



**NAME OF BUILDING:** Baugher Student Center

**DATE(S) OF CONSTRUCTION:** 1960; dedicated in 1962

**ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:** Colonial Revival

**ARCHITECT:** John Alfred Hamme (1897 – 1965)

**CONTRACTOR:** Wohlson and Sons from Lancaster, Pennsylvania

**PURPOSE(S)/USE(S):** This multi-purpose building houses the cafeteria, Jay's nest, bookstore, theatre, dance studio, offices and the pool. This is a central building for students at Elizabethtown College because of its many functions.

**PERSON(S) FOR WHOM THE BUILDING IS NAMED:** A.C. Baugher (1893 – 1962)

**BIOGRAPHICAL NARRATIVE:** Charles Abba Baugher, known fondly by his peers as A.C. Baugher, was born on September 8, 1893 near Lineboro, Maryland. Beginning in his youth, he played a very active role in the Brethren Church. In 1918, he was elected minister by the Elizabethtown congregation and he eventually became an elder in 1928. In the Church, he served many roles including: preacher, moderator of the Elizabethtown congregation, member of the General Brotherhood Board, director of the Annual Conference, and chairman of the hymnbook revision committee (1951). His religious leanings influenced him to pursue his undergraduate degree from Elizabethtown College, because of the College's Brethren affiliation. In 1922, he graduated in the first class with an accredited BA degree from Elizabethtown College. He then continued his education at F&M College with a BS degree in Chemistry, a MS degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a PhD from NYU in Education. With all of this continuing education and experience, he was destined to move into a more administrative role at Elizabethtown College.

He began his career at Elizabethtown in 1922 as a Chemistry teacher, and served as the President of Chemistry up until 1945, heavily influencing the curriculum and teachers in this department. While at Elizabethtown, he also

served as the dean of students, academic dean (1928-1941), and eventually the President of the College (1941-1961). Baugher served on various committees, including the building committee for the erection of a new science building in 1927. Additionally, in 1930, Baugher was elected Vice President of the Faculty Club Organization at Elizabethtown College. He was involved in almost every area on campus, thus heavily impacting many aspects of the College. In 1939, Baugher had a significant influence on increasing the academic level of faculty at Elizabethtown. Through his efforts in this area, the number of professors with doctorates increased from seven to twelve, the number of professors with master's degrees increased from five to thirty-five, and the instructional staff in general increased from twenty-one to fifty-eight. He was slowly increasing the academic standards for the faculty at Elizabethtown College in order to improve the prestige of the school in comparison to other schools.

The most influential role that Baugher had while at his time at Elizabethtown College was being the President of the College. In 1941, Ralph Schlosser resigned as President and the Board of Trustees selected A.C. Baugher to fill the vacancy. He served in this role until 1961. On May 5, 1948, with President Baugher leading the charge, Elizabethtown College, "was accorded full academic standing among the leading colleges of the United States through accreditation by the Middle States Association." This was a significant accomplishment for Elizabethtown College, as it brought recognition to the College for its academics among other middle state colleges.

In 1961, A.C. Baugher was awarded the status of President Emeritus from Elizabethtown College for all the contributions he made during his time there. Just one year later, on November 2, A.C. Baugher passed away. The Baugher Student Center was named in honor of A.C. Baugher for his dedication to always improving Elizabethtown College.