



# Mission Team

## *Talking Points for Meetings with Candidates*

### **College Mission**

Wartburg College is dedicated to challenging and nurturing students for lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression of their faith and learning.

### **A Liberal Arts College**

- The college places itself in the liberal arts tradition, valuing learning as a means to discover meaning and purpose in life.
- Wartburg is classified by the Carnegie Endowment as a Comprehensive College, meaning that more than half of all students major in professional programs like business, education, and communications.
- The general education program values breadth of knowledge and interdisciplinary connections; it consists of 14.5 to 15 courses.
- Out of the more than 50 majors at the college, the largest are business administration, biology, elementary education, communication arts, music education, and psychology.
- For the entering class in fall 2005, the average ACT score was 23.7 and 89 percent were in the top half of their high school class. In addition, 74 percent were from Iowa.
- Wartburg's Leadership Certificate program is the college's largest minor.

### **A College of Church**

- Wartburg is a college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
- The Lutheran tradition was founded in a university town by a university professor and has a long tradition of valuing higher education.
- The college values the full expression of academic freedom as a means to truth and service to one's neighbor.
- The Lutheran tradition values the dialogue between faith and all forms of learning and scholarship without any predetermined outcomes.
- The college honors its church identity in many ways, including a two-course faith and reflection requirement for students, an active campus ministry, and regular campus worship.

## Co-Curricular Program and Ethos

- About 80 percent of students live on campus.
- Residence halls offer programming and resources for students; two residence halls are by service-project application only, focusing on service and academic interests.
- The Pathways Center offers a variety of support services to students, including a writing/reading/speaking lab, mental health counseling, and career services.
- Students at Wartburg participate in more than 100 co-curricular programs, including service groups, media organizations, honor societies, academic clubs, and religious organizations.
- Nearly 12 percent of the student body is ethnically diverse, including 5 percent who are international students; 53 percent of students are female and 47 percent are male.
- Among faculty and administrative staff, 53 percent are male and 47 percent are female; 6 percent are ethnically diverse.
- Two large areas of student interest are intercollegiate athletics (31 percent) and music performance groups (24 percent).
- The most recent college placement rate is 97 percent.

## Engagement with the Community

- Waverly is a city of approximately 10,000 people, and the college has an excellent relationship with the community.
- Approximately 65 percent of the faculty and staff live in Waverly.
- Two members of the faculty serve on the Waverly City Council, and other faculty and staff serve on city and county boards and commissions.
- Faculty and staff provide community leadership in a variety of organizations, including United Way, Waverly Health Center, Waverly Child Care and Preschool, Waverly Area Development Group, youth athletics, and area churches.
- Students are very active in the Waverly community through experiential education programs (internships, civic engagement programs, student teaching, community-based research) and student organizations (Habitat for Humanity, Volunteer Action Center, Faith Alive).
- Bremwood Lutheran Children's Home and Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community welcome many Wartburg student volunteers.
- Major employers in Waverly include Nestle, Terex Cranes, CUNA Mutual Life Insurance, and GMT Corporation (metal parts manufacturing).
- Additional information on the region is available at [www.cvea.info](http://www.cvea.info) and [www.waverlyia.com](http://www.waverlyia.com).