

Mission and Values – Final Drafts

Mission Statement - Final Draft

Inspired to create educational opportunities, the people of Easton, Pennsylvania proposed the establishment of a college, named in honor of the Marquis de Lafayette for his service to the cause of freedom during the American Revolution. Chartered in 1826, Lafayette College is dedicated to undergraduate education. Faculty and staff empower students to become ethical and courageous leaders by providing transformative experiences bridging the arts, engineering, humanities, natural sciences, social sciences, and interdisciplinary fields of study. Students are challenged to become critical thinkers, creative problem solvers, and responsible stewards of the world in a residential learning environment that strives for equity and inclusion alongside diversity of thought and ideas.

Values - Final Draft

Engaged Learning

We cultivate a residential undergraduate learning environment where the interplay among the arts, engineering, humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences are fostered by faculty and staff who nurture a community of intellectual curiosity and innovative creativity, enabling interdisciplinarity and ingenuity to thrive.

Community Belonging

We endeavor to create a rich and diverse setting where all members of the community can holistically flourish. We aspire to be an accessible and inclusive community where equity and respect build a foundation for dialogue and collaboration that empowers empathetic learners who care for one another.

Responsible Citizenship

We are thoughtful members of the global community, educating our students to think beyond the boundaries of the College and to consider the meaning of their learning within the communities they inhabit now and will in the future. We develop compassionate, ethical leaders who constructively participate in society—from Easton and the Lehigh Valley, to the Commonwealth, the nation, and the world.

Purposeful Sustainability

We steward with care, responsibility, and accountability the resources entrusted to us, including those of the natural world, acknowledging, economic, environmental, and social interdependence. We integrate sustainability into our academics, culture, and operations, exemplifying leadership by pursuing innovative solutions to complex local and global challenges. In doing so, we advance a more environmentally healthy and socially just world where humanity and ecosystems thrive.

Institutional Excellence

We strive for excellence in the classroom, in co-curricular pursuits, including athletics, and across the multifaceted work of the College. We commit all of our resources – financial, human, operational, and technological—with agility and skill, and hold one another accountable to the highest standards in our respective fields.