

# AN OVERVIEW

## Our Identity

Union University is an academic community, affiliated with the Tennessee Baptist Convention, equipping persons to think Christianly and serve faithfully in ways consistent with its core values of being Christ-centered, people-focused, excellence-driven, and future-directed. These values shape its identity as an institution which prioritizes liberal arts based undergraduate education enhanced by professional and graduate programs. The academic community is composed of quality faculty, staff, and students working together in a caring, grace-filled environment conducive to the development of character, servant leadership, and cultural engagement.

## Our Core Values

Ú **Christ-Centered:** A cohering core value of our guiding vision is a call to faith, a call to be Christ centered in all that we are and in all that we do. We will seek to build a Christian liberal arts based community where men and women can be introduced to an understanding and appreciation of God, His creation and grace, and to humanity's place of privilege and responsibility in this world. We will seek to establish all aspects of life and learning on the Word of God, leading to a

while seeking to develop a generation of students who can be agents of reconciliation to a factious church in a hurting and broken world. This commitment calls for all faculty and staff to integrate Christian faith in all learning and doing, based on the supposition that all truth is God's truth and that there is no contradiction between God's truth made known to us in Holy Scrip-

through our words and actions, and by committing to each person's success. We therefore jointly commit ourselves to the success of Union University.

- **Future-Directed:** We will seek to maximize the windows of opportunity the Lord has presented to us to the greatest degree that resources allow. All of our resources and efforts must, by God's grace, be maximized to fulfill our common mission. A commitment to being future directed means we want to have a short-term focus and a long term view. We want to involve ourselves in efforts that prepare us effectively to impact the world of the 21st Century.

## Our Mission

Union University provides Christ-centered education that promotes excellence and character development in service to Church and society.

## Our History

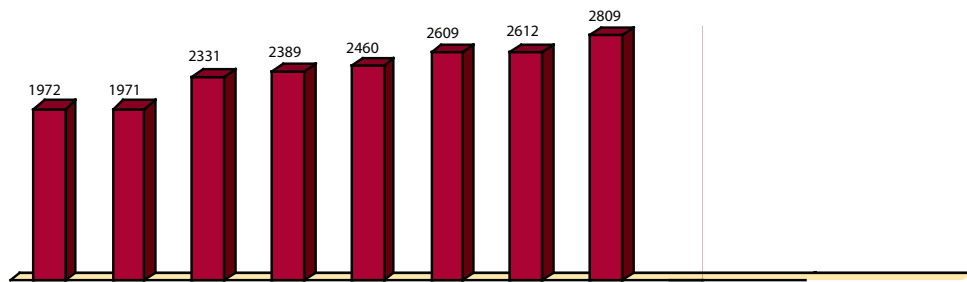
Union University is an heir of three antebellum Tennessee schools—West Tennessee College and its predecessor, Jackson Male Academy, both located at Jackson, and of Union University, located at Murfreesboro—and it is the inheritor of another college in 1927, Hall-Moody Junior College of Martin, Tennessee.

Jackson Male Academy, founded in 1823 shortly after the opening of West Tennessee for settlement, was chartered by the legislature in 1825, making it the oldest school currently affiliated with Southern Baptist life.

West Tennessee College originated in the mid-1840s when supporters of the Academy secured a charter for a college and received an endowment from the state to come from the sale of public lands. Under its charter, the property rights and governance of the Jackson Male Academy were vested in the trustees of the College. The

College offered three degrees—bachelor of arts, bachelor of philosophy, and master of arts—and had four departments: Moral Philosophy, Languages, Mathematics, and Natural Philosophy and Chemistry. West Tennessee College continued until 1874, when at a time of depressed economic conditions, the trustees offered the College's buildings, grounds, and endowment to Tennessee Baptists in the hopes of attracting a southwestern regional university planned by the state's Baptist leaders.

Meanwhile, after years of discussion and the raising of an endowment, the Baptists of Middle Tennessee (there were three separate conventions in Tennessee at that time) in 1848 established Union University at Murfreesboro, near the geographical center of the state. Union University came upon hard times when in 1859 its highly respected president, Dr. Eaton, died and when during the Civil War its campus was badly damaged. It reopened in



**Union University Annual Fall Enrollment**



7. **The Church.** The Lord Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church, which is composed of all true followers of Christ, and in Him is invested supremely all power for its government. Christians are to associate themselves with local churches; and to each church is given the authority to administer order, to carry out ministry, to worship, and to practice discipline.
8. **Last Things.** The bodies of humans after death return to dust, but their spirits return immediately to God—the righteous to rest with Him; the wicked to be reserved

under darkness to the judgment. God in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth. At the last day, the bodies of all the dead, both just and unjust, will be raised. God has appointed a day, when He will judge the world by Jesus Christ, when all people shall receive according to their deeds; the wicked shall go into everlasting punishment; the righteous, into everlasting life.

## External Associations

### Accredited By

Union University is accredited by the *Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools* to award associate, baccalaureate, masters, education specialist, and education doctorate degrees. Questions about the status of the University's accreditation may be obtained from the Commission on Colleges by calling 404.679.4501 or by writing 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA. The University also has the following discipline-specific accreditation:

- Accrediting Board for Engineering and Technology,  
Engineering Accreditation Commission*
- American Chemical Society*
- Commission on Accreditation for Athletic  
Training Education*
- Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia  
Educational Programs*
- Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education*
- 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*

### Applicant for Accreditation By

- Council on Accreditation on Nursing Anesthesia*

### Accreditation in Process

- Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education*

**Office of the Registrar**

The Stephen Olford Center is an 18-acre facility in southeast Memphis which includes more than 40 hotel-style rooms for conference attendees; dining facilities; a patio and swimming pool; a newly donated library with about 32,000 volumes; classrooms and offices; and a chapel.

An abbreviated description of Jackson campus facilities follows. A more detailed description of each building as well as the services available in each, is presented in the *Campus Life Handbook* and at [www.uu.edu/student-services](http://www.uu.edu/student-services).

### **Penick Academic Complex**

The Penick Academic Complex houses the G.M. Savage Memorial Chapel, Fred DeLay Gymnasium, E.T. "Rocky" Palmer Activities Center, the Office of Career Services, the W. D. Powell Theatre, Waldrop Administrative Center, Union Station, Computing Services, Emma Waters Summar Library, and Hundley Center for Academic Enrichment. The Complex includes the Arts & Sciences departments of Art, Computer Science, Engineering, English, History, Language, Mathematics, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology & Family Studies; the Education & Human Studies department of Physical Education, Wellness & Sport; and the School of Pharmacy.

The Waldrop Administrative Center contains the offices of the Registrar, Business Services, the Office of the Provost, the Office of the President, and University Communications, and the Institute for International and Intercultural Studies.

The Emma Waters Summar Library has immediate access to a collection of over 150,000 books, 19,000 e-journals, and 40,000 e-books. Through its membership in regional and national library cooperatives it has easy access to the combined collections of over 41,000 libraries worldwide. The library provides knowledgeable reference service, in-depth research assistance, personalized training,