THE GEOGRAPHY of UNITED METHODIST EDUCATION in the UNITED STATES and PUERTO RICO

2021
INSTITUTIONS BY JURISDICTION
The General Conference of 1820 recommended that all the annual conferences ‘…establish, as soon as practicable, literary institutions under their control.’ These earliest frontier colleges were started ‘…to give the key of knowledge to your children, and those of the poor…’ Literally hundreds of institutions were founded over the decades and centuries that followed and many of them still remain today. Among these are some of the best and most renowned colleges and universities in the world.

The Future of Global Methodist Education
Rev. Dr. Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan, President, Claremont School of Theology

The United Methodist Church’s commitment to education has been rooted historically in the vision and actions of the founder of the Methodist movement, John Wesley. Wesley encouraged intellectual development alongside spiritual growth and the pursuit of sanctification. He worked to connect ‘knowledge and vital piety,’ relate faith and reason, and educate the whole person in body, mind, and spirit.

The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) is honored to be part of the historic tradition of an education-related denomination that continues to promote whole-person education. As The United Methodist Church approaches the crossroads of disruption and transformation, higher education remains secure in its ability to transform lives and help create an educated, responsible, empathetic society. The educational institutions affiliated with The United Methodist Church are among the finest in the world and contribute to the greater good of humanity and to the health and well-being of society. The vast expanse of Methodism’s educational footprint cannot be overstated. We give thanks for the unbounded, positive outcomes 109 UM-affiliated educational institutions have on our world.