The Special Advisor to the President & Deputy Comptroller’s office provides services in the most cost-effective manner to support the research, teaching, public service, health, and economic development missions of the University of Illinois System. This annual report encompasses the guiding values, accomplishments, staff achievements, and new initiatives of Fiscal Year 2021.

This report also highlights our units’ dedication to building a healthy future for Illinois and the Midwest by supporting healthcare, diversity, renewable energy, and community land agreements. Aligning with the University of Illinois System’s guiding principles and providing critical services that support the system, we focus our actions through the lens of our guiding values.
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ABOUT US

Working under Mike Bass, the Special Advisor to the President and Deputy Comptroller, we are a varied but cohesive group of System units that work in concert to serve our universities. Together we promote diversity, collaborate with internal and external parties and work to provide space and infrastructure that addresses the needs of university constituents.
GUIDING VALUES

**Teamwork**

We create collaborative partnerships to accomplish our shared missions and vision.

**Timely Communicators**

We communicate openly, honestly and respectfully with each other and with our customers.

**Accountable**

We take responsibility for our actions and act with integrity.

**Service Oriented**

We listen to the needs of our customers and offer them our best effort every time.

**Adaptable**

We support the changing needs of the University of Illinois System.
SERVICES WE PROVIDE

Our offices provide the university community with opportunities to advance their mission in the following ways:

**System Advocacy**
Partnering with units and state and local leaders, this unit focuses on the issues that affect the University of Illinois System’s ability to run more efficiently and effectively by developing, collaborating and coordinating legislation that has direct effect on the needs of the universities.

**System Purchasing and Support Services**
The mission of System Purchasing and Support Services is to serve and support the University of Illinois System by leveraging our knowledge and expertise to provide data analytics and procurement services to deliver efficient, accurate and innovative solutions.

**Illinois Public Higher Education Cooperative**
Encourages, promotes, plans, develops, supports and provides increased cooperation, coordination, and sharing between and among public institutions of higher education in Illinois, in the utilization of their resources, facilities, and personnel, in order to strengthen, enrich, and improve cost efficiency of their functions, activities and operations.

**Office of Medicaid Innovation**
Provides clinical, administrative, and operational supports from across the University’s campuses and locations to the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) in the furtherance of its mission to administer Illinois’ publicly funded healthcare system for over 3 million individuals across the state.
SERVICES WE PROVIDE, continued

Utilities
Procures natural gas, electricity, and renewable energy for the University of Illinois System. Utilities manages and strategically executes purchases and collaborates with the universities and energy providers to reduce costs and minimize risk.

Office of Procurement Diversity
Promotes and encourages the continuing economic development of minority, women, and persons with disabilities-owned businesses by creating an equitable and competitive business environment through encouraging campus departments to proactively consider qualified certified businesses.

Capital Programs
Facilitates delivery of new building and major maintenance efforts to existing structures and continues to grow university facilities to attract students, faculty, and researchers. Additional information about these efforts have been pulled into a separate report.

Real Estate Services
Real Estate furthers the mission of the university and invests in the communities where we are located by developing Public-Private Partnerships (P3s), managing leases and selling and acquiring real estate.
Fostering strategic partnerships with diverse suppliers creates value for our university and provides us with a competitive advantage. Diverse suppliers contribute to the overall economic growth and well-being of the communities in which they serve. Engaging with such businesses creates a synergy that only comes from various perspectives.”
- Sharla Roberts, Director, OPD

**Executed Major Prime Awards**

IPHEC executed a 10-year contract with Industrial Electrical Supply. This diverse, woman-owned vendor out of Burr Ridge, Illinois distributes an array of electrical products and materials. The award is expected to result in anywhere between $35 - $55 million in diverse spend over its life.

Also in 2021, IPHEC was named the recipient of the Jesse L Moore Supplier 2021 Diversity Award.

**System Office Exemplifies “All Together Extraordinary”**

System Purchasing and Support Services intentionally utilized the sheltered market contract for IT consulting, which has helped nearly triple diverse spend between FY20 and FY21 - from $1,045,751 to $3,194,480. This increase is the direct result of several offices working collaboratively towards a common goal.

**System Office Diverse Spend**

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<th>2019</th>
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<td>$966,876</td>
<td>$1,045,751</td>
<td>$3,194,480</td>
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SUPPORTING ACADEMIC MISSION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Discovery Partners Institute Progress

Real Estate Services assisted with the much-needed expansion of office space for Discovery Partners Institute. Currently housed at 200 S. Wacker in Chicago, DPI increased its square footage by 20,000 sf. The Office of Capital Programs was represented on the architect selection committee for DPI’s premiere facility to be located at The 78 development south of the Loop.

Increased P3 Development

Real Estate services has $500 million under construction or completed in P3 Development. The new $195 million UIC Outpatient Surgery Center is now fully enclosed with the first patient day expected in less than 12 months. At UIUC, classes are now being held in the new Campus Instructional Facility, the Feed Technology Center is fully operational and the planned South Campus Center for Interdisciplinary Learning is expected to be under construction early 2022.

Implemented Construction Bid Portal

When doing business in-person became an impossibility, Capital Programs quickly moved bid submissions and openings online. This prevented extensive delays in construction schedules and delivery.

Utilities Services Help with Solar Farm 2.0

In FY21, Utilities Services continued its dedicated efforts working with the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Sol Systems and Inovateus Solar in the development, planning and construction of the 54 acre, 12.1 MW Solar Farm. Solar Farm 2.0 achieved Commercial Operation in February 2021 and has already produced over 6,500 MWH’s. Each year, Solar Farm 2.0 is expected to produce approximately 20,000 MWH’s and save the University $200,000 or more.

Total Capital Outlay

More than $220 million has been invested in capital projects in FY21. Many of these projects will further the academic and research missions of the university by providing students and faculty with premiere classroom and laboratory space.

Number of Awards Executed

IPHEC and System Purchasing issued 88 new awards that cover more than 150 vendors and span ten years. These contracts allow for a potential spend of more than $1 billion over their ten year life.

Additional Clean Energy Production

Aided in part by the efforts of the Utilities Services group, the new Solar Farm in Champaign covers 54 acres and will produce approximately 20,000 MWhs of energy for the university each year.

P3 Investment

Real Estate services has $500 million under construction or completed in P3 Development. The new $195 million UIC Outpatient Surgery Center is now fully enclosed with the first patient day expected in less than 12 months. At UIUC, classes are now being held in the new Campus Instructional Facility, the Feed Technology Center is fully operational and the planned South Campus Center for Interdisciplinary Learning is expected to be under construction early 2022.
COLLABORATIONS AND CONNECTIONS WITH STATE

Online Bidding Now Live
IPHEC successfully added electronic bidding functionality to its Procurement Bulletin. This allows all higher education institutions in Illinois to participate in non-contact solicitation openings, creating efficiencies for vendors and university users alike.

Helped Public Health

Released Capital Construction Funds
The Office of Capital Programs worked closely with the Illinois Capital Development Board on securing the release of nearly $180 million in project funds. Noteworthy projects for which funding is now available include Altgeld Hall/Illini Hall in Urbana-Champaign, Computer Design Research and Learning Center in Chicago and the Library Learning Student Success Center in Springfield. Funds were also released towards the design of the DPI building in Chicago and various Illinois Innovation Network hubs.

Developing Workforces
Office of Medicare Innovation (OMI) and the UIUC School of Social Work are helping Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) reform Illinois’ Children’s Mental Health System through training and technical assistance of the community-based providers that help families and children.”

- Shawn Cole, Director, OMI

Partnership with Healthcare and Family Services
OMI’s partnership with the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services has expanded healthcare consultation opportunities, giving more Illinois citizens a chance at improved health. The partnership also works to educate healthcare professionals and increase practical study and research opportunities throughout the University of Illinois System.
**STAFF NEWS**

**Michael A. Wilson, II**  
Mike began his role as AVP of Capital Programs and Utilities Services in August 2020. Mike comes to the university from the State, having worked several years at first the Governor’s Office of Management and Budget and then the Capital Development Board.

**Sarah Chronister**  
Sarah joined System Purchasing and Support Services in April of 2021 as a Senior Sourcing and Contract Coordinator. Sarah brings to the team over 8 years of university purchasing experience from NCSA and Urbana Purchasing.

**Jenny Henderson**  
Jenny joined System Purchasing and Support Services in July of 2021 as a Sourcing and Contract Coordinator. Jenny brings over four years of experience from University Payables’ Vendor Maintenance group.

**Ebene White**  
Ebene joined Capital Programs as an Assistant Director in April 2021 after several years with the Capital Development Board. Ebene is a two-time UIUC Architecture graduate and will help oversee project management of the new Discovery Partners Institute facility in Chicago.

**Erin Dalton**  
Erin joined Utility Services in December 2020 as a Business and Financial Coordinator. Erin comes to the University from Ameren Illinois and serves as Assistant Controller for Prairieland Energy, Inc.

**Zebo Zebe**  
Zebo joined Real Estate Services in November 2020 as an Assistant Director. Zebo is a University of Illinois graduate with a background in residential real estate. He is a licensed appraiser and served as the Chairman of the Champaign County Board of Review.

**James “Jim” Parker**  
After years of leadership at Healthcare and Family Services and work in the private consulting market, Jim has assumed the role of Acting Executive Director for the Office of Medicaid Innovation. Jim’s unique combination of experience and knowledge positions OMI to address the state’s most complex health challenges for year to come.
FUTURE INITIATIVES

1. Further Expand Procurement Diversity

The Office of Procurement Diversity (OPD) will continue to expand opportunities for diverse professional services firms. OPD will collaborate with the Discovery Partners Institute (DPI) and Illinois Innovation Network (IIN) to develop programs that will foster the growth of diverse businesses.

2. Develop IT Resources for HFS

Innovation requires the design and implementation of solutions to problems, both old and new. In the field of healthcare, innovation requires technology, planning, and data to keep pace with the complexity of insurance, clinical practice, and medical advancement. In state fiscal year 2022, OMI will begin to develop a new Health Information Technology Group within the unit to help guide HFS as it continues to rebuild the state’s public healthcare technology ecosystem.

3. Streamline eProcurement Optimization

The Source2Pay project continues to progress. Upon the completion of the eProcurement optimization, the team has focused on Contracts+ implementation. When complete, purchase requisitioning and contract authoring/management will be provided out of the same system reducing redundancies in processing. Contracts+ go-live is scheduled for October of 2021. Upon completion of the Contracts+ implementation the team will begin working on ePayables implementation to bring invoice processing into the same system.

4. Refine the Capital Delivery Process

The Office of Capital Programs continues to work with the three universities to implement process changes first recommended via a consulting engagement with Ernst & Young. Among these, approval thresholds continue to be evaluated as does adherence to policy through capital project audits led by FTI Consulting.

5. Transition of Contract Services Office

In July of 2021, System Purchasing and Support Services will assume the responsibilities of the Contract Services Office for system units. Specifically, System Purchasing will now be responsible for processing no fund and revenue generating contracts in addition to the purchase contracts they manage today. This will provide system units with a one-stop-shop for all their contracting needs. Amy Heggemeyer will be joining the team from the Urbana Contracts Services Office to assist with these new responsibilities.