

Board Meeting
September 7, 2017

AFFIRM THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT SPRINGFIELD'S MISSION STATEMENT

The University of Illinois at Springfield (UIS) mission statement, dating from 2006, guides the university's strategic planning and operations. The mission statement conveys the university's values, goals, and vision for the future. It reflects the institution's strong commitment to excellence in teaching and learning, to excellence in scholarship, to public engagement, and to innovative uses of technology.

In preparation for reaccreditation by the Higher Learning Commission, UIS's mission statement was endorsed by President Timothy L. Killeen in August, 2017. As a next step in the reaccreditation process, a formal review and official vote adopting UIS' mission by the University of Illinois Board of Trustees is required.

Mission

The University of Illinois at Springfield provides an intellectually rich, collaborative, and intimate learning environment for students, faculty, and staff, while serving local, regional, state, national, and international communities.

UIS' mission is:

- UIS serves its students by building a faculty whose members have a passion for teaching and by creating an environment that nurtures learning. Our faculty members engage students in small classes and experiential learning settings. At UIS, the undergraduate and graduate curricula and the professional programs emphasize liberal arts, interdisciplinary approaches, lifelong learning, and engaged citizenship.

- UIS provides its students with the knowledge, skills, and experience that lead to productive careers in the private and public sectors.
- UIS serves the pursuit of knowledge by encouraging and valuing excellence in scholarship. Scholarship at UIS is broadly defined. Faculty members are engaged in the scholarship of discovery, integration, application, and teaching. Excellence in teaching and meaningful service depend on a foundation of excellence in scholarship.
- One vital area in which UIS extends its scholarship, teaching, learning, and expertise beyond the campus is in the broad area of public affairs. From its location in the state capital, UIS shapes and informs public policy, trains tomorrow's leaders, and enriches its learning environment through a wide range of public affairs activities, programs, and organizations.
- UIS empowers its students, faculty, and staff by being a leader in online education and classroom technology. UIS uses technology to enhance its distinctive learning environment and extend that environment beyond the boundaries of the campus.

THEREFORE, the President of the University of Illinois recommends that the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois endorse the mission statement for the University of Illinois at Springfield. The UIS statement provides an aspirational vision to ensure continued academic and scholarly excellence at UIS as a premier public university. The mission statement also is consonant with the newly developed strategic framework for the broader University of Illinois system.