Indiana State Normal School Principals, 1875-1927

There were nine principals of Indiana State Normal School (ISNS) from 1875 to 1927. They lived in the principal’s residence on the first floor of John Sutton Hall – presently the Office of Admissions. Jane Leonard (Manuscript Group 24) was the Preceptress of ISNS during the tenure of all nine principals from 1875 until her retirement in 1921.

Dr. Edmund B. Fairfield (1821-1904), principal, 1875–1876: in addition to opening and overseeing the daily operation of ISNS, Dr. Fairfield raised $3,000 to buy equipment for chemical study. He was also a professor of Mental, Moral, and Political Science, and of the Theory and Practice of Teaching.

David M. Sensenig, principal, 1876–1878: the Board of Trustees were surprised by Dr. Fairfield’s resignation after one academic year, and selected Mathematics Professor David M. Sensenig as principal.

John H. French (1824-1888), principal, 1878–1881: was fondly remembered by faculty and students and he increased the faculty of ISNS.

Leonard H. Durling, principal, 1881–1888: a published scholar, Durling established a more professional tone for the academics of ISNS. The first yearbook the ISNS Clionian was published in 1888.

Z. X. Snyder (1850-1915), principal, 1888–1891: made it possible for people who suffered from the 1889 Johnstown Flood to be exempt from paying tuition at ISNS. During his three years as principal, he organized ISNS into 11 academic departments, increased the faculty, established the Alumni Association, and he brought electricity to campus.

Charles W. Deane (1857-1926), principal, 1891–1893: during his tenure, Indiana purchased six acres north of campus and an Indiana Fairgrounds building, which was moved to campus and became the first gymnasium.

Dr. David Jewett Waller (1846-1941), principal, 1893–1907: during the 11 years that Dr. Waller was principal of ISNS, the Model School (Wilson Hall), Men’s Dormitory (Clark Hall), Thomas Sutton Hall, and Leonard Recital Hall were constructed.

Dr. James E. Ament (1863-1936), principal, 1907–1917: Dr. Ament was described as a young, energetic, enthusiastic, and scholarly leader who encouraged the arts and humanities programs, and he saw ISNS as more than a school for teachers, he said, “many graduate from it not to teach, but to take up business careers.” He encouraged composers Hamlin and Dorothy Cogswell to teach music and voice at ISNS in the newly created Music Conservatory.

Dr. John A. H. Keith (1869-1931), principal, 1917–1927: during his ten years he elevated academic standards at ISNS to collegiate status, transitioning the school into Indiana State Teachers College (ISTC). Dr. Keith also encouraged faculty development.

The Presidents, 1927-Present

The Presidents of Indiana State Teachers College (ISTC) from 1927 to 1959, Indiana State College (ISC) from 1959 to 1965-1966, and Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) since 1966
Dr. Charles R. Foster (1879-1937), President, 1927–1936
Dr. Matthew Walsh (1872-1961), Acting President, June 13–November 1936
Dr. Samuel Fausold (1888-1948), President, 1936–1939
Dr. Matthew Walsh (1872-1961), Acting President, June 1-19, 1939
Dr. Leroy A. King (1886-1942), President, 1939–1942
Dr. Joseph M. Uhler (1881-1947), President, 1942–1947
Dr. Ralph E. Heiges (1905-1987), Acting President, 1947–1948
Dr. Willis E. Pratt (1906-1992), President, 1948–1968: lead the university for 20 years, and he oversaw the transition from Indiana State Teachers College to Indiana State College in 1959, and achieving university status as Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1966.
Dr. John E. Davis (1895-1972), Acting President, February 1, 1962–May 31, 1962
Dr. William Woods Hassler (1917-1997), President, January 1, 1969–August 29, 1975
Dr. Robert C. Wilburn, President, September 2, 1975–January 16, 1979
Dr. Bernard J. Ganley (1921-1999), Interim President, January 16, 1979–September 30, 1979
Dr. John E. Worthen, President, October 1, 1979–June 30, 1984
Dr. Lawrence K. Pettit, President, August 1, 1992–August 14, 2003
Dr. Derek J. Hodgson, President, August 15, 2003–January 16, 2004
Dr. Diane L. Reinhard, Interim President, 2004
Dr. Mark. J. Staskiewicz, Acting President, 2005
Dr. Tony Atwater, President, February 4, 2005–June 30, 2010
Dr. Gerald Intemann, Acting President, July 1, 2010–July 31, 2010
Dr. David Werner, Interim President, August 1, 2010–July 1, 2012
Dr. Michael Driscoll, President, August 1, 2012–Present

Sources: Indiana University of Pennsylvania: Our homage and our love (1991) by Ron Juliette and Dale E. Landon; and Record Group 11 Office of the President