

# 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