

The Covenant between the Synod of the South Atlantic and Eckerd College

Eckerd College, in covenant with the Synod of the South Atlantic, affirms its historic affiliation to the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the vibrant embodiment of an academically rich and pluralistic liberal arts education that has been one of the hallmarks of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The history of the Presbyterian Church has been characterized from its beginning by a commitment to education. Both John Calvin and John Knox were passionate advocates of learning and education, and the history of American higher education reflects the imagination and emphatic involvement of the Presbyterian church in establishing and nurturing colleges and universities.

Therefore, while Eckerd College embraces its institutional culture of enhancing the full variety of religious experience, and is governed by an independent board of trustees, it proudly affirms its natal connection and covenant with the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Eckerd College educates and empowers students to develop the knowledge and skills critical to personal and intellectual growth, global citizenship, environmental stewardship, transformational leadership, and lifelong learning through innovative, high-impact programs centered in the liberal arts and sciences.

The College offers students a uniquely personal educational experience within a welcoming, inclusive, and intergenerational campus culture that encourages free inquiry and open expression; values close relationships of trust, civility, and respect; and depends on the extraordinary leadership of a committed and caring faculty and staff. Eckerd College changes lives, and Eckerd graduates change the world.

Synod of South Atlantic in covenant with Eckerd College, will pray regularly that the students, faculty and staff of the College might find intellectual, physical and spiritual wholeness; support Eckerd College and its mission throughout the Presbyterian Church (USA); promote the College through Synod newsletters, website, and social media; maintain regular communication with the College Chaplain; embrace Eckerd College as a locus not only of the church's teaching, but also for the church's learning, especially as a source of information about the culture of contemporary young adults; and celebrate the relationship between church and college that God may be glorified.

This covenant can be reviewed at the request of either party in a process agreed upon by both.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2024.

James J. Annarelli, PhD.
President
Eckerd College

Valerie Young
Synod Executive & Stated Clerk
Synod of South Atlantic, PC(U.S.A.)