MILLSAPS COLLEGE HAS CREATED A DISTINCTIVE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, KNOWN AS THE INSTITUTE FOR CIVIC AND PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT. THE INSTITUTE FACILITATES STUDENT DEVELOPMENT ALONG A CONTINUUM OF ENGAGEMENT FROM LIVING AND LEARNING COMMUNITIES, RESEARCH, AND STUDY ABROAD TO SERVICE PROJECTS AND INTERNSHIPS.
Millsaps builds connections among the capital city of Jackson and communities beyond to provide concrete and imaginative approaches to civic and professional involvement.

“If there’s any state that needs more thoughtful public discussion of critical issues, it’s Mississippi. And there’s no better place to host those discussions than Millsaps, in the heart of the capital city.”

—JAKE MCGRAW, FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR OF RETHINK MISSISSIPPI

Millsaps has a long history of engaging and serving our local community, of being an oasis for open intellectual debate, and enabling students to reflect critically on questions of meaning, purpose, and identity through their experiences in the classroom and beyond.

The Institute for Civic and Professional Engagement expands existing experiential learning programs to reach more students and provides the structure to coordinate these programs in ways that make specific connections to the academic environment and larger community, all while building upon the College’s distinctive mission and addressing the needs of the city, state, and region. The Institute for Civic and Professional Engagement acts as a bridge between our campus and the community—helping our students understand better the contexts in which ideas take root in the world and enriching the broader community by helping translate Millsaps’ values to the world beyond our walls.
Civic and Community Engagement

Our unique location provides students with the opportunities of a systematic and imaginative approach to learning in their community.

The Institute is developing a continuum of engagement from living and learning communities to in-depth student research projects to co-curricular service projects to professional internships. As a result, our students graduate with the best classical education and with career goals, civic commitments, and professional skills that equip them for lives of meaning, good citizenship, and leadership.

1 Campus 1 Community

1 Campus 1 Community connects the Millsaps Community to the Midtown neighborhood, local K-12 public schools, and other organizations throughout Jackson. Established in the fall of 2006, 1C1C embodies a commitment to long-term, mutually beneficial partnerships between Millsaps College and its off-campus neighbors.

Poverty Studies

Millsaps students are not simply interested in learning about real-world problems, but are applying their knowledge and skills to make the world a better place. Through Millsaps’ membership in the Shepherd Higher Education Consortium on Poverty, students obtain hands-on learning opportunities by participating in high-need, high-impact internships around the country each summer.
“I was encouraged that civic engagement cannot be qualified by hours, volume, or degree of fatigue; it is a world-view and approach to every dimension of life.”

—MARY FRANCES IVEY, B.A. ’16

INITIATIVE FOR VOCATIONAL INQUIRY
The Initiative for Vocational Inquiry is a set of interlocking programs that engage Millsaps students with the Jackson community and the wider world. It consists of courses in Community Engaged Learning, a minor in Vocation, Ethics, and Society, the Wellspring living and learning community, and the Center for Career Education.

COMMUNITY ENGAGED LEARNING
Community Engaged Learning at Millsaps College partners the strengths of our academic program with our commitment to community building. Under the dual guidance of our faculty and the mentorship of community partners, students cultivate knowledge of their course topic alongside practitioners in the field.

VOCATION, ETHICS, AND SOCIETY
The Vocation, Ethics, and Society (VESO) program provides an opportunity for students to define their identities by connecting academic knowledge with concrete experiences. VESO Fellows undertake academic courses, internships, and travel to expand their cultural and ethical understanding of the world in which they will live and work.

WELSPRING
Wellspring is a living and learning community for first-year students who want to make volunteering a regular part of their college life. Wellspringers volunteer two hours each week with community partner whose mission fits their interests, and through the year the student and community partner work together on common goals and projects.
OUR CENTER FOR CAREER EDUCATION ENCOURAGES STUDENT GROWTH AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT AS PART OF THE TOTAL EDUCATION EXPERIENCE. BY BUILDING CONNECTIONS WITH EMPLOYERS, GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS, AND THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY, THE CENTER FOR CAREER EDUCATION CONTINUES OUR COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE AND SUCCESS FOR OUR STUDENTS.
Our students, academic programs, and communities are transformed when students have experiential learning opportunities.

The Center for Career Education encourages student growth and career development as a part of the total education experience. By building connections with employers, graduate and professional schools, and the campus community, the Center for Career Education continues the college’s commitment to excellence and success for each and every student.

**Internships**
- Connect with employers and agencies for internships
- Serve as the hub for posting internships
- Educate students on obtaining internships and receiving credit
- Oversee students enrolled in the “internship-for-credit” program

**Part-time Work**
- Communicate opportunities to students for on- and off-campus jobs
- Assist faculty, staff, and community members with their postings
- Advise students on the application process; distribute their applications
- Host information tables for employers visiting campus

**Full-time Employment**
- Connect with employers regarding full-time opportunities
- Coach students and alumni on the job search process
- Post jobs, set up on-campus interviews/info sessions, and refer students and alumni to potential employers
- Critique resumes, cover letters and interview skills

**Graduate and Professional School**
- Build relationships with graduate school faculty advisors
- Sponsor special events such as graduate and professional school visits and provide general information about programs
- Conduct mock interviews for pre-health and other graduate programs
- Provide graduate admission test resources
- Assist with personal statements and advise on graduate application process
Our dedication to our community reaches beyond our classroom walls and into the heart of the city.

“Millsaps established its Arts & Lecture Series in 1967, and has provided programs that are unparalleled in quality and variety. And the offerings of Millsaps’ Community Enrichment Programs are well-established and a much appreciated resource in Jackson. The Jackson community owes a debt of gratitude to Millsaps College for its commitment to their programs that add greatly to the quality of life in the capital city.”

—SEETHA SRINIVASAN, DIRECTOR EMERITA OF THE UNIVERSITY PRESS OF MISSISSIPPI

ARTS & LECTURE SERIES
The Millsaps Arts & Lecture Series was founded in 1967 as an outreach to the community. The series provides eight programs on music, history, current events, science, southern writers, art and more during the academic year.
“Millsaps has been an intellectual oasis in Mississippi for a long time and has provided an inspiration to many of us.”
—FORMER MISSISSIPPI GOVERNOR WILLIAM WINTER

COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT SERIES
The Millsaps College Community Enrichment Series began in 1972 as an effort to serve the Jackson area community through non-credit, informal and inexpensive educational experiences. Millsaps faculty and staff are among the instructors and participants in the classes, and this program brings many people to the campus.

GREAT TOPICS SEMINARS: STUDIES IN THE HUMANITIES AND SCIENCES
The Millsaps Great Topics Seminars began in 1988 and are designed for serious lifelong learners. These semester-long seminars with a Millsaps professor provide opportunities for meaningful engagement with intellectual issues affecting society and the individual.

SUMMER ENRICHMENT CAMPS
The Millsaps Continuing Education Office offers a variety of summer enrichment camps including chamber music and guitar, a song and stage, a birding, art, and a workshop for high school students designed to strengthen reading and writing skills for college.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT INSTITUTE
The College Board’s Advanced Placement Institute began in 1983 and is designed to aid the professional development of secondary Advanced Placement teachers. The subject workshops are conducted by College Board trained and endorsed consultants.
This is how we stick to our roots.

DO ALL THE GOOD YOU CAN. BY ALL THE MEANS YOU CAN.
IN ALL THE WAYS YOU CAN. IN ALL THE PLACES YOU CAN.
AT ALL THE TIMES YOU CAN. TO ALL THE PEOPLE YOU CAN.

AS LONG AS EVER YOU CAN.

—JOHN WESLEY
Millsaps College celebrates its ethical heritage, Wesleyan roots, and close connection with the United Methodist Church. Since our founding in 1890 as a Christian college within the borders of our state, we have had a deep and meaningful relationship with the United Methodist Church.

“The young clergy gatherings have fostered new friendship by making space for folks adjusting to life as ministers in the local church to reflect frankly about the theological, social, political, and personal issues that we see and experience in our contexts. I’ve found the gatherings to be intellectually stimulating, spiritually refreshing, meaningful, and fun.”

- REV. CHAD BOWEN, B.A. ’09

CHURCH RELATIONS
The College embodies the spirit of John Wesley, founder of the Methodist tradition, in its emphases on scholarly inquiry, academic freedom, and spiritual growth. Millsaps is a church-related institution, welcoming of people from all religious traditions or no religious tradition, and is committed to equipping all people for a meaningful life of service to others. Millsaps has developed innovative partnerships such as The Center for Ministry and Initiative for Vocational Inquiry, which are open to all faiths.

CENTER FOR MINISTRY
A shared ministry between Millsaps College and the Mississippi Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, the Center focuses on developing leaders through lifelong learning. The Center’s many programs include continuing education and formation offerings for full-time and part-time United Methodist clergy and spiritual formation and certificate programs for lay leaders in the church.
ICPE MISSION STATEMENT:

The Institute for Civic and Professional Engagement at Millsaps College builds connections among the College, the capital city of Jackson, and communities beyond to provide concrete and imaginative approaches to civic and professional involvement, and to facilitate meaningful dialogue that empowers students and the broader community to understand how daily work can promote flourishing communities, responsible citizenship, and thoughtfully engaged lives.