

BLUEPRINT FOR CHRIST COLLEGE

1. The organization and founding of Christ College is predicated on two basic assumptions:
 - a) the fact that for more than two generations only lip service has been given to the liberal arts while there has been an ever greater concentration of vocational subjects in the American undergraduate school;
 - b) the consequent need- -so apparent in business, industry, government and the professions- -for men and women who are trained in the liberal arts, especially the humanities, and will therefore have a deep appreciation and knowledge of the Western World.
2. Christ College will be essentially a liberal arts college with great emphasis on the significance and relevance of the humanities in our post-modern world.
3. Students will be invited to become members of Christ College at the end of their sophomore year either at Valparaiso University or at other campuses.
4. The invitation to students to become members of Christ College will be based on
 - a) academic excellence
 - b) QQ- -the quest quotient
 - c) evidences of initiative, originality and creativity
5. Students will be invited to become members of Christ College by the Dean of the college together with a committee of the general University faculty.
6. Christ College will not be an honors college in the normal accepted sense of the term. It will be more than or less than that since it will concentrate its work so heavily in the area of the humanities.
7. The theological undergirding of the college will lie in the area of a Christological stewardship which will transcend denominational lines and bring the student and his activities directly in contact with the underlying theological concepts of a classic Protestantism.
8. Curricular offerings and curricular changes will be determined by a special sub-committee of the University's general Curriculum Committee.

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9. The membership of Christ College- -both faculty and students - -should represent as nearly as possible all the areas and disciplines now offered at the University. In other words, an effort should be made to have students represent all the fields of modern knowledge no matter what the vocational requirements in their own fields may be. It is obvious, of course, that this will create certain difficulties particularly in discipline in which the curricular direction is largely determined by forces beyond the borders of the campus. It should, nevertheless, be a major goal of the college to have within its walls a comparatively accurate cross-section of the general population of the University.
10. Administratively and financially Christ College will be operated as a separate unit of the University.
11. Both among the faculty and the student body Christ College shall have three types of members:
 - a) a comparatively small, hard core of full-time teachers and administrators and students;
 - b) a somewhat larger group of part-time members who will be drawn largely from the faculty of the general University;
 - c) honorary or temporary members, such as special lecturers and instructors who will join Christ College for a given, limited period of time. It is in this area where Christ College can make a very distinctive contribution to
 - d) our educational philosophy and our academic progress.
12. The administration of Christ College shall stand in the same relationship to the administration of the University as the other duly constituted colleges on the campus at the present time.
13. The number of credit hours required for membership in Christ College shall be determined by the administration of the college and the subcommittee of the general Curriculum Committee. In a general way, it would be hoped that the number of hours will rise steadily from the sophomore to the senior year. At its inception the number of hours required for membership should probably be kept quite low so that the college can represent a wider spectrum of the student population of the University.
14. As quickly as possible, Christ College should abolish the entire credit and quality point system and institute another approach to the achievement of final approbation by the college. This may be in the form of comprehensive examinations or other techniques as they would be determined by the administration of the college and the Curriculum Committee.

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15. The basic atmosphere of Christ College shall be one of freedom within the limits determined by the college itself and the outside forces which set up certain requirements in given fields of specialization.
16. The theological offerings of Christ College shall be concentrated into the two fields in which our theological seminaries are most weak and which are most necessary for the post-modern world:
 - a) a thorough emphasis on the methodology and results of Biblical scholarship;
 - b) an awareness of the interdependence of our post-modern society as evidenced by a thorough work in social ethics as distinguished from individual ethics.
17. The collegiate Chapter of the University Memorial Chapel, particularly the Dean of the Chapel, should be asked to arrange special programs, lectures and worship experiences for the members of Christ College.
18. In all areas of the work of the college there should be a fusion of high intelligence and high religion. This means that in both areas the full implications of the Christian indicatives and imperatives should be worked out in the daily life and work of the student. It is in this particular emphasis that Christ College ought to make its greatest and most singular contribution. Face to face with the explosion in human knowledge this emphasis should lead to an appreciation of the cosmic and universal nature of the Christian Gospel.
19. In view of the far-reaching implications of the work of Christ College the staffing of the college becomes of central importance. The entire faculty of the college- -both full-time and part-time shall be involved in the appointment of members of the staff under the general leadership and direction of the academic vice president of the University and the Dean of the college.

O. P. Kretzmann, 1964