



THIS IS HOW WE THRIVE.


FranklinPierce
UNIVERSITY

**A FRANK CONVERSATION
WITH PRESIDENT MOONEY
ABOUT THE FUTURE**

OUR VISION

Franklin Pierce University will be a leader in innovative teaching and experiential learning, having a positive social and economic impact on its communities. The University will establish a legacy for its unique ability to support and prepare students to thrive as leaders and engaged members of society.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Student, Future Student, Alumni, Faculty, Staff, Partner, Collaborator, Supporter, Friend ... Dear You,

Franklin Pierce University is on the cusp of its 60th anniversary. The upcoming celebration of the University's founding inspires considerable reflection and introspection—and an even more serious look into the future. What kind of institution do we want to be in the next five, ten, sixty years? How can we best modify our journey to continue to prepare our graduates for careers and meaningful lives in a dynamically shifting world? What elements of their Franklin Pierce education will help them be future-ready in times of uncertainty?

These questions helped set the foundation of *Pierce@60*, our new 2020-2024 strategic plan. *Pierce@60* establishes milestones for our upcoming anniversary and marks our continued commitment to long-term strategic planning as a top priority across the entire University.

As many of you know, I'm an alumna of Franklin Pierce. Over the years, I've shared countless conversations with successful alumni, many have told me they would never have gone to college if it hadn't been for Franklin Pierce.

That's the often unspoken dimension of what makes Franklin Pierce so special: We share a powerful belief that every student brings their own brilliance and intelligence, a unique way of living in the world—qualities that are not always reflected in traditional metrics like grades.



**“WHAT WE
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Franklin Pierce taps into that natural intelligence and empowers each student to expand into their own, to fully realize their individual potential. Of course, we expect our students to be academically successful through their efforts at Franklin Pierce, but what we really value is their personal transformation. That’s always been the essence of the Franklin Pierce experience. It’s who we were in the 1960s, and it’s who we want to be in the decades ahead.

Our ability to continue to be agents of transformation depends on so much: our willingness to eschew complacency and the status quo, to understand and stick with the things that work and change those that don’t. It depends on our acuity in seeing what’s ahead in higher education and using that insight to shape the education we’re delivering. It depends on how carefully we stay focused on the present while keeping our eyes on the horizon.

These are the behaviors and the mindset I want to honor and cultivate here at Franklin Pierce. In the pages ahead, you’ll see our vision for the future outlined: how we plan to sustain, and more importantly, to strengthen this vibrant, dynamic, contemporary, and essential institution we cherish so much.

We stride toward the future with confidence, optimism, and clarity. By helping our students thrive, we will thrive as well. Thank you for being part of the journey forward.

Ever forward,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kim Mooney". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Kim Mooney '83
President

THRIVING BY CULTIVATING INTELLECTUAL AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

What will really help students
make their way in the future?

It's certainly not just studying facts and memorizing dates—we can Google those. More important by far are the learning opportunities that support the acquisition of invaluable intellectual skills: critical thinking skills; strong communication and collaboration skills; and the ability to observe carefully, write expertly, and articulate with confidence. These attributes will prove themselves valuable over the course of a lifetime—a lifetime in which entire fields will be handed over to AI and new, completely unimagined fields will emerge.

Our Fitzwater Center for Communication is one current example of that practice brought to life. A campus hub for interpersonal and professional development, students—even First Years—find themselves behind microphones and in front of cameras. They film and provide commentary for on-campus athletic events; they earn press credentials, attend national conventions, and interview political candidates. Their experiences on national stages—with state-of-the-art technologies—teach them to think and act on their feet, and land them careers with ESPN and other national media organizations.

The future Franklin Pierce will provide students with even more remarkable opportunities. We'll continue to expand our professional and educational partnerships with businesses and local municipalities, so students can truly thrive as leaders and engaged members of society.

It's imperative that our future programs resonate with the demands of the broader marketplace, while differentiating us from other institutions. In a rapidly changing landscape, Franklin Pierce must be bold, nimble, imaginative, and deliberate in the programs we offer and in the ways we teach.

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**“THE MORE DEEPLY
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WE ALL BENEFIT.”**

THRIVING BY FOSTERING COMMUNITY

Raven Nation is our 2300-member student body. It is also the towns and cities that surround us.

We've worked hard to create this haven for our students—one that cultivates intellectual curiosity, that operates as a place of respect and dignity, that's incredibly inclusive, providing a home from which young people can explore and grow. Sustaining and strengthening that community—through athletics, through new student life opportunities, through diversity-enhancing efforts—will continue to be a top priority.

But nourishing the community around us is as important as nourishing our own. Every investment in the larger community has a reciprocal effect, enriching and enhancing Franklin Pierce as well.

When we create alliances, partnerships, and special programs that help local business and municipalities develop and strengthen their workforces, our own students are repaid with expanded internship and career possibilities, and a chance to make a difference in nearby communities.

When we better engage the surrounding community in our athletic programs and campus events, new doors and relationships open for all students, and a broader audience shares in their gifts.

When our coaches and teams dive into volunteer projects in nearby towns, giving hundreds of hours of their time, Ravens are repaid—not only with gratitude and appreciation, but a poignant understanding of the real meaning of community.

In the future, we'll continue to erase the lines between our Franklin Pierce community and the communities beyond, strengthening the bonds that make us a better institution, and better people.

THRIVING BY EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL

It's one thing to tell a young person they have potential. Our job is to help them live it.

Franklin Pierce does this exceptionally well. We hear it repeatedly from our students and alumni.

But complacency isn't in our vocabulary. How do we help launch more students tomorrow—and the day, year, decade, or century after that? How do we ensure that more Franklin Pierce graduates are able to step out of their comfort zones and into fruitful careers and lives?

We'll do it by creating new programs that thoroughly prepare students, with career development built in from Day One. We'll incorporate additional experiential learning—providing more hands-on practice, yielding more brains-on confidence.

We'll create ways for students to finish degrees in less time, with flexible learning options—including more entirely online offerings. We'll put together undergraduate and graduate program combinations, so students keep their early momentum going. We'll set plans in place to reduce our dependency on tuition, giving more students the opportunity to attend, regardless of family income. We'll explore more student-designed majors. We'll look at what our corporate and municipal partners need and dovetail our offerings. We'll develop online portfolios for students that make them stronger job candidates.

Of course, all of this revolves around, and depends upon, our incredibly dedicated faculty, coaches, and staff. These invaluable team members bring inspiration, understanding, love, and life lessons—daily.

In the future, we'll provide faculty with enhanced support through a new university-wide Center for Teaching and Learning. We'll continue to harness the collective creativity and wisdom of both internal and external experts to help all our leaders better engage with students and challenge them to find their own amazing-ness.

**“WE’LL EMPOWER
FACULTY, COACHES,
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RAVEN SOAR.”**



124 - OLD F WAY HOUSE TRAIL

**"FRANKLIN PIERCE
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THRIVING THROUGH DIFFERENCES

Inclusivity and diversity are basic tenets, long central to our very being.

The fact is, Franklin Pierce University is itself the product of diversity and inclusion.

We honor our students precisely because of who they are and what they bring to broaden and deepen our community. We honor our students precisely because of their races, creeds, gender identities, and sexual orientation; their wide range of previous academic successes and challenges; and at the core of it all, their untapped potential. We know that potential is not tethered to any label or boundary; we know it in our hearts.

Now is the time to clearly articulate our commitment to the values we're already living. This is how we will move—as a forward-thinking institution—to the highest level of excellence.

Our long-term commitment to honoring each and every student is reflected in the development of our new Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council, and in the addition of a new chief diversity officer. We'll focus on hiring and retaining diverse faculty and staff until all the faces on campus better reflect the student body.

In addition, our future employees will receive more comprehensive training and support. We'll ask ourselves often and seriously: What does it mean to be a leader at this institution? How will I personally invigorate and sustain this community?

In the days ahead, you'll witness Franklin Pierce become not just a more welcoming place, but a place of radical welcome—adding programs and taking action to better recognize, respond to, and celebrate the individual and their contribution.

The Franklin Pierce community is our enduring strength. When we fully engage people of diverse backgrounds and choices, we make the community even stronger and richer. By honoring and nurturing each individual, we nurture the whole.

TOGETHER, WE THRIVE.

Join us in the endeavor to help Franklin Pierce University lead, and help transform the lives of another generation of students.

ONE UNIVERSITY, BOUNDLESS OPPORTUNITY

Franklin Pierce University is an accredited private university in New Hampshire that achieves outstanding student success through the integration of liberal arts and professional programs. The University includes a 1200-acre residential campus in Rindge, NH, as well as centers in Manchester and Lebanon, NH and Goodyear, AZ.

COMMITTED TO LIBERAL EDUCATION

Drawing on our strong foundation in liberal education, we offer highly personalized, financially accessible academic programs that develop essential professional skills, promote close community connections, and help students realize their potential to become engaged and qualified leaders.

REAL-WORLD READY

The College of Business, the College of Health and Natural Sciences, the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, the School of Education, and the School of Nursing foster intellectual curiosity and encourage experiential and applied learning to prepare undergraduate- and graduate-level students to be confident, knowledgeable, and well prepared to become future leaders and engaged community members.

ACTIVE AND ENGAGED CAMPUS

Franklin Pierce emphasizes shaping well-rounded students who understand the value of service and community engagement. Through dozens of student groups and clubs and Division I and II athletic programs, students are provided extensive opportunities to compete, excel, serve, and lead.



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