DATA IS EVERYWHERE.

With more information available than any other time in history, scholars are inundated with an abundance of research and statistics. The College of Charleston aims to create a cross-disciplinary platform that will allow students and researchers access to data to find innovative and impactful solutions to improve our community and world. The Center for Networked Discovery will remove physical and technological barriers for students and researchers and will create learning opportunities to prepare students at the College for existing and emerging careers in the 21st century.

GOAL

$2,500,000

Bringing together teams of scholars with shared research interests to discover answers to questions using modern data tools.
Building on the success of networked research programs established by the biology department, the Center for Networked Discovery will be a multi-disciplinary hub accessible by all CofC students, faculty, schools, community partners and visiting researchers.

**MULTI-DISCIPLINARY RESEARCH**

*Goal: $500,000*

The Center will allow various disciplines to collaborate when there is overlap and give researchers access to new information and perspectives. Examples of cross-disciplinary research projects include:

- Biology: understanding patterns of gene expression
- Teacher Education: exploring patterns in large-scale assessment data, and building and disseminating quantitative modules at all educational levels including K-12
- Anthropology: identifying archaeological sites through remote sensing data
- Retail Marketing: determining product placement and buyer impact
- Hospitality Management: analyzing the impact of tropical storms on local markets
- Astrophysics: analyzing gamma-ray bursts

**CENTER LAB SPACE**

*Goal: $1,300,000*

Designing and equipping the perfect environment for students to experiment and explore is critical. The Center lab will:

- Provide a space for CofC students to collaborate on research projects
- Feature a state-of-the-art computational infrastructure to store, sort and analyze data
- Give students and faculty access to high-tech data science equipment, instruments and software
- Serve as a recruitment tool for students and faculty who wish to pursue and publish undergraduate research
- Attract visiting researchers from around the globe
- Create a stronger brand reputation for the College of Charleston

**COLLABORATIVE OPPORTUNITIES**

*Goal: $100,000*

The Center will allow the College to collaborate with universities and industry partners to establish more real-world research opportunities for students:

- Partnership with the National Science Foundation to establish the College as a Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) site for STEM students
- Partnership with the Medical University of South Carolina to build health research recruitment tools for biology, data science and health care
- Collaboration with Lowcountry industry partners in the high-growth automotive, aerospace and technology sectors
- Potential for more federal research grant funding for the College

**CENTER DIRECTOR AND STAFF**

*Goal: $600,000*

Staffing for the Center of Networked Discovery will include:

- Director of Data Science to manage and oversee the Center
- Full-stack Developer/Database Engineer to manage the state-of-the-art computational infrastructure
- Data Scientist to advise Center users on applicable data tools for research projects
- Technology Transfer Coordinator Liaisons for each CofC school to identify opportunities for student and faculty research at the Center

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE DRIVE FOR THE 250TH, CONTACT: Lauren Van Buskirk, Senior Development Officer | 843.494.2889 | vanbuskirklw@cofc.edu | give.cofc.edu