

Youngstown College Is Taking Its Place Among Colleges

What is the standing of Youngstown College? How are our credits accepted. What is the organization of the college? What is its future? These are questions quite often asked by students, parents, and others interested in the college.

In this article an attempt will be made to answer these questions not simply by statements but also by the inclusion of letters and parts of letters in so far as they pertain to the above questions.

It will probably be well, in the beginning, to state that the question of credit relations is always a problem which faces a new school. This question, however, becomes less each year if the school is working to meet the standards set up by the recognized accrediting agencies.

This has been a problem for Youngstown College but the improvement in accrediting relations has been equally as rapid as the growth of the school. With last year being only the fourth year since Youngstown College was authorized by the Ohio State Department of Education to grant an A. B. degree the credit relations with other schools are not just average but very good.

There are some schools which hold quite rigidly to the policy of allowing credit for work done only in schools belonging to the North Central Association. As Youngstown College does not yet belong to the North Central Association naturally these schools at the best make only provisional acceptance of credits. However, a provisional acceptance is in no way a serious detriment to a good student. It usually means that a student must carry his work, in the school to which he transfers, for a semester in a satisfactory manner for the transferred work to be accepted on a full basis.

From time to time one hears that some school did not accept some student's credits earned in Youngstown College. If the case is investigated it will be found, almost without exception, that the student's work was of poor quality and the student is trying to save his face at the expense of the college. The following is an example.

A student had done two years' work of about C quality or below in a certain college and transferred to Youngstown College and completed another year's work of the same quality. He then wished to transfer to Ohio State University and was told that only the first two years' work would be accepted toward graduation. His story is that Youngstown College credits are not accepted. The correct reason for the non acceptance was the poor quality of his work. Had he had his first year or his first two years at Youngstown College and his third year's work in the other school, all this work being of the same poor quality which he did, and then attempted to transfer to Ohio State University he would have received credit only for his first two years' work. No school is anxious to receive a student from another school who does work of poor quality. If a student hasn't learned to work by the time he has completed his third or junior year it is not likely he will do better in his fourth or senior year. Schools prefer to see their students remain through the entire four years and then transfer for graduate work when the requirements for an A. B. degree have been met. The problem of the school receiving the student is simplified. If the work for the A. B. degree has not been completed it is often difficult to plan the student's work to meet the graduating requirements of the particular school without it making additional work for the student. It does not matter from what school a student comes or to which school he goes his work must be good if it is to mean anything to the student or to the school. No school cares to graduate a poor student.

The following letters offer concrete evidence of the acceptability of Youngstown College credits by various colleges and universities.

MIAMI UNIVERSITY
Oxford, Ohio

September 22, 1931

Director Youngstown College,
Youngstown, Ohio.

My dear Sir:

I am sorry your inquiry about credits for Mr. Morrison went so long unanswered. I waited for the catalogue which you said you were sending, but it either failed to arrive or was side-tracked by some member of my staff, who did not realize it was especially marked and filed it with our other catalogues.

As indicated in my telegram we shall be glad to allow Mr. Morrison any credits he may earn in Youngstown College during this semester. Mr. Morrison is no doubt fairly familiar with the requirements in the curriculum he is following here, and I believe will be able to select courses which will apply on that curriculum.

Sincerely yours,
W. C. Smyser,
Registrar.

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

June 29, 1932

Registrar,
Youngstown College,
Youngstown, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

I am much obliged to you for your letter of June 22 in regard to Mr. J. H. McConnell. On the basis of that letter and of a review of your catalog, I am writing to Mr. McConnell by the same mail with this that we will give him full credit for a course in Intermediate Calculus taken at Youngstown College during the present summer.

Sincerely yours,
C. M. McConn,
Dean.

MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

August 19, 1932.

Registrar,
Youngstown College,
Youngstown, Ohio.

My dear Sir:

This is concerning the matter contained in your letter of August 9. We shall be very glad to accept students with good records from your institution on advanced standing, and will allow them tentative credit until they have established one semester of a good record here, when the full amount of advanced credit offered will be allowed. We shall be glad to receive students with acceptable records from your school.

Very truly yours,
Marquette University,
Mary L. Mezler,
Registrar.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
Cleveland, Ohio

October 3, 1932.

Registrar,
Youngstown College,
Youngstown, Ohio.

My dear Sir:

I am taking the liberty of answering your letter of September 26 to Miss Cutter regarding the courses which Miss Elba Hedland is planning to take with you this winter.

The Committee to which the request was referred has voted, in view of the information which you kindly sent us, that the courses which Miss Hedland proposes to take may be accepted towards the degree if she makes a grade of A or B in these courses.

Sincerely yours,
H. N. Irwin,
Associate Dean.

STATE OF OHIO
Department of Education
Columbus, Ohio

October 13, 1933.

Dr. B. O. Skinner,
Director of Education,
Columbus, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Skinner:

This is a report on the conditions I found at Youngstown College when I visited it last Monday, October 9.

This institution is making a gallant struggle to establish itself on a high standard college basis and has been going in the right direction in its efforts. It was organized under the control of the Young Men's Christian Association and, to some degree, the association ideals of adult education and night school work crept into the new college. During the past summer, however, new plans of organization were completed by which the Board of Trustees of the Young Men's Christian Association very generously turned over to the Board of Governors, of thirty leading Youngstown citizens, the management of all the affairs of the college. . . . It is greatly to the credit of this college that altho we have been going thru such a financial depression and altho they are undertaking constantly to raise standards to the requirements of our standardizing bodies, they have still maintained a large registration in arts college work. The registration, this fall, is fully equal to that it was a year ago, being about 275 students taking regular work in the courses offered through the day while 125 more students are taking short courses offered in the evenings.

The college has also departed from some of the practices in the Y. M. C. A. of employing part-time teachers by employing faculty members on full time, and they are constantly, as they go thru this process, adding men who have been well trained and have their Ph. D. degrees. This brings to the institution a stability which it has needed.

Another matter they are very careful about is standards, viz., in the admission of students they are holding very strictly to the North Central Association requirements. They are keeping very careful records and are able to know the qualifications of those who are admitted and they turn away those who are not ready to do college work. They are slowly receiving recognition from other colleges and their credits are being received by some of our best colleges. This year, they have organized a very strong Department of Education with Dr. Wilcox, who has his Ph. D. degree in Education, as Head of the Department. Dr. Wilcox has been the Assistant to Mr. Williams at Heidelberg thru the past year. I heard a recitation conducted by Mr. Wilcox and the only comment I can make is that it was one of the best conducted recitations thru which I have ever sat. They have a very strong man in the Department of Psychology and there are at least three other persons trained in Education who will give the necessary help to this Department. As there are only about seventy students looking forward to teaching, this Department is well equipped now for their proper training.

An arrangement has been made with the Youngstown schools whereby observation work for all students can be done in Youngstown City and the practice work for Youngstown students can also be done in the city, but students from outside of Youngstown will do their practice work in adjoining districts.

The splendid equipment which has been furnished for their fine new building, the excellent laboratories, the access to the McMillen Library, just across the street and the fine spirit which is being cultivated all warrant me in recommending that this institution be placed on the approved list for teacher training. I hope you may endorse this approval.

Very sincerely,
W. W. Boyd,
College Counselor.

SHERWOOD MUSIC SCHOOL
Chicago, Illinois

September 15, 1933.

Mr. P. P. Buchanan,
Youngstown College,
Youngstown, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Buchanan:

Mr. Skavlan has asked me to reply to your letter of September 12 concerning Miss H. Rockey.

Under the circumstances which you explain, it will be satisfactory for Miss Rockey to take educational and academic courses in Youngstown College, the credits for which will be given recognition here against our Degree requirements.

Cordially,
Arthur Wildman,
Corresponding Secretary.

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
University, Alabama

September 25, 1933.

Registrar,
Youngstown College,
Youngstown, Ohio.

My dear Sir:

The University of Alabama accepts recommended transfers from Youngstown College and grants provisional credits.

We have on file in this office a transcript of credits for Thelma Roxbury which was issued in your office on July 25th, 1933. On the basis of her work at your institution may she be considered as a recommended student? If so, I shall appreciate your giving us a statement to that effect.

Very sincerely yours,
Mary A. Robertson,
Registrar.

THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER
Wooster, Ohio

September 30, 1933

Mr. Howard W. Jones,
Director, Youngstown College,
Youngstown, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Jones:

I have checked into the practice of our Credits Committee relative to Youngstown College, and find that last year the credits of your institution were received freely. As in the case of all the newer institutions which are in the process of attaining full accrediting from all the standardizing institutions, there was a proviso that these credits should be conditioned upon the good record of the student in Wooster. I am happy to say that these students have received their credits and maintained the standard of Youngstown College by doing satisfactory work here.

From my own personal observation I feel that even this limitation which is an automatic one applying to all new institutions should be done away with so far as Youngstown College is concerned. In academic standards, personnel, and resources I regard this institution as equal to many and superior to some colleges which, because they are older, have completed the accrediting process with the standardizing agencies.

Very cordially yours,
Charles F. Wishart.

GEORGE W. EDDY
Youngstown, Ohio

October 1, 1933.

Director Youngstown College,
Youngstown, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

I have just received from my son Robert the Student's Copy of transfer blanks of Harvard College which contain the acceptance of Robert's work last year in Youngstown College and grant him a full year's credit for the same.

I thought you would be interested in this recognition. The blanks may be seen at any time by anyone concerned.

Sincerely yours,
George W. Eddy.

Youngstown, Ohio,
September 26, 1933.

Registrar Buchanan,
Youngstown College,
Youngstown, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

I hereby wish to inform you that Mr. Bland L. Stradley, chairman of the entrance board of Ohio State University, early in this month accepted the ninety-four (94) semester hours of work done by myself in your school without lowering any grades therein.

Mr. Stradley accepted me as a senior at Ohio State, with conditions in only one subject, and that a high school course.

I am thoroughly satisfied that the work offered in Youngstown College is of the highest type, and that its extra-curricular program offers a fine supplement to the work of the students, most of whom I know live at home.

May I also thank you for your fine co-operating in arranging for my transfer to the State school.

Yours truly,
James R. Shutts.

"Knowlton" House,
New London, Conn.,
November 24, 1933.

Registrar,
Youngstown College,
Youngstown, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

Since my arrival at Connecticut College I have been pleased to find with what ease I have been able to continue my studies due to the excellent foundation I received last year at Youngstown College.

It is often very difficult when transferring from one college to another to be able to fit into the college curriculum. But I feel that my Freshman year at Youngstown College was most beneficial in all respects.

Sincerely,

Marney McKelvey.

December 4, 1933.

Director Youngstown College,
Youngstown, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

I should like to inform you of my experience this past summer regarding the acceptance of Youngstown College work. I presented my transcript of credits to the University of Pittsburgh with the object of taking graduate study toward a master's degree and in less than two weeks I received notice of complete acceptance of my work at the Youngstown College at full value.

My major was in the social sciences and I have always placed a high appraisal upon the stimulation and guidance I received in this department at your institution, so I thought you would be interested in knowing the attitude of the University of Pittsburgh.

Sincerely,

Nelson G. Williams,
Class of '32.

56 Colchester,
Burlington, Vt.,
December 4, 1933.

Registrar,
Youngstown College,
Youngstown, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

I am writing to help dispel any rumors which may go around to the effect that work from Youngstown College is not recognized at other colleges. I think that such rumors, for the most part, come from the lips of loafers and persons who attend Youngstown College without a proper conception of the purpose of attending college.

The preparation at Youngstown College has meant just as much to me, if not more, than if I had taken my work at some older and larger institution. Any student attending Youngstown College should feel confident of transferring to any college he chooses, for after all, the whole matter rests with the student himself. He should try to get good grades, for no matter what school a student attends he will have difficulty in transferring his credits if his grades are below par.

I certainly have had no trouble with my credits. I was awarded my graduate scholarship in chemistry on a personal statement of my work and for recommendation of a member of the faculty even before I had an official transcript sent in.

The Vermont University catalogue states, "The Bachelor's degree, in order to be accepted, must have been taken at an approved institution". So if an old and established school as the University of Vermont (it was founded in 1791) accepted my A. B. degree and awarded me a graduate scholarship without the slightest semblance of doubt, then I think that no good student need have any fear of not having his credits accepted elsewhere.

I am enclosing a copy of the Vermont "Cynic" for the files of the "Jambar".

Sincerely yours,
John Naples.

Youngstown Hospital,
Youngstown, Ohio,
December 4, 1933.

The Editors of The Jambar,
Youngstown College,
Youngstown, Ohio.

Dear Sirs:

Since enrolling as a student in the Liberal Arts Department of Youngstown College I have been asked if the credits are accepted by other colleges. I am glad to say I have transferred all work taken since 1931 (a total of 21 points) to Teacher's College, Columbia University, New York City, and have received full credit.

It is not possible for me to obtain the degree I wish from Youngstown College, but I do consider it a very great advantage to be able to take practically all my Liberal Arts as well as some electives while holding a position in Youngstown.

Very truly yours,

Luella N. McComas, R. N.

The following letters show the recognition accorded Youngstown College by the State of Ohio Department of Education.

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
Columbus, Ohio

September 29, 1933.

Mr. Howard W. Jones, Director,
Youngstown College,
Youngstown, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Jones:

We have received your note and we appreciate the sentiment you expressed in your letter. Concerning the transfer of students from your College to The Ohio State University, I feel that it would be very helpful if you would examine each transcript issued to us and write us a personal letter with regard to the applicant. The faculty here do not wish us to admit anyone from another college unless the academic record is at least average. We are interested, particularly, in the A and B students of your College. If you have an average student seeking transfer I feel in justice to all concerned you should write us a letter regarding the applicant.

According to your letter of September 26, Mr. Elbridge Wick is planning to come to the University. We are glad to know that you recommend him and we shall do everything we can for him.

I shall be glad to visit Youngstown College some time during the ensuing year.

Cordially yours,
B. L. Stradley,
University Examiner.

STATE OF OHIO
Department of Education
Columbus, Ohio

Mr. Howard W. Jones, Director,
Youngstown College,
Youngstown, Ohio.

October 13, 1933.

Dear Mr. Jones:

Dr. Boyd has made a report on your institution and I want to congratulate you on the success you are making.

While Mr. Boyd does not offer any unfavorable criticism, he tells me that there are some things you need to do but that you are well aware of these matters. He says you are going in the right direction and he cannot see any reason why anything should stop you. I am very happy, therefore, to endorse the recommendation which he makes for your approval.

I am enclosing a copy of his report to me so that you may be fully informed.

Very truly yours,
B. O. Skinner,
Director of Education.

The organization of the college and its relation to the Young Men's Christian Association are at present under study and a statement concerning them could not, at present, be very definite. It may, however, be said that the Board of Trustees of the Y. M. C. A., and the Board of Governors of Youngstown College are alive to the problems and needs of the college and are setting up as rapidly as possible a form of organization which will promote the best interests of the college.

In attempting to say what the future of Youngstown College may be it seems desirable to review the progress made.

In 1908 the Youngstown College of Law had its inception in a class of commercial law composed of nine men. In 1920 the State of Ohio gave the school the right to grant the Bachelor of Law degree. In September 1925 the entrance requirements were raised so that two years of liberal arts were required for entrance. In the summer of 1933 the law work was again reorganized and entering freshmen are now required to submit sixty semester hours of liberal arts credit. In the fall of 1935 this requirement will be raised to a Bachelor of Arts degree.

GALLEY TWELVE h3 GALLEY THIRTEEN

The liberal arts work had its beginning in September 1921 when the first Liberal Arts course was offered. Professors from neighboring colleges constituted the first faculty. The work offered was designed to accommodate local teachers who needed credits toward degrees and certificates. Six years of steady growth convinced those responsible for the work that there was a real need in Youngstown for a day college of Liberal Arts. Consequently, in September 1927, a Day College of Liberal Arts was established and a steady growth has continued from that time. In June 1930, by authority of the Department of Education of the State of Ohio, the degree of Bachelor of Arts was conferred upon the first group of graduates of Youngstown College.

With the growth of the school the part time professors have been gradually replaced by full time professors and in the last few years most of the instructors added have been men of experience with Ph. D. degrees or the equivalent. Consequently, the faculty, both in training and experience, ranks well with those of other colleges.

This year has seen the greatest retention of upper class students in the history of the school and also the greatest expansion of advanced work. A Department of Education has also been added this year and the college has been recognized as a teacher training school.

The faculty and administrative officials see great possibilities for the college and have faith that the future will see the realization of these hopes. This is an essential factor to the success and growth of any college for without it the turn over in faculty and administrative forces become so large that success and growth are impossible.

The board have visions for the success and growth of the school and are willing and anxious to build up an endowment fund when conditions are adjusted so this can be done. An endowment will mean that the college will be able to meet the requirements of the North Central Association.

With these factors pointing so favorably toward a continued growth and success of the college it would seem conservative to say that another four years will see Youngstown College taking its place well up among the colleges of the state.