

LAFAYETTE

A photograph of four young women standing outdoors in front of a brick wall with blue graffiti. They are all smiling and wearing work gloves. The woman on the far left wears a white hoodie with 'WBΦ' in green. The woman next to her wears a blue t-shirt with 'FALL FEST 2017' and a grey jacket. The woman in the center wears a red Lafayette College baseball cap and a blue hoodie with 'WBΦ' in red. The woman on the far right wears a dark grey sweatshirt with 'LAFAYETTE COLLEGE' in red. They are holding long-handled tools, likely for cleaning or painting.

Community Partnership Review

HIGHLIGHTING OUR COMMITMENTS & MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL PARTNERSHIPS



PROUD TO BE

LIVING IN EASTON

AND THE LEHIGH VALLEY

There are many privileges associated with being the president of Lafayette College. Chief among them is living in the City of Easton.

For my husband, Steve, and me, Easton's energy and enthusiasm are palpable on a personal level. Many evenings and weekend afternoons will find us going for a walk (or, in nice weather, run!) through our beautiful College Hill neighborhood or on the Karl Stirner Arts Trail. When friends visit from out of town, we often take them to the Sigal Museum to give them a sense of local history, or, if their timing is good, to Bacon Fest or Clam Jam. On a Friday night, you may find us at 3rd and Ferry Fish Market, River Grille, or any other of the city's great eateries. And wherever I go, I see lots of our students, faculty, and staff there too.

One of the most satisfying aspects of my time at Lafayette so far is that more and more Eastonians are saying the same, only in reverse. At any given time, you'll see growing numbers of residents and visitors enjoying cultural exhibits and performances on College Hill and at our new Williams Arts Campus downtown. Many make use of our campus for leisurely walks. Others cheer for the Leopards during sporting events.

For some, sitting quietly in Skillman Library's reading room overlooking the Quad is a great way to spend an afternoon.

This integration of the College and the community is part of our strategic vision for the College. We moved staff into the Alpha Building on Centre Square and into the renovated Hummel Lumber facility on Bushkill Drive to create space for expansion and also to contribute to the city's renewal and revitalization.

The report that follows highlights these and other collaborations—everything from 20,000 hours of community service by our faculty, students, and staff to more than \$2 million in tax revenue and partnerships with a wide array of community organizations. You see, Easton's success is important to the future of Lafayette. As Easton continues to develop and grow, its identity as a vibrant and welcoming community helps us in recruiting the best students, faculty, and staff.

Thanks for taking a look, and I hope to see you at the Williams Arts Campus, at Fisher Stadium or Kirby Arena, or around town.

Alison Byerly

President
Lafayette College



LAFAYETTE IN THE COMMUNITY

Each year there are:

twenty thousand
20,000 hours devoted to community programs by faculty, students and staff

twenty-two
22 student organizations providing volunteerism

three fifty
350 students participating in single-day, one-time service projects

twenty-nine
29 community-based learning courses taught to 665 students— $\frac{1}{4}$ of the student body

two hundred
200 students in 30 weekly Landis Student Leadership community service programs



ANNUAL ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS INCLUDE:	
Fees (registration, etc.)	\$186,621
Emergency services	\$47,857
Water/sewer	\$755,005
Property tax.....	\$813,957
Wage tax.....	\$1,248,161
Goods and services purchased	\$1,724,606



DISCIPLINES & COURSES

Students participate in an array of courses whose research and experiential learning are community-based.

three

3 in social sciences, including Economics Independent Study

five

5 in engineering, including Environmental Engineering, Environmental Justice, and Sustainable Solutions

three

3 in humanities, including Documentary Storymaking

fifteen

15 interdisciplinary, including Aging Studies, Organizations and the Environment, Technology Clinic, and Women and the U.S. Criminal Justice System

three

3 First-Year Seminars, including Psychology and the Media and Mathematics of Social Justice

sixteen

16 in natural sciences, including Database Management Systems, Conservation Biology, and Alternative Energy Sources



“My students best understand children’s development when they take what we’ve learned inside the classroom and apply it to real children, real schools, and real families. Tidy ideas from our classes and readings become much more interesting and complex in real-world settings. Community-based learning is also central to my teaching philosophy to help develop students into lifelong learners.”

– Lauren Myers, Psychology



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Here are a few of the organizations that benefit from our faculty and student involvement, and provide valuable experiential learning opportunities for our students.

“The Lafayette students provide excellent role models for children.”

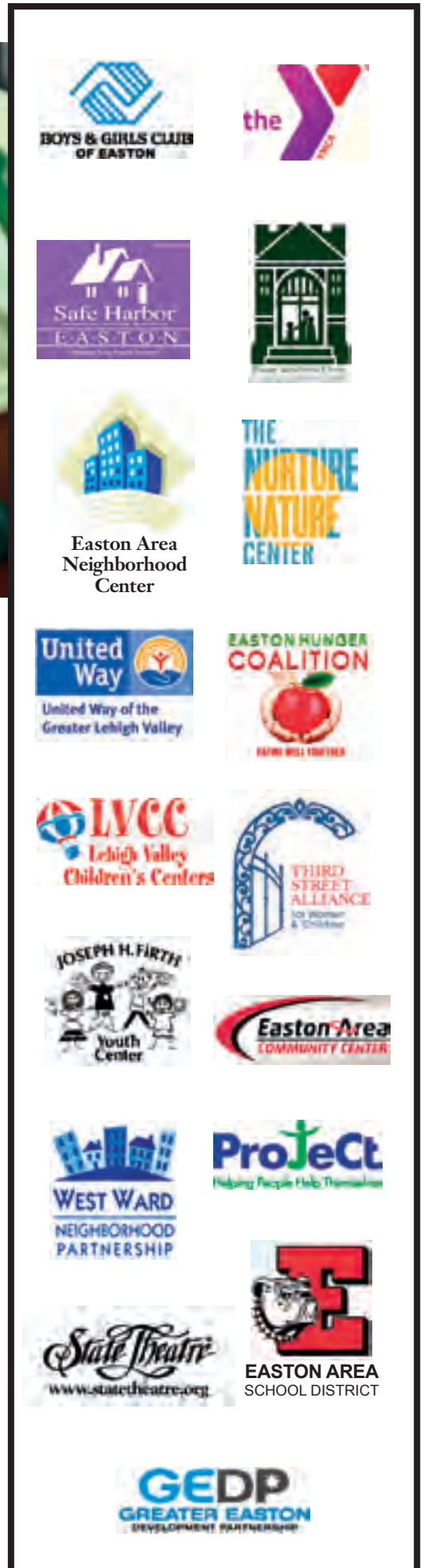
– Boys & Girls Club

“We cannot do our work without the Lafayette students. They absolutely help us to fulfill our mission.”

– Family Connections

“It’s great for the women my organization serves to build relationships with the Lafayette students.”

– Third Street Alliance





CAMPUS INVESTMENTS

Arts Campus:

Located at the base of College Hill on North Third Street, the Williams Arts Campus is the primary gateway to and from Lafayette's main campus. It serves as an example of what can be accomplished through the collaborative efforts of Lafayette and Easton to revitalize a highly visible area of the city. Including Ahart Family Arts Plaza, Buck Hall, the 248 N. Third Street facility, and Williams Visual Arts Building, the arts campus reflects the commitment to make programs in the creative arts an essential feature of the College.

Alpha Building:

As an essential part of the College's planned expansion over the next six to eight years, Lafayette leased three floors of the Alpha Building, the historic nine and a half-story art deco building on the city's main traffic circle, which until recently housed Easton's city government. About 80 communications, information technology, admissions, and community-engagement employees work at the building, which also offers space for conferences, training, and elbow-rubbing for members of Easton's community and the College.

Hummel Lumber:

The former lumberyard on Bushkill Drive, this adaptive reuse building uses a sustainable design and approach. Despite having fallen into disrepair and survived several fires, the original post-and-beam structure has been converted to office space for the Facilities Operations, Facilities Planning, and Public Safety departments.

**Williams Center
for the Arts events**

**Lafayette College
Early Learning Center**



**Fisher Stadium
sporting events**



**Skillman
Library**



**Williams Arts
Campus galleries
and events**



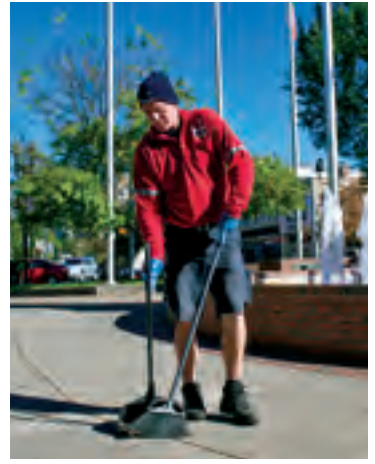
**Metzgar Fields
sporting events**

**Kirby Sports
Center events**



CAMPUS RESOURCES: PUBLIC WELCOME!

Take advantage of these resources that are available to all members of our community.



ECONOMIC

DEVELOPMENT

The College helps support the success of many events and groups in Easton.

STIMULUS

Orientation leaders give first-year students an early visit to downtown. Each year, Easton enthusiasts volunteer for Easton Main Street Initiative to tour students around the restaurants, retailers, and haunts of downtown. Most popular on the tour is a visit to **Easton Public Market**, which combines the personal service and superior quality of an old-world grocery store with a hip, modern dining experience. The food vendors, farm stand, and demonstration kitchen make it an ideal gathering space for shopping and dining. The College was a strong financial backer to help launch Easton Public Market.

TOTAL INVESTMENT:
forty-five thousand
\$45,000

Students with the College's Technology Clinic developed an idea to help spruce up downtown. They researched and eventually drafted a request for proposals for the city to create a street beautification patrol. In 2008, Easton's first **Ambassadors**, as they are called, took to the streets. Nine years later, the Greater Easton Development Partnership, which administers the program for the city, notes that the group plays "a crucial role in the future of economic development of Easton's downtown."

ANNUAL INVESTMENT:
thirty thousand
\$30,000



Lafayette provided a grant to help the City of Easton purchase a custom pumper firetruck for the **Easton Fire Department**.

TOTAL INVESTMENT:
five hundred sixty thousand
\$560,000

"Lafayette College is one of Easton's most valuable assets. Founded by Easton residents, the College continues to provide a wide array of educational, cultural, artistic, and athletic opportunities for our residents. The College, the faculty, and the staff are fully engaged in the economic renaissance and community vitality occurring in our city." – **Salvatore J. Panto Jr., Mayor of Easton**



“As an organization focused on the economic health and vibrancy of Easton and especially its downtown, the Greater Easton Development Partnership (GEDP) views Lafayette College as a strong partner in executing its mission. The more obvious example of this partnership is the College’s investment in the new arts campus at the base of the hill and commitment to move 80 employees into the heart of downtown, but the College’s role in the community expands beyond the mere physical expansion of the campus. In addition to securing corporate funding partners for a neighborhood revitalization strategy for Easton’s West Ward neighborhood, the College directly supports GEDP via its underwriting of the Easton Ambassadors program, Easton Public Market, and Easton Out Loud. Students are also active as volunteers in the community, support Easton businesses, and use coursework to move Easton forward.”

– **Jared Mast '04, Executive Director of Greater Easton Development Partnership**





ARTS, SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND SERVICE

Mellon Grant: Arts & Humanities in Lehigh Valley

A \$950,000 grant to Lafayette will unite six colleges and four cultural institutions in a four-year effort to explore life in the Lehigh Valley through the arts and humanities. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant will support a collaborative initiative titled “The Lehigh Valley Engaged Humanities Consortium: Understanding Transformations of the Past Half-Century.” In addition to Lafayette, participants are the other five members of the Lehigh Valley Association of Independent Colleges: Cedar Crest, DeSales, Lehigh, Moravian, and Muhlenberg. Four cultural institutions—Allentown Art Museum, Sigal Museum, Easton Area Public Library, and Karl Stirner Arts Trail—and Lehigh Valley Research Consortium also are part of the project.



The consortium will have four main activities:

one

1 Faculty professional development aimed at durably incorporating engaged humanities and arts approaches into coursework and co-curricular programming.

two

2 Residencies of literary, performing, and visual artists who have the Lehigh Valley and its peoples as their subject.

three

3 Exhibitions, presentations, and events open to and involving community members.

four

4 A digital archive of source materials and web portal to integrate and communicate LVEHC's activities.



Easton Area Programs

A number of faculty and students are involved with Easton Area School District. Together, we work to create programming that will benefit children and parents across the community. Here are two of the newest programs:

Professors **Debbie Byrd** and **Arthur Kney** have been working closely with United Way Community Schools liaisons at Cheston and Paxinosa Elementary as well as a dozen teachers from each school to begin building a partnership that extends far beyond the current America Reads tutoring programs. A group of Lafayette faculty and a group of Cheston teachers have created a pilot program for the 2017-18 school year to implement specific learning and research projects into the Cheston curriculum. After piloting this community partnership project at Cheston, the faculty will extend the approach to Paxinosa.

Generation Next at Easton Area High School is a college-readiness program for black and Hispanic sophomores, juniors, and seniors. The curriculum includes personal, academic, and career counseling, as well as opportunities for cultural enrichment, college tours, and guidance through the college admission and financial aid processes. Lafayette students visit EAHS four days a week to tutor and mentor the Gen Next high school students. As the program continues, the team will explore ways in which faculty might incorporate support of Gen Next into courses with a community engagement component.

Service Days

In the spring, we celebrate Lafapalooza, Lafayette's National Day of Service, as our students, faculty, and staff spread out across Easton (while our alumni join us in cities across the country) to dedicate sweat equity to one-time service opportunities. In 2016, we volunteered for projects benefiting Easton Urban Farm, The Journey Home, Nurture Nature Center, ProjeCt of Easton, and various Easton community gardens. We have another day dedicated to similar work in the fall called Make a Difference Day.





KEY COMMUNITY RESEARCH

ORAL HISTORY:

While conducting other research, **Andrea Smith** became curious about an old Easton community known locally as “Syrian Town.” Demolished as part of the city’s urban renewal project in the 1960s, the neighborhood was home to people of Lebanese, Italian, African American, German, and Irish descent. Since 2007, Smith, associate professor

of anthropology and sociology, has been working with student research assistants to interview elderly former residents and record their recollections. “It was rare in the 1940s–60s to see people of different ethnicities and racial backgrounds living intermixed on the same blocks, frequenting each other’s businesses, etc.,” says Smith.

“While the increased racial segregation has been studied a great deal in other cities such as Chicago or Detroit, the fate of integrated neighborhoods is rarely a focus. My students and I have been interested in how this integration influences contemporary behaviors, such as speech, and may explain why people who lived there miss it so much.”

“Although reading about and discussing ethnographic research can be fun, students get a whole different experience by doing it. Conducting research collaboratively with Eastonians on projects co-designed with students adds a richness to the students’ education that can’t be found in any other way. And students suddenly see their new town in such a different light when they are connecting with people from the community. The energy in the room each time we hold community meetings is thrilling, and it follows students back to the classroom. I really find nothing else like it!” – **Andrea Smith, Anthropology**



STEAM CAMP:

Funded in part by the Mellon Foundation, Lafayette College's STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) Camp was started by three engineering majors in 2012 as a way of encouraging and preparing more youth to enter STEM fields. An informal model used to enhance K–12 education in an out-of-school program, the day camp was designed for 60 children, placed in groups of 10, and led by College students. Campers in grades four through six

rotated through 12 to 16 educational modules with interactive, hands-on activities that required problem-solving and critical-thinking skills. Faculty advisers were **Arthur Kney**, associate professor and head of civil and environmental engineering, and **Christian Tatu**, College Writing Program coordinator. Activities included creating a PVC stomp rocket launcher, a hands-on look at what's really in food nutrition, building a light-up badge, and more.





KEY COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

KSAT:

Faculty and staff have assisted city planners, the local arts community, and residents to help develop the Karl Stirner Arts Trail (KSAT) as a walking trail and environmental corridor between downtown and 13th Street. Through the placement of artwork in a transcendent natural setting, the Arts Trail seeks to stir the public imagination and sense of possibility. Two projects of significance include the Young Masters Wall and Tree of 40 Fruit. The latter is a stunning and

unique work by artist Sam Van Aken. His process involves manipulating and transforming nature over time. In his Tree of 40 Fruit, he transforms host plum trees into sustainable pieces of art that live and grow as part of the environment. Over a three-year period, the artist is grafting 40 different stone fruit saplings onto one tree. At nearly 5 feet high and 80 feet long, the Young Masters Wall is located near the 13th Street entrance of Karl Stirner Arts

Trail. Beginning in 2012, young artists—from ages 4 to 70—have painted in the gold “frames” along the wall. Boys and Girls Club of Easton, Spring Garden Early Learning Center, and Easton Area Community Center were the first groups of young artists to paint on the wall. The artists are presented with a theme for inspiration with prompts from a YMW instructor, such as “*What do you love about Easton?*” or “*Paint a message of hope.*”





TECH CLINIC:

Technology Clinic is a two-semester course in which multidisciplinary teams of students and faculty mentors from the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and engineering work together on imaginative solutions to real-world problems for clients. The students are nominated by professors and former Tech Clinic students and mentored by two faculty facilitators. From trout farming to pandemic planning to a self-guided automobile tour, students have developed solutions for a wide variety of challenges presented by clients. One project, Vegetables in the Community, began as a food distribution solution in partnership with the now dissolved West Ward Neighborhood Partnership to address a local food desert. But

this veggie stand has grown into a community development project. Over the four years, the stand has distributed 100,000 servings of veggies. The nutritional value that amount of product totals \$75,000. In the summer of 2017, a consistent group of 60–80 families visited the stand on a weekly basis. Those neighbors came early, helped set up, and made signs. They shared food knowledge, brought recipe cards, and cooked samples. It has become a place to gather and build relationships. Neighbors make connections. A bounty is shared. Families eat better. A food desert is eliminated. Citizens rely less on city services. Students learn. A community comes together.





CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

The Center for Community Engagement (CCE) is comprised of three programs: Landis Student Leadership, Volunteerism, and Community Based Learning and Research. Whether it is a one-time volunteer opportunity, weekly service-learning project, immersive experience, or leadership development, CCE programs match students' abilities and interests with community needs and challenges. One great example is the Pre-Orientation Service Program where first-year students arrive before traditional orientation and dedicate a week to a community service project.

In 2017, the CCE set four priorities that should define programs:

one

1 Strengthen community arts programs;

two

2 Support issues connected to sustainability and the environment, including adequate access to food and clean water;



three

3 Improve educational outcomes for local K-12 students, especially students of color and those from low-income families;

four

4 Address economic and community development issues for vulnerable populations, such as the elderly, persons with disabilities, and low-income individuals and families.



MOSAIC:

One program that develops student leaders is MOSAIC, which stands for Making our Society an Inclusive Community. Volunteers commit one day a week to projects that focus on adult education, hunger and homelessness, reentry and prison issues, senior citizens, sustainability, mentoring, or tutoring. Students prepare and share meals at Third Street Alliance, dance with seniors at Easton Area Lifestyle Campus, read to children at Spring Garden Early Learning Center, or engage teens at Easton Area Community Center, to name a few.



COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING COURSES

MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH

Middle school is when many students stop trying to understand math. It's a time when concepts like fractions, decimals, percents, negative numbers, and irrational numbers become more abstract and make understanding basic ideas more difficult. Once students give up, **Rob Root**, professor of mathematics, sees them as early casualties in the "death march to calculus." To counter this carnage, Root devotes his First-Year Seminar to math

success. Thirty Lafayette students over the course of the fall semester visit math classrooms at Easton Area Middle School. Each week the students connect with the same pupils, talking with them and tutoring them about the role math could play in their lives. "We want to build their quantitative literacy," says Root. "Think of financing a car, planning for retirement, understanding a medical diagnosis, or completing income taxes without fluency in math." The students

are able to translate concepts for the young pupils through games, activities, and problems. "Middle schoolers like and admire their college student mentors and seek to emulate their success," Root says. "As a result, pupils persist in math class. That's what I'm after." The proof it's working is simple: Middle school pupils whose grades had been dropping start doing well in math, and Lafayette students continue to visit the middle school after the course is over.

"There is nothing like getting Lafayette students away from campus and bringing our students engaging learning opportunities. My First-Year Seminar meets weekly with middle school pupils who are considered at-risk and helps those pupils maintain interest in their math classes. Many students truly strike a chord with pupils and change their trajectories away from disengagement and failure in the math classroom. The College students are consistently surprised at how large a difference they can make in the lives of their charges, and how satisfying it is to make that difference." — **Rob Root, Math**



BIOLOGY OF AGING

The aging studies minor puts students into the community during their first course. They might be working with seniors at Third Street Alliance, Gracedale Nursing Home, Easton Area Lifestyle Campus, or Village on College Hill. “We want students to experience the range of aging populations and bring that experience into the classroom,” says **Elaine Reynolds**, associate professor of biology and neuroscience. “Students might participate with seniors in chair yoga, discuss the impact of diet on cognition, or tend raised-bed gardens. Students grapple with two big questions. One is sociological in nature: How do we as a society respond to an increasingly aged population? The other is biological: How do we extend health span? Students benefit from studying aging theory in class and experiencing it in practice.” The capstone course for the minor also places students with community partners where service and learning combine to illustrate how seniors navigate a social landscape with various challenges.

TEEN PARENTS

Pregnant teenagers and young parents at Easton Area High School can participate in **ASPIRE**—Achieving Success Professionally, Intelligently, Respectfully, and Empathetically. Funded in part by Easton Area Neighborhood Center, Lafayette students and faculty collaborate with social workers, guidance counselors, and school nurses to help meet the young parents’ most pressing needs. Through group sessions and programming, ASPIRE faculty and students strive to promote psychological and physical wellness, parenting skills, self-confidence, and life skills. “We have two key goals for participants,” says **Debbie Byrd**, professor of English. “To ensure they earn a diploma and consider college or training, and to keep them

engaged in the program during the years that can be most stressful as young adults and parents.” Participants can be involved in ASPIRE through age 22 or until their youngest child turns 5. Many do so, which speaks to the relationships and support. College students have produced materials that help the parents, including health resource manuals, how-to brochures, pamphlets on early childhood learning, binders of scholarship opportunities, and more. “We become their allies and work to inspire and empower these young families,” says Byrd. “As educators who work in the community, it’s important to bring our theory to life—to walk the walk, not just talk the talk.”



HOW TO

PARTNER WITH US

Engaging our programs: To connect with our faculty, students, and community leaders, reach out to the following programs:

Center for Community Engagement comprised of Landis Student Leadership, Volunteerism, and Community Based Learning and Research, brings learning to life through community partnerships, service, and research.

engage@lafayette.edu
(610) 330-3067

Karl Stirner Arts Trail represents the nexus of Easton's natural and built environment and serves as the canvas for a mix of acclaimed international, national, and local artists.

karlstirnerartstrail.org
info@karlstirnerartstrail.org

Meyner Center for the Study of State and Local Government engages in local, regional, national, and international public service, training, and outreach to state and local governments and civic organizations.

meynercenter.lafayette.edu
002 Kirby Hall of Civil Rights
Lafayette College
Easton, PA 18042

meynerc@lafayette.edu
(610) 330-5598

Technology Clinic is a two-semester course in which multidisciplinary teams of students and faculty work on solutions to real-world problems for clients.

techclinic.lafayette.edu
Lawrence Malinconico, Director
(610) 330-5195
malincol@lafayette.edu



CASE
MANAGEMENT

INSPIRE

FAMIL-

BRIDGE
BUILDS

FAITH

WELL



Safe Home

ARDEN

FOOD PROGRAM
BUSINESS



LAFAYETTE

AT A GLANCE

twenty-four

24 arts, communication, and performance groups

ten point five to one
10.5-to-1
student-to-faculty ratio

twenty-three

23 NCAA Division I sports

fifty-two

52 percent of students by their senior year have done research with a faculty member.

forty-three

43 cultural, social, and service organizations

fifty

50 club sports and intramural programs

fourteen

#14 on list of largest employers in Northampton County

52 percent female

48 percent male



seventy-eight

78 percent of students by their senior year have participated in an externship, internship, or other field experiences.

eighteen twenty-six

1826 Founded in 1826 by citizens of Easton and named for the Marquis de Lafayette in honor of his "talents, virtues, and services in the great cause of freedom"



2,576 undergraduates from **46** states and territories and **79** countries

229 full-time faculty members

Bachelor of Arts in **37** fields and Bachelor of Science in **14** fields, including **4** in engineering



LAFAYETTE COLLEGE

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