

AN INTRODUCTION TO LYNCHBURG COLLEGE

Mission

Lynchburg College, a private coeducational institution founded in 1903 in covenant with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), offers distinctive undergraduate and graduate programs that reflect its commitment to teaching, scholarship, and service to the greater community.

The mission of Lynchburg College is to develop students with strong character and balanced perspectives and to prepare them for intelligent and wholehearted participation in a global society and for effective leadership in the civic, professional, spiritual, and social dimensions of life.

Lynchburg College provides students with a wide range of rigorous educational experiences that are grounded in the liberal arts and sciences, enhanced by professional studies, and nurtured by a residential community. The College serves the region through its outreach programs, cultural opportunities, resources, services, and the expertise of faculty, staff, and students.

In support of its mission, Lynchburg College endeavors to create a learning environment that:

- develops the breadth of knowledge and other characteristics traditionally associated with liberal education;
- develops depth of knowledge within chosen fields of study;
- respects and supports broad diversity and global understanding;
- values and celebrates all faith traditions;
- fosters a student-centered environment; and
- sustains close working relationships among faculty, staff, and students.

Accreditation/Memberships

Lynchburg College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone number: 404/679-4500) to award degrees at the baccalaureate and master's levels. The Virginia Department of Education approves its teacher preparation programs. Its nursing program is approved by the Virginia State Board of Nursing and the National League for Nursing. It is on the approved list of the American Medical Association. Graduate and professional schools throughout the country accept its degrees and credits. It is approved by the Virginia Department of Education for payment of educational benefits for veterans.

The College holds membership in the Association of American Colleges and Universities, the American Council on Education, the Association of Virginia Colleges, the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, the Council of Independent Colleges, the Council of Independent Colleges in Virginia, the Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges, the Virginia Humanities Conference, the Virginia Academy of Science, and the Virginia Association of Colleges of Teacher Education

History

Dr. Josephus Hopwood, who had come to Lynchburg, Virginia, from Milligan College in Tennessee, where he was president, founded Lynchburg College in 1903 as Virginia Christian College. He came at the request of a group of Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) ministers and businessmen

who wanted to establish a Christian college in Virginia. The College maintains its historical relationship to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), a denomination which values and celebrates all faith traditions. Dr. Hopwood and this group of supporters purchased the Westover Hotel, a resort facility, for use as the first campus building, Westover Hall.

From its beginning the College has been both strongly liberal arts and sciences in orientation and coeducational, a rarity in the early twentieth century but a system in which Dr. Hopwood and his wife, Sarah Eleanor LaRue Hopwood, firmly believed. Lynchburg College is among the oldest colleges in Virginia to be founded as coeducational.

In 1919 the name of the College was changed to Lynchburg College to avoid confusion with another institution in the area with the VCC designation and because the College's church constituency had expanded beyond Virginia.

With financial assistance from industrialist and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie and others, the physical facilities were expanded in 1909 with the completion of Carnegie Hall and Hopwood Hall. Other major campus facilities include Hall Campus Center (formerly Memorial Gymnasium, 1923, renovated 1980); Hundley Hall (1954); Knight-Capron Library (1954, Capron addition 1969); Hobbs Hall (1958, renovated 1995; laboratory wing 1993); Shackelford Hall (1963); Freer Hall (1963); Crews and Reynolds Courts (1964); McWane Hall (1966); Snidow Chapel-Hebb Music Center (1966); Burton Student Center (1968); Tate Hall (1969); Turner Gymnasium (1969, renovated 2000); Wake Field House (1969); Montgomery Hall (1970); Dillard Fine Arts Center (1974); Psychology Building (1978); Alumni House (1985); McMillan Nursing Building (1987); Thompson Education Building (1986); Daura Art Gallery (1990; addition 1995); Beaver Point Clubhouse (1990); Bell Tower (1993); and the Claytor Nature Study Center (1998) located in Bedford County, Va.

The presidents of Lynchburg College and the dates of their tenure are as follows: Dr. Josephus Hopwood (1903-1911), Dr. S. T. Willis (1911-1912), Mr. G. O. Davis (1912-1914), Dr. George P. Coler (Acting 1914-1915), Dr. John T. T. Hundley (1915-1936), Dr. Riley B. Montgomery '19 (1936-1949), Dr. Orville W. Wake '32 (1949-1964), Dr. M. Carey Brewer '49 (1964-1983), Dr. George N. Rainsford (1983-1993), Dr. Charles O. Warren (1993-2001), and Dr. Kenneth R. Garren (2001 -).

Now one hundred old, the College maintains its commitment to co-education and the liberal arts and sciences. At the same time, it encourages professional preparation because it is convinced that a liberal arts and sciences education and professional preparation are mutually supportive.

Lynchburg College awards bachelor of arts, bachelor of science, master of business administration, and master of education degrees.

With only eleven faculty members and fifty-five students at its beginning, the College now has more than 100 full-time faculty members and nearly 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students who come from all over the United States and around the world.

Academic Sessions

Fall and Spring Semesters

The College operates under the semester system, with a yearly schedule indicated by the College calendar.

Winter Term

A voluntary winter term during the winter break provides limited opportunities for pursuit of special interest courses. Courses taught during this term are intensive and may carry up to three hours of credit.

Summer Session

The Summer Session offers opportunity for acceleration of degree programs, pursuit of courses with particular appeal, and opportunity to remedy deficiencies.

Detailed information about summer sessions is available at the Lynchburg College web site, <http://www.lynchburg.edu/summer>.

The Campus

The grounds extend over 214 acres with a view and landscape of exceptional beauty with the Blue Ridge Mountains forming the western skyline.

The campus features thirty buildings, predominantly of Georgian style, grouped on the main campus oval. Near them are the athletic fields and the tennis courts. Sloping away toward a small lake are wooded hills, part of an original forest of oak, hickory, poplar, pine, and dogwood.

The 470-acre Claytor Nature Study Center, overlooking the Peaks of Otter, is located nearby in Bedford County, Va.