

= Providence College =

Providence College (also known as Providence or PC) is a private , coeducational , Roman Catholic university located about two miles west of downtown Providence , Rhode Island , United States , the state 's capital city . With a 2012 ? 2013 enrollment of 3 @,@ 852 undergraduate students and 735 graduate students , the college specializes in academic programs in the liberal arts . It is the only college or university in North America administered by the Dominican Friars .

Founded in 1917 , the college offers 49 majors and 34 minors and , beginning with the class of 2016 , requires all its students to complete 16 credits in the Development of Western Civilization , which serves as a major part of the college 's core curriculum (down from 20 credits previously) . Fr . Brian Shanley has been the school 's president since 2005 .

In athletics , Providence College competes in the NCAA 's Division I and is a founding member of the Big East Conference and Hockey East . In December 2012 , the College announced it and six other Catholic colleges would leave the Big East Conference to form its own league , taking with them the Big East name and branding .

= = History = =

= = = Founding = = =

In 1917 , Providence College was founded as an all @-@ male school through the efforts of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Providence and the Dominican Province of St. Joseph . The central figure in the college 's incorporation was Matthew Harkins , Bishop of Providence , who sought an institution which would establish a center of advanced learning for the Catholic youth of Rhode Island .

Opening its doors at the corner of Eaton Street and River Avenue in 1919 and with only one building , Harkins Hall , the college under inaugural president Dennis Albert Casey , O.P. (1917 ? 1921) began with 71 students and nine Dominican faculty members . Under second president William D. Noon , O.P. (1921 ? 1927) , the college added its first lay faculty member and opened its first dormitory , Guzman Hall (now known as Martin Hall) . Under President Lorenzo C. McCarthy , O.P. (1927 ? 1936) , Providence College athletics soon received their moniker , as the " Friars " in black and white had early success in basketball , football , and baseball . In 1933 , the school received regional accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges . The college conferred its first Master of Arts , Doctor of Philosophy , and Master of Science degrees by 1935 , the year when the school 's newspaper (The Cowl) was first published .

By 1939 , Aquinas Hall dormitory had been built to accommodate more students enrolling in general studies , but with the impact of World War II upon enrollment , President John J. Dillon , O.P. (1936 ? 1944) lobbied Rhode Island 's congressional delegation to pressure the War Department to assign Providence College an Army Specialized Training Program unit . Unit # 1188 arrived on campus in the Summer of 1943 , allowing the college to continue operation . A class of approximately 380 soldiers @-@ in @-@ training studied engineering at Providence College for a year before going overseas .

= = = Post @-@ World War II expansion = = =

Robert J. Slavin , O.P. served as president from 1947 to 1961 . During his tenure in 1955 , Providence acquired the House of Good Shepard property that pushed the original boundaries of campus to Huxley Avenue . Slavin also oversaw the establishment of the Reserve Officers ' Training Corps (ROTC) on campus in 1951 , and the Liberal Arts Honors Program in 1957 .

The athletics program of the college gained acceptance into the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) in 1948 . Prior to the opening of Alumni Hall in 1955 , the men 's basketball team played in local Providence high schools . The college also hired Joe Mullaney as the men 's

basketball coach .

President Vincent C. Dore , O.P. (1961 ? 1965) opened the doors of the college 's graduate school as well as a new dormitory building , now called Meagher Hall . President William P. Haas , O.P. (1965 ? 1971) opened Phillips Memorial Library in 1969 .

= = = Co @-@ educational shift = = =

In 1967 , the college added its first lay faculty members in its Departments of Theology and Philosophy , as well as its first full @-@ time female faculty member . Two years later , the student dress code was abolished . In 1970 , the college decided to admit women starting with the 1971 ? 1972 school year . The same year , the first female administrator was hired .

Subsequent president Thomas R. Peterson , O.P. (1971 ? 1985) instituted the Development of Western Civilization program , while in 1974 , the college acquired the property of the former Charles V. Chapin Hospital on the other side of Huxley Avenue . The campus was then split in half by Huxley Avenue , providing an " Upper " campus (due to the uphill nature of the landscape on Smith Hill) and " Lower " campus (the new , flatter area of the College) . In 1974 , the School of Continuing Education awarded the college 's first Associate 's degree .

With men 's basketball tickets becoming a hot commodity at the 2 @,@ 600 @-@ seat Alumni Hall gymnasium , and with the opening of the Providence Civic Center in 1972 , the Friars moved downtown in time for their Final Four appearance behind Providence natives Ernie DiGregorio and Marvin Barnes . Two years later , the men 's hockey team played their first season in the new home on campus , as Schneider Arena opened in 1974 with Ron Wilson leading the way .

In the early morning hours of December 13 , 1977 , a dormitory fire killed ten female residents of Aquinas Hall . Meanwhile , the demographics of the student body continued to change , as women outnumbered men in incoming classes and non @-@ Rhode Island students soon outnumbered in @-@ state students . In 1984 , Peterson also opened St. Thomas Aquinas Priory at the entrance of campus to accommodate the growing number of Dominican brethren living on campus .

= = = Recent expansion = = =

John F. Cunningham , O.P. (1985 ? 1994) succeeded Peterson as president in 1985 and saw the Friars men 's hockey team win the inaugural Hockey East Championship the same year over rival Boston College and reach the championship game of the NCAA Tournament to lose 2 ? 1 to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute . Men 's basketball again took center stage on the Providence campus , as coach Rick Pitino and senior Billy Donovan took the Friars to their second Final Four appearance in the 1987 NCAA Men 's Division I Basketball Tournament . Cunningham used the exposure and fundraising opportunities to build two apartment @-@ style residence halls on campus , Davis and Bedford Halls , providing an alternative to dormitory and off @-@ campus housing for upperclassmen .

Philip A. Smith , O.P. (1994 ? 2005) succeeded Cunningham in 1994 and oversaw the new influence of women 's athletics at Providence , as several alumni and then @-@ current students won the gold medal for women 's ice hockey as part of the U.S. national team in the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano , Japan .

By 2001 , a new on @-@ campus chapel was built , St. Dominic Chapel , followed three years later by the construction of two other major buildings on " Lower " campus : Suites Hall , a suite @-@ style residence hall to provide added upperclassmen housing , and the Smith Center for the Arts . Elected in 2005 , President Brian J. Shanley , O.P. (2005 ? present) has overseen the construction of the Concannon Fitness Center in 2007 as part of an overall renovation to Alumni Hall , as well as renovation and expansion of the Slavin Center in 2009 . In 2012 , a groundbreaking was held for the Ruane Center for the Humanities .

Shanley also removed the college 's SAT requirement for admissions in addition to transferring a significant portion of the school 's scholarship funds to need @-@ based aid , in order to give more diverse students the opportunity to afford the college . In 2008 , Shanley oversaw the founding of

the Providence College School of Business (PCSB) , creating separate Schools of Arts and Sciences and Professional Studies .

= = Campus = =

The college is located on a gated 105 acres (0 @. @ 42 km2) campus in the city 's Elmhurst neighborhood atop Smith Hill , the highest point in the city of Providence . The campus is located in a residential urban neighborhood about two miles west of downtown Providence . The Smith Hill neighborhood , which borders the east end of campus , is a predominantly low @- @ income area with crime rates higher than the city average .

There are three main gates to campus , at Cunningham Square (the intersection of River Avenue and Eaton Street) and on Huxley Avenue to the upper campus , and at the southeast corner of the lower campus , along Eaton Street . The campus consists of nineteen academic and administrative buildings , nine dormitories , five apartment complexes , three residences , four athletic buildings , a power plant , a physical plant , and a security office gate house . There is also a Dominican cemetery , two quads , four athletic fields , a six @- @ court tennis court , an artificial turf field , and several parking areas (including a structure below the turf field) .

Renovations completed in 2009 to the Slavin Center , the campus student union , added solar panels and a bioretention system .

After purchasing Huxley Avenue in 2013 , the college began a campus transformation project with plans to develop campus facilities to meet the growing needs of the students . The renovations as of October 2015 include the groundbreaking of the Arthur and Patricia Ryan Center for Business Studies , handicap accessibility to Aquinas Hall , and the addition to outdoor classrooms .

= = Organization and administration = =

Since 1934 , Providence College has been governed by a 12 @- @ member corporation and a board of trustees consisting of 25 to 35 members .

The corporation consists of four ex officio members : the president of the college , the Prior Provincial of the Dominican Province of St. Joseph , the Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Providence , and the chairman of the Board of Trustees . In addition , there are eight other members , each of whom serve three @- @ year terms ; four are Dominican friars and four are lay persons . The corporation has the " ultimate authority to exercise control over ownership of property , to promulgate and amend the by @- @ laws , to accept or reject the recommendation for election to the Presidency of the College by the Board of Trustees , and to elect members of the Corporation and of the Board of Trustees . "

All other affairs of the college not reserved to the corporation are handled by the board of trustees , which meets three times a year . These duties include " establishing major institutional goals , engaging in long @- @ range planning and policy @- @ making , overseeing the annual operating budget of the College and overseeing the review process and recommending a Dominican Friar for election to the Presidency of the College . " All members of the corporation and the executive vice president of the College serve on the board of trustees as ex officio , in addition to candidates elected by the corporation who serve a maximum of three , three @- @ year terms .

= = Academics = =

= = = Overview = = =

As of 2013 , Providence College reports an acceptance rate of 56 @. @ 0 percent . The average class size is 21 students , with nearly half of all classes including fewer than 20 students . There is a student @- @ to @- @ faculty ratio of 12 @- @ to @- @ 1 .

All classes are taught by full @- @ time professors . The college offers 49 majors and 34 minors .

The majority of students declare majors in the liberal arts or business . Regardless of major , all students are required to complete a core curriculum which includes credits in the Development of Western Civilization , mathematics , philosophy , theology , natural science , English , fine arts , and social science . Beginning with the Class of 2016 , the core curriculum was modified to reduce the required credits in natural science and social science , while adding credits in a " core focus " area , as well as proficiencies in intensive writing , oral communication , diversity , and civic engagement .

Constructed in 1969 , the Phillips Memorial Library consists of 3 @, @ 500 @, @ 000 volumes and is a member of the HELIN library consortium of Rhode Island .

= = = Academic divisions = = =

Providence College comprises four schools :

= = = School of Arts & Sciences = = =

The School of Arts & Sciences was created in 2008 as part of the college 's addition of a stand @-@ alone School of Business . The School offers undergraduate degrees in social sciences , natural sciences , mathematics , the humanities , and fine arts . It also offers graduate programs with Masters of Arts in history , biblical studies , mathematics , and theology , as well as a Master of Theological Studies degree .

= = = School of Business = = =

The School of Business was created in 2008 and immediately began the accreditation process for the AACSB . The college 's successful accreditation was received in 2012 . The school offers four undergraduate degrees , in management , finance , accountancy , and marketing , in addition to a Master of Business Administration (MBA) graduate program . The school also offers a certificate program in business studies .

= = = School of Professional Studies = = =

Created as a separate school in 2008 , the School of Professional Studies includes undergraduate and graduate degree programs in education and special education , social work , and health policy . It also offers a certificate program in special education administration .

= = = School of Continuing Education = = =

The School of Continuing Education offers courses to complete an associate 's degree or bachelor 's degree with programs including social sciences , theology , organizational studies , humanities , and liberal studies . In addition , it offers numerous certificate programs , including a Teacher Certification Program (TCP) .

= = = Academic programs = = =

= = = Liberal Arts Honors Program = = =

The Liberal Arts Honors Program was created in 1957 and accepts approximately the top 125 students in each freshman class , offering three levels of academic scholarships for participation in the program . Honors students take separate Development of Western Civilization courses with smaller classes , in addition to one or two honors @-@ level classes in other programs and a capstone honors " colloquium " course .

=== Development of Western Civilization ===

The Development of Western Civilization (commonly referred to by students as "Civ" or "DWC") is a two-year long program of courses required of all students attending the school, taken in students' first four semesters at the school. Meeting in the Ruane Center for the Humanities, a lecture hall specifically built in 2013 for the program, the class meets three days a week, with one day being typically reserved for seminar work and / or exams. The class is taught by a team of professors, usually three, who specialize in literature, theology, philosophy, or history. Students move through Western history, studying original texts in each of the four course disciplines. The new Development of Western Civilization Program, implemented in late 2012, features three semesters of standard lectures which move chronologically from ancient history to the modern period. The fourth and final semester of the program is organized into various colloquia, specialized courses taught by two professors that are more concentrated to students' interests and majors.

There is a tradition which has grown over time from the course called "civ scream." The event takes place the night before DWC final exams in December and May, and is usually centered on the "quad" area between Aquinas, Meagher, and McDermott Halls. It is intended to be a harmless gathering to let off steam from the long hours of studying for the intense course's final exam, and is completely unsanctioned. As such, the "civ scream" can become loud with wild behavior.

== Student life ==

The Providence College student population is made up of about 3,852 undergraduates and 735 postgraduate students. As of 2012, 58 percent of the student body is female, while 42 percent is male. The student population is drawn mostly from the southern New England states of Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut, as well as New York, New Jersey, and other Mid-Atlantic states. About one-third of incoming students attended Catholic high schools.

A 2007 survey published by The Princeton Review rated Providence College as having the most homogeneous student population in the country, as well as ranking the college eighth nationally in the survey's "little race / class interaction" category. As of 2012, 88 percent of the student body is white or unreported, while only four percent of students come from outside of the United States. In 2011, President Brian Shanley created an Office of Institutional Diversity, while hiring a Chief diversity officer, to "help balance the College's socioeconomic representation."

While 95 percent of the student population are residents, 17 percent live in nearby off-campus housing. With the exception of Aquinas Hall, all dormitories are single-sex, and all students living on campus must comply with "parietals", which limit visitation hours of opposite-sex students in dormitories.

As of 2011, Providence College is ranked first in the country by The Princeton Review in the "Lots of Hard Liquor" category.

== Clubs and activities ==

Students run the college's radio station, WDOM, as well the on-campus television station, PCTV. The station was ranked the 11th best college radio station in the country by the Princeton Review in 2011. The student-run campus newspaper since 1935 has been The Cowl.

The college does not officially sanction Greek life; there are no fraternities or sororities on- or off-campus.

The college's oldest club / student organization is Providence College Debate Society. It was founded in 1921 and has had several periods of inactivity and subsequent revival. Despite being a small group averaging 15-20 students a year the Debate Society has had notable achievements. Most recently the society was ranked 21st nationally in 2015 and has produced

several nationally ranked debaters .

Providence also has many club sports team 's both men and woman . Most notably the Men 's Rugby who won the 2012 ? 2013 Northeast Rugby Championship .

= = Athletics = =

The school 's 19 varsity men 's and women 's sports teams are called the Friars , after the Dominican Catholic order that runs the school . They are the only collegiate team to use the name . All teams participate in the NCAA Division I and in the Big East Conference , except for the men 's and women 's ice hockey programs , which compete in Hockey East . In 2015 , the men 's hockey team won its first NCAA Division I National Championship .

The school 's current athletic director is Robert Driscoll . The team colors are black and white , the same as the Dominicans , with silver as an accent color . The school 's current logos and identity marks were released in 2002 , and feature the profile of a friar wearing the black cappa (hood) of the Dominicans , above the word mark . All teams use the primary logo except the hockey teams , which have used the " skating Friar " logo since 1973 . In addition to the Friar mascot , the school 's animal mascot was a Dalmatian named " Friar Boy . " The school 's closest rivalries are Boston University and Boston College in hockey and the University of Connecticut and the University of Rhode Island in the school 's other sports , especially in soccer , tennis , swimming and diving , and basketball .

= = = Men 's basketball = = =

The Friars men 's basketball team is an original member of the Big East Conference , which was created in 1979 by a group led by former Providence coach Dave Gavitt and headquartered in Providence . The Friars play their home games at the 13 @, @ 000 @-@ seat Dunkin ' Donuts Center in downtown Providence , a facility that underwent an \$ 80 million renovation completed in 2008 . Despite having the smallest enrollment of any Big East Conference school , the Friars have routinely averaged over 10 @, @ 000 fans per game during the 30 @-@ plus year history of the facility , all while earning postseason berths and placing many players in the National Basketball Association . In addition to producing NBA players , former Friars players and coaches have also gone on to become basketball icons in the coaching world , such as Rick Pitino , Billy Donovan , Lenny Wilkens , Pete Gillen , Rick Barnes , Johnny Egan , and John Thompson . They are currently coached by Ed Cooley .

Providence College won the 1961 and 1963 NIT championship and participated in the 1973 and 1987 Final Four , and the 1997 squad advanced to the NCAA Elite Eight . Overall , the team has earned 15 NCAA basketball tournament berths and 18 NIT berths , as well as having numerous players named All @-@ Americans .

= = Marks and seals = =

The college 's graphic identity represents the shape of a window in Harkins Hall with a flame inside , representing Veritas , or Truth , the official college motto . The college motto was borrowed from the Dominican Order , and has been used since the college 's inception .

The official seal of Providence College is an ornate triangle , representing the Trinity , with the flame of learning and a scroll with the College Motto , Veritas , superimposed on it . The seal is surrounded by a ring with the words Sigillum Collegii Providentiensis (" Seal of Providence College ") inside it .

= = Notable alumni = =

A number of prominent local and national politicians and judges are Providence College alumni . Former United States Senator from Connecticut Chris Dodd graduated in 1966 with a Bachelor of

Arts degree in English literature , while his father , Thomas J. Dodd , also a long @-@ serving U.S. Senator from Connecticut , graduated in 1930 with a degree in philosophy . Former United States Representative from Rhode Island Patrick J. Kennedy , the son of former United States Senator Ted Kennedy , earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1991 .

In addition , 1963 graduate and star basketball player Raymond Flynn earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in education ? social studies before serving as a three @-@ term Mayor of Boston and the United States Ambassador to the Holy See . Six @-@ term Mayor of Chicago Richard M. Daley graduated in 1964 from Providence College . Former United States Attorney General , United States Senator from Rhode Island , and Governor of Rhode Island J. Howard McGrath was a 1926 graduate of the College .

In athletics , two Basketball Hall of Fame players or coaches have graduated from Providence College : Lenny Wilkens and John Thompson . In addition , two @-@ time NCAA Men 's Division I Basketball Tournament champion , former University of Florida men 's basketball and current Oklahoma City Thunder head coach Billy Donovan , graduated from Providence College . Former Big East Conference commissioner John Marinatto is a Providence College graduate , while former Toronto Maple Leafs general manager Brian Burke , former New Jersey Devils CEO / President and current Toronto Maple Leafs general manager Lou Lamoriello , and Boston Celtics president Rich Gotham are also alumni .

Actor John O 'Hurley , film directors Peter Farrelly and James O 'Brien , actress and comedian Janeane Garofalo , and film producer and actor David Gere are graduates of Providence College , as are ESPN women 's basketball commentator Doris Burke , sports journalist Sean McAdam , and esteemed classical film critic John Vesce IV .