

SIENA HEIGHTS UNIVERSITY

PRESIDENTIAL
SEARCH PROFILE



SIENA HEIGHTS
UNIVERSITY

Siena Heights University
1247 E. Siena Heights Dr.
Adrian, MI 49221

THE UNIVERSITY SNAPSHOT

The Siena Heights University Board of Trustees has begun an immediate search for the University's 11th president. The new president will succeed Sister Peg Albert, O.P., Ph.D., on July 1, 2023.

During Sister Peg Albert's tenure the university has achieved many significant milestones.

Siena Heights has:

- Received \$19 million in gifts and pledges during the "On Higher Ground" campaign
- Created the Siena Tuition Advantage which offers all students a lock-in tuition rate for two academic years
- Reached record enrollment of more than 1,000 full-time undergraduate students
- Inaugurated a nursing program which consists of fully accredited programs in pre-licensure, RN to BSN, and MSN
- Started a football program
- Built a multi-purpose stadium and athletic complex
- Been named to the "Best College to Work For" honor roll by The Chronicle of Higher Education
- Constructed a new university center, now the hub of campus.
- Modernized the performing arts program with a state-of-the-art theater and a stunning new music hall
- Celebrated our 100th Anniversary with a year-long celebration that spanned Michigan
- Earned national recognition for our online program from U.S. News and World Report for the eighth consecutive year
- Ranked first in online programs in Michigan for the seventh consecutive year
- Launched the SHU Global brand
- Became the first university in Michigan to be highlighted on The College Tour television series
- Been chosen as a top performer by the U.S. News and World Report for Social Mobility





COMPETENT
PURPOSEFUL
ETHICAL

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of
Siena Heights University, a Catholic
University founded and sponsored
by the Adrian Dominican Sisters,
is to assist people to become
more competent, purposeful, and
ethical through a teaching and
learning environment which
respects the dignity of all.

*"If you are who you
were meant to be,
you will set the
world ablaze."*

Saint Catherine of Siena

Siena Heights University is a coeducational, Catholic institution in the Dominican tradition, founded in 1919 and sponsored by the Adrian Dominican Sisters. Enrolling a diverse community of traditional and working adult students, Siena Heights is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and was founded in the liberal arts tradition, offering associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees. The main campus is located in Adrian, Michigan, and offers an award-winning online program as well as degree completion centers in Dearborn, Southfield, Benton Harbor, Monroe, Battle Creek, Kalamazoo, Lansing, and Jackson.

HISTORY

It all started with six Dominican sisters from the Second Street Convent in Manhattan and a "bleak little dwelling" in the midst of cornfields. Here on the northeast fringe of Adrian, Michigan, the sisters founded a hospital for sick and injured railroad workers. Although the Adrian Dominican Sisters worked valiantly to staff the hospital and administer to the needs of the underprivileged in the community, the sisters' commitment to education became paramount, especially the education of teachers. In 1919, they opened St. Joseph's College for Women, and in 1939 the school was renamed Siena Heights College to honor St. Catherine of Siena, a 14th century Italian Dominican who dedicated her life to a quest for truth and social responsibility. The university proudly continues to honor her values in all its pursuits.

In 1969, the College became coeducational, and additional programs were created to engage students on campus. One of those initiatives was intercollegiate athletics. The first intercollegiate sport at Siena Heights began in 1973 when the baseball team took the field. Originally named the Cannonballers, the SHU baseball team ushered in the school colors of blue and yellow still seen across campus today.

In 1975, Siena Heights began an off-campus degree completion program in Southfield to meet the educational needs of working adults in the Detroit metropolitan area. Several years later, SHU transferred this concept to junior and community colleges, opening its first degree completion center at Benton Harbor's Lake Michigan College, and then at two-year colleges throughout Michigan.





On July 1, 1998, Siena Heights College—by then a school with a main campus, six degree completion sites, a graduate program, and a theological certificate program with the Lansing Diocese—officially became Siena Heights University (SHU). Siena Heights was now a university comprising three colleges: The Colleges of Arts and Sciences, the College for Professional Studies, and the Graduate College.

In 2000, Siena Heights offered its first five online courses through the Metropolitan Detroit Program in Southfield. The University introduced "blended online" courses that began and ended with in-person meetings but relied on web-based interaction in between. Some were skeptical, but the immediate success of those first classes led Siena to move confidently in the direction of online education. By 2004, SHU launched its Distance Learning Program, which offered online degree completion options for students. The online program has been consistently ranked by U.S. News and World Report: SHU recently tied for 34th among all public and private institutions, was the second highest ranked Catholic institution, and was the seventh highest ranked private college or university in the nation. In addition, Siena Heights was also ranked 31st in the nation in the Best Online Bachelor's Program for Veterans category. That was also the highest ranking by a Michigan college or university in that category.





The Siena Heights University community is proud of our historical achievements, dedicated to our student populations, and determined to improve the effectiveness of our academic programs. We recently celebrated our 100th anniversary. From our roots as a Catholic college for women, we stand today as a university enrolling a diverse group of traditional and working students in associate's, bachelor's, and master's degree programs. We have significantly expanded to accommodate the needs of those who pursue degrees in non-traditional ways and take great pride in these programs. We will remain relevant by continually analyzing our accessibility to diverse student populations and our responsiveness to rapidly changing times.

Our primary focus has been on traditional students who seek a liberal arts education in a faith-based, small university environment. A very high percentage of our traditional undergraduate students also seek to further develop their skills as athletes, a key part of who they are. We welcome students who are eager to sharpen their abilities in a variety of contexts, including intellectual, physical, and spiritual pursuits.

Siena Heights is a teaching institution that attracts faculty members who are dedicated to the art of teaching. While we value and support research activities by both students and faculty, the main focus is the classroom. The mission declares that Siena will "assist people to become more competent, purposeful, and ethical through a teaching and learning environment which respects the dignity of all." Faculty excellence distinguishes us from other colleges and universities. While SHU's professors come here to teach, they do so much more; they are eager and willing mentors, scholars, advisors, and colleagues. The faculty's success with these multifaceted relationships is reaffirmed in conversation with alums, whose deep-seated affection for SHU is often centered on faculty relationships.

Today, Siena Heights boasts more than 2,400 students, a testament to our relevance and value to ever-broadening segments of our community. Siena Heights moves into the future still enriched by our mission and values, and still inspired by the courage and commitment of the Adrian Dominican Sisters.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

RESIDENTIAL CAMPUS



As a century-strong Dominican Catholic institution, Siena Heights University believes in the power of questioning. A healthy sense of curiosity is a common trait among Siena students—one we never fail to encourage.



We also offer value, being ranked fourth out of 44 Michigan universities for having the lowest average student loan debt-to-income ratio. Our graduates are recognized as having some of the top starting salaries once they enter their career field as well!



Our extensive resources and diverse student population from across the country and around the globe give students the opportunity for growth and development. We're proud of our dynamic academic offerings, as well as Siena Heights' ability to make a private college education affordable.



CAREER-READY MAJORS

Siena offers 50+ majors across high-growth areas like Business (including an Accelerated MBA Program), Special and Early Education, the Arts and Sciences, and extensive pre-professional programs in Law and Health.

AFFORDABILITY

Scholarships are available for academics, athletics, and the visual and performing arts, in addition to other financial aid. Students who are Catholic, or who attend a Catholic secondary school, are eligible for Siena's Catholic Grant too!

SHU GLOBAL

From associate's to bachelor's to master's degrees, SHU GLOBAL classes are designed so students can work, manage home life, and earn their degree. Students choose between online or face-to-face classes with 7-week sessions and can finish their degree within a year. Our dedicated advisors help students save time and money by giving credit where credit is due. They will work with the student to uncover every transfer credit possibility—whether it was earned yesterday or 30 years ago. Our Bachelor of Applied Science degree is designed to help students earn their degrees and upgrade their expertise in their chosen career fields. We also offer degrees in Business Administration, Health Care Management, and Nursing and Professional Communication, just to name a few.

With seven programs to choose from, Siena's graduate degree programs offer flexible, affordable options to help students reach their goals while fitting seamlessly into their busy schedule. At Siena Heights, our students learn in seven week sub-sessions that are taught by dedicated faculty members who have real-world experience in today's most in-demand fields. Plus, our small class sizes allow for more individualized support and provide a personalized learning experience to help students grow and succeed. Graduate programs include the MBA, the MSN, Leadership, and more.

Plus, Siena Heights goes above and beyond to invest in our students' growth and success. Our Siena Tuition Advantage plan offers all students a locked-in tuition rate for two academic years.



SIENA HEIGHTS
UNIVERSITY
SHU GLOBAL

AT A GLANCE

3.07

Student-Athlete GPA

Cumulative 3.07 GPA (Fall 2021 semester).



Award-Winning

Again named a College of Distinction and Catholic College of Distinction for 2022-2023.

1919

Founded

Catholic university founded by the Adrian Dominican Sisters.

90%

Receive Financial Aid

Making college education affordable for students from all backgrounds.



Online Excellence

Nationally ranked Undergraduate Online Program.

50+

Majors

Our programs are designed and delivered for today's workforce.

12:1

Student-To-Faculty Ratio

Our Adrian campus classes offer the personal attention students deserve.

95%

Placement Rate

Percentage of Siena Heights graduates who are accepted into medical school.

9

Locations

In Michigan and have offered online programs since 2004.

\$\$\$

Value

The Siena Tuition Advantage price certainty plan fixes tuition for two years.



ACCREDITATIONS

Siena Heights University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (hlcommission.org), an institutional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

In addition to the accreditation of Siena Heights University by the Higher Learning Commission, the following academic programs are accredited by their professional organizations:

- BFA and BA Programs in Art are accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).
- BSW in Social Work is accredited by the Council for Social Work Education's Commission on Accreditation (CSWE).
- The Division of Education is granted accreditation at the initial-licensure level by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP).
- The baccalaureate degree programs and the master's degree program in nursing are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

Siena Heights holds memberships in the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, the Michigan Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Michigan, the Michigan Colleges Foundation, the Council of Independent Colleges, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, the Council for Opportunity in Education, the Association of Governing Boards, the National Association of College and University Business Officers, and several athletic conferences, including the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.



ATHLETICS

The Siena Heights University Saints belong to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, as well as several other sport-specific conferences. The University sponsors more than 20 men's and women's varsity sports.

CO-ED SPORTS:

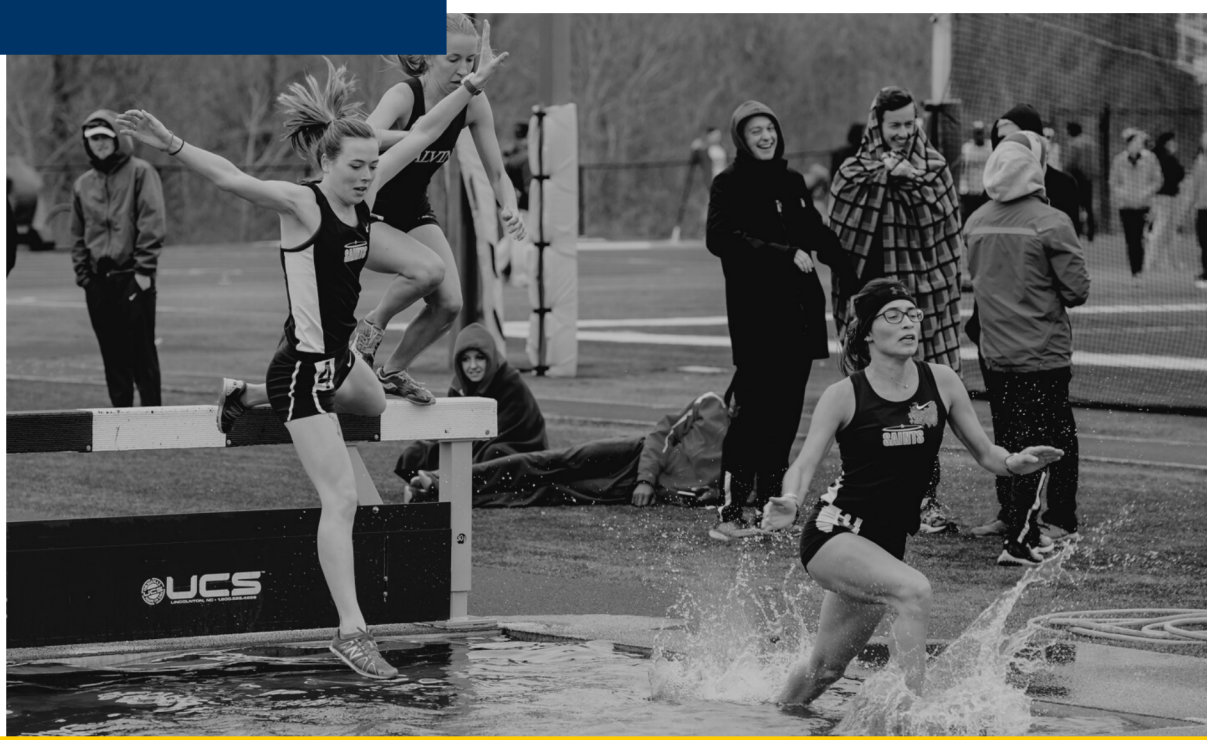
- Cheer
- Dance
- E-Sports

MEN'S SPORTS:

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Bowling
- Cross Country
- Football
- Golf
- Lacrosse
- Soccer
- Track and Field
- Volleyball
- Wrestling

WOMEN'S SPORTS:

- Basketball
- Bowling
- Cross Country
- Golf
- Lacrosse
- Soccer
- Softball
- Track and Field
- Volleyball
- Wrestling



CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SHU PRESIDENT

THE NEXT LEADER OF OUR UNIVERSITY WILL:

- Epitomize the mission of Siena Heights University
- Embrace the mission and vision of the Adrian Dominican Sisters
- Be committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Be an authentic and transparent leader
- Be a dynamic and bold visionary
- Be an operational leader
- Prioritize innovation and creativity
- Be a unifier
- Be culturally competent
- Promote a culture of change as a model change agent
- Fundraise effectively
- Be a team builder
- Be willing to embrace and engage the voices of all constituents
- Possess a strong record of success in building organizational capacity and resources
- Be a communicator, collaborator, and connector
- Engage with the community
- Forge a strong partnership with the Board
- Be a relational leader
- Understand the trends in higher education
- Be authentically faith based



THE RIGHT PERSON FOR THIS POSITION WILL:

- Make a difference in the lives of the faculty, staff, and students
- Use the rich heritage and history of SHU to develop a compelling story to drive growth
- Show agility appropriate to our small organization
- Build on the strengths of the main campus and degree completion locations to grow student enrollment
- Sustain strong graduation and success rates
- Have a strong foundation upon which to build
- Show resilience and support for new leadership
- Support change in campus community and climate
- Collaborate with community businesses and organizations
- Receive support from the Board
- Join a community of life-long learners and people who truly care
- Enrich our healthy campus life



SURROUNDING COMMUNITY

ABOUT LENAWEE COUNTY

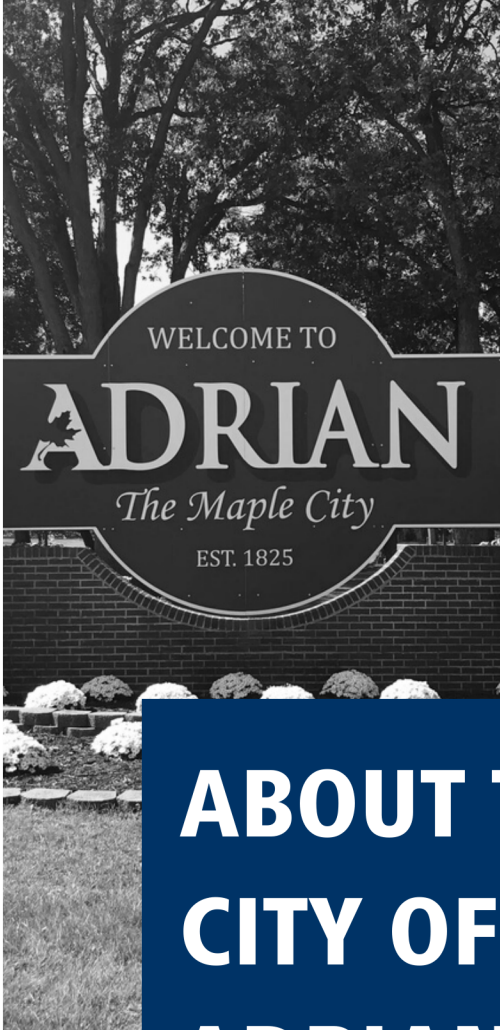
REGIONS

- Adrian
- Tecumseh
- Blissfield
- Clinton
- Hudson
- Morenci

Lenawee County's reasonable cost of living, big-city amenities, and proximity to nearby cities such as Ann Arbor, Detroit, and Toledo allow residents to enjoy simplicity, safety, and charm while living just a short drive from metropolitan museums, professional sports, concerts, and many other cultural events and opportunities.

The abundance of lakes, parks, and golf courses makes Lenawee County a playground for boating, fishing, hiking, hunting, golfing, and biking. Nearby is the Michigan International Speedway, which hosts nationally televised NASCAR races and holds popular events such as the Easter Horses Music Festival.


The median value of owner-occupied housing from 2015-19 was \$139,400. During that same period, the average household income was \$55,450. The major regions include Adrian, Tecumseh, Blissfield, Clinton, Hudson, Morenci, and the Irish Hills. Recently, ProMedica opened the Charles and Virginia Hickman Hospital, a modern 205,000 square-foot facility with acute care, emergency services, and labs. The new campus also includes a 32,000 square foot YMCA. <https://www.visitlenawee.com/>



ABOUT THE CITY OF ADRIAN

The City of Adrian has a population of approximately 21,000 people and is about 30 miles southwest of Ann Arbor and 30 miles northwest of Toledo, Ohio. Adrian is referred to as "the Maple City" due in part to the many maple tree species found throughout the city. Adrian's cultural life has connections to the mid-19th century and the city is today known as a vibrant arts community. The Adrian City Band, founded in 1838, is one of the oldest continuously active community bands in the country. The Crosswell Opera House is the oldest theatre in Michigan. The Adrian Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1981. Downtown Adrian has experienced a renaissance in recent years, with many historic buildings renovated and restored to their previous glory. Heritage and Trestle parks have extensive mountain bike trails and boardwalks along the river. Trestle Park features a pedestrian walkway along a former railroad trestle.

Sources: adriancity.com and census.gov



The Board of Trustees of Siena Heights University invites inquiries, nominations, and applications for the position of President. As a bold and transformational leader, the President is responsible for providing strategic and entrepreneurial leadership to ensure continued success in all academic and operational areas. The President of Siena Heights is the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation, holds the title of President of the University, and serves with the support and under the direction of the Board of Trustees and the Members of the sponsoring congregation. The President is the primary liaison between the Board and the administration and is responsible for executing a strategic plan in alignment with the mission of the University.

REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for the position include the following: the credentials, character traits, and experience appropriate for today's university president; an earned doctorate (or equivalent) is preferred; and respect for the founding sponsor's traditions and charism (preference will be given to a practicing Catholic). The ideal candidate will have a successful record of leadership and vision in a senior administrative role and in building relationships with all constituencies (internal and external). The candidate will have significant experience in financial management of a complex operation; experience with innovation to meet the changing needs of students; demonstrated success in a fundraising role; experience in strategic planning; a commitment to inclusion and diversity; and an understanding of the technological needs and emerging trends in higher education. The President must be an advocate for liberal arts and professional program education; demonstrate a significant disposition toward fairness and transparency in governance and compliance; and, most importantly, have a commitment to the mission and values of the University.

HOW TO APPLY

Siena Heights University is being assisted by the partners of Hyatt-Fennell. Submit applications, which include a letter of interest, a current resume/cv, and information for five professional references, via email to: SienaHeights@Hyatt-Fennell.com. Applications will be reviewed as they are received and should be submitted prior to October 28, 2022 to receive full consideration. All applications and nominations are considered highly confidential.

Siena Heights University is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, age, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, disability, or marital status in the institution's programs or activities or any other occupationally irrelevant criteria. The University promotes affirmative action for minorities, women, disabled persons, and veterans.