KUYPER COLLEGE OVERVIEW

Our History

The rich heritage and unique mission of Kuyper College can be traced to its founding in 1939 as Reformed Bible Institute (RBI). RBI had a very clear focus as an institution to provide solid training in the Bible and preparation for ministry or service. This institution would meet unmet needs within the local community by filling a niche and providing an education in a setting that was neither a liberal arts college nor a seminary.

In 1970, after an almost five year redesign of curriculum and programs, the Department of Education of the State of Michigan gave the School the right to confer a four-year Bachelor degree. As a result, RBI changed its name to RBC – Reformed Bible College. Students came for reasons of personal spiritual enrichment, focused study toward a specific ministry, and development of skills for serving in volunteer roles in the church or service agencies. RBC established the requirement that all four-year graduates would have a major in Bible and Theology as well as a major in their career exit track. Even then – and continuing through today – the College was concerned that its education not be isolated from practical experience; internship opportunities became an important part of the student experience.

In 1995, RBC received North Central Association accreditation, setting the College on the road to higher academic standards to prepare leaders for the church. And in 1997, RBC was granted authority to offer a Bachelor of Science degree, moving the College toward broader ministry, vocational, and ministry-related professional offerings.

Most recently, on April 20, 2006, as a reflection of our mission and vision, and in response to global needs and our strategic priorities, the College restated its position and changed its name from Reformed Bible College to Kuyper College. Our emphasis continues to be on ministry and service vocations. However, we have progressed from being a Bible college to a ministry-focused Christian leadership college. This “mission-enabling” term accurately describes the unique mission and vocational programs of the College – training church leaders for ministry around the world. This term also completely integrates with our Reformed worldview and with today’s students who desire a well-rounded biblical and vocational college experience that sees all of life as being instrumental in discovering God’s glory, communicating these truths to others, and honoring the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

The College continues to build on the strong foundation established first as RBI, and later as RBC. We have moved from being an institute of Bible, Theology, Evangelism, and Missions to being a Christian Leadership College rooted in developing and applying a Reformed Worldview in every area of life and seeing every vocation as a Christian vocation. Today, Kuyper College has a total enrollment of over 250 students and offers a wide variety of degree programs and 16 study abroad opportunities. Each one intentionally designed to meet our students’ desire to be the “heart and hands” of Christ. The College seeks to place graduates in ministry and professional areas of leadership around the world to meet the spiritual and social challenges that exist today. This is the essence of our purpose – the essence of our identity to bring God’s grace into today’s culture.
Our Mission

Kuyper College equips students with a biblical, Reformed worldview to serve effectively Christ's church and His world.

Our Vision

With the principal goal to equip Christians to be transformational leaders who – instilled with a firm faith in God's grace and a commitment to follow His call – effectively serve His church and advance His kingdom throughout the world, the Kuyper community establishes the following vision:

As a college committed to a biblical, Reformed worldview, Kuyper College will be a unique, vital, and engaging learning community, characterized by innovation and excellence in its programs and educational partnerships.

- We will enroll increasing numbers of academically prepared and motivated ministry and service-focused students, and in the Reformed tradition, empower each person to discern their spiritual gifts, mature in the understanding of who they are in Christ and live a vibrant and fruitful life of ministry and service to others.
- We will provide extraordinary levels of personal attention to our students.
- Our faculty will remain committed to outstanding teaching and scholarship.
- We will enhance our reputation as a leading ministry-focused Christian leadership college that prepares its graduates for successful lives of service and ministry-focused endeavors throughout the world.
Core Values

Primacy of Scripture
We believe that the Bible is the Word of God and must guide our teaching, philosophy, life-style, and response to our ministry or vocational calling.

Biblical Worldview
We believe history is directed and controlled by God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – toward the accomplishment of God’s purposes for all creation. Education at Kuyper College is conducted within the framework of a biblical worldview from which students can assimilate, synthesize, and respond to situations of life and learning.

Reformed Doctrine
We understand and apply our faith and worldview according to the teachings of the Bible as summarized in the Heidelberg Catechism, the Canons of Dort, the Belgic Confession, and the Westminster Standards.

Academic Excellence
We emphasize the importance of cultivating the mind as primary in providing quality, Christian higher education.

Holistic Development
We strive to form world-class citizens who are academically, spiritually, socially, and morally discerning, just, and merciful leaders in church and society.

Caring Community
We actively work toward a campus environment, denominationally and ethnically diverse in nature, where mentoring, mutual care, accountability, and encouragement are characteristic of students, faculty, and staff.
Facts at a Glance

Enrollment (Fall 2014)
Headcount: 274
Full Time Equivalent: 251.83
Women: 55% Men: 45%
Out-of-State Students: 13.5%
International Students: 5%

Faculty
Student to Faculty Ratio: 12 to 1
Average Class Size: 14
Full Time Faculty: 13
Faculty with terminal degree: 8

Countries Represented
Canada, China, Dominican Republic,
Egypt, El Salvador, Ireland, Kenya,
New Zealand, Nigeria, Slovenia,
South Korea, Sweden, USA

Average ACT Composite: 22
Average HSGPA: 3.2

First-to-Second Year Retention: 55%
Six-Year Graduation Rate: 54%
(four year average)

Accreditation
North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
(HLC/NCA)
Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE)
Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

Costs (2015-16)
Tuition & Fees: $19,544
Room & Board: $6,800
Total: $26,344

Finances
Annual Budget: $7.2 million
Endowment: $7.3 million
Average Annual Giving: $1.1 million