WE ARE PURDUE
WHAT WE MAKE MOVES THE WORLD FORWARD®
In 1862, Abraham Lincoln signed the Morrill Act — turning public lands over to any state that agreed to use the land sale proceeds to maintain a college that would teach agriculture and the mechanic arts. Seven years later, John Purdue (pictured above) gave the state of Indiana $150,000 and 100 acres along the Wabash River to found such a university. His remarkable act of generosity made possible Purdue University’s founding in 1869, and on the eve of 150 years of making good on our land-grant promise, our courageous steps to reinvent education are moving the world forward.
What’s a Boilermaker? (see cover)

In the 1890s, Purdue’s winning football team faced accusations of recruiting athletes from local boiler, or railroad, shops. One newspaper went so far as to exclaim, “Wabash Snowed Completely Under by the Burly Boiler Makers from Purdue.” The nickname stuck, though the accusations didn’t. In 1940, we unveiled the Boilermaker Special, our official mascot. This locomotive mounted on an automobile chassis celebrates our history and our renowned engineering programs.

Reinventing the Land-Grant Concept for the 21st Century

As Indiana’s land-grant university, Purdue’s focus has grown far beyond “agriculture and the mechanic arts” to encompass science, technology, health, management, liberal arts and more. Still, we remain ever true to the timeless tenets of our land-grant mission: Building human capital. Advancing research focused on our world’s most important problems. Engaging deeply with our partners.
Higher education has been driven by the status quo — an agrarian calendar, rigid lecture halls, ever-rising costs — for too long. At Purdue, we’re transforming learning inside and outside the classroom. New teaching methods, collaborative environments and innovative experiences on and off campus prepare Boilermakers for successful careers and fulfilling lives.
Year-Round University
Not bound by an agrarian calendar, we're focused on year-round education, which helps students incorporate internships, study abroad and research into their experience — as well as complete their degrees faster and increase graduation rates. For freshmen on the cusp of our admission criteria, our innovative Summer Start program provides a crucial five-week head start on campus.

Expanding Access to Millions
Leveraging online technologies to educate all types of students is the driver behind our acquisition of Kaplan University and its 15 locations, 32,000 students and decades of distance learning experience. The new public university we're creating will mean expansive opportunities for millions of nontraditional learners.

Students at the Center
At Purdue, we place students first — and that’s why we're making courses more student-centered. Faculty are redesigning large, foundational classes to include more discussions, activities and interaction. The result? Test scores are rising, and students are leaving our classrooms better prepared to solve problems.

Our magnificent new 164,000-square-foot Thomas S. and Harvey D. Wilmeth Active Learning Center in the heart of campus includes 27 rooms designed for collaborative active-learning, an engineering and science library, and other amenities. Once classes have ended for the day, classrooms will become available study spaces and will remain open 24/7.

Bringing Living and Learning Together
Research indicates that students who live on campus are more likely to succeed. We're blurring the lines between living and learning to help all Boilermakers on the path to a productive future. Our Honors College and Residences facility, for example, encompasses 40,000 square feet of academic space readily available to 850 honors students.

Higher Education at the Highest Proven Value
Our students deserve a top-rate education they can afford, so we're fitting our spending to their budgets — not the other way around. We've frozen tuition at 2012-13 academic year levels through at least 2018-19 and launched the “Back a Boiler” Income Share Agreement as an alternative to traditional student loans.
WE’RE MAKING SURE TOMORROW’S LEADERS ARE EQUIPPED

Science. Technology. Engineering. Math. The four STEM disciplines align with Purdue’s historic strengths. Today, we’re building on those strengths to answer the call for more innovation, economic growth and solutions to global grand challenges. We graduate leaders with deep technical knowledge in their fields — as well as the problem-solving, critical thinking and communication skills so in need across industries and countries.
Engineering Pathways to Change
In a world that needs new energy, health care and environmental solutions, engineers will lead the way. Yet the number of engineering students in the U.S. continues to decline. We’re expanding our efforts to graduate more students with the passion, curiosity and drive to engineer solutions — as well as expanding our interdisciplinary research, innovative joint degrees and engagement with industry partners.

A New Path for Technology Education
When our College of Technology became the Purdue Polytechnic Institute in 2015, it was more than a change in name — it was a transformation in our approach to undergraduate education. Now, applied learning, team projects, integrated humanities studies, internships, global immersions and more combine to produce graduates uniquely qualified for technology-driven careers.

Big Data, New Insights
Data may be ubiquitous — but people with the skills to pull relevant, meaningful insights from it are not. We’re recruiting world-class researchers and adding programs in computer and information science to ensure our graduates can analyze vast amounts of data; design technologies that boost productivity; and develop new models for collecting, examining and disseminating data.

MORE THAN 50% OF PURDUE STUDENTS EARN A STEM DEGREE

#1 DESTINATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN STEM DISCIPLINES | 4TH MOST FEMALE GRADUATES IN ENGINEERING FIELDS | CLOSE TO 100% OF PURDUE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE UNDERGRAD COURSES INVOLVE SIGNIFICANT “LEARN-BY-DOING”
At Purdue, we are champions for research and innovation on a global scale. Mapping the structure of the Zika virus. Creating new food sources for a growing world. Designing experiments for the international space station. Developing technology that prevents cyberattacks. Our innovators and entrepreneurs are succeeding at addressing these grand challenges.
Purdue is called the “Cradle of Astronauts” — 23 of our graduates have been selected for space travel, including the first and most recent men to walk on the moon. A 24th graduate — Loral O’Hara (MSAAE ’09) — is an astronaut candidate, selected by NASA in 2017 for two years of training. But astronauts aren’t our only link to outer space. Current research in the areas of comet imaging, hypersonic vehicles, Mars missions and even an interplanetary superhighway continues to further our reach into space while improving lives on Earth.

Three Areas of Emphasis

**DRUG DISCOVERY**
16 new drugs in human trials, plus 40 more in the pipeline

**PLANT SCIENCES**
$28M invested to help feed a population expected to reach 9 billion by 2050

**RESEARCH AWARDS**
$418M in FY 2017, a University record

**Out-Inventing our Adversaries**
Today’s technologies mean global threats arise and change so rapidly that governments need new ways to combat them. That’s the focus of our Institute for Global Security and Defense Innovation. Here, researchers bring advanced instrumentation, nanotechnology, social and behavioral sciences, big data analytics, and simulations together to shape the future of national defense.

**Facilities that Fuel Innovation**
Though our discoveries drive results far beyond the lab, they most often begin there. That’s why we’re investing in facilities that encourage specialized research. Our 60,000-square-foot Flex Lab in Discovery Park — Purdue’s 40-acre hub for boundary-breaking innovation — is home to wet-lab, dry-lab and collaborative spaces supporting advancement across disciplines.

**Great Leaps for Mankind**
Purdue is called the “Cradle of Astronauts” — 23 of our graduates have been selected for space travel, including the first and most recent men to walk on the moon. A 24th graduate — Loral O’Hara (MSAAE ’09) — is an astronaut candidate, selected by NASA in 2017 for two years of training. But astronauts aren’t our only link to outer space. Current research in the areas of comet imaging, hypersonic vehicles, Mars missions and even an interplanetary superhighway continues to further our reach into space while improving lives on Earth.
Purdue’s land-grant mission extends well beyond learning and discovery, to engagement with communities, schools, governments, businesses and individuals. Whether we’re hosting an after-school engineering program for fifth-graders, nurturing a new tech startup, or informing a public policy debate, we use our resources to improve prosperity and quality of life for people in Indiana and around the globe.
450,000+ ALUMNI WORLDWIDE

80 MASTER'S AND DOCTORAL PROGRAMS

200+ MAJORS

12:1 STUDENT-TO-FACULTY RATIO

450,000+ ALUMNI WORLDWIDE
Reinventing High School
Just about everything at Purdue Polytechnic High School is different — class format, teaching styles and goals for graduates. Created in partnership with the city of Indianapolis, this charter school gives students opportunities to thrive and gain valuable STEM knowledge and skills. It’s an intense program that can be a stepping stone to college or a direct pathway to a high-tech career.

Force for Economic Development
The largest university-affiliated incubation complex in the country, the Purdue Research Park unites discovery with delivery. Here, inventors and entrepreneurs turn innovations into commercially viable products and services — driving economic growth in Indiana and far beyond.

Moving Indiana Forward
For more than a century, Purdue Extension has served as the link between land-grant research and local communities. Through educational programs and solutions — ranging from nutrition and parenting to youth leadership and business retention — Extension staff and volunteers who live and work in all 92 counties help make our state safer, smarter and more successful, and sustainable.