

= Patrick Henry College =

Patrick Henry College (PHC) is a private , independent college with an Evangelical Christian basis that focuses on teaching classical liberal arts and government , located in Purcellville , Virginia , United States . The college is known for its conservative evangelical Christian focus . PHC is accredited by the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools , a national faith @-@ related accrediting organization .

The school was founded with the help of the Home School Legal Defense Association , and now serves as the headquarters for the organization , with which it is still closely connected .

= = History = =

Patrick Henry College was incorporated in 1998 by Michael Farris , founder of the Home School Legal Defense Association , who in 1993 , ran unsuccessfully for lieutenant governor of Virginia . It officially opened September 20 , 2000 , with a class of 92 students . Since then the school has grown to approximately 350 students . The college eschews federal financial aid and is therefore relieved from Department of Education reporting requirements on demographic makeup of its student body and from other federal reporting requirements . The school does not ask for race on applications so the ethnic demographics are unknown .

PHC receives all of its funding from tuition fees or donations . The college states that it does not accept any money from government or any other source that includes term Thaterseding the authority of its Board of Trustees or conflict with its foundational statements . PHC adds new facilities and programs only as funds are available . The Home School Legal Defense Association is one of the primary benefactors of the school , and all members of the association receive a \$ 1300 grant if they are accepted as students .

= = = Media attention = = =

The school has attracted reports from every major network and cable news organization from its inception , and been the subject of articles in Time , The New Yorker , The Economist , the New York Times , and others . A television documentary about the college , God 's Next Army , aired in the spring of 2006 on Britain 's Channel 4 and on the Discovery Times Channel in the United States . Initial media interest stemmed from the fact that the college deliberately sought students with homeschooled backgrounds . It also attracted attention because a number of the school 's students gained White House internships and opportunities within the George W. Bush administration : in spring 2004 , seven of the 100 student White House interns were from PHC , which had only 240 students at the time . That's the same number of interns Georgetown University had during the same period . Hanna Rosin , a writer who has covered religion and politics for several prominent journals , wrote a book entitled , God 's Harvard : A Christian College on a Mission to Save America , published 2007 . In September 2008 , photographer Jona Frank released a second book about Patrick Henry entitled " Right : Portraits of the Evangelical Ivy League , " which features photographic portraits of students and their families . Additionally , the college 's moot court team was the subject of an independent film , Come What May , shot during summer 2007 by a startup Christian production company and marketed primarily to a homeschooling audience . Chancellor Michael Farris appeared on the Colbert Report on October 21 , 2008 .

In February 2014 , The New Republic published an article alleging a pattern of pervasive covering up of sexual assault at Patrick Henry College . The article claims that dean Sandra Corbitt and other administrative staff worked to minimize or conceal sexual assault reports and shift blame to victims . The College denies these allegations . Because Patrick Henry College does not accept federal funds , it is not subject to the Clery Act or Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 .

= = = Accreditation = = =

Patrick Henry College received accreditation in 2007 from the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools , a national accrediting organization for Christian colleges , universities , and seminaries created by the Institute for Creation Research . The college had previously been denied accreditation by the American Academy for Liberal Education in the spring of 2002 because creationism was part of the curriculum . On June 30 , 2005 , the school was officially recognized by the United States Department of Education as an institution eligible for DOE programs . It also allowed students to use more scholarships and grants and made donors and students eligible for various tax benefits . On April 3 , 2012 , the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools reaffirmed Patrick Henry College 's accreditation for a period of ten years .

= = Religious affirmations = =

All students must sign a " Statement of Faith " before they arrive , affirming belief in what the college considers core Christian doctrines . For example , students are asked to acknowledge " Satan exists as a personal , malevolent being who acts as tempter and accuser , for whom Hell , the place of eternal punishment , was prepared , where all who die outside of Christ shall be confined in conscious torment for eternity Man is by nature sinful and is inherently in need of salvation , which is exclusively found by faith alone in Jesus Christ and His shed blood Christ 's death provides substitutionary atonement for our sins . " The college professes non @-@ denominational Christian beliefs , informed by Evangelical Protestantism .

Teaching faculty must also sign the Statement of Faith and a more detailed Statement of Biblical Worldview , which represents the college 's requirements for what should be taught . For example the Biblical Worldview Applications states , " Any biology , Bible , or other courses at PHC dealing with creation will teach creation from the understanding of Scripture that God 's creative work , as described in Genesis 1 : 1 ? 31 , was completed in six twenty @-@ four @-@ hour days . "

In an interview with Fresh Air on National Public Radio , PHC founder Farris commented that the college held the view that its faith was the only true faith (" we believe that there is truth and there is error ") and expressed disapproval of religious and social toleration . " Tolerance cannot coexist with liberty " because " the crowd of tolerance wants to ban speech . "

On April 12 , 2007 , LGBT rights group Soulforce selected PHC as one of the targets of its annual " Equality Ride , " to protest the stance of conservative Christian colleges concerning homosexuality . Like many other Christian colleges , Patrick Henry did not allow Soulforce to enter the university premises , but the college proposed for student representatives to engage in a formal debate at a neutral location on the merits of the proposed Federal Marriage Amendment to the US Constitution . Soulforce organizers declined and notified the college of their intent to enter the campus to speak directly with students . After being refused entry , Soulforce formed a picket line outside the entrance to the campus and protested for approximately five hours .

= = Campus = =

Patrick Henry College is located in the town of Purcellville in rural northern Virginia , approximately 40 miles (64 km) northwest of Washington D.C. The campus currently consists of seven buildings arranged around a retention pond popularly called " Lake Bob " , as well as several athletic fields . The oldest structure , Founders Hall , opened in 2000 and contains three classrooms , the college library , and various administrative and faculty offices . It is also home to the offices of the Home School Legal Defense Association . Hanna Rosin , author of God 's Harvard , described the campus as " tiny , less like an Ivy League college than like a Hollywood set of an old Ivy League school . " The buildings are of Colonial Revival architecture . The artwork in Founders Hall consists of copies of portraits of the Founding Fathers placed along a staircase , leading to a picture of Patrick Henry at the second Virginia convention which features a light from heaven guiding Henry 's speech . The artwork is designed to , in the words of Hanna Rosin , " remind the students that America was founded as a Christian nation . "

The school 's residential village is composed of five residence halls located along the edges of the lake . There are two men 's dormitories (Oak Hill and Red Hill) and three women 's dormitories (Mount Vernon , Monticello , and Montpelier) . The four smaller dormitories opened in 2001 , while the largest residence hall , Red Hill , opened in 2003 . In addition to student housing , Red Hill also contains three classrooms and an office suite on its basement level . Located in the basement of Mount Vernon is an auditorium referred to as Town Hall , where the school 's daily chapel sessions and other special events are held . The residence halls are set up in an arc shape around the lake .

= = = Barbara Hodel Student Center = = =

In August 2009 the college opened a \$ 32 million , 106 @, @ 000 @-@ square @-@ foot (9 @, @ 800 m2) student life center , which significantly expanded dining , classroom , recreational , and athletic facilities . Construction began in December 2006 and was completed during the summer of 2009 .

In November 2007 , the college announced that the student center would be named in honor of trustee Barbara Hodel . On January 21 , 2008 , the college announced that it had received a pledge guaranteeing full funding for the center 's completion , with an anticipated opening date of fall 2009 . According to the college , the guarantee was made " in the form of a ' challenge grant ' meant to enlarge the College ? s base of existing donors while solidifying the long @-@ term fiscal health of PHC and its annual scholarship program . " In response to the grant , the school initiated a year @-@ long fund raising campaign entitled " Finish the Foundation . " This allowed the college to fund the construction of the building debt @-@ free , pursuant to its policy of not borrowing for capital projects .

The Barbara Hodel Center opened for student use at the start of the fall 2009 academic semester , and the gymnasium , new dining hall , and coffee shop opened in October 2009 . On October 10 , 2009 the college held a dedication ceremony for the new building which was attended by approximately 1 @, @ 000 people and featured evangelical leader James Dobson of Focus on the Family as the keynote speaker . After the student center opened , most of the college 's administrative offices moved into the building , allowing more of the office space in Founders Hall to be used by HSLDA .

= = Governance = =

The college 's founder , Mike Farris , announced his resignation as president of the college on March 6 , 2006 , to become chancellor . Graham Walker , formerly of Oklahoma Wesleyan University and the University of Pennsylvania , served as the second president of the college , from 2006 @-@ 2014 . Jack Hays became the third President of Patrick Henry College in 2015 after thirty years in the banking world .

On July 1 , 2006 , the educator and cultural editor of World , Gene Edward Veith , took the post of academic dean . As part of multiple structural and administrative changes implemented in November 2006 , Veith was appointed to the position of provost and oversees the departments of Academic Affairs and Student Life .

= = Academics = =

Students at the school can specialize within one of two schools of study : Government or Classical Liberal Arts . The Government Department offers majors in Government , Journalism , Economics & Business Analytics , and Strategic Intelligence in National Security . The Government major provides an option to specialize in American Politics and Policy , International Politics and Policy , Political Theory , Strategic Intelligence , or a General Government track . The Classical Liberal Arts Department offer degrees in Classical Liberal Arts Education , History , and Literature and Minors in Biblical Studies , Classics , History , Journalism , Music , Pedagogy , and Philosophy .

The Government Department 's Public Policy degree was the first one offered by the college , and

is still largely seen as its " flagship " program , which until 2009 had connections with the former George W. Bush administration , Washington , D.C. Republicans , and conservative think tanks and organizations . In late November 2006 , the school announced plans to split this track into the separate American Politics and Policy and International Politics and Policy tracks .

The college has a 100 % acceptance rate among graduates who have applied to law school . Since its founding in 2000 , the college has graduated over 735 students . At the time of its May 2009 commencement , approximately 92 % of graduating seniors who had applied to graduate school for enrollment in fall 2009 were accepted to one or more schools of their choice . On January 24 , 2007 , the school successfully completed an on @-@ site review by a TRACS assessment team , and was granted full accreditation in April .

= = = Faculty = = =

In 2008 , its website listed twenty @-@ five full @-@ time professors , of which twenty @-@ one had at least one doctorate ; one professor had a D.M.A. , and another held an Ed.D. making it such that 24 of the 25 have a terminal degree in their field . In 2011 , PHC also listed 24 part @-@ time faculty , all of whom have received a master 's degree or higher . Chancellor Mike Farris has a J.D. , has authored several novels and critiques of constitutional law , and has argued numerous cases before federal and state high courts , as well as the United States Supreme Court .

= = = 2006 Academic freedom dispute = = =

In 2005 , a library clerk was forced to resign for promoting the idea that baptism is essential for salvation , considered a violation of the Statement of Faith . Further , in March 2006 , five of the college 's sixteen faculty members ? Erik Root , Robert Stacey , Kevin Culberson , Todd Bates , and David Noe ? resigned in protest , claiming that the President 's interpretation of the Biblical Worldview Policy restricted academic freedom .

The resignations led to questions about the compatibility of a strong liberal arts education along with its conservative biblical beliefs . David C. Noe , assistant professor of Classics departed after finding that classical works by non @-@ Christian authors were sometimes considered suspect at PHC , and there was an increasingly narrow view of Christianity . Root criticized the autocratic lack of faculty participation in the ideas and governing of the school , saying " if [PHC] continues down this road , will end up being more an ' illiberal arts education ' . " All resulting faculty vacancies were filled by the beginning of the fall 2006 semester . In 2007 , however , two more professors announced their resignations , suggesting that academic freedom remained an issue .

= = Student life = =

As of November 2006 , the Student Life Department is presided over by Administrative Dean for Student Life , Sandra Corbitt , and falls under the authority of the provost . The college has many rules of behavior typical of conservative , religious colleges . Students may not have sex outside of marriage , or use alcohol or tobacco while under the authority of the college , which is defined as any time during a semester while enrolled , on or off campus . Men and women are not allowed in each other 's dorm rooms , and underclassmen are subject to a curfew . Firearms are prohibited on campus . The college has a number of traditions rooted in dorm life , including " bobtisms " ? a portmanteau of Baptism and " Lake Bob " , in which newly engaged males are dunked . All dorm activities are subject to the discretion of the men 's and women 's Resident Directors .

Students are active in multiple campus clubs including the College Republicans , Eden Troupe (which produces regular stage dramas) , the Streaming Media Network (which produces student films) , and several philosophical and literary societies .

In the 2000s Hanna Rosin , author of God 's Harvard , said that " never would you find a group of better @-@ behaved teenagers than on the campus of Patrick Henry . " During that period many Patrick Henry students made fun of Bob Jones University , which Rosin described as having " the

gold standard of vice patrol . " Rosin commented that " by most people 's standards , " Patrick Henry " was not far behind " Bob Jones .

= = = Student governance = = =

Students also participate in the school 's student government , which consists of a Student Senate composed of 24 members , elected every fall semester ; and a student president and vice president who run as a ticket and are elected every spring semester . It does not have any powers to enact campus policies but is considered an important part of life at Patrick Henry College .

As of 2007 the Student Senate had consisted of about one third of the total student body .

= = = Liberty Ball = = =

Though dancing is allowed on campus , students hold several school dances off @-@ campus , including the annual spring Liberty Ball , usually held at a historic Civil War era manor or plantation . The first Liberty Ball was held during PHC 's inaugural year on the anniversary of Patrick Henry 's famous " Give me Liberty , or give me Death ! " speech of March 23 , 1775 , and is organized by student coordinators . Another popular dance is the annual fall hoedown , a student sponsored barn dance which usually occurs in mid fall .

= = = Civic involvement = = =

Students are involved in the community , and PHC requires its Government students to fulfill up to 24 credits of apprenticeship projects , which include internships , research and writing projects , and extracurricular activities such as moot court , Model United Nations , and Mock Trial . Students currently serve as interns in a wide variety of political organizations , such as congressional offices and think @-@ tanks . Students are active in local and national politics , and members of the Patrick Henry College Republicans chapter often work with local political action groups to lobby for conservative issues at the federal and state levels . Classes are canceled the day of the national elections and the day before , so that students may volunteer on political campaigns ; and many students act as Student Action Team leaders for Generation Joshua , leading groups of usually homeschooled high school students volunteering on campaigns across the United States .

= = = Debate = = =

Debate is one of Patrick Henry College 's primary extracurricular activities . Prior to fall 2008 , the college was active in the National Educational Debate Association (NEDA) , where students consistently won many of the top awards at tournaments around the country . In fall 2008 , the school ended its involvement in NEDA in favor of the larger National Forensic Association . The school is also active in the National Parliamentary Debate Association (NPDA) , which is America 's largest college debate organization and where students have gained national attention by defeating traditional debate powers such as Cedarville and Notre Dame . PHC is currently ranked No. 37 out of 280 schools in the NPDA .

Students also compete in the American Collegiate Moot Court Association (ACMA) , and had the winning teams at the ACMA National Tournaments of 2005 , 2006 , 2009 , 2010 , 2011 , 2012 , 2013 , and 2014 . Moot court is a form of debate competition designed to simulate appellate arguments before the U.S. Supreme Court , in which teams of two students function as co @-@ counsels and stand before a panel of judges to argue legal matters . In 2006 , PHC not only won first overall but also won second , third , and fifth place , a feat that had never before been accomplished in ACMA history . Likewise , in 2006 , the college took home the most trophies out of any school for the fifth consecutive year . In a much publicized event during the 2004 ? 2005 academic year , the college moot court team defeated that of Balliol College , Oxford in two separate competitions ? one held in England using English law , and the other in the USA using

American law . Patrick Henry College also has participated in British Parliamentary debate since the fall of 2010 .

= = = Athletics = = =

Patrick Henry College competes as the Sentinels , fielding teams in men 's and women 's intercollegiate soccer and basketball , and is a member of the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) and the Shenandoah @-@ Chesapeake Conference . Students also participate in various intramural sports including softball , volleyball , fencing , running club , and ultimate frisbee . Students participated in intramural tackle football until Fall of 2010 , when the college banned tackle football on campus citing liability concerns . Students currently participate in intramural flag football , including an annual game between Red Hill and Oak Hill , the two men 's dorms . Patrick Henry 's Student Handbook states , " Our intercollegiate athletic program will always be secondary to our academic program , " .

= = Notable alumni = =

Teresa Scanlan , (attended) , Miss America 2011 and Model for Body by Vi
Alex and Brett Harris , 2012 , authors of Do Hard Things : A Teenage Rebellion Against Low Expectations and founders of The Rebelution

= = = Official = = =

Patrick Henry College Official Website
Patrick Henry College Official Blog
Patrick Henry College Drama Club
Patrick Henry College Summer Teen Camps

= = = Articles = = =

Young America 's Foundation Names PHC as Top Conservative College - Patrick Henry College made list of 16 top conservative colleges

The Federalist Adds PHC to College " Clean 15 " list - Editor of the Federalist uses her admissions experience to create a " Clean College 15 " list , which includes Patrick Henry College

Student Journal Wins Award - A look at Patrick Henry College 's student journal , the George Wythe Review , and the award it won for Best Undergraduate Journal of Letters .

Educating America 's Christian Right ? An article by BBC on the college .

College for the Homeschooled is Shaping Leaders for the Right ? New York Times article .

God and Country ? The New Yorker article .