



SIU System Invites Public and Campus Community to Help Shape Next Strategic Plan

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — The Southern Illinois University System is inviting faculty, staff, students, alumni and community members to help shape the next chapter of its strategic plan, which will guide the system through 2031. The public is encouraged to participate in an online survey and a series of virtual town halls designed to gather input from across the region and state.

The virtual town halls are scheduled for Monday, April 20, and Thursday, April 23.

“Over the past several years, the SIU System has made significant progress through our current plan by strengthening collaboration among campuses, expanding student access, and deepening our commitment to inclusion and innovation,” said SIU System President Dan Mahony. “Now we’re asking our communities to help us look forward. The world of higher education is changing rapidly, and this is our opportunity to ensure the SIU System remains strong, adaptable and connected to the people we serve.”

The SIU System invites all stakeholders to participate in the following opportunities:

Online Strategic Plan Survey — A 10-minute survey open to the public and campus community.

Virtual Town Halls — Interactive sessions hosted on YouTube to share perspectives and ideas:

The town halls are:

- Monday, April 20, at noon.
- Thursday, April 23, at 5 p.m.

Access to the survey and town halls is available at: <https://siusystem.edu/about/strategic-plan/>.

Since launching its strategic plan in 2022, the SIU System has advanced work across six goal areas, including academic innovation, student success and community impact. Key efforts include the SIU System Course Exchange, which expands access to online courses across campuses and supports timely degree completion. Systemwide initiatives such as the Office of Community Engagement and Institute of Rural Health connect education, workforce development, healthcare and regional needs.

“These accomplishments reflect what’s possible when our campuses work together,” said Gireesh Gupchup, SIU System vice president for academic innovation, planning, and partnerships. “As we look to the next five years, we’re focused on meeting the evolving needs of students, employers, and communities across Illinois and preparing for new technologies, workforce demands, and ways of learning that continue to transform higher education.”

About the Southern Illinois University System

Founded in 1869, the [Southern Illinois University System](#) includes nationally recognized public universities serving more than 24,500 students across two institutions: Southern Illinois University Carbondale ([SIUC](#)) and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville ([SIUE](#)). SIUC includes the Simmons Law School in Carbondale and School of Medicine in Springfield. SIUE includes a School of Pharmacy in Edwardsville, a School of Dental Medicine in Alton, the Southwestern Illinois Justice and Workforce Development Campus in Belleville and the East St. Louis Center. Employing more than 7,400 faculty and staff, the SIU System is a major economic driver for Central and Southern Illinois and offers a wide range of academic programs leading to associate, bachelor’s, master’s, specialist, doctoral and professional degrees including law, medicine, pharmacy and dental medicine.

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