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New Opportunities

A State of the University Report, 2002 from James J. Stukel

Dear Colleagues and Fr

The Board of Trustees and I set a course for the University nearly six years ago that focused on the core missions of education, research and public service, while stepping forward to seize a leadership role in advancing technology. It has been gratifying to see most of those goals accomplished.

President James Stukel has logged more than 200,000 miles in the past six years meeting mayors, legislators, business and community leaders and alumni as part of the Illinois Connection effort. In second photo from left, Dr. Stukel hugs the twin sons of Joel Dryer, an Illinois Connection Ambassador from northern Cook County.

But, as you know, the University is a work in progress with new challenges and remarkable opportunities arising every day. In the last year, our chancellors and provosts at the Chicago, Springfield and Urbana-Champaign campuses worked intensively to determine where the University is headed over the course of the next five years and how to improve the quality and range of programs and facilities. Their work yielded *New Opportunities in a New Century: Goals and Challenges for the University of Illinois 2001-2006.*

iends of the University

It will guide us as we set priorities for adding and expanding programs, hiring faculty, building new facilities and renovating old ones, serving students better and establishing our annual budgets.

As stewards of this great institution, we have a profound responsibility to protect the University's legacy and the state's broadest, deepest and best public university. Though already ranked as one of the premier universities in the world, we must — and will — pursue the highest quality and excellence in all that we do.

As you will see in the following pages this commitment is real and earnest, and happily, some of the work is already under way.

This report features just a glimpse at hopes for the next five years. As always, I welcome your comments and views at uipres@uillinois.edu.

James J. Stukel, President
University of Illinois

The Engag

Andrew Keshall

Because Andrew Keshall's high school didn't offer calculus, he took it online through the math department at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Now a sophomore at the Urbana campus, Andrew works online as a mentor with other high school students whose high schools don't provide calculus. The program is called NetMath.

Thousands of Illinois residents, such as Andrew, benefit from programs the University of Illinois provides in its long-standing efforts to serve the public. Extension is among the most visible public service effort, but hundreds of University public outreach programs benefit residents of every age and description in every county.

For example, Mrs. Willie B. Clay's neighborhood in East St. Louis is being revitalized by U of I students participating in the East St. Louis Action Research Project. This urban planning project matches students with civic and government agencies in East St. Louis aimed at reinvigorating that city. This work has resulted in rehabbed homes, new businesses, and people moving in, instead of out. A light rail service now connects the city to the St. Louis metropolitan area across the Mississippi River. And residents also have Internet access to information about classes and job opportunities.

ed University

East St. Louis resident Willie B. Clay looks at a plan for a neighborhood apartment complex with Angela Biagia, a former landscape architecture student at Urbana.

In Chicago, the University's Great Cities initiative gives UIC students real-life experiences with big city problems. They conduct research and perform public service on issues that range from urban sprawl to the need for affordable housing. Future goals are to strengthen and expand the Great Cities opportunities, especially to undergraduates. These kinds of ties to Chicago and increased opportunities for student experiences will help to position UIC as a model public urban research university, engaged and integral to the community.

UIS sees part of its future on the 'net, where online learning is serving more than 800 students now. Future goals are to offer additional degree-earning opportunities, such as undergraduate business and communications technology degrees and master's programs in teacher education and management information systems.

The Urbana campus wants to more firmly and pervasively engage Chicago — where it has 120,000 graduates — through expanded e-learning and on-site instruction. The campus could, for example, offer its executive MBA program and law courses.

...Engaged

Student teacher Lindsey Ulm, of Urbana-Champaign, gets real-life experience with kindergarten students at Dr. Howard Elementary School, Champaign.

One of the most challenging goals for the future is the University's commitment to leading a major effort to improve education for Illinois children from preschool through college years. This is an obligation of the engaged university.

Former U of I President Stanley Ikenberry will chair the P-16 Partnership Commission and work closely with the deans of education, Victoria Chou at UIC, Susan Fowler at UIUC and Larry Stonecipher at UIS.

Kindergarten students at Dr. Howard Elementary School, Champaign.

University

Ikenberry said the commission will determine if the U of I is doing everything it can to prepare teachers to be effective in the classrooms. It will look at reducing the turnover rate of new teachers, since more than half leave the field within five years. And it will create an agenda for action with leaders from community colleges, four-year institutions, the elementary and secondary education community, and the business and civic communities.

"The fact is, that of all the challenges that face our nation, strengthening the quality of education certainly has to rank toward the top," said Ikenberry. "It's important in terms of the long-term economic health of the country, but it's also important to individuals as they pursue their life dreams."

The Scientific and Tec

Dr. Carol A. Westbrook of the Chicago campus fights cancer. She uses new genome technologies to look at how breast and uterine tissues change when exposed to estrogen, and how the response is different in normal and cancerous tissue. Her research will look at as many as 40,000 genes at a time, resulting in so much information that computer scientists must write programs to make sense of the findings.

This innovative research is significant not only because it will mean a better understanding of female cancers, but also because some of the most distinguished scientists and researchers at both the Chicago and Urbana campuses are collaborating on the work.

In fact, the University of Illinois Inter-Campus Research Initiative in Biotechnology is supporting the research with $450,000 over the next three years.

University Vice President Chester Gardner proposed and established the inter-campus initiative because both campuses are among the finest in the country in biotechnology and biomedicine, but rarely do the scientists from the two campuses work together.

"There is no doubt the U of I is a real powerhouse in academic research," said Gardner. "Unfortunately, the physical separation of the two campuses has impeded research collaboration. With the Inter-Campus Research Initiative in Biotechnology, we hope to establish links between the faculty that will leverage the capability of the two campuses."

This new century presents incredible opportunities for these kinds of discoveries and inventions, and the University of Illinois will play a crucial role not only in advancing the sciences and technology, but also in transferring the findings to private companies and the marketplace.

Not only is research between the two campuses being encouraged, but also UIC officials envision more inter-disciplinary

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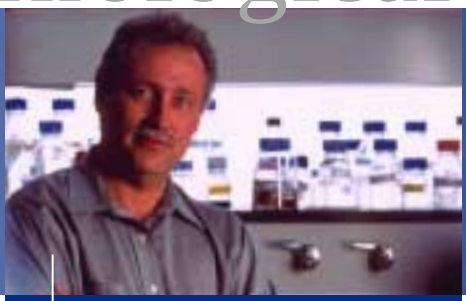

Dr. David Kranz of Urbana-Champaign has invented a method for genetically engineering improvements in antibodies and other proteins to be used in drugs to fight cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, and other serious inflammatory conditions.

research on campus. This joining of expertise and knowledge from different fields has resulted in such successes as the virtual ear for teaching surgery and Global Information Systems to track population movement.

New research buildings for medicine and advanced chemical technologies are being sought for UIC, as well as an addition to the pharmacy building. But more is needed. A Biomedical Genomics building is a priority on the planning list, as is additional research space for bridging knowledge from genes to drug discovery, diagnosis and novel treatment strategies.

A bold, new, multi-disciplinary facility called the Post-Genomic Institute is in the initial planning stages for the Urbana campus. Faculty from the colleges of agricultural, consumer and environmental sciences, liberal arts, engineering, applied life studies, medicine and veterinary medicine, as well as the Beckman Institute, will create a unique research and education facility devoted to the new frontiers of biological research.

In addition, a bioengineering facility is sought for cutting-edge research in this cross-disciplinary work between engineering and the schools of chemical science and molecular and cellular biology in LAS. A bioengineering facility will position the University as a strong competitor with other leading universities in this increasingly important field.

Other future efforts focus on increasing support for the business incubators and the growth and success of the research parks at both campuses, as well as offices for technology management, to foster the expanded role the University will play in the development and transfer of intellectual property to the private sector, absolutely critical to realize the University's important role in Illinois economic development.

The Scholarly

"Anne"Hoonjung Kim

At the Urbana campus, she goes by Anne. At home in Korea, she is known as Hoonjung Kim. Determined and serious about getting a good education, the 21-year-old crossed the globe to study advertising at the University of Illinois.

"I wanted to expand my knowledge and experience in a renowned school," Anne said. "The University of Illinois has the best advertising program in the U.S."

About 5,100 students in a wide range of majors come from five continents to the University of Illinois because they also want a renowned school. More than 50,000 U.S. students seek the "best", too. They sit in lectures with distinguished faculty members who are experts in their fields. They work in labs alongside famous scientists and researchers. And they socialize with graduate students and undergraduates from a mix of interesting cultures and backgrounds and experiences.

First and foremost, learning and inquiry are the basis of all endeavors at the University of Illinois. Education is our fundamental work. And our visions ensure that the University's scholarly enterprise receives the support and facilities necessary to build upon existing excellence.

One of those visions looks into the heart of the classrooms to the faculty, and acknowledges the need on all three campuses to vigorously recruit gifted and talented men and women. These efforts at the Chicago campus have successfully attracted recognized scholars who have enriched campus life and created an intellectual environment that has drawn other promising faculty. More faculty are needed for increased course offerings in key disciplines and critical areas, such as the arts and humanities, science and engineering, business, education and the health sciences.

University

Philip Shaw Paludan of the Springfield campus.

The Springfield campus recruited one of the most prominent Lincoln, Civil War authorities in the nation — Phillip Shaw Paludan — to its campus this fall.

A second round of the Faculty Excellence program at Urbana-Champaign, with dollars specifically directed toward reversing a decline in faculty numbers, remains a priority in future plans. And all three campuses will seek faculty to better reflect the gender and racial diversity of our nation.

Drawing the best graduate students to our campuses is another important part of the strategic plan for 2001-06. That can be achieved, in part, with notable faculty, but improved, competitive financial support for teaching and research fellowships and training grants also will be needed.

Campus visions also include a much-needed performing arts center and a new building for the College of Business Administration, both at UIC. The Springfield campus plans to attract even more freshmen and sophomore students, add more faculty and broaden its course offerings to significantly strengthen its undergraduate programs.

The Urbana campus plans to infuse its world-renowned library with additional resources; overhaul its telecommunications systems; enhance its offerings in the humanities; and support pioneering work in the arts for the 21st Century.

The University for Stud

Carrie Bauer of Compton won a volleyball scholarship to the University of Illinois at Springfield. But even without that financial incentive, she wanted to attend UIS, the 18-year-old freshman said.

A major in political studies with a minor in international affairs, she likes the campus connections with the state government and the capital city. She might stay on to earn a master's at UIS, or attend law school.

"I have met so many new people and they are all great," she said. "I really like living in Lincoln Residence Hall. My roommate, Lindsay, is the best. We have the bigger room and both of our beds are lofted so we have tons of space. And the food is great.

"But my favorite thing about UIS is that in two years, when I'm done with the Capital Scholar program, I will most likely have an internship at the Capitol because of this program. And that's great."

Carrie is one of 116 freshman students who entered UIS this year in the new Capital Scholars program, which is transforming the Springfield campus into a more traditional four-year university and graduate school.

The University of Illinois is the state's No. 1 educator.

Each year, the University instructs some 65,000 on-campus students, holds 23,000 course sections and awards more than 15,000 degrees. Among that annual cohort are nearly 6,000 students earning advanced degrees. Thousands of other students enroll off-campus through distance learning options that include correspondence courses and University of Illinois Online. The latter brings single courses and whole degree and certificate programs to students via the Internet.

ent Learning and Living

Dance students at Urbana-Champaign studied Zimbabwe dance with a visiting instructor.

Plans for the future build upon the strengths of the three campuses. Study-abroad programs and scholarships will be expanded to serve more students. Both the Chicago and Urbana campuses plan to increase academic offerings for undergraduate students, which will mean hiring more faculty, more course offerings in key areas, and reduced class size. The successful learning and living communities at Urbana will be broadened and expanded to serve more students. These programs provide areas in residence halls dedicated to students with common interests, such as one for Women in Math and Sciences and one that explores career options.

Because it's important for students to get together and socialize, gathering spaces are planned for the Chicago campus. A new student recreation facility and more residence halls are also needed.

At Springfield, the number of residential students will double by 2005 as more freshman and sophomore students join the campus, creating an increased need for health services, counseling and career services. UIS is also interested in enhancing its intercollegiate athletic program.

...Learning and Living

Providing a more cosmopolitan experience for undergraduate students is a goal at the Urbana-Champaign campus. The chancellor hopes to increase the number of out-of-state and international students to ensure the undergraduate experience includes a range of viewpoints and experiences.

Plans are also under way to make sure that Chicago and Urbana students are given opportunities for entrepreneurial education. By working with faculty and professionals in the incubator and start-up companies and the offices of technology management, students will get real-life experiences in developing and evaluating business plans for UI entrepreneurs and start-up companies.

Keith Schacht, left and Zach Kaplan teamed up to develop a company that tapped into a Web-based technology. Kaplan is a UI graduate and Schacht is a senior in engineering. The two met through a business competition sponsored by the Technology Entrepreneur Center at Urbana.

A Course for the Future

Above are views of our three campus locations from left, UIC, UIS and UIUC.

Other major projects will help to shape the future of the University. They include development of the South Campus at UIC, the much-needed university administration's computer systems, and the expansion of the Urbana campus south to accommodate the new research park and agriculture capital projects.

Dozens more plans and goals for the future are in our comprehensive plan, and are of equal significance. The entire document *New Opportunities in a New Century: Goals and Challenges for the University of Illinois 2001-2006* can be found by late January at www.uillinois.edu/president.

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