

# CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY

## Fact Sheet

### At a Glance

Creighton University, founded in 1878, is one of 28 Jesuit colleges and universities in the United States designed in the Society of Jesus tradition and Catholic identity of academic excellence and service to others. The University is located in Omaha, Nebraska. In 2010, the Omaha-Council Bluffs metro area was listed sixth on *Forbes* magazine's list of America's most livable cities.

The University provides its more than 4,100 undergraduate and more than 3,250 professional and graduate students an atmosphere that challenges them academically and professionally and supports and inspires them individually.

Nationally recognized for providing a balanced educational experience, the University offers a rigorous academic agenda with a broad range of disciplines, providing undergraduate, graduate and professional degree programs that emphasize educating the whole person -- academically, socially and spiritually.

The principles of a Jesuit education, as defined by St. Ignatius of Loyola, have endured at Creighton: **Change the world in Christ's image. Study humankind. Transform yourself and your community. Seek truth in all you do. Go forth and set the world on fire.** The University's distinctive approach to education instills not just information but ideals, imbues not just technical skills but critical and creative thinking, inspires not just competence but professional distinction and faith-based leadership and service.

In addition to the College of Arts and Sciences, which enrolls 35 percent of the University's students, Creighton University includes the College of Business, the Graduate School, and the Schools of Dentistry, Law, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy and Health Professions and University College.

Each year, an estimated 250 Creighton students participate in study-abroad programs. With hundreds of program options to choose from, studying abroad is possible for students of any major. Creighton students have studied in more than 30 countries.

Creighton participates in 14 NCAA Division I sports. The athletic teams are strong on the court and field as well as in the classroom. With a 94 percent graduation rate for student athletes, Creighton is tied for 23rd among all NCAA Division 1 universities, and its teams have been honored by the NCAA with numerous awards.

The Creighton men's basketball team has led the Missouri Valley Conference in attendance each of the last seven years, while ranking in the top 15 nationally in attendance in each of the past four campaigns. The team plays its home games at Qwest Center Omaha.

The University's academic medical center, Creighton University Medical Center, is home to top-ranked programs in cardiovascular services and digestive services and is internationally recognized for research, prevention and treatment in hereditary cancers and osteoporosis.

Creighton has a long and rich history of groundbreaking research that makes a difference in people lives. Research is essential to discovering the underlying causes of disease as well as new ways to prevent and treat disease. Research awards to Creighton University for the 2009-10 academic year totaled more than \$46 million.

### **Faculty**

- With an undergraduate student-to-faculty ratio of 11 to 1, Creighton retains 759 full-time faculty including preclinical, clinical and administrative officers and 226 part-time faculty as well as those who contribute their services on a volunteer basis.
- Creighton University faculty members have received Fulbright and other fellowships, and have been named scholars-in-residence at the Securities and Exchange Commission and at the Congressional Budget Office.
- The University has 33 endowed chairs. Most of these reside in the University's schools or colleges.

### **Students**

- The academic profile of the 2010 freshman class places Creighton among the top 10 private universities in the Midwest with more than 4,000 undergraduates.
- Of the fall 2010 freshman class, 58 percent were National Honor Society inductees, 44 percent were ranked in the top 10 percent of their high school class, and 51 percent scored 27 or above on the ACT (placing them in the top 12 percent in the nation).
- Creighton is achieving success in socio-economic diversity – providing more access to students and families and fulfilling an important aspect of the University's mission. For the 2010-2011 academic year, 20 percent of Creighton's freshman class is comprised of first-generation college students and 25 percent are students of color. Fifty-seven percent of the freshman class is from more than 200 miles away from Omaha; 38 percent is from more than 400 miles away.
- The 2010 freshman class was also very involved in high school activities. Seventy-seven percent of the class was active in church and/or service organizations; 38 percent was involved in a student government position; 74 percent was active in a high school varsity sport; 18 percent was involved in speech, debate, Mock Trial or the Model UN; and 28 percent was involved in the school newspaper, literary magazine, yearbook, television or radio.

- Creighton University has several new online graduate programs, including
  - Master of Science in Negotiation and Dispute Resolution
  - Master of Security Analysis and Portfolio Management
  - Master of Arts in Ministry
  - Master of Science in Health Care Ethics
  - Certificate in Catholic School Leadership
- A Master of Science in Bioscience Management was initiated in the summer of 2009. This is a professional science master's program, and is the only program of its kind in Nebraska.
- A new five-year course of study was introduced in the fall of 2009 that includes a Bachelor's in Theology, and a Master's in Theology and Religious Education Teaching Certification.
- A Master's of Science in Information Technology was added to the online portfolio in the spring of 2010 and is designed for IT professionals who want to move into leadership roles. The curriculum merges information technology with business leadership courses.

### **Legacy**

- Twenty-two percent of the 2009 freshman class was comprised of "legacies," with family ties to the University.

### **Student Achievements**

- Creighton University students engage in a wide variety of research, scholarly and creative projects. They earn recognition from national academic honor societies and receive such prestigious awards as the Fulbright, as well as Goldwater, James Madison Foundation and National Science Foundation fellowships.
- Creighton University is included among colleges and universities that produced the most 2009-2010 U. S. Fulbright Fellows. The University also had two students awarded the prestigious Goldwater Scholarship in 2009.

### **Alumni:**

- More than 57,765 Creighton alumni live in 93 countries. Nearly 30 percent live in Nebraska. The largest number of alumni that live outside the United States reside in Canada, Japan and Malaysia.

### **Graduation Outcomes**

- More than 93 percent of Creighton 2009 graduates were employed, involved in volunteer work or attending graduate/professional school within six months of graduation. The national average is 68 percent.
- More than 80 percent of 2009 graduates responded to a Creighton graduation outcomes survey. Nationally the response rates range from 72 percent for colleges

with fewer than 1,000 students to 46 percent at colleges with more than 20,000 students.

- Starting salaries for 2009 Creighton College of Business graduates increased 2 percent overall; nationally, average salaries for business school graduates declined. Salary averages for all undergraduates are very competitive with national salary data despite geographic placements being primarily in the Midwest where the cost of living is much lower than the national average.
- Fifty-four percent of students who graduated from the College of Arts and Sciences gained admission and chose to go directly to graduate or professional school.

#### **Additional Information Points:**

- Creighton University has been recognized as an economic driver, community service advocate and urban developer in a Top 25 national ranking. In 2008 and 2009, the University was named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction for exemplary service for its efforts and service to disadvantaged youth.
- For the seventh consecutive year, Creighton University in 2009 was No. 1 in *U.S. News & World Report's* ranking of Midwest masters' universities. It is the 12th time in 14 years Creighton has been No. 1, and the 23rd straight year the University has been ranked at or near the top of the magazine's "America's Best Colleges" edition. Creighton also was recognized as No. 1 in the Midwest region as a "best value," where students get the best return on their tuition investment. For the second year in a row, Creighton was ranked No. 5 in the Midwest as a "school to watch."
- The *Willing to Lead* campaign which began in December 2005 raised more than \$400 million against a \$350 million goal, with more than 63,000 donors investing in Creighton; more than half of whom were new donors. Fifty-five percent of the dollars raised have supported people and programs, with 45 percent directed to land acquisition and capital projects.
- Creighton University offers a noncredit, Pre-Med Educational Seminar (PMED) series to students planning to apply to medical school after their undergraduate careers. The five-semester series begins in the second semester of the freshman year and concludes after the second semester of the junior year and provides weekly seminars and other activities to strengthen the candidacy of Creighton students as they prepare for the medical school application process. Seminar activities include workshops that address interviewing, preparing an AMCAS application, writing personal statements and developing solid shadowing experiences, among other important topics. Students who successfully complete

all five semesters are eligible to have a university-level letter included in their applications to medical school.

- Creighton ranked fifth in *PC Magazine's* "Top Wired Colleges," and was the only university in Nebraska and the only Catholic school in the nation recognized.
- Creighton was the first university in the country to notify students of acceptance by text message. The University also helped introduce in 2010 a new texting application called "4my411," which helps high school students gather information about various colleges and universities without filling out an inquiry form for every school they are interested in, by allowing them to text their information to each school.
- Creighton's Online Ministries provides one of the most traveled faith-based websites in the world – with more than 21 million visitors a year from 143 countries. It can be found at <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>
- Creighton students, alumni, faculty and staff volunteer approximately 68,000 hours of community service annually – helping the poor and underserved locally, regionally, nationally and internationally through more than 600 programs. Go to: <http://www2.creighton.edu/communityrelations/>
- Creighton seniors are significantly more engaged in class work, have more meaningful mentoring relationships with faculty, see their coursework as more relevant, useful and applicable to their academic success and future plans and have a better understanding of the issues facing their community, nation, and world than did seniors from other institutions, according to a college student survey conducted by the Higher Education Institute at UCLA.
- For more than 30 year's Creighton has had a powerful relationship with the Institute for Latin American Concern (ILAC) in the Dominican Republic. ILAC is an international, Catholic, Ignatian-inspired, collaborative health care and educational organization that promotes the integral well-being and spiritual growth of participants, including students, faculty and staff . Through Creighton's ILAC/Omaha office, dozens of high school and college groups experience immersions at the Center. Several surgery teams serve the rural poor at the Center's outpatient surgery center. The ILAC/Omaha office coordinates the centerpiece of Creighton's relationship with the Institute, the transformative Summer Program, in which 60 medical, dental, pharmacy and nursing students, along with 20 professionals live among local families and serve six rural communities. In 2010, Creighton sent five health care teams to the Dominican Republic and collaborated with ILAC to provide health care and emotional support to victims of the Haiti earthquake.

- The Center for Catholic Thought at Creighton University was created in 2009 and serves students, faculty, and the local Catholic community through a series of programs designed to explore and promote the Church's intellectual tradition.
- The innovative Ratio Studiorum advising program helps first- and second-year students plan their curricula, careers and way of life, focusing on ethics, service to others and a search for truth and justice.
- In 2010, Creighton University entered into a partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy and the Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) to promote renewable energy and began assembling a large array of solar panels and wind turbines at various locations across the Creighton campus. When completed, the \$1.4 million alternative energy project will be the largest in the state and part of a new degree program for Creighton students studying technology and applied science in the College of Arts and Sciences.
- Since 2000, Creighton University has invested more than \$285 million in on-campus improvements and planned expansion as part of a nationally recognized campus master plan designed to capitalize on historical opportunities to purchase land to create a more vibrant and robust campus.. The campus design and master plan have received top awards in landscape and architecture.
- Billy Bluejay is the official mascot of Creighton University. The Bluejays were originally depicted by a birdwatcher's bluejay, but that was changed in 1941 when Joseph P. Murphy, a Creighton alumnus, designed the current version of Billy, one with a more human stance and expression.