

1. The Teaching Function

Out of the undergraduate colleges and the graduate schools of America come the greater portion of the nation's leaders and its better citizens. The curricula of a state university should be so designed and its teachings so directed that the state and the nation will have more men and women of intellectual interest and achievements; men and women possessing character, ideas, ingenuity, moral responsibility, and general competence; men and women who can provide the knowledge and technical skills to cope with a national and world situation growing ever more complex and difficult.

2. The Research Function

It is the business of a state university to advance the frontiers of knowledge in all areas of concern to modern society. Much research, in other words, should be done with no compulsion other than the urge to see beyond the present borders of man's knowing.

On the other hand, the research program of a state university, and particularly a land-grant institution, cannot ignore the contemporary requirements of state and nation. Rather, the program should be effectively correlated with non-university research, and it should seek solutions to the acute problems of society whether they are economic, technological, social, cultural or moral.

3. The Extended Services Function

In the main, the University is characterized by a concern for the life about it and by a zeal for service to the people whom it represents and who lend it support. The state university has found that it cannot have the desired impact on society unless its teaching is extended beyond the campus classroom, unless its research is in some measure translated into economic and social improvements, and unless its leadership and example elevate the cultural and moral tone of the nearer and farther communities in which it has its setting.

4. The Library Function

Without an adequate library collection, a university would find it impossible to perform its teaching and research functions properly. But over and above these requirements, the preservation of books and other materials is a vital function of society.

Divisions And Bureaus

In contributing to the welfare of the state through research, experimentation, and public service, departments make important contributions. In addition, certain divisions and bureaus have been established specifically for these purposes. Included in this group are the Experiment Station and the Cooperative Extension Service of the College of Agriculture, the Office of Development Service and Business Research, the Bureau of Government Research, the Bureau of School

Services, the University and Educational Archives, the University Placement Service, The University Press of Kentucky, Telecommunications Studios, the Independent Study Program, the Extension Class Program, the Evening Class Program, the Community College System, the Audio-Visual Services, the Department of Public Relations, the Engineering Experiment Station, the Kentucky Geological Survey, the University of Kentucky Research Foundation, the Child Guidance Service, the Social Research Consultation Service, the University Hospital and related services, the Bureau of Community Service (Sociology), the Computing Center, Conferences and Institutes, the Council on Aging, the Donovan Senior Citizens Fellowship Program, the Kentucky High School Speech League, the Civil Defense Program, the Continuing Education Program, the University Center for the Handicapped, the Office of Pre-Admissions, the Center for Developmental Change, the Center for Learning Resources for Allied Health, and the Institute for Planning and Administration.

History

Over a century ago the miracle of public higher education was mainly a dream. Among the eloquent spokesmen of that dream was John B. Bowman, first regent of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Kentucky University, who said in 1865:

I want to build up a people's institution, a great free university, eventually open and accessible to the poorest boy in the land, who may come and receive an education practical and suitable for any business or profession in life. I want to cheapen this whole matter of education, so that, under the broad and expansive influences of our republican institutions, and our advancing civilization, it may run free, as our great rivers, and bless the coming millions.

Hitherto, our colleges and universities have been accessible only to the few, such are the expenses attending them. We therefore want a university with all the colleges attached, giving education of the highest order to all classes. We want ample grounds and buildings and libraries, and apparatus, and museums and endowments, and prize funds, and professors of great heads and hearts, men of faith and energy. Indeed we want everything which will make this institution eventually equal to any on this continent. Why should we not have them? I think we can.

Bowman's statement was made the year the University of Kentucky was established. Today the institution is among the 93 state universities and land-grant institutions in America which are the fulfillment of this dream.

The school was started as part of Kentucky University under a cooperative plan authorized by the legislature. In 1878, when the people of Kentucky decided to establish a state institution of higher learning, the Agricultural and Mechanical College was separated