



The first era of Washburn:
1865 ~ 1914

Celebrating Washburn University's Sesquicentennial

Get involved with the
countdown to
Washburn University's
150th anniversary
in 2015!

To volunteer, contact
Rugena Hall, (785) 670-1556

Questions about the Sesquicentennial?
E-mail: celebrate150@washburn.edu

For a complete list of university events, go to
www.washburn.edu/calendar

August

- 2011: Aug. 22: All University Convocation and barbeque; classes begin
The past: 1886: The first telephone is installed on campus, but "young ladies" were not permitted to receive communication through the device.



Women's basketball team, 1902

- 1886: Boswell Memorial Library is completed.
1901: Female students organize the first basketball team at Washburn. Faculty worry the strenuous activity will weaken their feminine constitution and regard the bloomer-style uniforms as risqué.
Aug. 14, 1902: Kansas Medical College becomes a department of Washburn.
1880: A bell donated by Charles Boswell is placed on Rice Hall to announce football victories and toll the passing hour.

September

- 2011: Sept. 5: Labor Day holiday (university closed)
The past: 1866: First two college students enroll at Lincoln College.
Autumn 1874: College moves to permanent site and sets up in a three-story limestone building that functions as classrooms, dormitory and office space. The building is not officially named until 1902.
Sept. 19, 1879: Work begins on a wood frame dormitory on campus to be named Hartford Cottage.
Sept. 16, 1896: Steam heat is introduced to campus from a new physical plant.
Sept. 17, 1903: Law school opens at 118 W. 8th with 41 students, four faculty and 23 lecturers. Tuition is \$50 per year.
Sept. 27, 1911: President Taft visits campus and dedicates a flagpole in memory of those who died in the Civil War.
1913: The department of sociology is organized with Daniel Moses Fisk as chairman. This is one of the earliest such departments in the nation.



President Taft dedicates flag pole, 1911

October

- 2011: Oct. 1-4: Fall break; 15: Family Day; 24-29: Homecoming week
The past: 1868: Horatio Q. Butterfield solicits a \$25,000 donation from Ichabod Washburn.
Oct. 30, 1895: Classes suspended so students can bid farewell to President Peter McVicar at the railroad station. He resigned due to health reasons.
1904: The cornerstone is laid for Carnegie Hall. The building is completed in 1905.
1905: The Washburn College seal, with the motto *Non Nobis Solum* ("Not for ourselves alone") first appears in the College Bulletin. The motto is suggested by Charlotte M. Leavitt, a member of the English faculty.



Carnegie 1910;
Thomas Gymnasium tower
on right

- 1905: Washburn men organize a basketball team and debut in uniforms in accordance with faculty standards: baseball pants that cover the knee, full-length stockings and long-sleeve jersey shirts.
Oct. 30, 1901: Washburn receives \$50,000 for the establishment of an astronomical observatory. The identity of the donor, Zenas Crane, isn't revealed until after his death in 1917.
Autumn 1910: Faculty prohibit intercollegiate athletics for women.

November

- 2011: Nov. 23-27: Student Thanksgiving recess
The past: Nov. 19, 1868: Lincoln College is renamed Washburn College.
Nov. 28, 1890: The first football game is played in Topeka with Washburn taking on Baker before 500 spectators. Newspapers attribute Baker's 32-0 win to a running advantage during the first half because the field was on a hill.
1891: The Washburn football club cuts classes without permission for a game against the University of Missouri, score unrecorded.
1909: College and Mulvane Avenues are paved to eliminate dirt roads from campus.
1912: The first student council is organized.

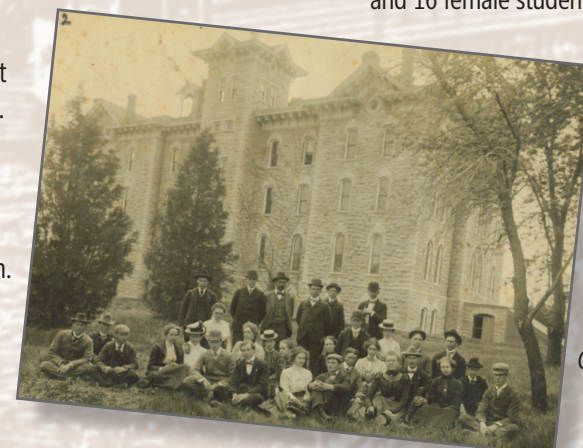
December

- 2011: Dec. 9: Last day of classes; 16: Fall commencement, Lee Arena, Petro; 16: School of Nursing Recognition Ceremony, White Concert Hall; Dec. 24 - Jan. 1: Winter holiday break (university closed)
The past: Dec. 30, 1868: Ichabod Washburn dies in Worcester, Mass.
1878: President McVicar accepts 314 bushels of corn raised on college land in lieu of salary. Corn valued at 18 cents per bushel.
1885: The Argo, a monthly literary magazine, is first published by journalism students. Two years later, a rival publication, the Washburn Reporter, is printed with one platform – "Fight the Argo."
Dec. 1886: Enrolled are 251 students; 35 are students in the college and 216 in the preparatory program.
Dec. 25, 1905: First forward pass is thrown in a football game between Washburn and Fairmount College (now Wichita State University). Both schools claim the honor.
1904: Text in the Kaw yearbook refers to Washburn's football team as "Sons of Ichabod."
Dec. 6, 1907: Rice Hall is seriously damaged by fire, possibly caused by an overheated stove.

January

- 2012: Jan. 16: Martin Luther King holiday (university closed); 17: Classes begin
The past: Jan. 3, 1886: Lincoln College formally opened its doors in a building at 10th St. and Jackson Ave., with 22 male and 16 female students, all enrolled in the preparatory program.

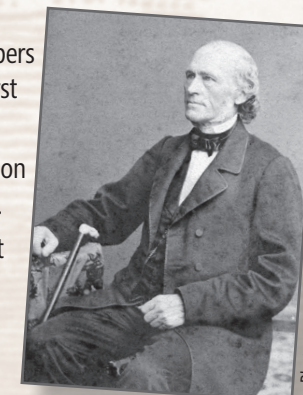
- May 1895: The first yearbook, The Helianthus, is published.
1901: MacVicar Chapel is the first building to receive electricity. The service is extended to the other buildings the next year.
1903: School of Fine Arts is organized for music and art students.
1904: Frank Mohler is the first Washburn student to be named a Rhodes Scholar.



Class of 1902 at Rice Hall

February

- 2012: Feb. 6: Washburn Founders Day; 15: Priority deadline for Washburn academic scholarships and federal campus-based financial aid
The past: Feb. 6, 1865: Lincoln College is established by a charter issued by the State of Kansas and the General Association of Congregational Ministers and Churches of Kansas.
Feb. 12-13, 1866: The first fundraising event, Lincoln College Fair, draws 500 and nets \$600 to purchase furnishings for the school.
1877: President McVicar authorizes the purchase of 500 trees for the college grounds.
1890: Classes are disrupted for a week when female students protest not being allowed to attend the state oratorical contest at Emporia.
Feb. 14, 1893: Several male students assist the National Guard in holding order during the Kansas Legislative War. The students donate the \$200 received for their services for the purchase of equipment to establish a gymnasium in Rice Hall.
Feb. 1897: The first edition of the Washburn Review is printed.
Feb. 27, 1906: The Dramatic Club begins raising funds to build a college gate of rough colored boulders at the entrance to campus on 17th Street.



Ichabod Washburn

Photo courtesy of Kingston Co. (Mass.) Public Library

March

- 2012: March 19-25: Spring recess (no classes)
The past: 1865: Construction of the first Lincoln College building begins at 10th St. and Jackson Ave. Cost is \$7,000.
1866: Congregational Record reports enrollment of first black male student at Lincoln College. His name is not given.
1877: Thirteen students attend Washburn College; 20 enroll the next year.
March 1879: First game played by the Washburn baseball team. They split with KU in a double header.
1891: A male and a female are expelled for walking together without permission.
1911: Washburn's men's basketball team wins state college championship.



First forward pass team, 1905



Lincoln College and Preparatory School,
10th and Jackson, 1867

April

- 2012: April 30: Success Week begins
The past: 1866: Scholarships are established to give free tuition for children of home missionaries, students studying to enter teaching or the ministry, disabled soldiers, Union soldiers honorably discharged after two years service and children of soldiers who died in service.
April 5, 1881: Construction begins on a track to transport students from downtown to campus by mule cars. By November, nine daily trips are scheduled.
1889: Heated electric trolleys replace mule cars for transportation to campus.
1912: Alpha Delta fraternity founded at Washburn.
1913: Night shirt parades are the rage as students don ankle-length sleeping attire and run down Kansas Avenue.



Lab class, circa 1905

College Avenue entrance with trolley tracks, circa 1890

May

- 2012: May 4: Last day of classes; 5-11: Final exams; 12: Commencement, Lee Arena, Petro; 29: Early and full session summer classes
The past: May 1, 1890: Washburn student Samuel Naylor wins first place at the Inter-State Oratorical Contest in Lincoln, Neb. In celebration on May 5, a large procession of students, faculty and dignitaries march down Kansas Ave. to the Statehouse, receive a six-gun salute and ride streetcars to the campus for speeches and a reception at Boswell Library.
Spring 1890: Two female students are suspended for going to Topeka on a Friday evening and returning two hours after curfew.
May 6, 1897: A large tract of college land is rented to a dairy to bring income to Washburn.
May 3, 1902: The chapel, opened in 1890, is named for Peter McVicar. The original building, known as the Science Hall, is named Rice Hall, to honor Harvey Rice, a founder of the College.
1904: The first Kaw yearbook is published.
1909: Gamma Nu chapter of Kappa Sigma fraternity chartered.
1910: Kansas Beta Chapter of Phi Delta Theta organized.



Baseball team, 1888

June

- 2012: June 28: Early summer session classes end
The past: 1868: Addison P. Davis graduates, receiving the first and only diploma issued by Lincoln College.
1870: The northeast corner of 160 acres donated by John Ritchie is deemed suitable for the permanent site of the college. The location is criticized as being too far out of town.
1872: Construction begins on the first building erected on the new campus southwest of the city. Cost: \$65,000.
Summer 1880: The College Hill neighborhood begins when Washburn purchases land north of campus and encourages faculty to build homes at the site.
June 6, 1885: Alumni Association organized.
June 15, 1887: Teacher education instituted.
1903: Flooding cancels commencement ceremonies.
June 3, 1909: Thomas Gymnasium is dedicated.
June 15, 1910: A quartet of Westminster chimes are installed in the tower of Thomas Gymnasium. The bells are now contained in the Kuehne Bell Tower.
June 6, 1912: Jessie Nye is the first woman graduate of Washburn Law School.
June 5, 1913: The last class graduates from the medical college, which merges with the University of Kansas.



Thomas Gymnasium, circa 1909

July

- 2012: July 3: Late session summer classes begin; 4: Independence Day holiday (university closed); 19: Full session summer classes end
The past: 1884: A \$10,000 donation from Charles Boswell, of Hartford, Conn., initiates plans for Boswell Library.
1908: Guests to campus are greeted by a friendly collie, Laddie, that has been adopted by students and faculty.
1912: Sagamore, the senior men's honor society, is founded.

