



Institutional Profile:

The mission of Bethel University, affiliated with the Missionary Church denomination, is to be a community of learners dedicated to building lives of commitment for leadership in the Church and world. Bethel's liberating academic programs challenge the mind, enlarge the vision and equip the whole person for lifelong service.

Founded in 1947, Bethel is urban-situated in the northern Indiana region, which is home to 250,000 residents, seven colleges (including the University of Notre Dame), the second largest shopping district in the state of Indiana, 15,000 businesses, 50 parks and beautiful Riverwalk developments in South Bend and Mishawaka. Resort venues on Lake Michigan are just 45 minutes away. The university community is composed of about 1,450 traditional and adult/graduate students from 27 states, and every continent except the poles, with 187 full-time employees. Bethel also hosts more than 8,000 guests annually to arts productions, 25,000 annually in conference services, and many thousands of community members in support of our athletic teams, who have won 40 national championships.

Outside organizations recognize Bethel's quality. The university has been ranked as a Top Tier Midwestern College for 16 consecutive years by U.S. News & World Report; ranked on the Washington Monthly "Best Bang for the Buck Colleges" list; No. 29 in the nation on the College Consensus list of "Best Christian Colleges & Universities 2019". Bethel has also been named to Money Magazine's "Best Colleges for Your Money 2019" list.

Bethel's 20,000 alumni occupy 49 states and 64 world areas, and enjoy a medical school acceptance rate double the national average, 100% job placement rate in Nursing (whose program was ranked No. 7 in the United States), a Top 4% finish nationally in competitive math performance tests, and 100% pass rate every year on the national performance standard for a unique academic major in American Sign Language.

Alumni professional achievements include the No. 1 rated School Superintendent in Indiana, the No. 1 rated School Principal in Indiana, a Top 1% pediatric surgeon in North America, the former Executive Director of the largest Youth for Christ district in the nation, the Chaplain of former President Barack Obama's childhood school, the lead in "South Pacific" off Broadway in Chicago, a laboratory director in sustainable energy,

MLB All-Star Team representatives (Cleveland Indians pitcher Justin Masterson; MLB former pitcher for the San Diego Padres Eric Stults), a senior Midwest manager for Blue Cross / Blue Shield, and among others the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year, Midwest Region, Don Clark.

Faculty accomplishments from Bethel include: an average of more than 100 scholarly presentations and performances each of the last five years, reaching every corner of the United States (including California, Oregon, New York, Washington, D.C., Georgia, Texas) and across the globe (e.g., Kenya, Greece, Israel, Jamaica, France), including elite sites such as Oxford, Cambridge, Aberdeen, and Carnegie Hall. Academic disciplines are deepened by Bethel projects on suffering, shame, the logic of forgiveness, Islam, mentoring, culture shock, health care among the Amish, eating disorders, home births, monotone mathematical triangles, top predator conservation, adolescent readers, capitalism, gene segregation, Great Lakes fisheries, social-linguistic patterns among the LGBT deaf, deviance in American political allies, ecological imagination in American fiction, Russian education, Latino values and education, theater sound and stage design, leadership pressure, the ethics of a Library Bill of Rights, non-violent resistance, simulation learning in Nursing, Shakespeare, depression in cancer patients, race-based tension, art exhibits in every medium, choral and instrumental productions of great variety, and more.

In the past three years, the number of completed freshmen applications for admission has increased 18% and the number of first-time, full-time freshmen has increased 22% from 249 to 303. New academic majors have been added in Computer Science, Cyber Security, Christian Leadership, English as a New Language and Marketing. Academic majors experiencing increases in student enrollment include Art Education, Biochemistry/Molecular Biology, Christian Ministries and Elementary Education. The percentage of students of color has increased from 24% to 33% for the total student body.

Also during this time, \$12M was applied to endowment, scholarships, and facility upgrades such as Academic Support Services Center, School of Nursing Simulation Lab, renewal of the largest lecture hall which was renamed for Paqui and Brian Kelly (Notre Dame head football coach), new entrances constructed for the East campus and Athletic Park, the addition of intramural fields, construction of a new Softball Stadium, a refreshed Weight Room, addition of a Kindergarten Lab School, remodeled Art Gallery, renovated Acorn cafe, Wi-Fi network and phone systems installed, renovated computer science lab, classroom and lounge, and more.

Traditional college-age students now rank mentoring as one of the most prominent traits of the Bethel environment, seen in part by a shift from 5 in 10 to 7 in 10 residential students voluntarily engaged in small group or one-on-one mentoring by faculty/staff. Through alumni surveys, we see very high faith-integration retention after their Bethel years (e.g. understanding Biblical texts, feeling equipped for the essential questions of life, strong critical thinking skills, etc.). In addition to mentoring, Bethel integrates strong academics, spiritual formation and building lifelong relationships into the student experience.

Work culture at Bethel also thrives, now meeting or exceeding industry average scores on 47 of 55 variables annually tracked by Best Christian Workplaces, which surveys 15,000 workers in Christian organizations annually. The employee experience at Bethel now leads national norms, to a statistically significant difference, in commitment to excellence, an environment for creativity and innovation, solving problems through supervision, the habit of receiving and using input, and demonstrating spiritual gifts throughout the workplace.

Bethel's work values include: Love God, Love People, Humble Excellence and Creative Grit.