MacMurray College is a four-year, career-directed college with a strong liberal arts tradition, committed to preparing graduates for satisfying and productive professional careers, effective leadership, and enriched lives of continuing learning, achievement, and service. Founded in 1846 as a women’s college and remaining an all-women’s school until 1957, MacMurray retains historic ties to The United Methodist Church. The MacMurray experience enhances students’ lives through recognized excellence in the teaching of critical thinking, exemplary skills in communication, and the pivotal ideas and ethical insights that shape human civilization.
A small Midwestern school of more than 500 undergraduates, the College has a culturally diverse student body and supports a relatively large athletic program integrated into the educational program. With longstanding majors in Special and Deaf Education and American Sign Language Interpreting, we have a proud heritage of educating generations of leaders in the disability community. During the past 15 years, the composition of the student body has evolved, with increasing numbers of commuting and off-campus students, many of whom transfer from area community colleges. What was once primarily a residential campus now has 45% of its students living off campus.
ACADEMICS

MacMurray is consciously and proudly a teaching institution, with faculty very accessible and committed to classroom instruction. With a student ratio of 13-1, there are 97 faculty members. Majors are offered in 13 career-oriented fields. Students, faculty, and staff consistently comment on the warm, friendly atmosphere of the campus, as well as the faculty’s high levels of teaching quality, mentoring, and commitment to students. All of these attributes are confirmed by the National Survey of Student Engagement. Graduates maintain relationships with faculty and staff over many years.

The MacMurray curriculum is distinguished by a strong liberal arts core program fully integrated into all four college years. Visiting accreditation teams and professional colleagues often comment with admiration about the uniqueness of this program. Importantly, MacMurray recently has undertaken a comprehensive review of majors in order to provide offerings relevant to prospective students.

By maintaining the core liberal arts curriculum for all majors, the college has been able to provide a classically rooted education while preparing dynamic majors well suited for the 21st century workplace. In addition to these new majors, MacMurray maintains a leadership position in several distinctive human services majors: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education, Interpreter Preparation (American Sign Language), Nursing, Social Work, and Criminal Justice, as well as career majors in Business, Sport Management, and Psychology.

In addition, the College launched in fall 2014 an entirely online program that is showing great promise. MacOnline currently offers three majors: Criminal Justice, Business and a bachelor’s in Nursing for registered nurses with an associate’s degree. More majors are under development.
Athletics

A member of the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SLIAC) and NCAA Division III, MacMurray offers five men’s and five women’s sports. The College is working to enhance its intramural programs.

Men’s
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Football
- Golf
- Soccer

Women’s
- Basketball
- Golf
- Soccer
- Softball
- Volleyball

Founded 1846

Core Values: Knowledge, Faith & Service

Military Friendly School

Average class size: 16

Student/Faculty ratio: 13:1

Study abroad opportunities

Male/Female ratio

- Male 46%
- Female 54%

Student Diversity

- 76% White, Non-Hispanic
- 12% Black, African-American
- 5% Hispanic
- 5% Unreported
- 2% Multi-racial
- 2% Native American, Pacific Islander

Highlanders
THE CAMPUS

The MacMurray campus, with 16 major buildings on 60 acres, is beautifully designed and well landscaped. Within walking distance of the Jacksonville downtown, MacMurray is an integral part of the Jacksonville community, with its students, faculty, and staff participating in the variety of the town’s arts and entertainment events.

MacMurray is a major contributor to the cultural life of the community. The Applebee Art Gallery holds monthly shows during the academic year, bringing in renowned regional artists, as well as featuring local artists and student art shows.

The MacMurray College Choir holds regular recitals, including a well-attended Christmas program, and the College hosts musical performances, theater productions and speakers on a regular basis.

In Jacksonville, Illinois, the College finds an unusually strong, supportive environment for academic programs in the human services with the presence of the Illinois School for the Deaf, the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired, and other local human services institutions. Jacksonville is a community that values higher education and culture, and also demonstrates uncommon understanding and support for citizens with disabilities.
Jacksonville, Illinois (pop. 25,000) is an economically and culturally vibrant town within easy driving distance of St. Louis (85 miles south), Springfield, the capital of Illinois (35 miles east), and Chicago (235 miles north).

Formed more than 175 years ago, Jacksonville is one of the oldest towns in Illinois and boasts a rich history. The home to three of the state’s early governors, Jacksonville’s neighborhoods of historic homes are on streets canopied with trees. It was a junction on the Underground Railroad and offers several related historic sites. Jacksonville contains the only Illinois executive mansion outside Springfield, and was home to the state’s first public high school.

MacMurray College is within walking distance of the downtown area, which is seeing a renewed life after a multi-million-dollar renovation of the square and many of its buildings. The area is establishing itself as a collection of interesting small shops, services, restaurants, cafés, and other entertainment venues.

Jacksonville’s three colleges, MacMurray, Illinois College, and a campus of Lincoln Land Community College, attract an array of arts, entertainment and cultural events each year. Despite its modest size, Jacksonville is home to a symphony orchestra and an art museum housed in an ornate, Victorian mansion.

The economy is a resilient mix of higher education, manufacturing, retail, banking and other financial services, small businesses and facilities of Fortune 500 companies. And the surrounding area boasts some of the richest farmland in the nation. The people retain core Midwestern values, including a civic volunteerism that is second to none.

Explore Jacksonville for yourself through the resources below:
- Visitors Guide  www.explorejacksonvilleil.com
- Convention and Visitors Bureau  http://jacksonvilleil.org/
- Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce  www.jacksonvilleareachamber.org/
- City of Jacksonville  http://www.jacksonvilleil.com/
- Jacksonville School District 117  www.jsd117.org/
Governance

MacMurray College is governed by a 30-member Board of Trustees. Members are selected at-large, elected by the Alumni Association, and appointed by the Illinois Great Rivers Conference of the United Methodist Church. The President oversees and is supported by an Executive Team composed of a Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Life, and Directors of Institutional Advancement, Enrollment and Retention, Facilities, Information Technology, Finance and Administration and Public Relations.

Opportunities and Challenges for the New President

❖ **A Vision for the Future.** MacMurray College has a strong and vibrant history that spans 168 years. The successful candidate will have the necessary vision for the future success of the College as well as the administrative and interpersonal skills necessary for this achievement.

❖ **Enrollment Goals.** The College aspires to expand beyond its current level of 500 students. The College places emphasis both on recruitment and retention. The successful candidate will have proven ideas and initiatives designed to increase enrollment at MacMurray College.

❖ **Financial Acumen.** We expect a balanced budget by maintaining careful and vigilant oversight of expenses while capitalizing on all revenue opportunities. The successful candidate will have proven financial management skills.

❖ **Fundraising.** The Institutional Advancement Committee of the Board of Trustees, together with the Executive Director of Institutional Advancement, contend that there is considerable untapped giving potential among alumni, friends of the College, government, foundations, and corporations. Active leadership and participation in fundraising will be an expectation of the next President. The successful candidate will have a proven track record of fundraising and will embrace the role as the College’s lead fundraiser.

❖ **Alumni.** Drawing on an alumni base of more than 10,000, many with distinguished careers, there is great potential to increase the percentage of participation, as well as increase the size of gifts given by our alumni.

❖ **Infrastructure and Technology.** Improving the physical plant and staying current with technology are continuous challenges. The successful candidate will have a dedication to infrastructure planning, as well as increasing the College’s technology footprint in the classroom and beyond.

❖ **Relationship with the United Methodist Church.** The United Methodist Church contributes to the College through appointment of trustees to the Board and through several other avenues. This relationship is a long one and can be strengthened moving forward.
Candidate’s Credentials and Attributes

We seek a president with strong commitment to the traditions embodied by small, private liberal arts colleges plus proven academic and fundraising experience; an earned doctorate or other advanced degree is required. The successful candidate will have the following attributes:

- **Visionary leader** – Will lead us into the future by building on, refining, and communicating the story of MacMurray’s distinctive strengths. A passion for the institution and its mission are expected.

- **Energetic individual** – Will be a dynamic, motivated, and engaged leader with emotional and physical stamina.

- **Strong manager** – Will be an astute manager who delegates wisely, empowers a good support team by encouraging leadership development and responsibility, and ensures the health of campus finances, physical resources, human resources, and technology.

- **Fundraiser** – Will demonstrate a track record of active, innovative, and successful fundraising.

- **Caring person** – Will have people skills that allow engagement with students, faculty, staff, trustees, alumni, and members of the Jacksonville community.

- **Excellent communicator** – Will be able to communicate clearly and be a good public speaker.

- **Inspire confidence** – Will inspire confidence in the College with leadership grounded in reality and transparency, as well as the willingness to share credit and take responsibility where appropriate.

Nomination/Application Information

The Search Committee cordially invites interested parties to learn more about the College and the attributes that it seeks in the next MacMurray President at its Web site: www.mac.edu/presidentialsearch

Review of candidate materials will begin in early February; applications and nominations will be accepted until the Presidency is filled. Inquiries, nominations, and applications (to include a letter of interest that reflects on the qualities described above, a curriculum vitae, and contact information for four professional and two personal references) will be received and considered in strictest confidence. Materials should be electronically submitted to: presidential.search@mac.edu

Both co-chairs may be reached at this email.

**Search co-chairs are:**

- **Judith Dozier Hackman**
  Associate Dean of Yale College, Yale University
  Senior Partner, Ideas for Action II Higher Education
  203-627-2145

- **John Blythe**
  President, Jones-Blythe Construction
  217-787-1640

MacMurray College is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply and will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status.