

INTRODUCTION

Wisconsin's Oldest College

In 1841, settlers living in the Wisconsin Territory community of Prairieville established the academy that five years later would become Carroll College. Soon after its founding, Carroll affiliated with the Presbyterian Church and adopted the motto, "Christo et Litteris," which means "for Christ and Learning." The University's early patrons believed that higher education would serve as an instrument for civilizing the wilderness, spreading the Gospel and planting the roots of democracy deep in the prairie soil. They also sought to provide for the prosperity of their children and future generations. As Wisconsin's oldest institution of higher learning, Carroll is known today as the "Pioneer College." Carroll became Carroll University in 2008.

Throughout its history, the hallmarks of the Carroll educational experience have been teaching excellence and individualized attention. These values find expression in four important mission documents: The Mission Statement, the Four Pillars, the Statement of Educational Goals and the Carroll University Compact.

Carroll University Mission Statement

"We will provide a superior educational opportunity to our students, one grounded in the liberal arts tradition and focused on career preparation and lifelong learning.

We will demonstrate Christian values by our example.

We shall succeed in our mission when our graduates are prepared for careers of their choice and lives of fulfillment, service and accomplishment."

The Four Pillars

Today, the institution draws upon its rich liberal arts tradition to prepare students to achieve their full potential in our ever-changing society. The University's educational philosophy is sustained by the four pillars of integrated knowledge, lifelong skills, gateway experiences and enduring values.

Integrated Knowledge is the very foundation of a quality liberal arts program. The Carroll curriculum emphasizes breadth and depth of learning. Our purpose is to encourage students to recognize the interrelationships among ideas. We believe that students with this understanding will continue to learn, grow and succeed long after they leave the campus.

Lifelong Skills help students prepare for life and work in a world of rapid and constant change. We believe that graduates will continue to evolve and contribute to their communities long after they earn their degrees. To that end, our mission is to help students learn to think critically and creatively, adapt to changing technologies, work efficiently and effectively, collaborate with others, and communicate clear, compelling ideas.

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Enduring Values help students to consider always the impact of their actions on the world around them. We believe that effective leaders draw their inspiration from strong personal value systems. Our goal, therefore, is to offer students multiple opportunities to make decisions and then to reflect upon their consequences.

Gateway Experiences occur both upon entering and upon leaving Carroll University. We believe that our educational responsibility extends beyond the classroom into every aspect of our students' lives. That is why we place a special emphasis on preparing incoming students for university life and on helping graduates make successful transitions into their first jobs, or graduate and professional schools.

The four pillars undergird all that we do at Carroll University. They are integral to our undergraduate curriculum and guide our post-baccalaureate and graduate programs. In other words, they provide the broad inspiration for the Carroll experience and the many relationships we nurture with other organizations and institutions.

Statement of Educational Goals

An education at Carroll University offers a student alternatives from which to choose a worthwhile personal, professional and civic life. It promotes intellectual growth which culminates in the capacity for serious and creative thinking. Based on a core of studies in the liberal arts and sciences complemented by career preparation and co-curricular programs, a Carroll education encourages growth in international and cultural awareness, social responsibility, moral sensitivity and spiritual reflection.

A Carroll education begins with the acquisition of fundamental skills and bodies of knowledge. These skills include critical inquiry, effective communication, aesthetic understanding, quantitative reasoning and the capacities to gather and assimilate information and to identify and solve problems. The core of basic studies brings coherence and order to the task of learning about oneself and one's culture. It provides students with the opportunity to know the literature, philosophy, art and institutions of the world, as well as its history, science and technology.

The most essential consequence of a Carroll education is that students develop their capacity and desire to continue learning. This is best achieved through a curriculum which demonstrates the value of individual and group efforts in interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary settings while it provides students with those bodies of knowledge vital for further learning. They are then prepared for discovery, creation and application of knowledge and aesthetic forms.

Our goal is to provide an educational foundation which enables graduates to participate effectively and confidently in a diverse and changing world. Persons with a Carroll education have opportunities for fulfillment and happiness and are liberated in a true and meaningful sense.

The Carroll University Compact

Carroll University is a community for learning. As individuals, we come to the campus from different homes and cultures. We bring with us our distinctive perspectives, traditions and experiences. Here we become participants in a community dedicated to the pursuit of academic excellence, personal fulfillment and spiritual meaning. Choosing to join such a community obligates each member to consider thoughtfully the values espoused by the larger group. We therefore invite you to contemplate these ideals and strive toward their realization. We ask that you enter into a voluntary compact with the other members of the community that is Carroll University to live and work according to these values.

I will value the human diversity and dignity of all people and will respect their ideas, opinions and traditions. This ideal requires openness of mind, a willingness to affirm the differences that exist among us, and a desire to develop shared understanding. Dedication to this ideal is inconsistent with behaviors that compromise or demean individuals and groups.

I will practice personal academic integrity. This ideal requires a commitment to honesty, a regard for the rights and feelings of others, and the courage to speak one's convictions. It obligates each member of the community to support the creation of a positive learning and living environment and is inconsistent with cheating in classes, games or sports; lying, excuse-making or plagiarizing; and infidelity, coercion or disloyalty in personal relationships.

I will care for the physical environment of the campus and its neighborhood setting. This ideal requires stewardship of the resources allocated to us and a commitment to upholding the natural ecology of the campus and the larger community of Waukesha. Devotion to this ideal is inconsistent with all forms of theft, vandalism and misappropriation; wastefulness or destruction; and violation of the rights of others to live, learn and work in a clean and healthy environment.

I will support and enhance the development of others. This ideal requires a commitment to creation of an empowering learning and working environment, where collaboration, trust and cooperation are favored over suspicion and excessive competition. Dedication to this ideal is inconsistent with blaming or inhibiting the growth of others.

I will encourage creativity, artistic expression and excellence in all areas of our lives. This ideal requires the understanding that beauty and boldness are inherent to the human spirit. A commitment to this ideal is inconsistent with devaluing the work, performance or expressions of another person.

I will seek to understand my purpose in the world. This ideal requires the development of a global vision, an understanding that one is a citizen of the international community. Dedication to this ideal is inconsistent with parochialism, bigotry and selfish use or allocation of shared resources.

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I will dedicate myself to exploration of personal values and the spiritual quest for meaning. This ideal requires the willingness to explore one's inner life through reflection, study and inquiry.

The Carroll Advantage

Since its establishment in 1846, the well-being of the University and the surrounding community of Waukesha have been linked. The city, at the center of one of the state's fastest-growing counties, boasts a population of more than 68,000 residents. Waukesha is located in one of Wisconsin's most beautiful areas at the doorstep of the Kettle Moraine. The University, which occupies a 50-acre campus in the center of the city, benefits from a setting that offers proximity to Milwaukee (15 miles east), Madison (60 miles west), and Chicago (100 miles south). We draw upon the advantages of our location to offer students access to a wide range of internship and career opportunities.

Faculty commitment to individualized attention and student learning are the hallmarks of the Carroll experience. We know that learning occurs when gifted faculty and staff engage dedicated, talented students in our classrooms, laboratories, the Learning Commons, athletics and arts facilities, residence halls and campus organizations. Our students come to the campus from diverse backgrounds and bring with them a rich array of talent, ambition and perspectives. On campus, they meet the University's faculty and staff, who are experts in their fields and are dedicated to helping students reach their full potential as professionals and as human beings. Together, our students, faculty and staff create the high-energy community for learning known as Carroll University.