

An Overview

a long term view. We want to involve ourselves in efforts that prepare us effectively to impact the world of the 21st Century.

EXTERNAL ASSOCIATIONS

Accredited By

Union University is accredited by the *Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools* (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097; Telephone 404-679-4501) to award baccalaureate, masters, education specialist, and education doctorate degrees. The University also has the following discipline-specific accreditation:

American Chemical Society
Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
Council on Social Work Education
National Association of Schools of Art and Design
National Association of Schools of Music
National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education
Teacher Education Program, Tennessee State Department of Education
Tennessee Health Related Boards

Member Of

American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association for Colleges of Teacher Education
American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers
Associations for Christians in Student Development
Association of Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools
4 Baptist Association for Student Affairs
Concurrent Admissions Program
Council for Christian Colleges and Universities
Council of Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Programs of the National League for Nursing
Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences
Council on Undergraduate Research
Council for the Advancement and Support of Education
National Art Education Association
National Association of College Admissions Counselors

Penick Academic Complex

The Penick Academic Complex houses the G.M. Savage Memorial Chapel, Fred DeLay Gymnasium, E.T. “Rocky” Palmer Activities Center, Joseph H. Miller III Science Center, the W. D. Powell Theatre, Waldrop Administrative Center, Union Station, Computing Services, and Emma Waters Summar Library.

The Waldrop Administrative Center contains the offices of Career Services, the Registrar, Business Services, the Office of the Provost, the Office of the President, and University Relations.

The Emma Waters Summar Library, through its holdings and subscriptions and through its membership in regional and international networks, has access to journals and books from over 21,000 major libraries throughout the world. The Instructional Media Center houses a growing collection of media hardware and software available for student and faculty use.

Blasingame Academic Complex

The McAfee School of Business Administration and the School of Education and Human Services are located in the Blasingame Academic Complex.

After a major fire in 1912, several new buildings were constructed, including the centerpiece of the campus for the next 60 years, Barton Hall. In 1948 the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools granted Union University its original accreditation. In 1962, at the request of local physicians, Union developed a nursing program with the assistance of Jackson-Madison County General Hospital.

Because of the deterioration of its aging campus, Union in 1975 moved from near downtown to a new campus located along Highway 45-Bypass in north Jackson. Since then, enrollment has increased from about 1,000 students to nearly 2,500; the multi-purpose Penick Academic Complex has been enlarged several times; many additional housing units have been erected; and several buildings have been constructed, including Blasingame Academic Complex, Hyran E. Barefoot Student Union Building, Hammons Hall and Jennings Hall. Part of the reason for growth derived from new academic programs and graduate studies in education and business administration.

Union's presence in Memphis area began with a medical school from 1878 to 1911 with 2,625 M.D. degrees awarded. From the early 1950's to the early 1970's, Union opened an Extension Center at Prescott Memorial Baptist Church near Memphis State University. From 1987-96, Union offered the degree completion program leading to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN track) in Memphis. There were over 300 graduates of this program. The institution suspended its operations in Memphis for one year as it planned the establishment of a stand alone satellite campus specifically for adult students. Under the leadership of President David S. Dockery, who was elected Union's fifteenth president in 1995, Union established this satellite campus in the Memphis suburb of Germantown with programs in nursing, business administration, and education.

To broaden its connection with the wider Christian higher education movement, Union in the mid-1990s joined the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities. The University also adopted a new campus master plan to accommodate the University's growth well into the twenty-first century.

In the 1990s Union has had its greatest intercollegiate athletic success as Union's Lady Bulldogs basketball team of 1998 finished first in the NAIA National Basketball Tournament.

Also during the 1990s the university reinitiated its graduate programs with the MAEd, the MBA and the MEd. An undergraduate degree completion program in business was