

ILLINOIS 150

AN ICONIC FACILITY. A CATALYST FOR DESIGN LEARNING.



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Sarah is a high-school student from New York City with a calling. She sees the millions killed by communicable disease in the developing world every year, and she intends to do something about it. She's technically inclined and imagines diagnosing patients with a pin prick and a cellphone. She needs to learn about wireless communications and real-time computing to link that cell phone to laboratories half a world away.

Sarah also knows she'll need to understand the complex politics of delivering health care to remote villages. The biology behind the testing. The economics of getting her technology adopted. The design of an app that's easy to use.

She'll find her home at Illinois 150, an iconic new facility dedicated to design learning and to channeling students' innate creativity and passion.

There she'll meet Jonah who is studying immunology. Yassin will bring an economics degree and first-hand knowledge of how to operate in sub-Saharan Africa. Cory is an industrial design student who's been looking for just this sort of project.

They'll form a team at Illinois 150 and get busy changing the world.

Faculty innovators and coaches will help them tailor their educational path. They'll test their ideas in courses. They'll explore their designs in immersive virtual spaces and build prototypes in maker spaces throughout campus. Instead of term papers, they'll write grant applications and fund their proof-of-concept efforts. They'll network with students, faculty, alumni, and leaders from around the world. When they graduate, they'll have incorporated already, and they'll be sharing their pitch with potential seed-round investors.

Sarah and her team are the students of the future. They will force universities around the world to change their approach and up their game.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will lead this change. Illinois 150 will be the catalyst and become a model for others to follow.

SIMPLE AND BOLD

Our goal for Illinois 150 is simple and bold. We intend to transform the way we educate our students. That transformation needs a center of gravity.

The inviting, exciting Illinois 150 building will be that center of gravity. A home for students across campus, it will inspire and offer a set of programs that represent a whole new way of looking at learning. When we talk about Illinois 150, we're talking about both the facility and the opportunities it creates. One only succeeds with the other.

THINK OF ILLINOIS 150 AS IRONMAN'S WORKSHOP, WHERE AUGMENTED AND VIRTUAL REALITY COMPLEMENT TRADITIONAL PHYSICAL DEVICES. IT WILL BE A PLACE THAT LIBERATES THE MIND, INSPIRES INNOVATION, EMPOWERS CREATIVITY, AND TRANSLATES PASSION INTO IMPACT.

THIS REINVENTION COMES AT A CRITICAL TIME IN HIGHER EDUCATION, WHICH IS FACING DECLINING STATE FUNDING, INCREASING CALLS FOR STUDENT VALUE, AND THE EMERGENCE OF NEW LOW-COST COMPETITORS.

Illinois 150 will foster a culture of multidisciplinary education and student-led problem solving. Illinois will become famous as an incubator of outstanding young talent with a new and unusual collection of skills. It will channel every student's passion and innate creativity toward lives of impact. Students will explore ideas and master skills through action—designing, making, and doing.

Design learning—in both the physical and digital world—will be at the heart of this revolutionary shift. It involves collaboration and communication, as well as connecting with people through observation and empathy. It is an unparalleled basis for education, whatever a student's field.

CITIZENS OF TWO WORLDS

Today's students are citizens of two worlds, the physical and the digital. How they interact with their environment is increasingly augmented by digital tools like smartphones and telepresence. In the future, this interaction will be woven into every experience.

Illinois students are already very familiar with a maker's tools, and they expect to leverage them in their education and work. They are fluent in both the digital and the physical, and their education must reflect this reality.

That education requires significant resources—tools for physical prototyping, immersive spaces for visualization, connected places for sharing ideas with people around the world, labs for testing, shops for building, a network for exporting ideas and plans to new formats and systems.

The world changes quickly. Illinois 150 will be flexible, inviting, and constantly updated with new tools. It is where ideas will be put to the test and where students will flourish.

A HOME FOR ALL

Illinois 150 will serve as a home for students from every discipline and background. In this space, students will meet to formulate and design solutions to real-world problems, prototype and test their ideas, and collaborate with partners around the world via state-of-the-art technology. It is where students will want to be, both because of the tools it offers and the community that grows there. Illinois 150 will be vibrant, full of people who are up to something big and who want to share their excitement with others.

But a single building cannot contain our wealth of talent and resources. Other universities have constructed collaborative, design-focused learning spaces in recent years. But Illinois distinctly boasts depth in several disciplines where ideation, design, and making are core to problem solving. These disciplines include engineering, architecture, industrial design, graphic design, and the performing arts (lighting, sound, set, and digital design).

Collaboration occurs in those disciplines' spaces as well as in multidisciplinary research centers like the National Center for Supercomputing Applications and Beckman Institute. In addition, our residence halls are increasingly organized as thriving living-learning communities that capture students' unique interests. What

OTHER WORLD-CLASS UNIVERSITIES LIKE STANFORD AND CARNEGIE MELLON HAVE DEVELOPED LARGE-SCALE COLLABORATIVE SPACES. ILLINOIS 150 WILL DO THE SAME—AND DRIVE US TO REIMAGINE THE EDUCATION OF STUDENTS FROM EVERY FIELD.

the campus lacks is a facility that can serve as the highly visible center of a cyber-physical network that connects this breadth of perspectives, spaces, and resources. These interconnections will enrich students' learning, offer them new opportunities, accelerate their progress, and spread their impact.

Think of Illinois 150 as a testbed for the projects that grow from students' imaginations. It's also a testbed for new approaches to learning, framed in a global context.

It will encourage:

- **Design thinking** Students will master design thinking by acquiring skills like problem framing and research; analytical reasoning; ideation and conceptualization; prototyping; and communication.
- **Team building and collaborative skills** Although some projects may be individual, most will involve collaboration in interdisciplinary teams. These skills will be an important component of the experience within and outside the curriculum.
- **Autonomy and on-demand learning** Students will have access to resources for self-directed projects, volunteer initiatives, and other ventures. Independence in creating these opportunities and identifying the resources and skills they require will be central to the students' experiences.

THE TOOLS AVAILABLE AT ILLINOIS 150 WILL BE RIVALED ONLY BY THE COMMUNITY THAT GATHERS THERE. AND THE RESULTS WILL TRANSFORM ILLINOIS, UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION, AND THE WORLD.

A PROMISE OF IMPACT

Passion to solve the hardest, most important problems. Curiosity and the drive to explore. Willingness to build, to fail, and to try again. Fluency with digital tools. Open minds that cross boundaries.

These are the gifts students bring with them to the University of Illinois. We are committed to helping students make the most of them.

Through design learning centered in an amazing new building, students will connect across fields and cultures—learning quickly, experimenting freely, and collaborating with teammates who have different skills and viewpoints.

Illinois 150 is our promise that the future's grand challenges will be solved and that Illinois graduates will lead the way.