

ANNUAL REPORT

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

ENGAGING STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS



UIC UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT CHICAGO

FY 2012



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Message from the Vice Chancellor

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I am pleased to share with you another year of highlights and accomplishments from the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs (OVCSA) and its departments, which work closely with students to enhance student success. This year marks the 30th year since UIC consolidated its two Chicago campuses. The past three decades have been a time of profound change for Student Affairs as the direction has moved from providing basic services to strategically designed programs to nurture student success and improve degree completion.

While Student Affairs historically served the students' out-of-class needs through providing a wide array of programs and services, the mission has evolved to actively engage students in the learning process. From the addition of residence halls on the east side of campus to creation of the Student Services Building to continued focus on student learning in partnership with Academic Affairs, a more holistic approach has contributed to campus gains in student retention and graduation rates.

The OVCSA nurtures student academic success from orientation through graduation by offering a well-rounded collegiate experience that fosters lifelong success. Alleviating barriers to degree completion is an important part of the OVCSA's mission. Financial obstacles often prevent students from engaging fully in their educational pursuits. The Supporting Excellence Endowment (SEE) scholarship supports student engagement by relieving some of the financial burden facing students.

Established in 2001, SEE scholarships offer financial support to UIC undergraduates who demonstrate leadership skills through involvement in campus cocurricular or outside-the-classroom activities. The scholarship program recognizes the role played by students in the cocurricular life and vitality of the campus. The SEE is the first endowed scholarship program at UIC designed specifically to recognize student leaders.

The OVCSA administers a series of other scholarships that are made available through the generosity of donors. All of the scholarship programs encourage academic excellence and help students overcome the financial challenges of attending college. The scholarship winners continue to express the importance of the awards in terms of academic and personal impact.

OVCSA's annual giving program extends beyond the SEE awards to fund programs and services that make UIC a welcoming and productive environment for students and their families. From supporting key programs and services to leadership development and diversity initiatives, donors make a profound impact on the outcomes that UIC students are able to achieve. The financial donations for programs and scholarships continue to make the great university envisioned decades ago flourish, preparing new leadership for an ever-changing global community. The resulting opportunities and learning acquired by our students will last them a lifetime.

On behalf of UIC students and my OVCSA colleagues, I thank you for your generous and continued support, which helps to promote student success.

Sincerely,
Barbara Henley
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

UIC's Strong Tradition of Student Affairs

From its earliest beginnings at Navy Pier, students recognized the importance of campus life. According to the UIC historian, “Even though the Chicago Undergraduate Division was a commuter campus in a grimy and overcrowded facility, students immediately began trying to establish a sense of campus life.” The early development of programs and services responded to growing student desire for a sense of community, with a focus on student clubs, social events, and athletics. The “new” Circle Campus and the Medical Center Campus continued to support student needs outside the classroom, adapting as student trends changed. Early changes included the addition of on-campus housing for students on the Medical Center Campus and Student Centers for both campuses.

Fast-forward to the consolidation of the Chicago campuses. The university made a bold move to consolidate the Chicago campuses in 1981, which set a new direction that transformed UIC into a leader in research and academic excellence. With the establishment of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs (OVCSA) in 1983, the campus solidified its commitment to all students. Over the three decades since then, the facilities of UIC have changed to create an environment that supports a community of scholars. In response to the changing needs of students, new and

renovated student facilities have emerged. Campus Housing has tripled the number of on-campus residents; the Flames Athletic Center was established to support the training and academic service needs of student-athletes; new fitness centers were built; the South Campus anchored UIC firmly in the neighborhood; and the Commuter Student Resources Center (CSRC) opened to provide additional student support.

Strategic initiatives have been implemented to assist students in achieving their academic goals. The establishment of clear goals with measurable student learning outcomes is an integral part of the strategic plan and drives the OVCSA effort to support the university’s academic mission. The outcomes also contribute to the increases in student retention and graduation rates. The OVCSA works in partnership with Academic Affairs to assess student academic achievements and implement initiatives to improve student learning.

Everyone on the OVCSA team, from the vice chancellor and the professional staff leading programs and services to student peer mentors and housekeepers, contributes to fostering student academic success. Resident assistants and peer mentors assist other students with questions that arise related to academics and student life. The cashiers, desk attendants, and housekeepers maintain a pleasant, orderly atmosphere that is conducive to academic excellence. Together, the staff creates a welcoming and productive environment with conveniently located services to engage students with the campus. Engaged, well-informed students can find the tools and support they need to achieve their academic goals. The OVCSA strives to establish positive relationships with prospective students and their families that extend through their enrollment to graduation. The overall goal is to support the UIC academic mission and to contribute to advancement of students’ personal and academic growth. Some highlights of our many contributions are included in this annual report and will follow.



University of Illinois at Navy Pier - 1946



2012 Graduates Celebrate New Beginnings

Preparation and Transitions Impact Academic Success

The transition from high school to college has become part of the national conversation about student success. First-generation college students are at a disadvantage because they sometimes lack family members to rely on for advice and guidance about college. Additionally, large numbers of students arrive at the university unprepared to succeed with the college curriculum. While OVCSA has traditionally offered programs that assist students adjust to expectations and rigors of the classroom, the staff continues to identify best practice solutions to increase the opportunities for academic success. Programs targeted to high school students, as well as first-year and transfer students aim to remove the obstacles new students may encounter during their transition to academic life at UIC. Engagement of and support for first-year students positively contribute to increased retention. The OVCSA outreach efforts resulted in a myriad of accomplishments, some of which follow.

Accomplishments

- The TRIO/Upward Bound (UB) Program operated 25 sessions for 99 students in the Saturday Academy during the academic year and 47 participants in the five week summer residential session. Three high school seniors earned college credit through the dual enrollment program with the Chicago Public Schools and the City Colleges of Chicago.
- Three-fourths of the male participants in UB reported acceptance into an institution of higher learning for fall 2012.
- The African American Academic Network (AAAN) assisted 233 prospective students in submitting their undergraduate applications to the University of Illinois at Chicago for fall 2012. Of the 233 prospective students that submitted applications, 142 (60.9%) students were admitted to UIC and 52 (22.3%) enrolled for fall 2012.
- AAAN's recruitment unit visited more than 25 schools providing application workshops and presentations to prospective students; approximately 586 contact cards were completed by the students and submitted to AAAN.

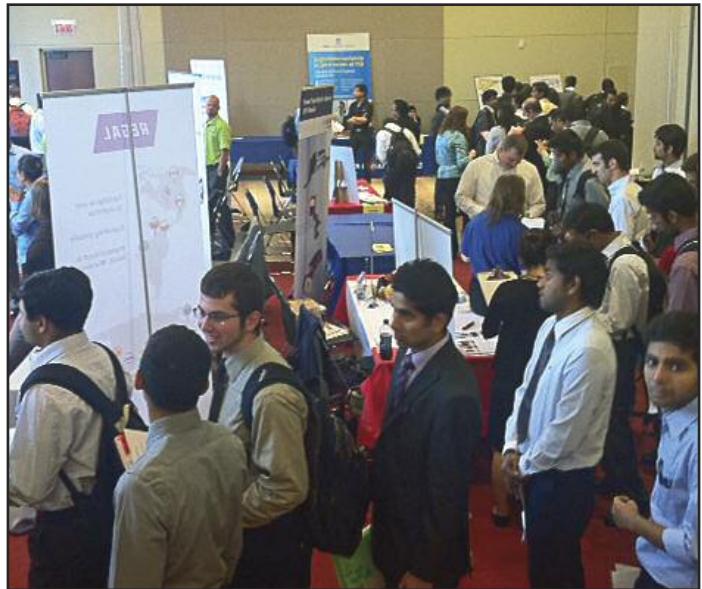
- The Office of International Services (OIS) held 22 orientation sessions for 724 new international students.
- New Student Orientation was attended by 3,294 Freshmen and 2,343 Transfer Students.
- The Summer Transfer Orientation Program offered a “Transition Tools” session developed specifically for students who were veterans.
- First-time freshman TRIO Academic Support Program (ASP) students were retained at a rate of 93.2%.
- First-year users of the Commuter Student Resource Center were retained at a rate of 84%.
- Freshmen attending New Student Orientation were retained at a rate of 80%.
- New freshmen living in Campus Housing were retained at a rate of 79.7%.
- 7% increase in student involvement/volunteerism (14,144 contacts in FY2011 vs. 15,172 contacts in FY2012) in Campus Programs.



“You’re The Chef” Competition Using Creative Cooking Ideas



Student Leaders and President Clinton at the 12th World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates



Career Fair Brings Opportunities for Job Networking

Engagement and Exploration Impact Student Learning

Assessment in higher education has matured over the past few decades from collections of anecdotal data and single institution surveys to nationwide projects that offer meaningful insight into behaviors, trends, and attitudes that define pathways to student achievement. While existing studies provide guidance, local assessment of programs and services is essential to continually improve delivery to meet emergent student needs. OVCSA staff members conduct annual assessments at the departmental level to insure that resources are effectively deployed to foster student learning and engage students for success. National research and assessment of UIC programs suggest that knowledge acquisition is strengthened by creating learning opportunities that combine classroom learning with real world experiences. Consequently, OVCSA offers significant opportunities to connect students with hands-on experiences that enhance learning.

Contributions to Learning

- 100% of the new Wellness Center peer educators achieved their Bacchus Gamma Certification during the 2011 fall semester.
- 100% of the students (40 students total) who completed the psychology course, PSCH 386, which trained volunteers for the InTouch Hotline, received a “B” or better.
- 90% of on-campus residents reported being more academically successful because of Campus Housing resources, tutoring, study lounges, and peer mentors.
- 88.7% of students assisted by the TRIO/ASP achieved and remained in good academic standing.
- 75% of students receiving tutoring through AAAN earned a grade of C or higher in the courses they were tutored in.
- 47% of the international students who participated in the Office of International Services’ “Trade Winds” program indicated a better understanding of Chicago and U.S. culture. They also felt more confident to participate in social events. The “Trade Winds” program paired domestic and international students together to foster intercultural awareness.
- Participants in outreach programs through the Counseling Center reported a mean rating of 4.6 on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree) for the evaluation item, "What I learned here today will help me to succeed in school/work."
- Students attending the debt management workshops offered by the Office of Student Financial Aid increased their knowledge about financial debt by 17% after completing the workshop.
- The average GPA among fall 2011 students enrolled in English as a Second Language (ESL) focused courses offered through the Academic Center for Excellence increased from a 3.11 GPA in spring 2011 (prior to taking the courses) to a 3.29 for fall 2011 (the semester the students were engaged in the ASP courses).
- Students who attended events sponsored by Campus Programs reported learning outcomes. Responses were received from 5,871 students to the question, “what did you learn from this event?” New Discipline (5%); New Culture (9%); New Art Form (25%); New Job Skill (2%); Leadership Skill (3%); Networking (9%); Social Interacting (25%); Public Speaking (2%); and Other (20%).
- 752% increase in the number of digital textbook titles available to students through the Bookstore (60 titles in AY2011 vs. 511 titles in AY2012).
- 95% of the Freshmen indicated that they felt comfortable attending UIC after participating in the orientation program.
- 90% of housing residents reported being more academically successful because of Housing resources in a 2012 Housing Residence Life Survey.



Chancellor's Student Service Leadership Awards

THE UIC EXPERIENCE

Engaging students for success

THE UIC EXPERIENCE challenges students to broaden their horizons through a variety of cocurricular activities. The program encourages students to explore the urban environment (Urban exploration), to be engaged intellectually (Inquiring minds), and to interact in our diverse campus community (Community). The possible combinations are endless as each participant selects two activities in each of the three categories to design an experience that reflects personal academic interests. Upon completion, a certificate is issued and the activities are listed on a cocurricular transcript. **THE UIC EXPERIENCE** can be repeated each academic year. While each individual plans a different combination of explorations, students collectively share a common experience, **THE UIC EXPERIENCE**. The flexible, vast array of choices for engaging students in academic support and cocurricular learning opportunities contributes to increased student learning and can advance retention rates.



Urban Exploration: International Students travel to the Chicago Board of Trade



Inquiring Minds: Lobby Day at State Capital-Student Leaders with State Representative Ken Dunkin



Community: Students working together to build a team

Contributions to Learning

- All student participants in **THE UIC EXPERIENCE** reported learning through their involvement. From 4,561 survey responses (1,249 participants), the students indicated that they learned New Discipline (11%); New Culture (9%); New Art Form (6%); New Job Skill (6%); Leadership Skills (14%); Networking Skills (17%); Public Speaking Skills (13%); Social Interaction Skills (17%); and Other (7%).
- The Smart Living program drew 1,407 student participants to 18 different educational tables that featured health and wellness topics. This represents an increase of 1073%, compared to 120 participants in FY11.
- The "You're The Chef" Competition sponsored by the Office of Meetings, Conferences, and Dining Services engaged 15 student participants who worked in teams to plan and prepare a three course meal. The competition was evaluated by a panel that included professional chefs from the Chicago area. As a result of their participation, students learned to think creatively by using ingredients provided to develop a menu and devise a meal.

Accomplishments

- **THE UIC EXPERIENCE** produced a 40% increase in the number of students (1,249) achieving certification by participating in two experiences in each of the three categories. Total registration in the cocurricular transcript system initiative that certifies **THE UIC EXPERIENCE** was 10,452.
- Commuter students comprised 77% of the participants completing **THE UIC EXPERIENCE**.
- The top three undergraduate colleges represented in **THE UIC EXPERIENCE** were Liberal Arts and Sciences (42%); Engineering (15%); and Business Administration (12%).
- Student Leadership Development and Volunteer Services, Campus Housing, Campus Programs, and Intercollegiate Athletics documented 17,212 student volunteer participations during the 2012 fiscal year. This is an 11.8% overall increase in the number of volunteer participations (15,399) from the previous year.
- UIC Radio, which is operated by 35 student disc jockeys, won "Best College Radio Station 2010, 2011, and 2012" by the Chicago Music Awards.
- In its 32nd year, the UIC Fashion Show successfully showcased at the UIC Forum with 923 attendees. The models in the show reflected the diversity of the campus with students forming friendships with others from different backgrounds.

UIC Athletics

Student-athletes focus on academics, as well as athletic prowess. While they pride themselves for their athletic abilities, participation in the UIC Flames Athletics program helps them develop as well-rounded individuals. Discipline, self-confidence, teamwork, and leadership skills, as well as critical life skills and service learning are fostered through the program.

More than 300 student-athletes compete in NCAA Division I in the Horizon League. The UIC Department of Intercollegiate Athletics operates on three basic principles: Excellence, Integrity, and Opportunity. The Port Academic Center, built as a result of a generous gift, offers student-athletes a dedicated study area where tutoring is available.

During the 2011–12 academic year, our student-athletes experienced success in academics and competition.

Accomplishments

- The one-year retention rate from the freshman to the sophomore year for student-athletes was 98.8%.
- During the 2011-2012 year, UIC student-athletes achieved a 3.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) for both fall and spring semesters.

- The UIC Athletic Department received NCAA Certification last August, capitalizing on a self-study to evaluate athletics in the key areas of governance and commitment to rules compliance, academic integrity, and gender/diversity and student-athlete well-being.
- UIC Flames Athletics sponsors seven men's teams: Basketball, Baseball, Cross Country and Track & Field, Gymnastics, Soccer, Swimming & Diving, and Tennis; and eight women's teams: Basketball, Cross Country and Track & Field, Golf, Gymnastics, Softball, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, and Volleyball.
- Nine UIC student-athletes were named to the Horizon Winter All-Academic Teams, one to Academic All-District, and one to Third-team Academic All-American.
- Three conference “Player of the Year” Awards.
- Thirty-eight Horizon League/East Coast Athletic Conference (Men’s Gymnastics only)/Midwest Independent Conference (Women’s Gymnastics only) Player of the Week Awards.
- Women’s Tennis captured 16th-consecutive Horizon League Championship and advanced to 14th-straight NCAA Tournament. Their winning streak of 143-consecutive wins over conference opponents is the longest streak in NCAA Tennis history (men’s or women’s).



Women's Volleyball Team Moves Toward Another Exciting Play

- Two National Player of the Week Awards (MSOC).
- Men's Gymnastics produced UIC's first-ever Elite 89 award winner recognizing the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade-point average participating at the finals for each of the NCAA championships.
- Women's Gymnastics finished in second place at MIC Championships, which garnered an automatic berth into NCAA Regional competition.

UIC Athletics is a major asset to UIC, and in an effort to continue to attract academically talented student-athletes to remain competitive, ongoing improvements to facilities have been made. The enhancements will allow student-athletes to excel further in the classroom, on the field, and on the court. Highlights of infrastructure upgrades include:

- North Field fencing was replaced and old baseball dugouts were removed.
- Soccer Field press box was refurbished with upgrades to scoreboard.
- Baseball Field press box was refurbished and new scoreboard/video board was installed. Entire baseball field was re-lamped.
- Softball Field outfield fence was repaired and safety padding was installed. Press box refurbished. Sod was replaced along baselines and batting cage net was replaced.
- NCAA Building bathrooms were renovated and flooring replaced.
- Tennis Courts received new nets for all 6 courts. Divider between Softball and Tennis was repaired.
- PEB Large Gym divider drapes were replaced, energy efficient lighting was installed and technological enhancements were made to scoreboard.
- PEB Large Pool upgrades included new score/video board, new starting blocks, diving boards, and timing equipment. Pool deck was repaired and entire pool was re-grouted. Infrastructure improvements included new air handling units, pool heater, and ADA lifts for both pools.



Men's Baseball Inning With Great Play



Women's Tennis In a Close Set



Men's Basketball Team Celebrating a win

Donor Honor Roll

UIC proudly graduates students who will emerge as a new generation of leaders in the global community. The continued support of the generous friends and alumni of UIC helps students complete their academic endeavors more efficiently by providing necessary resources. The many scholarships, programs, services, and learning opportunities offered by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs that positively impact students' lives depend on your donations. Every gift impacts the quality of the student experience, instilling in our future leaders a lifelong commitment to learning and contributing to society. We thank our many donors for their generosity and commitment to the success of our students during fiscal year 2012 (July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012).

\$100,000–499,999

Rivers Casino
Sodexo

\$50,000–\$99,999

TCF Foundation

\$25,000–\$49,999

Caterpillar Foundation

\$5,000–\$24,999

Gus Christopoulos
Thomas J. and Margaret F. Cisar
William P. Flesch
Winifred S. Freeman
Gordon Flesch Company, Inc.



Supporting Excellence Endowment (SEE) Scholars, (L-R) Carlos Ng, Kathryn Lerman, Vice Chancellor Barbara Henley, Patricia Chebat & Precious Marie Walker

Jim's Original
Kroeschell, Inc.
Alfred P. Maurice
J. Nnaemeka and Uchenna Onwuta
Periscope
Rundgren Foundation

\$2,500–4,999

Barbara Henley

\$1,000–2,499

Edward V. Adams
Anchor Mechanical Inc.
Commonwealth Edison Company
An Exelon Company
Leo N. and Deloris K. Franklin
J-Mac Associates, Ltd.
Walter K. Knorr and Terry A. Ross
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Washington, Pittman &
McKeever, LLC

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Hettie L. and Jimmy Collins
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Thomas P. O'Brien
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\$250–499

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Honorable Patricia Banks
B. Taylor Bennett
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Arlene F. Norsym
Charmaine Phelps-and
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Supporting Excellence Endowment (SEE) Benefit Guests

Cordell and Bernice B. Reed
Honorable Al Riley
Victor Severino
Susan M. Teggatz
Video and Sound Service, Inc.

\$100–249

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Peter Su
Booker T. Suggs

Barbara T. Triggs
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Zubek Warzecha
Emma Washington
Beverly D. Williams

\$1–99

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Gail A. August
Bank of America Foundation
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Michelle T. Bowman
Michael J. Buetow
Mary E. Christiaanse
Deena M. Ciavarella
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Student Affairs Departments

The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs (OVCSA) departments are responsible for providing services, programs, and facilities that support student development and success.

- Academic Center for Excellence
- African American Academic Network
- Campus Auxiliary Services
- Campus Housing
- Career Services
 - Student Employment
- Children's Center
- Counseling Center
- Educational Opportunity Outreach/
TRIO Programs
- Intercollegiate Athletics
- International Services
- Meetings, Conferences, and Dining Services
- Native American Support Program
- Office of the Dean of Students
 - Judicial Affairs
 - Ombuds Services
 - Student Legal Services
 - Veteran Affairs
- Office of Publications Services
- Office of Testing Services
- Retail Operations
- Student Centers
 - Campus Programs
 - Campus Recreation
 - UIC Forum
- Student Development Services
 - Leadership and Volunteer Services
 - Orientation
 - Wellness Center
- Student Financial Aid
- UIC Pavilion



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