Appalachian State University

Mission

Established in 1899 as Watauga Academy, Appalachian State University has evolved into a preeminent university located in a unique, rural mountain environment. As a member of the University of North Carolina, Appalachian's fundamental mission is to discover, create, transmit, and apply knowledge to address the needs of individuals and society. This mission is achieved by providing undergraduate students a rigorous liberal education that emphasizes transferable skills and preparation for professional careers; offering graduate students distinctively relevant programs; maintaining a faculty whose members serve as excellent teachers and scholarly mentors for their students and who produce high levels of scholarship and creative activities. Appalachian recognizes that the success of the university depends upon the achievement and cooperation of a diverse community of students, faculty, and staff and strives to implement policies and allocate resources accordingly. We accept our responsibility to be actively involved in addressing the educational, economic, cultural, and societal needs of the changing region, state, nation, and world. As a publicly funded institution, Appalachian is committed to accomplishing its initiatives through efficient and effective resource utilization.

Campus Description

Located in the Blue Ridge Mountains of northwestern North Carolina, Appalachian State University has built a national reputation for providing outstanding academics and co-curricular opportunities in a unique learning environment. With a student/faculty ratio of 17:1, faculty members are able to take a personal interest in student progress, often becoming mentors, advisers, and friends. The university is located in Boone, NC (year-round pop. 15,000), a small town that thrives as one of the Southeast's premier tourism and outdoor recreation destinations. The nearby Blue Ridge Parkway and Pisgah National Forest provide a beautiful setting with unlimited possibilities for outdoor adventure.

Voluntary Standards of Accountability Report (VSA)

http://www.collegeportraits.org/NC/Appalachian

Campus Web site

www.appstate.edu

Major Contributions to UNC Tomorrow

- Innovative General Education that is anchored in the ideals and practices of liberal education and aims to prepare students to fulfill the responsibilities and meet the challenges presented by a changing world.
- Exemplary Research, Teaching, and Engagement includes the Research Institute for Energy, the Environment, and Economics (RIEEE) to facilitate basic and applied research in fields relating to energy, environmental issues, and economic analysis, and the Institute for Health and Human Services (IHHS) to coordinate Appalachian's programmatic offerings in health and human service disciplines in ways that promote student learning and faculty research and service.
- Strategic Collegial Reorganization to form a new College of Health Sciences and Allied Professions that coherently locates and promotes various health programs.

Continued on reverse

- Link to UNC Tomorrow report: http://irap.appstate.edu/pagesmith/77

Institutional Distinctiveness

From Kenneth E. Peacock, chancellor since July 2004

Appalachian aspires to be a model 21st century, nationally-recognized University combining the best characteristics of liberal arts and research institutions by resourcefully blending teaching and scholarship. To achieve this, Appalachian is committed to attracting, educating, and graduating the best students, and to producing the highest levels of scholarship. Additionally, the University will provide excellent value; will be an influential world citizen; and will develop a distinctive identity built on the University's strengths, location, and tradition. Initiatives in five areas -- sustainability, health sciences, entrepreneurship, internationalization, and the honors program -- are priorities for the University, which are not only attracting many of the state and region's best and brightest high school students, but they are the impetus for leading Appalachian to the next level.