

# PURVIS UNIVERSITY



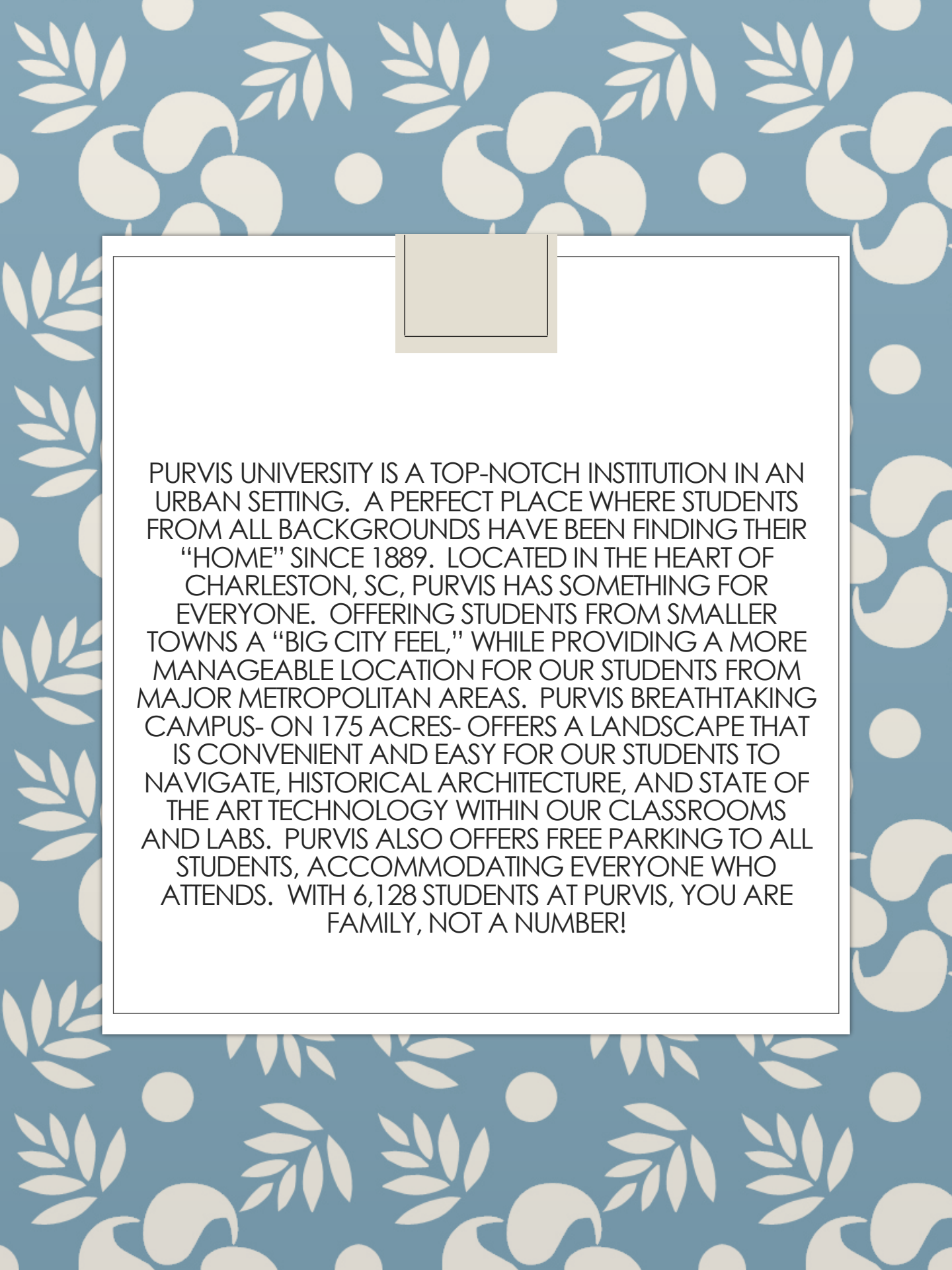
# History <sup>(1,2)</sup>

Purvis University has an exceptional history dating back nearly 125 years. The Society of Friends founded Bennett College, now Purvis University, in 1888 in Charleston, SC. The first students enrolled in the college fall of 1889, among these students were women and students of color. The college struggled to keep their doors open, but through a grant from the city of Charleston and a generous contribution from Robert Purvis, an African American abolitionist and Charleston native, Bennett College was able to stay open. The college changed its name to Purvis College in honor of the generous donation. In 1948, sixty years after its founding Purvis College became Purvis University.



Photo by Kim Howard

Though no longer affiliated with the Society of Friends, Purvis University stays sincerely committed to its Quaker history. Purvis still honors Bennett College's founding standard that all people- regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status should have the access and right to an education. The university keeps alive in their mission and core values the everlasting Quaker practices and beliefs.



PURVIS UNIVERSITY IS A TOP-NOTCH INSTITUTION IN AN URBAN SETTING. A PERFECT PLACE WHERE STUDENTS FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS HAVE BEEN FINDING THEIR "HOME" SINCE 1889. LOCATED IN THE HEART OF CHARLESTON, SC, PURVIS HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE. OFFERING STUDENTS FROM SMALLER TOWNS A "BIG CITY FEEL," WHILE PROVIDING A MORE MANAGEABLE LOCATION FOR OUR STUDENTS FROM MAJOR METROPOLITAN AREAS. PURVIS BREATHTAKING CAMPUS- ON 175 ACRES- OFFERS A LANDSCAPE THAT IS CONVENIENT AND EASY FOR OUR STUDENTS TO NAVIGATE, HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE, AND STATE OF THE ART TECHNOLOGY WITHIN OUR CLASSROOMS AND LABS. PURVIS ALSO OFFERS FREE PARKING TO ALL STUDENTS, ACCOMMODATING EVERYONE WHO ATTENDS. WITH 6,128 STUDENTS AT PURVIS, YOU ARE FAMILY, NOT A NUMBER!

# Facts and Figures (3,4)

## Institutional Type

- Public
- 4- Year
- Liberal Arts
- Coeducational
- Urban
- 2 Year On-Campus Residency Requirement
- Location-Charleston, SC



Photo by Brandon Woodard

## Student Demographics

- 5,286 Undergraduate Students, 842 Post Graduate Students from more than 45 U.S. states and 32 countries
- 90% Full-time enrollment
- 47% students of color
- 53% Female, 47% Male
- 56% First-generation college students
- 73% of applicants were admitted for fall 2013
- Average high school GPA 3.67, Average ACT 27

## Academic

- Faculty to student ratio 14:1
- Average Class Size fewer than 20 students
- Faculty- 218 Full Time, 95% of faculty with terminal degree in their field
- Degrees- 25 Bachelor Degrees, 27 Minors, 20 Post Graduate Degrees



# Campus Involvement

Purvis offers students a variety of ways to get active on campus. With over 150 campus clubs and organizations, our students have a variety of ways to get involved. Students also have the opportunity to join one of our NCAA Division II athletic programs. Students have the opportunity to become active community citizens by participating in numerous volunteer, cultural, and recreational activities throughout the campus and Charleston community. Through the Office of International Education, over 75% of Purvis students have participated in some type of study abroad experience.

Photos by Joni Wiley



# Distinguished Academics at an affordable cost <sup>(5)</sup>

Since the beginning, Purvis University has made it a priority to provide an affordable and excellent education to all students that enter. Purvis hopes that finances never stand in the way of making a student's educational dream a reality. Here at Purvis we understand that when choosing an institution finances are always a big factor. Through our competitive tuition and fees, remarkable scholarship programs, and the annual \$80 million awarded in financial aid, we are confident this will make the choice a little easier. We hope to make the selection process and looming cost of college a little less frightening.

## Recognition and Finances

- Purvis is annually ranked #1 in the Southeast by the *U.S. News & World Report*
- More than **\$80 million** in financial aid is available to students annually
- Member of Colleges that Change Lives
- University scholarships from university resources and donors total over **\$15 million**
- **97%** of Purvis student are working while attending Purvis, **67%** of this students work on campus

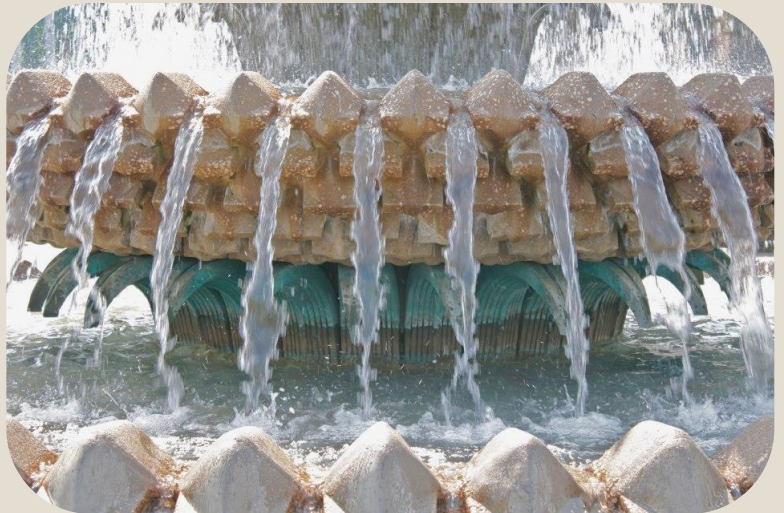


Photo by Kim Howard

# Vision and Mission Statement<sup>(6,7)</sup>

## Vision Statement

To provide a dynamic community environment rooted in a rigorous liberal arts educational foundation and Quaker heritage, a community that prepares and graduates unique, respectful, vocationally trained global citizens and leaders.

## Mission Statement

Purvis University is a prominent liberal arts institution that enhances the lives of our diverse population of students through an academically rigorous and developmental environment. We are committed to providing an affordable education with opportunities to broaden our students' experiences. Through enhance faculty and student interaction and preparation, students learn through all aspect of their education. Purvis University prepares students to work collaboratively, strive to be life-long learners, and develop as actively engaged citizens and leaders.

# CORE VALUES (8,9,10)

Through the Purvis core values, we hope to expound on the university mission and vision while staying true to our liberal arts foundation and Quaker heritage. Purvis University achieves their vision, mission, and outcomes by enacting these university wide core values. These core values serve as a guide and foundation to our students, faculty, and staff.

## **We seek to work collaboratively and build a community**

Rooted in the Quaker tradition; we encourage students, faculty, and staff to build meaningful and authentic relationships. With the understanding that we are a “family,” built on common goals and the earnest will to succeed. Through these relationships and collaboration, we can establish a community of empowerment, knowledge, and advancement.

## **We strive for excellence and to be led by truthfulness**

We aim to perform at our highest potential forever-seeking greatness. Led by the willingness to engage we search for honesty within ourselves, others, and in all our actions. As leaders, take responsibility for what we say and do.

## **We have curiosity for the world around us and respect for diversity**

As lifelong learners, we value an endless search and support for research and things unknown and undiscovered. As people, we value open-mindedness, new experiences, and difference. We believe in approaching new situations and people with respect and humility.



# Learning Outcomes (11,12,13,14,15)

Purvis University aims to provide an enhancing experience for all students, inside and outside the classroom. Through a collaborative effort, the Purvis community has acknowledged these six learning outcomes. These learning outcomes serve as an interconnected piece of the entire Purvis experience. Intentionally instilled through various aspects of students' academic and social experiences these learning outcomes are achieved here at Purvis and within the Charleston community. Here at Purvis University we understand the unique and diverse backgrounds of our student population, we strive in all we do to make sure all our students achieve these outcomes upon graduation.

## **Intercultural Respect and Understanding**

Students will become fully aware of the interconnectedness of our global society. Students should emphasize respect for the difference and commonalities of people cultures, ideas, and beliefs. Imbedded in the Quaker commitment to social justice, students should learn to make ethical and moral decisions.

## **Growth in Personal Foundations**

Students will obtain and develop their personal values, beliefs, and ideas. Students will be self-aware individuals who participate in moral and ethical reasoning and decision-making. Students will understand that knowledge does not stop at degree completion, but instead students will immerse themselves in lifelong learning.

## **Effective Communication**

Students will have practical and advance communication skills, which will allow them to effectively communicate in a variety of ways. The curriculum intentionally incorporates oral, written, and creative assignments to provide students the opportunity to utilize and expand their communication skills.

## **Critical and Creative Thinking**

Students will have the ability to assess and analyze information. They will be innovative in their ideas and thoughts. Students will explore and evaluate their knowledge and the world around them.

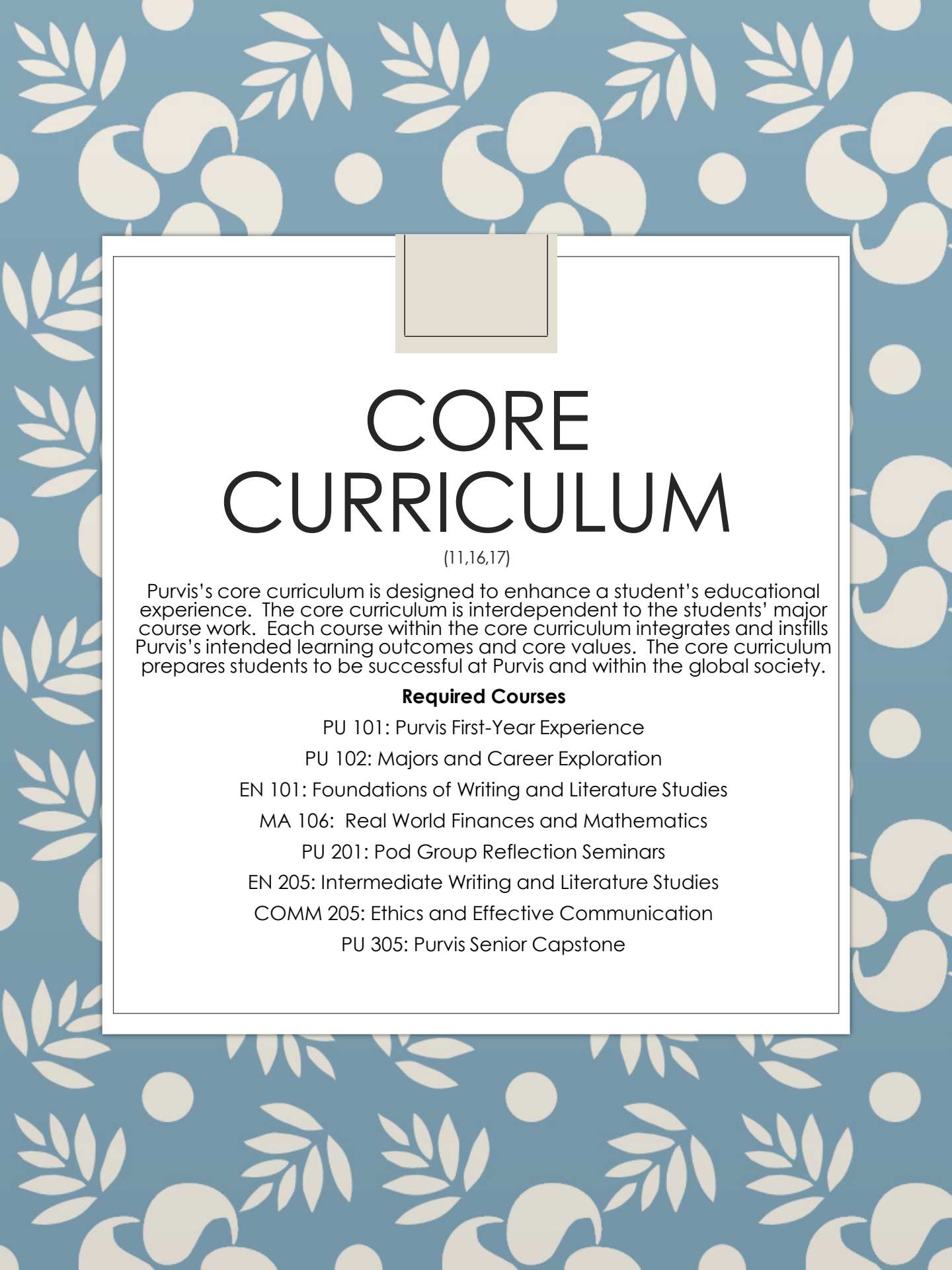
## **Integrative Learning**

Purvis's intentional curriculum and programs promotes students to connect their knowledge in a variety of experiences (e.g. internships, service projects). Reflection assignments within the curriculum encourage students to integrate and synthesize their experience.

## **Practical and Vocational Skills**

Students will gain a variety of practical and vocational skills within the Purvis Curriculum and through required out of class experiences. The Purvis curriculum allows students to gain a vast amount of experience in their field of study. Purvis integrates practical and vocational skill development throughout the curriculum.





# CORE CURRICULUM

(11,16,17)

Purvis's core curriculum is designed to enhance a student's educational experience. The core curriculum is interdependent to the students' major course work. Each course within the core curriculum integrates and instills Purvis's intended learning outcomes and core values. The core curriculum prepares students to be successful at Purvis and within the global society.

## **Required Courses**

PU 101: Purvis First-Year Experience

PU 102: Majors and Career Exploration

EN 101: Foundations of Writing and Literature Studies

MA 106: Real World Finances and Mathematics

PU 201: Pod Group Reflection Seminars

EN 205: Intermediate Writing and Literature Studies

COMM 205: Ethics and Effective Communication

PU 305: Purvis Senior Capstone



**P4**

**PURVIS  
FOUR -YEAR  
EXPERIENCE**

(11,18,19,20,21,22)

# P4-Purvis Four –Year Experience

(11,18,19,20,21,22)

Here at Purvis we celebrate and understand the diversity and difference of our student population. Through this understanding, we work to build a comprehensive four-year experience. The Division of Academic Affairs and the Division of Student Affairs worked collaboratively to create and develop P4-Purvis Four-Year Experience. Various campus departments and resources oversee the completion of P4. Purvis understands that to produce successful graduates we must holistically develop them during their time here at Purvis. Because of this understanding, P4 includes the core curriculum, high impact programs and activities, leadership development, real world experience, service, development of meaningful and authentic relationships, and much more.

To achieve and instill the university learning outcomes and core values P4 implements “pluralistic learning environments”<sup>23</sup> with a student-centered focused. The “pluralistic learning environments”<sup>23</sup> takes place in various settings including the traditional classroom, a group seminar, online, or a community location. Throughout the P4 courses, there are assignments, group discussions, debates, and reflection that focus on diversifying and enhance students' experiences. This diversified experience allows students to become effective communicators, value multiculturalism, and become global citizens. These various learning environments and settings are just some of the aspects of P4 that enable Purvis to promote and instill the intended learning outcomes of the university. Along with the various learning environments and settings, every year in P4 includes these six components: an academic core course and POD courses, yearly objectives, yearly achievements, reflection, Educational Academic Plan (EAP), and assessment surveys.

The design of the required P4 academic core courses and POD courses strengthen students academically, help students build meaningful relationship with faculty, and incorporate an integrative learning opportunity. The yearly objectives and yearly achievements are also implemented as a way to make a successful student experience. The yearly objectives are broad examples of what successful students should be doing in each year (e.g. First Year student should have an objective to “get involved”). The yearly achievements are milestone each student should have accomplished upon completion of that academic school year (e.g. sophomore students should have earned 60+ credit hours by the end of the year). Each student also must engage in reflection yearly. Each year is centered around multiple reflection questions that engage the students in open community discussions about that year's objectives, accomplishments, coursework, and application of knowledge. Bi-semester pod meetings, academic courses, and out of the classroom experiences are all places where students complete these reflections. Throughout the EAP, students use their reflections from the past years. The Educational Academic Plan (EAP) is a creative and inventive way for students to demonstrate their accomplishments and transformations since coming to Purvis, students have an opportunity and a place to share their reflections and opinions, and display their resume and career achievements. The EAP is used as an assessment tool for Purvis University to analyze students' development and fulfillment of Purvis's learning outcomes. Following the assessment model, P4 implements assessment in various aspects of our students' experiences. These assessments come in the form of check-in surveys, peer evaluations, faculty evaluations, and program evaluations.

Each P4 Year has a theme; these themes further connect and promote the university's learning outcomes and core values. Each theme focuses and lays the foundation for the objectives and accomplishments of that specific year.



# P4 Year Themes

First Year  
Find the “U” in Purvis University



Photo by Anthoy Ho

## Sophomore Year

### CREATE AND CONNECT

Now you have integrated yourself with Purvis' campus, it is time to **CONNECT** with the Charleston community. **CREATE** new experiences for yourself. Look back on your first year and reflect on the knowledge you have gained and the community you have built within Purvis.

**CONNECT** your new and developed personal foundations, academic knowledge, and skills to help build on your integrated learning experience.

### Sophomore Year Objectives

- Continue to **CONNECT** and **CREATE** meaningful and authentic relationships here at Purvis and within the community.
- **CREATE** new opportunities! Have you ever wanted to work in fashion, live in Spain, or develop a service project? You can! Start to think and plan your Purvis Transformational Experience, which could be an internship, study abroad opportunity, service immersion project, or conducting research.
- **GET OUT** of the classroom and use your knowledge in the community

## Junior Year

### EXPLORE AND ENGAGE

You have officially reached the halfway point in your Purvis experience. Your work is not done; there is still so much to do. The “real world” is on the horizon, so use this time to **EXPLORE**. **ENGAGE** in the community, take part in a service immersion project, have a conversation with someone new. Be curious about the world around you. Purvis’s diverse campus, Charleston, and the neighboring communities offer students vast opportunities to learn about different cultures, ideas, and beliefs. Stay true to Quaker heritage of social justice. This is your time to **EXPLORE** and **ENGAGE** in the world around you, so do not hold back.

### Junior Year Accomplishments

- Complete the Purvis Transformational Experience (PTE)
- Update EAP and resume
- Complete “Core Values” Peer Evaluation ( an evaluation where Pod Peers assess their podmates perceived development in university learning outcomes and core values)
- Declare Major \*Must be completed by Fall \*
- Serve as a Success Peer Buddy/Mentor (SPUDDY) for PU101 course

## Senior Year

### RELATE AND REFLECT

As you prepare for the rest of your life, never forget Purvis. This is a time to **REFLECT** on your college experience. **RELATE** you academic and out of classroom experiences to your next step and **REJOICE** in all your accomplishments. Use this time to showcase all your achievements and build a lasting connection. **RELATE** and integrate your experience and knowledge throughout your capstone course.

### Senior Year Reflection Questions

- How have you grown while here at Purvis? What do you want your legacy to be?
- In what ways has your Purvis Experience prepared you for your future plans?
- How are you incorporating Purvis’s learning outcomes and core values in your future plans?



Photo by  
Joni Wiley

## Pods and Bi-Semester Meetings

(11,24)

All incoming students are assigned to a Four Year Academic and Development Pod, or just Pod for short. These pods are structured in the traditional cohort model. A faculty member and academic advisor teach the pods. The academic advisor serves as the students' advisor for their first two years at Purvis. The faculty member and advisor serve as a resource and support system to the students within their pod. Students choose their pods, by either specific academic colleges or a living learning community. Pods make up the students' PU101-Purvis First Year Experience course that is a fall (2-credit hr) and PU 102-Major and Career Exploration spring (1-credit hr). The following semesters' pods meet for a mandatory hour and a half (.25-credit hr) bi-semester reflection/group experience seminar (PU201). During the bi-semester meetings, students have the opportunity to reflect on their P4 reflection questions, share personal experiences, and truly keep with the Purvis Quaker heritage of meeting as friends. Also during this time, students complete their P4 assessment surveys. During your final year students will participate in a (PU305)-Senior Capstone <sup>25</sup>

- In the capstone course, students will
- Serve as a SPUDDY
- Complete their EAP
- Have the opportunity to highlight their result from the PTE at *Infinitum* (an event that allows students to showcase research, scholarship, and creative activities in a professional meeting setting)
- Learn more about what it means to be alumni through the *PALIFE* program (A program that connects students with local Purvis alumni in their area and helps students remember that their Purvis Experience is for life.)
- Complete the 4P Exit Interview ( a survey that highlights students' experience in academics, faculty interaction, involvement, engagement, and their perceived achievement of the learning outcomes and core values)



Photo by  
Joni Wiley

## Success Peer Buddy/Mentor

(22,26,27,28)

The Success Peer Buddies serve as mentors and additional Purvis resources to all first-year and some sophomore students in their time of transition. Junior and Senior Pods are paired with first-year pod and sophomore students who the university has identified as "at risk." The Spuddy Program helps to ensure that students excel academically, personally, and within the community. Spuddies mentor and assist first-year and sophomore students in variety of ways:

- One on one meetings
- Acquainting student with university policies, mission, core values, and intended learning outcomes
- Serve as an upperclassman role model
- Familiarize students with campus resources and departments
- Assist in the overall support and encouragement of the student.



# PTE

## PURVIS TRANSFORMATIONAL EXPERIENCE

(29,30,31)

The Purvis Transformational Experience (PTE) serves as an opportunity for students to get involved outside of the classroom. Students have the option to complete the transformational experience through these four categories: Global Experience, Leadership Experience, Service Immersion Experience, or Research/Creative Experience; students also have the choice to make their own experience category. After choosing a category students complete their experience in a variety of ways such as internships, research with a faculty member, study abroad, independent study, co-op, participation in service learning opportunity, just to name a few. The PTE allows students to make their experience unique to them. Through the PTE, students integrate their classroom knowledge to their out of the classroom experience.

Each year Purvis holds, *Infinitem* <sup>(32,33)</sup> a daylong event where students have the opportunity to showcase their PTE in a professional meeting setting for the public. *Infinitem* stands for 'infinite' in Latin. This name was chosen to show students that their classroom knowledge is boundless and can be used across various aspects. *Infinitem* takes place every fall semester during the third week. Our students have accomplished so much, *Infinitem* serves as a public setting where we honor our students for their hard work.



**PU101**

**PURVIS FIRST-YEAR  
EXPERIENCE**

(22,34,35,36,37,38)



# PU101: Purvis First-Year Experience

(22,34,35,36,37,38)

## MISSION

Purvis's first-year experience course assist first year students in a successful and meaningful academic, personal, and social transition. Through intentional programs, resources, and services PU101 promotes persistence and achievement in college. The active collaborative efforts between faculty members, academic advisors, and success peer buddies provided first-year students a supportive environment that promotes success.

## PU 101 Overview

The Purvis Experience is a two-semester course taught by the Pod faculty member, academic and other campus resources. This course serves as a foundation and introduction to Purvis's academic curriculum. Through this course, students will obtain essential skills that will assist them in a successful transition. Imbedded within the course are the P4 components, Core Curriculum requirements, and the SPUDDY program. The course allows students the opportunity to participate in community service, career exploration, and begin to build authentic relationships.

Students should feel confident in their academic skills, personal growth, practical skill sets, because of the PU101 course. The design of this course helps students **find the "U" in Purvis**.



Photo by Kim Howard

# PU101: Purvis First-Year Experience

(22,34,35,36,37,38)

## COMMON READ PROGRAM (39,40)

Each incoming year student is required to attend New Student Orientation. Incoming students are introduced to the PU101 Common Read Program during their New Student Orientation. Our Common Read Program gives students the opportunity to begin learning and connecting with each other from the start of their time at Purvis. During the PU101 course, students will engage in various assignments centered on the common read book. Each student is required to write a reflection essay about the common read book. The Common Read Guide Committee chooses ten essays, which are published in the *Common Read Guide*. The *Common Read Guide* is a guide that gives more information about that year's common read book, displays the winning common read essays from the year before, and explains the common read program more in depth. Incoming students receive the *Common Read Guide* during their New Student Orientation. The *Common Read Guide* and program displays to our first year students that academic excellence is awarded and celebrated here at Purvis. The *Common Read Guide* makes it known to incoming students that Purvis holds academics in a high esteem.

## P4 First Year COMPONENTS

(18)

### Objectives

- Discover Purvis- students should begin understand and integrate Purvis's core values and missions in their experiences
- Be well- excellence is more than just academic excellence. Students should work to obtain skills that promote living healthy and well
- Build a community- students should start to build meaningful relationships, learn about the resources Purvis offers, and get involved inside and outside the class
- Develop excellence- students should develop skills and habits that help them to become successful students in an academically rigorous environment

### Reflection Questions

- How will you make the most out of your Purvis Experience?
- How do your personal values align with Purvis's core values?
- What are you looking forward to in your first year?
- How have you grown in your first year?

### Accomplishments

- Earn 30+ credit hours
- Join a campus organization
- Start your EAP
- Participate in the PU101 and PU 102 courses

# PU101: Purvis First-Year Experience

(22,34,35,36,37,38)

## COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

- **Who are “U”?** <sup>(35)</sup> – Students will give a short, 2-5 minute, oral presentation about a podmate. Students will work together and learn more about each other, by conducting interviews.
- **Community Engagement Activity** <sup>(31,41)</sup> - Students prepare a community engagement program within the Purvis or Charleston community. Upon completion of the program, students will write a reflective paper on their experience.
- **Resource Raid** <sup>(35)</sup> – Paired as teams students will work together to report about two specific campus resources (e.g. a campus department, tutoring services). Students will then prepare a ten-minute oral presentation. The presentation will cover information about the resources and give examples how these resources will help them excel as a student.
- **Common Read Essay** <sup>(39, 40)</sup> – Students will reflect on the common read book assigned at New Student Orientation.  
**Prep Readings-** Instructors will randomly require students to turn in reading notes and reflections. These notes will be from the daily course readings
- **Educational Academic Plan (EAP)** - Students will be introduced and begin to work on their EAPs. Students will have access to other EAPs to get ideas and a better understand of what the project is and entails.
- **Success and Skill Assessment** <sup>(42)</sup> - Instructors will administer a pre and post success and skill assessment to the students. This assessment will ask questions about students goals, discuss their perceived personal growth skill levels (e.g. time and money management and wellness), and perceived academic success.
- **Online Posting** <sup>(31)</sup> - Every student is enrolled in an online section of the PU101. Each student is required to post twice a month on the online course. One response should be a response to the monthly reflection question; the other response should be to a fellow first-year student's post. This allows students to interact and build community outside their pod classes.
- **Success Events** <sup>(31)</sup> - Students are required to attend five success events a semester. These events can include athletic events, campus organization events, a play, or a campus speaker. The success events allow students to engage in the world around them and find their interests. Students will write a one page reflective summary about the event they attended and why they chose the event.
- **Where are “U” in Purvis** <sup>(31)</sup> – Students will reflect on their first semester here at Purvis. Using the P4 reflection questions students will submit a reflection project. Students have the opportunity to be creative; they can submitted the project in a variety of ways such as blog postings, essay, or a video. This assignment must be included in the student's EAP.



# FIND 'U' RETREAT

Find "U" is a weekend retreat offered to all first-year students. Various faculty, staff, and SPUDDIES serve as trip leaders and mentors. The goal of the retreat is to provide students an out of class opportunity to learn more about Purvis and develop a sense of community. By attending the retreats students will

**Gain a better understanding of the Purvis core values and intended learning outcomes**

**Have the opportunity to work collaboratively**

**Be immersed in a diverse environment**

**Build a sense of community and belonging**

**Learn more about the Purvis History and Quaker heritage**

The cost of the retreat is \$45 and covers all the student's expenses. Purvis also covers the cost of all students enrolled in the S.T.A.R LLC. Transitions are difficult and Purvis believes that the Find "U" Retreat helps students with a successful transition.



Photos by Joni Wiley



# OFFICE OF RESIDENCE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

(46,47)



Photo  
by Kim  
Howard



# Office of Residence Education and Development<sup>(46,47)</sup>

## Mission

The Office of Residence Education and Development works to provide a secure, diverse, and engaging environment to all residential students.

Residence Education and Development provides effective programming through a collaborative effort with various university departments, academic programs, and campus organizations. Residence Education and Development work to foster an environment where students are academically successful and develop holistically.

## Two-Year Campus Residency Requirement<sup>(11, 48)</sup>

Purvis mandates a two-year campus residency requirement. Purvis wants all students to be successful academically, personally, and socially. Living on campus provides students with an enriched experience and allows students to be successful in and outside the classroom. Empirical data shows that living on campus has a positive impact on students in a variety of ways.

## HOUSING OPTIONS

- **The Village-** Home to our six Living Learn Communities (LLCs), they are two-story halls with an attached meeting hut. The hut provides the LLCs a place to meet and have activities as a pod. The halls are designed for double occupancy rooms, each hall holds 36 first-year students
- **Bennett, Lancaster, and Penn Halls,** are commonly referred to as the BLP. Each building in the BLP is a three-story hall, and is designed for double or triple occupancy rooms. Each hall in the BLP houses around 400 first-year students.
- **The Towers-** Our sophomore housings is a set of three, four story buildings. The rooms are set up suite-style with a shared bathroom. Each tower holds about 450 sophomore residences.

# Living Learning Communities

(11,49)

**Living Learning Communities (LLCs) provide a location for students with similar interests to live and learn. Our LLCs are for students enrolled in a specific LLC themed pod. Each LLC is ran by the pod faculty member and academic advisor, the LLC Residence Director, and two Residence Coordinators (RCs). The RCs are upper-class students who are former students of that LLC. Students enrolled in a LLC receive a holistic experience, the LLC provides an opportunity for students to connect their classroom knowledge to their LLC experience.**



- **Leadership Education LLC**- The leadership education LLC assists students in their development of their leadership skills to become future leaders at Purvis and within the community. Students increase their leadership skills through participating in various LLC programs and initiatives.
- **S.T.A.R. LLC** <sup>(50,51)</sup> - Student Transition and Academic Readiness (S.T.A.R) is an LLC provided to our first-generation students. This LLC provides support and resources as students transition to Purvis. The program focuses on student success and readiness: offering community and relationship building, intentional programs, and academic support.
- **Open Doors LLC** <sup>(52)</sup> - A living learning community dedicated to social justice and respect. Open Doors understand and celebrate the diversity of Purvis. Through various types of programming Open Doors spreads their values of community, interculturalism, respect, curiosity, and excellence with the Purvis and Charleston community.
- **C.O.R.E.** <sup>(53)</sup> -Community Outreach Education is a LLC set up to give students a greater sense of belonging within the Purvis and larger Charleston community. Students learn that they have the ability to impact a life and community through service. Students participate in service that focus community needs.
- **Abroad**- A LLC for students who seek awareness and understanding for the world around them. Students are housed with an International student and fully immersed in a culture different from their own. Through programming students are prepared to be global ambassadors.
- **Connected** <sup>(54)</sup> - A LLC that provides students the chance to participate and connect with a faculty member on a variety of projects. These projects could include academic research, a new invention, or a service project. Students have the opportunity to connect and build lasting relationships with peers, faculty, and staff.

# S.T.A.R

STUDENT TRANSITION AND  
ACADEMIC READINESS LLC

(50,51,11,55)



Photo By  
Joni Wiley



# S.T.A.R: Student Transition and Academic Readiness LLC (50,51,11,55)

The Student Transition and Academic Readiness (S.T.A.R) LLC is looking for first-year students who identify as first-generation, neither parent has earned a Bachelor's degree. Regardless of major, every student who meets the criteria is encouraged to apply. The S.T.A.R. LLC is a competitive program and is awarded based on need. The program offers students personal, social, and academic support through various resources and connections.

## Connected Courses

Students enrolled in the S.T.A.R LLC are required to take these courses.

### Fall

- PU 101: Purvis First-Year Experience
- EN 101: Foundations of Writing and Literature Studies

### Spring

- PU 102: Majors and Career Exploration
- MA 106: Real World Finances and Mathematics

## Programs

Intentional programs are designed for S.T.A.R. LLC, these programs support and promote success in college. All programs are free for S.T.A.R. students. S.T.A.R students are required to attend every S.T.A.R program.



Photos By  
Joni Wiley

# S.T.A.R. PROGRAMS

(50,51,11,55)

- **Find “U” Retreat-** A weekend retreat offered to all first-year students. Students have the opportunity to learn more about Purvis and gain a sense of community.
- **S.T.A.R. series** <sup>(11)</sup> - Monthly seminars themed around student success and transition. Example of topics: Health and Wellness, Financing College, Getting Involved
- **Family Fest** <sup>(56)</sup> - Family Fest is a half-day event organized by the S.T.A.R pod’s SPIDDIES and S.T.A.R staff. This program works to educate families on Purvis, teach families more about the S.T.A.R program, and provide information about resources/services. Family Fest is an extension of Family Orientation and focuses specifically on families of first-generation students. Family Fest happens the day before move-in.
  - **Program Outline**
    - **Success of S.T.A.R-** This is an opportunity for families to learn more about the S.T.A.R LLC. This is a scary and new time for students and their families, this session gives S.T.A.R staff an opportunity to show how our program works to help your student be successful in college.
    - **Time for Class-** The S.T.A.R pod faculty member will run a “mock” class for the families. During this, mock course families get the opportunity to see the type of academic setting their students will be engaged in.
    - **S.T.A.R. Student and Family Panel-** S.T.A.R alumni and their families serve on a panel and share their experiences within the S.T.A.R LLC and at Purvis. This is also a time were families and students can ask questions to the “experts.”
    - **Purvis Pride Dinner-** Family and students are invited to join the S.T.A.R. LLC staff, S.T.A.R LLC alumni, and various campus constituents for a dinner. This event allows families to make connections with their students’ peers and Purvis staff.
- **SPUDDY Program** <sup>(22)</sup> -The SPIDDY program is utilized through various aspects of the S.T.A.R. LLC. S.T.A.R SPIDDIES along with S.T.A.R staff plan and implement Family Fest, Next Step Ceremony, and the S.T.A.R. series. SPIDDIES also serve as a peer resource and support system for S.T.A.R students
- **Next Step Ceremony** <sup>(22)</sup> - An annual ceremony is held each May honoring S.T.A.R students’ successful completion of their first year. The ceremony also serves to show S.T.A.R. students the everlasting and vast support system they have built over this last year. S.T.A.R alumni, faculty, and staff members are invited to help students celebrate their accomplishments.
  - **Program Outline**
    - **Next Step Scholarship-** Five S.T.A.R students who have done exceptionally well academically and socially their first-year are presented with the Next Step Scholarship. This scholarship encourages students to continue on the path of success.
    - **“Passing the Torch” Ceremony-** S.T.A.R SPIDDIES complete a candle passing ceremony with their current S.T.A.R mentee. This is a symbolic ceremony where students pass the “torch” on to their SPIDDY so their SPIDDY can now “pass the torch” on to future generations. The flame represents the eternal flame and power of education and knowledge. SPIDDIES “pass the torch” to keep this flame forever burning.





# **PURVIS UNIVERSITY**

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