

## **Report of Hope College**

Hope College, a proud affiliate of the Reformed Church in America since its inception in 1866, is renowned for its inclusive Christian environment, thriving campus community, and exceptional academic and extracurricular offerings. Our commitment to shaping leaders rooted in the historic Christian tradition remains steadfast.

### **Mission**

The mission of Hope College is to educate students for lives of leadership and service in a global society through academic and co-curricular programs of recognized excellence in the liberal arts and in the context of the historic Christian faith.

### **A Beacon of Academic Excellence**

At Hope College, we lead the way in undergraduate research, scholarly pursuits, and readiness for both further education and the professional sphere. With a dedicated faculty delivering a rigorous, coeducational experience, we serve approximately 3,200 undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds. Through intimate class settings and extensive collaborative research opportunities, we maintain an impressive 11:1 student-to-faculty ratio. Offering over 1,800 internships and 300 study abroad programs across 60 countries, we instill a global perspective, ensuring our graduates excel in an interconnected world. Notably, 94 percent of our graduates seamlessly transition into the workforce or pursue advanced studies within six months of graduation.

### **Hope Forward: A Visionary Initiative**

Under the visionary leadership of President Matthew A. Scogin, Hope College embarks on the transformative Hope Forward initiative. This groundbreaking endeavor seeks to fully fund the tuition of all students by shifting to a donation-based model post-graduation. Inspired by principles of generosity and gratitude, this initiative aligns seamlessly with our Christian ethos. With over \$75 million raised and national recognition, including a feature on Malcolm Gladwell's "Revisionist History" podcast, Hope Forward embodies our commitment to accessible Christian education, echoing the founding principles of our institution.

### **A Legacy of Academic Excellence and Research**

Rooted in a comprehensive liberal arts education, Hope College offers specialized programs across 90 majors, minors, and pre-professional tracks. Our faculty's dedication to teaching and scholarship fosters transformative experiences for students, igniting intellectual passions and professional aspirations. Renowned for undergraduate research (#27 per U.S. News & World Report), our institution ranks among the top liberal arts colleges in the nation (#100 per U.S. News & World Report), with students and faculty contributing significantly to diverse fields of knowledge.

## **Celebrating Artistic Expression**

As pioneers in arts education, we hold national accreditation in art, dance, music, and theatre. Our commitment to artistic excellence extends beyond state-of-the-art facilities to comprehensive exhibition programs and transformative performance experiences. Through interdisciplinary collaboration, our students engage with nationally recognized artists, enriching their educational journey and fostering creativity.

## **Excellence in Athletics**

In addition to excelling in scholarship, research, and artistic performance, our students also excel in athletics. We believe that intercollegiate sport is a powerful vehicle for education as well as for personal development. Our athletics program is part of our Kinesiology Department and is guided by a community of coaches, scholars, and leaders who prioritize excellence and the student-athlete experience. The members of our athletics program are committed to the utmost integrity in competition, engaged in Christian faith formation, and dedicated to excelling in sports, academics, and life. In December 2023, our women's volleyball team competed for the national title in Claremont, California, ultimately finishing as the national runner-up.

## **Empowering Vocational Discovery**

Hope's Boerigter Center for Calling and Career (BCCC) is a college-wide initiative engaging our students and alumni in lifelong practices for career development beginning in a student's freshman year. The BCCC is more than a resource for reaching career goals: it is a process, a plan, and a guided journey over four-plus years. Interests, strengths, and values are assessed, and students become part of the Hope network.

## **Campus Ministries: A Holistic Approach to Faith**

Hope College is a Christian community that invites all its members into a holistic and robust engagement with the historic Christian faith and a personal encounter with the living Christ through the Holy Spirit. Our Christian identity is described by these three aspirations: Hope aspires to be faithful, welcoming, and transformational. Hope is committed to the historical Christian faith as expressed in the ecumenical creeds of the ancient church, and the variety of expressions of the Christian faith we hold contributes to the vitality of the life of the college. Hope seeks to affirm the dignity of all persons as bearers of God's image, and we welcome those of different faiths or of no faith at all. We are committed to freedom of inquiry, yet also to the centrality of Scripture and renewal of our minds according to the will of God. The whole Hope community is encouraged in a life-long commitment to grow in God's grace and to pursue vocations through which the world so loved by God is renewed. This March, over 250 students traveled on immersion trips with our campus ministries team. Believing that we are not sent to save the world but to serve the world in the name

of Jesus, these students participated in service projects around the country and world.

### **Hope-Western Prison Education Program (HWPEP): Extending Our Mission**

In partnership with Western Theological Seminary, HWPEP extends our educational mission beyond traditional boundaries, providing transformative opportunities for incarcerated individuals. There are a collective 42 students enrolled in credit-bearing courses. The program is designed to accommodate 80 students when fully subscribed.

### **In Conclusion**

Hope College stands as a beacon of academic excellence, creativity, and service, empowering students to realize their full potential within a nurturing Christian community. Our commitment to accessible education, innovative initiatives, and holistic development ensures that every student thrives, embodying the values of our institution.