

# UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

VICE CHANCELLOR  
FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS  
AND PROVOST

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



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**ILLINOIS**  
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN





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# LEADERSHIP PROFILE







## THE SEARCH

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (U of I), a preeminent public research university and the flagship campus of the University of Illinois System, seeks a Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost (Provost) who will embrace the opportunities and challenges associated with expanding excellence at a premier land-grant institution in the 21st Century. At a time of national debate about the role of public universities in our society, U of I seeks an intellectual leader.

U of I celebrates diversity and inclusion and is excited to recruit and hire qualified candidates from any race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, national origin, disability, or veteran status. To learn more about U of I's status as an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action employer visit <http://go.illinois.edu/EEQ>.

Founded in 1867 as one of the nation's original public land-grant institutions of higher education, U of I offers transformative undergraduate and graduate education, conducts ground-breaking research, engages in significant extension and public outreach activities, provides unique continuing education and online learning opportunities, and promotes a diverse learning environment that welcomes, cultivates, and respects the contributions of all. As a major national research university and member of the Association of American Universities (AAU) with a strong foundation in both STEM and the liberal arts and sciences, U of I is known nationally and internationally for excellence in education, passion for discovery, and a tradition of public service. U of I offers a collegial intellectual community that draws students and scholars from around the world. Research is a key economic driver in the state and U of I has numerous close collaborations with major industries across the state. The university uses a modified activity-based model for allocating resources. The university's FY23 operating budget is nearly \$3.3 billion. In FY22, U of I researchers' cumulative grant expenditures totaled \$774 million.

The campus community includes approximately 35,000 undergraduate students; 21,000 graduate and professional students; 1,900 tenure-system and specialized faculty members; 3,800 academic professionals; and 4,900 staff members. The campus is home to 16 colleges and schools that address a variety of disciplines and fields including: Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences; Applied Health Sciences; Business; Education; Engineering; Fine and Applied Arts; Graduate College; Information Sciences; Labor and Employment Relations; Law; Liberal Arts and Sciences; Media; Carle Illinois College of Medicine; Social Work; the University Library; and Veterinary Medicine. With over 450,000 alumni around the world, Illinois fully embraces its global presence while remaining committed to its land-grant heritage.

The Provost, who oversees all of Illinois' academic programs, policies, and priorities, as well as the campus budget will be an innovative academic leader who is deeply committed to the mission of ensuring access to top-quality educational experience and sustaining and encouraging a highly supportive environment for scholarly discovery and excellence. The Provost will also be a key partner with the Chancellor in all major campus initiatives and priorities.

As the chief academic officer for the campus, the Provost is responsible for developing and accessing academic programs, managing a budget of over \$2 billion, and supervising academic personnel policies and academic administration. Deans and directors of campus level academic units report to the Provost. The Provost in turn reports to the Chancellor and serves as the campus' chief executive in the absence of the Chancellor.

The next Provost will have a distinguished record of research, teaching, and scholarly accomplishments; a strong commitment to diversity and inclusive excellence, and the academic and social values appropriate to the University's missions of teaching, research, scholarship, and public engagement; experience working successfully within a shared governance framework; and the ability to articulate these values in a variety of settings.



Also essential will be a demonstrated capacity for strategic decision making and leadership effectiveness in academic and fiscal matters and other functions related to higher education; the vision and ability to foster and sustain an environment of intellectual excellence and openness that attracts and retains faculty and staff of the highest caliber and encourages superior teaching, scholarship, and creativity; demonstrated success in managing a large and complex operation; and the passion and dedication needed to help lead and advance Illinois in its continued pursuit of academic distinction.

The Provost will partner with the Chancellor and the U of I community in building a strategic direction, balancing the excellence of individual schools and colleges with a strong commitment to interdisciplinary endeavors and collaboration. U of I seeks a strong spokesperson who will communicate on behalf of the university campus-wide, within the state of Illinois, nationally, and internationally. The next Provost will have the vision and talents to match the aspirations of campus leaders during this time of change across higher education. Working closely with the University of Illinois system, students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends, the Provost will be ideally positioned to leverage the institution's excellence in academics and service to achieve even higher levels of success and impact.

## LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

### *Inspire, co-create, and promote the academic vision for the future*

The Provost will develop a collaborative vision for the academic goals of the University. The University's next strategic planning process is underway. The new Provost will join campus with time to contribute substantively to shaping the plan while honoring the considerable energy and broad input that have already gone into its development. The Provost will then lead the implementation of that bold and innovative plan over the course of their tenure. U of I enjoys a strong shared governance model with engaged faculty and administrators, and the Provost will work closely with the Senate Executive Committee to maintain this effective partnership for the work ahead.

Like all universities, the challenges and opportunities resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic have pressed U of I forward to adapt and respond quickly. The U of I community has long been collaborative and drawn to interdisciplinary solutions to global problems; therefore, the campus responded swiftly and effectively to the COVID-19 pandemic, emerging as a national leader in testing and health monitoring. Responding to the pandemic also required quick mobilization of online course options. The Provost will seize on this momentum and guide the institution to learn from these innovations as well as meet the future challenges related to the evolving delivery of high-quality education programs – especially in response to changing enrollment trends.





### ***Align a complex financial enterprise for 21st century strategic impact and growth***

The Provost will understand the forces that shape the economics of higher education and take steps to adapt to the current environment. The University operates under a modified activity-based budget model that incentivizes the development of innovative programs and resource-generating activities as well as more efficient operations. Working in concert with colleagues, the Provost will ensure that the budget model is supporting the institutional goals of academic excellence, student success, and interdisciplinary collaboration, and will make adjustments as necessary. The Provost also oversees central resources and utilizes them to bolster current strengths and seed new initiatives that will further the University's ambitious academic, research, and outreach goals.

### ***Empower and support faculty and deans***

The quality of U of I's academic programs, departments, and interdisciplinary centers and institutes is essential to the University's mission as a top-tier public research university. As chief academic officer, the Provost is accountable to assess the quality and rigor of programs, support inclusive excellence, and hold faculty as well as academic leadership to the highest standards in teaching, research and scholarship, and service. As the leader of talented and committed teams of faculty, deans and vice provosts, the Provost will unify and support groups around a shared vision for the future of U of I. The Provost will also support the success of a diverse and exceptional faculty, who are at the core of delivering on that mission. The Provost will nurture a culture that promotes teamwork, mentorship, and professional development and enable faculty and staff to thrive personally. The Provost works across a broad range of constituents and must bring a consultative and partnership-oriented approach to motivating colleagues across the enterprise. The Provost should be attentive to issues of faculty recruitment, development, and retention, with special focus on the development and retention of faculty of color.

### ***Champion and advance U of I's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI)***

The University has been intentional in its efforts to increase representation and foster a deeper culture of belonging. The Provost will bring personal and direct experience institutionalizing a culture that advances diversity, equity, and inclusion goals. The Provost will identify, support, and resource forward-thinking recruitment and retention initiatives. The Provost must not only communicate the value and importance of DEI but also pioneer policies, programs, and structures that will achieve results and further a campus culture that values inclusive excellence and one in which faculty, staff, and students from all backgrounds reach their full potential.

### ***Enhance the student experience and continue the momentum to advance student retention and success***

The profile of U of I's student population is changing as the University strives to admit and support students more inclusively. U of I is home to an increasing number of first-generation students, students with children, veterans, returning students, and students with food and housing insecurity. The educational success of these students is imperative, and their challenges are often different from those of many entering students. Additionally, like much of the nation, the state of Illinois anticipates declining numbers of graduating high school students in the near term. U of I must think and act creatively to design programs that are attractive and sustainable to students from a diverse array of backgrounds and preparations. U of I has a large out of state and international student population as well. To serve this increasingly diverse student population, the Provost will foster and facilitate collaboration of all units involved in attracting and ensuring the success of students including those units involved in designing programs, marketing, communicating with future and current students, admissions, orientation, housing, instruction, and extracurricular activities. U of I is committed to providing all students, regardless of background and/or financial means, exceptional experiences, tools, and opportunities to succeed throughout their entire academic journey.

### ***Communicate the goals and the values of the University to internal and external audiences***

As a highly visible leader with strong ties to faculty leadership through the shared governance structure and interaction with key faculty committees, the Provost will listen well, build strong partnerships, and communicate clearly and consistently about the University's goals, values, and contributions.

The Provost is also an external leader for the University, whether within the University of Illinois System, in the AAU and the Big Ten Academic Alliance, or with state officials. The Provost will be an advocate for the excellence of U of I and share its many stories with an expanding audience including the Board of Trustees and state public policy leaders; prospective students and their families; alumni, friends, and potential donors; as well as higher education and industry leaders who do or could engage with U of I and its programs. Effective communication will enhance institutional aims from recruiting highly qualified students, to highlighting the scale of its societal impact, to promoting economic development and social and cultural enrichment across Illinois and throughout the nation.



## KEY QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign seeks a values-driven leader who will embrace the opportunities and challenges associated with maintaining and expanding excellence at a premier land-grant institution in the 21st Century. While no single candidate will have all the ideal qualifications, U of I seeks candidates with the following qualifications, abilities, and characteristics:

- A distinguished record of research, teaching, and scholarly accomplishments. An earned doctorate (or terminal degree). A record appropriate for a position as tenured full professor at U of I.
- Leadership effectiveness in academic and fiscal matters and other functions related to higher education. Awareness of current trends and forces facing world-class research universities and demonstrated financial acumen to make prudent budgetary decisions.
- Demonstrated managerial success in a large, highly complex enterprise. Considerable administrative experience to serve the broad academic and functional responsibilities of the role.
- The vision and ability to foster and sustain an environment of intellectual excellence and openness that attracts and retains faculty and staff of the highest caliber and encourages superior teaching, scholarship, and creativity.
- A strong commitment to diversity and inclusive excellence and the academic and social values appropriate to the University's missions of teaching, research, scholarship, and public engagement. Demonstrated success in implementing diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives related to recruitment, retention, and campus climate.
- Experience working successfully within a shared governance framework. Excellent listening and communication skills with a demonstrated record of consulting a variety of constituent groups, synthesizing input, sharing information broadly, and building consensus for decisions.
- Evidence of high integrity, pursuit of an ambitious institutional vision, and a collegial and transparent leadership style.
- A demonstrated capacity for strategic decision-making that reflects sound judgment.
- An entrepreneurial and interdisciplinary thinker committed to harnessing and facilitating the potential of collaborative activities across institutional and disciplinary boundaries.
- Passion and dedication to help lead and advance Illinois in its continued pursuit of academic distinction and deep commitment to the mission of a land-grant academic institution with global reach.



## APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS

Inquiries, nominations, and applications are invited. The University strongly encourages nominations of, as well as applications from, women and individuals traditionally underrepresented in academia and leadership. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. For fullest consideration, applications should be received by November 28, 2022. Candidates should provide a CV/resume and a letter of application that addresses the responsibilities and requirements described above.

**All inquiries, nominations/referrals, and applications should be sent electronically to:**

Natalie Leonhard, Partner  
Michael Baer, Partner  
John Muckle, Partner  
Becky Piper, Senior Associate  
**Isaacson, Miller**  
[www.imsearch.com/8736](http://www.imsearch.com/8736)

The University of Illinois System is an equal opportunity employer, including but not limited to disability and/or veteran status, and complies with all applicable state and federal employment mandates. Please visit [Required Employment Notices and Posters](#) to view our non-discrimination statement and find additional information about required background checks, sexual harassment/misconduct disclosures, COVID-19 vaccination requirement, and employment eligibility review through [E-Verify](#).

Applicants with disabilities are encouraged to apply and may request a reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (2008) to complete the application and/or interview process. Requests may be submitted through the reasonable accommodations [portal](#), or by contacting the Accessibility & Accommodations Division of the Office for Access and Equity at 217-333-0885, or by emailing [accessibility@illinois.edu](mailto:accessibility@illinois.edu).





## UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

### An overview

Founded in 1867, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (Illinois) has a stellar reputation as a world-class leader in research, teaching, and public engagement. From the development of the modern web browser to the visible LED to the fundamental discovery of Archaea (the third kingdom of life) and creating the SHIELD comprehensive platform with an FDA emergency use authorization (EUA) approved saliva test to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic, Illinois has a long-standing history of creating life-changing innovations that impact the world. Among the nation's most prominent research institutions, researchers at Illinois continually make foundational discoveries that transform the way we tackle global problems, develop technology, and expand the human experience.

The University of Illinois System has campuses in Urbana-Champaign, Chicago, and Springfield. The flagship campus in Urbana-Champaign is the largest of the three, situated on 1,783 acres. The twin cities' combined population is more than 180,000, with nearby villages of Mahomet and Savoy noted as some of the fastest-growing populations in the state. The diversity of the Champaign-Urbana community is represented by African Americans at 15 percent of the population, followed by Asians at 10 percent and Hispanics at 6 percent.

### VISION

**The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign will be the pre-eminent public research university with a land-grant mission and global impact**

The campus is led by Chancellor Robert J. Jones. Chancellor Jones is the chief executive officer for the Urbana-Champaign campus and is responsible for all financial programs, campus policies, and priorities, with the mission of ensuring a transformative educational experience for the world's next generation of leaders.

Illinois remains true to the land-grant mission—to enhance the lives of all citizens in Illinois, across the nation and around the world through leadership in learning, discovery, engagement, and economic development. This includes launching the Illinois Commitment that provides free tuition and fees to qualified undergraduates as one of the cornerstones of its diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. The university provides strong undergraduate and graduate education programs, undertakes basic, translational and applied research, and supports outreach, extension, continuing education, initiatives and programs to enrich diversity and inclusion, as well as other public engagement activities to multiple communities.

Collaboration and innovation are hallmarks of the Illinois research enterprise—researchers are accustomed to working across disciplines, institutions, and international boundaries. The university's powerful reputation attracts extensive international partnerships that create opportunities for Illinois students and faculty to work with colleagues around the world.

### THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY INCLUDES:

- **~35,000** undergraduate students
- **~21,000** graduate and professional students
- **~1,900** tenured/tenure-track faculty members
- **~3,800** academic professionals
- **~4,900** staff members







### Noteworthy projects include:

- Two of the nation's seven AI Institutes, the Molecule Maker Lab and AI FARMS.
- Co-leadership of the National Science Foundation (NSF)-supported Institute for Mathematical and Statistical Innovation, in partnership with University of Illinois-Chicago, Northwestern, and the University of Chicago.
- The Genomics and Eco-evolution of Multi-scale Symbioses (GEMS), a new NSF supported Biology Integration Institute.
- The Quantum Leap Challenge Institute, one of only three such institutes in the country.
- Humanities Without Walls, a 15-member consortium funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation that creates new avenues for collaborative research, teaching, and the production of scholarship in the humanities, through cross-institutional cooperation (more than \$7 million since 2014).
- The RIPE (Realizing Increased Photosynthesis Efficiency) program funded by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to re-engineer photosynthesis-related metabolic pathways and transform global underprivileged economies that are agricultural-based.
- The NIH Center for Macromolecular Modeling and Bioinformatics, founded over 30 years ago to drive outreach and software development for computational biology, molecular simulation and visualization. It serves more than 120,000 biomedical researchers across the nation and around the world.
- A \$115 million Department of Energy award, the Center for Advanced Bioenergy and Bioproducts Innovation, focused on biofuels and bioproducts.
- The Center for Wounded Veterans, a national leader in research, services, and support for veterans with disabilities.
- Innovative partnerships including the newly announced IBM-Illinois Discovery Accelerator Institute, c3.ai Digital Transformation Institute, the Illinois-Sandia Research Partnership; the HATHI Trust Research Center; and the Advanced Digital Sciences Center.
- Established the COVID-19 Shield Target, Test, and Tell program, including a novel saliva test that with an FDA-EUA was implemented on campus, across the state and nation to mitigate the pandemic.
- Designed and developed the Illinois Rapid Vent working prototype for emergency use with COVID-19 patients.



## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Current campus expenditures are approximately \$2.29 billion per year. Of this total, sponsored research project awards account for nearly \$750 million. Illinois consistently ranks among the top universities in National Science Foundation and Department of Energy-funded research and development expenditures.

## NATIONAL AND GLOBAL IMPACT

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign is a member of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) and the Association of American Universities (AAU), as well as the Big Ten Academic Alliance, which is governed by the Provosts of the member universities.

Illinois is a recognized leader in national and international education. With an international student enrollment of over 10,000, Illinois ranks first in the nation among public colleges and universities (fifth among all institutions) and includes students from over 100 countries. More than 2,000 students study abroad each year, and the campus is in the top 25 among all universities in overall study-abroad numbers.

## WORLD-CLASS FACULTY, DISTINGUISHED STUDENTS, AND ALUMNI

Among the campus' most significant resources are its talented faculty and students. Many faculty members are recognized for their exceptional scholarship, with memberships in the American Philosophical Society, National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, the National Academy of Medicine, National Academy of Inventors, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Academy of Arts and Letters, National Academy of Education, and the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. Faculty members at the university have won and received Nobel Prizes, Wolf Awards, Pulitzer Prizes, MacArthur Fellowships, Guggenheim Fellowships, Fulbright Awards, the Crafoord Prize in Biosciences, Blavatnik Award, the Japan Prize, the National Book Award, the National Medal of Science, the National Medal of Technology, and Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers, as well as awards from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Academy of Education, and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. Each year, Illinois students receive some of the world's most prestigious scholarships, including Rhodes, Truman, Marshall, Gates, Goldwater, Churchill, Luce and Fulbright Scholarships. Illinois has been named a top producer of Fulbright Students and Scholars, often ranking in the top 10 among public universities and top 25 among all universities.

Another prime indicator of the university's excellence is the success of its alumni—boasting one of the world's largest, most diverse alumni communities in the United States and around the world. The Illinois alumni base includes 11 Nobel laureates, 19 winners of the Pulitzer Prize, and 160 Guggenheim Fellows.





## ILLINOIS RESEARCH INSTITUTES

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign is home to ten research institutes that transcend college, school, and departmental boundaries to elevate ideas, drive discovery, and push the limits of our knowledge.

### Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology

A better world through interdisciplinary collaboration and innovation. The Beckman Institute is a community of scholars and a physical space to foster interdisciplinary collaboration, inspire bold scientific risk-taking, and nurture new ideas and discoveries. The institute was founded to reduce barriers between traditional science and technology disciplines in order to yield research advances that otherwise would not occur. Beckman community members accomplish this mission by adhering to our core values.

### C3.ai Digital Transformation Institute

The C3.ai Digital Transformation Institute is a research consortium dedicated to accelerating the benefits of artificial intelligence for business, government, and society. The institute engages the world's leading scientists to conduct research and train practitioners in the science of digital transformation, which operates at the intersection of artificial intelligence, machine learning, cloud computing, the internet of things, big data analytics, organizational behavior, public policy, and ethics.

### Cancer Center at Illinois

The Cancer Center at Illinois unites world-class faculty who uncover fundamental knowledge, innovate new technologies, and enable cancer-free lives. Their interdisciplinary expertise in science and engineering, exceptional facilities, and novel educational experiences are changing the way we take on cancer.

### Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology

The Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology is where science meets society—an interdisciplinary institute dedicated to transformative research and technology in life sciences using team-based strategies to tackle grand societal challenges.

### Center for Social and Behavioral Science

The Center for Social & Behavioral Science (CSBS) fosters innovative social and behavioral science research across disciplines at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, enhances the ecosystem for social and behavioral scientists on our campus, and supports public engagement at the local, state, national, and international level to enhance the societal impact of social and behavioral science research.

### Humanities Research Institute

The Humanities Research Institute at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign was established in 1997 to promote interdisciplinary study in the humanities, arts, and social sciences. HRI strives to cultivate disciplinary depth and rigor in the traditional humanities disciplines, and support thoughtful and innovative scholarly inquiry. HRI also promotes interdisciplinary collaboration with partners in the sciences, the arts, and local communities.

### Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment

The Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment was created to lead an interdisciplinary approach to research solutions for the world's pressing sustainability, energy, and environmental needs today and tomorrow. This results in "actionable research"—scientific progress with the emphasis on finding real-world, immediately usable answers to these problems.

### Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Institute

IHSI ignites and accelerates clinical and translational research and innovation through interdisciplinary convergence. As a campuswide interdisciplinary research institute, IHSI cuts across the many academic units, programs, and research and technology centers engaged in health sciences research at Illinois. We advance the health sciences ecosystem at Illinois through visioning, partnering, providing administrative and programmatic support, and launching initiatives that ultimately improve the health of our local, national, and global communities.

### National Center for Supercomputing Applications

The National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) is a hub of transdisciplinary research and digital scholarship where UIUC faculty, staff, and students, and collaborators from around the globe, unite to address research grand challenges for the benefit of science and society. Current research focus areas include digital agriculture, bio and health sciences, earth and environment, astronomy, plus many more.

### Prairie Research Institute

The Prairie Research Institute benefits the people, economy, and environment of Illinois, delivering impact to every corner of the state. Their staff applies scientific knowledge and data in geology, ecology and biodiversity, archaeology, water, weather and climate, pollution prevention, hazardous waste management, and sustainable energy to develop sustainable energy solutions, keep drinking water safe, identify geologic and mineral resources used by industry, provide critical weather and climate data to the agriculture industry, and more.





## WORLD-CLASS LIBRARY

Holding the largest collection among North America's academic research libraries, the University Library counts over 14 million volumes and 24 million items. More than 1 million patrons from around the world access the online catalog each week. Its world-renowned holdings include not only one of the greatest rare book and special collections (Gutenberg Bible, Shakespeare folios, Spanish Golden Age, emblem books, Audubon elephant folio and Sousa manuscripts are only a few examples), but also leading collections of Slavic and Latin American materials; music recordings and scores; legal history; agricultural, physical, and engineering sciences; and unique archival materials. The library is home to the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs, whose mission is to strengthen international ties among libraries and librarians worldwide. More than 900 librarians from more than 90 countries have participated in its professional development program, the only one of its kind in the world. The University Library is the only major research library of this scope and magnitude to stress public service and global access.

## THE ARTS AND CULTURE

A major center for the arts, Illinois attracts dozens of nationally and internationally renowned artists each year to its widely acclaimed Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. Designed by alumnus Max Abramovitz, an architect of New York City's Lincoln Center, the facility has four indoor theaters and an outdoor amphitheater. In the 50 years since its opening, the center has welcomed hundreds of thousands of patrons throughout more than 350 performances each year.

The university also supports two major museums: Krannert Art Museum and Spurlock Museum. Second in size only to the Art Institute of Chicago among Illinois general fine-art museums, Krannert Art Museum has over 10,000 works of art in its permanent collection. Spurlock Museum, a museum of world history and culture, holds approximately 50,000 artifacts from diverse cultures and varied historical time periods.

In addition to visual and performing arts, Illinois promotes cultural education through resources offered to the entire campus community. The Asian American Cultural Center, Japan House, Bruce D. Nesbitt African American Cultural Center, La Casa Cultural Latina, Native American House, Women's Resources Center, and LGBT Resource Center provide opportunities to learn and experience the rich historic traditions and modern living cultures that shape our world.

## SUSTAINABLE VALUES AND CULTURE

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign is a higher education and research leader across the nation in its commitment to sustainable practices and innovation. In 2019, the University earned Gold Level honors in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS), the nation's most comprehensive sustainability rating system. In January 2019, the University was named the ninth winner of the Climate Leadership Award from the U.S. Green Building Council and the nonprofit Second Nature. The Sierra Club lists Illinois among the top 50 "Cool Schools," and the campus has been designated a "Bicycle Friendly University," a "Tree Campus, USA," and a "Bee Campus, USA." In 2020, the campus won the International Laboratory Freezer Challenge for the third year in a row. The total energy usage in these spaces decreased by an estimated 263 kWh/day or a combined annual total equivalent of nine homes' energy for one year.

## RESEARCH PARK

The University of Illinois Research Park provides an on-campus community for corporate innovation centers, startups, and university research centers to locate together. The highly skilled tech workforce, student employees, and research preeminence create innovation and new technologies. The Research Park includes 120+ companies, 18 buildings, and 2,200 employees. Examples of innovation centers, which employ some of the 800+ students working in the Research Park, include AbbVie, Abbott, Bayer, AARP, and other Fortune 500 companies. EnterpriseWorks, is the Research Park's 43,000-square-foot business incubator for early-stage tech firms, which is operated by the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to help launch successful startup companies. Startup companies that have incubated at EnterpriseWorks have raised \$1.2 billion in private equity or venture capital investments. The small business clients at EnterpriseWorks are awarded 25% of all the SBIR/STTR federal small business research grants in the state of Illinois annually. EnterpriseWorks manages entrepreneurship support programs, business assistance, and training to aid startups and technology commercialization. Faculty and students are supported in launching new ventures to commercialize research and inventions emerging from the campus research enterprise and academic departments, including medical devices, robotics, digital innovations, and other technologies.



## COMPREHENSIVE ACADEMICS

More than 34,000 undergraduate students are enrolled in 10 undergraduate divisions, which together offer over 5,000 courses in more than 150 fields of study. The campus enrolls approximately 19,000 graduate and professional students in more than 100 programs and is among the top universities in the number of earned doctorates awarded annually in the United States.

### Divisions enrolling undergraduates and graduate students include:

- College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences
- College of Applied Health Sciences
- Gies College of Business
- College of Education
- The Grainger College of Engineering
- College of Fine and Applied Arts
- College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
- College of Media
- School of Information Sciences
- School of Social Work
- Division of General Studies

### The following units offer programs leading to graduate or professional degrees:

- Carle Illinois College of Medicine
- College of Law
- College of Veterinary Medicine
- School of Labor and Employment Relations

The campus is highly regarded in accountancy, biochemistry, chemistry, engineering, information science, education, microbiology, and computer science. Additionally, it is nationally recognized for its strengths in the arts and humanities, collaborative and interdisciplinary research culture, highly ranked professional schools, and one of the world's great libraries.

U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Colleges (2021-22) rated the Urbana-Champaign campus as 15th among public university and 47th among all national universities. Several undergraduate and graduate programs ranked among the top 10 by U.S. News & World Report.

### Selected highlights include:

- 40 Top-10 ranked degree programs in the Grainger College of Engineering (per US News & World Report).
  - Civil Engineering is ranked second in graduate and 3rd in undergraduate programs nationally.
  - The campus is 1st in the graduate study of condensed matter physics.
  - Materials Science and Engineering ranks 2nd in undergraduate programs.
  - Computer Science ranks 5th in graduate programs.
  - Electrical and Computer Engineering ranks 4th and 3rd respective in graduate programs.
- The iSchool's MS in Library and Information Science is continuously ranked the #1 program of its kind.
- The Department of Accountancy is ranked 3rd in the nation in both undergraduate and graduate programs.
- The Department of Accountancy is ranked #1 in faculty research
- Chemistry ranks 6th in graduate programs.
- Psychology ranks 7th in graduate programs.
- The Gies College of Business is ranked 14th in undergraduate programs nationally.
- The U.S. Department of Education named Illinois one of the top 15 public four-year colleges with high graduation rates leading to high incomes.
- Business Insider ranked Illinois 15th among the top 20 universities that are most likely to land graduates a job in Silicon Valley.
- Illinois has been regularly named a top producer of Peace Corps volunteers.
- Open Doors ranks Illinois 1st among public universities in the number of international students.
- Illinois is named an official "Milestones in Microbiology" site.







## CHAMPAIGN-URBANA

### A Micro-Urban Community

While Champaign-Urbana is home to one of the world's great public research universities, a vibrant arts and culture scene, internationally diverse population, strong technology base, and commitment to societal issues make the area a destination for professionals of all kinds. A leading example of a "micro-urban" community, the twin cities feature highly desirable attributes—top-notch restaurants, concert arenas, and parks and recreation facilities—commonly found in larger cities.

Champaign-Urbana is consistently ranked as a great place to live and work, with an average commute time of just eight minutes. Combining natural Midwestern beauty with cultural resources typically found in larger metropolitan areas, the twin cities retain the charm, friendliness, safety, and affordability of smaller communities. Housing, entertainment, and living expenses are comparatively low. Easy commutes, a designated bike-friendly community, and an award-winning mass transit system (free with campus ID) make it quick and simple to get from here to there.

Outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy 80 parks spanning nearly 1,000 acres in Champaign-Urbana alone. A wide variety of outdoor sports and activities such as swimming, boating, fishing, hiking, camping, biking, and cross-country skiing at one of three major forest preserves in Champaign County are just minutes away from virtually any address in the community. Golfers enjoy nine public golf courses within 15 miles of Champaign, and three private clubs. The annual Illinois Marathon is a national event that brings together thousands of athletes, spectators, and volunteers for a weekend of races and activities.

Within a three-hour car ride to Chicago, St. Louis, or Indianapolis, individuals in the community can enjoy sporting events, world-class museums, or dinner at renowned restaurants. Amtrak and American Airlines offer daily transportation from Champaign, allowing ready access to almost anywhere in world. As a community that makes it easy to balance work with family and leisure, it doesn't take long for newcomers to realize that this community is a wonderful place to call home.

