



2015 Annual Report to the Synods

Wartburg College is dedicated to challenging and nurturing students for lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression of their faith and learning.

In our daily work to educate young people, Wartburg College strives to live its distinctive mission in bold, new contexts. Our calling is to challenge and nurture students of tomorrow, who come to us from many places, desires, and aspirations.

Enrollment

Like so many sister schools in the region, our most recent incoming classes have been smaller than those we welcomed in the late '90s and early 2000s. Fall 2015 enrollment at Wartburg was 1,537; international students and U.S. students of color total 19 percent. Because so much of our operating revenue comes from tuition, room, and board, we've had to undergo a careful and serious budget review process, and deploy new admissions strategies to build larger applicant pools.

Transforming Tomorrow Campaign

Wartburg's \$75 million comprehensive campaign, publicly launched in 2014, has been enthusiastically received by alumni, parents, and friends. Nearing the total goal a year early, the campaign features three components:

- **People:** Wartburg has awarded new or additional scholarships to more than 120 students, representing \$335,000 in additional aid. Two sizeable estate gifts have created new scholarships for science and education students.
- **Places:** Wartburg broke ground in February 2016 on an \$8 million renovation of Clinton Hall that will create an innovative living and learning environment for students. Fueled by several major gifts, the project includes major interior updates and new academic and social spaces. Other significant gifts have made possible the Knief Outdoor Athletics Pavilion, a new lacrosse field, and a first-of-its kind virtual acoustic system in Neumann Auditorium.
- **Programs:** Generous gifts have enabled the College to elevate the Gerald R. Kleinfeld Distinguished Professorship in German History to an Endowed Chair, create the Baldwin Leadership Fellows program, and establish a German Institute to provide organization and focus for the college's wealth of Germany related programs and relationships.

New Academic Programs

- This past fall, Wartburg launched new programs in actuarial science, neuroscience, criminal justice, and a "4+1" program with Iowa State University to enable students to earn a master's degree in industrial engineering in five years. The College will inaugurate its first master's-level program in music therapy in Fall 2017.
- A new Des Moines internship program will provide another compelling learning opportunity in an urban environment, building on the success of the Wartburg West program in Denver, CO.

Commitment to Vocation and Mentoring

- The College was recently awarded a \$10,000 NetVUE Professional Development Award from the Council of Independent Colleges to fund a one-year initiative to equip faculty and staff to help students explore their vocation.
- The 2015 Graven Award, an annual award for vocation and daily life, was awarded to Yale University's Dr. Elijah Anderson, an award-winning author and one of the nation's leading urban ethnographers and cultural theorists.

Recognition

- Wartburg is Iowa's first private institution – and only the ninth in the nation – to earn a Gold rating from the leading authority on sustainability in higher education.
- Campus Compact named student Jenna Manders of Dubuque, IA, a Newman Civic Fellow for her contributions to community and civic engagement.
- Senior Mullohoji Juraev, a native of Tajikistan, was among the 2015 winners of a \$10,000 Davis Projects for Peace grant to improve learning conditions at a public school in his home country.
- Senior Kwabena Owusu-Amoah of Ghana was awarded a \$6,000 Clinton Foundation Resolution Grant to expand the use of a software app that aims to reduce maternal mortality rates in Ghana.

Many Blessings

We are blessed to work with gifted students who are committed to changing the world. Thank you for encouraging your students to join Wartburg's historic tradition as they share their gifts to enrich our community of learning.

Dr. Darrel D. Colson, President