and faculty leader, intelligent”

“1. Publicly representing the college in a dignified way; 2. Ability to delegate responsibilities to trusted and qualified campus leaders; 3. Ability to fairly balance the needs and wants of staff, students, and faculty”

“Increasing Endowment via Alumni Engagement, Increasing CofC’s Academic Reputation, ROI on the Investment of Tuition”

“Be responsible for the organization and administration of the College.”

“Make policy recommendations to the Board on all matters that affect the College. Lend influence in the development of higher education programs in local, state and national committees and organizations.”

“Directing the college towards the future, keeping higher ed trends in mind when making decisions to balance both historical and innovative decisions, making sure the college has adequate funding for the future and to support more students in attending”

“creating a culture attractive to diverse student body and faculty”

“Innovation, inclusivity, responsibility”

“Raise funds, eliminate anti-American leftist tendencies in faculty, negotiate with politicians”

“Campus safety, support of different views, accessibility”
“Remember from where The College came to be, honor the heritage of the city, and respect all students and alumni. Focus on the core values of the liberal arts without the indoctrination of purely liberal social norms. Manage teaching staff to what is prudent to the course taught and not to what they personally think.”

“Budget management, ensuring meaningful courses, and community relations.”

“Honoring the past while recognizing the flaws and opportunities for change, academic excellence, providing an equal opportunity for education”

“Safety on Campus, Keeping up with academic growth of top universities in the nation, thoroughly vetting professors.”

“Expansion of tech programs and vocational oriented business and management programs.”

“Championing The College at all stages but also making sure we are an inclusive campus.”

“Focus on diversity/inclusion, fostering student growth, focus on sustainability of College’s work and its impact on the community. Attract and retain innovative and interdisciplinary thinkers.”


“Ensuring diversity, acceptance, and academic success of all students.”

“Defend academic freedom, increase diversity, keep the university funded/reduce debt”

“Retain the prestige of the college, promote its advancement in the academic community, connect graduates to opportunities in the larger non-academic world.”

“institution leadership, fundraising capability, educational background”

“Being progressive and forward-thinking in this time of increasing tension in even just a domestic fashion”

“1) A proven track record of success in higher education administration; 2) Ability to represent all students at the College; 3) Willingness to listen to and respond to students appropriately”

“To be honest, to have a vested interest in the future of higher education and to be an advocate for our College”

“Branding, growth, fiscal responsibility outside of state spending.”

“Fiscal responsibility, progressive vision for future, down to earth”

“to embrace change without losing identity, to have a prudent fiscal policy, to attract and inspire students”
“Affinity for technology, Open-mindedness towards people, and keeping the doors open.”

“1. providing vision and helping the College articulate its value proposition to remain relevant and keep robust enrollment 2. building relationships and trust with stakeholders, 3. Fundraising”

“Embracing Diversity (Unity), Experience and Hardworking”

“An understanding of online programs and the impact online learning has on an institution. A desire to hold on to traditions while leading the trail within technology. Providing students with a safe environment in which to live and learn.”

“involved on campus, recruit good professors with balance of conservative/liberal, budget focused”

“someone who can explain the importance of a liberal arts education and the importance of humanities to donors and legislatures that goes beyond marketing them as an influencer on STEM (i.e., STEAM)”

“1. Promotion of free thinking 2. Recognition of current problems and addressing them head on (i.e., take action one way or another on campus carry; sexual assault; diversity within the student body; etc.) 3. Supporting staff by enhancing tenure-track positions instead of adjunct and other junior positions”

“1. Diplomacy. The president should be capable of hearing and understanding various points of view and finding common ground from which to move forward. 2. Knowledge of cultural diversity and how this impacts individuals’ opportunities to pursue higher education and desired career paths. 3. Advocacy for the needs of the students, staff, and faculty.”

“Fundraising and “friendraising”, embody the university and its values, adept at managing and controlling a complex institution”

“A liberal arts education and the skills it produces are the best defense against having a robot take your job. 1) Preserve academic rigor and the liberal arts tradition. 2) Leverage technology to enhance (NOT REPLACE) the small, intimate classroom setting. 3) Grow our endowment.”

“Understanding what the students want (think millennial expectations), providing a safe and accepting environment, budget responsibility for future success”


“providing an equal opportunity for education; recognizing the past while moving education forward with innovation; creating a valuable, lifelong experience for students, faculty, staff, and alumni”

“Responsibility and accountability to the students, the hiring and keeping of the best staff/faculty and not playing party to politics.”

“To bring vision to the College. Give us the guidance to stay true to our liberal arts history and grow and remain relevant in the business world and global economy. Be a leader that everyone on campus can be proud of and our students will want to emulate.”
“Someone who understands the importance of a progressive collegiate campus, Someone who understands the importance of a diverse collegiate campus, and Someone who will put students and faculty before other stakeholders.”

“1. Being present - students and faculty should always have access to their president through various channels. 2. Secure funding for future buildings/renovations, technology, etc. 3. Preserving the culture and sound reputation of the College, yet continue to attract bright minds in students and faculty.”

“Ensure the students receive quality education that can set them up for meaningful employment following graduation. Ability to let individuals attend the College without undue pressure to act a certain way from the administration. Remember that you will never be able to please everyone.”

“Technology”

“Developing sustainable funding and revenue sources to keep tuition low; developing and maintaining academic program that train students for 21st-century life and careers, and creating a culture that embraces diversity and cross cultural interactions”

“1. High expectations for professors and students; 2. Increase access to college for diverse applications and student from low-income backgrounds; 3. Innovative partnership with student body”

“Embracing diversity, reflecting values, a stellar academic career”

“Not afraid to stand up to injustice or prejudice”

“Improving diversity, creating a welcoming and safe campus environment, improving academic quality of the university.”

“building on the successes of former president. Technological growth. Finding additional funding for state-of-the-art tools.”

“Academic development, expanded curriculum, alumni relations”

“1. Prepare a conscious, educated, and globally aware citizenship. 2. Produce career-ready graduates to support our local and global economy. 3. Support and elevate the voices of both students and educators within the system in decision making and setting policy that impact them.”

“Role model to students, development, alumni networking”

“First, to clarify and confirm, both internally and externally to the institution, the core values of higher education and of that institution (in so doing, being present to students, staff, faculty, and administrators). Second, to assess the gaps in meeting those core values and resources needed to fill the gaps. Third, to seek funds to provide the identified needed resources and to fiercely advocate for the institution and to educate external stakeholders.”

“Cultural awareness and competency, sensitive, a good listener.”
“Keeping every student top priority, not sitting in his office all day”

“Protect and enhance the quality of the CofC degree across all measures; secure funds, in a diminishing-resource environment, that contribute to the vitality of the College; be dialogic with all constituents. Avoid nest-feathering types; look for mission-committed actual liberal arts educators who have developed excellent administrative and leadership experience.”

“preparing engaged citizenry that are ready to take on the hard problems of today and tomorrow”

“Raising awareness of the school, attracting good faculty, and fundraising.”

“Value of authentic diversity of all kinds, empathy, energy to tackle the challenges facing The College”

“Guide the school toward the future, work to protect the institution and build and maintain the reputation of the College”

“Pushing the College to give back to the community. Developing students to give back to the community. Not politically outspoken or active.”

“Forward thinking/Technology minded/Financially Savvy”

“Free Speech, fairness in hearing all views, keeping university financially strong”

“Transparent, encouraging, forward thinking”

“Maintain a diverse faculty and staff (employ more marginalized individuals like veterans), ensure students and faculty are challenged by curriculum and conduct more outreach with the local communities.”

“vision, student service, lobbying”

“Connectivity with k-12 trends and partners, taking leading role in 21st-century skill set instruction, supporting innovative university programs - programmatic (within each school), academic (new 2-year degree, Masters, PhD programs), and financial (leveraging partnerships to make education more affordable)”

“1. Figure out how to arrest the growth of tuition. 2. Slash administrative bureaucracy in favor of promoting effective pedagogy. 3. Reform the academic tenure system, which protects unfit and incompetent faculty.”

“People, Environment, LOWERING TUITION”

“Maintain a diverse faculty and staff (employ more marginalized individuals like veterans), ensure students and faculty are challenged by curriculum and conduct more outreach with the local communities.”
“supporting diversity, engaging advocacy groups, supporting the growth of the college”

“Set high expectations, highly inclusive, professional development of staff”

“Be the face of the school, maintain relations on campus and promote diversity & acceptance while balancing the protection of free speech & exchange of ideas. Allow anyone to question & promote debate.”

“The three most important responsibilities of a 21st-century university president are the tasks of bringing together different interests on campus (students, faculty, staff, administration, alumni, etc.), increasing their university’s standing in its community and beyond, and creating a campus community that is positive, supportive, and accessible (especially financially) to students.”

“Fundraising, faculty hiring, and student life”

“Fundraising; admissions; external engagement (including alumni, parents and presence far beyond the region)”

“1. Listen to the students. 2. Place faculty and staff in place that really care and will push our students to the best of their ability. 3. Be passionate about positive changes to our school.”

“1 Refining our course offerings/majors, 2 the courage to make positive changes and 3 visibility with a constant emphasis on fundraising”

“1. To intact and uphold policies and initiatives that will ensure that The College not only remains a great school, but continues to improve year to year. 2. To serve as a representative of all The College’s stakeholders. 3. To ensure the stability, both financially and academically, of The College.”

“Finances, Leadership, Thinking outside the box”

“Acknowledgment and ability to navigate the increasing prohibitive cost of higher education, foster and support a diverse and inclusive learning atmosphere/environment, and protection of the university to remain a place of open & free exchange of ideas/opinions w/out encouraging divisive behavior”

“Excellent interpersonal skills; serious interest in getting to know the college’s students; having an accurate feel for the opinions and issues that matter to the students”

“Changes and decisions be made with current and future students being the priority, maintain open communication and transparency with colleagues and staff, operating of college”

“Keep the students and faculty happy, Keep the College financially viable, push projects and policies that are in the college's best interest.”

“Creating a safe and welcoming place to foster Diversity, the responsibility for preparing students for the global economy, and creating an environment that promotes innovation”
“Ability to be unbiased, understands technology of today/up on the times, addresses issues of livability”

“Keeping finances on track, ensuring quality academics, and preparing young adults for the realities of life beyond college.”

“Rankings, reputation, and relationships.”

“Someone who fosters diversity, science and the arts.”

“Knowledge of the latest education technologies, vision for academic programs for the future, ability to relate to young people”

“Responsible stewardship of resources (neither hoard or exhaust); develop and foster relevant, progressive educational programs; community/alumni outreach and engagement.”

“The ability to set a vision for the institution and deliver steady progress towards it, the ability to raise funds when state money remains scarce, and the ability to cut through the noise to gain positive regional and national attention for the institution.”

“Network for Student opportunities, foster better alumni and donor relations, represent as the public face”

“Protecting instate students: the College is a South Carolina school and as such should make sure the College does not devalue them for more tuition money; Protecting academic freedom: the college has to be a place where people are challenged and can broach difficult subjects while doing so in an educational and growthful manner; Economically making sure the College does not get involved in bad deals that can hurt the financial state of the College and as a result, the programs that could be offered.”

“Cultivating the school community, building the next generation of thought leaders, allowing the arts to flourish”

“Innovation, financial accountability, tradition”

“Visible, compassionate, innovative”

“To be top of the line and have fresh new ideas.”

“1) Financial stability 2) increase academic prestige 3) foster good community relations”

“Developing curriculum and faculty; leading the city and region in social justice issues; maintaining a sound financial base”

“Expanding diversity, fundraising, making college more affordable”
“Above all, I think a huge responsibility is being the face of the college. They will be representing everything the students, faculty, staff, and alumni stand for. Leading the college in the right direction at all times and making tough decisions is another broad responsibility. To be honest I don't know what the president does on a day to day basis but being available and ready for any and all challenges that face the presidents office and the entire university is important.”

“Growing the prestige of the college, while maintaining the historical values and natural beauty of the campus.”

“Finances, Leadership, Thinking outside the box”

“Continue to push the liberal arts education and recognize the importance of well-rounded, aware humans. Reduce CofC's carbon footprint and reduce waste. Foster a more ethnically diverse student body.”

“To be a progressive leader for change, to champion the goals of the College, and to usher the College into a new era.”

“Stewardship, Ethical Advancement and Leadership”

“Ability to represent the college in a positive light, advancing student and faculty achievement, dedication to quality education and outcomes over expansion.”

“Fostering an environment in which rising generations learn to be thoughtful, think critically, and engage as responsible citizens of the world”

“1) Maintain high academic standards; 2) Insure that all students and faculty and support staff are treated with utmost respect. 3) Insure that the College is a positive force in the community.”

“Setting the code/morality for the school, concern for future financial success of school, and vision for future relevance of school”

“Protecting diversity and fostering its growth, encouraging students and alumni to participate as equal stakeholders of the College, and performing research to identify areas of inequity on campus and working to correct it (i.e., pay inequity and discrimination).”

“1. Make the college affordable and accessible for all qualified students. 2. Make sure the college does not compromise its academic integrity, and that students are given a well-rounded liberal arts education. 3. Be inclusive. Encourage and celebrate the diversity of the students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the neighboring community.”

“Making sure the university/college is financially sound and fiscally responsible, making sure the university/college is diverse in staff, enrollment, etc., and having a clear vision for where the institution should go”

“1. Effective oversight of institutional funding and priorities, as well as a strong working knowledge of all of the facets of CofC hierarchy; 2. Engagement with students, faculty, staff, and the outside
community – especially those in the outside community who can impact policy; 3. A commitment to raising the overall profile of the college and its programs by supporting its existing academic strengths and pointing out areas for growth where appropriate”

“listens to minority student voices, makes an effort to diversify faculty, and prioritizes teaching by paying all faculty a living wage”

“Strategic planning, fundraising, marketable and proficient in personal branding (i.e., USC Columbia President)”

“Fostering a strong research institution, supporting diverse students, fiscal responsibility”

“Funding, budgeting, smart allocation for future projects.”

“Focus on students and preparing them for the real world after graduation. They need to take a realistic and practical approach to higher education with today’s generation. This will allow them to be credible, respected and will ultimately lead them to success in their role.”

“1. Maintaining or growing student enrollment without exorbitant increases in tuition. 2. Growing the faculty, in terms of both numbers and prestige; paying them competitively. 3. Maintaining good relations with donors and the board of trustees without letting them run the institution academically or athletically.”

“Leading an institution of excellence and integrity, student success, fundraising”

“Entrepreneurial, visionary, provide genuine leadership to faculty/staff”

“Adhere to the needs of the student body, support change, be welcoming and inclusive of all”

“Responsible steward of the institution.”

“Maintaining or improving academic reputation; Maintaining and improving facilities; Maintaining fiscal responsibility”

“Able to keep up with and encourage the rapidly evolving social landscape that young people find themselves landing in; to inspire and advise; to set a good example not only for the student body, but for other universities throughout the region and the country”

“Able to achieve a PhD program, able to attract billions of dollars.”

“Keeping costs down, promoting sports at the national level more, become more selective in student SAT and GPA.”

“Cultural, Fiscal, Technological.”
“They need to embrace technology and be open-minded, knowledgeable about the competition and what other schools are offering, and should be an expert communicator (knows how to communicate appropriately with all different kinds of audiences).”

“Responds positively to change/innovation, open and effectively communicate, and respond/listen to feedback from staff, alumnus, students, and the Charleston community.”

“1) To Provide an insightful, sensitive, rewarding educational experience for multiple users and user groups; 2) The maintain and have the ability to navigate and lead through climates of uncertainty and change (regarding the US and governmental policies); 3) Understanding the financial needs of the underserved / underprivileged / and under-represented and having a mindset an willingness to help specifically these groups.”

“Creating a safe, inclusive environment for all students to feel comfortable learning; overseeing forward-thinking and innovative curriculum; ensuring that the school is set up for success not just today but in the future.”

“Making school MORE accessible (by lowering tuition dramatically)”

“Preparing alternatives to/addressing the modern economic system (neoliberalism) through the development of students”

“Opening up the administration to significantly more meaningful direct student input”

“Reduce burden of administrative overhead, prepare students for the real world, and hold the highest standard for nurturing analytical cognitive abilities”

“Fiscal responsibility, cultural awareness and diplomacy”

“1) To provide students with the critical thinking skills to evaluate and use any type of information; 2) To promote a love of broad, lifelong learning and curiosity; 3) To expose students to cultures, traditions, literatures, arts, histories, and perspectives that are not their own.”

“Recognizes history rather than tries to erase it, is a proud member of our community, and someone who the students and alumni are proud to call our President.”

“Accessibility, Integrity, Transparency”

“To represent the university and its values in various settings, cultures and locations; to lead the staff in embracing constant improvement of education methods and resources; to be compassionate but methodical when dealing with students, student groups, instructors, and vendors.”

“Fiscal responsibility, alumni development, research development”

“A 21st-century university president does more than manage, they emphatically lead. The next president needs to sympathize and be fully aware of issues that plague the modern campus, let alone CofC: sexual assault, mounting student debt, students with no money for food, homelessness, etc.
CofC needs a leader who doesn’t shut people out or abate the full potential of campus faculty and staff, someone who actively listens and GETS it.”

“1) Ability to raise money. 2) Increase/Improve CofC’s academic standing/reputation on the National/International stage. 3) Attract, compensate and retain top level educational, coaching, and administrative personnel.”

“The three most important responsibilities are keeping education affordable in a climate where rising tuition costs are a large issue, excellent fundraising skills to go along with that idea, and the ability to recruit a diverse student population when working with the director of admissions.”

“Comfort with technology, familiarity with student life, ability to bridge divides among both students and faculty.”

“Safety of students, A leader who can make tough decisions in a kind but firm manner. A leader who can communicate and direct all levels of leaders. Cleaning house of the old comfortable guard from top to bottom. Who understands quality management processes.”

“Transparency”

“Respect for the past, realistic goals and expectations, a commitment to the long-term; the College is a four-century institution: we need someone who is respectful of who we were, are and will be. Short-term candidates or those with flashy plans just trying to stand out and mark their mark should be avoided.”

“Fiscally responsible, marketing savvy, multi-platform approach”

“Increasing diversity, keeping tuition low, attracting innovation”

“Willingness to enact change, Embraces what makes CofC unique (public, affordable, liberal arts tradition, undergraduate focus)”

“To lead the college through our 250th anniversary and to increase philanthropy and the college’s standing and status in our peer group.”

“Leadership, Strength & Socially Connected”

“Ability to lead diversity/inclusion efforts, how they effectively respond to challenges the school may face, create a vision for the future of the school to ensure its success”

“The ability to implement technology to help students and faculty. Add on new curriculum to prepare students for new job industries. Checks and balances with the operating budget to fund the college.”

“Change-agent, Strategy-driven, Has best interests of all students and faculty”

“Recruiting the best faculty and staff; working to keep the College on the cutting edge of desirable degrees; being fiscally responsible”
“1. Making sure the current programs around the school are running smoothly and efficiently. 2. Innovating and developing new plans for the college to expand into. 3. Plan out and approve the college’s spending and budget.”

“Position the university to foster holistic student development; foster diversity of the student population; guide the university towards continual fulfillment of its mission and values”

“Total Inclusivity, Vision, and an Appreciation for Change”

“1) Fostering challenging and supportive intellectual environment for students to learn and be exposed to avenues of thought and study they may not otherwise have the opportunity to learn about; 2) Making professors feel supported in their academic pursuits and research while encouraging service and mentorship outside the classroom (Revise your FAR to value service professors are already providing gratis!); 3) Reinforcing a reciprocal relationship within the city/community in order to bring down the town-vs-gown polarity, maintain accreditation, keep students safe, be prepared for jobs trends”

“1. Bring a rational, data driven, results-oriented approach to programming in the academy 2. Focus programming on those topics and subjects, which are in demand (where the salary prospects warrant the degree) in current and future employment prospects of our graduates 3. Deliver the relevant programming (see #2) in a cost-efficient manner such that the cost of a 4-year degree (tuition, fees, housing, food) is made rational by the post-degree income prospects of the graduates”

“ Someone who can lead by graduating students with the following accomplishments: leadership/honesty/integrity/ethics, cutting-edge forward thinking disciplines, and with common-sense, mature, “able to handle the real world” manners and behaviors.”

“Vision - Collaboration - Relevance”

“Set intellectual tone, faculty recruitment, fund raising”

“1) Creating a culture that is accepting of all opinions on campus regardless of political view or background, while respecting inherent values rooted in human dignity 2) Leading the university to be a trailblazer in adopting and adapting to changing technologies and ideologies that would place the university at the forefront of academia nationally and globally 3) Ensuring that donors are honored in their gift giving, but not unequivocally making decisions that impact students and faculty without proper vetting.”

“First, commitment to the students, then to the faculty, and third, fund-raising”

“viability of the institution, promoting academic excellence, making sure students are learning something”

“Academic Excellence, Campus Community Relations, Gender and Race Awareness”

“Speed, dexterity, and luck”
“fundraising, rankings and getting better students”

“Managing Change, expanding funding sources, strategic thinking”

“1. Admissions Quality - specifically recruitment of out of state students 2. Ability to raise funds for the institution beyond our state boundary 3. Ability to know what majors/programs to invest in and willingness to cut majors/programs that are no longer relevant to today's economy/world”

“Provide a vision for the future of the College, provide the necessary leadership to move successfully towards that goal, and to support the faculty and staff to such an extent that moral is high and they embrace this vision.”

“Campus Leadership and institutional courage to Do The Right Thing despite pressure from constituents, community and faculty.”

**How would you measure the success of a president at the College?**

“Residence halls – addressing those issues; those are real capital costs; has this administration generated a plan to address them; someone willing to dig in deep and set that plan in motion; interacting with state government, finding donors”

“Travel is high on that list; visibility and getting out with alumni groups, whether Florence, Greenville or New York”

“See a demonstrated track record of success; need an extrovert, a salesperson, a track record for getting out; how did they put a plan together, execute it and led to success”

“Two types of people: salesman and bean-counters; either one is fine as long as they can show expertise and success in the other area; we are looking for someone who embodies that idea; someone who is an alum, someone who understands the power of technology and its effect on education; institutions like this must lead the technology advance and become aligned with the Digital Corridor”

“Fundraising should be a criteria but should not be the only measure of success; also look at where they were fundraising; we need someone who will build a strategic vision - the very act of having that will bring investors to the table”

“Learning on the job is a longer runway in order to take off; universities are peculiar”

“Engagement of former donors that have fallen off the list; reengagement of alumni who have fallen off the list; or other constituent groups”

“Our process is important; our due diligence is huge; know who this person is - what they have done, what their life is”
“Cast the biggest net we can; get the largest opportunity to get the best person for the job; we need a really good search company”

“Fundraising & image improvement”

“Better rankings in academic journals; better SAT scores, highly qualified applicants, no campus unrest”

“increase in applications of all types of students, how successful they are in getting jobs, and the different types of jobs they get”

“Student achievement and academic and social well being of the entire school community.”

“His or her ability to implement educational and social progress that aids students and faculty of the college.”

“Faculty who are national recognized and students who are admitted to additional degree programs at highly ranked institutions”

“Is she getting world-class professors?”

“Do various college rating systems indicate that the school prepares students well for life after college”

“Increased masters and doctorate programs; new campus facilities at the downtown campus; increased endowment. “

“Increased awareness, recognition and accolades for the College across the board and a major and significant increase to the total endowment amount. “

“Academic prestige. “

“Commitment to diversity and progress”

“Increased endowment, growth in competition for faculty positions, increasing research funding”

“increased number of applicants, less admitted, increase in endowment”

“Raise the visibility of the College as a premier higher education provider”

“The success of our students, the success of our faculty, financial stability and did he win the popular opinion poll”

“That the college grows in terms of national and international reputation”

“A return of the basketball team to Kresse-era status, reasonable tuition, elevated visibility for the school outside of SC”
“If the students and faculty respect and like them”

“Tangible metrics like raised admission standards and funding intake, as well as intangible metrics like student happiness and quality of student life”

“Scandal-free (does not necessarily need to be controversy-free). Positive trends of applicants for admission and for working at the College. Obtaining funds for institutional support”

“Raises a ton of money, raises the College’s profile”

“graduation rates for undergraduates and graduate students, funding and publishing rates for departments, and fulfilment of important higher education positions (e.g., dean of graduate studies, provost)”

“If the admissions numbers (scores, numbers of applications, GPA) goes up. If the fundraising numbers increase. If alumni donate more to the school”

“Increased academic performance, overall satisfaction rate of students, representative of a more diverse student body”

“Student achievement and retention, faculty and student satisfaction, strong alumni groups”

“I would say how the students under their presidency views them. It may not seem that the student or alumni knows much about what the president does, but we are aware and each have experiences. I think the presidents are also measured by how the college flourishes. How much has it grown, how much has it changed in a positive direction, is the college fitting the students needs?”

“endowment growth, reputation in higher-education area, especially liberal arts”

“How much does the President interact with the campus, its staff, its faculty, and its alumni? How involved in the Charleston community is the President? How does the President support College of Charleston’s mission and growth in a sustainable, responsible manner?”

“If the students don’t protest their coming”

“The ability to create and cultivate a scholastic environment where students are able to learn, create, and be themselves without fear”

“Job placement statistics and innovative student programming and opportunities”

“Endowment, Academic Ranking, Lowered Acceptance Rates with better scores/grades”

“Elevating the CofC brand in a positive light throughout the United States. Making CofC well known positively.”

“maintaining humanities and arts programming and departments, engaging alum and communities to offer opportunities to graduates, and strategically positioning the college in the higher ed field”
“increase in diverse student body with focus on SC students”

“Length of tenure”

“Unity that is well balanced and not too left or too right; socially, morally, or politically. This will be the saving grace of The College enabling it to stand out above other institutions”

“Spends within budget constraints, and enhances the reputation”

“His plans/point of focus for the future”

“Our last president has been a great example of the amount a person can change. The main concern has always been the students experience so any one will to advocate for them will be successful”

“If attendance of diversity students rose, if the perception of our college rose positively, and if the value of the education rose”

“Whether they are able to bring the campus together and advance the College’s profile both academically and institutionally. Some markers of success during McConnell’s turn at the helm were the change in logo/branding for the College, the conversion of Towell to the alumni welcome center, thereby fostering a greater connection with alumni, as well as the ambitious but successful Boundless campaign for College improvements and scholarships”

“Graduation rates. Money raised. Student and faculty satisfaction scores”

“Upholds values of the College; fewer multi-million dollar expenditures (e.g., building) to the detriment of faculty and staff pay and student success and diversity initiatives”

“Student Graduation Rates, Speed of Post-Graduate Employment Success, Number of New Academic Program Connections to other Academic Ventures”

“Does the school’s reputation, alumni involvement and endowment grow while meeting the needs of the current student population. Does the school community respect the person?”

“All groups represented by the President approving of the job he/she is doing”

“Increasing the presence of the College on the national level”

“Steady/increased enrollment, regional and/or national recognition of programs, a safe campus with low crime, infrequent bad press”

“Growth of endowment, increase in ranking, quality of education, reputation”

“Growth and student success”

“the president restores the College’s good national reputation”
“If the school has newer facilities, more established professors and graduates with higher employment than when said president began”

“enrollment management, fundraising, fiscal health”

“By the enrollment and the vibes of the campus. If the president is successful, the students will be happy and the atmosphere on campus will be lovely”

“His/her rapport with students, staff and faculty (in that order). His/her willingness to be visible and engage with students outside of university meetings. His/her willingness to give time and talents with alumni.”

“College is always improving itself both locally and nationally”

“if they are able to improve the academic standing of the institution and have the support and respect of students, faculty, and staff”

“Financial health of the institution; emotional health of the students, staff, and faculty; graduation rates/retention; recruiting a diverse student body to the college”

“Raising CofC academic profile and increasing the endowment”

“Academic rankings. Endowment size”

“Student engagement, donor engagement and budget”

“Maintaining and improving the College's reputation as a first-class educational institution”

“creates a campus that is welcoming, provides community and top education”

“The happiness and involvement of students, not simply national rankings (although those are nice)”

“Growth of endowment, improved retention of students, improved recruitment and retention of minority students”

“Rate of retention of the student body compared over 4 years (how many freshmen entered with CofC and how many graduated at CofC)”

“1. The opinions of the faculty and students. 2. Increase in enrollment applications 3. Increase in money coming in through donors or grants 4. High employee retention”

“Increased employment following graduation and ability of students to handle themselves without constant involvement from the administration”

“National standing (not regional)”
“Maintaining tuition costs; increases cross cultural interactions, improved campus climate around diversity and success of alumni”

“Quality of student experience as measured by student satisfaction with education and job placement”

“being embraced by the faculty, students, alumni and community”

“How well their public values match their actions and the values of the students/faculty”

“Improves diversity, hires professors from a wide array of backgrounds, improves the college’s academic standing and merit”

“building community. Is the community connected and growing?”

“The academic and citizenship quality of the graduates during that President’s tenure”

“Maintaining a sense of tradition without being held back by it. Producing world-class candidates in a variety of fields. Supporting educators to produce research of national renown. Continuing to support the value of the diploma alumni have earned.”

“Student, faculty and alumni approval ratings”

“Increased endowment to support faculty and students. Increased partnerships with SC business. Increased research productivity at the department level, including the number of undergraduate students engaged in research (every student should be expected and required to engage in research). Increased number of student national and international recognitions. Increased sense of well-being and pride for The College among all on campus.”

“Will they foster a space in which students can explore their differences, communicate freely, and really work to make a difference in the world?”

“Making it known worldwide through every major and aspect of learning. People coming to us asking for jobs.”

“College ranking (using multiple measures, not just the visible Princeton or US News etc. etc.). Number of faculty attracted and retained, grants received across units, alumni satisfaction; growth of its endowment; measure number and quality of dialogic interactions with constituents”

“graduation/retention rates; scholarships provided; employment or acceptance into a graduate program after graduation; not being in the news for stupid things, like protecting abusive faculty (i.e., Harvard)”

“If the College continues to grow, and reputation and name recognition continues to grow”

“Student/faculty surveys, achieving goals on a reasonable, yet expedited, timeline, support from students, increase in perceived value on CofC experience”
“Offerings at the College, Student quality and accomplishment, Reputation of the College”

“How the College develops, and the type of activities in which alumni partake. (Selfish vs Selfless)”

“Student Enrollment/Community support /if the students are able to find jobs and be successful”

“forward thinking about college expansion to meet the educational needs of our society”

“Student dialogue, educational program improvement, facilities plans”

“Determine if the College is helping the students’ professional needs and other outcomes after they graduate, or hurting them. When I attended from 2009 to 2012, my academic advisor was not able to clearly communicate goals and objectives to me”

“increase in academic reputation, increase in state appropriations”

“Maintaining small campus feel, embracing diversity and pushing College in this area, and simply - whether or not he/she shows up to events hosted by students and departments”

“Tuition growth, the employment and average earnings of CofC alumni compared with students from peer institutions”

“If tuition is lowered, and environmental impact is lessened”

“public perception, representation of student/alumni interests, not just following old ways just because they’re tradition”

“developmental goals met, student success”

“Relations with staff & students, ability to lead in a way that people want to follow (not be forced to follow). Humor is key.”

“There are many metrics that could be used to assess a president’s tenure at the College. Climate surveys on the views of students, faculty, and staff are important in this process – they provide a picture of the campus culture as students and others experience it. Another important metric would be fundraising, and particularly how those funds are used (student scholarships, new campus facilities, etc.). The hiring and retention of faculty is also important to consider. If faculty are leaving the College for other opportunities, that may point to areas that need to be improved. The ability to increase full-time, tenure-track faculty should also be considered, as it speaks to a commitment to ensuring the best learning environment for students.”

“ability to create a new order of management”

“If they are respected by others, willing to work with all types of people, if they are have made some type of positive change to the atmosphere at the College”
“1. financial success while maintaining reasonable tuition, 2. exceeding enrollment goals in all categories 3. exceeding fundraising goals across the board 4. constant visibility statewide”

“Quality of faculty, accomplishments of alumni, improvements in technology/facilities/course offerings, awards, the happiness and preparedness of current students, and the perception of The College to outsiders”

“Neutrality!”

“Increase in campus diversity and increase in endowment funds”

“How well they are regarding by the student body as a whole; how financially responsible/solvent the college is under their leadership”

“Student’s overall happiness, experience and experience with all aspects of student and academic life at CofC, retention of valued faculty and staff (happiness and experience contribute to student’s experience), student’s recognition of President and knowing changes and decision s/he made to positively impact students, staff and faculty and knowing why decisions were made, student staff faculty and alumni support of president”

“no scandals and the students/faculty are happy”

“Ability to get things done”

“Class sizes; focus on quality of student-professor interaction rather than professor publications or students being pressured to be ‘the best’ (versus doing their best); fewer moments of severe stress about whether or not the College can pay bills”

“Here are three: 1) The College’s endowment/annual development goals increase to a respectable size for an institution of its age, size, and distinction; 2) We move up on the most important rankings lists; and 3) Our acceptance rate decreases”

“By whether or not it also uplifts the community is adjacent to and not just the students that attend. By how many teachers it produces, particularly in this age of teacher shortages”

“Graduation rates and employment rates”

“Growth of the student body and expansion of academic programs while simultaneously maintaining the small school/family feel”

“Demonstrable progress in advancing the institution, the quality of the faculty and graduates”

“When they want to leave … will you ask them to stay longer?”

“Its perception in the community. Its test scores need to improve, its endowment needs to improve, the College needs to continue to rival Clemson and USC for educational prominence in the state”
“If they leave the college better than they found it”

“Fiscal responsibility, innovation, protection of the history of the college”

“Increase in diversity, relevant curriculum, inclusive and welcoming, collaborative, being real and preparing students for the future”

“Happy campus, successful sports, pioneering improvement of buildings”

“1) Steady enrollment 2) again, financial stability 3) successful graduates”

“Student acceptance rate into graduate programs, student acceptance rate into employment, College visibility for leadership”

“I think you have to look at the students and faculty for the answer to that question. How happy and/or satisfied have they been while in school or while working at CofC? I also think taking a look at what has the president actually done while in office. Have they started any new programs, have they inspired and encouraged hard work while in office, have they made the student body and their staff feel good about where they go to school and where they work? I know money is an important factor that everyone else looks at but I roll my eyes at that. Money is helpful but it is not what you remember about your college experience and it is certainly not what makes CofC what it is.”

“Keeping teacher to student ratios low and building on academics and athletic successes”

“Increased job placement after graduation, lowering tuition rates for out of state students, involved with the community, relatable to students and leads by example”

“Increasing minority enrollment, adding new majors/minors, increasing number of students who graduate and immediately go on to further post-undergrad education”

“Student and alumni approval”

“Student and staff retention, graduate employment (or advanced degree) statistics, student and faculty QOL opinion surveys”

“Institutional reputation, student engagement, caliber of admitted students”

“1) A campus that is as crime-free as possible (0 would be ideal); 2) A graduation rate of at least 90% of entering Freshmen, thought not necessarily within 4 years. Some might take an extra year or two for various reasons.”

“Size of financial endowment, college ranking, admission statistics, faculty awards or publications of faculty articles”

“1. Student, faculty, staff, and alumni satisfaction surveys. Do people feel engaged with the college? Do they see problems and issues that the administration hasn’t addressed? 2. Looking at the budget.”
Is the college financially solvent? Is tuition affordable? Are departments and the library being funded as they should be?

“Competitiveness of the programs, diversity of the faculty and staff, and some objective ranking standards”

“1. Increase in the profile of the college at the state and national level, especially through academic means; 2. Strong improvement in the level of faculty, staff, and student support and morale, particularly those students in marginalized populations (people of color, LGBTQ+, religious minorities, etc.); 3. Securing support for new programs, higher salaries, and more financial aid through engagement with policymakers”

“increase in minority, low income, and first-generation student matriculation, graduation, and job placement rates”

“Brand awareness, scholarships/funding generated, enrollment goals attained”

“Post-graduation occupational success”

“Health of the college’s budget and steady or natural growth to the student population”

“School Spirit, Pride, Diverse Community, Impact on Community (State and Country), Alumni Population, Future Careers”

“A long tenure characterized by growth; new initiatives that support the College’s mission without undermining the foundations and legacy that already exist; faculty who are productive and content; students who are successful in their collegiate and post-collegiate endeavors”

“Graduation rate, enrollment numbers alumni engagement”

“Value of diploma increasing (measured in part by how selective the university can be to fill its classrooms), health of the endowment, campus expanding its presence on the peninsula, improving athletics (quality and breadth)”

“Student and faculty review”

“Application & endowment growth. Faculty & student retention”

“Minimizes bad publicity and at least maintains the school’s reputation”

“Legacy and reputation; how will the be remembered by those who their changes affected and those they came into contact with during their tenure?”

“PhD programs and money”

“The overall graduation rate, accreditation level, sports, and employment/rate of pay after graduation”
“If they can drum up excitement in alumni, encourage alumni to give, be a spokesperson for the greater Charleston community and the College”

“Fiscal responsibility, balanced points of view with free speech allowed but not P.C., seeking input from all sides”

“It would be important to look at qualitative as well as quantitative forms of measurement, including the average GPA of graduating classes (whether it goes up or down), the percentage of graduates, diversity of class offerings, new buildings/facilities, percentage of graduates that have jobs after graduation, etc. I would also be curious to look at the total number of applicants and whether that goes up or down after the new president takes office”

“Continue to grow the brand and reputation of CofC”

“Our ability to lead Liberal Arts’ colleges - top college/university lists as well as increased student appetite for attendance and a strong ratio of completing graduates to entering freshman (meaning a high ratio complete all four years)”

“Graduation rates, application rates and yield rates, student satisfaction, diversity #s (international, gender, race, etc), good v. bad press, retention of top faculty and attraction of world class faculty”

“Net increase in 1st year salary out of college from CofC”

“The faculty's contentment, the students' career opportunities and the community's involvement”

“I would look at whether students who leave the College continue to learn on their own, whether they are able to adapt to the world (rather than being prepared for just one "career"), and whether they are able to critically evaluate information. I would also look at whether alumni send their children there”

“Doesn’t succumb to societal pressure, retains the College’s historical importance, and doesn’t let growth affect the campus negatively.”

“Increased graduation and employment rates, faculty that are engaged and their talents utilized and having the College give back to the greater Charleston community”

“The vital measures should be the successes of its graduates, the value of its diploma in the business and graduate school communities, and the reputation of the school in its student and staffing target markets”

“Academic reputation along with athletic reputation increases”

“I would fully appreciate a president who can do more for students who want to fulfill a four-year degree but are financially limited and have a high risk of not acquiring a bachelor's degree because of their fiscal limitations”

“How well he/she meets the challenges of the above”
“Her or his ability to raise a substantial amount of money for the College”

“Increased funding/opportunities for students/student programs, scandal-free administration”

“Increase in graduation rate, increase in revenue, decrease of crime on campus. Helping professors & employees to understand the college is a business and the students and their parents are the customers. Understanding the Ritz Carlton customer service approach as an example. Take steps towards achieving the Balridge Award.”

“1) Respect and honor the college and her traditions 2) Increase the endowment 3) Create true innovation without gimmicks”

“Continue stability and grow the College”

“Matriculation rates and graduation rates, good press”

“Alumni career outcomes, faculty departures to higher ranked universities (rather than equivalent or lower-ranked universities)”

“Increasing enrollment and graduation rates of our students”

“Meeting the objectives of set goals”

“Financial growth, change in demographics, initiatives created”

“How he/she interact with the students. Open minded for diversity in certain departments”

“Happiness of the students, alumni, and faculty”

“alumni and parent giving; attendance at events; Out of state applications”

“The president could be determined successful by publishing his/her set objectives for the year and then accomplishing them each year. The student body and faculty need to have relationships with the president so that he is known and liked by the college”

“Positive student feedback; expanded diversity in student, faculty, and staff populations; higher persistence and graduation rates”

“Student Retention and Graduation Rates, Faculty Engagement and Retention, Community Engagement and Outreach (Local, National and International), Enrollment and High Accreditation Scores/Outcomes”

“Does the faculty support the appointment? Are they consulted about major direction shifts/responses by the College? One year after appointment, how diverse is the incoming class? Are academic offerings growing and/or evolving, or are they shrinking and being frozen into certain formations under the banner of administrative ease? Are community members in the city as a whole proud to have the College as a neighbor?”
“increase in # of graduates, % graduates who find jobs or enroll in higher degree programs; lower campus crime rate”

“The President's success could be measured by a combination of figures: 1. The rate at which cost of college (tuition, fees, housing, food) rises (or decreases) - independently, as well as relative to a key peer group; 2. The $ and % value of the amount of funds the college receives (all sources) as compared to the amount of funds the college spends (all needs) - independently, as well as relative to a key peer group; 3. The # and % of our graduates who are gainfully employed in their field of study, within 1 year of graduation”

**How can the next president best help increase philanthropy, foster more donor stewardship and grow alumni engagement?**

“Listen to the community”

“Support the history of the College”

“listen to all”

“Listening to the students and faculty regarding their wishes and challenges and taking action to ease these issues. As well as work to implement programs that give students the best education possible”

“Make themselves a fixture at events and have an open door policy”

“Support professors”

“Make strategic hires to ensure that the college makes positive growth”

“Stay around! We need investment, but what we keep getting is presidents that stick around for 5 years tops. Invest in us.”

“Raising the necessary funds to fund all the programs we should to be a top College in the South East and Country and by making sure students have what they need to succeed”

“Increasing academic standing”

“By taking the role of the public face of the university and leaving other roles to those who specialize in it.”

“downplaying hot-button political issues, raising money for the school”

“Listening to the needs of the campus community”

“By making sure our voices are heard at the Statehouse and providing financial stability through fundraising”
“By making inclusive decision-making a priority”

“Be visible”

“Focus on the retention rates for minority students and providing programs and procedures to make them want to stay”

“By listening”

“Listen first, then lead”

“Raise the College’s profile”

“Bring in funds to provide new educational and research opportunities for students and faculty”

“Work with the government to ensure funding. Work with alumni to come back to campus often and financially support the school/scholarships/programs. Be a face on campus – get to know students names, visit classes to give lectures, drop in on club meetings or sports practices. Make it known to the students that you are here for them and their home – the College.”

“Not catering to pressure to conform to a certain persona”

“Promote more campus community events, promote diversity and inclusion”

“be visible and enthusiastic”

“Actively listen and engage with campus groups who represent minorities”

“This question is mostly answered in the first section. The next president should give more awareness to campus safety, higher punishments for students that hurt other students, and more availability to students seeking help. I would say keep the hiring the same though, because the professors are the best thing about CofC. I never had a bad one and they all grew my love for education. It would be nice if there were more things for alumni of the college. So maybe if there were a greater sense of community, that would be nice”

“ensure technology is current – IT, web infrastructure”

“Less focus on money, more on quality and inclusion”

“Continue to expand on what President Benson and McConnell have started & work with local government/Business owners to help support our cause”

“Lgbt inclusive”

“Listening and supporting within the CofC community and the local community to create a mutually beneficial setting”
“Creating opportunities for personal and professional growth for students”

“Be Involved in Campus life”

“Making life on campus a place where all students can thrive”

“provide leadership and innovation in education”

“Be visible and participate in as many events as possible. The president should have the image of being of service to the CofC community”

“Personification of traditions of the College”

“Halt the physical expansion of The College and let the course offerings and degrees be the defining role for awhile. Stop building and buying for about 15 years. Use monies to enhance the current departments with ever changing technology and research”

“Define attainable guidelines”

“act as a engaging and recognizable figurehead for a new kind of southern college, that honors its traditions but also recognizes the injustices of the past”

“Providing CofC with opportunities to make us a strong academic establishment (especially in the “liberal arts”)”

“Being present and involved as much as our last president has been”

“By being vocal and speaking out about issues facing our students and faculty and not hide behind a good ole boy mindset”

“Continue to engage with the alumni community, foster a safe, challenging, and productive environment for students”

“Listen and be available”

“The next president should support diversity and anti-harassment/anti-discrimination initiatives, especially at this volatile time; she should provide more financial support to faculty and staff (e.g., increased/living wages, better benefits); she should encourage students to (continue to) take a wide range of classes; and she should increase long-term community engagement (and not only with wealthy Charleston residents)”

“By developing out programs that cater to the improvement and safety of student life, directed towards their ability to safely graduate from CofC”

“Listen and actively work with students to ensure that the College and the college campus is an accurate representation of the students interests and priorities”
“Openness and inclusiveness should be a primary concern”

“Budgets for student groups”

“By having an open door and an open mind and being a good listener”

“The Greater Charleston area (and SC as a whole) needs more STEM graduates for industry. Instead of this talent coming from other areas, I would like to see a president who pushes for more business/STEM graduates. “

“building relationships, trust and the College’s reputation in the community and with each stakeholder group”

“Being open to the opinions of all groups and supporting all groups. Supporting Diversity”

“Through connectivity: connecting students, faculty and staff in academic and extracurricular activities. Through corporate sponsorships that will enhance academic programs. Through no-nonsense business practices. Higher education is growing softer and softer, acting with fear of litigation. We need a president who is not afraid to take risks for fear of legal repercussions”

“not bend to liberal teaching ideas and have a balanced approach”

“be responsive to faculty, staff, and student concerns; be willing to make hard decisions that support academic integrity over financial and political ones”

“Promote diversity within the student body. Create committees to focus on this issue or empower these committees if they exist already”

“I will defer to the students, staff, faculty, and alumni who remain on or close to campus for this question”

“By being taken seriously on a national scale and by being willing to transform an institution with enormous unmet potential by going to war with the vested interests (myopic and parochial local/state politicians and “old Charleston/SC” donors”

“Listen to and learn from our students. Hire well. Raise funds. Preserve the best parts of our academic tradition”

“Student engagement”

“Creating an all-inclusive community where everyone (liberals, conservatives, minorities, majorities, etc.) can learn to collaborate/co-exist and succeed.”

“diversity”

“By actively listening to the students, listening and reacting to what the campus community needs.”
“By leading more efforts to bring diversity and open, progressive dialogue to campus.”

“Again, presence is key. Be approachable so that anyone working or studying at CofC feels comfortable talking to them about any given issue.”

“Hands off approach to student organizations.”

“Technology”

“Improve campus climate and develop unique academic programs”

“Be accessible and present at as many community events as possible”

“being forward thinking, being an envelope pusher, being a big thinking, being diverse”

“By listening fully to their constituents (mainly students and faculty) and taking specific actions to support the needs and concerns of their constituents”

“meetings, discussions, happy hours”

“Emphasis on the students and the College’s ties to Charleston”

“Elevate student, educator, and community voice - whether community means the Charleston area, the industry around a department or field of work, the racial or socioeconomic communities that students represent. … Breaking down barriers to productive and authentic dialogue between the campus and the community that surrounds it in order to be mutually supportive. Also, supporting student mental and emotional health. This is such a major issue today. I don’t know what the resources around this look like these days. When I was there nearly two decades ago, we had “freshman seminar,“ which provided some skills, but I at least wasn’t aware of what resources could have helped with my mental and emotional instability in a time of tremendous change with little support. I now see my own child, a sophomore at UT, struggling with the same and ready to move home. Even large universities aren’t sure how to support this need. But I always felt such a sense of community at the College; I’d love to see it be leading-edge in helping students manage both the life transition of being away from home and transitioning into self-sufficient adults, and also how to be more adaptable in the ever-increasingly fast-changing pace of life, relationships, and careers.”

“Be available to meet with students and faculty directly”

“Be fully present and recognizable to the campus”

“It would be great if they wanted to use their position to better the entire community, look at how the college affects the city (for better or for worse) and work on bettering those relations. It would be inspiring for students to see that their campus was not only concerned with their well-being, but also concerned with its surroundings (and so, too, should they be)”
“Continue to champion the tremendous value of a critical liberal arts education, leading to various placements (research, post grad ed, med, or career) at a public institution. Be a spokesperson for inclusivity and the value of informed decision making and communication”

“Supporting Scientific Research; Supporting a Diverse Engaged Faculty; foster mentorships, internships, and job shadowing initiatives between the college and the community”

“Be involved and be around the campus. Listen to the students and alumni, and communicate with them frequently”

“More listening sessions with students and faculty, increased support for initiatives to improve student life, access to scholarships and meaningful collegiate experiences both in and out of the classroom, not facilitating the politicization of campus events or happenings (for example, using ties to the SC statehouse to protest Fun Home freshman reads program in 2013)”

“Be among the students. Support their ambitions and listen to their ideas”

“Standing up for the school and its values against those who wish to turn it into something it is not”

“allowing diversity without forcing diversity”

“Grow the educational programs, facilities, and communication”

“Get to know the students, faculty, staff and community the College is located in. Hold state of the unions, become more engaging with everyone not just the board of regents”

“provide an obtainable academic vision based on past experience at another institution”

“Personally contribute to the College financially, focus on affordability, play a role in community relations, be approachable and sometimes casual”

“By promoting and protecting intellectual diversity and open discourse”

“Lowering tuition. Guarding our ecosystems”

“engage with students/alumni and listen to what they want”

“listen, have solutions”

“Be visible on campus (not just for photo ops). Be approachable and open but still be able to uphold our school’s long traditions and ideals.”

“Being active, engaged, and listening to students, faculty, and staff is the most important way for the president to support the campus community. A president should take the concerns of her or his campus community seriously and base both policy and outreach on the issues that these groups identify as the most important.”
“Through fundraising for essential needs such as facilities; strengthening sciences/research capacity for College (leads to funding); overhaul the faculty to be more moderate. I heard a student say recently, "I came to College to learn more about the world and my place in it - not how to overthrow the government."

“Being involved in events with students, really making time to get to know them not just as numbers but as people and the future of our school.”

“Be visible, accessible and have the courage to lead by making tough decisions versus relying on his board to continuously provide the answers”

“Listen, learn, promote, succeed”

“Possessing excellent interpersonal skills; having a serious interest in getting to know the college’s students; having an accurate feel for the opinions and issues that matter to the students”

“An inclusive individual who supports all students, visibility of campus, ability to relate and converse with the diverse student , faculty and staff population, ability to help recruit minorities to campus and create and atmosphere they feel welcomed and empowered, a safe learning/teaching environment for all, participates/supports Charleston community and what it offers”

“promote diversity initiatives to broaden the appeal of the college to minority students“

“Be a liaison between school and the rest of Charleston”

“Focus on exactly that - community. Building connections and planning for a shared future, not focusing on high-profile and high-dollar initiatives that distract from the real value of a college education - making human connections”

“Connecting with students (and faculty and staff) on a daily basis, whether it's eating in the dining halls, going to Starbucks, or attending athletics events. Be visible and engaged and build pride in our institution”

“By encouraging diversity, science and the arts”

“By listening to the faculty, alumni and students”

“Continuous recapitalization and replacement of real estate/facilities. Visible leadership”

“Balance advocacy for the institution off campus with hands-on involvement on campus”

“call shots”

“Let student growth and achievement drive EVERY decision made”

“Making sure diversity/inclusion is at the top of the list. We want people of all backgrounds to feel comfortable on campus"
“Engaging with campus leaders, and student leaders. Encouraging dialogue between different majors”

“Expansion of degree options and continued recruiting of top teaching talent that is BROAD”

“First really understand what we do really well - continue that, seek feedback from staff, alumni, students, parents, other campuses, etc., on opportunities for improving, and execute on a communicated, collaborative roadmap. Be visible and authentic”

“With better sports teams”

“Confidence and support of faculty - a highly qualified faculty who are not at odds with the administration is the heart/core of any institution”

“Clarity of purpose with transparency as to strategic and operational plans”

“Being an alumni, I don’t really know what goes on the campus community these days. I do live in Charleston, though, and I know a huge part of what makes CofC what it is, is how it is so interconnected with the city. I think embracing that and holding events or programs that can benefit both the campus and the outside community would be great”

“By making sure professors keep their politics out of the classrooms”

“Roundtable discussions with students and alumni, embracing change, becoming more of a global campus, taking part in daily campus activities”

“Listen to the students and faculty and alumni”

“Supporting communication between staff, faculty, students and alumni/donors”

“By taking a holistic approach to the student experience and recruiting faculty and staff in that effort, and fostering a culture of mutual respect and intellectual curiosity”

“By being visible and supportive”

“The president could be more aware and in tune with the beliefs of the student body. We do not need a socially conservative president returning the college to the 19th century. Rather, someone looking to the future who can help attract further students and donors”

“Be inclusive and celebrate diversity. Have safe, affordable housing for students. Make sure downtown Charleston remains the heart of CofC, and that housing, dining, and classes are centered around that part of campus”

“Being visible and active in the community”

“The new president needs to be committed to uniting the entire campus community. They also need to place the opinions of the people who actually live with the school’s policies first: namely, faculty,
staff, and students. Cow-towing to the board or to elected officials has gotten us nowhere. It’s time for a bold visionary to step up and be a progressive, education-centric leader that our institution so desperately needs.”

“Be marketable, continue to develop tech-based fields, stress the importance and need of a liberal arts education”

“Support research and academics”

“Engage with students on an individual level (consider the temperament of Bud Peterson from GA Tech)”

“Working with the various constituencies, including the city, to keep the College at the forefront of the educational life of the state and region”

“Lead the institution in achieving excellence in the education and community leadership it provides”

“Improving the CofC product within the state and nation. This institution should be one of the most sought after universities to teach at and be a student at”

“Be more involved with all students, student groups”

“Open channels of communication with student groups, faculty leaders and community stakeholders”

“Have the trust of the students, faculty, and the city that the president can handle any situation that should arise that may disrupt the community”

“By listening, engaging, sensing, and encouraging the needs and aspirations of the students that come through the school - aware of the very pivotal point in socio-political history we find ourselves in”

“PhD programs and money”

“By increasing funding for adjunct professors (because they are paid a horrible rate), scientific research, and sports, I feel that CofC can compete more at the national level”

“I am no longer on campus so this is tough for me to answer. Maybe have a representative from the graduate school on his/her board so that there is a student voice present when he makes decisions having to do with the student body”

“Bring balance to the force. It’s far too liberal”

“By being engaged! He/she should be knowledgeable about everything that is going on and should be an active part of the campus community. He/she should have an open door policy and be open to different outcomes/changes if they better the community.”

“Be involved and communicate with the student body.”
“By having a listening ear, giving heart, and a creative mind.”

“Make sure every student feels safe and supported on campus.”

“By meeting regularly with student groups for Town Halls and following through with committees which will expand views and provide avenues for success for all students.”

“By maintaining the liberal arts tradition that transcends momentary political agendas to promote critical thinking and cultural awareness.”

“Halts growth. The best thing about CofC was that it was a smaller school thrust into the middle of the city. Soon enough, the campus is going to be the center of the city, rather than the other way around. Please, please keep its small campus feel! No more dorms, no more buildings, stop tearing down parking garages and lots. Stop turning this into Every Other Campus, USA!!”

“Listening, providing opportunities for input/feedback from all levels, having regular Q&A sessions with students and staff”

“Visibility and accessibility to students, instructors, and local businesses.”

“Being from SC”

“I’ve always understood that ‘zero-tolerance’ policies do not work in cases of sexual harassment, drug and alcohol-related incidents, etc. I think more counseling opportunities would be beneficial to students going through stressful and/or traumatic events while attending the College rather than punitive measures that endanger a student from not completing their education.”

“1) Solicit regular input from the student body, and act on it when appropriate. 2) Solicit regular input from the alumni, and act on it when appropriate. 3) Be the face of CofC and own it.”

“Fundraising, fundraising, fundraising!”

“Encouraging diversity on campus, developing international program”

“Partner with campus departments, focus on diversity student and employee recruitment this includes people with disabilities, Travels to promote the college worldwide not only in SC. Provide more scholarships to the under-served qualified students. Inspire and raise the bar and hold the fundraising team accountable to their set goals.”

“Understand that the campus community is not just current students - the College is a blend of past, present and future.”

“Be an active listener”

“Be engaged with the community and less guided by the board of trustees”
“Focus on diversity and tolerance, hold regular town halls, reach out regularly to students and alumni for feedback”

“By being accessible to students, alumni and stakeholders.”

“Bold & creative short-term plans & programs to benefit “all” student. Bring students together not follow the trend of separation!”

“diversity and inclusion”

“Listen to the needs of faculty, staff, and student government. The best advice or recommendations are within the college.”

“listen”

“Getting as many organizations and personnel involved with the school as possible.”

“Emphasizing holistic student development and experiences.”

Having ways in which the students, community and faculty can be engaged and communicate what works and what doesn’t to create a supportive and inclusive culture (gender, race, ethnicity, age, disability, geography, majors, etc.); listening tanks, incubator areas, and connecting with alumni based on their interests. Everything is about building relationships.”

“Take time to learn about what is already there. The College is not purely a business. There are other fundamental concerns required of a president, not simply management techniques culled from corporate experience or politics. Substantive leadership requires substance.”

“Recognize employee achievements as well as student achievements”

“Gone, or soon will be, are the days in which the College can offer numerous, niche programs to a finite audience, which is unable to bear the cost of their offering.”

“The next president of the College can best support the College by creating a vision for all of its stakeholders that carefully and logically aligns mission and programming with the costs of obtaining and delivering a college education.”

“This person must gain trust, support and consensus to this reality and deliver a new model which puts the College and all of its stakeholders in a position to thrive in the challenges ahead.”

“Being present, available, uplifting and positive.”

“Insure a safe and secure environment”

“Live on campus, intermingle with students and faculty”
“Responding timely to issues on campus facing students regarding racial harassment, sexual assault, etc. Also, ensuring that student voices are accurately reflect in discussions regarding policy changes and implementation, and that those policies are not purely based on ‘political’ ideology.”

“Focus on undergraduate education and the liberal arts.”

“show some signs of interest”

“fundraising, rankings and getting better students”

“Treat college constituents like nuclear family - respect and protect differences, keep overarching principles at the forefront, keep members safe, valued and growing. Treat SC State Legislature like grandparents ... well-meaning but largely behind the times and out of touch. Learn to do without ‘grandparent gifts’ if that costs too much of value from the nuclear family.”

“By being perceived by all stakeholders (as diverse as they are) as ‘their’ president and not perceived to be serving the interests of any one stakeholder”

“Provide a vision for moving forward.”

“Participate, be visible, LEAD and not to fear being controversial if necessary. Make it clear who the LEADER is!”

**What should the top priorities of the next president be?**

“Diversification of CofC”

“Academic rigor, balanced budget, alignment with College and Charleston, SC history”

“in the education and not the indoctrination of students, work with the city as far as parking and student behavior”

“Social and educational progress for the campus and both students and faculty.”

“Increasing salaries for faculty to retain talent, improve technology access across all college, support students from SC who can succeed and return to their communities as valued professionals”

“Making CofC safer and smarter through technology and relationships”

“Ensuring that students are well-prepared for life after college”

“Masters and doctorate programs; facilities; endowment”

“Making CofC the "Ivy League" of the South, raising significant funds for the college, increasing the recognition and academics of the institution, and looking for creative ways to take CofC to the top of the rankings in every way”
“Academic standards”

“Starting a football program.”

“The next president should be committed to diversity and intercultural understanding. The president should lead the college in its liberal arts nature to commit to tolerance and understanding of others. In our ever-changing world, this president should be able to honor the traditions of the college while paving the future of its community grounded in respect of others, the quest for knowledge, and a commitment to making the world a better place.”

“Grow endowment”

“boost STEM programs at The College, increase admittance standards, boost national legitimacy”

“Grow the national profile of the College as a top research and educational institution”

“Making sure that we are not a forgotten entity in the political landscape of Clemson and Carolina as regards state funding. Making sure that fundraising grows and continues to include the Charleston community. Finally, providing the students and the alumni with a rich environment in which to participate”

“Support faculty and students”

“Rebuilding the relationship between administration and students”

“Increasing the college’s academic competitiveness”

“Fair and respectful treatment of staff at all levels. Engagement with diversity of students. Maintain relations with donors and funders”

“Fundraising”

“transparency and funding for education and research”

“Increasing alumni engagement, increasing donor engagement, diversifying the student body, raising admissions rates and numbers”

“Make CofC more inclusive and more of a community”

“student involvement and achievement, strong faculty”

“The next president should give more awareness to campus safety, higher punishments for students that hurt other students, and more availability to students seeking help”

“No decline or stagnation, especially in indicated measures - slow, steady growth”
“1. Inclusion 2. Promote a sustainable interaction with the greater Charleston community 3. Meeting and discussing with students and community members to get an understanding of what the students and the community want and need.”

“continue to expand real estate opportunities, campus growth (which on a peninsula is a challenge), NEW student athletics facility (after recently looking at potential colleges with my HS Sr. son, ours are almost embarrassing compared to most ... need more sizzle on the steak), advance academic reputation countrywide, overhaul the recruitment process of high school students, new web page (ours is cumbersome, and not user friendly)”

“Diversity”

“To better the current primary education system in the community and bring more local students into the secondary system”

“Creating further national and state awareness of CofC as a respected and prestigious institution”

“Global Alumni Engagement, Post-College Job Readiness and Placement”

“Elevating the CofC brand in a positive light throughout the United States. Making CofC well known positively”

“Fundraising, alumni engagement, academic rigor”

“diversity (economic and race/culture), scholarships (financial need, state of SC)”

“Tackling both the rising cost of higher education and the outrageous cost of living near campus”

“Cull ridiculous, nontraditional academic departments/majors; gain back national prestige for us; examine elimination of tenure, to clear out deadwood from faculty”

“campus safety and inclusion”

“to ensure the college retains the small feel and not become a massive university”

“To increase unity of our future adults. To strive for a more Ivy League type status. To toughen acceptance guidelines while focusing on in-state applicants. Keep class size small as possible and cap admissions”

“Insuring that graduates take courses that lead to employment”

“inclusivity, diversity, academic excellence”

“Safety on Campus, Keeping up with academic growth of top universities in the nation, thoroughly vetting professors, keeping the college’s historical architecture protected, promoting knowledge and pride of Charleston's history”
“1) Student advocate 2) business degrees that match the changing job market 3) compassion for the arts”

“Diversity of incoming students. Building the value of smaller majors. Creating a more inclusive student body in terms of extracurricular activities and clubs”

“Sustainability, focus on preparing students for tomorrow by fostering interaction, learning, and growth today”

“Diversity; academic freedom; debt reduction”

“Providing a safe and innovating life for active students, Graduating students, Getting them connected and successful in their post-graduate life”

“Expand the reputation of the college and its endowment”

“Increasing the prestige of the College on the national level”

“How is College of Charleston the college of the future?”

“Restore credibility”

“Expanding technological and physical infrastructure”

enrollment management, fundraising, fiscal health

“Diversity, Unity and Improving enrollment at the college”

“Creating quality alumni from the time a student completes the admission application. Ensuring the College campus is a safe environment to live and learn. Ensuring academic standards meet the needs of the job market.”

“Improving safety on campus and job placement of graduates”

“preserving and advocating for the value of a liberal arts education”

“1. Promotion of free thinking 2. Recognition of current problems and addressing them head on (i.e., take action one way or another on campus carry; sexual assault; diversity within the student body; etc.) 3. Supporting staff by enhancing tenure-track positions instead of adjunct and other junior positions”

“Adapting education to the practical needs of the global workforce”

“Improving the educational quality and overall "seriousness" of the school - making it a nationally recognized school rather than just a regionally recognized school with pockets of intense interest in wealthy northern suburbs for the "quality of life" or party reputation”
“1) Raise money. 2) Increase pay and opportunities for tenured faculty to continue to attract the best professors. 2) Expand programs that attract the best students (Honors College, residential learning communities, research opportunities, international fellowships, etc.)”

“Student engagement; upgrading of old buildings/historic houses; introducing more technology to the campus (industry 4.0, automation, web interfaces, marketing)”

“Facilitating an atmosphere conducive to learning and educational achievement. Students should be in school to learn and to become adults. It shouldn’t be a babysitting service or a place to “find” yourself.”

“diversity, inclusion, educational innovation”

“As an alum, I know the campus has changed in the 7 years since I graduated so my opinion is not as important as maybe a current student or recent graduate. I think the next president does need to react to the changing downtown Charleston area and how that impacts the students. CofC students should be encouraged, not hindered, in their activism in the community and beyond. The passion of the students is unique; CofC has heart and that should be the highlight of the school.”

“Public private partnerships to keep costs down and prevent increases in tuition.”

“Inclusion of all students, Diversity on campus, Creating CofC’s own, strong sexual assault policies”

“Technology”

“Diversity, academic rigor”

“being a good example”

“As an alumni who doesn’t know enough about the current needs of CofC, I leave that up to the students, faculty, and staff who are currently there to decide”

“Campus diversity, inclusion, and safety”

“continuing tradition and growing funding”

“Decide what areas we view as mission critical and focus on being the best in these areas. Do NOT try to be all things for all academic areas.”

“Supporting students beyond the classroom; leading the College as a front-runner of evolution in holistic student experience and development; making (or maintaining) the College a model of urban campus student life in the nation; continuing and expanding engagement with alumni in creative ways with proactive outreach, particularly to alumni outside of the SC area (there’s certainly a fraternity among alumni, and no matter how far-flung we are, always bind together!”

“Role model for students, campus development, alumni networking”
“Clarify with the campus and alumni what is uniquely a CofC education, what are the attributes aspired to be displayed by everyone associated with The College, why the liberal arts are still relevant and essential. Build a BOT with members who embrace the above priority and then assist the President in fierce advocacy in Columbia to protect and nurture The CofC experience. Gain the trust of the faculty, making them liberated to pursue their vocation as educators and researchers”

“More diverse student population, more well-known speakers discussing timely subjects. Also, more healthy local options for the meal plan”

“CofC and Charleston can grow together and find a nice way to do it together”

“Raise the academic profile of the College”

“Student diversity; recruiting excellent faculty; focusing on good solid education for our students; mandatory freshmen seminar on sexual harassment and sexual assault and how everyone can be allies in preventing them”

“Academics, campus community and culture, and alumni relations”

“Make CofC more academically competitive university and reigning in admissions process (there are so many students on campus from out of state that many students have issues securing on-campus housing), increase diversity initiatives to make students feel more comfortable and prepared to succeed on campus”

“Inspire the students to reach new heights, bring more diversity and opportunities to students, draw in even more established teachers and speakers”

“Fundraising so the school does not rely as much on politicians. Investing in keeping alumni involved. Making sure College of Charleston is synonymous with the City of Charleston (Historic & Environmental Preservation)”

“Holding down tuition while improving the quality of education”

“Facilities and program growth (Depth & Range)”

“Make the College better than you found it!”

“academic reputation, institutional funding, facilities”

“Renovating Simons Center for the Arts, diversity on campus, making the College more prominent across the state”

“Delivering value to students, in the form of an education that ensures their professional success and intellectual growth”

“Lower environmental impact, more cutting edge research, lowering tuition”
“supporting campus/alumni community”

“Measured but continued growth, strong academic foundation”

“The endowment (or lack thereof). Good relationship with professors & students”

“The next president should ensure that the College remains an affordable institution for in-state students, should be committed to increasing diversity on campus, and should be concerned with increasing the College’s reputation nationally”

“Increasing the education standard provided at the college”

“Fundraising, restructuring management for effectiveness, enrollment, external work to raise the profile of the College beyond the region”

“Diversity, making sure everyone is treated the same and disciplining students accordingly when necessary. Making sure every student has a positive experience at the College. Listening to the students and what they need since everything is there for them so that they have the best opportunities they can”

“Provide the course offerings that are currently relevant versus doing the same old thing over and over, preserve and maintain our existing campus with less emphasis on growing to keep up with USC and Clemson, do less with more - analyze each course, major, offering and determine if it is financially relevant and necessary to our mission, bring a strong second in command, leadership in the Provost and Chief of Staff positions that will enable the new president to lead and provide vision versus babysitting.”

“Strengthen & promote our brand & Strengthen academic & scholarship programs”

“Push for a more diverse student and faculty body”

“Student safety. Keeping tuition affordable”

“Inclusion, safe environment for all, addressing concerns and problems proactively, encourages diverse programming, condemns sexism, racism, xenophobia, etc., provides platform for CofC community to share concerns and what is and isn’t working”

“Increase diversity in leadership of the college”

“Recruiting and retaining students of color”

“Stricter on livability issues with community”

“Restoring CofC’s legacy of providing a top-quality education at an affordable price in a friendly atmosphere”
“1) Development/Fundraising; 2) Inspiring/engaging our 86,000+ alumni to give back (this will involve some travel); 3) Connecting with our students, faculty, and staff to get us all pulling in the same direction”

“Diversity in faculty and student body, supporting the sciences and promoting art”

“Developing academic programs that are relevant to the 21st century and beyond”

“Expanded educational opportunities without raising the cost of education”

“Deliver on the College’s goals of increasing its regional and national prominence, and focus on fundraising and protecting as much state funding as possible with the primary goal of keeping the College affordable”

“Student academic and social achievement. Reclaim historic campus from the CVS, bring back Jack’s diner to it former glory”

“Bringing up the academic reputation/ranking of the College”

“Recruiting top talent as professors”

“Innovation/technology at the edge. Become a leader.”

“listen and learn. Seek feedback. Build not only for today but for the future. Invest in technology and technology curriculum.”

“Improved basketball”

“Assess current gaps in academic programs, develop strategic plans and funding”

“fundraising, making public education more affordable”

“There is a lot of politically charged drama in our country these days. Racism and sexism being at the forefront of a lot of issues. College is an important time for the students to grown and learn about themselves and their opinions about what is going on in the world. I think keeping the campus informed about national (and global) issues and raising the students to be good, kindhearted, accepting, open minded individuals should be a top priority. Let’s restore some goodness in the world :))”

“Focusing on department connections to local jobs and internships”

“Strengthen & promote our brand & Strengthen academic & scholarship programs”

“Increasing minority enrollment”

“Advancing the school in a direction that utilizes Charleston’s unique place as a historical southern city with nationwide recognition”
“Student engagement, diversity, promotion of CofC as a unique institution/brand”

“Diversity/inclusion/equity, institutional excellence, holistic student wellness/self-efficacy”

“1) Maintain academic excellence. 2) Make sure the college is financially accessible to all deserving students. 3) Ensure safety for all students”

“Enriching math/science/coding programs, finances, expanding the graduate program, increasing the reputation of academic prestige”

“The next President needs to make sure that CofC gives students a quality education that is affordable and accessible. Do not let the college become a school that only upper-income students attend. It is a state school. CofC should be supporting students so that they are able to afford going to CofC and are not saddled with student debt when they graduate”

“Refocusing the vision of the institution, increasing enrollment of students, increasing the engagement of the alumni”

“1. Improving morale and supporting faculty, staff, and students, 2. A commitment to academics and quality over the “flashy” stuff like introducing new sports or engaging in unnecessary capital expenditures”

“Marketing, generating funding for scholarships and expansion from alumni, increase alumni engagement through social media sites”

“strengthening our academic reputation; creating a safe campus for all students”

“Raising the notoriety of the College to a national level at every opportunity (recruiting, academic research, athletics, star alumni)”

“Increasing the academic reputation of the College”

“Excellence in education and student success”

“Increasing campus housing”

“Lowering the transfer rate, addressing matters of sexual assault and rape, improving services for all students”

“Endowment growth, aggressively improve facilities and modernization”

“Improve racial tensions within the student body, continue to improve facilities, make the College more well known on a national and international level”

“As an alumni, I feel that this answer should be deferred to current students, who will be more directly affected by these priorities”
“PhD programs and money”

“Student Veterans. As a former student veteran, the overall campus culture towards veterans was negative. I know that there has been a new office set up for student veterans but there has been little outreach in this area. Student veterans graduate with a higher GPA and pay full price for each class (when using the Post 9/11 GI Bill). With the growing population of veterans in the U.S. (and at CofC), there should be more programs. GWU and NYU do a great job with student veteran issues”

“Bring reasonable and fair balance to all sides, and cut back the liberal indoctrination via professor class lectures and assignments”

“Offer better specialty courses/majors rather than broad overviews (i.e., a major in public relations vs. communications), more practical classes that prepare students for what it’s actually like in the “real world”, even better facilities and technology that allow CofC to compete against other strong liberal arts colleges”

“Continue to build a relationship with MUSC and recruit more tech/computer science geared professors”

“1) Increasing the enrollment; 2) Increasing minority enrollments as well as increasing their success to graduation; 3) Increasing our percentage of attendees to graduation”

“Develop a structure for implementing direct student participation in the management of the school”

“Engendering a global scope - you’re preparing these students to complete in a global labor market”

“Campus safety, educational resources and career placement”

“Students' ability to succeed, not only professionally but as human beings, should be the top priority of everyone involved in higher education”

“Halt growth, but still keep the College relevant, someone who will not succumb to societal pressure, and the possibility of expanding the Graduate School (within reason of course) “

“College Affordability”

“1. Quality students; (others in less particular order) visibility to the target recruiting communities; participation in student activities; actively direct graduate recruiting and jobs placement of grads”

“Improving STEM degrees and reducing arts and humanities”

“Build upon the tradition we have built. The College is not broken”

“Push for more local and minority class attendance, be hyper-aware of real world and political events that shape our job market, and embrace the future”
“Raising the national profile of CofC through higher academic and athletic achievement”

“Fundraising to ease tuition costs in a world where more students will be first-generation students with a lack of resources”

“Keep tuition low/lower”

“Developing leadership among all career level employees. Put in place quality processes for employees and professors. Take the college to an international level”

“Protect the college from enrolling too many students, do not dilute our identity by merging with other schools, maintain our core programs and traditions”

“Fiscal responsibility”

“Tuition, Innovation, Diversity”

“Diversity, Faculty hiring, Research funding”

“To balance in and out of state enrollment so as to make our budget balanced. To establish a good rapport with business and the local community. Brand promotion, program enhancement & endowment growth”

“diversity and inclusion”

“Any new president should evaluate what is working well and not so well. What need the most improvement should be on the priorities list.”

“Expanding the network of the college. Implement creative thinking into the culture. Creating more rigorous courses especially in areas such as English, finance and computer science”

“Connecting with students and hearing what they want and need as students. Enhancing the experiences of minority students”

“Ensuring the college retains its competitive edge while ensuring a financially attainable educational value with a culturally sensitive and inclusive environment for staff, faculty and students. Additionally, to also implement an ongoing foundational campaign focused on alumni interests, as opposed to the theme of the month, that becomes part of the fabric of the college to build a strong alumni base to support this value-proposition - one that almost guarantees strong financial support and endowments, but also time and talent such that every student who leaves the college will have a mentor, a job opportunity and have a strong desire to give back and return to the college.”

“Developing externship opportunities and partnerships with local nonprofits and businesses with community building bottom lines to involve the students with bettering Charleston for all residents. The College of Charleston is integrated into the heart of a beautiful, historic city. The best thing about that over the years has been curricular and extracurricular efforts at reciprocity and acknowledgment of that relationship.”
“increase in # of graduates with more online programs, increase % graduates who find jobs or enroll in higher degree programs; lower campus crime rate”

“One whose passion is education and producing top quality graduates.”

“In addition to ‘running’ the school, engaged in community and business, insuring the educational offerings are aligned with business/employment needs to keep the College relevant.”

“Improve faculty”

“Student engagement and faculty satisfaction should be major priorities to ensure that the morale of the College is restored.”

“The quality of undergraduate education.”

“academic excellence should be at the top of the list”

“Faculty Relations”

“fundraising, rankings and getting better students”

“Student success, financial health”

“1. Admissions Quality is up and consistent 2. Programs/degrees reflect the future not the past 3. Ability to bring significant investment by donors or partners in support of our primary initiatives”

“Improve quality of incoming students, restore morale of faculty, staff, and students; and restore regional and national reputation of the College.”

“1. Academic excellence, 2. Establish accountability at all levels of the university (especially the Faculty), 3. Fundraise, 4. Create a culture of pride, integrity and a commitment to ethical standards that are not negotiable!”

**Additional comments:**

“School’s willingness to step forward; the College is industriousness, it will work with nothing and make something; we are a special place; we have so much potential; we are missing leadership and vision; if we get that, we will take off”

“The president will not come because of money, but because of what we, as an institution, can do; we are a sponge for leadership and vision; this is a great opportunity; we have a gold mine here – rich in faculty and staff talent; everyone wants to have an impact”

“Someone can come here and change this place”
“Our students are a tremendous selling point; we have great story to tell; they can see our small classes and individual attention”

“The recognition is lovely, but our gifts have made a different in student lives, the faculty individually, to see the passion in the faculty; this is not a Nine to Fiver; there is a passion here, both among the faculty and the students that we have not felt at other schools; the campus may be old and decrepit, but that is the challenge for the fundraising, we want to put in new buildings, within reason”

“Look at our sailing team, best in the nation; business school, Kerrigan gift - we apply those resources in a productive way; emphasize the impact that a president can have on 11,000 students; we want someone who can be turned on; if you don't find passion in this person, then you haven't found the right person; passion is powerful; must be a good fit both ways; this is a really important time”

“This moment will take the College further; this is a catapult moment in the College’s history”

“Would like to see a group of people we have never seen before; go big or go home”

“BOT is a voice of calm; your leadership and your support is critical”

“Charleston - it is a tremendous attraction; someone young enough to perform for 8 or 10 years; this is an opportunity city; have the tech sector, hospitality sector - help develop the case”

“Groups of volunteer leaders; caliber of people of engaged is continuing to escalate“

“Charleston is such a strong advantage and we must use it; we have a group of people clamoring for a leader - whether faculty, staff or alums; we have all right the chemicals sitting around ready to explode”

“If you hire a search firm, hire from their list. Do not spend handsomely for advice that you don’t intend to follow”

“Please consider someone who can build consensus and understands academia.”

“I would love to see a technocratic woman as President. One who can foster relationships between the Med. School, USC, Clemson, the local community, the country, and so on.”

“I hope that the decision is made to make a hire with relevant experience instead of a politician who does not commit long term to the college. I hope that with this hire, the college is able to move in a positive direction and I would be willing to begin to make donations”

“Get someone who plans to be here for awhile.”

“I think we should use the appeal of Charleston to attract someone way above what most will think we can achieve. I truly think we should be aiming to be the Ivy League of the south and think our leader should think in those terms and with that goal. This city can attract the best and the brightest, it is time for the College to step up on our end of the bargain.”
“Having a bit of diversity, would be a nice change of pace”

“He needs to be very athletic friendly and recognize the role that successful athletics programs play in the recruitment of quality students”

“As demonstrated by Alabama, Clemson, etc. the value and recognition of a degree from an institution of second tier academic strength is directly related to the success of its athletic programs. Admissions standards, fundraising, etc. are all elevated in lock step with the success of athletics. The administration should place a priority on returning the College's athletics teams to their former prominence.”

“This is an attractive job, look wide; many business and academic leaders with high profiles would consider this job based on the opportunity presented by the institution, the expectations, and the location. We should be in the running for candidates that the largest and most prestigious institutions are also trying to attract - this job is on the same level.”

“having a president who is transparent with their motives and actions, and experienced in higher education, will provide more confidence to potential donors that their funds will be used responsibly and appropriately”

“I’d love to see a female president of the College of Charleston. As we all are aware, the College has a significantly larger female population of students these days and there are so many qualified women who can lead the institution. With all of the previous presidents having been white men, I think it’s crucial to diversify our presidency in order to attract a more diverse group of students and donors.”

“As an alumna, I was extremely disheartened to see the student and faculty's nonsupport of President McConnell. I won't support CofC financially or consider sending my son there as a legacy if the College becomes one of these ridiculous left-wing extremist institutions that silences any dissenting thoughts or ideals.”

“It has come to a time in our country where we need diverse leaders. CofC has, since its founding in 1770, only had white male presidents. I think the new president should be anything but that, representing a progressive university that will attract a myriad of students.”

“Would be efficient to find someone from the CAA footprint - SC to New England”

“Hire more women and people of color in higher roles on campus”

“Best of luck, as an Alumni I am very proud. The fact my son chose, and will be an out of state Freshman in Fall 18' is a testament to the College.”

“LISTEN TO YOUR FACULTY AND STUDENTS UNLIKE LAST TIME.”

“College of Charleston needs a strong figurehead rather than a skilled administrator; the latter is more necessary for schools who need more development/enrollment whereas the former is necessary for a school who has these attributes but isn't adequately recognized for its accomplishments”
“Strongly urge committee to seek a candidate that reflects goal of a diverse student body that supports South Carolina students.”

“I have high hopes that this search will be carried out in a more professional and transparent way than the last one. I don’t think the good old boy network should have any part in this process. Please listen to the advice of the Search Committee and Task Force.”

“Do not encourage far left politics.”

“As an alumni, I appreciate that you all consider our feedback and send surveys like these! I loved seeing messages in my inbox straight from the president and I wish you all luck in the search for a new one.”

“I’d prefer a female candidate. The boys have had their time.”

“My experience, my wife’s experience, several cousins, friends, and brother’s experience were all positive. What I continue to hear now are two primary problems: a) The Party Life in Charleston has gone overboard - it is now a surprise that people even graduate b) Getting a job after graduation is becoming harder than ever - how far will my CofC Diploma take me? If you address these two things by creating a safer environment for current students - with heavy focus on graduation AND combine that with linking the professional post-graduate community with the school - it will grow in a very certain, respectful, and successful way.”

“Ensure that the next president is an accurate representation of the College, listen to students opinions and values, and make sure that the next president is elected fairly and through an open and transparent election process”

“Thank you for taking the time to make this survey!”

“Don’t just require a Ph.D./terminal degree or experience as a dean or provost for the sake of requiring it. The CEO of an institution of higher education needs to focus the institution on remaining relevant to constituency groups (to recruit & retain students) and to ensure the fiscal stability of the institution (which includes fundraising)”

“I’d love to see someone with many of Alex Sanders’ traits leading the college. He and Zoe invited students into their home. He regularly spoke to student groups. He was visible on campus. We knew he cared about the College and her students.”

“try not to let the legislature pick a candidate this time and have a real nation-wide search”

“I can’t say how much I appreciate the committee for creating this survey. Thank you for inviting outside voices into the decision making process.”

“Easy to screw up, hard to get right, impossible to please everyone - this is at best a difficult and onerous task. However, I implore the Search Committee to seize this pivotal moment to select a dynamic, transformative “change” leader that will, with time, patience and a resolute steadfastness, make CofC into the kind of school it can and should be - a nationally recognized, modern institution of
higher education that isn’t as beholden to the ridiculous state of affairs that is local and South Carolina politics.”

“Thank you for being transparent. Please continue to be. And please do not hire a political insider without higher ed experience. For our College, for our pride, and for our ability to raise money, please hire someone whose credentials suggest they are worthy and capable of leading one of the oldest colleges in the nation. This should be clear on their CV, not just in the minds of the select few who will ultimately make the selection. Please give us a reason to be proud.”

“Thank you for asking!”

“I think it is important to hire a president who has intimate knowledge of CofC and experience in higher education. While President McConnell was able to come as a relative outsider to higher ed with success, I think it would be ideal to have a president who will stay for several years and be able to deal with complex nature of higher education in the 21st century.”

“It is time for the college to have a diverse president to move the school into the 21st century. We need someone who will move the college forward academically and diversify the student and professor population.”

“A prayer: as we go into overtime in the CAA title game, PLEASE get Charleston back to the Southern Conference (or at least one with natural geographic rivalries).”

“I would really like to see someone coming from a background of student affairs (particularly of a school our size, or even smaller) rather than politics or legal background. I think that will much better serve our students as individuals while hopefully allowing our academic leaders maximum freedom to serve as leaders in their fields.”

“I’d like to see someone (relatively) younger. Experienced enough to navigate complex systems, but still passionate enough to not feel compelled to do things as they’ve “always been done.” I want to see our College last another 250 years and beyond!”

“National rankings have a false bottom, and I urge the BOT to not gauge the President’s success primarily on them. As an academic myself at a top10 institution, I have observed how obsession with national rank has deteriorated community and fomented competition. In this environment, ironically, major change is reluctantly, if not impossibly, effected.”

“Please take into consideration a person who reflects the very best qualities that one could desire campus-wide. When students see people in power working with integrity and empathy, it can inspire them to do the same, on a different scale.”

“A woman or minority President would be awesome!”

“LISTEN TO THE STUDENTS AND FACULTY. If they do not like a candidate, that matters more than what the Board of Trustees, who have to work with the President daily, have to say!!”

“Focus on the International Business & programs for the Sciences”
“The College is not the welcoming place it once was. It’s too politically correct and a lot of the faculty and staff are so quick to put on a smiling face for the public, and dismiss inquiries or follow up from alumni. If I could go back and use my GI Bill at another institution, I would. Unfortunately, I can’t so I will use this opportunity and future ones to intervene when I can and speak up for those the College fails to acknowledge.”

“Find someone who gets excited about engagement - with the entire CofC family and the entire community. The College should carry a larger weight in our state and community - it starts with the President.”

“I am honestly unsure how big of an issue this is at CofC since I graduated in 2012, but I think free speech in the truest sense - protecting dissenting voices and the expression of unconventional or unpopular viewpoints - is vital to the integrity of higher education and the health of our society. Campus movements to ban certain ideas or ostracize certain individuals instead of intellectually engaging with them pose an existential threat to liberalism and empiricism. An example from my time at CofC is the brief campaign to force Chick-fil-A off campus. If nothing else, a liberal arts education should equip us to disagree without trying to ruin each other.”

“College should not make or break you financially, but it does. Yes, lots of students manage to attend just fine, but they do not realize the true cost of their tuition until they are far away from the university and begin to hate their alma mater for putting them in debt. The college is huge, with lots of staff, but tuition can be lowered, WITHOUT losing good faculty.”

“It’s time for some diversity”

“Let’s try to not sell the position to someone that will retire in a few years sparking protests across campus and feeling of distrust among students and staff”

“I came to the College from a working-class, rural background in South Carolina; due to the excellent education and mentoring I received, I went on to earn a PhD and am currently a faculty member at a university. I hope that the College remains an affordable institution for students from backgrounds like mine and I hope that the next president will ensure that both state funding and other funds are used primarily to help students who demonstrate financial need. I also hope that the College considers its national reputation when choosing the next president. In academia, institutions looking to raise their standing on the national stage choose presidents with academic leadership experience who reflect the values they wish their institution to signal to incoming students and the broader community. A president with a long track record of academic leadership, some experience as university faculty, and whose image promotes an inclusive university environment would be ideal. I have limited my donations to the College in the past (I donate only to the Piepmeier scholarship) because of my objection to the choice of the most recent president. I would welcome the appointment of a new president whose qualifications would make me comfortable donating more broadly to the College.”

“A woman, alumna president would be a gift.”

“Look at who is successful in South Carolina and replicate what they’re doing - Clemson University.”
“Please consider and encourage minorities as candidates (this includes but not limited to women, race, and religion)"

“As an Honors College graduate who has gone on to a successful career in international development and humanitarian relief, I credit the College greatly for the things I have been able to accomplish. A large part of that experience for me was being able to establish personal, meaningful connections with faculty and staff, who then encouraged and guided me in my own natural interests, abilities, and ambitions, rather than pressuring me to reach for super-competitive internships, graduate schools, and fellowships. In the end, I did receive a significant grad school scholarship and attended the number three university in the UK for my first Masters, so this is not to say that professors should not assist students who want to do these things; rather, the focus should not be on these types of ‘prestige’ points, it should be on helping each student find his or her path of best fit. Since graduating, I have increasingly felt that the College has lost sight of what made it such a unique, valuable provider of not just an academic education, but a true lesson in community and personal growth. Much of the focus has shifted toward ‘improving’ the types of students accepted and recognizing almost exclusively only those students who reach levels of academic, professional, financial, or athletic performance that is not necessarily realistic for most. I don’t want CofC to be a mid-tier college, but I do want it to recognize and preserve its best asset in a large pool of top-tier universities: the ability to make students feel at home and like valued members of a community. ”

“I trust the search committee and the Trustees to recruit and select an amazing new President for the College and will support that person with all my heart. If the best candidate is a woman, that would be wonderful. If she is also an alumnus, even more so! But those aren’t requirements for success. The College deserves an incredible President and I’m very hopeful for our future.“

“I would not be the person I am today without the formation I received at the College of Charleston. At the age of 21, I lost my mother to suicide. The College of Charleston embraced me and sustained me through that very difficult time. I am proud to say I have a loving, family and marriage and I have taught Science for 25 years to at-risk youth."

“Do good things for the College! “

“It is absolutely vital that the proper procedures and best practices be followed this time around. No circumventing the process that the Board has established.“

“Find a woman president ... it’s time“

“CofC has the opportunity under good leadership to become a valued, nationally recognized institution.“

“Having a woman as the CofC president would be pretty cool, don’t you think?”

“Charleston academics need to improve and the basketball program needs to be solidified top tier. Baseball as well. Sailing is already.”
“I am personally excited for the change as we head towards our momentous 250th anniversary. I hope the search takes a long, hard look at all the candidates, especially from a diversity (female and minority) perspective.”

“Stay away from political appointees. We need a renaissance leader who is recognized for excellence in academics”

“Please do not make this a political decision. Take the feedback given by the search firm you hire, and bring in the best candidate for the school.”

“The most important factor is that the board actually listen to the recommendation of the search committee”

“The President of the college sets the tone and the standard. Please choose wisely and worldly. College graduates must learn the basics of democracy if we’re to have any hope in making it out of this stupid situation we find ourselves.”

“I have studied and taught at many universities and colleges, and I can honestly say that the College of Charleston best embodied my ideal for education. I would be thrilled to see the next President continue the long tradition of true liberal arts and the development of thoughtful, engaged graduates.”

“A President is expected to LEAD. Leadership requires active participation, lots of visibility, and true caring about the product - in this case, students’ education. Hiding in an office won’t make that happen. Administration and marketing can be delegated, but true leadership requires personal action.”

“Please don’t cater to the SJW crowd, it will ruin any academic success we hope to have.”

“Since I graduated from CofC in 1995 the school has continued to grow and prosper; however, CofC can and must do more. While being a top ranked regional school is a wonderful distinction, there is so much more the school can and should achieve.”

“I would like to see a woman at the helm of the College.”

“As an alumnus, I admit that my knowledge of what a president does is fairly shallow. The thing that I notice however is the what a presidential selection means for the College’s reputation to the public. Wanting the best candidate for the job, I hope that the college makes a concerted effort to develop a list of serious candidates that includes minorities and women.”

“Go Cougars”

“How about a woman for a change?”

“I would like to see a more traditional university president in qualifications (higher education) and in professional background (NOT politics), but would love to see a less traditional president in terms of personal background (female, non-white, under 60).”
I am deeply concerned at the current state of academia on many campuses where there is more indoctrination of left leaning views than there is of a balanced presentation of both left and right viewpoints. Conservative speakers are often shouted down or even disinvited as speakers. No one learns by only listening to one viewpoint.

“Continue to be an institution of higher learning and not of zoo of discourse!”

“Hire a woman for the president position. Of course with the qualifications and credentials. If student enrollment is low because increase in tuition than this need to be fix.”

“Look for an innovator that will lead the college into the next direction.”

“Thank you for the opportunity to share. All the best with the search.”

“Do it right this time, please. The College and its reputation mean a lot to its graduates.”

“Good luck!”

“Would like to see the College rise in the ranks of reputation as a truly ‘top notch’ revered educational institution - rather than just a popular school for students who want to ‘go to college on the beach’ or because of the draw of the destination of Charleston.”

“Make sure candidate has a world view and not a parochial outlook”

“Read a book called Cents and Sensibility, by Gary Saul Morson and Morton Schapiro (President of Northwestern University) which is a profound defense of the Humanities. And a woman would be a great idea!”

“The best candidate may need to come from outside the area.”

“Good luck in the search.”

“The search process has been articulated well, appears to be well thought out and inclusive, and thus far has followed accepted best practices in recruiting. It is important that the process continue to be followed and be an example of a well-run process and prevented from being hijacked by any number of special interests be they Students, Faculty, Legislators, or other. It is time for the College to ‘punch above its weight’ rather than at it, or below it. It is time for the College to run our process as would Clemson, USC, MUSC, or the Citadel as state examples and not in some other fashion because of political pressures.”