



2018 Recipient of the Distinguished Service Award

Dr. David E. Desplaces

The College of Charleston is home to many outstanding professionals who work diligently on behalf of our community. Annually, we recognize the lengths to which one of our colleagues has gone to make the College a better place to live and work. This year's Distinguished Service Award goes to Dr. David Desplaces from the Department of Management and Marketing.

In the words of the selection committee for this particular award, "David Desplaces is clearly irreplaceable". His colleagues in the Department of Management and Marketing insist that he is the reliable, go-to person for any work above and beyond the normal call of duty. When a colleague falls sick, when a program is failing and needs review and renewal, in the department's development of new pedagogy or tools, David has been critically involved in every initiative. In particular, his revival of the department's internship program is noteworthy. He has brought students together with more than twenty local business people, from Peter Gildchrist, the president of the African American Chamber of Commerce, to Anita Zucker.

David also serves as a Global Business Resource for the International Business program and the Certified Global Business Partner Program, coordinator of Global Entrepreneurship Week, host of the Spaulding Speaker Series, and long-time member and sometimes chair of the Faculty Education and Technology Committee. Two themes seem to arise consistently in his service: 1) things that serve students in the classroom, especially technology; and 2) things that help introduce students to a global community. A frequent international traveler, David visits consulate offices, visits potential CofC students overseas, and often directs study abroad programs in places as far flung as Cameroon and Dubai (with thirteen trips in eleven years). In addition, he is a certified member of Charleston's emergency response team; very involved in the College's emergency management team; and a Coast Guard Auxiliary, for which he is qualified as crew member and French translator. That service to the community brings David on fifteen missions a year and exemplifies his consistent giving of time, expertise, and energy to students, the College, and to the local and the global communities.

We are pleased to recognize Dr. David Desplaces' service to the College of Charleston with the 2018 Distinguished Service Award.

