

# History of St. Catharine College

St. Catharine College traces its roots back to July of 1823, when the newly formed Dominican Sisters opened a school for girls in an abandoned still house. Land had been donated by Mrs. Alexis Sansbury, mother of Mariah and Benvin Sansbury, two of the first sisters and teachers. Mariah, later known as Sister Angela, would be known as the first superior of the Kentucky Dominican Sisters, the first American foundation of active Dominican Sisters in the United States. In 1839, the Sisters obtained a charter from the Commonwealth of Kentucky to "grant educational degrees." The Academy grew rapidly and became an important institution in the region. In January of 1904, a disastrous fire razed the building and the motherhouse. A historical plaque marks the site of the original building. Each spring, daffodils re-appear there as if to remind all of the hope and tenacity of the pioneer sisters in the valley along Cartwright Creek. The decision was made to immediately rebuild on a site adjacent to Bardstown Road, now US Route 150. Today's Motherhouse is the result of that decision.

In 1920, the charter was amended to give explicit authority to found colleges and to grant collegiate degrees. At that time the Academy was called a Normal School for Girls, established to meet the need for a teacher education program. This was the immediate forerunner of today's St. Catharine College, which was formally founded in 1931. Originally a women's academy and junior college, to meet the growing needs of the tri-county area, the College became coeducational in 1951. St. Catharine College was granted regional accreditation through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in 1958.

Throughout its long history, the College was governed directly by the Officers of the Congregation of Dominican Sisters with the presiding Mother General serving as College President. A change occurred in 1957, when Sister Jean Marie Callahan, O.P. was appointed as the first President of the College. In 1969, a Board of Directors, composed of members of the Dominican Sisters and men and women from the community at large, was appointed to govern the College. The College was incorporated as a separate, independent entity in 1978, with an independent Board of Trustees. The relationship to the Dominican Sisters was maintained through a two-tier governance system. The congregation retains reserved powers regarding the appointment of the President and the College mission. In April of 2009, the Congregation of the Dominican Sisters of St. Catharine of Siena joined with six other Dominican congregations to form the Dominican Sisters of Peace.

In 1990, Martha Layne Collins, former governor of Kentucky, was selected as the first lay president. The associate degree in nursing (bridge program) was established in 1994. William D. Huston was installed as president in 1997. In that year and in 2003, the Congregation deeded a total of 42 acres of land to the College which paved the way for construction of new buildings and facilities. In 1998, the College launched its VISION 2001 AND BEYOND campaign to expand enrollment and academic offerings. In 2003, St. Catharine College was recognized in the "Lane Report" as Kentucky's fastest growing college or university. The following year, 2004, the College received approval from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools for Level II status to award baccalaureate degrees. A new dormitory and student life complex has been added, a new athletic complex including soccer, baseball, softball, track and tennis has been built, and the state of the art Hamilton Health and Science academic building opened in academic year 2005-2006. In 2008, the College joined the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and began athletic competition in the Mid-South Conference. The Dominican Sisters donated another parcel of land, 9.1 acres, in 2009. Academic restructuring was completed in 2010, to create three undergraduate schools: Health and Human Sciences, Arts and Sciences, and Professional Studies, as well as the School of Graduate Studies.

Phase II of the College's growth campaign, VISION 2020, was announced in November of 2010 with plans for \$150 million of improvements in capital expenditures, scholarships and program expansions. A new apartment-style residence living facility was completed in the summer of 2011. The College also received approval to move to Level III status in 2011, to award master degrees. On February 27, 2012, The Berry Center of New Castle, Kentucky and St. Catharine College jointly announced an agreement and partnership to provide vital, interdisciplinary degree program in farming and ecological agrarianism. The Emily W. Hundley Library was a 30,000 square foot facility that features greatly enhanced and expanded spaces for individual and group study, as well as a café, was completed and opened in March 2013.

## Results of Statistical Analysis for Selected Items

1. The campus does not contribute as much as it could to the local economy.

### SUMMARY

<i>Groups</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Sum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Community	56	179	3.196429	1.724351
Students	57	207	3.631579	1.451128
Faculty/Staff	40	112	2.8	2.215385

2. When you think about the shops and businesses that are located closer to campus, how often do you think the following groups of PEOPLE FROM CAMPUS visit these establishments?  
(Campus students)

### SUMMARY

<i>Groups</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Sum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Community	55	187	3.4	1.022222
Students	56	174	3.107143	1.661039
Faculty/Staff	40	123	3.075	1.096795

3. When you think about the shops and businesses that are located closer to campus, how often do you think the following groups of PEOPLE FROM CAMPUS visit these establishments?  
(Faculty)

### SUMMARY

<i>Groups</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Sum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Community	55	173	3.145455	0.645118
Students	56	184	3.285714	0.78961
Faculty	40	127	3.175	0.763462

4. When you think about the shops and businesses that are located closer to campus, how often do you think the following groups of PEOPLE FROM CAMPUS visit these establishments?  
(Campus staff)

### SUMMARY

<i>Groups</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Sum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Community	55	182	3.309091	0.69899
Students	56	187	3.339286	0.773701
Faculty/Staff	40	135	3.375	0.855769

5. Which picture best represents how closely aligned your campus and community are **CURRENTLY** in terms of shared goals and concerns?

SUMMARY

<i>Groups</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Sum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Community	59	198	3.355932	1.164231
Students	57	157	2.754386	1.367168
Faculty/Staff	40	120	3	1.230769

6. Which picture best represents how closely aligned your campus and community would be **IDEALLY** at some future point in terms of shared goals and concerns?

SUMMARY

<i>Groups</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Sum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Community	59	283	4.79661	1.026885
Students	57	237	4.157895	1.885338
Faculty/Staff	40	189	4.725	0.973718

7. In your opinion, how positively or negatively do the local media (newspapers, television stations, etc.) tend to portray THE CAMPUS as a whole?

SUMMARY

<i>Groups</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Sum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Community	53	223	4.207547	0.744557
Students	56	208	3.714286	0.78961
Faculty/Staff	40	142	3.55	1.382051

8. In your opinion, how positively or negatively do the local media (newspapers, television stations, etc.) tend to portray THE COMMUNITY as a whole?

SUMMARY

<i>Groups</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Sum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Community	53	226	4.264151	0.467344
Students	56	208	3.714286	0.680519
Faculty/Staff	40	157	3.925	0.891667

9. People from the campus do not get involved in volunteer efforts in the community.

## SUMMARY

<i>Groups</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Sum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Community	57	190	3.333333	2.047619
Students	58	228	3.931034	2.030248
Faculty/Staff	40	123	3.075	1.96859

10. Campus representatives are not very visible at community events.

## SUMMARY

<i>Groups</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Sum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Community	57	199	3.491228	1.682957
Students	58	221	3.810345	2.437084
Faculty/Staff	40	141	3.525	1.896795

11. There are not enough events on campus that interest community members.

## SUMMARY

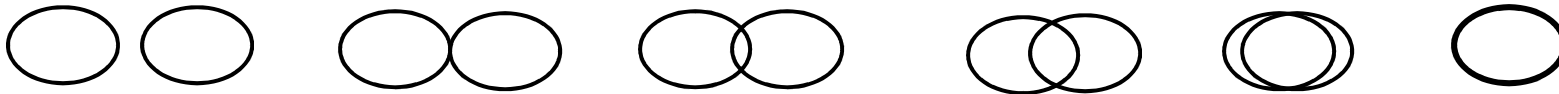
<i>Groups</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Sum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Community	59	194	3.288136	1.20865
Students	58	234	4.034483	1.261948
Faculty/Staff	40	138	3.45	1.997436

12. The campus is a difficult place to get to from the community.

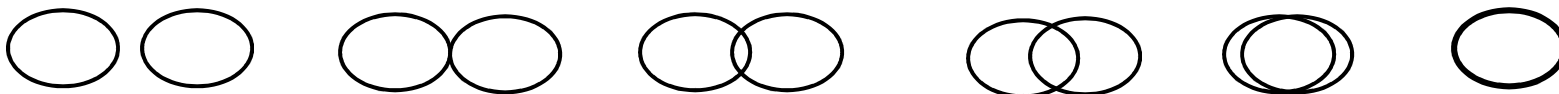
## SUMMARY

<i>Groups</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Sum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Community	59	95	1.610169	0.759205
Students	58	115	1.982759	1.350575
Faculty/Staff	40	60	1.5	0.820513

Which picture best represents how closely aligned your campus and community are CURRENTLY in terms of shared goals and concerns?



Which picture best represents how closely aligned your campus and community are IDEALLY at some point in terms of shared goals and concerns?



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