athletic achievements and championships

Messiah College sets standards for excellence in NCAA Division III college programs while developing the Christian character of its athletes. Our athletes turn in All-American performances and have been featured in USA Today, Sports Illustrated, nytimes.com, NCAA.com and on national network television.


• The Falcons had nine student-athletes earn College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-District honors in the 2012-2013 season for maintaining at least a 3.3 GPA and playing at least 50 percent of their team’s games at a primary position. Five of the recognized student-athletes went on to be named All-Americans, the most-ever for Messiah in a single year.

• In 2010, Chris Hesley ’08 debuted with the Cincinnati Reds, becoming the first Messiah alumnus to play in the major leagues.

Messiah College is the only school in NCAA history to win both men’s and women’s national championships in soccer in the same year — not only once but 4 times!

source: Messiah College Division of Athletics and NCAA.com

identity and mission

Messiah College is a Christian college of the liberal and applied arts and sciences. Our mission is to educate men and women toward maturity of intellect, character and Christian faith in preparation for lives of service, leadership and reconciliation in church and society.

overview

Messiah College is a nationally ranked, private Christian college with a student body of 3,084 undergraduate and graduate students. Located in Mechanicsburg, Pa., just 12 miles from the state capital, Harrisburg, Messiah also has a campus in downtown Harrisburg.

history

Messiah College was founded in 1909 by the Brethren in Christ Church. Now, the College’s faith base is broadly evangelical and includes students and employees from a variety of denominations and Christian faith traditions.

academic excellence

• In a Career Center post-graduation survey, 96 percent of the class of 2012 respondents indicated they were employed in graduate/professional programs within six to nine months after graduation, a rate significantly higher than the national employment average.

• Noted innovative learning experiences and outstanding preparation of graduates earn Messiah recognition as a “Pennsylvania College of Distinction” and a national “Christian College of Distinction.” Messiah was named a top college in Pennsylvania for return on investment, according to AffordableCollegesOnline.org.

• The new Calvin and Janet High Center for Worship and Performing Arts features a premier 800-seat performance and lecture hall for the region and provides state-of-the-art classroom and rehearsal spaces for music, theatre and dance students.
undergraduate majors and pre-professional programs

Messiah College awards Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in more than 80 majors. Specialized programs include extensive off-campus study, individualized majors, independent study, service-learning, internships, allied programs in partnership with other institutions (including advanced degrees in pharmacy and occupational therapy) and a flourishing College Honors Program.

80 MAJORS: For a complete listing, visit messiah.edu/majors.

PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS: pre-allied health, pre-dental, pre-law, pre-medical, pre-physical therapy, pre-veterinary

THREE-YEAR DEGREE OPTIONS: Some majors allow motivated students to graduate one or two semesters early. More information is available at messiah.edu/admissions/three_years/.

graduate programs

Messiah College offers quality graduate programs in a flexible hybrid format of traditional and online courses.

• Master of Music in conducting (wind, orchestral, choral)
• Master of Arts in counseling (clinical mental health; marriage, couple and family; or school counseling)
• Master of Education (curriculum and instruction; TESOL; or special education)
• Master of Arts in higher education (college athletics management or student affairs)
• Master of Science in Nursing

president

Kim S. Phipps, Ph.D., has served as the eighth president of Messiah College since 2004. Dr. Phipps represents the College’s commitment to civic engagement by serving in leadership roles on a variety of boards, including chairing the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities board. In 2012, Dr. Phipps was named one of “50 Women You Should Know” by Christianity Today.

notable community

The Messiah College community of students, educators and alumni are committed to seeking increased understanding of the Christian faith and applying that faith to specific academic disciplines and world problems.

• Messiah College hosts prominent national speakers, recently including David Brooks, Helene Cooper, Tony Dungy, Henry Louis Gates, Leymah Gbowee, Annette Gordon-Reed, James Davison Hunter, Eric Metaxas, Joni Eareckson Tada and Philip Yancey.

distinguished educators

Messiah College selects its educators for their Christian commitment as well as their proven teaching ability. They are outstanding scholars, authors, artists and experts in their chosen fields.

• Messiah College’s 178 full-time faculty hold degrees from nationally and internationally recognized graduate schools—including prestigious institutions such as Duke University, Oxford University, Vanderbilt University and the University of Pennsylvania.

• Our faculty members actively contribute research, scholarly writing and artistic works that inform their academic disciplines and the national conversation on faith in the academy and broader culture.

• Messiah educators are often sought by local, regional and national journalists for their commentary and expertise. Recent examples include coverage in Christian Science Monitor, Chronicle of Higher Education, CNN.com, FoxNews.com, Inside Higher Ed, Investor’s Business Daily, Philadelphia Inquirer and Washington Post.

faculty profile

FULL-TIME FACULTY: 178 (18% male/42% female)

HOLO TERMINAL DEGREE: 84%

PART-TIME FACULTY: 128

STUDENT/FACULTY RATIO: 13:1

student profile

UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT: 2,772 undergraduate students representing 37 states and 28 countries

39% male/61% female students

2,701 full-time students

2,407 living in on-campus housing

42% out-of-state students

10% students from underrepresented racial, ethnic and cultural populations

2.4% international students

UNDERGRADUATE FINANCIAL AID:

AVERAGE AID PACKAGE: $26,198 first-year students

$24,712 all undergraduates

UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION AND GRADUATION:

86.4% returned for 2nd year

70.4% graduated within 4 years

75.8% graduated within 6 years

Messiah does not track students who transfer from Messiah College and graduate from another institution.

GRADUATE ENROLLMENT:

312 graduate students representing 20 states

Christian faith formation

Messiah weaves opportunities for spiritual growth throughout students’ college experience—including chapel and worship services, discipleship groups, ministry outreach teams, community service, mission trips and a variety of other special programs. For more information, visit messiah.edu/ministries.

community engagement

• Messiah College has earned the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching’s prestigious Community Engagement Classification for curricular engagement and outreach partnerships.

• Messiah’s commitment to service-learning and civic engagement earned recognition on the national President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction.

• Messiah’s partnership with Harrisburg School District earned national attention on the 2012-2013 National Together for Tomorrow School Improvement Challenge Honor Roll, an initiative of the White House Office of Faith-Based Initiatives and NeighborHood Partnerships recognizing only 30 institutions nationwide.

• The Agapé Center for Service and Learning cultivates experiences with community partners to prepare individuals for lifelong service. In 2012-2013, an estimated 99 percent of the graduating class participated in some form of community service through the Agapé Center.

• Messiah’s extensive sustainability efforts include initiatives such as a student-run organic community garden, composting, one of the nation’s largest solar thermal systems, biodiesel production and regular college-wide inventory of greenhouse gas emissions. The Princeton Review recently named Messiah College one of the 322 most environmentally responsible colleges in the U.S. and Canada. Read more at messiah.edu/sustainability.

• Messiah’s Internship Center is nationally recognized for excellence in professional preparation of students for today’s workforce. More than 455 colleges and universities use Messiah’s training materials or model their internship program after Messiah.

• Messiah helps students connect with potential employers, the Career Center hosts Interns to the City, a unique, intensive two-year career development and networking program in a major U.S. city.