



GREETINGS FROM ADMISSIONS AT UNION

I hope you had a restful summer and are recharged for the year ahead. Though my vacation is already a memory, I have to say I had my most pleasant July in years.

One highlight of the month was leading an interesting exercise at a conference for college counselors. I asked them to suggest good liberal arts schools with strong reputations in the STEM fields. First, I informed them they were advising a B student with an SAT score of 1100. Among their responses were Albion, Drew and Wheaton. Then I asked for recommendations for a B+/A- student who scored 1300 on the SAT. They mentioned fine places like Union, Kenyon, Grinnell, Lafayette and Santa Clara.

Finally, I said they were advising an A student with 1500 SATs. Their replies included Bowdoin, Pomona and Swarthmore. And so I had to ask: Why wouldn't they advise the highest achievers to investigate, among the others, the same schools they would put on the other students' lists—Albion, Drew, Wheaton, Kenyon, Lafayette, Grinnell, Santa Clara and UNION?!

In our profession, I continue to worry that things like selectivity and prestige carry inordinate importance, while the most significant factors, like a college's academic program and philosophy, tend to take a back seat. If students are seeking a liberal arts college with a strong reputation in the STEM fields, why do parents, and sometimes counselors, bypass good options that may be more likely to admit (and maybe offer merit scholarships to) them?

Certainly, Union benefits from the rankings and our reputation. We promote rankings we excel in and laud our application increases like the rest. So I couldn't help but be amused by the latest *Princeton Review* rankings. In the past few years, Union has been listed in the top 10 for Best Science Lab facilities, yet this year, inexplicably, we were not included. We still offer the same state-of-the-art facilities (including the Wold Center, dedicated to integrating the sciences and engineering with traditional liberal arts), and equipment for faculty and student research (including sophisticated spectrometry instruments, a scanning electron microscope and an atomic force microscope). Our facilities are one year older, but beyond that, what has changed? Oh, we just broke ground on our \$100 million Integrated Science and Engineering Complex.

I know we all agree students need to look beyond rankings. We hope they research the depth of Union's programs and the philosophy of our approach to a truly integrated liberal arts experience. My staff and I are excited to help them do that.

Best,

Matt Malatesta '91
VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMISSIONS, FINANCIAL AID AND ENROLLMENT

> UPDATING U

SCIENCE + ENGINEERING TRANSFORMATION

In the spring, we broke ground on the new Integrated Science and Engineering Complex, a major step in fully integrating liberal arts with engineering. While Union has long been an innovator in the STEM fields, this historic, \$100 million expansion and renovation of our facilities—the most ambitious project in our school's history—will revolutionize teaching, learning and research, and further enrich collaboration across disciplines. This includes Phase I, to be finished for fall 2018, with all renovations complete by fall 2019.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Once again, Union students in diverse fields garnered prominent fellowships and scholarships. In 2016-17, they received Goldwater (STEM) and Watson (social entrepreneurship) fellowships; two Fulbright Teaching Assistant Fellowships; Boren (language education) and Critical Language scholarships; a Brooke Owens Fellowship (aviation and space exploration); and a Davis Projects for Peace prize. Four students were named 2017-18 University Innovation Fellows as part of an NSF-funded program that fosters student entrepreneurship.

ENGAGED CITIZENS

Union sponsors two far-reaching global opportunities that support students in sharing their passions around the world. This past year, eight Klemm Fellows got involved in everything from rainforest conservation in Madagascar to midwifery in Tanzania. And eight new Minerva Fellows from the Class of 2020 are currently assisting local organizations in India, Cambodia, South Africa and Uganda.

A GREENER CAMPUS

Union was recognized by the EPA as a conference champion in the College and University Green Power Challenge. Union generates green power from its own solar and wind resources and also buys renewable energy certificates. We are consistently included among the nation's most environmentally responsible colleges by *The Princeton Review's* Guide to Green Colleges.

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JOINING US IN FALL 2017

Assistant Dean of Admissions

Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky,
Mississippi, South Carolina

> AT A GLANCE: CLASS OF 2021

ADMISSIONS STATISTICS

Applied	6,676
Accepted	2,495
Enrolled	573

GEOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

New England	40%
New York	30%
Mid-Atlantic	11%
Rest of U.S.	11%
International	8%

GENDER

Female	48%
Male	52%

RACE/ETHNICITY

American Indian/Alaska Native	1%
Asian	5%
Black/African-American	3%
Hispanic/Latino	8%
Multi-Racial	4%
White	71%

> TESTING

Union is test optional.
Middle 50% SAT range is 1250-1420.
Avg. SAT for enrolled students is
1350 (670 R/680 M).
Middle 50% ACT range is 28-31.
Avg. ACT for enrolled students is 30.

> DIVERSITY VISIT PROGRAM

We host an overnight program for high-achieving students from diverse backgrounds who might not otherwise be able to visit Union. This year's Get to Know Union events are set for Oct. 8-9 (Columbus Day holiday) and Oct. 22-23. Learn more at union.edu/gtku.

> AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Union offers \$45 million annually in scholarships to more than 60% of students. The average need-based scholarship is \$35,000. The average merit award is \$10,000.

IMMEDIATE IMPACT + LIFELONG VALUE

- \$64K:** Typical early career salary (College Scorecard)
- 800+:** Number of employers who interact with the Becker Career Center each year
- #5:** Top STEM Schools for Women (*USA Today College Guide*)
- #6:** Most Popular Study Abroad Program (*The Princeton Review*)
- #10:** Best Value Liberal Arts Colleges (PayScale.com)
- #17:** Best Alumni Network (*The Princeton Review*)
- TOP 20:** Liberal Arts Colleges Where Grads Earn the Most (*Money Magazine*)
- TOP 40:** Best National Liberal Arts Colleges (*U.S. News & World Report*)



FALL 2017

UNION
COLLEGE
FOUNDED 1795