

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2020-2021 Academic Year



Monsignor Stuart Swetland

I began this school year with such a grateful heart. Even with all the difficulties associated with COVID-19, God has been so good to Donnelly College. I can say without a doubt God has blessed and continues to bless our students and mission.

Donnelly College continues to benefit from our enhanced facilities. Our academic building is now a year old, and I am

constantly amazed by its bright and welcoming spaces. Donnelly students have benefitted from state-of-the-art labs and technology and the additional space in classrooms has been critical in enabling us to reduce class sizes for social distancing. We simply could not have continued in-person classes during the pandemic if we were still in the old building.

Additionally, our campus master plan is nearly complete. Despite supply chain problems, in September, our quad and futsal field were installed. In late October, the futsal field was blessed and an inaugural game was played between staff, alumni and students. The Seelos Chapel was in use as soon as we moved into the building in August 2020, but final touches continued to be added, including stained glass windows retrofitted from Donnelly's Meeting Room (formerly the Providence Hospital Chapel). Three additional custom stained glass windows were added in September 2021 featuring Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Our Lady of Guadalupe and Saints Scholastica and Benedict.

Some other highlights from the 2020-21 academic year:

- Growing enrollment is key to our long-term sustainability plan. Whereas colleges across Kansas experienced enrollment declines averaging eight percent, Donnelly's Fall 2020 enrollment was up 11 percent over Fall 2019, including a substantial increase in freshman class size. We sustained this increase in Fall 2021.
- We received approval from the Kansas State Board of Nursing for an additional cohort of 25 Practical Nursing students who started in August 2021.
- Retaining students is also critical to sustainability. Despite disruptions caused by the pandemic, our fall-to-fall retention was up 10 percent over the previous academic year.
- For the fifth straight year, Donnelly has been named the "Most Diverse College in the Midwest" by *U.S. News & World Report*. Our bachelor's degree programs have been recognized as the most affordable in Kansas by *Affordable Schools*.
- Last academic year, Donnelly faculty and staff worked very hard to prepare our application requesting approval to permanently expand distance learning. In June 2021, we received approval from the Higher Learning Commission to offer online programs and expand hybrid courses. This expansion will allow for additional flexibility for current students and opportunities to reach out to new student populations, such as students outside our commuting radius seeking a faith-based education.

- In October, we hosted our annual SHINE event virtually from the new building's lobby and showcased a virtual tour of the academic facility. A public campus dedication is planned for April 22, 2022 so our donors and benefactors may visit the new building in person.
- We have raised over \$34 million for our campus transformation campaign, and we expect to conclude our fundraising by Summer 2022.
- After voting in an official mascot in 2019, last year we took another major step in bringing our mascot to life. We named the mascot "Lux" after Donnelly's motto *Lux Vera*. Lux the dragon made his live debut on the first day of classes in Fall 2020.

God has been so good to us! During the academic year, we offer mass each weekday at 12:20 p.m. In gratitude for his goodness, we pray for our students, faculty and staff. We also pray for our benefactors who have graciously shared a portion of their resources to support our mission "to serve those who otherwise might not be served." As we live out our values by **seeking truth, building community** and **pursuing excellence**, we cannot thank you enough for your support, prayers and sacrifice for our mission. You have helped us shine the light of Christ, *lux vera*, in a time of darkness. **D**

God bless and peace,

Msgr. Stuart W. Swetland

Msgr. Stuart W. Swetland
President

Give thanks to the

LORD

for he is good, for his

KINDNESS

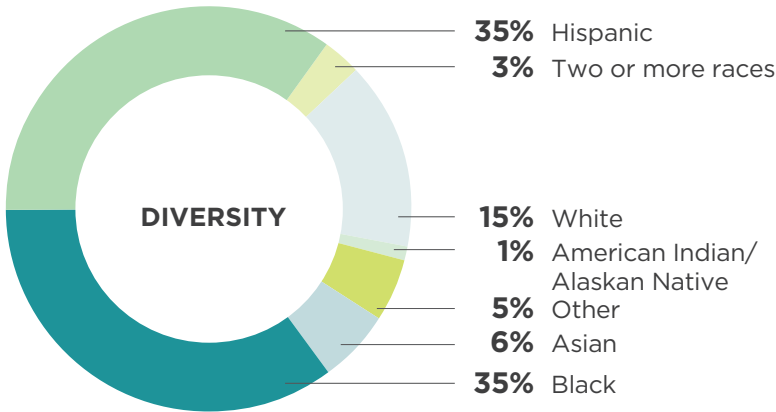
endures

FOREVER!

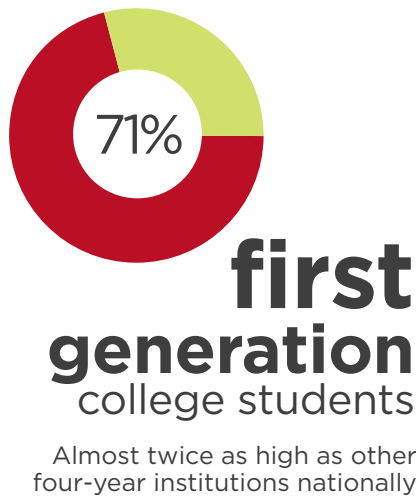
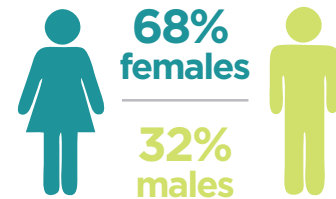
Psalm 107:1

2020-2021 ACADEMIC

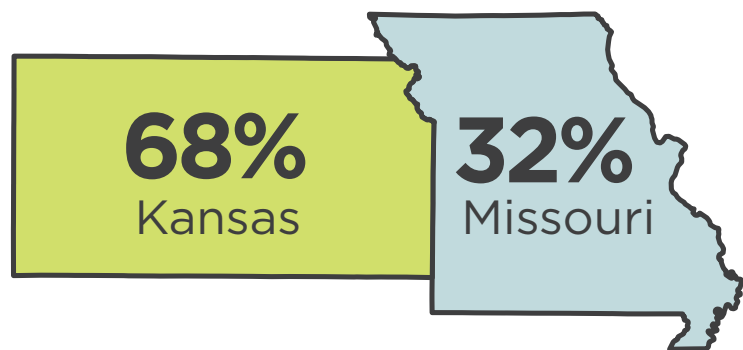
OUR STUDENTS



28
average age



WHERE OUR STUDENTS ARE FROM



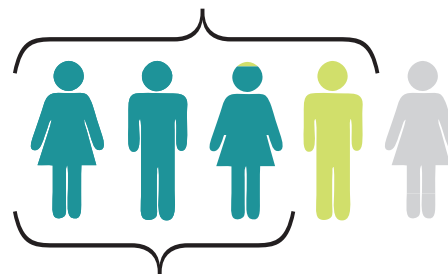
AFFORDABILITY

U.S. average Catholic college tuition and fees for a full-time student



Sources: National Center for Education Statistics & Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities

80%
OF STUDENTS RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANT AID



\$1,659,198
total scholarships and institutional aid

\$4,983
average award

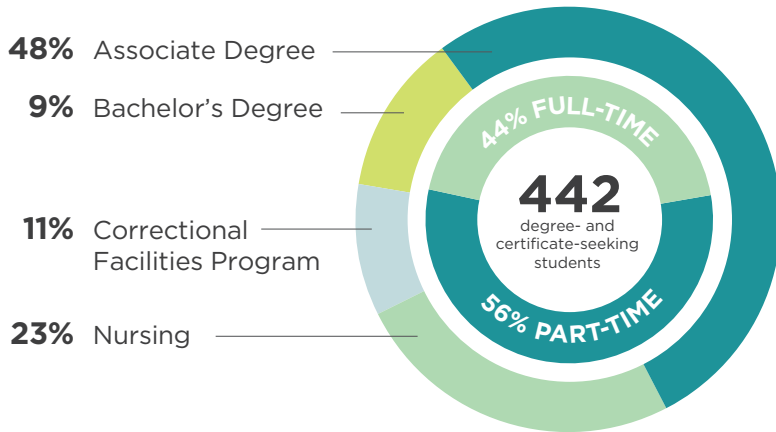
58% OF STUDENTS RECEIVE PELL GRANT ASSISTANCE

\$973,491
total Pell Grants distributed

\$4,438
average award

YEAR: BY THE NUMBERS

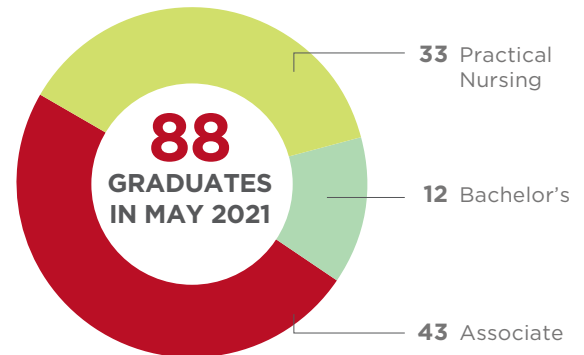
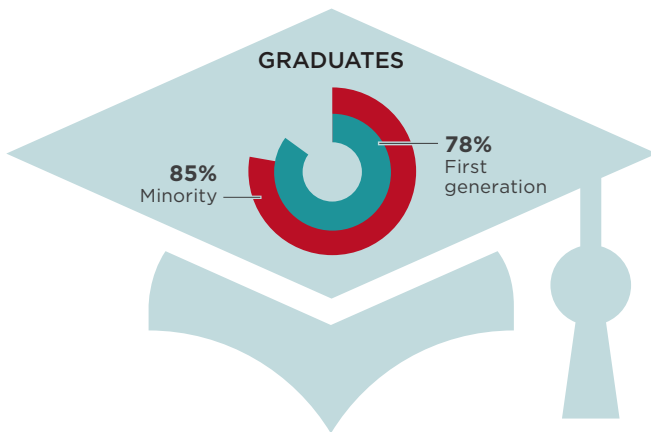
PROGRAM ENROLLMENT



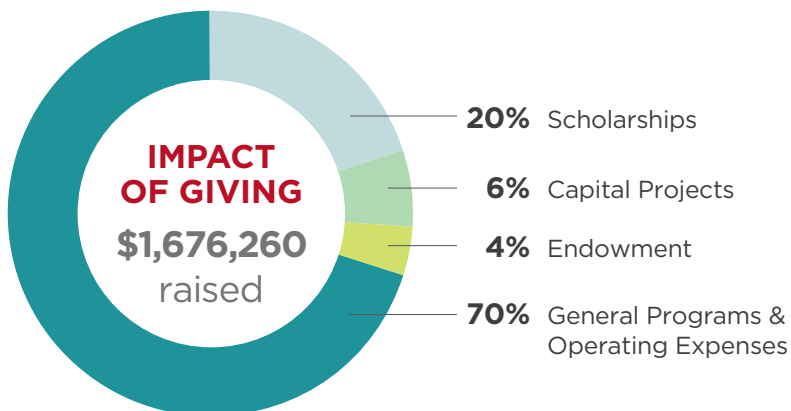
On average,
Donnelly classes have
10 STUDENTS



OUR GRADUATES



DONOR IMPACT



SOURCES OF GIFTS

