



The New American Colleges & Universities

Integrating Liberal Arts,
Professional Studies, and
Civic Responsibility

Arcadia University

Belmont University

Drury University

Hamline University

Hampton University

John Carroll University

Manhattan College

Nazareth College

North Central College

Pacific Lutheran University

St. Edward's University

Samford University

Stetson University

The Sage Colleges

The University of Scranton

University of Evansville

University of Redlands

Valparaiso University

Wagner College

Westminster College

Widener University





Integrative learning that prepares students for meaningful lives as contributing global citizens is central to The New American Colleges and Universities (NAC&U). Member institutions offer innovative ways to connect theory to practice and thought to action, while blending classroom knowledge with real-world experience.

First-Year Experience Programs introduce students to learning opportunities and lay the foundation for the collegiate experience through exposure to multidisciplinary faculty, student life staff and upper-level student mentors. Often students connect theory to action through service learning and other applied learning activities in these seminars.

General Education Programs focus on essential skills for all disciplines — inquiry, written and spoken communication, critical thinking and quantitative reasoning. These programs usually include experiential learning and capstone projects.

Experiential Learning through internships, practicums, and service learning allows students to “learn by doing,” while having a positive benefit for the participating communities, corporations and organizations.

Commitment to Sustainable Civic Engagement allows students to apply their knowledge in ways that continually meets the needs of the local region and ensures that service has meaningful outcomes.

Integration of Curricular and Co-Curricular intentionally supports organizations, activities and infrastructure (including Living-Learning Communities and multi-use buildings and centers) that allow students to apply what they are learning through course work to life outside the institution.

Undergraduate Research builds relationships between faculty and students while giving students real-life skills and experience, including project management; research design, data acquisition and analysis; and presentation, writing and public speaking skills.

Global Education, which includes study abroad, international service learning projects, and undergraduate research, are widely shared tools that help students learn about cross-cultural opportunities and what it means to be contributing members of a global society.

Faculty and Staff Development provides numerous opportunities for skill enhancement in integrative teaching and learning.



How do NAC&U members work together as a consortium?

Sharing of information and best practices:

- Members share and network at affinity group meetings and through electronic communication.
- Experts throughout the consortium are able to consult with members on particular projects and/or concerns.
- Members share fiscal, academic and enrollment data that can be used for benchmarking.
- Members collaborate on panel discussions and presentations at national conferences to share best practices.

Professional development and networking:

- Annual Summer Institute brings together administrators and faculty for roundtables, presentations and keynote sessions while offering activities to promote networking.

Research and scholarship collaboration:

- NAC&U collaborates on grants to foster our mission, including a Teagle Foundation grant to study the future role of faculty expectations, competencies, and rewards.
- NAC&U committees and task forces study and develop recommendations for major challenges to higher education cost, online education, and professional development.

Marketing and promotions:

- NAC&U has a website, e-newsletter and social media strategies to promote its initiatives, events and members.

Study-away opportunities for students:

- Study abroad and domestic exchange opportunities are available to students, thus increasing these resources for all members.



Founded in 1995, The New American Colleges and Universities is a national consortium of selective, small to mid-size (2,000 – 7,500 students) independent colleges and universities dedicated to the purposeful integration of liberal education, professional studies, and civic engagement. To improve the quality and effectiveness of teaching and learning among its members, The New American Colleges and Universities sponsors projects and conferences, administrator and faculty affinity groups, surveys and data benchmarking, and international study programs. The New American Colleges and Universities collectively and individually are often cited as models of the intentional integration of teaching and learning, scholarship, and service.

The New American Colleges and Universities
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