In his last will and testament, George Washington envisioned a university in the heart of the nation's capital that would serve as an intellectual hub for the country. Today, through our vast network of world-class academic opportunities, access, partnerships and policy-research initiatives, GW puts its knowledge to work for immediate impact.

This is the George Washington University and what we make is History

FEB. 9 1821
The university was chartered by an Act of Congress

1,166
NON-MEDICAL

4
BLOCKS
from the White House and more blocks from many major government and non-governmental agencies, making research, internship and career opportunities for students and faculty literally a short walk away

1,197
MEDICAL

3
CAMPUSSES
The Foggy Bottom Campus, the Mount Vernon Campus and the Virginia Science and Technology Campus

ONE OF THE LARGEST PRIVATE EMPLOYERS IN D.C.

10
SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

500,000
approximate gross square footage of GW’s Science and Engineering Hall (SEH), the largest academic building dedicated to these fields in the nation’s capital

GW uses D.C. as a classroom like no other institution, hosting classes in the U.S. Capitol, the Newseum and George Washington’s Mount Vernon Estate. Plus, through a variety of partnerships, GW students have research opportunities with nearly every federal agency in America, as well as numerous multilateral groups, including the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, National Institutes of Health, National Institutes of Standards and Technology, the Naval Research Lab, Pan-American Health Organization, Smithsonian Institution and the World Bank, just to name a few.

GW’s five strategic initiatives are an institution-wide effort to move the university forward, guiding new investments and enhancements to the Student Experience, Research, Philanthropy and Constituent Engagement, Medical Enterprise and Institutional Culture.

GW is a hub for the arts, housing several illustrious cultural institutions, including the GW Corcoran School of the Arts and Design, historic L White Auditorium, the world-renowned George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum, the Luther W. Brady Art Gallery and Gallery 102. From classes, performances and exhibitions in the iconic Flagg Building to hundreds of cultural events held around campus each year, GW links audiences, students, scholars and collections to inspire learning, research and artistic expression.

GW is the #1 provider of Peace Corps volunteers among medium-size universities in the U.S. – and has consistently ranked in the top five for the past 12 consecutive years. 2018 is also the sixth time in the past decade that GW has ranked first on the Peace Corps’ list of medium-sized schools. More than 1,200 graduates have served since the Peace Corps’ founding, making GW among the top 30 highest all-time Peace Corps volunteer producers. GW is also one of the top producers of Teach for America volunteers, with approximately 350 alumni having served over the last 25 years.

Ten GW alumni currently serve in the 116th U.S. Congress. These GW graduates represent constituents from eight different states and U.S. territories.

GW has 119 endowed faculty positions, and nine faculty members currently are members of the National Academies. GW is also recognized among the top-producing institutions for Fulbright Scholars, with more than 83 current and former scholars serving within the university’s ranks. Plus, GW produces several Fulbright students working on various issues around the world each year. Our alumnus and the creator of the scholarships, former Senator J. William Fulbright, LLB ’34, would no doubt be proud.

GW makes a point of connecting academia to policy and the workplace. In fact, two current deans hold leadership positions in high-profile organizations in their respective disciplines: the Elliott School of International Affairs’ Reuben Brigety II serves on the Atlantic Council Board of Directors, and Lynn Goldman of the Milken Institute School of Public Health serves on the National Academy of Medicine Governing Council.

Service and real-world engagement are a major part of GW’s student culture. GW’s annual Freshman Day of Service and Convocation officially welcomes the incoming class to their academic and civic life with engaging speakers and service with partners throughout D.C. And this commitment grows during students’ four years: GW features 70 community-engaged scholarship courses, and last year, the GW community logged 703,331 hours of community service.

To learn more about how the George Washington University makes history, visit us at www.gwu.edu.
69% of undergraduates have held internships or co-ops

290,000+ alumni in more than 130+ countries worldwide

Approximately 12,000 undergraduate and 16,000 graduate students enrolled at all locations coming from all 50 states, Washington, D.C., Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Marshall Islands, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands and 132 countries

50%+ of undergraduates receive financial aid, according to the 2017-18 Common Data Set

500+ student-athletes participate in

27 intercollegiate varsity sports at the NCAA Division I level

1,800+ military students, veterans and their dependents attend GW

15 Honor Societies

475+ student groups

16,000 of undergraduates have held internships or co-ops

69% of undergraduates have held internships or co-ops

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• In addition to members currently serving in Congress, noted public servants among GW’s alumni include former Secretary of State Colin Powell, former Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, former FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, former Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, former SEC Chairman Mary Schapiro, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Peter Pace, retired Coast Guard Commandant and national incident commander for the Gulf oil spill Thad Allen, and former First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis.

• According to a recent survey, nearly 89 percent of the Class of 2017 reported that, within six months of graduation, they were employed, pursuing a graduate degree, volunteering or are otherwise engaged in a gap year, military service or other activity.

• Through its Access and Success initiative, GW is committed to increasing access to higher education by forming partnerships with organizations such as the Posse Foundation and Say Yes to Education. Since 2015, GW has been test optional, dropping the SAT or ACT requirement for most undergraduate applicants.

• In 1982, GW established the world’s first political communication major.

• Every four years, GW marks the Jan. 20 inauguration of a new U.S. president and vice president by hosting its own black-tie Inaugural Ball.

• The significance of the school colors of buff and blue are that they were the colors that George Washington wore in battle.

• Now 50 percent solar-powered for its electricity, GW is making major strides towards its commitment to being carbon neutral by 2040.

• In 1981, the GW Hospital treated President Ronald Reagan in the emergency room after an attempted assassination.

• One of the most important moments in the 20th century was revealed at a conference on the GW campus: On Jan. 26, 1939, Niels Bohr announced that Otto Hahn had successfully split the atom.

• Edward Teller, nuclear physicist and father of the hydrogen bomb, taught at GW from 1935 to 1941. Edward P. Jones, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, is a current GW English professor.

• Current and former Supreme Court Justices Clarence Thomas, William Strong, David J. Brewer, Willis Van Devanter and John Marshall Harlan have been among those who have served on the GW Law faculty. Moreover, Chief Justice John Roberts, Justice Samuel Alito, Justice Elena Kagan, Justice Sonia Sotomayor and former Justice Antonin Scalia have all, respectively, presided over its constitutional law moot court in recent years. Justice Alito presided for the second time in January 2016.

• During his state visit, President of the Republic of France Emmanuel Macron spoke to more than 1,000 GW students at an on-campus town hall. He answered audience questions on issues ranging from France’s involvement in Syria, anti-Semitism, mass migration, the European Union and President Donald Trump’s trade war with China.