



## **ECONOMIC IMPACT OF KNOX COLLEGE 2018-19** *(Based on data from the 2017-18 Academic & FY18 Fiscal Year)*

### **Direct Economic Impact**

- Knox employs 502 full-time and part-time employees.
  - 121 are full-time faculty; 38 are part-time faculty.
  - That's an annual payroll of more than \$24.5 million, plus benefits.
  - Nearly 83% of all employees live here in the Galesburg area.
- More than 80% of all Knox students work on campus or in local businesses.
  - Knox's student payroll is about \$1.25 million.
- Knox's annual budget for goods & services is more than \$15 million. Much of that is contracted with West Central Illinois businesses (including Peoria).
  - Knox receives more than \$4 million in annual fund contributions from *outside* this area. That money is spent primarily here in the West Central Illinois region.
- In the past five years, Knox College has completed more than \$27 million in renovation, construction, and other capital projects, including Alumni Hall, Whitcomb Art Center, Borzello Art Gallery, and renovations to Prats Soccer Field, Beta Theta Pi fraternity, and Post Hall. More than 80% of those projects used Galesburg area contractors and workers.
- The Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities estimates Knox College produces a total economic impact in Illinois of 933 jobs and \$99,131,658.

### **Secondary Economic Impact**

- Knox Corps provides students and recent graduates to local non-profit organizations to deepen the community's capacity to serve those in need. The program is a collaboration with the Galesburg Community Foundation, which provided start-up funding. Additional funding is provided by local businesses and foundation grants. Knox Corps participants make meaningful contributions to the Galesburg area and learn marketable skills.
- The George Washington Gale Scholars program is a direct investment in Galesburg's future. The program prepares Galesburg area low-income and first generation college students for success in college – and life. (Up to 10 each year.) It's an award-winning collaboration with school district #205, Carl Sandburg College, and Knox. Gale Scholars receive tuition waivers to Carl Sandburg and Knox Colleges. Since 2006, 42 Gale Scholars have graduated Knox.
- Currently, 56 students hail from Knox County, and 28 are graduates of Galesburg High School, including 11 Gale Scholars.
- Visitor spending in Galesburg and the local area is estimated to be about \$2 million.
  - Knox attracts thousands of visitors to Galesburg each year for Homecoming, Commencement, Family Weekend, Admission Open Houses, and other campus activities.
- The Western Illinois Achievers Scholarship is a direct investment in this area. The scholarships help students from 77 high schools in a 12-county area around Galesburg get a top-quality education.

## Cultural Impact

- Knox College hosts more than 400 lectures, performances, sporting, and cultural events each year. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. Knox College is a rich source of intellectual, cultural and athletic activities. Most events are free of charge.
- Every year Knox brings to Galesburg distinguished and nationally known speakers, artists and performers.
- Knox's student body consists of 1,356 students from 46 states and 46 countries. Nearly 17% of Knox students currently attending come from overseas and 41% are students of color. This diverse and well-balanced student body contributes to the social, cultural, and economic vitality of the broader Galesburg community.

## Social Impact

- Knox faculty & staff volunteer and contribute to nearly 100 different service, civic, and community organizations in the Galesburg area, from FISH Food Pantry to the Civic Art Center, from Safe Harbor Family Crisis Center to Discovery Depot Children's Museum.
- Knox students serve in the community for many local non-profit organizations, schools, and charities. In 2017-18, students contributed more than 80,000 hours of service in the Galesburg area. These hours amount to \$600,000 in monetary value for the community.
- *Washington Monthly* ranks Knox #34 among more than 200 national liberal arts colleges for its contributions to the public good.
- Knox students perform valuable services for area businesses as interns. Knox students have interned at more than 50 different organizations in this area, including Animal Medical Center, Congresswoman Cheri Bustos' Regional Office, Galesburg Chamber of Commerce, Greenlords Inc., Tri-States Public Radio, Falcon Safety Group, Kohl's Diamond Gallery, Mel Foster Real Estate, OSF St. Mary's Hospital.

## Visibility Impact

- Knox's president and other Knox staff travel around the country promoting Galesburg to alumni and friends – including the benefits of living in Galesburg, such as the fact that Galesburg's cost of living is nearly 40% lower than that of Chicago.
- Knox faculty are scholar-teachers; in addition to making the classroom a forum for a shared pursuit of knowledge, they actively contribute scholarly works to their respective academic disciplines.
  - During 2017-2018, Knox faculty published five books and prepared nearly 275 articles, exhibitions, performances, conference papers, readings and workshops.
- *Forbes* considers Knox College among the 200 top institutions for "Grateful Grads," a list of the top colleges in America where alumni feel that they received the greatest return on their college investment.
  - Based on the percentage of alumni who makes gifts to Knox, and the amount donated per student, Knox is ranked 45th nationally and second in Illinois.
- Knox ranks as one of the top liberal arts colleges in the nation according to U.S. News "Best Colleges." Knox also ranks #68 overall and in the top 50 for high academic quality, outstanding teaching, affordability, and campus diversity.