

THE UNIVERSITY

PAST

Western Kentucky University has been an educational leader since its beginning. Its roots come from the Southern Normal School of Bowling Green, and Western has been broadening horizons for students throughout the region since its founding in 1906. The school's first president, Henry Hardin Cherry, expressed a theme for Western's educational commitment that we believe is a constant inspiration to faculty and students-- *"The Spirit Makes The Master."* Western grew in distinction with each decade. The institution changed locations, acquired other schools, and became a teachers college by 1922. After acquiring Bowling Green Business University, Western achieved university status in 1966. As a university, Western has provided educational opportunities to more than 93,000 alumni who proudly call WKU "The Home of the Hilltoppers."

Western's campus crowns a hill overlooking the city of Bowling Green and is proclaimed as one of the most beautiful universities in the nation. WKU serves students from 45 states and approximately 40 other countries. Academic excellence, a historic campus, and an environment conducive to learning are all part of the Western Spirit. Since its formation in 1906, Western's nine presidents, Dr. Henry Hardin Cherry, Dr. Paul L. Garrett, Dr. Kelly Thompson, Dr. Dero G. Downing, Dr. John D. Minton, Dr. Donald W. Zacharias, Dr. Kern Alexander, Dr. Thomas C. Meredith, and Dr. Gary A. Ransdell have all striven to make Western a highly respected center of learning where qualified students may receive general and specialized higher education at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Today, Western Kentucky University proudly serves the educational needs of thousands of students from Kentucky and its neighboring states.

PRESENT

Western Kentucky University consists of five undergraduate academic colleges: the Gordon Ford College of Business; the Bowling Green Community College; the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences; the Ogden College of Science and Engineering; and the Potter College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, and Graduate Studies and Research. The University has experienced consistent growth in recent years, and to meet the needs of its growing student population, academic programs at both graduate and undergraduate levels have been expanded.

A beautiful campus, functional physical plants, and a distinguished and dedicated faculty have made Western an inviting and rewarding home for its students.

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