

2019 annual report





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from the vice chancellor



Over the course of the last year, UIC Student Affairs has enlivened the University of Illinois System's motto of "All Together Extraordinary" by cooperatively providing programs and services that enhance the quality of student life. We are happy to share the ways our collective energy and creativity are making a difference in the lives of UIC students. Within these pages, you will find examples of how our diverse teams help students navigate critical elements of their college experience, such as academic enrichment, leadership development, career exploration, and much more. This annual report is organized by strategic priority area to showcase how units in Student Affairs have contributed to those priorities this year.

In November 2018, the University of Illinois Board of Trustees approved the UIC Master Plan Update: 2018 Implementation Plan. This exciting plan will carry the university's positive momentum into and through the next decade with a solid foundation for growth. Student Affairs plays a significant role in this campus transformation with the recently opened Academic & Residential Complex. As we embark on year two of the Student Affairs strategic plan, IGNITE 2025: The Plan for Student Life at UIC, we place emphasis on two of our strategic priorities: Welcoming and Modern Environments and Student-Centered Culture. Future plans for renovations include Student Center East and West and the Ignite Center, which would add more than 45,000 sq. ft. of modern student engagement space on the east campus, including collaborative work hubs, a skyline view theater, a rooftop terrace with adjacent event space, and a signature coffee house. This year we also reorganized several key student-centered departments (Center for Student Involvement, Commuter Student Resource Center, Fraternity & Sorority Life, New Student & Family Programs, and Student Leadership & Civic Engagement) into one cohesive unit. An important undertaking, this initiative will help us achieve our divisional priority to develop Student-Centered Culture in support of the university's strategic priority for Student Experience & Success.

With your generous support, Student Affairs is able to offer comprehensive programs, services, and facilities that bolster our students' academic and personal goals. All together, we can offer a premiere urban higher-education experience for UIC students. Thank you for your ongoing contributions, and on behalf of all the dedicated and innovative staff members within the division of Student Affairs here at UIC, we look forward to seeing you at one of our many sponsored events and programs this coming year.

Go Flames!



J. REX TOLLIVER
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs



mission

To cultivate intentional engagement in partnership with and on behalf of each student by creating purposeful learning opportunities through innovative programs, supportive services, and welcoming spaces in an inclusive community on campus and in Chicago.

vision

To provide the premiere urban university student experience.

strategic priorities

Student-Centered Culture

—

Welcoming and Modern Environments

—

Synergy with Chicago

—

Organizational Innovation & Effectiveness

—

Enterprising Strength and Resources



DEPARTMENTS

Departments within UIC Student Affairs are directly responsible for providing programs, services, and facilities that support student engagement, learning, and success.



Student Affairs Financial Services

Student Affairs Human Resources

Student Affairs Information Technology and ID Services

Student Centers

Student Engagement

- Commuter & Off-Campus Life
- Student Leadership and Civic Engagement
- New Student and Family Programs
- Dialogue Initiative
- Wellness Center

Student Financial Aid & Scholarships

TRIO Programs

Retail Operations

- Bookstores
- Tech Center

Venues & Events

- Credit Union 1 Arena
- Meetings & Conferences
- Isadore & Sadie Dorin Forum

Ace

- Testing Services

African American Academic Network (AAAN)

Campus Housing

Campus Recreation

Career Services

- Student Employment

Center for Student Involvement (CSI)

- Campus Programs
- Student Organizations
- UIC Impact

Children's Center

Counseling Center

Creative & Digital Services

Dining Services

Fraternity & Sorority Life

Native American Support Program (NASP)

Office of the Dean of Students

- Community Standards
- Student Assistance
- Student Legal Services
- Student Veterans Affairs



student-centered culture

FOSTER A STUDENT-CENTERED CULTURE THAT SERVES AS A CORNERSTONE FOR THE WORK OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

A “students first” culture will drive Student Affairs to ignite students’ passion by enriching their academic, personal, and professional goals. Inherent in this priority is our responsibility to support and advocate for diverse students, create engaging experiences, provide mechanisms for student learning/feedback, and support students in distress. In this process, we foster a sense of belonging, career/professional astuteness, interest in lifelong learning, community service, and the application of tools to care for themselves and others.



\$52.2 million
in Pell Grants awarded

The **Student Financial Aid and Scholarships** department successfully awarded 11,251 Pell Grants for the academic year valued at \$52.2 million compared to \$49.4 million last year.

UIClife, the social media identity of Student Affairs, encourages student participation and supports the division’s departments as they shape the experience of students on and off campus. This year, UIClife reported a 95% follower increase on Facebook (1,192 to 2,331 followers) and a 132% follower increase on Instagram (1,027 to 2,386 followers).

The **UIC Bookstores** implemented a push toward digital textbook materials that resulted in a 72% increase in student purchases (2,849 digital units sold vs. 859 print units sold).

Dining Services developed new and more varied meal plans, selling 2,285 board (residential/traditional) plans (4% increase from last year) and 378 block (nontraditional) plans.

The **African American Academic Network** conducted four service projects with 72 participating students. Students donated 400 books to families of public school students, collected 200 school supplies, packaged 1,000 cookies for local homeless shelters, and prepared 40 goody bags for the Illinois Medical District.

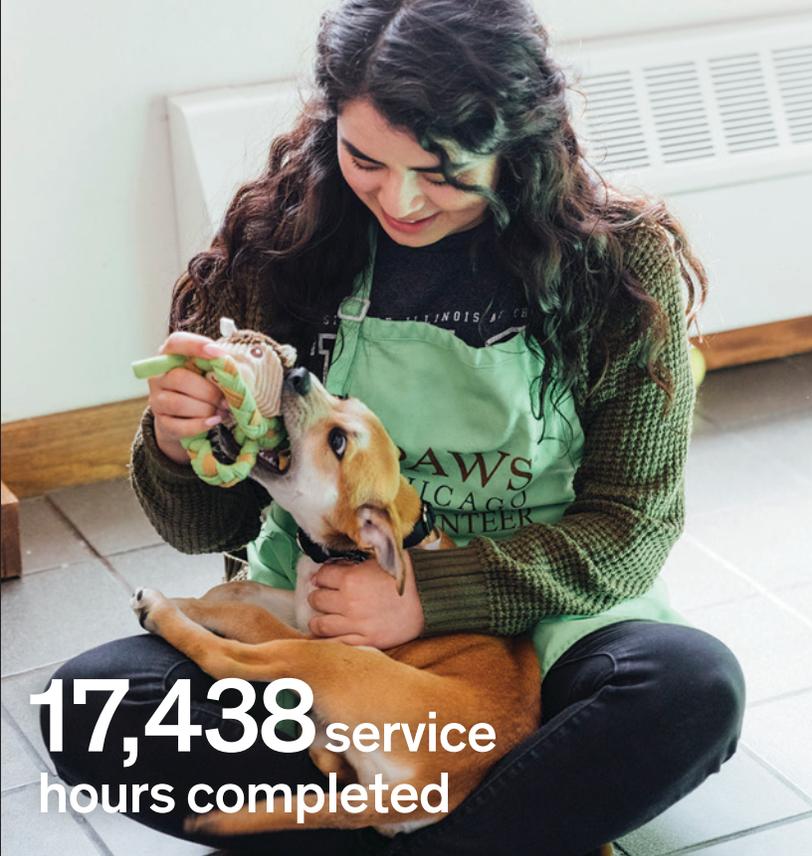
The **Center for Student Involvement** (CSI), which manages student organizations, registered 311 student organizations, 175 faculty/staff advisors, and 810 students serving in a leadership role. CSI held a conference for student organizations that had 476 attendees and four workshops that had a total of 125 attendees.

Student Veteran Services processed 808 educational benefits for students and saw 2,023 students visit the Cisar Veterans Center. Out of 35 graduating student veterans, 43% completed their degree in two years (13% increase from the previous year).

The **Student Activities Board** hosted 13 events for an attendance of 6,052 students, events included the first-ever Drag Race Show, Spark music festival, Homecoming, and the annual comedy show, LOL @ UIC.

The **Office of the Dean of Students** (DOS) supported students in 838 advocacy, ombuds, or students-of-concern cases, a 24% increase from the previous year. DOS also partnered with Student Financial Aid and Scholarships to establish the U & I Care Emergency Fund through which students could receive \$1,000 funding for emergency situations. There were 16 students who received emergency grants totalling \$10,978.

The DOS Community Standards area adjudicated 514 conduct cases, 21% of which were behavioral in nature and 79% were academic related, representing the highest number of conduct cases in two years.



17,438 service hours completed

Student Leadership and Civic Engagement (SLCE) reported 17,438 completed service hours, a 104% increase from the previous year, and reported a 29% increase in students who participated in a service activity. Activities included the UIC Day of Service, the university's largest service event, and the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, a nationwide effort to collaborate with local events and community areas. **Fraternity and Sorority Life** students also participated in the event as one of the many opportunities for service as reflected in their total 5,422 volunteer hours with their organizations.

SLCE conducted a four-day LeaderShape Institute, an off-campus experience that teaches students relationship building and the importance of leading with integrity. There were 62 participants, a 41% increase from the previous year.

The strategy for workshop delivery for the **Ace** changed this year to focus on topics of time management, writing strategies, goal setting, and test-taking strategies. Collaboration with 11 departments led to a 422% increase in workshop participation.

Career Services hosted several career fairs, including Arts & Culture, Education, All Majors, and Internship & Part-Time Jobs. More than 800 students and alumni and 290 employers participated in the career fairs, with an estimated 10–15% higher attendance of non-UIC attendees at consortium events. Additionally, the Diversity Career and On-Campus Job Fairs attendance included 1,186 students representing 9+ academic colleges, and 170+ campus and external employers.

Commuter and Off-Campus Life reimagined and rebranded its annual welcome event, Commuter Con, and welcomed over 700 students and family members compared to the 300 students that attended the previous year. As of May, the students entered the world of podcasting by launching *Commuter Pulse*. Streaming on Soundcloud and Apple Podcast, the podcast released seven engaging episodes and has over 490 episode plays.

The **Counseling Center** treated 249 students in therapy groups compared to 168 students last year. They added seven new groups for a total of 18 therapy groups. New groups reflected efforts to be responsive to the diverse needs of students. Workshop attendance reached 3,265 students, which is nearly a 75% increase from the 1,863 students last year.

The Wellness Center hosted a volunteer event, Hunger Walk, to benefit the UIC **Pop-Up Pantry**. This year, 88 UIC students, faculty, staff and their families helped to raise over \$1,000.

The Sports Club program in **Campus Recreation** ended the year with 24 sport clubs, 90 club officers, 1,803 total active members (91% increase), and 13,151 total participations (retention rates). There were a combined 1,088 practices and 206 games, competitions, and meets against 115 institutions across the United States.



91% increase in campus recreation sport club participation

welcoming and modern environments

ENHANCE WELCOMING AND MODERN ENVIRONMENTS THAT BUILD COMMUNITY

State-of-the-art facilities should be an essential part of the UIC experience. UIC Student Affairs prides itself in providing, creating, and maintaining multifunctional, safe, and inclusive spaces, thus providing students an opportunity to meet a diverse body of peers, engage in a broad range of activities, and build community in support of their overall student experience. To achieve the UIC strategic priorities and be globally competitive, we must focus our efforts on upgrading and maintaining our facilities to the highest standards.

One of the services that makes feel students welcome is the convenience and availability of food and drinks. The first on-campus **Starbucks** opened this spring in Student Center West. In its first six months since opening, the well-known coffee outlet has serviced 70,815 guests.

The **Commuter Student Resource Center** (CSRC) saw department improvements, such as front-desk operations supporting student questions and space reservations, center aesthetics with UIC photos and artwork, and an overhaul of the locker-rental management system to become a self-service experience. CSRC saw 5,536 unique visitors (a 10% increase from the previous year) and more than 101,000 total visits.

Campus Housing's new Academic and Residential Complex opened in the fall of 2019. The mixed-use project, developed through a public-private partnership (P3) with American

Campus Communities, is composed of a 52,000-square-foot, two-story academic classroom building and a 131,000-square-foot, 10-story undergraduate residence hall.

The residential tower includes 554 beds in traditional and semisuite units. Shared amenities include study and social lounges on each floor, a fitness center, and a student-managed Starbucks coffee shop. The top floor features a sky lounge with commanding views of downtown Chicago, perfect for residential life programming and quiet study.

The academic classroom building has large tiered collaborative classrooms arranged in a turn-to-team configuration, two 72-seat active learning classrooms, and two 32-seat flexible classrooms. Break-out spaces are provided throughout the building to encourage collaboration among students and help foster faculty-student interactions.



17,438
guests serviced at SCW Starbucks in first 6 months

synergy with chicago

CREATE SYNERGY WITH THE CITY TO FOSTER MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN OUR STUDENTS AND CHICAGO

UIC Student Affairs is well positioned to be a bridge between the university, the city, and its residents, including alumni, by embracing our relationship and commitment to Chicago. We have an opportunity to model the relationship the university can have with the city through our programs on- and off-campus, in our facilities, as well as through partnerships created to support our students and surrounding community. We must further create intentional opportunities for students to learn by doing and develop into socially responsible active citizens by getting involved with neighborhood communities and the city. Capitalizing on Chicago's rich diversity will allow for students to interact with and learn from communities different than their own.

Student Leadership and Civic Engagement launched TurboVote, an online platform for voter registration and participation reminders. Out of 134 campus partners, including universities, corporations, and nonprofit organizations, UIC was one of TurboVote's top 15 users with over 2,851 users.

The **African American Academic Network** connected with over 200 high school students through info sessions and immersion day events for schools and organizations, such as the UIC Open House, Proviso West High School Group Visit, and the African American Teen Summit/Forest View Educational Center.

Student Financial Aid and Scholarships created a partnership with Chicago Charter Schools via America Reads Tutoring Program. Department activity includes donating \$40,000 (as of 1/23/19) to America Reads funding.

For the first time at UIC, the **TRIO** Upward Bound Program hosted the Educational Opportunity Association TRIO Women in STEM National Conference, featuring various speakers and STEM activities. Three hundred fifty high school and college TRIO students from across the nation attended the conference.



350 high school and college students attended the TRIO Women in STEM conference

organizational effectiveness and innovation

FOCUS ON ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS AND ORGANIZATIONAL INNOVATION

The heart of Student Affairs is its staff, a diverse collective of professionals responsible for working toward a bold vision. We must transform and empower the organization so that we are appropriately resourced, staffed, and structured to fully address ever-changing strategic priorities in support of our mission to intentionally engage each student.

Parent-satisfaction data for utilizing the **Children's Center** is accessed via an annual online survey. The survey usually ends in March; however, this year there was an extension to May, which may have contributed to the 70% percent return rate.

Student Leadership and Civic Engagement implemented a new online service portal for students to track volunteer hours and find service opportunities. A 104% increase in service

hours from the previous year was tracked by assistance from the new portal system.

As a culmination of a year-long partnership with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), **Career Services** reported CIA job applications from UIC students increased 27% and interviews conducted with UIC students increased 71% over the prior year.



71%

increase in student interviews conducted with the CIA

enterprising strength and resources

CULTIVATE ENTERPRISING STRENGTH AND RESOURCES

Creative revenue streams and targeted spending are hallmarks of an organization with a strong economic awareness. We must ensure that our budgets are aligned to our priorities aiding the broader goals of the university.



A unique partnership between the **Wellness Center** and Dr. Ero Armiridis (first lady of UIC) was established to create UIC's first cookbook, with proceeds supporting food purchases for the UIC Pop-Up Pantry. Since its launch with an initial print run of 500, the *Ultimate College Cookbook* sold out from the UIC Bookstore and was replenished with an additional supply of 1,000 cookbooks. As of this year, this innovative effort has raised over \$7,000 that will be used to feed food insecure UIC students.

Creative & Digital Services provides marketing and print-production services to units across the university and Student Affairs. CDS saw a 30% increase in operating profit thanks in part to growing demand for its photo and videos services.

Retail Operations experienced significant increases in sales for the main UIC Bookstore (17%) and the Medical Bookstore (366%) for items purchased by university departments. The Medical Bookstore increase was due to a combination of custom items purchased by medical campus departments that had not previously placed orders and an increase in marketing activities.

For the second year in a row, the **Children's Center** received a \$5,500 quality improvement grant through Illinois Action for Children. The funds were used to replace old classroom-worn furniture and purchase new educational toys.

The **Native American Support Program** successfully submitted a grant proposal and received over \$60,000 from the Spencer Foundation. With this discretionary grant, Northwestern University and the UIC Learning Sciences department will provide an "Indigenous Lecture and Writing Series" across both campuses and within the Chicago Native community.

The aquatics programs from **Campus Recreation** saw a 67% increase in sales of the Learn to Swim Class 3, and Adult Swim 3 saw a 155% increase in the number of participants. Reel Rock, an exhilarating climbing and film event, saw a 138% increase in participants from the previous year.

The **African American Academic Network** (AAAN) secured \$10,000 from the Riversville Foundation to support students who maintain a 3.0 GPA and demonstrate significant financial need. AAAN was also awarded a \$5,000 innovation grant from Undergraduate Affairs to fund the series, "Sisters, Fellas Keeping It Real," where students talk about a variety of college-related topics and build a community.

The familiar banking entity name, Credit Union 1, now graces the home of the UIC Flames as **Credit Union Arena 1** (formerly known as the UIC Pavilion). Credit Union 1 contributed \$9.3 million to UIC for the naming rights of the arena.

STUDENT AFFAIRS DONOR HONOR ROLL

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This year, alumni, colleagues, and friends of UIC, as well as various corporations and foundations, made monetary contributions to UIC Student Affairs between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2019. The donations helped fund UIC scholarships, the Supporting Excellence Endowment (S.E.E.) Fund, and the Student Affairs Annual Fund, as well as specific UIC Student Affairs units and programs. We thank our many donors for their generosity and ongoing commitment to Student Affairs that enable us to ignite students' passion at UIC.

\$50,000–\$99,999

Riversville Foundation

\$25,000–\$49,999

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For a complete list of donors, visit go.uic.edu/donate.

SUPPORTING STUDENT AFFAIRS

There are multiple ways to contribute to UIC Student Affairs in order to support campus cocurricular opportunities, student scholarships, and other students needs. Gifts can be made to the following funds: supporting Student Affairs:

Fund Name

- UIC Student Program Fund (331087)
- UIC Student Scholarships (343008)
- UIC VCSA Supporting Excellence Endowment (771956)
- UIC Student Leadership Programs (331086)
- UIC Pop-Up Pantry Fund (337222)
- UIC U and I Care Student Emergency Fund (342758)

Gifts will be processed by:

University of Illinois Foundation
Harker Hall (MC 386)
1305 West Green Street
Urbana, Illinois 61801-2962

(217) 244-2706
CashDesk@uif.uillinois.edu

To make an online gift, visit

go.uic.edu/sa_giving

For more information about giving opportunities, contact:

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
3010 Student Services Building (MC 600)
1200 West Harrison Street
Chicago, Illinois 60607-7165

(312) 996-1740
studentaffairs@uic.edu

From Pier to Present

GO.UIC.EDU/PIER_TO_PRESENT

Today, the University of Illinois at Chicago is an acclaimed research institution with 16 colleges and over 30,000 students vital to the educational, technological, and cultural fabric of the region. Take a look back to learn about the history of UIC and how the university came to be.

MLK Day of Service 2019

GO.UIC.EDU/MLK_DAY_OF_SERVICE2019

Students, faculty, staff, and friends of the UIC community kicked off the semester a day early by coming together to serve at nine sites across Chicago offering ten different volunteer opportunities. Follow UIC students as they helped paint, clean, and restore the Stone Temple Missionary Baptist Church's basement.

First Gen 2018

GO.UIC.EDU/1STGEN_CELEBRATION2018

The UIC Excel Center, which includes TRIO, AAAN, Ace, and NASP, hosted the inaugural First-Generation College Student Celebration at UIC (part of the 2nd Annual National TRIO First-Generation College Student Celebration Day). The event included speakers, food, raffles, and networking activities to celebrate first-generation students.

Devil's Lake 2019

GO.UIC.EDU/DEVILSLAKE2019

UIC students went on a camping, hiking, and rock climbing trip to Devil's Lake State Park located in Baraboo, Wisconsin. The adventure offered the opportunity to gain outside the classroom experience with climbing, hiking, and other group bonding activities.



VIDEOS

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