



SPONSOR: Sen. Simpson  
Sens. Cloutier, Ennis, Hansen, Lavelle, Lawson, Lopez,  
Marshall, Pettyjohn, Richardson, Sokola

DELAWARE STATE SENATE  
149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 24

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE ON ITS 275 YEAR HISTORY OF  
EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION, RESEARCH, AND SERVICE.

1 WHEREAS, the University of Delaware has stood as a powerful creator and driver of the ideas, inventions,  
2 passions and progress that have been crucial to making the world a better place for 275 years; and

3 WHEREAS, the University of Delaware traces its roots to the academy founded in 1743 by the Rev. Francis  
4 Alison, whose students included three signers of the Declaration of Independence — George Read, James Smith and  
5 Thomas McKean — and others who went on to serve our nation as political leaders, physicians, ministers, scholars and  
6 more; and

7 WHEREAS, through mutual agreement, the Trustees of Rev. Alison's Academy and the State of Delaware  
8 established a charter in 1833 to form Newark College, and this institution was later renamed Delaware College and joined  
9 the Women's College — established in 1914 — to become in 1921 what is today known as the University of Delaware; and

10 WHEREAS, the University of Delaware is a land-grant, sea-grant and space-grant university committed to  
11 education and research to advance the public good, especially in partnership with institutions of higher education in  
12 Delaware, throughout the region and on all seven continents; and

13 WHEREAS, the University of Delaware pioneered the concept of study abroad when Professor Raymond  
14 Kirkbride led a group of students to France in 1923, building international bridges of understanding and engagement, and  
15 now offers more than 100 study abroad programs in over 40 countries, being recognized as among the nation's leaders in  
16 global education; and

17 WHEREAS, the University of Delaware provides unique classroom and laboratory experiences, as well as hands-  
18 on learning opportunities, to prepare students from all over the world for fulfilling careers and engaged citizenship and  
19 offers three Associate's programs, 149 Bachelor's programs, 132 Master's programs and 62 Doctoral programs; and

20 WHEREAS, the University of Delaware is a top-tier research institution, attracting \$143.5 million in sponsored  
21 research projects in FY2017, putting it among the top 3 percent of institutions nationwide; and

22 WHEREAS, the University of Delaware purchased the former Chrysler assembly plant in Newark in 2009 and  
23 converted it into the Science, Technology and Advanced Research (STAR) Campus, which is becoming a robust driver of  
24 economic development for the state and region; and

25 WHEREAS, the University of Delaware is committed to providing an affordable and accessible world-class  
26 education by assisting students with financial aid, attracting top-notch faculty and offering unique academic programs,  
27 many of which are ranked among the best in the nation; and

28 WHEREAS, the University of Delaware is especially committed to serving Delawareans, with 8,890 state  
29 residents enrolled in undergraduate, graduate and professional studies programs and conferring degrees to 2,672  
30 Delawareans in 2017-18; and

31 WHEREAS, more than 670 Delaware employers sought the University's students for 1,211 job openings and 465  
32 internship opportunities in FY2017, and about 95 percent of University of Delaware graduates are employed, serving in the  
33 military or pursuing further education within six months of earning their bachelor's degree; and

34 WHEREAS, the University of Delaware has more than 179,000 loyal and proud alumni living around the world,  
35 and has graduated such accomplished people as 47th Vice President of the United States Joseph R. Biden Jr.; 1978 Nobel  
36 laureate Daniel Nathans; inventors Robert Gore and Wayne Westerman; Super Bowl XLVII MVP quarterback Joe Flacco;  
37 2016 Olympic gold-medal basketball player Elena Delle Donne, and many others; and

38 WHEREAS, the University of Delaware is dedicated to serving the community, with students spending about  
39 350,000 hours a year helping others and with researchers and students working with more than 320 organizations in  
40 Delaware through the partnerships for Public Education, Healthy Communities and Arts & Culture to improve lives,  
41 strengthen families and ensure a thriving future for our state, all of which contribute to the University's recognition by the  
42 Carnegie Foundation as a community-engaged institution, a designation shared by only 10 percent of colleges and  
43 universities nationwide; and

44 WHEREAS, in addition to serving Delaware's high school students, over 800 youth statewide attended over 40  
45 University of Delaware summer camp programs last year to shape career exploration, special interests, and college  
46 aspirations; and

47 WHEREAS, the University of Delaware fields student-athletes in 21 Division I NCAA teams—including those  
48 that have won national championships—and numerous club sports and intramural programs, helping students learn such  
49 essential values as teamwork, commitment and physical fitness; and

50 WHEREAS, the University of Delaware is dedicated to building on this legacy of achievement, addressing the  
51 greatest challenges facing society and continuing to make a positive impact on Delaware and the world.

52 NOW, THEREFORE:

53 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 149th General Assembly of the State of Delaware that the Senate does  
54 hereby recognize and congratulate the University of Delaware, its students, alumni, faculty, staff, and administration on  
55 marking 275 years of fulfilling its vital missions of education, research and service to the community.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate also extends its sincere and heartfelt gratitude to the University of  
57 Delaware for providing Delawareans with opportunities to obtain a better life for themselves and their families through  
58 gainful employment, and by providing Delaware's business and industry with a competent, highly trained workforce.

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitably prepared copy of this Resolution shall be presented to Dr. Dennis  
60 Assanis, President of the University of Delaware, upon its enactment.

SYNOPSIS

This resolution recognizes the University of Delaware on its 275- year history.

Author: Senator Simpson