HOPE COLLEGE

Established in 1866, Hope College is a distinguished and distinctive four-year, liberal arts, undergraduate college, affiliated with the Reformed Church in America. The curriculum offers a variety of courses in 89 majors leading to a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Science, or Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. Hope College is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association. Hope is also accredited by the American Chemical Society, the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, the Council on Social Work Education, the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, the National Association of Schools of Dance, the National Association of Schools of Music, the National Association of Schools of Theatre, the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, the Engineering Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology for the Bachelor of Science Degree with a major in engineering, and other agencies.

The college, located in Holland, Mich., on the eastern shore of Lake Michigan, has 212 full-time faculty members, and approximately 100 individuals serve as part-time lecturers or adjunct professors. Most hold completed doctorates or other terminal degrees.

Members of the faculty publish widely and are involved in many other scholarly activities. Dr. Victor Claar, associate professor of economics, spent the 2006-07 school year teaching and conducting research in Armenia through an award from the Fulbright Scholar Program, and Vicki Ten Haken, associate professor of management, received a Fulbright to teach in Krakow, Poland, in 2007-08. Dr. Mihai Craioveanu, a violinist and professor of music, was invited to present a series of solo performances at the Shanghai International Festival. Dr. Donald Cronkite, professor of biology, received the “Evolution Education Award” from the National Association of Biology Teachers.

Dr. Steven Hoogerwerf, associate professor of religion, received a “Faculty/Staff Community Service-Learning Award” from the Michigan Campus Compact. Dr. William Polik, who is the Edward and Elizabeth Hofma Professor of Chemistry, was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Becky Schmidt, volleyball coach and assistant professor of kinesiology, was named the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association Coach of the Year in volleyball. Dr. Scott VanderStoep, associate professor of psychology and department chair, was elected president of Psi Chi, the National Honor Society in Psychology.

Evidence of excellence abounds at Hope. For example, Hope is the only private, four-year liberal arts college in the United States with national accreditation in art, dance, music and theatre. The Van Wylen Library was named the national winner in the college category of the 2004 “Excellence in Academic Libraries Award” presented by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL). The women's basketball team won the 2006 NCAA Division III national championship.

Hope ranked first among four-year colleges for the number of students it sent on long-term study-abroad programs during 2004-05 and placed sixth nationwide on the same measure among colleges and universities of any type according to a May 2007 report by the Institute for International Education (IIE). More than 180 students conducted collaborative research with
members of the faculty during the summer of 2007. Hope College faculty rank fourth nationally among all liberal arts institutions for numbers of faculty research publications and 14th overall for highest impact of those publications as measured by the Science Citation Index. In October 2006, Hope was named to the new federal President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, one of 15 colleges or universities from Michigan included.

Of the 3,226 students enrolled during 2007-08, 3,135 are degree-seeking. The student body consists of 1,329 men and 1,897 women from 45 states and 31 foreign countries.