

# **A DECADE OF ACHIEVEMENT**

## **1968-1978**

**EISENHOWER COLLEGE**  
Seneca Falls, New York 13148

## EISENHOWER COLLEGE

### A DECADE OF ACHIEVEMENT

#### WORLD STUDIES AND THE RENAISSANCE OF GENERAL EDUCATION

Eisenhower College was conceived as a model liberal arts college. Its Founders established that ideal when they set out to create "a society of scholars and students who respect learning and know the force of ideas in shaping and directing the human enterprise." Its objectives state that the College will, "assist students through a true liberal arts program to become sensitive to the world in every one of its aspects, to empathize with fellow individuals of all races, religions and nations, and to contribute creatively with mind and body to the well-being of their fellow man, no matter what the chosen field of the graduate."

The general education program which Eisenhower introduced in 1968 to meet those objectives has three fundamental elements: World Studies, Rhetoric, and Lifetime Activities. World Studies is a comprehensive curriculum (comprising approximately one-third of the Eisenhower student's courses) which treats the development and interrelationships of world cultures from pre-history through modern day and into the future. In its effort to provide students with a "global perspective," World Studies examines world cultural development and interaction from viewpoints encompassing and crossing at least sixteen disciplines. In September, 1977, Dr. W. Theodore deBary, Executive Vice President and Provost of Columbia University, commented on the quality of the Eisenhower World Studies program at Convocation ceremonies marking the beginning of the College's tenth academic year. "I know of no other college," said Dr. deBary, "which has committed itself so wholeheartedly to global education or so-called general education as Eisenhower." Requirements in rhetoric and lifetime activities ensure that Eisenhower graduates will have the ability to communicate their ideas, and that they will acquire an appreciation for the value of physical activities which may be carried on throughout their lives.

During the period in which Eisenhower has developed and refined its distinctive program, many colleges and universities shifted away from general education requirements for liberal arts students in favor of more specialized, rather narrow programs. Most recently, however, there has been a realization at the highest academic levels that a broad intellectual experience is essential

to success in this rapidly changing world. Roger Howell (President of Bowdoin), Henry Rosovsky (Dean of Arts and Sciences at Harvard) Olin Robinson (President of Middlebury) and John Morris (Dean of Faculty and Provost at Colgate), are among the educational leaders expressing the need for programs which offer students a broad educational base. Eisenhower College feels that the general education program which it has developed during its first ten years makes it one of the best qualified colleges in the country to offer students that educational opportunity.

#### CONCENTRATIONS, ELECTIVES AND JIST

Eisenhower students are guaranteed flexibility in their academic program through a choice of concentrations, electives and January projects. Single discipline and interdisciplinary concentrations allow students to draw on the College's excellent resources and focus their studies in fields which support their personal goals. Contrasted with traditional, strictly defined academic "majors," concentrations allow greater tailoring of the academic program to meet personal objectives. Elective courses, in disciplines outside a student's concentration as well as in disciplines directly related to the concentration, further expand the opportunity for students to acquire a liberal arts education which matches their personal interests and aspirations.

The January Independent Study Term (JIST) provides students with the opportunity to exclude all other academic requirements while immersing themselves in research or other individualized study, either on or off campus. Required of all students during each of their years at Eisenhower, JIST has become a very popular and highly valued segment of the Eisenhower curriculum. Students may select JIST projects from a College list, or request approval from the faculty to engage in programs which they have designed themselves.

#### ADVISING

Essential in a rigorous academic program such as Eisenhower's is a high quality system for advising students. Members of the Eisenhower faculty serve as advisers to students, providing information as well as personal and academic counsel. Unlike faculty on many campuses, who often balk at or refuse to accept responsibility for advising students, members of the Eisenhower

faculty welcome the responsibility and dedicate themselves to quality advising for all students. Integration of academic advising with career and other counseling services of the office of student affairs has proven to be an effective arrangement at Eisenhower.

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#### LEADERSHIP

The Board of Trustees reflects an international, national and local commitment to the ideals of Eisenhower College. Its membership includes nationally and internationally recognized figures. Because of their importance, we include a complete listing of the Trustees and Trustees Emeriti at the end of this publication.

Eisenhower Trustees have a distinguished record of service in government, to civic organizations and to education.

The investiture last summer of Joseph D. Coffee, Jr., as the second President of Eisenhower ensures the College of continuing quality in its executive leadership.

#### FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION

Eisenhower College's faculty, more than 70 percent of whom hold doctoral degrees, reflect the international scope of its program. Approximately one-third of the faculty have lived, or have been educated, abroad. The College is committed to selecting faculty on the basis of teaching ability, and has reviewed the credentials of more than 5,000 persons in selecting the 52 full-time professionals who now make up the teaching faculty. Many of the members of the faculty have taught at the College since it first admitted students in 1968. Others, as they have joined the faculty, have served to add new perspective, giving even greater depth to the World Studies program. A dedicated administration -- including the Vice President for Academic Affairs who designed the World Studies curriculum -- works with the faculty to refine and support the academic program.

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#### ENROLLMENT

The College is encouraged by enrollment increases which nearly doubled the size of the entering class in 1977 compared to 1976. An increased capability to personalize communications to a greater number of prospective

students makes Eisenhower optimistic that it will meet its goal of increasing the number of new students by another 50% in September, 1978, bringing enrollment to approximately 575 students.

#### STUDENT QUALITY

Scores from national aptitude examinations, secondary school records, and levels of achievement in extra-curricular activities attest to the high quality of Eisenhower College students. While prospective students are selected on many criteria, commitment to scholarship is inherent in successful applicants.

Eisenhower undergraduates are distinguished by qualities beyond academic excellence. The intimate size of the College fosters an atmosphere in which students become genuinely interested in each other and in College affairs. They know virtually all of their classmates and all of the faculty and administrators at the College, and that familiarity is the basis for a spirit which is one of Eisenhower's greatest assets.

#### STUDENT LIFE

Much of a student's development at Eisenhower takes place outside the classroom. A wide range of co-curricular activities -- athletic, dramatic, journalistic, musical, religious, club, etc. -- is supported by funds from fees allocated by the Student Senate. Students also serve in responsible roles on the Student Judiciary, on College councils and committees, as advisors in the residence halls and in numerous work-study assignments.

#### ALUMNI QUALITY

Eisenhower has established a reputation for graduating students who make outstanding candidates for study beyond the baccalaureate level. A survey of the graduate schools which have accepted Eisenhower students since 1972 (when the College graduated its first class) reveals names such as Harvard, Tulane, Brown, Chicago, Cornell, Columbia, Colgate, Tufts (Fletcher School of Diplomacy), Pennsylvania (Wharton School of Finance), Duke, Georgetown, Princeton, and many others. Reports from alumni and their graduate school mentors testify that an Eisenhower education has prepared them well for more specialized graduate study. Approximately 40% of Eisenhower alumni have enrolled in graduate study.

Graduates who have begun their careers are proving themselves in industry, finance, government, education and other public service.

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#### THE CAMPUS

With the exception of a 140-year old barn which serves as a student rathskellar, every major building on the Eisenhower campus has been completed within the past ten years. No further major construction is anticipated until the student body reaches 1,100 students. The College is designed to be accessible to handicapped persons. The 286-acre campus includes 17 major buildings completed at a cost of \$22-million. Included are a classroom/laboratory building, an administration building with a dining hall and theatre, the library, a unique athletic center, ten residence halls, and some minor buildings. A developing memorial park adjacent to the library is the personal project of one of the College's faculty members. The College has recently dedicated a nine-hole, par three golf course on campus.

#### LOCATION

Eisenhower is located at the northern end of Cayuga Lake in New York State's scenic Finger Lakes Region. It is about an hour's drive from Rochester, Syracuse and Ithaca, yet it is situated in a quiet, rural setting which is conducive to learning. The Village of Seneca Falls, approximately 2½ miles from campus, is a friendly community of 8,000 persons, and the birthplace of the Women's Suffrage Movement begun by Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

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#### A LIVING MEMORIAL TO DWIGHT DAVID EISENHOWER

By virtue of two major grants, the Congress of the United States has recognized the College as the national living memorial to the 34th President of the United States of America. The strong attachment of Eisenhower family, friends and former colleagues continues to be an asset to the College in terms of both financial and personal support.

#### INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

As a result both of its World Studies Program and of relationships maintained by members of the Board of Trustees, the College enjoys burgeoning recognition

outside the United States. GTE Sylvania currently has a number of Algerian students enrolled in an intensive English language program on campus. Planning is underway for an Eisenhower-sponsored program which would involve students from several area colleges in study in India.

#### EARLY ACCREDITATION

In 1972, Eisenhower earned the distinction of being accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools in the shortest period of time possible for a new college.

#### LONG RANGE PLANNING

The College has recently completed a realistic Long Range Plan which identifies measures to build its endowment and enrollment as it embarks on its second decade. The plan projects challenges which the College will encounter in the next five years, establishes goals and objectives for meeting those challenges, and establishes the process for continued long range planning.

#### CHALLENGE GRANT FROM NEH

In the fall of 1977, Eisenhower College was awarded a three-year Challenge Grant of \$525,000 by the National Endowment for the Humanities. With the exception of awards to seven major universities, the Eisenhower grant is the largest award of those made to some 95 colleges and universities throughout the country in the Challenge Grant Program to date. By placing Eisenhower in such good company, the NEH Award is valid external recognition of the College as an outstanding liberal arts institution.

#### FUNDRAISING

In addition to the grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Eisenhower College is experiencing success in renewed fundraising efforts. Its first Annual Giving Campaign -- with a goal of \$300,000 -- succeeded in raising \$296,615. Fundraising efforts among foundations and corporations have been intensified, and proposals are being received with new interest. Additionally, the mechanism now exists for establishment of a \$20,000,000 President Eisenhower Scholars Trust which is expected to attract substantial increases in scholarship endowment in the near future.

## IN CONCLUSION

Eisenhower College is rapidly establishing itself nationally and internationally as a model liberal arts college with a global perspective. The quality of the academic program, faculty and students, and Eisenhower's record of accomplishment in developing superb resources in its first decade of operation, is evidence of its ability to fulfill its objective to be a respected undergraduate college befitting its role as the chosen memorial to the 34th President of the United States of America.

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