

Morthland College



Book of Traditions Handbook 2017–2018 Academic Year

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Book of Traditions Submissions

Vision of Morthland College (2010)

A reading of the Vision of Morthland College is read at all special ceremonies, including Convocation and Graduation.

“And so a group of people gathered and discussed the need for training servant leaders of Christ in various vocations, even the training of ministers, all within a Christian institution of higher learning that would embrace Jesus the Christ, Wisdom, Heritage, and Tradition. In discussing how they might respond to this great need, they envisioned an institution founded in the spirit of the days of old among the Puritan settlers and among those at the time of the First Great Awakening when institutions were built in response to the manifest blessings of God. Within these institutions, a clear consonance of liberal education with the Bible was established; we too seek this union – this being Tradition. Further, the institution shall guard and magnify the Christian foundations of this Nation, the enduring values of our forefathers, their reliance on God, their belief in the justice of God – for this is our Heritage. And, the institution shall embrace the wisdom of the ancients, indeed stand on their shoulders; and from this platform they shall proclaim the light of truth to those learners trusted to our care; let us ask of the Lord to send us students from all corners of the earth wherein they might be educated and embraced in the grace of Christ; and let us ask of the Lord to send us faculty who shall have the mind of Christ and forge frontiers in the spirit of innovation – all this being our Wisdom. Let our graduates walk in this Wisdom, Heritage and Tradition – being servant leaders in Christ, even the light of Truth to a dark and lost world. Yahweh; the Logos; the fulfillment of history – He, the Lord our God, is our trust. Let this House be one with Christ Jesus laid as its Foundation, Tradition set as its Pillars, and Heritage engraved upon its Façade. Trusting that this hope may become manifest, let even the institution’s form, its atmosphere, fall to this cast so that it shall speak to posterity of these noble and excellent things. And within these walls, the call for understanding shall be heard; treasure shall be found, even Wisdom. While it may be from time to time that the social mores’ may blow as if a great wind against the institution, resolve in this vision shall in time bear witness to a storm that passes, even the chaff shall blow away. And in all of this, they asked of the Lord to facilitate this great work and in one accord agreed — Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it. In all this we pray in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.”

Written Communication Standards* (2010)

Design governs the arrangement of masses, lines, and dots to secure the qualities of beauty and fitness.

Any piece of work which is definitely arranged with consideration for its various parts and their relationship is called, in the abstract, a "design." Thus we speak of a poster, a decorated wall, a building, or a printed page as "a design."

Any successful design will have the qualities of fitness and beauty. Fitness to purpose is largely a mechanical factor. An ugly building may protect its occupants from the weather, and an ugly printed page may be entirely legible. Beauty depends upon esthetic qualities; that is, upon the characteristics of the design which will appeal to the eye and mind through the consideration of—

Harmony (of shape, tone, color, and conception).

Balance and proportion (of mass, shape, and color).

Rhythm (of shape, line, tone, and color).

This conception of the elements of design covers all of the many things that mankind makes—buildings, or railroad trains, or sculpture, or paintings, or pottery, or furniture, or the printed page alike. In each, different though they be, the purpose of design is to relate the various surfaces, masses, and structural lines and to decorate or ornament the finished whole. Countless materials may be used and all the varied purposes of the equipment of mankind must be satisfied, but the application of the principles of design will be similar throughout. This point is emphasized so that the student of printing may find a common ground with the workers in all the fine and useful arts.

Proportion

The quality of proportion in design is always assumed to be a pleasing relationship of sizes. It thus becomes necessary to determine what relationship of sizes will be most pleasing.

Balance

The physical equilibrium which exists in the balanced "seesaw" of our childhood and the optical balance which is the result of the proper adjustment of masses within the confining edges of a design are similar, in that each is an equalizing of forces of attraction. In the former the force is gravity; in the latter, the attraction to the eye, which varies with the size and tone of the mass. While the force of gravity usually brings balancing masses to a horizontal alignment, optical balance may bring the masses in a design into equilibrium on any desired line, horizontal, vertical, or diagonal.

Symmetry

When two parts of a design are equal in every respect so that if the design were folded over one-half would superimpose in every detail with the other half, then a state of symmetry exists and the design is said to be symmetrical. The line upon which such a

design would be folded, or, in other words, the line which bisects a symmetrical design, is called its axis.

Variety

The absence of symmetry in a design gives it the character of variety, which may be defined as a state of inequality in the arrangement of the parts of a design.

Motion

In any arrangement, pictorial or decorative, the eye of the observer is attracted to various parts in succession, depending on their character and position with respect to each other. This quality, called motion, will be more pronounced as the several units tend to lead more definitely from one to another.

Ornament

While the elements of design concern all the parts of a proposed scheme (on the printed page, its masses of type, decorative border, head-band, initial letters, tail-piece, etc.) certain parts will be used solely to beautify the whole design. They ornament or decorate it. "Ornament is a means by which Beauty or Significance is imparted to Utility."

Periods of Design Which Have Most Affected Printing

The student of design finds that historical study of his subject carries him through the entire history of art, from the crude expressions of prehistoric man down the long and varied centuries to the styles and fancies of the present day. He will find his theme closely interwoven with the story of the development of races, the rise and fall of nations, the whole thrilling drama of ancient and modern history.

*Applied Design for Printers, a handbook of the principles of arrangement, with brief comment on the periods of design which have most strongly influenced printing. Henry Lawrence Gage, committee on education, United typothetae of America, 1920

Lincoln Hour. (2011)

A monthly event where Morthland College students, faculty, and staff gather together for lunch. In addition to food, fun, and fellowship, the MC Student Government meets with Morthland College Administrators, President Dr. Morthland, Executive Vice President Emily Hayes, and Stephanie Parton Vice President of Campus Development to voice concerns and touch base. This monthly meeting is a vital connection between the student body and the administration.

Ecclesia (2011)

Ecclesia is the weekly chapel service, marked by bells at the start of the service and the Doxology sung at the close of each service.

A Latin scripture verse is adopted at the beginning of each school year. This verse is recited in weekly Ecclesia services.

Convocation (2011)

Convocation marks the official start of the Morthland College Academic year. Faculty, staff and students gather together for the first time to celebrate the beginning of the new academic year. This ceremony not only welcomes Freshman to the Morthland College community, but marks the beginning of each seniors' final year. Faculty members dress in full academic robes, depicting their fields of study and their alma mater. Included in this ceremony is the passing of the gavel.

Passing of the Gavel (2011)

The gavel symbolizes the authority of the trustees, given to the President to start the school year. At the end of convocation, the chair of the Trustees declares that authority of the trustees and bestows that authority to the President as he passes the gavel to the President. The president taps the gavel and declares the start of the new school year.

Bell Ringing (2011)

The bells in Whitfield Hall tower are to ring daily at 9 a.m. and again at 3:43 p.m. Morning bells marking new beginnings and the start of a new day. The significance of the latter being the time in which Morthland College became an institution of higher learning.

Each year at graduation, the Bells of Whitfield Hall are rung at the beginning of the ceremony, during the ceremony, as each graduate is announced, and at the end with the number of rings for each graduate.

Bells also ring weekly at the beginning of each Ecclesia service.

Graduation (2011)

A celebration ceremony marking the end of all graduating seniors' final year at Morthland College. A time to commemorate hard work and academic achievements. The Bells of Whitfield Hall are rung at the beginning of the ceremony, during the ceremony, as each graduate is announced, and at the end with the number of rings for each graduate.

Ink & Quill (2014)

To provide textbooks for Morthland classes at reasonable prices.

To make Morthland imprinted apparel and souvenirs available to faculty, staff and students

Fall Festival. (2015)

An evening spent outside, enjoying the autumn weather, good friends, and fun. The event features an outdoor concert and a bonfire. The MC family is invited to roast hotdogs or s'mores and sip hot chocolate around the fire.

Delaware Dunk. (2016)

Just as Washington crossed the Delaware to find victory in battle, this January event marks our crossing into a new semester. The MC family gathers at Dr. Morthland's home and select students, faculty, and staff take an icy plunge into the lake. The frigid dip is not only fun, but signifies new beginnings and the opportunities inherent in the start of a new academic term.

Patriot Games. (2016)

An event marking the end of the school year, the Patriot Games are held in May at the West Frankfort City Park. Along with a cookout, students celebrate by participating in the "Games," which include events like tug-of-war and three-legged races, where classes compete for bragging rights. The games are concluded with a water balloon fight. Students who have met Satisfactory Academic Progress during the Spring semester also have the opportunity to knock faculty and staff members into a dunk tank.

The Five Senses at Morthland College

The 2015-16 school year marked the launching of utilizing the five senses to embody the essence of Morthland College.

Morthland College looks like:

The Morthland College crest along with the signature colors of crimson and hunter green are proudly displayed. All correspondence and signage feature signature colors and the Poor Richard typeset.

Morthland College feels like:

Hunter green felt is incorporated at special ceremonies and luncheons.

Morthland College smells like:

Dr. Tim Morthland created the formula for the signature essential oil fragrance that is diffused in each of the foyers of all campus buildings. The scent was given the Latin name Tranquillum, meaning quiet, still and calm.

Candles also created with the signature Tranquillum scent.

Morthland College sounds like:

The Morthland College Fight Song was composed in the fall of 2015. Classical music plays in the foyers of each of the buildings. Bells are rung daily at Washington and Whitfield Hall.

The Dolley Madison Bureau (2016)

Dolley Madison, wife of President James Madison, was dubbed the Nation's Hostess, made famous for her keen gift of hospitality that aided her husband in his political success. Dolley's close friend Margaret Bayard Smith noted that, "Every visitor left her with the pleasing impression of being an especial favorite, of having been the object of peculiar attention. [Dolley] never forgot a name she had once heard, nor a face she had once seen, nor the personal circumstances connected with every individual of her acquaintance." I'm sure that it was an honor to be invited to an event at the Madison's.

The Dolley Madison Bureau consists of more than ten members and was formed in 2016 to offer assistance with every stage of event planning at Morthland College.