Every day, across the University of Illinois System, we make the world more imaginative, more equitable, and more sustainable.

This annual report offers a glimpse at some of the breakthroughs that illustrate the ambition, power, impact, and collective potential of our institution and our universities. This was a year of setting records—record enrollment, record fundraising, and a fifth-straight in-state tuition freeze that is our longest in a half-century. It carries on our land-grant commitment to access and affordability, and to keep Illinois’ best-and-brightest students right here at home.

We launched a new initiative that is adding to our ranks of world-class faculty, the foundation that defines our excellence.

We made significant progress on two pioneering initiatives that will lead discovery, create jobs, and foster new business and new products. The Discovery Partners Institute and Illinois Innovation Network will build on the economic impact of a system that already pumps $17.5 billion into the state’s economy every year. That rivals, even surpasses, many world nations and also accounts for one in every 46 jobs across Illinois.

We are experiencing a remarkable momentum across the system, as we follow the roadmap of our Strategic Framework. We are moving closer and closer to its ambitious goal of making our universities the gold standard for higher education in the 21st century, and proving yet again that when we work together the results are “Altogether Extraordinary.”

On behalf of the University of Illinois System, I thank you for your support.

Tim Killeen
President
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The University of Illinois Board of Trustees consists of 13 members, 11 trustees who have official votes. Nine are appointed by the governor for terms of six years, and three student trustees (one from each university) are elected by referenda at their university for a one-year term. One of these student trustees is appointed by the governor to have an official vote. The governor serves as an ex-officio member.

Trustees are appointed to serve on a voluntary, non-remunerated basis.

Members of the University of Illinois Board of Trustees are responsible to the people of Illinois for the proper distribution of funds appropriated by the legislature and for the proper administration and governance of the U of I System.

They oversee all aspects of the U of I System. In addition to focusing on appropriate governance, trustees advocate for programs and initiatives that support diversity and sustainability at all three universities.

Trustees are listed with their home city and year of term expiration. *Denotes student trustees, who are listed with the university they represent.
SYSTEM LEADERSHIP

Timothy L. Killeen, PhD
President

Barbara J. Wilson, PhD
Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Michael D. Amiridis, PhD
Chancellor/Vice President, University of Illinois at Chicago

Robert J. Jones, PhD
Chancellor/Vice President, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Susan J. Koch, PhD
Chancellor/Vice President, University of Illinois at Springfield

Thomas R. Bearrows, JD
University Counsel

Avijit Ghosh, PhD
Chief Financial Officer and Vice President

H. Edward Seidel, PhD
Vice President for Economic Development and Innovation

Dedra M. Williams, MS
Secretary of the University

OFFICERS OF RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

James H. Moore, Jr., MS
President/CEO, University of Illinois Foundation

Jennifer Dillavou, BA
President, University of Illinois Alumni Association

SYSTEM OFFICES

The president and senior staff work together to develop strategies and solutions to address educational and administrative challenges across the University of Illinois System. System staff are responsible for communicating the breadth and excellence of endeavors occurring throughout the U of I System to government, corporate, and civic leaders as well as to alumni and other stakeholders. The leadership works with these audiences to ensure continued support for the universities.

System offices and units provide centralized services that are vital to supporting the primary missions of the U of I System.

SYSTEM SERVICES AND FUNCTIONS:

- Academic affairs, programs, and services
- Human resources, employee and labor relations
- Business and financial services
- Information technology and systems
- Capital programs and real estate services
- Institute of Government & Public Affairs
- Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois
- Legal counsel
- Discovery Partners Institute and Illinois Innovation Network
- Planning and budgeting
- Economic development and innovation
- System communications, marketing, and open records compliance
- Ethics and compliance
- Treasury operations
- Governmental relations
- University of Illinois Press
The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, an original land grant university, pioneers innovative research, solves global problems, and expands the human experience. Outstanding academic programs, award-winning faculty, extraordinary resources, and bountiful opportunities attract top-caliber students, who join research teams, study abroad, create innovative art, and serve in communities.

- Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences
- Applied Health Sciences
- Gies College of Business
- Division of General Studies
- Education
- Engineering
- Fine and Applied Arts
- Graduate College
- School of Information Sciences
- School of Labor and Employment Relations
- Law
- Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Media
- Carle Illinois College of Medicine
- School of Social Work
- Veterinary Medicine

Total enrollment (Fall 2018) 49,702
Degrees awarded (2017-2018) 13,038
Operating budget (FY 2019) $3 BILLION
The University of Illinois at Springfield emphasizes a strong liberal arts core and a broad engagement in public affairs issues of the day. Students and faculty conduct research and public service projects in the living laboratory that is the Illinois state capital to improve regional, state, national, and global communities. The diverse student body, composed of traditional, non-traditional, and international students, thrives in a friendly learning environment that offers substantial student-faculty interaction.

- Business and Management
- Education and Human Services
- Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Public Affairs and Administration

Total enrollment (Fall 2018): 4,575
Degrees awarded (2017-2018): 1,547
Operating budget (FY 2019): $139.3 million
The University of Illinois at Chicago is the city’s only public research university and, as such, is an integral part of the educational, technological, and cultural fabric of Chicago. UIC is recognized as one of the most ethnically rich and culturally diverse universities in the U.S. Adding to its existing 15 colleges and multiple disciplines, the university will debut Chicago’s only public law school, the UIC John Marshall Law School, in Fall 2019.

- Applied Health Sciences
- Architecture, Design, and the Arts
- Business Administration
- Dentistry
- Education
- Engineering
- Graduate College
- Honors College
- UIC John Marshall Law School
- Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- School of Public Health
- Jane Addams College of Social Work
- Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Total enrollment (Fall 2018): 31,683
Degrees awarded (2017-2018): 7,557
Operating budget (FY 2019): $3.4 BILLION
The University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System (UI Health) provides comprehensive care, education, and research to the people of Illinois and beyond. A part of the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), UI Health’s clinical enterprise includes a 495-bed tertiary care hospital, 21 outpatient clinics, 11 federally qualified Mile Square Health Center facilities, two family health centers, and a clinic at O’Hare International Airport.

- **Physicians & advanced practitioners (2018)**: 936
- **Emergency Department visits (FY 2018)**: 46,689
- **Outpatient visits (FY 2018)**: 499,847
ACROSS THE STATE

ROCKFORD
Rockford is a regional home to several academic programs from the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) that work in partnership with local hospitals and health care organizations to provide medical training and research opportunities for students and health services for area residents.

• College of Medicine
• College of Nursing
• College of Pharmacy
• Crawford Library of the Health Sciences

PEORIA
Peoria is a regional home to UIC health science programs and to the UIS Peoria Center. Peoria boasts downstate Illinois’ largest medical campus, including a world-class medical simulation center.

• College of Medicine
• College of Nursing
• Library of the Health Sciences
• UIS Peoria Center

QUAD CITIES
The UIC College of Nursing established a regional program in Moline in 1980, attracting a majority of its students from 17 surrounding counties.

• College of Nursing

EXTENSION
The University of Illinois Extension is the flagship outreach effort of the U of I at Urbana-Champaign, offering educational programs to residents of all 102 Illinois counties.
Alumni are a permanent part of the University of Illinois family. Their support of our universities and the University of Illinois Alumni Alliance programs, services, and events fosters participation and pride in the institution.

The mission of the Alumni Alliance is to continuously strive to enhance all three universities by connecting, inspiring, and celebrating its highly diverse, global alumni base in an innovative, disciplined, and measurable manner. Currently the U of I System has more than 740,000 living alumni.

Illinois Connection is a grassroots legislative advocacy program that enlists alumni, faculty, students, and friends to serve as advocates for the University of Illinois System. Advocates with Illinois Connection help communicate the U of I System’s goals and needs to elected officials and increase public awareness of the system’s impact, through correspondence to legislators and participation in events such as U of I Day at the Capitol.

Established in 1935, the University of Illinois Foundation is an independent nonprofit corporation responsible for raising and administering private gifts that advance the University of Illinois System’s three universities.

The Foundation’s dedicated staff is part of a comprehensive advancement team of professionals who work closely with alumni and friends, faculty and staff, and corporations and foundations in support of the University of Illinois.

The U of I System and the Foundation launched a comprehensive fundraising initiative in fall 2017 that aims to raise $3.1 billion over five years across the three universities.
MORE SCHOLARSHIPS, GREATER ACCESS

Enrollment across the University of Illinois System grew to a record 85,960 students, driven by continued efforts to promote academic excellence, access, and affordability that includes extending a tuition freeze for new in-state undergraduates to a fifth consecutive year.

New scholarship and grant programs also go into effect this fall, aimed at keeping more Illinois students in Illinois.

AIM HIGH

High-achieving Illinois high school students will have the opportunity to have tuition covered at each of the system’s three universities.

The Illinois Legislature earmarked $25 million to Illinois public universities, of which $5 million will go to Urbana Champaign, $3.8 million to UIC, and more than $540,000 to Springfield beginning in the 2019-2020 school year. All three universities will match their respective gifts, doubling the aid available to qualifying students.

“We want these accomplished students because of the exceptional dedication and discipline they have shown during their high school years,” says UIC Chancellor Michael D. Amiridis.

Each university has established eligibility criteria for the additional scholarship funds.

“We hope this additional financial support will keep more Illinois students living and working in Illinois and encourage them to come to UIS,” says UIS Chancellor Susan J. Koch.

ILLINOIS COMMITMENT

In addition to Aim High, a new financial aid program at Urbana Champaign for qualified in-state students will cover tuition and fees for those whose family income is less than $61,000 a year.

“We established Illinois Commitment to ensure that even more high-achieving students in our state have affordable access to the kind of life-changing educational experience you can only find here,” says Urbana Champaign Chancellor Robert J. Jones.
A plan approved by the University of Illinois Board of Trustees and the board of directors at the John Marshall Law School made the private law school part of the University of Illinois at Chicago.

The UIC John Marshall Law School will welcome its first class in the fall of 2019, enhancing access and affordability for students seeking a law degree and for graduates seeking advanced degrees in various areas of law, including specialization within the law for non-attorney professionals.

The agreement takes advantage of the natural alignment between UIC’s public mission and the law school’s commitment to provide opportunities for students from underserved communities.

“This historic merger is yet another sign of UIC’s continuing rise as a powerhouse in public higher education, and reflects its bedrock commitment to the needs of this dynamic, global city,” says University of Illinois System President Tim Killeen.

The John Marshall Law School, originally established in 1899, is named after the fourth chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.
SUPPORTING CHILD CARE FOR STUDENTS

Low-income undergraduate students juggling the demands of parenthood and college at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign are getting assistance through a $419,000 U.S. Department of Education grant supporting campus-based child care services for Pell grant eligible students.

“By investing a small amount into these students, the returns will be phenomenal as they complete their degrees, become societal contributors through employment, and do all of the things that students do after graduation,” says Child Development Laboratory Director Brent McBride.

GIES REDEFINES EXECUTIVE EDUCATION

The Gies College of Business is making executive education more accessible to working professionals through a new online pilot program.

Called Business Essentials, the online non-credit business courses provide rising leaders and managers foundational business knowledge.

“This innovative delivery model taught by world-class faculty via a redefined classroom tears down access barriers and provides consumption flexibility,” says Amanda Brantner, director of executive education at Gies.

The Gies College of Business was named in 2018 in recognition of Chicago businessman and alumnus Larry Gies and his wife, Beth, who donated $150 million to the businesss college in Urbana.

UIC OFFERS CHANCE TO COMPLETE BACHELOR’S DEGREE

The University of Illinois at Chicago launched a new program for qualifying community college students who want to earn a bachelor of business administration degree and run a business.

“Making the degree available both on-campus and online allows the college to more fully engage with Chicago-area community colleges,” says Angela Prazza Winters, assistant dean, UIC Business Student Services. The program also may appeal to working professionals wanting to advance their career by completing and earning a bachelor’s degree.

UIC ESTABLISHES TWO NEW GRADUATE DEGREES

In a city known worldwide for its planning and design and vast supply chain operations, the University of Illinois at Chicago will now offer graduate degrees in both arenas.

UIC launched the new master of city design degree, offering interdisciplinary learning in architecture, landscape architecture, urban studies, urban planning, and other creative fields.

UIC also is offering a new master’s program in supply chain operations management to meet employer demand. The program will provide a background for a range of fields, including manufacturing, transportation and logistics, retail, health and medical, and food and software systems.
VIRTUAL EXPLORATION

Students at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign are learning to navigate and map a cave, lay out an excavation grid, and use ground penetrating radar to locate unseen features all without ever leaving their classroom.

Funded by a two year, $500,000 grant from the National Science Foundation, the simulated environment is meant to help anthropology professor Laura Shackelford and her colleagues design “virtual archaeology.” Over the course of a semester, students will uncover and interpret the history of an actual North American cave, layer by layer in the world of virtual reality.

“Going to a field school is a great opportunity for archaeology students, but it usually costs a lot of money and the burden is greatest for low income students, students with families, and those with mobility issues,” says Shackelford.

NSF GRANT TO FUND ADVANCED COMPUTING PLATFORM

The University of Illinois at Chicago received a three-year, $1 million grant from the National Science Foundation to build a state-of-the-art computing platform that will accelerate discovery and open new avenues of research involving artificial intelligence.

“The new system will allow researchers to create and utilize an in-demand computing platform that can rapidly learn to identify anomalies in large data sets and produce visualizations or extract features of interest from images,” says Maxine Brown, director of the Electronic Visualization Laboratory at UIC and principal investigator on the grant.

The platform, believed to be the future for computing and analyzing, will allow faculty to more quickly move, process, and store large-scale big data.
ADDING NEW TALENT
WORLD-CLASS FACULTY JOIN UNDER NEW HIRING PROGRAM

The University of Illinois System has created a three-year, $60 million initiative to recruit faculty of national and international distinction across a broad range of disciplines to expand the exceptional scholarship that attracts students and research funding to the system’s three universities.

The President’s Distinguished Faculty Hiring Program, coordinated by the system’s executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs Barbara Wilson, has now added 10 professors in Urbana-Champaign, three in Chicago, and one in Springfield.

“We are seeking the best minds worldwide to reimagine how we teach and learn new skills and how to innovate in a world where change is coming faster than ever,” says President Tim Killeen. “The investment we are making will pay dividends for years to come, shaping the lives of students and the breakthrough research discovery that drives progress.”

The new faculty bring with them expertise in many fields, including artificial intelligence, biomedical imaging, business management, cancer research, electronics, magnetics, public finance, and regenerative medicine. Learn more at go.uillinois.edu/newtalent.
ECONOMIC IMPACT

U OF I SYSTEM IMPACT IS $17.5 BILLION ANNUALLY

The University of Illinois System pumps $17.5 billion into the Illinois economy annually and supports 171,000 jobs—one in every 46 jobs across the state, according to a new economic impact study.

Spending by the three universities, its employees, students, and the increased earnings power of its graduates, the U of I System accounts for 2.2 percent of Illinois’ gross state product.

“The study’s findings reinforce our value to students and taxpayers, and signal that we never stop working to better serve our crucial role in moving Illinois forward,” says U of I System President Tim Killeen.

Learn more about the study at go.uillinois.edu/EconomicImpact

BY THE NUMBERS: THE U OF I SYSTEM IMPACT

- $17.5 BILLION TOTAL ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT IN ILLINOIS
- $171,000 JOBS IN ILLINOIS SUPPORTED BY THE U OF I SYSTEM
- $679 MILLION COMPANIES LAUNCHED THROUGH RESEARCH
- $10.1 BILLION ANNUAL SPENDING BY THE U OF I ALUMNI WHO LIVE AND WORK IN ILLINOIS
- $2.40 THE AVERAGE RETURN FOR EVERY $1 INVESTED BY ILLINOIS TAXPayers
- $4.9 BILLION ANNUAL ACADEMIC & RESEARCH SPENDING
- 15.4% THE AVERAGE ANNUAL RETURN FOR STUDENTS IN FUTURE CAREER EARNINGS
- $1.5 BILLION ANNUAL HOSPITAL AND HEALTHCARE OPERATIONS
- 22,000+ DEGREES GRANTED ANNUALLY
- 740,000+ ALUMNI
DISCOVERY PARTNERS INSTITUTE AND ILLINOIS INNOVATION NETWORK
DRIVING PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY

The University of Illinois System made significant progress in the past year on two pioneering initiatives that will drive next-generation research breakthroughs to solve the world’s greatest challenges, and create jobs and business on a massive scale.

Gov. Pritzker recommended reauthorizing $500 million in capital funding to develop Discovery Partners Institute (DPI) and Illinois Innovation Network (IIN). DPI, a new collaborative research institute in Chicago, will be the centerpiece of IIN, a statewide network of innovation hubs dedicated to revitalizing the state’s economy through interdisciplinary research and improved workforce development in agriculture, healthcare, computing, and other critical fields.

DPI officially opened offices last year at 200 S. Wacker Drive in downtown Chicago. Construction on DPI’s permanent home along the Chicago River is expected to be complete in 2023.

Adding to DPI’s collaborative reach, hubs of innovation are being created at each of the U of I System’s universities in Urbana-Champaign, Chicago, and Springfield. IIN hubs were also announced at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb and in Peoria. Over the past year, DPI signed on leading academic partners Northwestern University and the University of Chicago, Tel Aviv University, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and M.S. Ramaiah Medical College in India. Peoria-based OSF HealthCare was announced last year as DPI’s first corporate partner.

Bill Sanders, an award-winning educator and researcher who has guided Urbana’s acclaimed Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was named DPI’s interim director and will lead the research center’s development.

“Discovery Partners Institute and the Illinois Innovation Network will fuel massive new waves of breakthrough discovery, driving a new era of talent recruitment, business creation, economic growth, and social progress.”

—U OF I SYSTEM PRESIDENT TIM KILLEEN

To keep up with the developments and learn more about DPI and IIN, visit dpi.uillinois.edu.
INVESTING IN ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Pop-up galleries, an Illinois writer’s festival, theater renovations, and using virtual reality to teach performance are among the projects funded in a new, nearly $2 million initiative by the University of Illinois System aimed at emphasizing the impact and influence of the arts and humanities across Illinois.

Fourteen projects were selected from more than 50 proposals in the first year of the Presidential Initiative to Celebrate the Impact of the Arts and the Humanities, launched last summer to enhance and promote the arts and humanities at the system's three universities over the next two years.

Of the 14 selected proposals, all but one project was awarded at least $100,000. By comparison, the average grant award in 2016 by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) was $25,000.

“The arts and the humanities are essential to providing a well-rounded education, crucial to fostering conscientious citizenship in communities, and foundational for the creative contributions that are needed within every economic sector,” says President Tim Killeen. “This initiative sends a message around the state and the country that the arts and humanities are a priority here.”

The program is supported by the offices of both the President and the Executive Vice President, using funds devoted to faculty development.

Learn more about the funded projects at go.uillinois.edu/celebrate.
KRANNERT CENTER: CAN YOU HEAR US NOW?

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts in Urbana unveiled a new assisted listening system, making it easier for people with hearing loss to enjoy a concert, play, or dance performance.

Visitors can check out small, lightweight packs that pick up an FM signal from the theater that is delivered to headphones or to a special receiver that wirelessly transmits the sound directly to a hearing aid. Krannert Center paid the $30,000 cost of the system and 60 devices.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS THROUGH ART

The University of Illinois at Springfield was awarded a $20,000 grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency to support the UIS Performing Arts Education Connections Program and other artistic programs that may not be able to rely on ticket sales to cover costs.

“It is a wonderful statement of support from the Illinois Arts Council,” said Bryan Rives, director of UIS performing arts services. “These prestigious grants are reviewed and awarded by a committee of peers in the field of arts presenting, so it is an affirmation of the work we are doing in our community.”

LEAVING A LEGACY

Beloved art history professor Ross Edman bequeathed nearly $1 million to establish a merit based award for graduate level art history students at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Edman, who died at 80 in 2017 and was known for his expertise in Asian art, joined UIC in 1965 while the campus was still located at Navy Pier, and taught until 1995. He also served as an Honors College fellow and became an emeritus faculty member after his retirement.
HUMANITIES RESEARCH

COMING TOGETHER TO HARVEST HISTORY

An NAACP pin given to a nurse during a 1966 Chicago riot, articles about Vice President Walter Mondale’s 1979 visit to Loami, and photographs of a Lithuanian family were some of the many items brought to “History Harvest,” sponsored by the history department at the University of Illinois at Springfield.

“This is a situation where we come up with a theme and the public decides what the ultimate focus of the collection is, so it opens up a whole range of items and questions historians wouldn’t have thought of,” says UIS assistant professor of history Devin Hunter.

This year’s event focused on what connects people to Illinois. UIS students scanned the materials and plan to publish them online. A third History Harvest is planned for 2020.

EXAMINING HOUSING DIVERSITY AND STABILITY

The more diverse a neighborhood is in terms of the type of housing available betters its chances at weathering a financial housing crisis, say researchers at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Researchers looked at housing diversity and home foreclosures in 14 metropolitan areas across the country from 2005 through 2013, using census tract data, and found that communities with lower housing diversity had higher rates of foreclosures and recovered slower.

While neighborhoods characterized by higher average incomes are thought of as more stable, they offered less affordable housing, and that lack of housing diversity could lead to higher foreclosure rates in a crisis, the study found. Mortgage characteristics, lending practices, and borrowing behaviors were also vital to housing stability, the study noted.

UIC SELECTED FOR HISTORICAL INITIATIVES

The University of Illinois at Chicago Department of History will be part of two American Historical Association led initiatives funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. One initiative will focus on redesigning introductory level courses and the other will center on preparing doctoral students for diverse career paths.

UIC is among 11 two and four year institutions in Chicago, Houston, and New York selected for History Gateways, a $1.65 million program for the evaluation and revision of introductory college level history courses to better serve students from all backgrounds.

The Career Development Initiative, a two year review of broad based professional development within the history department’s doctoral program, will be led by a career diversity fellow in the department.
INNOVATION

From Earthly biowaste to extraterrestrial biosignatures, the U of I System’s reach in leading-edge research is considerable.

The University of Illinois at Chicago received a $1.1 million, five-year grant from NASA’s Astrobiology Institute to help identify any presence of life, whether current or long-extinct, on Saturn’s largest moon, Titan. Titan’s ocean, which sits below a thick ice layer, is believed to have conditions favorable to life.

UIC’s D’Arcy Meyer-Dombard and Fabien Kenig are re-creating the high pressure and extreme cold conditions found in Titan’s ocean at their UIC laboratory. There, they will attempt to grow microorganisms that can withstand the harsh environment and look for characteristic chemical and biological signatures that could help other researchers develop instruments to detect and identify those biosignatures on Titan and beyond.

TURNING WASTE INTO FUEL

Researchers at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign are converting wet biowaste, such as swine manure and food scraps, into fuel that can be blended with diesel and that shares diesel’s combustion efficiency and emissions profile.

“The demonstration that fuels produced from wet waste can be used in engines is a huge step forward for the development of sustainable liquid fuels,” says Brajendra K. Sharma, a research scientist with the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center at the Prairie Research Institute and a co-author of the study.

The research team developed pilot-scale reactors to produce biocrude oil out of the biowaste. They found that by using 10 to 20 percent of the biocrude they produced blended with diesel generated 96 to 100 percent of the power output and similar pollutant emissions as regular diesel. The team is currently developing plans for commercial-scale application of the process.
NEW IMAGING TECHNOLOGY OFFERS REAL-TIME MICROSCOPIC VIEWS

A new microscope system developed at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign can image living tissue in real time and in molecular detail, promising improved disease diagnosis and a new tool for tracking cancer progression.

The new technology uses tailored pulses of light to see at the subcellular, molecular, and metabolic levels in living animals and human tissue; can be used while inside a living being; and does not use dyes or chemicals.

“With advances in microscopy techniques such as ours, we hope to change the way we detect, visualize, and monitor diseases to lead to better diagnosis, treatments, and outcomes,” says Stephen Boppart, a professor of bioengineering and electrical and computer engineering and a medical doctor, whose team developed the new technology.

USING GRAPHENE TO DETECT ALS, OTHER NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASES

The same material that makes up pencil lead may offer a new way to test for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS, according to research from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Graphene is considered one of the world’s thinnest, strongest, and most conductive materials.

Researchers found that when cerebrospinal fluid from patients with ALS was added to graphene, it produced distinct and measurable vibrational changes. Since there is no definitive test for ALS, an objective diagnostic test could help patients start receiving treatment sooner.

“Graphene is just one atom thick, so a molecule on its surface in comparison is enormous and can produce a specific change in graphene’s phonon energy, which we can measure,” says Vikas Berry, associate professor and head of chemical engineering in the UIC College of Engineering and an author on the paper.
ONLINE PROGRAM HELPS PREVENT TEEN DEPRESSION

A new study by UIC researchers highlights the positive effects a web-based intervention can have on preventing depressive episodes among teens.

The study compared outcomes from those who used a depression-specific online learning module to a general health education online module. The depression-specific interventions taught coping skills, such as how to escape negative thoughts and solving problems in stressful situations.

All who participated showed improvement. However, higher-risk adolescents whose depressive symptoms scored high on initial screening demonstrated far greater benefits with as much as an 80 percent risk reduction for experiencing a depressive episode following the interventions.

Benjamin Van Voorhees, the principal investigator of the study, says that depression care needs to focus more on preventive measures, versus reactive treatments and may need to target a person’s symptom severity, not just prior history.

POTENTIAL NEW CYSTIC FIBROSIS TREATMENT USES ‘MOLECULAR PROSTHETIC’

An approved drug normally used to treat fungal infections might also help people with cystic fibrosis by doing the job of a protein channel that is missing or defective and work as a “prosthesis” on the molecular scale, says new research from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the University of Iowa.

Cystic fibrosis is a lifelong disease that makes patients vulnerable to lung infections. There are treatments for some but not all patients, and there is no cure.

Researchers found that the drug, amphotericin, restored infection-fighting properties in lung tissue donated by human patients as well as in pigs with cystic fibrosis. It has potential to become the first treatment to address all types of cystic fibrosis, regardless of the genetic mutation that causes the protein deficiency.

The findings were published in the journal Nature.

“Instead of trying gene therapy—which is not yet effective in the lung—or to correct the protein, our approach is different. We use a small molecule surrogate that can perform the channel function of the missing protein, which we call a molecular prosthetic,” said Dr. Martin D. Burke, the leader of the study. Burke is a professor of chemistry and the associate dean for research at the Carle Illinois College of Medicine.
COMMUNITY

PROFESSIONAL MUSIC TRAINING
RESOURCES FOR THE COMMUNITY

The University of Illinois at Springfield launched a new Community Music School offering instrumental and vocal instruction to aspiring musicians in Sangamon County, ages five years and up, to enhance the community and campus.

Lessons will be taught by professional musicians with extensive performance experience and rigorous teaching standards. In addition to voice lessons, instruction will be offered on several musical instruments. At the end of the semester, students also have the opportunity to perform at a recital.

DISABILITY CULTURAL CENTER OPENS AT UIC

Housed in the Daley Library, a new center at the University of Illinois at Chicago is focused on creating a community respectful of all forms of diversity and will shape how disability is understood and defined on campus and in the broader community.

“The opening of the new Disability Cultural Center marks a turning point for the UIC community and indeed for the disability community on campus and in Chicago,” says Roxana Stupp, director of the center. “UIC joins a select group of pioneer public universities that have acknowledged the place of disability within the institutional framework of diversity.”

The cultural center aims to change the conversation on disability by dispelling stereotypes and stigmas, and will promote thought about disability through human diversity, human rights, and social justice. UIC faculty, staff, and students who have disabilities helped create the vision for the new center.
LEADING BY GREEN DESIGN

Making the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign more energy sustainable earned national distinction and the Climate Leadership Award from Second Nature, a Boston-based nonprofit, in partnership with the U.S. Green Building Council.

Among the efforts that led to the university’s recognition was the vast research in sustainability, energy, and the environment; integrating sustainability into the coursework of nearly every college; and comprehensive energy savings efforts, including one of the largest university solar arrays in the U.S.

The university also serves as a host institution for the Center for Advanced Bioenergy and Bioproducts Innovation, a U.S. Department of Energy Bioenergy Research Center.

SUPPORTING ECONOMIES IN MILITARY-CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

The University of Illinois at Chicago received a $2.4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Defense to support economic research and resiliency in Illinois’ military connected communities.

The 18 month grant, led by UIC’s Nathalie P. Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Improvement, will develop an online tool for regional and economic development partners in the Quad Cities, Rockford, Peoria, and Chicago to provide real time data of the military’s manufacturing and supply chain.

“The Supply Chain Mapping Tool, the first of its kind for Illinois manufacturing, will open the door to many possibilities for growth and opportunities for firms and communities in this state to be more competitive,” says Janet Smith, co-director of the center.

The tool will quantify changes, expansions, and cutbacks by the Department of Defense in the region and marks phase two of a data-driven initiative launched in 2015 with a $5.5 million grant to the University of Illinois System.
BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Buildings are the face of the University of Illinois System and make up the unique identity for each of the three remarkable universities, but they also are at the core mission of serving students and the public good.

Over the last five years, the system invested $1.2 billion in building construction and renovations to ensure state of the art learning, and laboratory and living spaces keep pace with the quality of the academic and research programs.

“Bricks and mortar are essential to our excellence, to our faculty’s ability to teach and research, and to our ability to remain a go to destination for top students and faculty,” says President Tim Killeen.

Looking to the future, the system also has an ambitious plan to ramp up investment on facilities. More than 300 projects totaling $4 billion are planned over the next decade from repairs and remodeling to new classroom buildings and laboratories.

go.uillinois.edu/BuildingTheFuture

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EVERITT LAB
A two-year, $55 million renovation of Everitt was completed, providing a new home for the Department of Bioengineering with expanded research and teaching.

FOOTBALL PERFORMANCE CENTER
Work kicked off at the new $79.2 million performance center that will provide football team rooms, locker rooms, and strength training areas. Completion is set for the start of the 2019 season.

SIEBEL CENTER FOR DESIGN
When completed in 2020, this $48 million project will house design workshops for 3-D printing, metal fabrication, laser and water-jet cutting, and computer controlled machining; studios for video and audio recording; virtual reality application; and public gathering space.

BRUCE D. NESBITT AFRICAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER
A new $5.9 million building with offices, a conference room, kitchen, music room, and gathering space when completed this year will replace the old building, demolished in 2014 for safety reasons.
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING BUILDING

Construction will begin soon on a large-scale $41 million renovation that will update about 66,000 square feet of existing space and add more than 30,000 square feet of new instructional space.

ILLINOIS STREET RESIDENCE HALLS

Two projects will transform student living along Illinois Street. A $73.5 million renovation and addition of the existing dining facilities will be completed next year; and a $59.5 million renovation of residential housing for more than 1,100 students is set to begin this year.

CHICAGO

ENGINEERING INNOVATION BUILDING

The first new building on the campus’ east side in nearly 30 years will put UIC’s chemical, mechanical and industrial, and civil and materials engineering departments under one roof when completed this year. The $43 million project includes labs, classrooms, and office space for faculty and students.

MEDICAL SCIENCES BUILDING

A $16.6 million project is creating state-of-the-art research labs to accommodate innovative research programs and attract leading investigators.

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

A new performing arts center will serve as a new destination for arts and culture production and include a 500-seat concert hall, a 270-seat flexible main stage theater, rehearsal halls, and theater production shops. UIC is in the process of raising the projected $94.5 million cost of construction.

RESIDENCE HALL AND LEARNING CENTER

A $100 million public-private partnership is creating a “living-learning” community with residential and academic spaces for about 550 students. The 10-story building will be completed this year.

CLINICAL PERFORMANCE CENTER

This $11 million project now underway and scheduled for completion this year will relocate and expand the Graham Clinical Performance Center, which provides simulation training for medical students.

COMPUTER, DESIGN, RESEARCH & LEARNING CENTER

Targeted for completion in 2021, this nearly $96 million six-story building will contain flexible-module classrooms to support new learning paradigms, including new research labs, interdisciplinary student design space, and house UIC’s Department of Computer Science.

SPRINGFIELD

UIS STUDENT UNION

The $21.75 million UIS Student Union opened, offering a new “center of campus life.” The two-story, 50,000-square-foot student union anchors the south quad, provides campus dining services, a ballroom, and a Student Leadership Center for student government, volunteer offices, and workspaces for student organizations.

BROOKENS LIBRARY

The Brookens Library completed a $550,000 renovation last fall with classroom space added to the main floor and includes a more open layout, state-of-the-art LED lighting, modern and durable flooring, mobile furniture, and collaborative spaces that encourage group interaction and active learning. The project also adds a high-tech classroom for library instruction and workshops.
The total FY 2019 operating budget* for the University of Illinois System is $6.8 billion.

### WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Payments on Behalf</td>
<td>25.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Tuition and Fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earnings, misc. (e.g., hospital and medical services plans)</td>
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<tr>
<td>US Grants and Contracts/Federal Appropriations</td>
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<td>Auxiliary and Departmental Operations (e.g., bookstores, housing)</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Revenues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institutional Funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Gifts</td>
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### HOW IS THE MONEY SPENT?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>Instructional and Departmental Research</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Physical Plant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Services</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Includes $1.77 billion in payments made on behalf of the System for employee benefits and $41.4 million for the Academic Facilities Maintenance Fund Assessment (AFMFA)
THE PRECEDENTED INITIATIVE EMPLOY MASS MEDIA SUCH AS AIRPORT DISPLAYS, BILLBOARDS, RADIO ADS, AND TARGETED DIGITAL AND SOCIAL MEDIA ADVERTISING, WHICH IS COMBINED WITH STRATEGIC PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS EFFORTS ACROSS THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.

MARKETING IS A KEY COMPONENT OF THE MAJOR PHILANTHROPIC FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS UNDERWAY FOR EACH OF THE SYSTEM’S UNIVERSITIES. TOGETHER, THEY MAKE UP THE U OF I SYSTEM’S LARGEST-EVER CAPITAL CAMPAIGN, ASPIRING TO RAISE $3.1 BILLION OVER FIVE YEARS TO SUPPORT STUDENTS, FACULTY, ACADEMIC PROGRAMS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES.

“THIS IS THE START OF A PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN THAT WILL CONTINUE TO TELL OUR STORY FOR YEARS TO COME,” SAYS PRESIDENT TIM KILLEEN. “IT IS CRUCIAL TO KEEP THE U OF I SYSTEM AND OUR UNIVERSITIES TOP OF MIND, AND BUILD THE SUPPORT THAT WILL DRIVE OUR CONTINUED SUCCESS.”

If you take a step back and look at the collective resources, capabilities, accomplishments, and drive of three best-in-class universities, with exceptional students and researchers tackling global challenges, fostering economic growth, and enriching culture and society, it is altogether extraordinary.

To increase public awareness and support of the state’s flagship public university system’s far-reaching impact and value, the University of Illinois System launched a statewide multimedia marketing campaign last spring.