

1872-74 **Richard Owen, President**
Owen became the first president of Purdue at a time when there were no buildings, faculty, or students. He guided the Morrill Act idea of an "Indiana Agricultural College" into reality. He resigned the day before the first class met.

1874-75 **Abraham C. Shortridge, President**
Shortridge was in charge when Purdue matriculated its first students in September 1874. Thirty-nine applicants were admitted, some conditionally. Women were enrolled for the first time the following fall. Shortridge's administration lasted just 18 months due to his failing health.

1876-83 **Emerson E. White, President**
Under White's leadership, Purdue was set firmly on its course of emphasis on agricultural and "mechanical arts" as mandated by the Morrill Act. White also is remembered for his failed attempt to ban fraternities on campus which led to his resignation in 1883.

1883-1900 **James H. Smart, President**
Smart was known as "the engineers' president." The Schools of Civil, Mechanical, and Electrical Engineering as well as the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences were established during his tenure. During Smart's administration, "Old Gold and Black" were established as the school colors.

1900-21 **Winthrop E. Stone, President**
Purdue's first vice president, Stone became president upon the death of James Smart. He appointed Purdue's first dean of women, Carolyn E. Shoemaker, in 1913. The Schools of Agriculture and Engineering grew rapidly during Stone's tenure, which ended tragically when he was killed in a mountain-climbing accident.

1921-22 **Henry W. Marshall, Acting President**
Publisher of the Lafayette Journal and Courier and a member of the Board of Trustees, Marshall was elected acting president of the University following President Stone's death.

1922-45 **Edward C. Elliott, President**
Elliott was responsible for a major building program that saw construction of Ross-Ade Stadium, the Memorial Union, and development of the Purdue University Airport. During his tenure, the Graduate School, the School of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and the Purdue Research Foundation were established. Elliott recruited top names to Purdue, including Amelia Earhart as a woman's counselor.

1945 **Andrew A. Potter, Acting President**
Purdue's dean of engineering from 1921 to 1953, Potter was considered the "dean of deans" of American engineering education.

1946-71 **Frederick L. Hovde, President**
Hovde presided over the University's greatest period of growth, leading to its emergence as a top research university. During his tenure, Purdue saw its greatest enrollment growth, from 5,628 to 25,582 students, its annual budget increased from \$12.7 million to \$136 million and the Schools of Industrial Engineering, Materials Engineering, Technology, and Veterinary Medicine were established.

1971-82 **Arthur G. Hansen, President**
The first Purdue president who was also an alumnus, Hansen's administration, saw enrollment increase to more than 32,000 and new buildings were constructed for agriculture, psychology, life sciences, and athletics. He supported the establishment of Purdue's first Black Cultural Center.

1982-83 **John W. Hicks, Acting President**
A professor of agricultural economics, Hicks served as Hovde's executive assistant and the University's lobbyist in the Indiana General Assembly after 1955. He also served as executive assistant to Presidents Hansen and Beering and retired in 1987 as senior vice president.

1983-2000 **Steven C. Beering, President**
Beering's tenure was marked by sustained growth in academics, facilities, and private support. Enrollment and scholarship set records. More than 20 new buildings were constructed on the West Lafayette campus and 13 others were expanded or renovated. He fostered efforts to make Purdue an international university. His name appears on the diplomas of more than half of the University's living alumni.

2000-07 **Martin C. Jischke, President**
Under Jischke's leadership, Purdue completed a strategic plan that used data-driven decision making to enhance Purdue's capacity to carry out its missions in learning, discovery, and engagement. Jischke developed Discovery Park, an interdisciplinary hub that is home to ten research centers, and he led the Campaign for Purdue, which raised more than \$1.7 billion in private donations to the university.

2007-12 **France A. Córdoba, President**
Dr. Cordova came to West Lafayette in July 2007 as Purdue's 11th president. During her tenure, she led the development and implementation of the "New Synergies" strategic plan, helping position Purdue to meet the grand challenges of humanity, to create opportunities for local and global economies, and to enhance student learning for success in tomorrow's dynamic and diverse world.

2012 **Timothy D. Sands, Acting President**
Dr. Sands, the Basil S. Turner Professor of Engineering in the schools of materials engineering and electrical and computer engineering, served as acting president for six months following the departure of Dr. Cordova. Upon completion of this term, he returns to his previous post of Executive Vice President and Provost of Purdue University. Prior to becoming Provost, he served as the Mary Jo and Robert L. Kirk Director of the Birk Nanotechnology Center in Purdue's Discovery Park.

2013-Present **Mitchell E. Daniels, President**
Upon completion of his second term as Governor of Indiana in January 2013, Mitchell E. Daniels will become the university's 12th president. His eight-year term as governor was distinctive for an increased attention to fiscal responsibility, cost efficiencies, and reform. Prior to serving as Governor, Daniels held a successful career in business and the federal government, holding numerous top management positions in both the private and public sectors. He served in the administrations of both President Ronald Reagan and President George W. Bush.