



**general information**

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## BACKGROUND

### MISSION STATEMENT

The University of Illinois at Springfield has as its primary mission providing excellence in teaching. UIS strives to produce an educational environment where you can acquire 1) a solid foundation for lifelong learning, 2) a keen appreciation of intellectual and aesthetic achievements, 3) an enhanced capacity for critical thinking and oral as well as written communication, 4) a practical preparation for pursuing fulfilling careers, 5) a sound basis for informed and concerned citizenship, and 6) a productive commitment to improving your world.

UIS emphasizes public affairs instruction, research, and service carried out through community partnerships that contribute to social progress, governmental effectiveness, educational excellence, and economic development. UIS is committed to addressing the needs of both traditional and nontraditional learners and reflecting cultural diversity in both the curriculum and the campus community. UIS encourages innovative approaches appropriate to fulfilling these institutional aims.

### VISION STATEMENT

**A brief overview** The UIS of the future will be a

place where teaching remains the central function and excellence in teaching continues as the overriding goal. It will be a place where faculty are teacher-scholars, with greater recognition of and support for scholarship than at present. Public affairs will continue as a unifying theme of teaching, scholarship, and service, but in the future UIS' commitment to public affairs will be understood as the campus' distinctive contribution to the land-grant mission of the University of Illinois.

The UIS of the future will continue to offer undergraduate curricula in both traditional liberal arts disciplines and in professional fields and will serve students from the first years of college through completion of the baccalaureate degree. Professional education at the master's level will continue to be a major feature of the campus' curricular commitments, with quality and distinction being the principal determinants of graduate program offerings. Doctoral work will be in the area of public affairs.

UIS will continue to pursue modest, controlled enrollment growth and to serve many types of students, but the mix of students will be different. The campus will draw more students from outside central Illinois

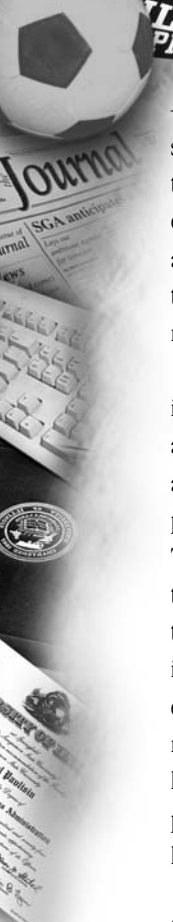
and will, concomitantly, serve a larger proportion of full-time undergraduate and graduate students. To best nurture students, the UIS of the future will be a place where the centrality of a lively extracurricular intellectual, social, and cultural life is recognized and supported as being critical to students' learning experiences.

## HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

The University of Illinois at Springfield is one of three campuses of the world-class University of Illinois. UIS is located on 746 picturesque acres on the southeast side of Springfield. The campus marked its 30th anniversary in 2000.

UIS is a comprehensive university, enrolling first year students through those seeking a doctoral degree. Student enrollment exceeds 4,500 and is comprised of traditional residential students and full- and part-time non-traditional students — those returning to school to finish a degree and working adults seeking advanced or second degrees or professional programs.

UIS offers a range of academic and professional programs — 20 bachelor's degree, 18 master's degree programs, and the doctorate in public administration



— designed to meet the needs of its widely diverse student population. The programs range from traditional disciplines such as history, psychology, and biology to more career-oriented offerings such as business administration and management information systems. Interdisciplinary programs such as environmental studies and communication are also offered.

The campus is ideally situated to fulfill its mission in public affairs. Located in the capital of Illinois, UIS allows students first-hand access to state government and public service through special courses, research projects, and an enviable selection of internships. These activities encourage students to develop an active understanding of how public policy meshes with the many and varied problems facing today's changing society. UIS' commitment to providing hands-on experiences extends to the private sector as well, with numerous agreements with business and industry to help prepare students for a global economy. UIS: preparing students for lives of meaningful work, and lives of meaning.

## **GOVERNANCE AND ACCREDITATION**

The University of Illinois at Springfield is one of three campuses governed by the U of I Board of Trustees.

The other campuses are the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign and the University of Illinois at Chicago. The U of I campuses are among 12 public university campuses in the state, all coordinated by the Illinois Board of Higher Education. Internally, UIS is governed by the chancellor with advice from administrators and from the Campus Senate.

UIS is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Contact the Higher Learning Commission at 30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602-2504, phone (312) 263-0456 or (800) 621-7440. Fax (312) 263-7462. E-mail [info@hlcommission.org](mailto:info@hlcommission.org), or visit the website at [www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org](http://www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org).

## **CAMPUS POLICIES**

*Note:* An overview of various campus policies, including the Campus Safety Policy, is available at [www.uis.edu/humanresources/policy/policy.htm](http://www.uis.edu/humanresources/policy/policy.htm).

**Affirmative Action** UIS is committed to affirmative action through 1) the intensified recruitment and retention of students, faculty, and staff, 2) the elimination of any discriminatory policy/practice within the

institution, and 3) the promotion of diversity in the various departments, programs, and activities of UIS. You can direct questions or complaints about equal opportunity and affirmative action at UIS to the Office of Access and Equal Opportunity, PAC 583, (217) 206-6222.

**Policy on Religious Observances** The University of Illinois at Springfield will provide reasonable accommodation for your religious observances. Alternative dates for examinations or major assignments will be provided when you are unavailable as a result of religious observances. If you believe that you have been unreasonably denied an educational benefit due to your religious belief or practices, you may seek redress under the grievance process provided for in the UIS Student Code.

**Sexual Harassment Policy** The purpose of the University of Illinois at Springfield's sexual harassment policy is three-fold: to foster an environment free from sexual harassment, to encourage victims to come forward, and to provide for corrective action to be taken when necessary. You may obtain copies of the UIS sexual harassment policy from the Office of Access

and Equal Opportunity, PAC 583, (217) 206-6222 or go to [www.uis.edu/aeo/](http://www.uis.edu/aeo/).

**Drug and Alcohol Policy** The University of Illinois at Springfield has established standards of conduct that prohibit the use and distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on premises owned or controlled by UIS and during any activity conducted or sponsored by UIS. Sanctions for violating this policy range from a written reprimand to expulsion from UIS or termination of employment. The complete policy is available from the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs (SAB 23, 206-6581) or from the Office of the Assistant Vice President for Human Resources (HRB 30, [217] 206-7020).

**Possession of Weapons** UIS policy prohibits the unauthorized possession or storage of any weapon in or on buildings or land belonging to the University. Anyone wishing to keep a weapon on campus properly must first submit a written request to the chief of the campus police department and must receive written permission in return. For the complete text of the possession of weapons policy or for more information, contact the UIS police department at (217) 206-6690.

## THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

### THE CAMPUS

The University of Illinois at Springfield's spacious 746-acre campus is located on the southeast side of the capital city, near Lake Springfield. The campus is composed of several major buildings, a number of smaller structures, and housing accommodating approximately 700 students.

The Norris L Brookens Library was completed in December 1975. A major learning/resource center of exceptionally high quality designed to support the campus' academic programs, the library also houses classrooms and faculty office space.

The Public Affairs Center opened in October 1980. The building includes Sangamon Auditorium, which hosts more than 120 music, theater, and dance performances annually. The PAC also houses a studio theater, a cafeteria and restaurant, offices, television studio, classrooms, and conference rooms.

The Health and Sciences Building opened in 1992 and is the home of UIS' biological and physical sciences and its mathematics and computer science programs. The building includes instructional labs, classrooms, and offices, as well as the campus' art gallery.

A new classroom and office building is scheduled to open in fall 2004.


The remainder of the campus, made up of smaller attractive modern buildings in well-landscaped settings, reflects the open operating style and spirit of UIS.

The campus is easily reached from Interstate 55. If you are coming from the north, take Exit 94 (Stevenson Drive) and follow the directional signs on Stevenson Drive to West Lake Drive and south to the campus. If you are arriving on I-55 from the south, take Exit 90 East (Toronto Road).

Springfield derives much of its character from its location in Illinois' rural heartland. Located less than 100 miles from St. Louis and less than 200 miles from Chicago, however, the city also offers area residents convenient access to the cultural and commercial life of these large urban centers.

### SPRINGFIELD AS CAMPUS

At UIS, the campus includes the community. Academic programs are structured to make maximum use of the capital city's resources, particularly state and federal agencies that provide internship, experiential, and research opportunities for study in areas such as human



services, criminal justice, and environmental studies.

As a UIS student, you have access to the deliberations of the General Assembly and to committee hearings where the state's legislative policies are debated. Legislators and other elected officials, lobbyists, agency heads, and commissioners are a vital part of the Springfield scene and comprise an incomparable human resource. You can study politics in all forms in Springfield, from the day-to-day functioning of regulatory commissions, legislative committees, or local government bodies to special interest groups demonstrating on the Statehouse lawn.

Programs in the health field capitalize on downtown Illinois' largest medical center, including Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, three hospitals, and many physicians and nursing homes.

Community resources, such as Sangamon and Menard counties' rich collection of historic sites and museums, offer students in the humanities opportunities for study and research. Specialized libraries supplement these community-based learning opportunities. Available to students, these resources include the Illinois State Library, the Illinois State Archives, the Illinois State Historical Library, the Supreme Court Library, the SIU Medical School Library, and the Abraham Lincoln

Presidential Library and Museum. Springfield also hosts three additional institutions of higher education: Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield College in Illinois, and Robert Morris College.

## **DISTANCE LEARNING**

Several alternatives are available for those transfer students who cannot attend classes at UIS' Springfield campus. These options include online degree programs and courses, off-campus classroom instruction, telecourses, and instruction via interactive compressed video.

**University of Illinois Online** Broad access to the Internet has created a new medium for distance education and new opportunities for placebound learners. University of Illinois Online, a University-wide umbrella organization, was established to provide coordination and support to the three U of I campuses as they expand and transform their off-campus educational and public service offerings to take advantage of this highly interactive medium. All courses, certificate programs, degree programs, and public service resources offered under the University of Illinois Online umbrella are grounded firmly in the academic pro-

grams of the three campuses, taught and managed by the same faculty, and subject to the same quality controls. For more information about U of I Online, visit [www.online.uillinois.edu](http://www.online.uillinois.edu).

**UIS Online** UIS currently offers two online undergraduate degree completion programs: the bachelor of arts in liberal studies, and the bachelor of arts in English. The campus also offers two graduate degrees completely online: the master of science in management information systems and the master of arts in educational leadership with a concentration in master teaching and leadership. Along with these degree programs, UIS offers a minor in philosophy, a certificate in career specialist studies, and many individual online courses. Contact the Office of Technology-Enhanced Learning at (217) 206-7317 for details, or visit the website at <http://otel.uis.edu>. Information about UIS' online programs and courses and a course directory are available at <http://online.uis.edu>. Information about online degrees is also available in the individual program descriptions.

**Illinois Virtual Campus** To support its online instruction, UIS is also participating in the Illinois Vir-

tual Campus, an electronic catalog of online and distance learning courses available from 40 colleges and universities in Illinois. IVC Student Support Centers, located on the campuses of participating community colleges, provide general student advising, access to computers, library access, technical assistance, and test proctoring. You can access Illinois Virtual Campus at [www.ivc.illinois.edu](http://www.ivc.illinois.edu).

**Peoria Center** UIS has been serving the educational needs of transfer students in the Peoria area for more than 25 years from the campus of Illinois Central College. Students can take a variety of program and elective courses, including those leading to the bachelor's degree in accountancy, criminal justice, or management. Academic minors are also available in accountancy, criminal justice, and management information systems. For more information, contact the UIS Peoria Center at (309) 694-5546, or the individual departments.

In addition to the offerings at the Peoria Center, the master of business administration is offered by cohort in an accelerated weekend format on the campus of the U of I College of Medicine at Peoria. For more information, contact the director of MBA Programs at (217) 206-7916.

**In Decatur and Jacksonville,** UIS offers courses leading to the master's degree in educational leadership at Millikin University and Jacksonville High School. However, you cannot complete this degree without taking course work at UIS' main campus in Springfield. More information about UIS' Decatur or Jacksonville option is available from the Office of Admissions and Records at (217) 206-4847 or from the off-campus instruction and outreach office at (217) 206-7818.

**Telecourses and interactive compressed video technology** Telecourses are another important component of UIS' off-campus educational endeavors. UIS is a member institution of the CONVO-COM network of public television stations: WMEC-TV 22 Macomb, WQEC-TV 27 Quincy, and WSEC-TV 14/65 Jacksonville/Springfield. Each semester telecourses are aired during regular broadcast hours, affording you the opportunity to earn college credit at home. Copies of each telecourse series are available on videocassette in Brookens Library and at specified off-campus learning resource centers. For more information, contact the UIS off-campus instruction and outreach office at (217) 206-7818.

UIS also offers off-campus instruction using inter-

active compressed video technology to several sites in Illinois. Contact Educational Technology at (217) 206-6550 for more information.

## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS AT UIS**

As outlined in the campus' mission statement, UIS emphasizes public affairs instruction, research, and service carried out through community partnerships. Many of the campus' public affairs activities are coordinated and administered through the College of Public Affairs and Administration.

**Public Affairs Colloquia** Students are encouraged to adopt a public affairs perspective through a unique series of courses called public affairs colloquia (PACs). For more information on PACs see p. 42 and p. 63.

## **ABRAHAM LINCOLN PRESIDENTIAL CENTER FOR GOVERNMENTAL STUDIES**

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Center for Governmental Studies conducts research, training, and other public service activities designed to enhance governmental effectiveness and citizens' knowledge of public



Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, the institute identifies outstanding work in the field of literacy and promotes its dissemination and expansion through workshops and symposia. Through a broad strategy of conducting research, building coalitions, and performing advocacy, the institute carries out its mission to make Illinois a model for universal literacy.

**Papers of Abraham Lincoln** The Papers of Abraham Lincoln is a long-term documentary editing project of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency and cosponsored by the center. The project is dedicated to identifying, imaging and publishing all documents written by or to Abraham Lincoln. The editors will produce three series: legal papers, Illinois papers, and Presidential papers. The goal of the project is for anyone with Internet access to be able to view, search, and analyze all of the papers of Abraham Lincoln.

**Public Radio Station** WUIS, (91.9 FM) in Springfield, is affiliated with National Public Radio and Public Radio International. The primary facilities are located on campus and operated by a professional staff supplemented by faculty, student workers, and com-

munity volunteers. From studios in the state capitol building, WUIS provides the other 12 public radio stations in the state with daily news reports via its satellite uplink. The station operates 24 hours a day, serving a 70-mile radius of Springfield with news; information; and classical, jazz, and other music. Programming is repeated on WIPA, (89.3 FM) in Pittsfield, serving residents of western Illinois from Jacksonville to Quincy.

**Office of Electronic Media** The Office of Electronic Media produces public affairs, documentary, educational, and public relations programs on video, audio, CD-ROM, DVD, and various websites in support of the university's academic and public affairs missions. Programs are also produced under contract for various state agencies and nonprofit organizations. The office maintains complete television and multimedia studios in the Public Affairs Center. Since 1985, the office has operated ACCESS 4, Springfield's public access cable channel, which produces hundreds of local programs each year. ACCESS 4 provides valuable production experience to UIS students who work under the guidance of the office's professional staff.

**Center Publications** Center Publications publishes *Illinois Issues*, the state's leading public affairs magazine, and assists the center's other units in publishing various works.

With a special focus on Illinois government and politics, the magazine pays close attention to current trends and legislative issues and examines the state's quality of life. Some classes use the magazine as required reading or as a resource; students can receive it at a reduced rate.

The unit also works with scholars in the center to help disseminate the findings of their research and projects. For example, the unit copyedits the journal *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* and publishes the popular biennial directory *Almanac of Illinois Politics*.

The unit also directs periodic statewide projects. For example, in 2000-2001 it worked with the other center units to conduct the Illinois Civil Engagement Project.

**Graduate Public Service Internship Program**  
See page 66.