WHEREAS, Chatham University (the University) was founded in 1869 to address one of the great social inequalities of the time: women’s lack of access to the same high quality education that men received at the mostly all-male colleges of the time;

WHEREAS, since its founding the University has remained committed to providing access to high quality education that meets important societal needs of the times, most recently by creating graduate and online education programs to prepare women and men for professional careers that include strong liberal arts backgrounds;

WHEREAS, the University’s Board of Trustees wishes to reorganize the University’s academic units to provide for closer collaboration between undergraduate and graduate programs;

WHEREAS, the University’s Board of Trustees wishes to preserve the University’s mission to women and women’s education, through public programming as well as academic opportunities, in ways that meet the needs of women both now and in the future, including the establishment of the Chatham University Women’s Institute;

WHEREAS, the University’s Board of Trustees wishes to provide access to a high quality Chatham University education to even more undergraduate women and men;

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Trustees hereby approves: (1) the reorganization of Chatham University by academic units within vertically integrated Colleges and Schools; (2) the implementation of coeducation within all Chatham University Colleges and Schools; and (3) alongside the commitment to each student who will attend Chatham University, the creation of structures and programs to preserve Chatham University’s commitment to women’s education and leadership.
HONORING THE PAST. CLAIMING THE FUTURE.

Chatham University Women's Institute

ON MAY 1, 2014, the Board of Trustees approved a resolution to admit men to our undergraduate program, to reorganize the university, and to establish the Chatham University Women's Institute.

This resolution sets in motion a three-part transformation that will enhance the University's ability to meet the educational needs of its students and the region for the future, while also honoring our 145-year commitment to advancing the causes of women.

In 1869, Chatham offered women the opportunity to learn when they had little access to higher education. Later, we extended a hand to older women through our Gateway program. To offer more opportunities, while also saving and growing the women's college, 20 years ago we became a provider of graduate education to women and men. The reality is that our institution has changed many times as we have pursued our responsibility to society to help people live productive, responsible, and fulfilling lives.

While we are poised to change once again, we do so with a plan built to open our high-quality Chatham University education to more students and to preserve the University's mission to women and women's education through public programming as well as academic opportunities.

RESOLUTION
May 1, 2014

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A legacy of empowering women yesterday, today, and tomorrow

Chatham University was founded in 1869 when lack of access to higher education for women was a pressing social concern. While access to higher education in the United States is no longer an issue for the majority of women today, women still face social inequality and challenges on many fronts, including in the workforce and business, in politics and government, and in health and wellness.

In keeping with Chatham University’s leadership and historic commitment to women and women’s issues, Chatham will establish the Chatham University Women’s Institute in 2014. The mission of the Institute is to help overcome and eradicate the social inequalities facing women, and to advance women’s excellence through education, research, and outreach in areas of modern-day social concerns. Its purpose on campus is to ensure the thoughtful continuation of the resources and expertise we have – and will continue to have – in enhancing education for women and gender equity in all aspects of campus life and academics.

The Women’s Institute is part of an $8.5 million funding initiative comprising various endowments, current funds, and $2 million in newly raised commitments in support of the Institute and its mission.

In addition to the current offerings of existing Centers, the Institute is expected to support and help coordinate the following areas:

- **Housing:** An all-women residence hall with focus on women’s leadership
- **Academics:** Courses focused on women and gender issues, as well as faculty training for gender equal pedagogy
- **Leadership:** A Certificate in Women’s Leadership program that, along with coursework, could require a mandatory international experience with women’s organizations in the developing world and an internship with a Pittsburgh-area women’s organization
- **Activities:** New campus and community programming, plus Chatham College for Women traditions
- **Research:** Sponsoring of faculty, student, and outside research
- **Mentoring:** Programs for students to work with alumnae and other women leaders in the community
- **STEM:** Chatham’s Women in STEM initiative and scholarship program
- **Gateway:** Chatham’s historic Gateway program for nontraditional-age women returning to school
- **Faculty:** Training and programs in creating a gender-balanced classroom

Advancing women for today’s world

The Women’s Institute will help support and coordinate Chatham’s Center for Women’s Entrepreneurship and Pennsylvania Center for Women and Politics, along with a new Women and Health initiative and Chatham’s Women’s and Gender Studies Department. The ability to evolve and expand into other strategic and critical focus areas will be an integral part of the Institute.

**OUR VISION:**
To make a real difference in the lives of women everywhere.

“Today as always, what has sustained and inspired this institution are creative, strategic, and progressive ideas to reinvigorate undergraduate education and make it more relevant to today’s times and students. Our thinking is inspired by a contemporary interpretation of Chatham’s mission – serving the educational needs of our society and honoring our commitment to women. The establishment of Chatham University Women’s Institute will address critical challenges for women in the areas of business, politics, health, and leadership.”

Esther Barazzone, President

For more information, visit www.chatham.edu/coed
HONORING THE PAST.
CLAIMING THE FUTURE.

Chatham University Women’s Institute

Another historic transformation

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