Duquesne University History

Significant Events in Duquesne University History

1878 (Oct.) Pittsburgh Catholic School of the Holy Ghost opened its doors
First enrollment was 40 students

1878 College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts established

1882 State charter was granted for Pittsburgh Catholic School

1885 "Old Main" dedicated, the first building at the University's current location

1889 First baccalaureate degree conferred

1904 University Chapel dedicated

1910 Became The University of the Holy Ghost, the first Catholic University in Pennsylvania

1911 Renamed Duquesne University of The Holy Ghost

1911 School of Law established

1913 School of Business Administration established

1925 School of Pharmacy established

1926 School of Music established

1929 School of Education established

1937 School of Nursing established

1981 Enrollment reaches 6,744

1984 Creation of Honors College

1987 University Mission Statement approved by Board of Directors

1990 School of Health Sciences established

1994 Enrollment grows to 9,000 students

1994 School of Natural and Environmental Sciences established

2002 Filed name change with PA Corporation Bureau to become Duquesne University of The Holy Spirit

2006 First time enrollment exceeds 10,000 students

2013 School of Business celebrates its centennial

2018 University celebrates a history of 140 years

Sources: Rishel, Joseph. The spirit that gives life: the history of Duquesne University, 1878-1996 Pittsburgh: Duquesne University, 1997, the Office of Mission and Identity and the Office of General Counsel.