

College Receives Full Accreditation

Recognition Climaxes First Decade Progress

The first 10 years of Methodist College have been highlighted by the realization of the major goals set when the college was chartered on November 1, 1956.

The most significant academic achievement came on November 30, 1966, when the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools awarded full accreditation to Methodist College. This action culminated efforts by the trustees, administration and faculty over the past 10 years to provide a college which receives favorable academic recognition from all other educational institutions, prospective students, employers, and philanthropic interests. The college earlier had received approval by the N.C. Department of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education for the in-service preparation of public school teachers, and by the University Senate of the Methodist General Board of Education for the undergraduate training of ministers and Christian education workers.



The good news of accreditation is passed on to members of the student body by Student Government President Steve Hopkins, left, and campus newspaper editor William Billings, right.

The college also is a member of the North Carolina College Conference and is fully accredited by it.

In this first decade since its chartering, the college has grown to a stu-

dent body of almost 1,000 students studying under a 57-member faculty of outstanding educators on a modern, nearly-completed campus.

The remarkable accomplishments of the college during this decade can best be illustrated by a review of its history.

Although November 1, 1956 marks the date of Methodist College's charter by the State of North Carolina as a liberal arts, co-educational senior college, the college was conceived a year earlier by a group of interested Fayetteville citizens excited over the possibilities for a local college.

This interest resulted in the appointment by the mayor and the chamber of commerce of a "Fayetteville College Steering Committee," to seek the establishment of an institution of higher learning in or near the city.

This group began working to obtain suitable sites, utility arrangements with the Fayetteville Public Works Commission, police and fire protection, financial backing and other support.

The project had captured the imagination of the people of Fayetteville and



North Carolina's Secretary of State Thad Eure signs the College Charter on November 1, 1956, as three of the original trustees—the Rev. V. E. Queen, Terry Sanford and Dr. W. L. Clegg—observe.

(Progress Continued)

Cumberland County. Enthusiasm ran high and developments were rapid.

Fayetteville had made its bid for the new consolidated Presbyterian College. But, when it was learned on March 6, 1956, that the Presbyterian Synod had selected Laurinburg as its site, Fayetteville scarcely wavered in its determination to establish its own college.

One day later, on March 7, the committee contacted Bishop Paul N. Garber of the Methodist Church and requested a hearing. On March 13, the Fayetteville committee, along with five other towns, made its presentation to the Bishop's committee and the Methodist Committee on Higher Education.

On March 22, the Methodist visiting committee visited Fayetteville, and on March 27 the Bishop's committee announced that Fayetteville would be recommended to the North Carolina Conference as a site for a new college.

A special session of the North Carolina Annual Conference of the Methodist Church meeting in Goldsboro on May 15, 1956, gave approval to establish a new college at Fayetteville.

Financial Support Pledged

The citizens of Fayetteville and Cumberland County had agreed to provide \$2,000,000 in capital funds and \$50,000 per year for continuing support. They also agreed to provide a 600-acre site for the college. In addition, the City of Fayetteville assumed the expense of extending all municipal utilities to the college site and pledged police and fire protection.

The N. C. Methodist Conference had also agreed to provide a minimum of \$2,000,000 in capital funds and sustaining funds, under projected plans, which would reach \$180,000 per year.

The important groundwork for the College was done by the Board of Trustees which was constituted by the Church and held its organizational meeting in Fayetteville on July 3, 1956. Since its inception, the Hon. Terry Sanford of Fayetteville, attorney, churchman, and Governor of North Carolina from 1960 to 1964, has served as chairman of the Board. W. E. Horner of Sanford served as the first secretary to the Board.

Foundation Organized

On June 28, 1956, the Fayetteville College Foundation was organized to coordinate the efforts for local financial support and to stimulate continuing community interest in every area of the college's program.



Bishop Garber receives a pine branch from Franklin S. Clark symbolizing the transfer of the 600-acre college site from the Fayetteville Foundation to the Methodist Church.

Franklin S. Clark, a Fayetteville attorney, was elected as first president of the Foundation and served in this capacity for two years.

Early in 1956 the offer of a gift of 47½ acres of land by Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Kinlaw of Raleigh Road prompted the site committee to seek the acquisition of adjacent lands and resulted in selection of the Raleigh Road site for the location of the college.

A few days later, Mr. and Mrs. Joe W. Stout, Raleigh Road, conveyed to the college a 120-acre tract of land on the southern side of the college site.



Bishop Garber Breaks Ground For First Building

Other real estate was purchased and on February 21, 1957, the 600-acre college site was officially accepted from the Fayetteville College Foundation by College Trustees and the N. C. Conference of the Methodist Church.

Weaver Elected President

The Board, on June 22, 1957, elected Lucius Stacy Weaver, prominent educator and churchman, as the first President of Methodist College, effective September 1, 1957. The Committee unanimously recommended Weaver after examining the records of 78 prospects.

In accepting the appointment, Dr. Weaver pledged the college to two fundamentals from the outset: "Academic excellence and the Christian concept of life." From the beginning to the present, the college has endeavored to build upon these two principles.

After months of study and deliberation, the Trustees decided to use contemporary style of architecture and the architectural firm of Stevens and Wilkinson of Atlanta was selected.

On April 19, 1958, renderings of the proposed institution were received from the architects.

Ground was broken for the first building—the classroom building—at 3 p.m., August 26, 1958, on the site.

Subsequent contracts were awarded for the science building, student union-cafeteria, and the boiler plant.

The college opened for the first year with these four buildings.

Curriculum Adopted

On November 24, 1959, upon recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees, the basic curriculum for the college was adopted. This consisted of six basic areas of concentration, with 10 majors.

On February 27, 1960, the first seven students were accepted for admission.

The spring and summer of 1960 were devoted to final preparations for the official opening in the fall.

The first faculty meeting was held on September 14, 1960. The first freshman class registered on September 16, and classes began on September 19. The formal opening of the college came at 10:30 a.m. in a service conducted in the student union, with Bishop Paul N. Garber as the principal speaker.

On September 23, 1960, official registration for the first semester closed with 88 freshmen. A staff of 12 administrative and teaching faculty and 10 service personnel were present to carry on the first year's operation.

Enrollment Soars

Since the first year of academic work, enrollment has increased by 972 percent, with 944 students enrolled this fall. This year's student body includes 575 resident and 369 day students. All four residence halls are filled—for the first time—this year.

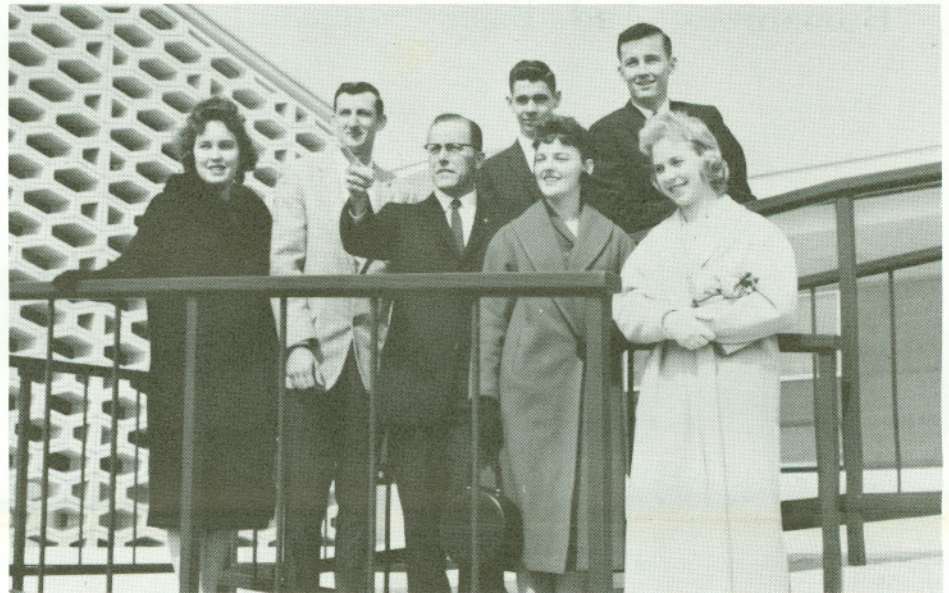
Students come from Cumberland County, 69 other North Carolina counties, 18 other states, and one foreign country.

All major religious faiths and denominations are represented in the student body.

Distinguished Faculty

With the projected maximum enrollment of 1200 students now in sight, emphasis on faculty at Methodist College continues to stress quality as well as size. This trend is expected to continue as the college accelerates its efforts to attract and keep a faculty of exceptionally well-qualified educators, while at the same time maintaining a favorable faculty-student ratio.

In announcing a 16 percent increase in the size of the faculty for the current academic year, Dean Samuel Womack pointed out that this represents the second successive year in which the faculty has been considerably increased because of the rapid growth of the college. Even more significant is the fact that the number of faculty members holding doctoral degrees has almost doubled within the past year, ranging from the 15 with doctorates at the beginning of the 1965-



Six of first seven students to be admitted are conducted on campus tour in February 1960.

66 year to the 25 holding doctorates at the beginning of the 1966-67 year.

Commenting further on the 57-member faculty, Dr. Womack said, "We now expect to begin leveling off, since we are approaching our maximum capacity of 1200 students. What we will now try to do is gradually improve all along the line the caliber of the faculty qualifications."

He pointed out that Methodist College "is giving every encouragement to present members of our faculty who have made progress in this direction to go ahead and get their doctorate. In this connection, at least eight members have progressed well beyond the master's degree and are nearing completion of the

doctoral program."

Numerous institutions in the United States and abroad are represented by the doctoral degrees held by Methodist College faculty members. They include: Yale University, Harvard University, University of Havana (Cuba), Ohio State University, University of Pennsylvania, Johns Hopkins University, Georgetown University, Boston University, University of South Carolina, Friedrich-Schiller University (Germany), the University of Prague (Czechoslovakia), Duke University, George Peabody College for Teachers, University of North Carolina, University of Kansas City, University of Interamerica (Mexico), University of Illinois and New York University.



Dr. Clarence Ficken, right, first academic dean, meets with first faculty.

Humanities And Basic Sciences Stressed

In its curriculum, Methodist College emphasizes the humanities and basic sciences.

The two standard baccalaureate degrees, the Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Science, are conferred upon those students who complete all the requirements. The basic requirements for a Bachelor's degree are the same; the distinction lies in the student's choice of his area of concentration. Students who major in the Area of Science and Mathematics are awarded the B.S. degree. All others receive the B.A.

Building on a firm foundation of essential arts courses, certain vocational or professional curricula are offered. Students may choose courses of study leading to the Christian ministry, Christian education work, overseas missionary service, public school teaching, government service, law, medicine, dentistry, engineering, business administration, music and others.

Teacher Education

One of the areas of greatest emphasis within the college is in the field of teacher education. The state inaugurated a new teacher education program on September 1, 1966, and Methodist College is preparing teachers under that program. The first college graduates to be certified under the new set-up will be the 1966-67 graduates.

As presently organized, Methodist College prepares elementary school teachers, secondary school teachers of English, French, mathematics, biology, chemistry, history, Spanish and the special subject teacher of general music.

Music—Art—Drama

The fine arts program at the college is closely interwoven with that of the community and provides cultural enrichment for the entire Fayetteville area in the fields of music, art and drama.

One of the means through which this is accomplished is an annual concert-lecture series which brings to the campus artists and speakers of national and international note. Most of these programs are open to the public without charge.

As part of this series, the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra and the Methodist College Chorus join in concerts and oratorios. The symphony is conducted by Dr. Willis Gates, Methodist College professor of music, and the chorus is directed by Alan M. Porter, college voice instructor. Mr. Porter also has

organized a Community Chorus, open to music lovers throughout the Fayetteville area.

The College Chorus is well-known for its frequent appearances at churches and service clubs. It presents an annual Spring Choral Concert on campus and also joins with the Fayetteville Symphony for presentation of an oratorio as a highlight of the annual concert series.

College musical offerings also include frequent recitals by student music majors and chamber music programs by members of the music faculty and students.

Emphasis on art at Methodist College has increased this year, with the addition to the faculty of Donald Green, who teaches both painting and sculpture. An exhibition of original work by Mr. Green, who has previously exhibited in the Chicago area, is currently on view

include seven varsity sports and two intramural associations. Varsity athletics include basketball, bowling, tennis, cross country, golf, wrestling and soccer.

Financial Aid

As the college continues to grow, the student financial aid program is being expanded in an effort to aid as many students as possible with available funds. Thirty-four scholarships have been established, varying in amount from \$100 to \$550 per year. The college participates with state and federal organizations in loan and work programs to help defray student expenses and has developed its own work program with opportunities for students to earn part of their expenses. Partial tuition remission plans are available for students preparing to enter full-time church work and for legal dependents of all full-time ministers of the N. C. Conference of the Methodist Church and of all ministers in Cumberland County.



President Weaver Presides At Formal Opening of College.

in the college library. The display includes both sculpture and oil paintings.

Each year there are student art exhibits and dramatic presentations ranging from Readers' Theater to three-act drama. In the spring the college cooperates in the two-week Fine Arts Festival of Fayetteville.

Full Athletic Program

The college's athletic program, which began in 1962 with a small intramural group, has grown to include three varsity Dixie Inter-Collegiate Conference championship teams and a potential varsity champion this year.

The program has been expanded to

From The Calendar

Dec. 20—Begin Christmas Holidays

Jan. 4—Resume Classes

Jan. 27—New Students Register

Jan. 30—Second Semester
Classes Begin

Applications for Second Semester
Now Being Received



Architect's Projection of Fine Arts Building - Auditorium

Accreditation Received At Earliest Possible Date

Although Methodist College had received all the academic recognitions available to a new institution by that date, the full accreditation of the College by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools on November 30, 1966, marked the climax of efforts to achieve maximum academic excellence in the shortest possible time.

This accreditation, which is retroactive to the first graduating class, means that credits are readily transferable from Methodist to all other colleges and universities and assures secondary schools, prospective students, and philanthropic interests that Methodist College meets all requirements for a quality educational institution.

Efforts to achieve the earliest possible accreditation were begun shortly after the chartering of the college in 1956 and were climaxed by a telephone call from President Weaver at Miami Beach, on November 30, 1966, affirming that the Association had that day announced full accreditation for Methodist College. President Weaver and other college officials were in attendance at the annual convention of the Southern Association at Miami Beach at the time.

Memorable dates in the quest for accreditation are:

November 15, 1956: A planning committee of the Board of Trustees met in Atlanta with the executive secretary of the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association.

October 11-13, 1964: Visiting Committee of the Association was on campus studying and evaluating the entire program of the college.

December 1964: The Association announced that Methodist College had been granted the "candidate for membership" status, that category having been established by the Association in November 1962 as a means of recognizing new colleges prior to their qualifying for full accreditation, which can come only after three classes have been graduated.

1965: Early in the year preparation of an intensified and formalized Self-Study was begun. The completed document was submitted to the Association in the Fall of 1965.

April 17-20, 1966: A committee from the Association visited the campus, evaluating the progress of the college in preparation for full accreditation.

October 26-27, 1966: President Weaver and other officials of the college appeared before the Association's Committee on Admission of New Colleges, in Atlanta, for final screening.

November 28-30, 1966: The Southern Association, in convention at Miami Beach, granted full accreditation to Methodist College.

Thus, in the shortest possible time, after graduating the required three classes, Methodist College has attained full accreditation as a four-year, liberal arts, co-educational college.

Contract For New Buildings Awarded

A \$1,764,300 contract for three new structures on the Methodist College campus was awarded in late November by the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, subject to the approval of the appropriate government agencies.

The Administration Building will contain about 12,000 square feet and will house all administrative offices. The Fine Arts Building, containing about 30,000 square feet, will include a stage and a 1,226-seat auditorium and will house the music and art departments, including studios, workshops, practice rooms and classrooms.

The third structure is an extension to the present Student Union, and will contain an additional 15,000 square feet, providing for about 300 more seats in individual dining rooms and additional facilities for snack bar, bookstore, post office and offices.

Also included in the contract is a timed multi-effect color-changing fountain with pool for the college lawn, which is being given by the Fleishman brothers of Fayetteville in honor of their brother, W. Ed Fleishman, who has been a Trustee since Methodist College was first chartered.

Estimated construction time on the entire project is 16 months. The contract was awarded to the low bidder, Player, Inc., of Fayetteville.

College officials have expressed great satisfaction over this most recent step in the growth of the campus. Completion of this project will bring the total number of campus buildings to 15.

Franklin S. Clark Scholarship Announced

A \$500 annual scholarship has been established at Methodist College in memory of Franklin S. Clark, the first president of the Fayetteville College Foundation, organized to provide local support for Methodist College from Fayetteville and Cumberland County.

This scholarship is being given by Mr. Clark's sisters, Mrs. Henry Anderson and Mrs. John C. Haskell, and by his sons and daughters, William E., Margaret St. Clair, Franklin S., Jr., and Mary Pride.

During Mr. Clark's two years as president of the Foundation, the 600-acre tract of land on which the college is built was officially presented to the Methodist Church and ground was broken for the first building.



The two new buildings—and enlargement of a present structure—slated for construction on the growing Methodist College campus are indicated on this aerial photo. To the left of the arrow on the left of the photo is the proposed Administration Building. The Fine Arts Building-Auditorium (X) is planned between the Classroom Building, left foreground, and Science Building, left background. Expansion of the Student Union-Cafeteria (circle) also is scheduled. The four residence halls are in the right background, the two girls' halls on the left, and the boys' halls on the right.

A SPECIAL NOTE OF APPRECIATION

As we celebrate our Tenth Anniversary and acceptance into full membership in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, we at Methodist College extend to the North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Church, the people of Fayetteville and Cumberland County, and all other friends everywhere our deep appreciation for your efforts which have contributed to this progress. As we continue in the stream of progress, we solicit your prayers and financial support as we strive to serve the young people of our state and nation in an even more effective manner in the decades ahead.

BULLETIN OF

Methodist College

Fayetteville, North Carolina 28301

Vol. 7, No. 8

December, 1966



Published Semi-Quarterly

By

Division of Public Relations

Charles K. McAdams, Director

Second Class Postage Paid
FAYETTEVILLE, N. C. 28301