

President: Ralph R. Reavis, Ph.D., M.Div., S.T.M.

Colors: Cadet Blue

Mascot: Dragon

Motto: “Self-Help”

History

Virginia University of Lynchburg stands on one of the glorious mountainous hilltops of Lynchburg, Virginia. The school was organized in May 1886, during the 19th annual session of the Virginia Baptist State Convention at the First Baptist Church in Lexington, Virginia. The school was founded to meet the growing demands of our churches for better-educated and trained ministers, missionaries, and school teachers. According to the charter, it was first named the Lynchburg Baptist Seminary. Since that time, there have been four name changes for the oldest Historically Black College in Southwest Virginia, founded by Blacks, imbued still within no greater mission, “Do for Thyself.” Rich in its history that extends beyond the boundaries of America, held steadfast through sixteen presidencies, the school educated generations of bright men and women who pollinated the moral essence of human kind and lay citizenry throughout America and the world.



Over a century, the presently so-named Virginia University of Lynchburg, has at various points in time, housed a maximum 600 students. Now, the transient population of students continue to increase in the traditional and nontraditional programs at the other four locations at Burgess, Danville, Petersburg, and Suffolk, Virginia. Students now can enroll in VUL’s online programs to obtain the Associate, Bachelor, Master, and doctorate degrees. The faculty and staff at VUL are some of the most diverse and qualified faculty in their areas of expertise. Many have years of experience in postsecondary education.

Demographics

- Student Population - There are approximately 300 full-time and part-time students enrolled in VUL on campus or online programs. Students come from various countries.
- The population of students includes traditional and nontraditional students. Most of the adult students are enrolled in the degree completion program in Organization Management, or graduate students of Religion at either the Master’s or doctoral levels.

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UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

School of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Contact: Dr. Kathy Franklin, Dean

Degrees: AA in Liberal Arts and Sciences, BA Religious Studies, BA Sociology

School of Business

Contact: Dr. Gare LeCompte, Dean

BA Organization Management (online degree-completion program)

BA Business Administration (pending approval)

- One of the major goals is for the business program to provide the most virtualistic, futuristic, on-line delivery system in the world of Management for minority education.
- Presently maintains a superior online delivery system and technology specialists both internal and external in order to accommodate teaching and learning needs.
- Timely audit review of the proposed acquisition and maintenance of technology for hardware and software needs.

School of Religion

Contact: Dr. Marshall Mays, Dean

Degrees: D.Min. and M.Div.

The Opportunity

This year, students will have an opportunity to celebrate a unique part of VUL's historical past as they enjoy an international conference hosted by the University to share in the commemoration the state's 400th anniversary of the Settlement at Jamestown.

As part of its own history, VUL shares an international and unique part of its past with the Pigmies in the native land of Africa. Once a student at VUL, a Pygmy named Ota Benga, was brought to the U.S. in 1904, exhibited at the St. Louis World Fair, and subsequently in the Bronx Zoo, rescued and brought to live at the Virginia Baptist Seminary (now Virginia University of Lynchburg). He died in 1916 and is buried in an unmarked grave in Lynchburg, Virginia. The saga of Ota Benga, will again be resurrected this year, October 27-29, 2007 as the emerging theme of a major international conference on "Ota Benga, Lynchburg and the Empowerment of the Pigmies."

The conference promises to be a Signature Event sponsored by Virginia University of Lynchburg together with Lynchburg College, Randolph-Macon Women's College, Sweet Briar College, and the African Congress of the Pigmies, and Amazement Square, a Children's Museum.

Interested persons should contact: Virginia University of Lynchburg at (434) 528-5276, or fax (434) 528-4257 for more information, or visit our website at: <http://www.vul.edu/>