



2021 Report to Central District Conference

Bluffton University is excited to launch our 2020-25 strategic plan. This work is vital to Bluffton's mission commitments to faith development, peace building and social justice as we prepare our students to lead and serve in our region and the world.

At the core is a vision statement which frames our overarching goals for the next five years.

VISION STATEMENT

"Bluffton University will become a leader in community-responsive academic programs and experiential learning that focus on well-being and emotional intelligence; our students will graduate as discerning thinkers with resilient hearts for social justice and advocacy."

This year, we are focusing on four key initiatives:

THE BLUFFTON BLUEPRINT

These four general education experiences are carefully crafted to help our students develop resiliency and emotional intelligence. Featuring both traditional learning and experiential components, each course supports one of Bluffton's enduring values of Discovery, Community, Respect and Service.

VIRTUE-DRIVEN ATHLETICS

As an NCAA DIII school, Bluffton coaches and student athletes not only perform well in competition, but focus their team culture around character building, community and service. As part of our Virtue-Driven Athletics program, we will lift up habits of excellence and develop a shared framework that all of our athletes will encounter.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

Tyson Goings '01 was recently appointed to the newly created role of director of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). He, along with a faculty/staff committee, are developing priorities to support our student-focused, peace-filled mission. For this academic year, they are especially focused on providing a welcoming environment and increasing support and advocacy for Black students, faculty and staff.

CORPORATE AND EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS

We are growing a network of Corporate and Education Partnerships in northwest Ohio to support the workforce development needs of our region with values-based education. These partnerships provide 20% tuition discounts to benefit-eligible employees (and their immediate family members) of our partner corporations and K-12 schools for degree-completion and master's degree programs.

Thank you!

Bluffton University currently enrolls **seven students from Central District Conference churches**. Church Matching Scholarship support is \$4,000 for 2020-21.

CDC representatives on Bluffton's Board of Trustees include **Annette Heslep**, First Mennonite, Bluffton, Ohio; **Heather Reichenbach**, Eighth Street Mennonite, Goshen, Ind.; **Jane Roeschley**, Mennonite Church of Normal, Normal, Ill.; and **Tim Stried**, Columbus Mennonite, Columbus, Ohio.

ENDURING VALUES

DISCOVERY
COMMUNITY
RESPECT
SERVICE

Find us on the web
and social media!
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