



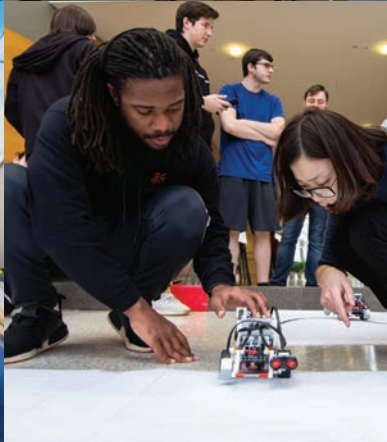
INDIANA UNIVERSITY KOKOMO  
**ANNUAL REPORT 2018–2019**

# BIG, **BOLD** STEPS



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Words from the Chancellor** 3
- Kokomo Experience & You** 4
- New Programs** 6
- New Facilities** 7
- Grants** 8
- Accreditation & Diversity** 9
- Faculty Research** 10
- Steward of Place** 12
- Campus Support** 14
- Enrollment** 16
- Finances** 17
- Athletics** 18
- Alumni** 19





## Dear Friends of Indiana University Kokomo,

As I reflect on the 2018-2019 academic year, I am more than proud of the accomplishments of this campus, the thoughtful and strategic handling of our resources, and the forward-thinking that allows us to progress and serve the needs of the region.

A true, well-rounded college experience couldn't happen without our dedicated faculty and staff, who embrace the opportunities to expand student interaction and engagement on a variety of levels. This annual report will outline some of the many projects and programs launched to enhance the student experience and promote student success.

You'll read about the KEY program (Kokomo Experience and You) that offers travel opportunities to students, which included more than 70 trips in this year alone. We rolled out a new diversity plan, added women's soccer, and hired a resource navigator to the Student Life team.

In response to the region, we launched a Master of Mental Health Counseling degree, as well as an online Bachelor of Applied Science in Business. Faculty continue to delve into impressive research and creative art works, resulting in publications, presentations, and display of their work.

One of the highlights of the year was going through the reaccreditation process with the Higher Learning Commission, and received full accreditation for the next 10 years.

I thank all the faculty, staff, students, alumni, donors, and community leaders for their commitment to IU Kokomo.

Sincerely,

Susan Sciame-Giesecke, Ph.D.  
Chancellor

# BECOMING A CAMPUS OF CHOICE

## Growth. Opportunities. Experiences.

The Kokomo Experience and You (KEY) program continued to grow in its third year, with more opportunities for travel, research, and experiential learning opportunities for all students. The KEY program is unique to IU Kokomo, and is increasingly making us a campus of choice in north central Indiana.

The benefits begin before the start of the fall semester, as incoming freshmen participate in the KEY Summer Institute. The program prepares them to transition successfully from high school to college, with information about using time effectively, using the Canvas management system, services and resources available on campus, note taking, and many other skills.

Many of the 100 students who attended appreciated the chance to find where their classes were before the start of the semester, as well as to make friends and know somebody on the first day, and to get to know faculty members.

They also earned a student worker credential, which gives them an edge on securing one of the highly sought campus jobs.

In addition to time on campus, the Key Summer Institute also includes field trips to the Indiana State Police crime lab or Newfields (formerly the Indianapolis Museum of Art), as well as downtown Kokomo, to get familiar with their new surroundings.

An important component of the KEY program is travel, to create an environment of discovery and curiosity. There were 74 trips during the 2018-2019 academic year,

each involving dozens of students. Many of the trips are free, with others offered at low cost, so that finances don't prevent students from taking advantage of these opportunities.

Criminal justice students learned about the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, and toured famous crime sites in Chicago, including the alley where John Dillinger died trying to escape federal agents in 1934.

In the School of Sciences, students gained a greater appreciation and knowledge of the wildlife in their own back yard, observing the sandhill crane migration at Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area, touring a raptor rehabilitation center in Nashville, assisting in netting and banding saw-whet owls at the Indiana Dunes, and viewing numerous bird species at Eagle Creek Park in Indianapolis.

Business, criminal justice, hospitality, and sociology students gained a backstage look at how Disney magic happens during a five-day visit to Walt Disney World, Orlando. They learned how resort and park staff create a seamless experience, and manage security, for the hundreds of thousands of people in their parks each day, while also consulting about the many career opportunities in the company.

Accounting students met professionals at OneAmerica, the Indiana CPA Society, and Katz, Sapper & Miller LLP in Indianapolis, with the chance to ask questions and see what skills they need to succeed in the field.



## Students experience backstage magic with Disney trip

The magic seems to happen effortlessly when you visit Walt Disney World Resorts. However, a lot of work happens behind-the-scenes to create that enchanted experience for the approximately 250,000 people each day who visit its theme parks, hotels, cruise ships, and other attractions.

Twenty Indiana University Kokomo students and five faculty members, in majors including business, criminal justice, hospitality and tourism, and sociology got a backstage look at how the magic is created, during a five-day visit to Walt Disney World in Orlando.

Business major Allison Hopkins was “blown away” by the experience, and has already implemented practices learned while on the trip.

“The best thing Disney has going for them is the sense of pride in their company,” she said. “If I am ever part of a business, or run my own, I want to figure that piece out. I want everyone there to be driven, and excited to work for that company, like the cast members at Disney.”

The trip included leadership classes, a tour of the company’s emergency management center, tasting international cuisine at the EPCOT Food and Wine Festival, and discussions with professionals in human resources, security, and guest services, among other events.

“I don’t know too many businesses you could visit to see all of these aspects performed at the highest possible level,” said Gabby VanAlstine, lecturer of business.

“Everything they do is so intentional, everything is consistent. I wanted them to see how much Disney does in terms of sustainability, in how they treat their cast members, and how they build and foster a culture that is so supportive of the end goal, which is to create magic for the world.”



## RESPONDING TO REGIONAL NEEDS

### **Undergraduate:**

#### **Chancellor's Bachelor of Science in Business Administration**

The Chancellor's Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (B.S.B.A.), an online degree program, prepares students for careers in a variety of industries, including government, retail, business, finance, commerce, and more.

The program exposes students to all the essential parts of a successful organization. Students take courses and cover important subjects like accounting, advertising, marketing, operations management, organizational behavior, and much more. While completing the classes, they gain skills like information analysis, communication, teamwork, critical thinking, and more.

It offers the opportunity to earn the degree in a flexible format, for career advancement.

The online Chancellor's B.S.B.A. from the IU Kokomo School of Business is accredited by AACSB, which is the pre-eminent business accrediting body and accredits fewer than five percent of the world's business programs.

### **Graduate:**

#### **Master of Arts in Mental Health Counseling**

Graduates of the Master of Arts in Mental Health Counseling program, launched in fall 2018, will fill a need for mental health care in north central Indiana.

In a survey conducted by the psychology department, 76 percent of organizations said it was at least somewhat difficult to obtain mental health care in a timely fashion, and employers noted they have difficulty finding licensed practitioners, and often have multiple jobs available.

"There's a huge need for licensed mental health counselors," said Rosalyn Davis, Ph.D., clinical associate professor of psychology, adding that she anticipates graduates will have many job opportunities after successful completion. "With the current shortage of providers, combined with the drug issues that have been prevalent, and the needs of our aging population, there are a lot of avenues to build a career with this degree."

The first class of 16 will graduate in August 2019, with a second cohort set to begin the program in fall 2020.

After completing the 60-credit hour program, graduates will be able to work in any counseling field, such as drug addiction and recovery, marriage and family, vocational rehabilitation, and many others. Salaries in the field range from around \$40,000 to \$60,000 per year, depending on location and type of practice.

It is a hybrid program, with about half on campus classes, and half online. All face-to-face classes for IU Kokomo students will be taught in Kokomo, with online classes taught by faculty not only from IU Kokomo, but also IU Southeast and IU East. Licensure requires 1,000 hours of clinical experience in addition to classroom work, and local mental health providers are on board to provide those hours.



# BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE



## Student Activities and Events Center

President Michael A. McRobbie led groundbreaking for the \$8.5 million Student Activities and Events Center in December 2018.

Chancellor Susan Sciame-Giesecke called the center, which will be the campus's 13th building "a sign of continued growth and a symbol of the possibilities to come," and said the future is bright for IU Kokomo.

She noted that when the Main Building first opened, the campus had 11 faculty, 311 students, six two-year certificates, and courses that would transfer elsewhere for a degree. Today, it has 130 faculty and 3,100 students. "The campus is now truly a mature baccalaureate university, offering a full complement of degrees to serve our 14-county region," she said. "This building is the result of tremendous support from the communities we serve, our donors, and our alumni."

The 23,500 gross square foot center will serve students as a venue for meetings, campus events, and co-curricular activities, and also will be home to Cougar athletic teams. With a few minor adjustments — curtains, carpet squares, and lighting — it can be transformed into an elegant gathering space, for dinners, galas, and other events. Completion is expected in fall 2020, to celebrate IU's Bicentennial, and IU Kokomo's 75th anniversary.



## BLAZING NEW TRAILS

### Duke Energy Foundation Grant

Indiana University Kokomo received a \$20,000 Duke Energy Foundation grant, which provided science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programming for more than 1,000 children and their families.

Leah Nellis, dean of the School of Education, said the funding will be used for family STEM events at Elwood Haynes and Boulevard elementary schools, both in the Kokomo School Corporation.

“It’s all about encouraging exploration of STEM activities and skills, in a family setting,” said Nellis. “It’s important for the children to see their parents coming to school, and demonstrating how important their education is.”

Jan Halperin, vice chancellor for university advancement, commended Duke Energy for its dedication to the community.

“We are grateful for the continued partnership IU Kokomo has with the Duke Energy Foundation and Kokomo Schools,” said Halperin, adding that they also contributed to the Scripps Spelling Bee the campus hosted.

Future teachers in the School of Education participated in planning and leading activities, gaining valuable real-world teaching experience in the process.



### Misinformation Solutions Prize

IU Kokomo received the top award of \$50,000 for its Mind Over Chatter training program, as winner of the Misinformation Solution Prize, intended to fuel development of novel ideas that can reduce the spread of misinformation and minimize its influence.

As part of the program, paid peer mentors are teaching new students how to consider information that doesn’t agree with what they already know.

“This will help prepare students to be more mindful of some of the biases we’re all prone to, and be more critical readers as they take in information,” said Mark Canada, executive vice chancellor for academic affairs and principal investigator for the project. “It’s not the standard approach to information literacy.”

The program builds on existing curriculum in digital polarization, which builds student knowledge in civic and web literacy. It includes a three-step process to help students address cognitive biases, or natural tendencies that interfere with people’s abilities to evaluate information.

The Misinformation Solutions Prize was presented by the Rita Allen Foundation and RTI International, in partnership with the Aspen Institute.





# NATIONAL RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

## Campus accreditation reaffirmed

We received official word that our campus HLC accreditation has been reaffirmed, with our next visit in 2028-2029! We received a glowing evaluation from the team with no follow up required. Credit goes to everyone for their excellent work as we prepared our assurance argument. They were very impressed with everyone they met while they were on campus. They walked away with many great ideas that they wanted to take home to their campuses.

## Nursing accreditation reaffirmed

In addition, we received word that our Nursing Graduate Program accreditation has been reaffirmed. Congratulations all the Nursing faculty, Mary Bourke, and Dean Hendricks on a successful visit!

## New Diversity Plan

Last year, we completed the Campus Climate Survey and shared results with the various departments on campus. Work is on-going with the academic units to ensure diversity and equity are infused at all levels of the curriculum in all majors and divisions. We continue our efforts to recruit and retain more diverse employees and students and have shown a dramatic increase in the number of Hispanic/Latino students attending IU Kokomo. We are currently looking at ways to more fully connect with the African-American community.

**Priority 1:** Establish Initiatives through Institutional Leadership and Commitment

**Priority 2:** Infuse Diversity and Equity into the Curriculum

**Priority 3:** Assess and Address Campus Climate

**Priority 4:** Serve Diverse Communities

**Priority 5:** Increase Recruitment and Retention of Diverse Employees

**Priority 6:** Increase Recruitment and Retention of Diverse Students



## DISCOVERY THROUGH RESEARCH

Each year our faculty publish numerous scholarly papers and exhibit their creative works. Here are two examples of faculty with enthusiasm for their discipline and commitment to ongoing research.



### **Kasem K. Kasem, Professor, School of Sciences**

My research is focused on the synthesis and characterization of functional nano- and micro- structures with novel electronic and photonic properties. The research activities involve the synthesis of inorganic and organic semiconductors, surface chemistry, and nano- and micro-pattern assemblies. Photo-electrochemical techniques are used as characterization tools for fundamental heterogeneous charge transfer and photo-physical processes. In particular, I study how fundamental physical quanta-electrons, photons and phonons – are coupled to each other on the nanometer scale and can be manipulated to serve technological applications. Possible applications are in inorganic/organic semiconductor interfaces (IOI), nano-structured inorganic solar cells, thin solid oxide fuel cells, and hydrogen production.

Curiosity and motivation are not a function of age or academic degrees. I believe that research is the peak of intellectual readiness and that we should involve ready minds. I believe that the true teaching of chemistry should result in students becoming creators – not

merely consumers – of knowledge. I have worked with a variety of students on electrochemical applications, and my students have gone on to submit their papers to professional and international journals. I help students not only to reproduce previous research work, but also to link this known research to further creative work. My objective is to help them see the worth of their research via marketable applications in industrial and academic areas.

In my work on transformation of energy, I have studied photo-induced charge transfer processes at modified semiconductor surfaces (thin films, colloidal, or nano-size particles) with structured or molecularly designed interfaces. My primary goal is to attain efficient capturing of free solar energy and its utilization in important applications such as hydrogen production, charge separation, and charge storage. I have published more than 70 articles in scientific journals, and my research has been recognized twice with an IU Kokomo distinguished research award.

## Niki Weller, Associate Professor, School of Humanities and Social Sciences

The broad objective of my research agenda is to contribute to the understanding of the differential outcomes that various social determinants have on adolescent health and risk behaviors. To advance this objective, I am working with two different community-based research programs: 1) HOPE mentoring and 2) Overdose Lifeline, Inc.

HOPE (Helping Offenders Prosper through Employment) is a statewide mentoring program in long-term juvenile correctional facilities at the Pendleton, Logansport, and LaPorte Juvenile Correctional Facilities of Indiana. HOPE recruits and trains undergraduate volunteers from multiple disciplines, from universities and colleges across Indiana, to serve as mentors to youth involved with the criminal justice system. Each mentor is matched with an incarcerated youth at the point of intake via referrals from the correctional staff. Mentors provide weekly mentoring throughout the confinement and in the community upon release. I serve as the site coordinator for the Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility, providing support to both HOPE mentors and correctional staff at this site.

Since 2015, I have been part of the HOPE Leadership Team, which is a subset of colleagues that research incarceration, transition, employment, and social determinants related to youth incarceration in Indiana. During this time, I have assisted in securing more than \$35,000 in funding from the IU Women's Philanthropy Leadership Council, the IUK Women of the Well House, the Indiana Campus Compact, and the IU Global Gateway. Our work has a global presence. In 2018, we went to Norway to promote the expansion of HOPE; recently, we were invited to South Africa to train university and community leaders in the implementation of HOPE. In 2019, we launched the Latin America Institute of Juvenile Delinquency and Prevention with support from the IU Gateway office of Mexico City and in collaboration with colleagues from the University of Costa Rica, the National Autonomous University of Mexico, and local nongovernmental organizations in Mexico City. We have published manuscripts identifying the impact of HOPE mentoring for

the incarcerated youth, for the undergraduate mentors, and for the communities in *Corrections Today*, *Journal of Prison Education*, and *Intervention in School and Clinic*.

Overdose Lifeline, Inc. is a statewide Indiana nonprofit dedicated to helping individuals, families, and communities affected by the disease of addiction and substance use disorder through advocacy, education, harm reduction, prevention, resources, and support. I have been working with Overdose Lifeline since 2017 in the implementation of the PreVenture Pilot Program – an evidence-based drug intervention and prevention curriculum – in high schools across seven counties in Indiana. I have secured more than \$40,000 in funding to support my work with PreVenture from the IU Women's Philanthropy Council, the Well House Society, the IUK Applied and Community Research Center, and IUK Grant-In-Aid. In fall 2019, we will be implementing a multi-level intervention program including PreVenture, TAG (teen-advisory groups), and This is Not About Drugs across identified schools in four Indiana counties.



# ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITITES

## Tomorrow's Teachers program

The School of Education partnered with four north central Indiana school districts to combat a growing teacher shortage, by preparing high school students to enter the profession.

The Tomorrow's Teachers program began in fall 2018 at Kokomo, Logansport, Western, and Caston high schools, with IU Kokomo faculty teaching dual credit classes on site. Ten participating students enrolled in the School of Education after graduating from high school in spring 2019.

"Tomorrow's Teachers gives us an opportunity to help students who have an interest in this profession to confirm it is their desired career path before college," said School of Education Dean Leah Nellis. "We will give them both hands-on experiences and coursework in their own school, so if it is what they want to do, they will have a good start before graduating from high school."



The program meets a critical need, as an October 2017 survey of Indiana school superintendents found 94 percent of 141 school districts have a teacher shortage, up 2 percent from 2016.

Participating districts hope to address their own shortages by growing their own future teachers with this program. "They hope to build relationships with these potential educators, and perhaps have incentives for them to come

back to work as teachers in the future," she said. "We think it will have an impact on addressing the shortages in the districts that participate."

Nellis added that the program also helps with teacher retention, which is also a growing issue statewide. Indiana's average retention rate for educators is 82 percent, according to a national study by the Learning Policy Institute.

## The Center for Community Engagement

The Center for Community Engagement is a campus-wide resource to connect IU Kokomo faculty, staff, and students with businesses, non-profits, and community-based organizations throughout our service region, and to be a central point of contact for community members.

Our engagement focuses on creating campus and community partnerships and collaborations that are reciprocal and mutually beneficial, through teaching, research and service. A few examples of these partnerships include financial literacy workshop at the Carver Community Center by business faculty; leading visits to the campus art gallery by students enrolled in the Clinton County Summer Kids Workshops; and hosting about 200 robotics students for the Rover League Championships .

The Center connects the community to expert university faculty, and resources that address local and regional needs, including college readiness initiatives, regional economic development, entrepreneurship, arts development, and community health.

## Fiat Chrysler Automobiles M.B.A. Cohort

IU Kokomo assists Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA US) in developing its own future leaders, partnering with local leadership to offer a Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) cohort program.

About 30 FCA US enrolled in the program, with class once a week and additional time in online instruction. The cohort will progress through to completion together.

Chancellor Susan Sciame-Giesecke said expanding IU Kokomo's relationship with FCA US will benefit the region. "This is a great corporate-university partnership," she said. "One of our main goals is to continually assess the area's educational needs and engage and provide opportunities for people who want to advance their education."

Jason Lewis, human resources manager for FCA US, said the curriculum, faculty, and price played a role in choosing IU Kokomo for the M.B.A. program. He appreciates the opportunity to develop talent within the company, with a convenient schedule.

"We encourage employee development at all levels, especially those motivated to further their careers," he said. "But finding the time to take classes is a big consideration, and sometimes a deterrent, for working

adults. We appreciate that IU Kokomo is willing to work with us to make it convenient for our employees to pursue an advanced degree."

Student Brayden Lucas looked forward to moving up within the company because of the opportunity.

"A lot of the jobs I'm interested in require a master's degree," said Lucas, a maintenance supervisor at Indiana Transmission Plant 1. "This opportunity is local, and FCA US was willing to work with the schedule, which will make it easier to complete. This should open a lot of doors to new opportunities for me."

IU Kokomo and FCA US have a long-established partnership, with many students completing internships and having other opportunities provided by the company, according to Gloria Preece, director of the M.B.A. and Master of Public Management programs.

"We value our relationship with FCA US and this has been a great opportunity for us to expand that relationship as a member of the community," she said.

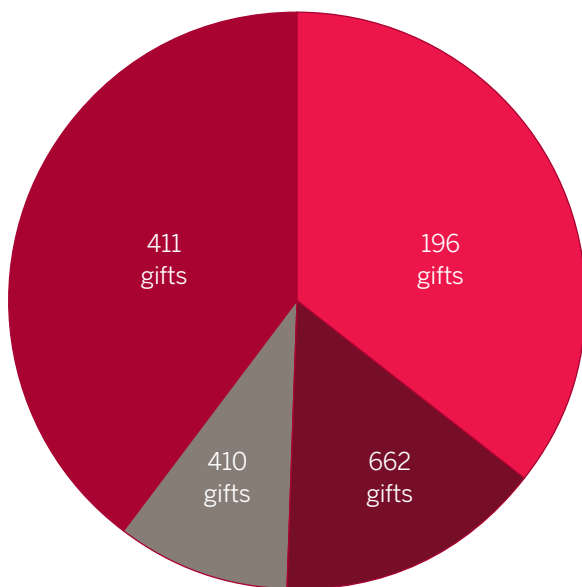
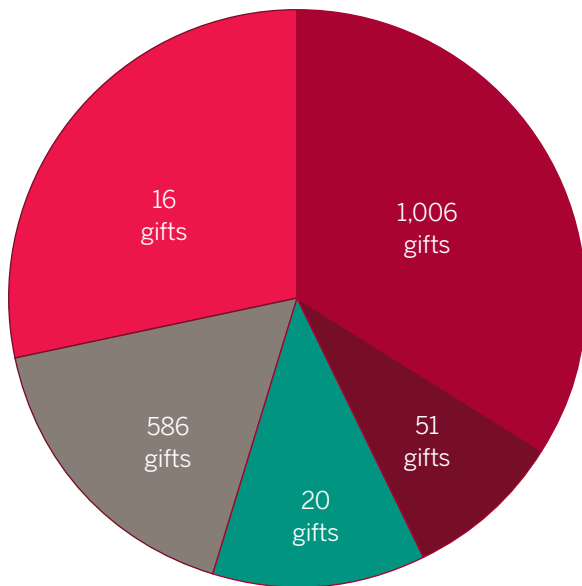


# FOR ALL: THE INDIANA UNIVERSITY BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

The Indiana University Bicentennial Campaign will conclude in June 2020 to coincide with IU's bicentennial year celebration.

## Fiscal Year 2019 Funds Raised

**\$1,241,608**  
 1,679 gifts from 871 donors



## 2018-2019 Scholarships Awarded

IU Foundation Scholarships	\$247,219
Number awarded	204
Non-IUF Scholarships	\$799,039
Number awarded	507

## 2018-2019 Revenue by Constituent

Alumni	\$423,010.19
Corporation	\$108,516.12
Foundation	\$148,712.19
Friend	\$210,243.48
Other	\$352,126.00

## 2018-2019 Revenue by Designation Use

Construction & Capital Improvements	\$442,138.99
General Endowment	\$188,616.65
Operating, Research, & IU Accounts	\$120,020.59
Scholarships	\$490,831.75

# VISIONARY FRIENDS AND ALUMNI



## Partners in Giving

Dr. Robert and Debbie Christensen, Fishers

As Dr. Robert Christensen worked his way through Indiana University Kokomo, the example of his mother, Doris Alcorn Korba, inspired him.

In her early 40s, with three children at home, his mother enrolled in the Kokomo School of Practical Nursing, which led to a nursing career of more than 20 years at Dukes Memorial Hospital in Peru.

“She worked very hard. She didn’t have it easy due to her circumstances,” he said. “I feel like earning her degree was a great accomplishment.”

After he graduated from IU Kokomo in 1976, he was accepted to the IU School of Medicine, leading him to a successful career as a family physician – first in Michigan, then in Cicero. He completed his career in the Ball State Student Health Center two years ago.

He’s now teaching a physiology lab in the IU Kokomo School of Sciences.

The Christensens established the Doris Alcorn Nursing Scholarship this year, in honor of his mother, as well as the

influence IU Kokomo had on his life. They’ve also made a planned gift from their estate.

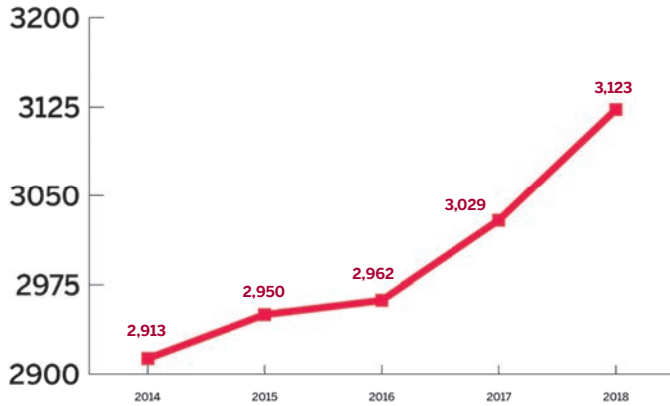
“I was very happy I attended IU Kokomo,” he said. “It was probably the best college I could have attended, because of the smaller class size and the excellent professors who really cared about the students. I felt it was a more personal relationship with the faculty. It’s grown and improved since I was here, but I think it’s an outstanding college, and prepared me well.”

Christensen believes his mother would be proud to have a scholarship in her name. He’s pleased to help future nurses.

“I just think nurses are angels, and want to contribute to a scholarship to help students financially, to ease their way through college,” he said.

# CONTINUED ENROLLMENT GROWTH AND INCREASED GRADUATION RATES

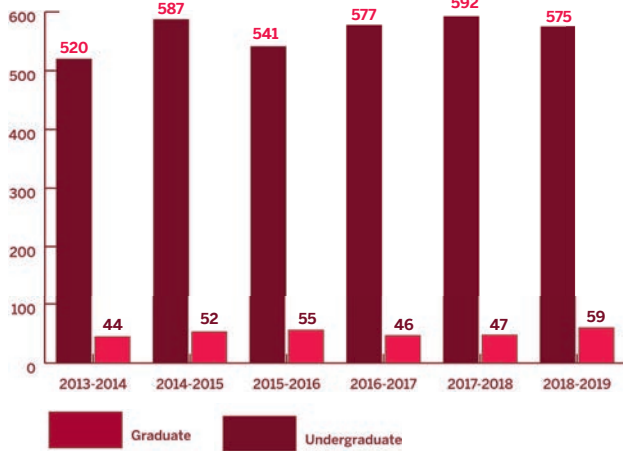
## Official Enrollment (Less High School Dual Credit Students)



## Credit Hours (Less High School Dual Credit Students)

Fall 2014	34,687
Fall 2015	35,398
Fall 2016	36,053
Fall 2017	37,126
Fall 2018	38,229

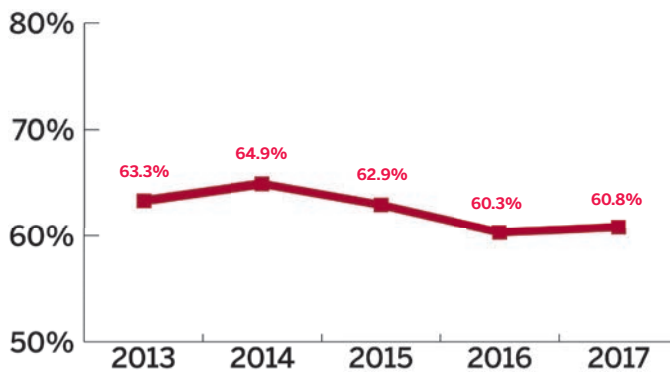
## Number of Degrees Conferred (by fiscal year)



## Graduation Rates of First-time, Full-time Undergraduate Beginners (by cohort)

Fall 2010	4 yr: 17.4%	6 yr: 38.6%
Fall 2011	4yr: 18.1%	6 yr: 39.5%
Fall 2012	4 yr: 18.7%	6 yr: 36.9%
Fall 2013	4 yr: 22.0%	6 yr: ----
Fall 2014	4 yr: 26.9%	6 yr: ----

## Retention of First-time, Full-Time Undergraduate Beginners (by cohort)



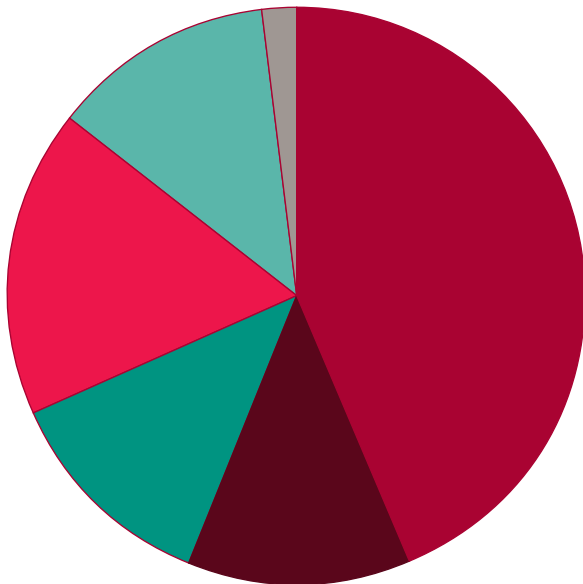


# SOUND STRATEGIC INVESTMENT IN STUDENT SUCCESS

## Fiscal Year 2019 Budget

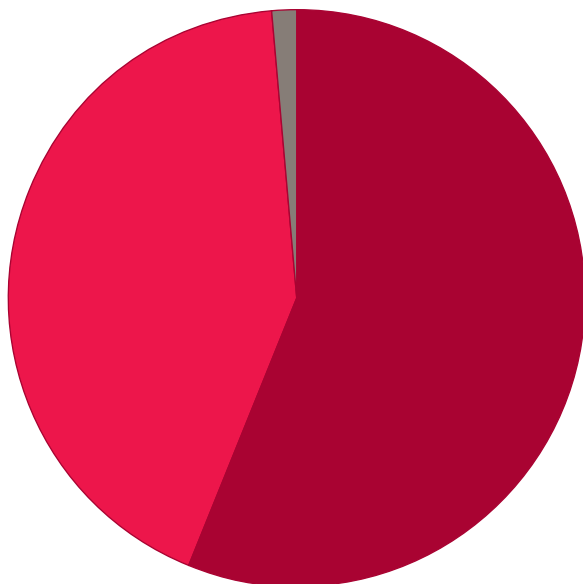
# \$43,905,068

General Fund	\$37,067,515
Designated & Other Restricted Funds	\$6,147,553
Auxiliary Expenses	\$590,000
Contracts & Grants	\$100,000



### 2018-2019 Expenditures (Budget for general fund)

Instruction	\$16,180,277
Institutional Support	\$6,395,679
Student Financial Aid	\$734,000
Student Support	\$4,496,555
Physical Plant	\$4,649,766
Academic Support	\$4,611,238



### 2018-2019 Revenue (Budget for general fund)

Student Fees	\$20,826,266
State Appropriation	\$15,696,949
Other Income	\$544,300

# BUILDING CHAMPIONS

## A year of success and new beginnings

Cougar athletics celebrated its most successful year ever during the 2018-2019 school year.

The Cougars won the conference championship in volleyball, won the RSC West Division in men's basketball, tied for the divisional lead in women's basketball and reached the RSC baseball championship finals finishing third in the regular season. Those four teams had a combined record of 114-42 (.730) for the year.

Two athletes from the women's cross country team and women's track team also qualified for their national finals.

Student athletes also excelled in the classroom, with a spring and fall grade point average of 3.14, higher than the student body average. Retention rates for student athletes also topped the student body.

The Cougars hired Terry Stewart to lead the first women's soccer team, set to kick off play in fall 2019. Stewart, who previously was the top assistant coach at Fresno Pacific University, recruited his team during the 2018-2019 year.

Capping this year of accomplishment, Greg Cooper, the Cougars athletic director, was voted River States Conference Athletic Director of the Year by his peers.



# HONORING OUTSTANDING IU KOKOMO ALUMNI



## Nurses of Distinction

The Indiana University Kokomo School of Nursing celebrated its 50th anniversary by honoring five of its graduates with the inaugural Nurses of Distinction awards.

The School of Nursing, along with the IU Alumni Association Kokomo Region, recognized these outstanding alumnae, honoring them for making a difference in the nursing profession and in their communities.

“Distinction is defined as excellence that sets someone apart from others,” said Interim Dean Mary Bourke. “Each of our award winners exemplifies that quality, and each is an exemplary model of a nurse. We are proud to honor them.”

Nurses of Distinction award winners were:

- **Sarah Hodapp-Bevington, B.S.N. '03**, is a neonatal intensive care unit nurse at Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health. She and her husband, Coley, started PCAT Ambulance, which serves the residents of North Central Indiana, and has responded to nationwide disasters.
- **Sharmaine Ellison, A.S.N. '87; B.S.N. '00**, is a certified surgery nurse at Community Howard Regional Health, and a current student in IU Kokomo's Master of Science in Nursing program. She also serves as an IU Alumni Association executive council board member and as regional vice president of the IU Alumni Association Kokomo Region chapter.
- **Margaret R. “Peggy,” Faulkner, A.S.N. '78; B.S.N. '07**, was a house supervisor-administrative coordinator at Community Howard Regional Health before her retirement. In 2015, she initiated and developed the practices and procedures for the Nursing Honor Guard, serving north central Indiana by honoring fallen nurses and their families during their time of grief.
- **Ruth Kain, A.S.N. '95; B.S.N. '00**, is vice president of patient services and director of clinical operations at IU Health Saxony, Fishers; and is regional manager of emergency operations. She is currently earning a Doctor of Nursing Practice.
- **Jo Ellen Scott, A.S.N. '74; B.S.N. '94**, is chief nursing officer and senior vice president of patient care services at IU Health Tipton Hospital, serves on the advisory board for IU Kokomo and Ivy Tech State College as a nursing representative, and helped establish the Domestic Violence Coalition in Tipton County. She was instrumental in creating the relationship between IU Health Tipton Hospital and IU Kokomo to allow students to engage in clinicals at the hospital.



## Business Persons of Distinction

Indiana University Kokomo honored its alumni for professional accomplishments and community service, with its first-ever Business Persons of Distinction awards.

The School of Business and the IU Alumni Association Kokomo Region honored three recipients at a reception. Assistant Dean Jason VanAlstine said the honorees set an example for current students to emulate.

“All of them have significant professional accomplishments with their organizations, and have contributed to their professions,” he said. “We looked at those, and also at what they are doing outside their careers to give back to their communities. It's helpful for our students to see the path to success that alumni before them have set.”

Robert E. Knowling Jr., who received an honorary degree from IU Kokomo in May 2018, was the keynote speaker for the event. Dean Alan Krabbenhoft noted that Knowling, who is chairman of Eagles Landing Partners, overcame poverty and racism to become a successful businessman.

“He exemplifies the type of leader we should all aspire to be, by sharing the benefits of his success with others,” he said. “He credits the YMCA, especially the Kokomo YMCA, as a significant contributor to his overcoming many obstacles early in his life and career. Recognizing their importance, he has been a strong supporter of the local and national YMCA. He remains active in his efforts to promote equity and social justice within our society, supporting an agenda of inclusion and diversity for women and persons of color in the workforce.”

Business Persons of Distinction honorees are:

- **Nathan Kring, M.B.A. '16**, is vice president of operations for Five Sigma, an Israeli artificial intelligence firm, and owns several businesses.
- **Annette Russell, B.S. '94**, is president and chief executive officer of Security Federal Savings Bank, Logansport.
- **Scott Voorhis, B.S. '05, M.B.A. '07**, is an associate partner at Bucheri McCarty & Metz LLP, where he leads the tax and technology departments.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY KOKOMO  
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

**2300 S. Lafountain St.  
Kokomo, IN 46902  
Phone: (765) 453-2000**



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