



**EXCELLENCE IN ACTION:**  
THE VISION FOR BRYN MAWR'S  
UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE



**BRYN MAWR**  
COLLEGE

## EXCELLENCE IN ACTION: THE VISION FOR BRYN MAWR'S UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE

Bryn Mawr College was founded to offer women a more rigorous education than any available. That legacy of intellectual ambition and challenging the status quo informs all that we do.

Over the next years, we seek to build Bryn Mawr's position as the leading college for women who seek to connect academic excellence with lives of purposeful action.

The College's core commitment will always be to the excellence of a Bryn Mawr education. We are dedicated to supporting a full range of liberal arts disciplines, the scholar-teacher model, and an engaging undergraduate experience that prepares women for long-term success. We will realize this vision through Bryn Mawr's long-standing strengths, our deep partnership with Haverford College, and our other Quaker consortium relationships.

The education to which we aspire — in which students build a pathway from their passion for learning and their superb academic training to the challenges of their professions and the needs of local and global communities — is true to our historic mission and our structure as a research-intensive, small liberal arts college enriched by the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research. It also positions the College to maintain and surpass our historic standing as one of the great liberal arts colleges in the U.S.

### OVER THE NEXT YEARS, BRYN MAWR WILL INVEST IN THE FOLLOWING PRIORITIES FOR UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:

#### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

*The centerpiece of a Bryn Mawr education will always be the College's exceptional academic programs in the humanities, sciences, social sciences, and arts. We will continue to be innovative, especially in fields where women are traditionally sidelined; we will enhance signature opportunities for high-impact educational experiences and advanced study.*

- We will continue to hire and support a diverse faculty who are influential in their fields, deeply committed to involving students in research and scholarship, and invested in excellent teaching.
- We will enhance our suite of opportunities for students to achieve an advanced degree in five years, both in 4+1 programs with Bryn Mawr's two graduate schools and through partnerships with local and international partners.
- We will support high-impact, signature programs that integrate rigorous coursework and complex problem solving in settings in and beyond the classroom. These include the 360° program, the Praxis program, advanced research opportunities, and others.
- We will renovate our science facility to support cutting-edge research, teaching, and learning.
- We will strengthen our connection to Philadelphia for academic work and student engagement through a collaborative initiative with our Tri-College partners, Haverford and Swarthmore.

## **SKILLS FOR EFFECTIVE LIVES**

*We will enhance support for the powerful cross-disciplinary skills of the liberal arts, including critical thinking, argumentation, and writing; quantitative and digital competencies; global engagement; and collaboration and leadership.*

- We will continue to emphasize development of critical skills in writing, oral communication and presentation, close reading, approaches to critical thinking, global literacy, statistical and quantitative analysis, and independent research.
- We will support curricular development that integrates skills in multidimensional problem-solving, digital fluency, and applied work.
- We will increase options for students to develop digital competencies and provide ways to certify that expertise.
- We will build upon our distinctive international orientation and strengths—our highly international curriculum and faculty; our internationally and domestically diverse student body; and myriad opportunities we offer for study and work across the globe—to provide our students with the knowledge, skills, and experiences they need to be successful in a globally networked world.
- We will explore ways in which students can obtain experience in applied science and engineering.

## **PATHWAYS TO PURPOSE**

*We will invest in curricular and co-curricular programs that enhance students' ability to connect what they learn in the classroom with what they will do in the world, including research opportunities; experiential learning; internships and work; global experiences; and programs of our Leadership, Innovation, and the Liberal Arts Center.*

- We will continue to invest in our Leadership, Innovation, and the Liberal Arts Center (LILAC) to increase programming for students, connections to faculty, and outreach to prospective employers and graduate study opportunities.
- We will enhance our alumnae/i network by developing more robust networking and career engagement between and among alumnae/i and students.
- We will publicly advocate for the long-term professional and personal value of study in the humanities and arts. Through programming, support, and celebration of our strengths, we will also help humanities and arts students to articulate that value for a rich array of careers and advanced study.
- We will promote Bryn Mawr's longstanding success in graduating women in STEM, particularly in sub-fields where women are under-represented. We will emphasize the importance of STEM education that integrates the humanities, arts, and social sciences.
- We will enhance the professional value of on-campus work experiences to help students to develop skills that will be valuable in postgraduate positions.
- We will build internship and employment partnerships that benefit students in all majors, particularly in fields where gender equity is far from being achieved.
- We will seek opportunities and support for study, research, and internships abroad.

## **ENGAGED STUDENTS, ENGAGED COMMUNITY**

*We will help our students to use the campus as a laboratory for making an impact and will foster student well-being and growth through support for diversity and inclusion programs; athletics; wellness and whole-person development; and rich opportunities to develop leadership.*

- We will build a new health and wellness center, redesign our wellness course, and create programs that build resilience and support student development and growth.
- We will continue to build an inclusive campus community through programming, policies, and practices that enhance positive social connections, foster equity and fairness, and create a community of belonging for all members.
- We will be a community that plays and celebrates—as well as works—together.
- We will strengthen recruiting and athlete/team development, with the goal of being consistently competitive in the Centennial Conference in the teams that we field.
- We will create student leadership opportunities with depth and breadth that build individual and community capacities for the practice of self-governance, academic integrity, and habits of reflection.
- We will better connect our students to alumnae/i as role models and mentors and build a stronger sense of pride and identity for our community.

## **TO REALIZE THIS VISION**

*We will invest our efforts and resources strategically, increase collaboration across the College and with institutional partners, and contain costs, so that our stellar education is within reach for any young woman with a passion for learning and excellence.*

## **OUR ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS VISION WILL BE MEASURED BY OUR ABILITY**

- To attract, provide access for, and graduate a diverse undergraduate student body of women with strong academic potential and a purposeful vision for their lives
- To ensure that our graduates have the tools to thrive and lead in their chosen pathways, and that they are launched successfully on their post-graduation path of work or study
- To sustain an engaged and supportive community of students and alumnae/i, as evidenced by student and alumnae/i satisfaction, connection, and participation.

When we achieve our goals, we will benefit Bryn Mawr, its graduates, and generations of students to come. We will also benefit a country and a world that require thoughtful agents of change—especially women—in order to achieve prosperity and equity.