MAUREEN MURPHY, PH.D. President, College of Southern Maryland

Dr. Maureen Murphy's career in public higher education spans more than 30 years, including over a decade as a community college president. In July of 2017, she became the fifth President of the College of Southern Maryland (CSM). Since her arrival, CSM has twice been recognized as among the Top 150 community colleges in the country by the Aspen Institute in its Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence Program. More recently, under Murphy's leadership, CSM joined the Achieving the Dream network in 2019, supporting the college's commitment to equity in educational opportunities and outcomes.

Prior to her current role as President of CSM, Murphy served as president of Brookdale Community College, a multi-campus community college in New Jersey, where she forged partnerships with community organizations, school districts, business and industry, donors and other higher education institutions. Among her initiatives were developing early college high school programs, launching a College Promise program for free tuition for all qualified graduates and spearheading a Minority Male Conference to support the academic achievement of minority male students.

Before her appointment at Brookdale in 2012, she served as president of San Jacinto College South in Houston, Texas, and as vice president at both Rappahannock Community College and Wytheville Community College in Virginia. Murphy began her career teaching English at St. Louis Community College-Meramec, where she later served as a dean. Murphy has been an active member of the American Association for Women in Community Colleges since 1995 and has served on the national board since 2007, including two years as president.

She has been recognized for her work with numerous awards, including the Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction by Phi Theta Kappa, the Distinguished Corporate Leadership Award by the Greater Red Bank NAACP, and the Carolyn DesJardins CEO of the Year Award by AAWCC. Murphy previously served on the board of directors for the American Association of Community Colleges, the national organization representing more than 1,100 colleges. She continues her national service on the American Association of Community College Athletic Association of Community College Trustees' President's Advisory Council and the National Junior College Athletic Association Presidents' Advisory Council.

Murphy earned her bachelor's degree in English from the University of Louisville, her master's degree in English from the University of Missouri – Columbia and her doctorate in American Studies from Saint Louis University.



