



# Graduate Student Handbook

## TRADITIONS & EVENTS

### **Alice in Wonderland**

Once in every college generation since 1924, the faculty and staff perform Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* for the students. Students are hard-pressed to identify their elaborately costumed instructors who act out this literary fantasy. The next performances are scheduled for spring semester of 2028 and are open to undergraduate and graduate students only.

### **Celebrating Student Achievement**

A tradition begun in 2003 through the cooperation of the Divisions of Academic and College Programs, Celebrating Student Achievement day is typically held in early to mid-April. This day recognizes research, leadership and academic awards, music and art performances, and a variety of other forms of achievement. Families are invited to join in the celebration. Students do not have regular classes on this day as it is designated to celebrate all types of student achievement across the college.

### **Cornhuskin'**

In the fall, each undergraduate class presents for competition a series of productions including skits, songs, and dances, all of which are related thematically. The four classes are judged on these performances as well as on other related activities such as participation in the Cornhuskin' service project. The Meredith Pride Spirit Stick is given by MRA to the most spirited class. Additional activities scheduled throughout the week typically include a theme reveal, a parade, and more! Cornhuskin' is sponsored by the Meredith Recreation Association (MRA) and usually occurs during the first week in November. Cornhuskin' rules are available during the semester that the event is held on the Office of Student Leadership and Service MyMeredith page. Graduate students have occasionally organized to participate in some way (e.g. a float in the parade). Graduate program directors and the Graduate Programs Office can help coordinate if there is graduate interest in participating in this annual tradition.

### **Cultural Programs**

Campus-sponsored cultural programs are generally open free of charge to Meredith graduate students. Such opportunities are part of the total educational experience.

- Convocations provide a forum for spiritual, intellectual, cultural, and social ideas through speakers or performances from various fields.
- Symposia are offered occasionally to explore in-depth ideas and issues of concern to the College community.

- Arts series include:
  - Meredith Performs Series—Student theater, music, and dance productions, as well as other outstanding artists, lecturers, and performers, enhance the College’s program.
  - Recitals—Meredith students, faculty, and guests perform in concert.
  - Art Exhibits—Student art majors and other artists display their works at the galleries in Johnson Hall and Gaddy-Hamrick Art Center, as well as other campus locations.
  - Lectures—Regionally and nationally acclaimed proponents of the arts speak on campus.
  - See the [Cultural Arts Calendar](https://www.meredith.edu/cultural-arts) (https://www.meredith.edu/cultural-arts)

## Founders’ Day

Each year, a day is set aside for Meredith to honor its founding on February 27, 1891. Founders’ Day often is marked by a convocation address and remembrance of Thomas Meredith, Baptist leader and advocate for women’s education. The College’s name was changed in 1910 from Baptist University for Women (Baptist Female University, 1891–1905) to honor Thomas Meredith’s work in founding the College.

## Honor Societies

### Alpha Phi Sigma (Criminal Justice)

Alpha Phi Sigma recognizes academic excellence of graduate students of Criminal Justice. The goals of Alpha Phi Sigma are to honor and promote academic excellence, community service, educational leadership, and unity. Alpha Phi Sigma is the only Criminal Justice Honor Society, is a certified member of the Association of College Honor Societies, and is affiliated with the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. Masters students shall be enrolled at the time of application in Meredith’s MA program in Criminal Justice, have completed four courses, and have a minimum GPA of 3.4 on a 4.0 scale.

### Beta Gamma Sigma (Business)

For more information, contact Ele Roberts, Admissions Coordinator, MBA Program

### Kappa Delta Pi (Education)

An international honor society that promotes excellence in and recognizes outstanding contributions to education. Kappa Delta Pi strives to maintain a high degree of professional fellowship among its members, to quicken professional growth, and to honor achievement in educational work. To these ends, it invites to membership persons who exhibit commendable professional qualities, worthy educational ideals, and sound scholarship, without regard to race, age, color, religion, sex, or disability. Membership is composed of those students who excel and maintain excellence in the department of education. Students must be accepted into the department of education; additionally, undergraduate students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 and graduate students must maintain a GPA of 3.75.

### Kappa Omicron Nu (Nutrition)

Kappa Omicron Nu is a national Honor Society available for Master of Science in Nutrition students. To be admitted as a member, a graduate student must have a minimum GPA of 3.7 or above and completed 12 hours of graduate work at Meredith. Students must also have shown evidence of superior personal qualities and leadership potential. Students join Kappa Omicron Nu by invitation only. For more information, contact Tracy Smith, Program Director, MS Nutrition.

### Phi Kappa Phi (Multi-disciplinary)

Phi Kappa Phi (PKP) National Honor Society is the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Its motto is "let the love of learning rule humanity" and its mission is "to recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and engage the community of scholars in service to others". Meredith's chapter was established in Fall 2023, welcoming its first (graduate and undergraduate) student members during an April 2024 ceremony. Membership is by invitation only, to the top 10 percent of graduate students. For more information on the benefits of membership, please contact Psychology Professor and Meredith's PKP chapter first President, Dr. Betty-Shannon Prevatt at [bprevatt@meredith.edu](mailto:bprevatt@meredith.edu).

## **Intercollegiate Athletics**

Meredith's athletic teams participate as members of the NCAA Division III/USA South Athletic Conference. Fall sports include cross-country, field hockey, soccer, and volleyball. With winter come basketball and indoor track and field while spring brings golf, lacrosse, softball, tennis, and outdoor track and field. See [Go Avenging Angels](https://goavengingangels.com) (<https://goavengingangels.com>) for more information, including schedules, and help cheer on the Avenging Angels.

## **Meredith College Colors**

The Meredith College official colors are maroon and white.

## **Meredith College Flower**

The Meredith College official flower is the iris. Loleta Kenan Powell, '41, developed the Meredith Hues Iris planted around the fountain, near the Cate Center, near the Alumnae House and at other locations around campus.

## **Meredith Graduate Ring**

The Meredith Class Ring was designed in 1953 by a committee including students Jean DulaFletcher, Ann Lovell and Mary Jon Gerald Roach. The undergraduate ring is an oval onyx ring surrounded by silver or gold with the Meredith seal engraved on the onyx and oak leaves impressed on the band. The Meredith Graduate Ring is available in the same traditional oval shape or in a signet style. Both are available in a variety of silver and gold metal choices and price points. Rings can be purchased during one of the college's regular events or through Josten's. Sales are coordinated by the Meredith College Alumnae Office.

## **Meredith Mascot**

During the fall semester of 2007, the College launched the Avenging Angels as the official Meredith College mascot.