

**ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY**

**BOARD OF
TRUSTEES**

Report No. 2018.07/1100.01
Educating Illinois Progress Report

Executive Summary

Educating Illinois 2013-2018: Individualized Attention, Shared Aspirations guided Illinois State University over the past five years with a clear vision, values, goals, and strategies for the institution. The University continued to experience strong enrollment, including an increase of underrepresented students, despite challenging budgetary times. The institution was recognized by numerous entities for quality and value. New initiatives led to many important accomplishments, such as Campus Climate Task Force actions, development of global partnerships, the Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning, the Emergency Operations Center, upgrades to University systems, and numerous examples of student leadership. Additionally, the University's *Campus Master Plan 2010-2030* drove a number of important facilities and infrastructure enhancements.

Illinois State University had many notable achievements from fiscal year 2018 and the following are highlights exhibiting the University's position as a leading, first-choice institution among students, faculty, and staff:

- Continued strong freshman enrollment while increasing percentage of those from underrepresented groups
- Maintained strong retention and graduation rates that are among the best in the nation
- Recognized by several national publications, including as a top 100 public university by *U.S. News & World Report*, by The Chronicle of Higher Education as a Great College to Work For, and by *Washington Monthly* as a "Best Bang for the Buck" institution
- Several specific academic programs were recognized with high national rankings
- Partnered with INTO to increase international student enrollment
- Created new civic engagement initiatives, including the *Redbird Impact* magazine
- Developed new academic programs, including the Cybersecurity Program
- Launched the University's new campaign, Redbirds Rising
- Addressed high-priority deferred maintenance needs and planning to enhance facilities