

THE CAMPUS AND STUDENT LIFE

THE CAMPUS

Nevada, Missouri, is the small community Virginia Alice Cottey chose as the home for her college. Today comprising 10,000 citizens, Nevada is the major population center between Kansas City and Joplin. Located in a residential section, Cottey's campus has 14 buildings on a 11-block tract and a scenic 33-acre wooded area, **B.I.L. Hill and Lodge**. The Hill is a favorite place for campus gatherings and retreats, and serves as a nature laboratory.

Historic **Main Hall**, built in 1884, is the College's original building. Completely renovated in 2002, it houses administrative offices, music studios, practice rooms, classrooms, faculty offices, the Service Center, and the Bookstore.

The **Rubie Burton Academic Center** is composed of two wings. **Alumnae Hall**, built in 1974 and renovated in 1998, contains classrooms, faculty offices, the student art gallery, and the computer lab. Offices for Academic Affairs, the registrar, and the **Kolderie Academic Assistance Center** are also in this building. **Grantham Hall**, completed in 1998, houses well-equipped science and computer laboratories, the majority of the classrooms and faculty offices, and student and faculty lounges.

Neale Hall, built in 1922 and renovated in 1972, accommodates the art classrooms, studio areas, and faculty offices.

The central place for academic research is the **Blanche Skiff Ross Memorial Library**, constructed in 1963. It houses over 50,000 books, covering the breadth of the arts and sciences on the undergraduate level, including the Women's Studies Collection, the Juvenile Collection, and the Popular Reading Collection in addition to music scores and recordings and over 1,200 videos and DVDs. A conference room, a group study room, and the Nevada Room (for commuting students) provide a variety of meeting spaces. All three floors have study tables, easy chairs, private study areas, and computers.

The Haidee and Allen Wild Center for the Arts, completed in 1989, provides facilities for the performing arts. It features a 495-seat auditorium, a climate-controlled art gallery, a recital hall with seating for 150, and a large scenery shop and costume shop.

The **Chapel**, built and donated in 1956 by the B.I.L.s, seats 480 in the nave and houses the Dysart Memorial Organ, a 21-rank Hammer-Reuter organ, and the Nell Farrel Stevenson Grand Piano. The Chapel, which is nondenominational, also contains a smaller side chapel and parlor (the Canadian Room).

Hinkhouse Center, built in 1971 and renovated in 1992, houses a gymnasium, swimming pool, two dance studios, fitness center, classrooms, and faculty offices. There is a spacious student lounge, and the Chellie Club coffee house. The Student Life Center is housed in Hinkhouse Center. The complex also includes three tennis courts, and softball and soccer fields.

P.E.O. Hall (1939), first building erected after Cottey was accepted as a gift by the P.E.O. Sisterhood in 1927. Approximately 100 students live in ten suites: Arkansas, California-Gardner, California-Remy, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Oregon, Pope, and Yellowstone.

Reeves Hall (1949), named for Winona Evans Reeves. The residence hall houses approximately 100 students in 10 suites: California-Weller, Kansas, Michigan, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, Rubie, Seaboard, Texas, and Washington.

Robertson Hall (1959), named for Elizabeth Robertson. The Bessie Raney Dining Room is on the lower level. Robertson Hall houses approximately 150 students in 14 suites: Arizona, Colorado-Minear, Colorado-Thompson, Dakota, Florida, Indiana, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Rosemary-Alumna, Santa Barbara, Southeastern, Wallace, Wheatlake, and Wisconsin. This facility is partially accessible to individuals with physical mobility disabilities and is air-conditioned.

The Helen and George Washburn Center for Women's Leadership, acquired in 1998, is located just south of the campus at 400 S. College. The beautiful home and grounds are used to host campus retreats, seminars, and to house visiting faculty.

STUDENT LIFE CENTER MISSION AND GOALS

The student life staff is committed to the development of the whole person. While the formal academic experience is the centerpiece of collegiate life, the student life staff strives to support and complement the academic program to make it as meaningful as possible. Our primary mission is to assist students in making a successful adjustment to collegiate life.

In order to promote the greatest possible learning and developmental growth of students within our academic community, the

staff members are committed to creating an environment that encourages learning, involvement, introspection, maturation, and a balanced lifestyle. To fulfill our mission, we will strive to achieve the following goals:

To Provide Services

- and resources designed to assist students in making a successful adjustment to collegiate life.

To Increase Awareness

- of personal, community, and social issues and encouragement to respond to those issues.
- of different or divergent opinions and ways of life which lead to a better understanding of and tolerance for others.

To Create Opportunities

- for inquiry and expression on matters of interest to students.
- to form self-governing student groups that initiate and pursue activities of interest to students.
- to be active contributors toward positive change through leadership, teamwork, and civic engagement.
- that promote personal growth and development.
- that encourage lifetime health and wellness.

To Offer Activities

- that promote interaction among students, faculty, staff, and the larger community both on and off campus.
- that foster an appreciation of cultural and ethnic diversity in our global community.
- that enhance student learning through active participation.

To Conduct Assessment

- as a means of identifying students' needs and continuously improving services to meet them.
- to document the student learning outcomes gained through participation in student life programs.

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

Throughout a student's two years at Cottey, she will have the assistance and support of the College community. The freshman year at college is a time of change and growth for both students and families. All new students and their families are encouraged to participate in the New Student Orientation program held before each semester. The goal of Orientation is to help the new student and her family make a successful transition to college life. Orientation includes academic and student life programs for the new students and their families. Placement examinations and academic advising occur during the Orientation program.

HEALTH SERVICES

Cottey College contracts with local physicians to provide limited health services for students. The semester health fee allows a student to see the physician in the Health Services Office during his scheduled time with no office visit charge. The physicians provide treatment for minor illness and injuries, health counseling, and referral services. The student (or her family) is responsible for medical expenses involving: additional consultations with physicians outside of the normal health services hours, X-ray and laboratory work, prescription medications, and other medical procedures or services as required. Health services offered by the College should not be viewed as a substitute for health insurance. Students who experience a serious illness or injury may be referred for treatment, at their expense, to the newly expanded and renovated Nevada Regional Medical Center, located only 12 blocks from campus. The College reserves the right, if parents or a guardian cannot be reached, to make decisions concerning emergency health problems for any student.

COUNSELING OFFICE

Cottey College Counseling Services is committed to fostering the growth and development of Cottey students. By providing mental health services in a safe, supportive, and confidential environment, the counseling staff strives to help students acquire the skills, attitudes, and insights that will enable them to meet the challenges of life in an academic community. The counseling staff encourages personal, campus, and community responsibility and promotes the wellness of the whole student: emotional, social, spiritual, intellectual, physical, environmental, and occupational.

The Peer Empowerment Program, PEP, consists of second-year students who are carefully selected and trained, and have volunteered to help their fellow students with problems. Members listen open-mindedly, assist students in sorting out issues, and make referrals when appropriate. Peer listeners will not tell you what to do, but they can help you decide on a course of action. Peer assistance is private and confidential. Peer listeners are supervised by the coordinator of counseling.

RESIDENTIAL LIFE

Residential life at Cottey provides students a vibrant and dynamic learning environment. Although a very small number of Cottey's students commute to campus from home, most come from other parts of the country or world and live on campus. All students must secure and maintain campus residency throughout their enrollment unless they can commute from their homes or an individual exception to the requirement has been approved by the College administration. The unique suite-style living contributes to the development of interpersonal skills and thus adds to the pleasure and value of a Cottey education.

Residential students live in **P.E.O. Hall, Reeves Hall, and Robertson Hall**. These halls are divided into suites which are comfortable and beautifully decorated, made possible by P.E.O. chapters, individual donors, and others. Individual suites house eight to sixteen students from diverse backgrounds and geographic locations in single, double, or triple rooms. There is a computer suite in each residence hall with eight to ten networked computers, printers, and scanners available on a 24-hour basis. For students bringing personal or laptop computers, the option of accessing a high-speed wireless network system within the residence halls and campus wide is available for the cost of a wireless network card. All residence halls are nonsmoking and Robertson Hall is air-conditioned.

A residence hall director and student resident assistants live in each residence hall to supervise and be of assistance to the residents. Residence halls are recognized as student organizations, and officers are elected to conduct hall business. Suite residents also elect a suite chair to act as the coordinator for the suite.

The College has established student regulations, consistent with living cooperatively in a community, designed to support the mission of the College. The use of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, and repeated disregard for procedures and regulations have a negative impact on the educational process. The possession or use of alcohol or illegal drugs is prohibited on campus. Along with other guidelines for campus living, the specific policies, regulations, and the disciplinary system are contained in the Student Handbook which is available online and distributed on campus at the beginning of each academic year. Students are urged to become familiar with these policies and regulations and to support them. Enrollment, as well as the signing of the Cottey College Residence Hall Agreement, constitutes an agreement on the part of the student to comply with the policies in this catalog and in the Student Handbook.

Eating in **Raney Dining Room** is also a part of residential life at Cottey College. All meals are served in Raney Dining Room which is located in Robertson Hall. Meals are provided three times per day Monday through Saturday and twice on Sunday. Extra care is taken to provide a pleasant dining experience. Occasional "sit-down" dinners are featured with family service. Lunch and dinner include a wide variety of entrees, including vegetarian and vegan, in addition to soup, salad, and deli bars. A Centennial Room dinner is a special event for suitemates and their guests to dine together in a more formal and private setting. Personally prepared by the director of food service, students select a six-course meal sure to delight.

The **Chellie Club**, the campus coffee house located in Hinkhouse Center, features deli items and a wide variety of coffees and drinks. A stereo provides musical entertainment, and the adjacent lounge area includes a big screen television. Student organizations host coffee house nights featuring student musicians, poets, comedians, and others.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Cottey recognizes spirituality as an important component of personal development. Toward this end, Cottey strives to provide educational opportunities for increased understanding of the significance of spirituality and an appreciation for its many forms.

The College is nonsectarian and assists students interested in denominational affiliation in identifying area churches in which they can become involved. Many area churches encourage student affiliation through host family programs. These programs provide students an opportunity to be "adopted" by a church family with similar denominational beliefs for occasional home-cooked meals, rides to church, social interaction, and other kinds of support.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS & CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

Student organizations are an integral part of the Cottey experience. There are over 40 recognized student organizations on campus. All provide additional opportunities for the extension and enrichment of the individual's education. They represent a broad spectrum of interests, ideas, and activities. These organizations make significant contributions to the intellectual, cultural, recreational, social, and spiritual life of students. Students are encouraged to participate in at least one organization. Both first-year and second-year students serve in leadership positions. Programming assistance, organizational support, and leadership information are provided to student organization officers and sponsors.

The Student Government Association (SGA) is recognized by the College as the official voice of the students. Through SGA, students participate in shared campus governance, in the management of student organizations, and in student discipline. The basic

role of SGA is to work cooperatively with the College administration to improve the quality of student life. It also serves as an “umbrella” organization to all other student organizations in terms of determining officer criteria, budget issues, and other common concerns. The SGA president works closely with the vice president of student life and the President on issues of importance to students and is also invited to discuss student life issues with the Cottey College Board of Trustees.

Numerous performers appear on campus. The Student Activities Committee (SAC) plans, promotes, and produces events featuring bands, comedians, coffeehouse singers, and novelty entertainers. The Cottey Lecturers and Artists Super Series (CLASS) sponsors performances each year. Performers often include dance companies, lecturers, symphonies, musicals, poets, and jazz and blues singers. Students are admitted free to all campus performances, except student organization fund-raisers. Some performances will sell out.

Family Weekend is a special weekend created for families to spend on campus with students. Parents, siblings, grandparents, other relatives, and friends are all invited. Family Weekend, traditionally held in early October, is a great opportunity for families and friends to meet suitemates and college friends, and get a taste of life at Cottey.

Much of Cottey’s character can be attributed to its traditions. Cottey traditions, some of which date back to its founding, serve as a symbolic expression of the rich and unique heritage shared by the College community. Others have evolved through the years and are perpetuated by students. Cottey life is enriched and made more special by many traditions. Participation in student traditions is optional.

ATHLETICS

Cottey offers intercollegiate athletic programs in basketball, volleyball, and softball. Cottey is a member of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), Division II, Region XVI. Members of the Cottey community enjoy supporting the Cottey Comets at home and on the road.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Cottey offers a dynamic environment for students to learn and practice leadership through partnerships between the Helen and George Washburn Center for Women’s Leadership, and the academic and student life programs. The LEO Program (Leadership, Experiences, and Opportunity) sponsors various leadership development activities every year. Through the LEO Program, students can achieve four levels of certification as a student leader. A course in leadership provides the foundation for the LEO Program. A personalized approach rich in hands-on experience includes participation in enrichment events, field trips, community service, and the opportunity to build relationships with fellow student leaders and a leadership mentor make the LEO Program distinctive. Several opportunities for leadership are available to Cottey students through involvement in a variety of student organizations, and campus and community committees and boards.

VICE PRESIDENT’S DISMISSAL

The vice president of student life may dismiss any student if she behaves in a manner that:

- a. prevents her from meeting the academic and technical requirements or standards prescribed by the College for her course of study; or
- b. creates an unreasonable risk or danger to the safety of herself, other students or College personnel; or
- c. causes her to disrupt the academic or social process of other students at the College.

When a student who has received this type of dismissal believes she is ready to resume her academic program, she must make a formal written request to the vice president of student life for readmission.