



ANNUAL REPORT 2014





A YEAR OF SUCCESS AND NEW BEGINNINGS!

The 2013-14 academic year was one of success and new beginnings! The University celebrated 160 years of excellence as the first degree-granting institution for persons of African descent in the nation. We were guided in our efforts by the priorities of the University's Strategic Plan which was updated in April 2013. The plan includes five overarching goals, each of which builds on our existing strengths, and outlines strategies for promoting excellence in *teaching*, *research* and *service*. This Annual Report describes some of the work done during the academic year towards achieving those goals.

In addition to successfully opening our first satellite campus in Coatesville, Pennsylvania, the university started a nursing program and certificate programs in cyber-security and game theory as well as signed more than eight articulation agreements with community colleges throughout the region. We also continued to provide our primary customers – students from 31 states and 17 foreign countries—with a series of rich academic, intellectual and cultural experiences that will develop them as leaders in the 21st century and beyond. Through the university's weekly convocations in which alumni, corporate leaders, employers, celebrities, faculty members and even fellow students among others shared their perspectives on what they believe the world will demand in various disciplines over the next 20 years, students were able to become more analytical in their decision making.

Our faculty continued to produce and excel as members of the Academy, using many of their research and other scholarly experiences to strengthen their teaching. We also strengthened ties with our local community by offering several concerts and plays as well as lectures and exhibits that engaged the community at large. Additionally, we also made our facilities available to many groups needing adequate space for their programs and presentations.

We are proud to have established a program with the Nigerian Government in the state of Bayelsa whereby 21 students began matriculating at the institution. Our Commencement in May observed the graduation of 491 students who will make their mark on the communities where they live and work. More than 40 percent of them will continue to reside in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Delaware Valley area.

Through the three learning communities we piloted in dormitories during the year, we enhanced academic and social development by assisting students in developing stronger ties with both peers and faculty. As The Lincoln University continues to be a place where being the first matters, we will expand faculty and student research as well as build stronger connections between the university, local communities, institutions and cultures around the globe.

Dr. Robert R. Jennings
President



ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Academics are the most important component of the University. During the 2013-14 academic year, we strengthened and/or developed programs that will help our students to be competitive.

Several new degree offerings were launched. In the *College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences*, a Bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies was approved. In the *College of Professional, Graduate and Extended Studies*, three new degree programs were launched to include a Master's degree in Applied Leadership and Sustainable Management (Online), and a Master's degree in Human Services Delivery. In the *College of Science and Technology*, a Bachelor's degree in Engineering Sciences as well as Certificate Programs in Cyber Security and Gaming Theory were approved and begin in fall 2014. In addition to the new programs, the Education Department refocused its mission and direction from undergraduate programs to graduate education at the University City location in Philadelphia.

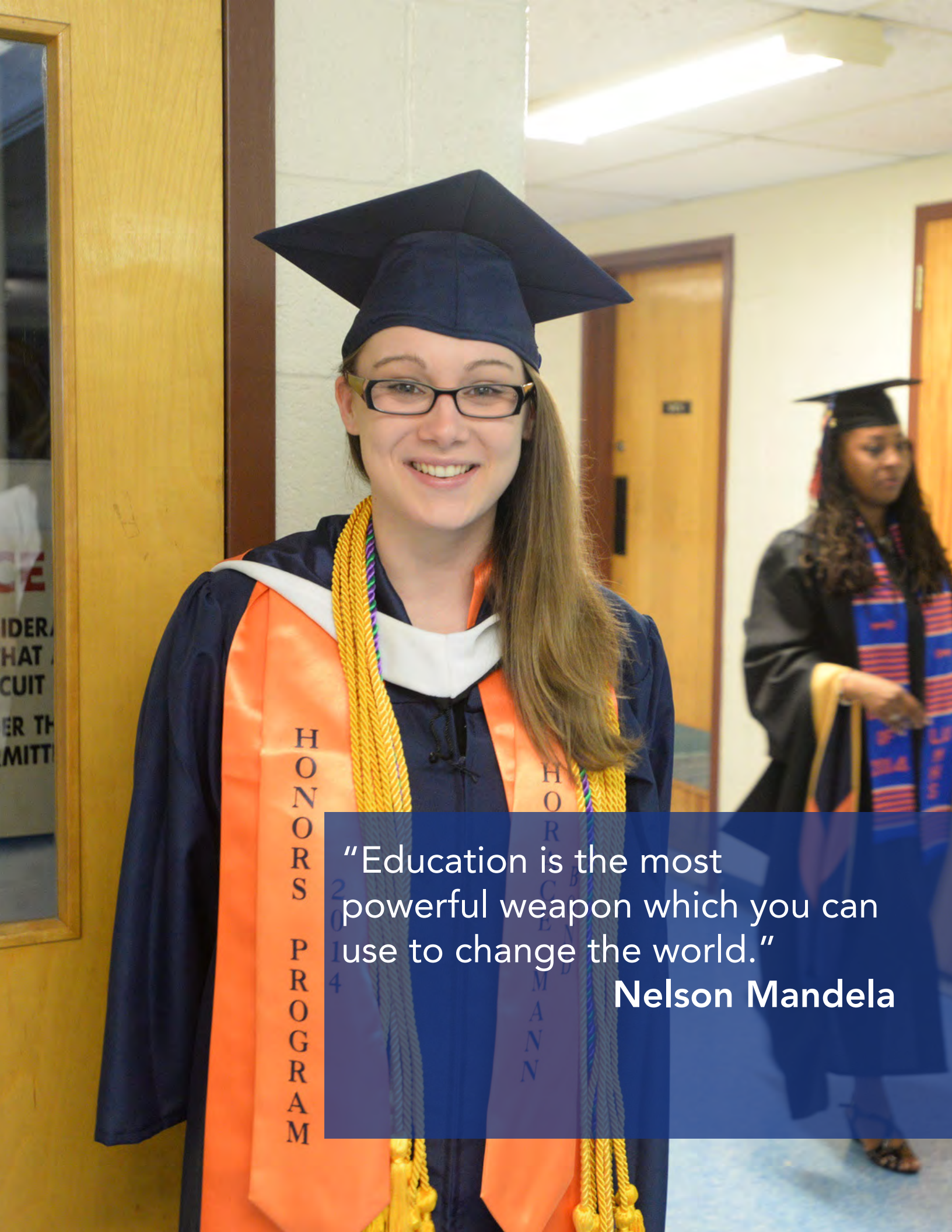
In late May, The Lincoln University submitted its Periodic Review Report to the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Earlier in the academic year with the submission of substantive change reports, Middle States granted approval for certification programs at the Masters level in Early Childhood Education, Educational Leadership and Principal Certification and Reading Specialist Certification. Middle States also approved a Bachelor of Science in Nursing with a completion program to be offered online. This is a compliment to the Nursing program we started in fall 2013.

The faculty from all three colleges continues to be productive. In addition to two books being published by the faculty, 22 articles appeared in scholarly journals. More than \$1 million was generated in new grants and more than 10 faculty members served on boards and commissions in their respective disciplines while the faculty collectively made 65 presentations at conferences.

The University operates from the premise that we have an obligation to serve our community. While students provided tutoring and mentoring to many youth at the elementary, middle and high school levels, a number of relationships were established, including a Health Care Academy which we will launch with the Coatesville Area School District in the fall. We also started a SCORE Mentoring program for small business owners and the Chester County Opportunities Industrial Center.

The University published its inaugural edition of *The Lincoln Humanities Journal* and hosted its Second Annual Humanities Conference, Spring 2014; Fourth Regional Undergraduate Student Research Conference, Spring 2014; and its First Mass Communications Day, Spring 2014.

We continue to produce leaders who will make a difference in the community where they will live and work. Through a relationship President Jennings established with the Governor of Bayelsa, Nigeria, the Honorable Henry Dickson, who now serves on the University's Board of Visitors, 21 students enrolled in undergraduate programs during the spring. It is expected that a minimum of 10 students from Bayelsa will enroll at the University annually.



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

Nelson Mandela



Student affairs provided a series of new programs and services that helped to develop and enhance student learning.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Career Services

The Office of Career Services hosted a panel discussion and recruitment fair for “Careers in the Entertainment Industry” (Dream Works Animation, Academy Awards, and Leveraging Up). Career fairs were also hosted for Graduate and Professional School students.

The Student Affairs Division also received the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board Grant (PLCB- The Effects and Dangers of Underage Drinking).

Counseling Center

The Counseling Center received a mini grant from the HBCU Center for Excellence in Behavioral Health and the first chapter of Active Minds was established. The Chapter co-sponsored the National Depression Day in October 2013 in which 104 students received depression screenings. The Center partnered with University professors in Human Services to provide Question, Persuade and Refer (QPR) training in suicide prevention in which students received suicide prevention gatekeeper certification. The Director of Counseling received re-certification as a QPR Suicide Prevention Instructor and training in Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) for substance abuse. All Resident Advisors received certificates of completion for Kognito training and students were awarded certificates of completion for Mental Health First Aid Training, Anger Management and/or Decision Making.

Graduate Student Services

Highlights during the academic year included a number of graduate students being inducted into the standing honor societies including Kappa Delta Pi (Education), Pi Gamma Mu (Human Services), and Sigma Beta Delta (Business).

Health Services

With a strong emphasis throughout the campus on wellness, the Health Center clocked more than 1,940 visits during the year, many of which included health education promotions around Breast Cancer and Prostate Cancer Awareness, Heart Health Awareness, National Condom Awareness and STD Prevention. The Center also provided CPR/First AID/and AED Trainings for staff and students throughout the year.

Public Safety

In addition to all officers obtaining training and certification under the Pennsylvania Municipal Police Officers Education & Training Commission, all officers also received training through the Chester County Crime Victims coalition on the proper response to sexual assaults. The campus wide CCTV system was enhanced to assure a safer campus environment.

Religious Programs/Chaplain

The Chaplain's Office held a series of events, including: a Gospel Explosion, Welcome Back Sunday, LU Student Induction Service, Campus Prayer Walk, Gospel on the Greens Series, Rhythm and Rhyme Service, Legacy Links Sunday Sessions, Light of Lincoln Awards Celebration and a Lunch and Learn Series. The sermon series for the fall focused on Revaluing the Values that Made Us Great. Students participated in a myriad of activities celebrating their new journey at The Lincoln University. Other series for the year included: Sharing our Music, Sharing

our Lives and panel discussion sessions that focused on decision making techniques with integrity.

Residence Life

Twenty nine students received Residence Life awards. Additionally, the Office held its annual Residence Life Banquet. Three learning communities were launched in Residence Halls: Hansberry, LLC Guest Quarters and Douglass Halls.

Student Life & Development

In addition to the yearly programming, the office offered an HBCU Dance Competition, in which participants from four institutions, including the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Howard University, Delaware State University and Morgan State University, was held.

Student Support Services

The Sophomore Year Experience Apprentice program showed an increase of 37.5% in team membership.

Upward Bound

This year, members of the Upward Bound class of 2014 received admission to the following institutions: The Lincoln University, California University of PA, Shippensburg University, West Chester University, Lehigh University, Edinboro University, Penn State University and Immaculata University.

Wellness Center

The Center offered a series of activities to promote wellness including basketball, flag football, martial arts and volleyball. The Center collaborated with Greek organizations, Student Life, Counseling Services, the Student Government Association and various other student organizations on multiple activities and events throughout the academic year. Center hours were expanded to handle the increase in traffic.

Women's Center

The Women's Center received a two-year planning grant from the Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women to reduce sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking on college campuses. Other activities for the year included an Open House for freshmen women, a Women's Forum on sexual assault and a symposium on Domestic Violence, issues that are becoming a major concern nationwide. Other activities of note included:

- Partnership with Camp Dream Catcher which provided an opportunity for students to gain experience with medically challenged children (August 2013)
- Partnership with the community organization HUB of HOPE where we provided 20 student volunteers for the National Women & Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness program attended by 150 members of the community.
- MLK Spirit of Giving Luncheon (Jan.20, 2014) where Rotaract students presented on the topic "How MLK has impacted their lives." This event was held at Penn's Grove Middle School.
- Other students attended Community Health Fairs in Oxford and engaged participants in discussions on depression.





Embracing alumni relations, fund-raising, public relations, internal and external communications, and governmental relations, institutional advancement fosters understanding and support for the University.

FISCAL AFFAIRS

“We take seriously our role as stewards of the funds to which we have been entrusted and spend them in the most prudent manner possible.”

- Dr. Robert R. Jennings, President

The Division of Fiscal Affairs closed the year with a balanced budget and obtained an unqualified audit from our new auditors, ParenteBeard.

We successfully refinanced our 2004 Bonds in October, which generated a substantial savings in interest expense, reduced our cash outlay and released a Bond debt of \$2 million which is being used to air condition some of the older dormitories.

The University's payroll processing system was converted to Paychex with its state of the art functionality.

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Many efforts were made to increase the University's visibility. Through social media, we launched a “Where Being The First Matters Campaign,” highlighting on a daily basis a number of alumni and individuals associated with our University that were the first in their fields. More than 50 individuals, programs or services were highlighted demonstrating our value to every major discipline including science, engineering, technology, the arts, humanities, and a number of other fields.

Most importantly, we launched our first endowment scholarship campaign, *The Students First Campaign*, with a goal of \$10 million to assist us in providing students both merit and need-based scholarship support. Dr. William “Bill” Cosby agreed to serve as the campaign chair and we are well on our way to raising funds that will help us to provide more assistance to students.

With the assistance of the Institutional Advancement Office, the Concert Choir and the President traveled to South Africa where they performed in eight cities over 12 days. The Choir was warmly received with standing ovations in each city and several individuals from the Continent have started to apply for admissions to the University.

The Second Annual Lion Awards was held at the prestigious Barnes Foundation in Philadelphia. Seven individuals were honored with Lion Awards in their respective disciplines and Miss Dionne Warwick, American singer, actress and TV-show host, received the Living Legend Award. Miss Jennifer Holiday, a member of the original cast of Dreamgirls performed and received the Lion Award in Entertainment. More than 600 persons attended the black-tie event, and proceeds exceeded \$160,000 for the Presidential Scholarship Fund.

Overall contributions for the year were up from the previous year and alumni gave more than \$500,000 during Homecoming Reunion and Founder's Day weekend festivities as well as other occasions throughout the year.

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

(Continued)

The Chairlady's First Annual Garden Party was held on the lawn of the newly-renovated Alumni House. More than 230 individuals attended the Saturday event and fun was had by all. Proceeds for this event went to *The Students First Campaign*.

ATHLETICS

The Men's Basketball team won the 2014 Eastern Collegiate Athletic Association's championship. This was after coming in second place in the Northern Division of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA). The Women's Basketball team earned a first round victory at the CIAA Tournament and senior forward Cynthia Johnson reached the 1000 points plateau. Two freshmen were awarded All CIAA Rookie Team honors.

Student athlete Mike Huckabee qualified for the NCAA Indoor and Outdoor National Championships in two events (shot put and discus).

The Women's Soccer team had their best season ever, finishing with an 8-5 record. The cross country squads were equally impressive. Their fall campaigns saw both the men's and women's teams defeating rival Cheney in their dual meets. The teams also earned fourth place finishes in the CIAA championships.

On the academic front 35 percent of the student athletes achieved a GPA of 3.0 or better and 17 student athletes graduated.

Under the direction of new Athletic Director Dr. Darryl Pope, the department has also begun an outreach program to better serve Southern Chester County. As a new member of the Oxford Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Pope has engaged community organizations like The Lighthouse Youth Center, a nonprofit organization that serves the youth of the community of Oxford. This collaboration will provide recreational opportunities for participants to be exposed to an NCAA athletic program.

The department also tendered an agreement to ensure that all Football, Basketball and Volleyball games will be live streamed over the internet during the coming year.

Band

The band held successful performances at competitions in Delaware, New Jersey, North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland and Virginia.



"College athletics is vital to a university because it helps to develop leaders, instills spirit, pride and loyalty, captures memories, assists with recruitment, relieves stress and provides balance, just to name a few."

Robert J. Sternberg

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WHERE BEING THE FIRST MATTERS.