Telling Our Story
What makes Dartmouth an experience like no other?

Why does Dartmouth matter out of proportion to its size?

What makes Dartmouth ... Dartmouth?

The answers to these questions—the defining fundamentals of our story—come not from outside experts but from within our own community: students, faculty, staff, and alumni who so eloquently articulate what makes Dartmouth distinctive. From them come the language, tone, and proof points for the pages that follow.

To celebrate what makes Dartmouth different in a way that resonates and sticks, we must be clear and consistent.

To motivate those who know us best and introduce ourselves to those who don’t yet know us at all, we must be proud and unapologetic.

To tell our story with confidence we must embrace who we are.

This book provides the tools for you, as an ambassador for Dartmouth, to do just that: to share with the world what makes Dartmouth ... Dartmouth.
Our Mission

Dartmouth College educates the most promising students and prepares them for a lifetime of learning and of responsible leadership, through a faculty dedicated to teaching and the creation of knowledge.
The Strategic Communications Framework

There are lots of facts and stats that document what makes Dartmouth great.

Here’s what makes Dartmouth different:

A fusion of a renowned liberal arts college and a robust research university where students and faculty partner to take on the world’s great challenges.
Telling Our Story

Dartmouth Stands Apart

A fusion of a renowned liberal arts college and a robust research university where students and faculty partner to take on the world’s greatest challenges

The world of higher education is often marked by a stark division between competing institutions—liberal arts colleges or research universities. Dartmouth stands in bright contrast as a powerful third model. Dartmouth is a place of and, where the sum is always greater than the parts.

- Liberal arts and research
- Teacher and scholar
- Student and leader
- Hanover and the world

These combinations thrive at the heart of our academic enterprise; they energize our singular scale and configuration.

Where else but Dartmouth can undergraduates partner on original research with scholars who are leaders in their fields?

Dartmouth College will always be our heart and soul, but we are equally proud to claim our place as one of today’s most dynamic research universities.

At Dartmouth ...

Sixty percent of undergraduate students do independent study with faculty mentors.

Fourteen percent of students publish their own research.

We have the only school of engineering in the U.S. that requires a BA en route to a professional accredited BE.

You’ll find the Rockefeller Policy Research Shop, a faculty-mentored research enterprise in which students engage directly in the public policymaking process in Vt. and N.H. by providing nonpartisan research to state legislators.

We are the first liberal arts college in the U.S. to own and operate an MRI machine strictly for research purposes.

Lisa Marsch directs the Dartmouth Psychiatric Research Center. Marsch has been the principal investigator on 26 grants totaling approximately $50 million in funding. Her pioneering work integrating technology and addiction treatment has led to the development of an important mobile intervention tool.

Undergraduates Make Discoveries

On an “Anthropology 70” field trip to Malapa, South Africa, (pictured above) three undergraduates uncovered a 2-million-year-old pelvis from one of the first upright-walking hominins. Students here learn—and learn to lead—by doing.

Big Questions Find New Answers

Health Care Delivery Science is one of 10 new interdisciplinary research clusters created to extend Dartmouth’s impact on pressing challenges. It’s no coincidence that The Dartmouth Atlas compiles the nation’s most comprehensive data on where and how patient care succeeds or fails.

Game Changer

The football team’s mobile virtual player (MVP) is changing the landscape of contact sports. Championed by head coach Buddy Teevens, a Thayer faculty member partnering with Thayer students developed a robotic tackling dummy. On The Late Show With Stephen Colbert, Teevens reported that his no-tackling policy at practice, made more effective by the MVP, had reduced injuries by 80 percent. Several professional and collegiate teams have adopted the MVP.

Dartmouth Stands Apart
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Liberal Arts at the Core

A culture of critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration for life and leadership in a complex world

The liberal arts imperative informs every field of study here, including those at our graduate and professional schools. Dartmouth students learn to ask bigger questions and apply more perspectives to the answers. They gain a deeper understanding of humanity and a broader view of what’s at stake for societies throughout the world.

Dartmouth turns out a wiser business leader, a more thoughtful doctor, and a more holistic engineer.

At Dartmouth ...

We wrote the book on the liberal arts. Eager to share the meaning of the liberal arts with a wide audience, math professor Dan Rockmore asked Dartmouth colleagues to explain their fields and what they do. The result, What Are the Arts and Sciences?, is the definitive exploration of the value of a liberal arts education in a complex and complicated world.

The Rauner Special Collections Library hosts Dartmouth’s rare book collection and archives, including a treasure trove of historical gems—from Shakespeare’s First Folio to the first edition of the Book of Mormon.

The Life Sciences Greenhouse is a 6,000-square-foot botanical oasis, home to an award-winning orchid collection, a dry room with desert plants, and a subtropical room.

A Space for Dialogue: Each year, student interns, mentored by Hood staff, curate mini-exhibitions for which they perform independent research, select objects to exhibit, develop their own interpretive strategies, and express their ideas in their own voices.

Three of our alumni have won Nobel Prizes.

Two hundred twenty-two Dartmouth students and young alumni have received Fulbright scholarships.

We have produced 79 Rhodes Scholars.
Scholars Who Love to Teach

Access to faculty who are leaders in their field and devoted teachers and mentors

It is no accident that Dartmouth unfailingly leads for teaching in most university rankings. The intimacy of Dartmouth’s academic community and the proximity of its resources have a way of bringing individual students together with the scholar or researcher who can ignite an unquenchable curiosity.

Dartmouth students don’t just hear from great scholars, they often become partners in the work, as scholars, investigators, and creators. They are, in effect, apprentices in fields as diverse as politics, nanotechnology, and the study of Shakespeare.

Producers of Knowledge
Students in Brendan Nyhan’s “Experiments in Politics” seminar are testing ways to counter fake news in social media. Says Nyhan: “My students go from being consumers of research to being producers of knowledge. Students from my seminar and I published an article based on our research, and the students from last year and I are about to submit our article based on that research as well.”

Best of Both Worlds
Nanotechnology expert Katherine Mirica and her lab team are building an electronic “nose” to monitor gases that are beneficial at some levels, but toxic at others. At Harvard, where she earned her PhD, Mirica discovered that, “while I really loved research, I also really loved teaching and decided that I wanted to do both. Now I am able to combine those two passions.”

At Dartmouth ...
We have ranked in the top 10 for “Commitment to Undergraduate Teaching” since the category was established by U.S. News & World Report.
Sixty-four percent of undergraduate classes have 20 or fewer students.
Our student-to-faculty ratio is 7:1.
Twenty-eight faculty have been named American Association for the Advancement of Science fellows.
Tuck faculty won more than 100 research and teaching awards during the 2016-2017 school year.
Our faculty attracted more than $220 million in sponsored research for the fiscal year 2016.
President Phil Hanlon ’77 teaches courses to undergraduates—first-year calculus and sports analytics—every year.

Jodie Mack, a professor of film and media studies, talks to a student in the Book Arts Workshop as part of her course “Handmade Cinema.”

“All the World’s a Stage ...”
Students in Thomas Luxon’s introductory Shakespeare course complete papers in much the same way that any professional does and submit their work to a professional academic conference. A record seven papers were recently accepted and presented by Dartmouth students at the Medieval and Renaissance Forum.

Innovation With Impact
Thayer’s Eric Fossum won engineering’s biggest prize—the Queen Elizabeth Award—for his invention of CMOS image sensors, a technology that’s used in satellite imagery and every time you take a selfie.

The Best Teaching, Continuously Improved
Great teaching isn’t static. The Dartmouth Center for the Advancement of Learning (DCAL) consolidates the best research in the field and puts it to work for our faculty. The center consults on course design, recruiting, and technology-enabled teaching. Behind the scenes, DCAL quietly and continuously reengineers faculty-support services for teaching at Dartmouth.
A setting of natural beauty that fosters a close-knit community, deep academic engagement, and lifelong bonds

Hanover isn’t a place you stumble upon on your way somewhere else. The men and women who choose Dartmouth are here because it’s exactly where they want to be.

Dartmouth people engage physically with the outdoors, and intellectually with each other, as nowhere else.

The undergraduate student’s journey begins outdoors, with a five-day trip organized by the Dartmouth Outing Club that plunges new students into shared adventures that stretch them and connect them, often for life. Ninety percent of incoming students participate in first-year trips, which offer them a chance to bond with classmates outside the classroom, with nature as a backdrop for the perfect introduction to the Dartmouth community.

Sense of place, sense of purpose.

At Dartmouth ...

A peaceful and bucolic New England setting routinely ranked as one of the nation’s most beautiful campuses, no academic resource is out of walking distance.

The BEMA, a natural amphitheater where freshmen gather at the beginning of their journey and then again as seniors.

Studying under "The Epic of American Civilization" murals.

Taking a break for tea in Sanborn, where every weekday at 4 p.m. during the academic year tea is served, as it has been since the 1930s as a condition of the gift bequeathed by Edwin W. Sanborn, Class of 1878.

Our very own mountain. Mount Moosilauke boasts one of the best views of all the peaks in the White Mountains.

Occom Pond. In winter. Swimming.

Profound Sense of Place
Base Camp to the World

An intimate and inclusive community that is the hub of intellectual and personal growth as well as a launchpad for worldwide study

Dartmouth inspires exploration. The campus is alive with the comings and goings of faculty, students, and alumni whose projects take them to every latitude and time zone.

Most undergraduate students spend at least one term overseas. The year-round academic calendar—the D-Plan—enables every student to combine research, international study, work experience, and service in unique ways. No two students go through Dartmouth the same way.

Faculty research collaborations around the world bring Dartmouth’s interdisciplinary approach to some of the world’s most pressing challenges and create opportunities for Dartmouth students.

Many more global ventures are organized by the students themselves. When an MBA candidate at Tuck wanted to do a project back home in India, 70 other students went with him.

And the unusually tight bonds of our alumni keep them coming back to campus in record numbers, year after year, to reconnect and spend time together.

That’s Dartmouth.

At Dartmouth ...

Faculty members who have expertise in more than half the world’s countries lead more than 40 international programs every year, making us first in the Ivy League for faculty-led programs.

More than 50 percent of students choose to study abroad (ranking Dartmouth among the top 15 nationally). At Tuck, every student gets international experience.

Eighty percent of students participate in internships in enterprise and nonprofit organizations around the world.

We maintain formal exchanges in more than 25 countries on six continents.

Expand your horizons and Stretch. Long known as one of the best off-campus programs, the Stretch gives earth sciences majors an opportunity to dig into Western geology on faculty-led trips to Arizona, Wyoming, the Grand Canyon, and, as shown at right in a photo taken by Kevin Gross ’19, the Canadian Rockies.

We ranked first in a list by Forbes of the 2017 Grateful Grad Index: Top 200 Best-Loved Colleges.

DarDar, a partnership between Geisel and Muhimbili University in Tanzania, where our researchers were awarded a five-year grant to create a first-of-its-kind HIV-TB specific research institute in East Africa.
Telling Our Story

Adventuresome Spirit

Embracing opportunities and challenges with curiosity, courage, and tenacity

As individuals—and as an institution—we are deliberate about what we take on and bold in its pursuit. Dartmouth attracts faculty who put ideas into action and enterprising students who create their own educational journeys. They prepare for a lifetime of leadership by being leaders here.

One of the reasons our graduates are so prized by employers is that they are not fragile. They are inventive, flexible, and resilient, prepared to take on anything that nature and their work in the world throws at them. They are leaders.

At Dartmouth spirit takes many forms

Joy in Competition
Dartmouth is the home of the true scholar-athlete. Our Peak Performance program integrates athletic, academic, and leadership skills, creating unusually effective performers. Dartmouth athletes have competed at all but one of the modern Olympic Games.

Into the Wild
Environmental scientist Ross Virginia has visited Antarctica 21 times as the driving force behind Dartmouth’s Institute of Arctic Studies. He was selected by the U.S. State Department as one of the two inaugural distinguished scholar leaders of the Fulbright Arctic Initiative.

Leading the Way
Dartmouth is the first comprehensive national research university to award more bachelor’s degrees in engineering to women than men, 54 percent in 2016 versus 17 percent nationwide. Tuck is the first business school to launch a minority executive education program. And Dartmouth has more women full professors in the Arts & Sciences than any school in the Ivy League.

Entrepreneurial Energy
The Dartmouth Entrepreneurial Network is accelerating the flow of ideas from students, faculty, and researchers into the world. Any student can walk in with an idea and connect with faculty or alumni. One in three tenure-track faculty at Thayer have founded startups, and 38 percent hold patents for work done at Thayer.
An Ivy League School in a League of Its Own

“I believe with all my heart that Dartmouth offers the most powerful formula to prepare our students for a lifetime of leadership and impact. I say this with conviction, having witnessed it in all of our stories and in our work at Dartmouth today.”

Phil Hanlon ’77, President