

Leading the Way: The Future of Shippensburg University

At Shippensburg University, we have confidence in our future and great expectations for the contributions that the Shippensburg University family will make in shaping the future. Our vision is that this University will be recognized as the best regional, comprehensive public universities in the Middle Atlantic Region, a university where people are encouraged to think boldly and responsibly in a nurturing and supportive environment.

The plan to realize this vision is being shaped jointly by Shippensburg University and the Shippensburg University Foundation. The University and the Foundation, a successful partnership for more than four decades in nurturing excellence, are building upon the Middle States Reaccreditation Self Study, the University's Facilities Master Plan, and an ongoing strategic planning process.

PEOPLE: Investing in the Core of the University

Since its founding as a normal school, Shippensburg University has produced leaders. Today, Shippensburg University is widely recognized for its outstanding record of enriching the lives of its students, and for graduating men and women who bring honor to their alma mater.

Our Vision: Endow More Scholarships to Attract Talented, Deserving Students

Shippensburg University aspires to build upon its record of attracting good and great students. Good students can be encouraged to greatness and great students can seize the opportunity to achieve beyond their expectations. The University's challenge is to share with them a glimpse of what can be, and then engage them actively in turning their dreams into realities.

In an economic climate of uncertainty and hardship scholarship endowment makes it possible for the University to reach out to young scholars of great potential whose first choice is coming to Shippensburg, and to assure them that their potential and performance will be rewarded. Scholarships also enable the University to attract a diverse student body, including international students and **be a university where the decision to attend will be shaped primarily by interest and ambition, not dollars and cents.**

Our Vision: Endow Efforts to Recruit and Retain First-Rate Faculty

To attract and retain the best and brightest faculty talent, Shippensburg University must stand ready to compete in the national marketplace. That means providing funding, awarded on a competitive basis, for research and travel, as well as funded summer research stipends and endowed Distinguished Professorships that will recognize and reward exceptional faculty.

PROGRAMS: Engaging in the Teaching and Learning Process

For Shippensburg University to achieve the greatness to which it aspires, people must be actively engaged within a learning-centered community in which each individual is valued and nurtured.

Our Vision: Increase Joint Undergraduate Faculty/Student Research Opportunities

The Joint Undergraduate Faculty/Student Research Program encourages students to immerse themselves early in their dreams, offering undergraduates opportunities to tackle a specific topic in which they have a scholarly interest. Clearly, students and faculty who apply for, and are awarded, grants to help support their work benefit from the experience at many levels.

Our Vision: Strengthen the Curriculum in STEM

The vision shared among our founders of a school whose programs would meet society's most pressing needs is reflected in our plans to strengthen the University's curriculum in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). With endowment support, Shippensburg can enrich and diversify existing programs while adding innovative options, thus positioning the University to attract and engage outstanding faculty and students.

Our Vision: Establish Centers of Excellence

Our vision for the future includes the establishment of Centers of Excellence across the curriculum where the best of the best teach and learn. Centers of Excellence are concentrated, focused experiences that engage students in considering what the future may hold, what challenges and opportunities may lie ahead, and roles that they may play.

PLACES: Providing the Environment for Success

Additions and changes to the Shippensburg University campus are made within the context of which decisions will make the greatest positive impact, better serve the needs of students, faculty and staff, and make Shippensburg University more attractive and enticing.

Our Vision: Provide Technology, Equipment and Infrastructure Support

To be the best, Shippensburg University must provide the very best technology to assist our faculty and to empower our students to learn.

As tools that assist – but never replace – the creative human spirit, new technologies have helped launch major innovations and dramatic shifts in how we live and how we make informed and enlightened decisions.

Our Vision: Create Student Learning/Living Spaces

Our vision is to replace the outdated model of “this is where I live and this is where I go to class” to the more innovative model of “this is where I am preparing for the future.” Acknowledging that traditional dormitories are an unattractive housing option, the University has initiated long-range planning to replace them with learning/living spaces that feature green technology, semi-suite and suite-type living, and larger gathering places for informal meetings.

Our Vision: Upgrade Athletic Facilities

Installing all-weather artificial turf and appropriate lighting on the athletic fields at the University, and upgrading the training and locker areas, will provide better facilities that can be used evenings and throughout the year.

Athletes who compete on our men’s and women’s intercollegiate teams do so for the love of the game, knowing that there is little chance that they will ever join the ranks of professional athletes. The dedicated commitment that these young men and women demonstrate in their preparation and performance draws our applause.

Their performance as athletes is only part of the story: Student-athletes at Shippensburg University have one of the highest graduation rates when compared to athletes at other universities across the country. Student-athletes at Shippensburg also compile very competitive grade-point averages when compared to other campus groups, and student-athletes are better managers of their free time.

Our Vision: Restore Old Main and the Historic Quad

While additions, expansions and new construction are exciting, we also believe that our oldest buildings in Shippensburg’s historic quad, especially Old Main and Stewart Hall, offer unique opportunities.

Old Main sits majestically in the middle of the Shippensburg University campus as a tangible link to our heritage. A group of honor students at the University have submitted an intriguing proposal: restore several rooms within the nearly 40,000 square feet area on the fourth floor to their original design and furnishings, and select from among our most talented honor students a distinguished group that would live in adjacent rooms and serve as docents.

Stewart Hall, which sits in a place of prominence next to Old Main, could once again serve the campus as an exhibition center and a home for the Alumni Association.

SHARING THE VISION: AN INVITATION

At Shippensburg University we aspire to be the best regional, comprehensive university in the Middle Atlantic Region. Our vision is clear and our path is defined. Experience reminds us that Shippensburg University can achieve that vision only with the dedicated commitment of those who believe in the University.

As Shippensburg University and the Shippensburg University Foundation are writing the next chapter in an American success story that the founders dared not dream of when they first met to establish a normal school we seek individuals like you to partner with us. At this moment in our history, we stand on high ground from which we see endless possibilities. The choices that we make, and the commitment of those who believe in this great University, are a dynamic partnership with limitless potential.

Our future is bright, and our vision of Shippensburg University as the leading public university is within our grasp. We believe that you share our vision and belief that Shippensburg University will play a vital role in the future of the region, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the nation and the world.

Join us on this exciting journey as we help spark the next great American Revolution!