

Stewarding the

# LEGACY



# Contents

1

President's  
Message

2

The academic  
year at a glance

4

Academics

20

Inclusion

22

Our World

26

Service

28

Sustainability

30

Athletics

32

Financial Recap

36

Support

37

Leadership

## 2016-2017

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

MESSAGE FROM

**PRESIDENT STEPHEN C. AINLAY, Ph.D.**

When I first met in an open forum with members of the Union College community in November 2005, I looked around the walls of Memorial Chapel at the portraits of past presidents and remarked that all of us owe a debt of gratitude to those who have been caretakers of the Union College legacy.

Indeed, we owe much to the faculty, staff, students and administrators who have come before us, and I find myself almost daily marveling at what it must have taken to prevail over the many challenges that have faced Union—and higher education—over the last two centuries.

At the same time, especially as Judith and I approach the end of our time at Union, I can't help but wonder how future members of the Union community will measure the contributions all of us have made together.

The entire Union community has much to be proud of, and generations to come will value our stewardship. By any measure, the College is stronger than ever.

- In admissions, we have had the largest applicant pools in our history, making Union among the most selective colleges in the nation.
- We continue our longstanding commitment to attracting and retaining the most outstanding faculty and staff.
- Giving from alumni and friends—an important vote of confidence—has doubled the Annual Fund, and made possible a number of important projects.
- Our campus is more diverse and global than ever, and initiatives led by our Multicultural and Title IX programs have made Union a safer and more inclusive place.
- The College is more sustainable than ever, with both natural and financial resources.

Importantly, our success can be tied to our Strategic Plan. Carefully conceived and revised by the entire Union community, it is the collective vision of what we represent and what we aspire to become.

The next chapters for Union are exciting indeed. Perhaps no project is more emblematic of our aspirations than the work unfolding in the Integrated Science and Engineering Complex. One of the most significant undertakings in our history, this complex will make Union the college of choice for students who value the broad and deep education that is our hallmark.

I thank you for the work we have done together, and for helping to create a legacy the will endure for future generations at Union.



# 2016-17

## THE ACADEMIC YEAR AT A GLANCE

### ▶ Sept. 2016

- Union named to list of "The Hidden Ivies"
- Two electric vehicle charging stations installed on campus
- Attorney and former Mass. first lady Diane Patrick gives talk as part of Presidential Forum on Diversity series

### ▶ Oct. 2016

- Feigenbaum Center for Visual Arts dedicated
- Union hosts only U.S. Senate debate between Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) and Republican challenger Wendy Long
- New York State Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul speaks about new initiative to combat sexual assault on college campuses

### ▶ Nov. 2016

- Union helps sponsor talk by *New York Times* columnist Thomas Friedman at Proctors
- Actor James Franco films scenes for his movie, "The Pretenders," on campus
- Latest volume of the *Adirondack Journal of Environmental Studies* published

### ▶ Dec. 2016

- President Stephen C. Ainlay and wife, Judith, honored by Boys and Girls Clubs of Schenectady for College's partnership with the organization
- "A Bonded Friendship: Moses and Eliphalet," by Gretchel Hathaway, dean of Diversity and Inclusion, is published
- Stacie Raucci, associate professor and chair of Classics Department, wins Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Classics at the College Level

### ▶ Jan. 2017

- Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities reports Union contributed \$322.5 million to area economy in 2015
- Associate Professor of History Andrew Morris wins prestigious fellowship from National Endowment for the Humanities

### ▶ Feb. 2017

- Frederick M. Lawrence, Phi Beta Kappa Society CEO, is keynote speaker at Founders Day
- ADAY4U makes history: 2,723 donors (most in a single day) help raise over \$1 million
- Applications to Union hit new high—6,652 for Class of 2021

### ▶ March 2017

- Annual Dutchmen Dip raises \$8,000 for member of Union community battling cancer
- Mike Vecchione '17, the 2016-17 ECAC Hockey Player of the Year, is a Hobey Baker Memorial Award finalist
- Artist Len Tantillo gives keynote address at annual Mohawk Watershed Symposium
- President Stephen C. Ainlay announces \$100 million project to transform Science and Engineering Complex

### ▶ April 2017

- For third time in four years, College recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as conference champion of the College and University Green Power Challenge
- Group of faculty, staff and students travel to Washington, D.C. to protest environmental policies of President Donald Trump and his administration
- Members of Union community participate in College's annual PRIDE Walk

### ▶ May 2017

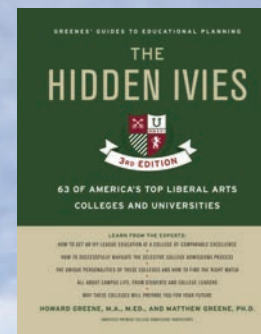
- Ground is broken on new Integrated Science and Engineering Complex, the largest project in school history
- Jennifer Fredricks is named dean of Academic Departments and Programs, and professor of psychology
- 27th annual Steinmetz Symposium showcases scholarly and creative work of nearly 500 students
- Krystal Tru Edwards wins Josephine Daggett Prize for conduct and character; Sharmeen Azher wins Frank Bailey (1885) Prize for rendering greatest service to the College in any field

### ▶ June 2017

- 475 graduate during Union's 223rd Commencement, keynote speaker was John Sexton, the president emeritus of New York University
- Diego Bazan '18 creates prosthetic right arm/hand for local sixth-grader, Myalin Schnitzer
- Henry Petroski, the Aleksandar S. Vesic Professor of Civil Engineering at Duke University, delivers keynote address at annual symposium on integrating a liberal education with engineering

# ACADEMICS

Building a legacy  
of learning



## Union named to “Hidden Ivies”

Union is featured in *The Hidden Ivies*. The guide, by college admissions consultants Howard Greene and Matthew Greene, highlights 63 exceptional schools that offer a broad liberal arts education that the authors believe rival the Ivy League. Each school's profile includes information on academics, the admissions process, and financial aid and student experiences.

## S & E expansion is ‘academic capstone’

Work continues apace on the largest project in Union's history: the Integrated Science and Engineering Complex, a project that will further enhance Union's distinctive role in interdisciplinary teaching and research. The \$100 million project will be completed in phases over the next two years. This includes an addition to be completed this fall and renovation of three sections of the S&E Center by fall 2019. “This building is exceptionally important to Union, our standing in higher education and to our desire to be a premier institution offering liberal arts and engineering,” President Stephen C. Ainlay said. “This academic facilities capstone will further strengthen our appeal to prospective students and faculty.”

At the groundbreaking, “This building is going to be the catalyst that will open minds of the entire campus.”

**\$100 M**

Integrated Science and  
Engineering Complex

TOP 5  
INSTITUTIONS FOR WOMEN  
STUDYING STEM FIELDS



**Union cited for women in STEM**

Union is one of the top five schools in the nation for women studying science, math, technology and engineering, per a recent ranking by *USA Today*. The College was lauded for its popular and growing STEM programs and its success in increasing the number of women graduating with STEM degrees. Between 2008 and 2014, female students completing STEM programs rose by 2.3 percent. *USA Today* also highlighted Union's demographics, with 46 percent of the student population being female (a figure that rises to 51% for faculty), and noted the College's strong undergraduate research program and top-notch scientific instruments.

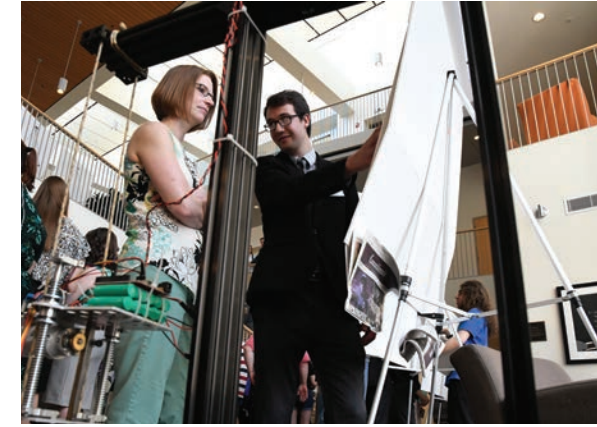


**Fredricks named dean of Academic Departments and Programs**

Jennifer Fredricks was named dean of Academic Departments and Programs and professor of psychology after an extensive national search. "Jennifer brings a wealth of experience and knowledge in higher education that will serve her well in advancing the terrific work done in our academic departments and programs and by our faculty," said Strom Thacker, the Stephen J. and Diane K. Ciesinski Dean of Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

**Steinmetz Symposium a showcase for students**

In 27 years, the Steinmetz Symposium has grown from 130 students to more than 500—with nearly 300 oral presentations and more than 65 poster presentations. Some 200 students are involved in dance performances, musical concerts, an art exhibit and other activities. Victor (Vic) Abate, chief technology officer and senior vice president for General Electric, kicked off the 2017 Steinmetz Symposium with remarks about accelerating breakthrough technologies for competitive advantage. Bianca Mielke '18, an electrical engineering major with a minor in dance and mathematics, talked of her Union experience to an audience of business leaders representing GE, GlobalFoundries, Naval Nuclear Laboratory and others.



**Beckman Scholars award supports research**

Union is one of a dozen colleges and universities selected to receive a prestigious 2018 Beckman Scholars Program Award. This is the first time the College has been awarded a grant from the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation, which supports scientific research in chemistry and life sciences. The \$104,000 grant will support four Union Beckman Scholars who will spend two summers and a full academic year working on a research project with a faculty mentor.

**Union a popular choice for promising students**

The College received a record number of applications (6,676) for the Class of 2021 and tied the lowest admit rate of 37 percent. A total of 570 students enrolled in the first-year class, the sixth largest in school history, with a total enrollment of 2,163, the eighth largest in history. Union's selectivity has been a major factor in bond ratings and rankings. *U.S. News and World Report* recently scored Union's selectivity rank at 26th among national liberal arts colleges. A decade ago, Union was ranked 38th.

**6,676**

record number of applications for the Class of 2021

**37%**

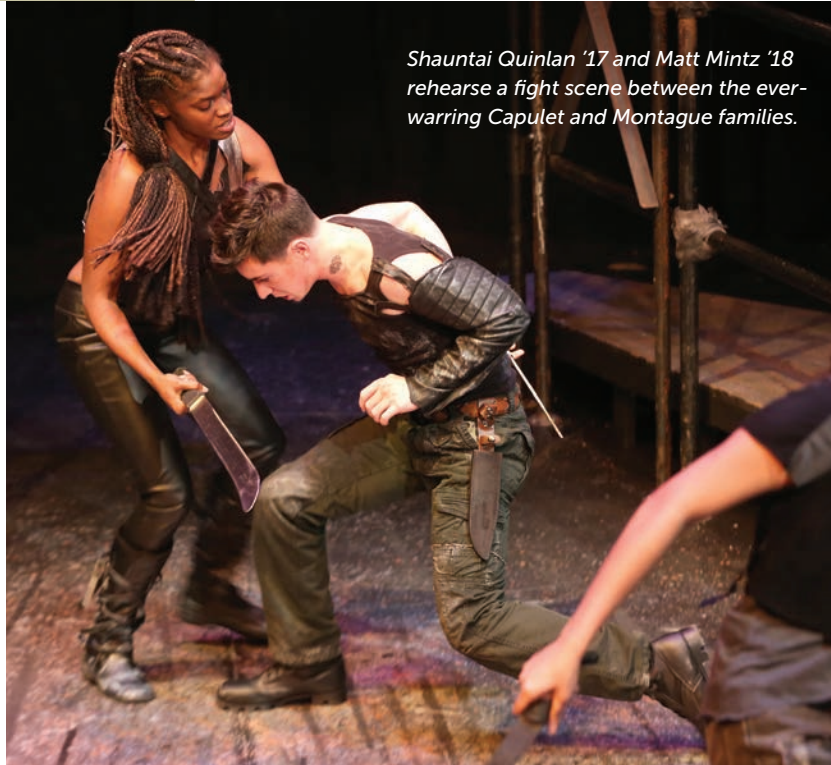
tied the lowest admit rate

**570**

students enrolled in the first-year class, the sixth largest in school history

**2,163**

total enrollment is eighth largest in school history



Shauntai Quinlan '17 and Matt Mintz '18 rehearse a fight scene between the ever-warring Capulet and Montague families.

### In Romeo & Juliet, a fighting chance

Learning opportunities abound at Union. One of the more unusual ones is training in stage fighting with William Finlay, professor of theater and dance. A specialist in stage combat, last fall Finlay directed a contemporary version of *Romeo & Juliet*, complete with lots of sword fights.



### Alumni art show inaugurates FCVA

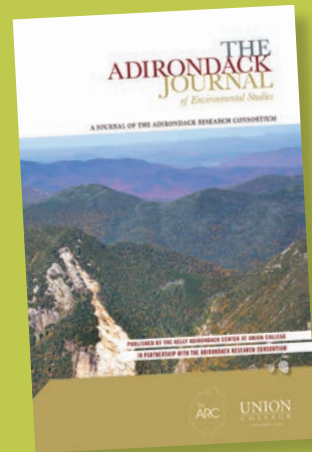
"Visual Union: The Decades Show" features the work of five alumni artists—Stephen Pentak '73, Jack Howard-Potter '97, Nori Lupfer Pepe '03, Nancy Borowick '07 and Sheri Park '13. The exhibit, in the Feigenbaum Center for Visual Arts, celebrated the building's recent renovation and expansion. For more, visit [union.edu/news/decadesshow](http://union.edu/news/decadesshow).

Shari Park '13 in "REORIENT: home is where?" a two-channel video and performance

# \$250,000

### Mellon grant supports Adirondack programs

A \$250,000 presidential leadership grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has strengthened Union's Adirondack Studies initiative. The three-year grant will develop a new Adirondack mini-term, which will combine classroom work with experiential learning through guided trips to Adirondack communities, historic sites and other places that influenced writers, scientists, artists and philosophers. It will also help provide greater accessibility to the Adirondack Research Library at the College's Kelly Adirondack Center.



### Adirondack geology is focus of AJES volume

The geology of the Adirondacks is the focus of the latest volume of the *Adirondack Journal of Environmental Studies*. Published by the Adirondack Research Consortium and Union's Kelly Adirondack Center, the journal includes articles on the history of geological studies, mining, fracture and fault systems and soils, among other topics.



### Adirondacks hold lessons in environmental history

Students in the inaugural "Adirondacks and American Environmental History" course didn't just study the northern New York region, they got to know it personally. They took a trip to an Adirondack ghost town and an abandoned iron works, made a five-mile trek to a 19th-century great camp, and had an overnight adventure with paddling, s'mores and a hike to an old fire tower.

## SPEAKERS



### Founders Day celebrates bicentennial of PBK at Union

Founders Day 2017 celebrated the 222nd anniversary of the College's charter and the 200th anniversary of Union's Phi Beta Kappa chapter, Alpha of New York. Keynote speaker Frederick M. Lawrence is secretary and CEO of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, former president of Brandeis University and a leading expert on civil rights, freedom of expression and bias crimes. There are more than 1,300 living alumni in the Union's PBK chapter.



### At Feigenbaum Forum, tech revolution demands lifelong learning

John E. Kelly III '76, IBM senior vice president, Cognitive Solutions and Research, joined with Pulitzer Prize-winning *New York Times* columnist and author Thomas Friedman to discuss the impact of technological acceleration and the important role of the liberal arts in the third annual Feigenbaum Forum on Innovation and Creativity in October. "There are very few occasions where we experience exponential curves," said Kelly, who chairs Union's Board of Trustees. Friedman made the case for lifelong learning as a way to stay current.

"As long as Union is teaching people to love to learn, they are going to be fine," he said.

The Feigenbaum Forum is made possible through a gift from the Feigenbaum Foundation, created by the late brothers Armand V. Feigenbaum '42 and Donald S. Feigenbaum '46, loyal alumni and longtime benefactors. They founded General Systems Co., the Pittsfield, Massachusetts-based international systems engineering firm that designs and helps implement operational systems for corporations and governments worldwide.



### NYS Lt. Gov. speaks on sexual assault

New York State Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul visited Union to discuss "Enough is Enough," Gov. Andrew Cuomo's initiative to combat sexual assault on college campuses. The law requires colleges to adopt a set of comprehensive procedures and guidelines. Union has adopted a number of measures against sexual assault including a bystander intervention program, participation in the "It's On Us" campaign and the hiring of a Title IX coordinator.

*Above: New York State Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul spoke with students following her talk*



### Environmentalist Bill McKibben talks about 'dacks and climate change

Noted environmentalist, author and activist Bill McKibben spoke on "The Adirondacks: Refuge in a Warming World?" as part of the Kelly Adirondack Center's lecture series "Living with the Land." McKibben has written extensively on global warming, genetic engineering, religion, the effects of television on culture and knowledge, and the Eastern United States and Adirondack wilderness.



John Sexton, president emeritus of New York University, advised 2017 graduates at Commencement to "play another octave of the piano" and embrace new experiences. He received an honorary doctorate of laws degree.



Attorney and former first lady of Massachusetts Diane Patrick gave a talk, "Don't Stand Alone: My Stake in Your Dreams and Yours in Mine," as part of the Presidential Forum on Diversity series.



Karen Liberman Smith '87, senior vice president at Olympus Scientific Solutions, returned to campus as part of the Alumni Speaker Series. Addressing a crowd of students, faculty and staff in the Nott Memorial, she talked about "Career & Life: Before, During & After Union."

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Padma Yawen Yang '18, winner of the Hollander Prize in Music, performed a stirring rendition of Zhan Tai Feng ("Battling the Typhoon") by Wang Chang-Yuan.



### Students explore culture of West Coast startups

Anat Tewari '19 was one of six Union students who participated in the San Francisco Internship Program in Innovation and Creativity led by George Gmelch, professor of anthropology. Gmelch, who usually leads field studies in remote locales, knew that students would get the best experience through the lens of anthropology as participant-observers. "We decided the students would get more out of this if they could contextualize their experience," Gmelch said. "So we treated this as an anthropological study of the culture of the startups where they were interning and what it means to be creative, innovative and entrepreneurial in these workplaces."



Elyse Clark '18 (below) received the Hollander Prize in Music, established by Lawrence J. Hollander, dean of engineering emeritus, during Convocation. A soprano, Clark performed Mozart's "Alleluia" from Exsultate, jubilate, K. 165/158a. A double major in sociology and music, Clark was accompanied on piano by Palma Catravas, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering.



### Student creates prosthetic limb with 3D-printed parts for local girl

Diego Bazan '18, a computer engineering major, used the Collaborative Design Studio, an interdisciplinary research Makerspace in the Wold Center, to create a prosthetic limb for Myalin Schnitzer. The sixth grader was born without part of her right arm. Union is a member of e-NABLE, an organization that donates 3D-printed prosthetic hands to children around the world.



# FULBRIGHT > WATSON > GOLDWATER

## STUDENTS WIN PRESTIGIOUS HONORS

Union's strong tradition of educating bright students who excel in diverse fields, securing prominent fellowships and scholarships, continues. Students most recently earned the following:



### Four honored with Fulbright teaching assistantships

Three Union students and one grad were selected for Fulbright Student English Teaching Assistantships, which places fellows in classrooms abroad to assist local English teachers. They are, clockwise from top left, Aubrey Griffin '17, Kyle Tevlin '15, Antonia "Toni" Batha '17 and Lindsay Reich '17.

### Watson Fellowship

Riley Konsella '17 received a \$30,000 Thomas J. Watson Fellowship to support his year-long study of transportation in Norway, Denmark, Vietnam and Brazil. He is investigating the various modes—cars, bikes, motorbikes and gondolas—and how they are evolving through technology and advocacy.

### Kathryn Wasserman Davis Projects for Peace Award

Baahh-Nazoshnnii Brown Al-maweri '17 is using the \$10,000 grant to create an afterschool program to encourage young people from the Navajo nation (Dine) to create new ideas for building peace.

### Goldwater Scholarship

Elizabeth Donlon '18 won a Goldwater Scholarship, which supports students pursuing careers in mathematics, natural sciences and engineering. She has been doing research in the College's NSF-supported Aerogel Lab.

### Gilman International Scholarship

Eight students in the last year were named recipients of the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs: Aubrey Griffin '17, Anna Ko '17, Bianca Mielke '18, Taina Orellana '18, Katherine Sotolongo '18, Emily Sullivan '18, Emma Will '18, Jimmy Yun '17.

### University Innovation Fellows Named

Luke McCaffrey '18, Lakhena Leang '18, Arielle Singer '18, Robert Barsamian '17 and Vera Marsova '18 are fellows of this program designed to help foster entrepreneurship and innovation among students nationwide. The group led the creation of the Idea Lab in Schaffer Library and worked on a new Minerva course on Innovation, Creativity and the Entrepreneurial Mindset. They worked with Wise Labs, a technology commercialization firm with an incubator in downtown Schenectady, to design entrepreneurial programming for the campus. The fellowship included a boot camp for students who want to start their own business.

### Brooke Owens Fellowship

Madeleine Miller '19 won a Brooke Owens Fellowship, which supports women undergraduates seeking careers in aviation or space exploration. She will work for Planet, which designs and builds satellites used to image Earth. The fellowship also provides aerospace industry mentors and a conference in Washington D.C. focused on promoting aerospace fields to women.



### Klemm Fellows see the world, and lend a hand

Union's Klemm Fellows spent three weeks over winter break addressing poverty in developing countries. The Klemm Fellow International Internship Program was established by gifts from the late Prof. Frederick Klemm, who founded Union's international study program. Klemm Fellows visited South Africa, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Ghana, Tanzania, Togo and Madagascar.

### Minerva Fellowships

Eight members of the Class of 2017 spent a year abroad with social entrepreneurship organizations as Union College Minerva Fellows. To meet our fellows, see page 24.

## FACULTY ACTIVITY AND ACHIEVEMENTS

### From China and Germany, new perspectives on the curriculum

Faculty curriculum development trips, one each to China and Germany, have been supported by a Presidential Leadership Grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. It is the second such grant from Mellon to Stephen C. Ainlay. The first launched the annual Symposium on Engineering as a Liberal Art. The proposal for the latest grant was inspired by Ainlay's experience on a faculty travel grant to China when he was at the College of the Holy Cross. In post-trip retreats, faculty developed proposals for Common Curriculum courses or modules.



### Professor wins humanities fellowship

Andrew Morris, associate professor of history, received a prestigious fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Among the most competitive academic awards in the country, the fellowships support advanced research in the humanities, allowing recipients to produce articles, books, digital materials or other scholarly resources. The grant is supporting Morris' work on a book about Hurricane Camille and the transformation of American disaster relief policy.



"Revitalized Community: Bordeaux Since the 2010 Flood," by **Deidre Hill Butler**, associate professor of sociology and director of the Africana Studies program, was on display in Schaffer Library.

**Joanne Kehlbeck**, associate professor of chemistry, was honored with the Stillman Prize for Excellence in Teaching at the fall convocation. Kehlbeck joined Union in 2002. The prize was created by David I. Stillman '72, Abbott Stillman '69 and Allan Stillman in honor of Abraham Stillman, father and grandfather. It is given annually to a faculty member to encourage outstanding teaching.



**Stacie Raucci**, associate professor and chair of the Classics Department, is honored with an Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Classics at the College Level. She is the first Union professor to receive the award.

**Valerie Barr**, visiting professor of computer science, was honored by the Association for Computing Machinery for her "outstanding contributions in supporting women in the field." As chair of the association's Council on Women in Computing, she is credited with reinventing the council, increasing its effectiveness in supporting women in computing worldwide and encouraging participation in ACM.

A new album of choral compositions by **Hilary Tann**, the John Howard Payne Professor of Music, has been released by Parma Recordings. "Exultet Terra" is named after the five-movement piece for double chorus and double reed woodwind quintet.

**Teresa Meade**, the Florence B. Sherwood Professor of History and Culture, received a Hadassah-Brandeis Institute research grant, which supports interdisciplinary topics concerning Jewish gender studies. Her project is a biography of Mia Truskier, a Jewish woman who escaped from Nazi-occupied Poland in 1940 and advocated for refugees from Central America and the Caribbean.

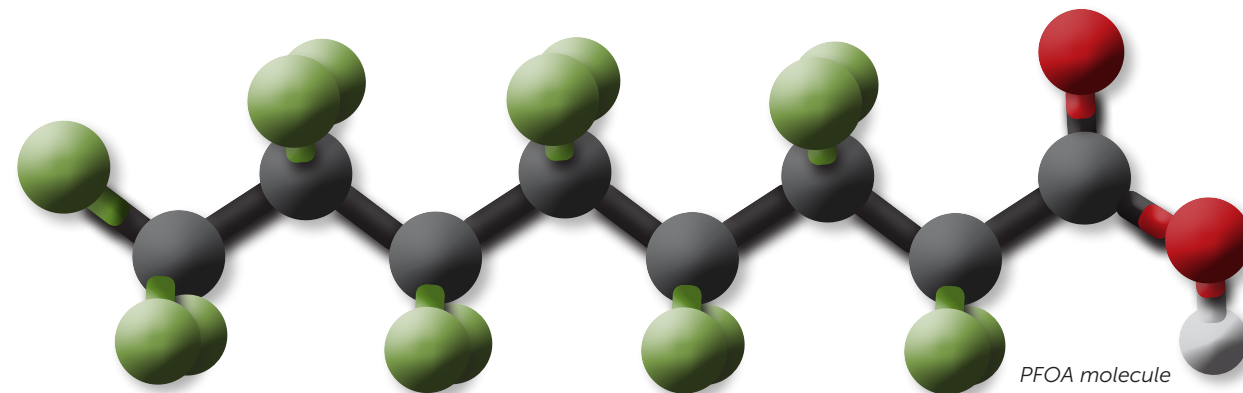
**Hans-Friedrich Mueller**, the Thomas Lamont Professor of Ancient and Modern Literature, received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Eta Sigma Phi, the national honorary collegiate society for students of Latin and Greek.

**Jillmarie Murphy**, associate professor of English, was awarded a Maine Women Writers Collection Research Grant. She will conduct archival research at the University of New England's Josephine S. Abplanalp Library on her project, "Gendered Place Attachments and Nature as a Restorative Environment in Celia Thaxter's *Among the Isles of Shoals*."

**Carol Weisse**, professor of psychology and director of Health Professions, was honored by the Capital Region Community Engagement Council for her work in palliative care and teaching. She also gave the keynote address, "The Heart and Soul of Community Engagement," at the group's annual conference.



Prof. Carol Weisse, left, with Lorraine Morales-Cox, associate professor of art history and a member of the Capital Region Community Engagement Council.



## Recent grants support, validate Union's mission

The quality of Union's research and teaching in science and engineering is confirmed by strong support from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and other organizations. These programs are examples of Union's focus on collaborative learning and the value of research to undergraduate education.

**Mason Stahl**, James M. Kenney Assistant Professor of Environment Engineering, was awarded a grant from The Bender Scientific Fund of The Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region for his research project "Carbon Cycling at River Confluences."

This project seeks to characterize how the mixing of chemically and biologically distinct waters, a process that occurs at river confluences, affects the overall carbon cycle of river systems.

**Rebecca Koopmann**, professor of astronomy, secured a \$215,000 grant from the NSF's Education and Special Programs in the Astronomical Sciences Program to support the Undergraduate ALFALFA Team (UAT) project: "Enhancing Undergraduate Research Experiences through Extragalactic Radio Astronomy."

**Roman Yukilevich**, assistant professor of biology, was awarded a \$103,000 grant from the NSF's Evolutionary Ecology Program for his research project, "Phenotypic and genomic patterns of divergence across a young *Drosophila* species complex." This study will advance the understanding of speciation (the splitting of one species into two), a fundamental source of biodiversity.

**Laura Macmanus-Spencer**, associate professor of chemistry, was awarded \$88,000 from NSF's Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (IUSE) Program to support her project, "Groundwater Contamination in the Northeast: Improving STEM Education by Demonstrating How Science Matters." This project is an outgrowth of research conducted after the 2014 discovery of PFOAs in the drinking water in Hoosick Falls, N.Y.

**Kristin Fox**, professor of chemistry, is one of 15 faculty from 12 institutions sharing an NSF grant of nearly \$600,000 to the University of San Diego to enhance student learning through course-based research experiences. The project aims to transform the impact of teaching laboratories by incorporating quantitative, authentic research into the classroom.

**Holli Frey**, associate professor of geology, has received an NSF MRI grant of \$307,000 for an inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer that will enable advanced analytical and research training activities in the earth sciences. Frey and her team will use to ICP-MS to monitor changes in trace and rare earth element concentrations that may indicate volcanic unrest.



5  
CONSECUTIVE YEARS

**Union recognized for commitment to diversity and inclusion**

For the fifth consecutive year, Union was named a winner of a HEED Award by *Insight Into Diversity* magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education. The HEED (Higher Education Excellence in Diversity) Award recognizes U.S. colleges and universities that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion.

# INCLUSION

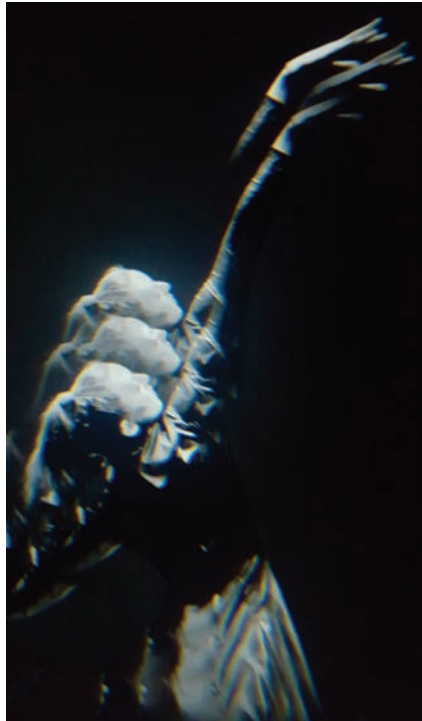
## Creating a place we all belong

Above: Jermaine Wells, Learning Environment Services coordinator, received the UNITAS Community Building Prize, given in recognition of a person who has helped foster community and diversity at Union.



**Schaffer Exhibit considers Afrofuturism**

A Schaffer Library exhibit, "Black Space: Reading (and Writing) Ourselves into the Future. A Celebration of the African Diasporic Imagination in Afrofuturism," coincided with creation of Afrofuturism Reading Group, open to all on campus.



**"Beyond Steps" celebrates dance and womanhood**

"Beyond Steps," a dance concert designed to promote diverse perspectives on the female experience, showcased the work of Director of Dance Miryam Moutillet and faculty choreographers Laurie Zabele Cawley and Marcus Rogers, as well as Emily Alston '19, Ayanah "Tris" Dowdye '18, Lily Herout '17, Grace Kernohan '17 and Maddison Stemple-Piatt '17 (all dance minors). "I want to showcase the passion and drive I feel in my life and have seen in other women who inspire me," said Alston.



Gretchel Hathaway (above), dean of diversity and inclusion and chief diversity officer, and Jason Benitez (below), director of Multicultural Affairs, presented on the College's Diversity and Inclusion Certification course at the National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education conference in Washington, D.C. The course aims to increase awareness and foster action toward achieving Union's goals in diversity, equity and inclusion.



The College's annual Community PRIDE Walk takes place. The theme, "Embrace the Rainbow," was chosen to draw attention to the diversity of sexual orientations, identities and gender expressions.



# OUR WORLD

Connecting with communities, here and beyond

## Union's local impact tops \$300M

Union contributed \$322.5 million to the area economy in 2015, according to report by the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities. With 865 employees and an annual payroll of more than \$55 million, Union is among the largest employers in the region, and a source of vital construction/service contracts.

**865**

Employees

**\$55M**

Annual payroll

**\$322.5M**

Impact on local community



Students celebrate Holi, the colorful annual Hindu spring festival



## MINERVA FELLOWS

Eight members of the Class of 2017 spent a year abroad with social entrepreneurship organizations as Union College Minerva Fellows. They are, from left to right, top to bottom: Vito Joseph Capuano and Justin Salm (Engeye, Uganda); Sydney Spett and Daniel Tompkins (The Global Child, Cambodia); Brianna Godlewski (Witkoppen Health Centre, South Africa); Naina Thota (Gram Vikas, India); Mason King (Environmentalist Foundation of India, India); and Gillian Henry (Batik Boutique, India).

### CARE fellows get lessons from life's last chapter

Union's CARE Fellows worked with terminally ill residents at several palliative care facilities. CARE Fellows (Community Action, Research & Education) was started by Carol Weisse, professor of psychology and director of Health Professions. "Health care is very focused on cure," Weisse said. "This experience forces students to step back and realize, there isn't always a cure. But there is healing that happens at the end of life, and being present, comforting and attentive is a form of medicine," Weisse said.



### Chamber concerts supported by NEA

The Union College Concert Series has received a \$10,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to support events highlighting the music of Austrian composer Franz Schubert. It is the first NEA grant for the concert series, this year celebrating its 45th season of the world's finest chamber music in Memorial Chapel. Tenor Ian Bostridge, right, is among the world-class artists in the Union College Concert Series.



### Lessons in cricket, and Guyanese culture

Students from three classes last spring got lessons in batting, bowling, and scoring from members of the Schenectady-based Upstate New York Cricket Association. And in the process they got to know the local Guyanese community. Prof. Teresa Meade began the event three years ago as part of her course on the history of the Caribbean. "I felt it was important for students to learn about a significant Caribbean population in our own area," she said. "A cricket match has been a fun way of introducing students to the contributions of Caribbean Guyanese people to the Capital District."

### Union choir gets rave reviews in Europe

Rave reviews met the Union College choir on the first stop of their March 2017 tour of Germany, Austria and the Czech Republic. Dianne McMullen, professor of music, planned and led the Mozart-themed trip with stops at prestigious venues in regions rich with history, music and culture. The choir performed at St. Peter's Church in Vienna and St. Nicholas Church in Prague. McMullen said the trip is believed to be only the third European choir tour from Union.



# SERVICE

Learning by helping



## In Dutchmen Dip, students take on cancer

The annual Dutchmen Dip raised \$8,000 for members of the Union College community battling cancer. The event, organized by the College's Against Cancer club, was also supported by many other campus entities, from Athletics and WRUC to the President's Office.

## On Toll Day, hundreds volunteer in city, region

More than 400 students, including members of athletic teams and Greek organizations, spruced up the city and region in October in the 23rd John Calvin Toll Day, an annual tradition of community service.



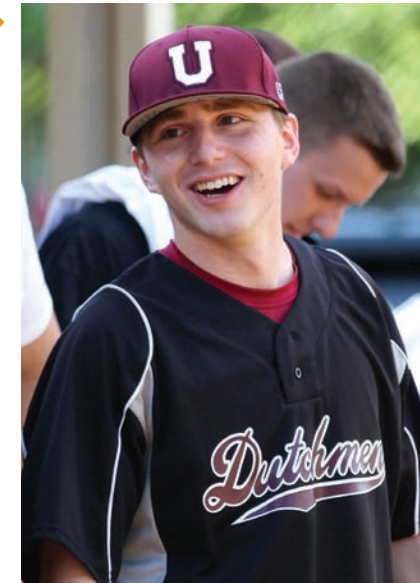
**400**

STUDENTS PARTICIPATED  
IN THE TOLL DAY

## Remembering Justin

Justin Lloyd '16, whose battle with cancer inspired the popular "Just Out" Home Run Derby, lost that battle last August. He was 23. Lloyd's baseball teammates began the event in 2012 to raise money for Lloyd and other members of the campus community fighting cancer. "Justin Lloyd is my hero," said Paul Mound, head baseball coach. "He lived his life with class and determination. He was an inspiration to many of us and we were blessed to have him as a friend and teammate."

Justin Lloyd '16 at the inaugural "Just Out" Home Run Derby



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF SCHENECTADY**

President Stephen C. Ainlay and his wife, Judith, were honored by the Boys and Girls Clubs of Schenectady for the College's partnership with the youth organization.

The Ainlays were honorary chairs for the organization's annual fundraiser.

Members of the campus community, including Greek organizations, employees and alumni, have participated in a number of projects to benefit the Boys and Girls Clubs.

Mrs. Ainlay serves on the Boys and Girls Club Auxiliary.



▶ Krystal "Tru" Edwards '17 and Christopher Hayen, director of Campus Safety, were honored by the Human Rights Commission of Schenectady for their contributions to the community.



▶ Students participate in the annual Run, Ribs and Reggae, organized by the Student Athlete Advisory Committee as a fundraiser for cancer research.

Presidential Green Grants support the Union College Beekeeping Club



**17**  
NEW PRESIDENTIAL GREEN GRANTS PROJECTS

# SUSTAINABILITY

## Learning by preserving

### Union recognized for sustainability initiatives

Union continues to be recognized for its commitment to the environment and sustainability. For the eighth year in a row, Union has been named one of the country's most environmentally responsible colleges, according to *The Princeton Review's* "Guide to Green Colleges." The New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse and Recycling gave Union its annual team award for "actions that have significantly reduced solid waste or have furthered waste prevention, reuse, recycling, and/or composting."



Two electric vehicle charging stations were installed in the Facilities parking lot. The chargers can service up to four vehicles at a time, and work for both electric-only vehicles and plug-in hybrids.

### ◀ A decade of Presidential Green Grants has helped change the world

Presidential Green Grants continue to generate an abundance of good ideas. This year, 17 new projects ranged from recycling bins in each first-year student residence to an environmental action media lab to study drinking water contamination. Created a decade ago by President Ainlay, grants totaling \$172,000 have been awarded to support 123 projects.

### With Ubike, we get around

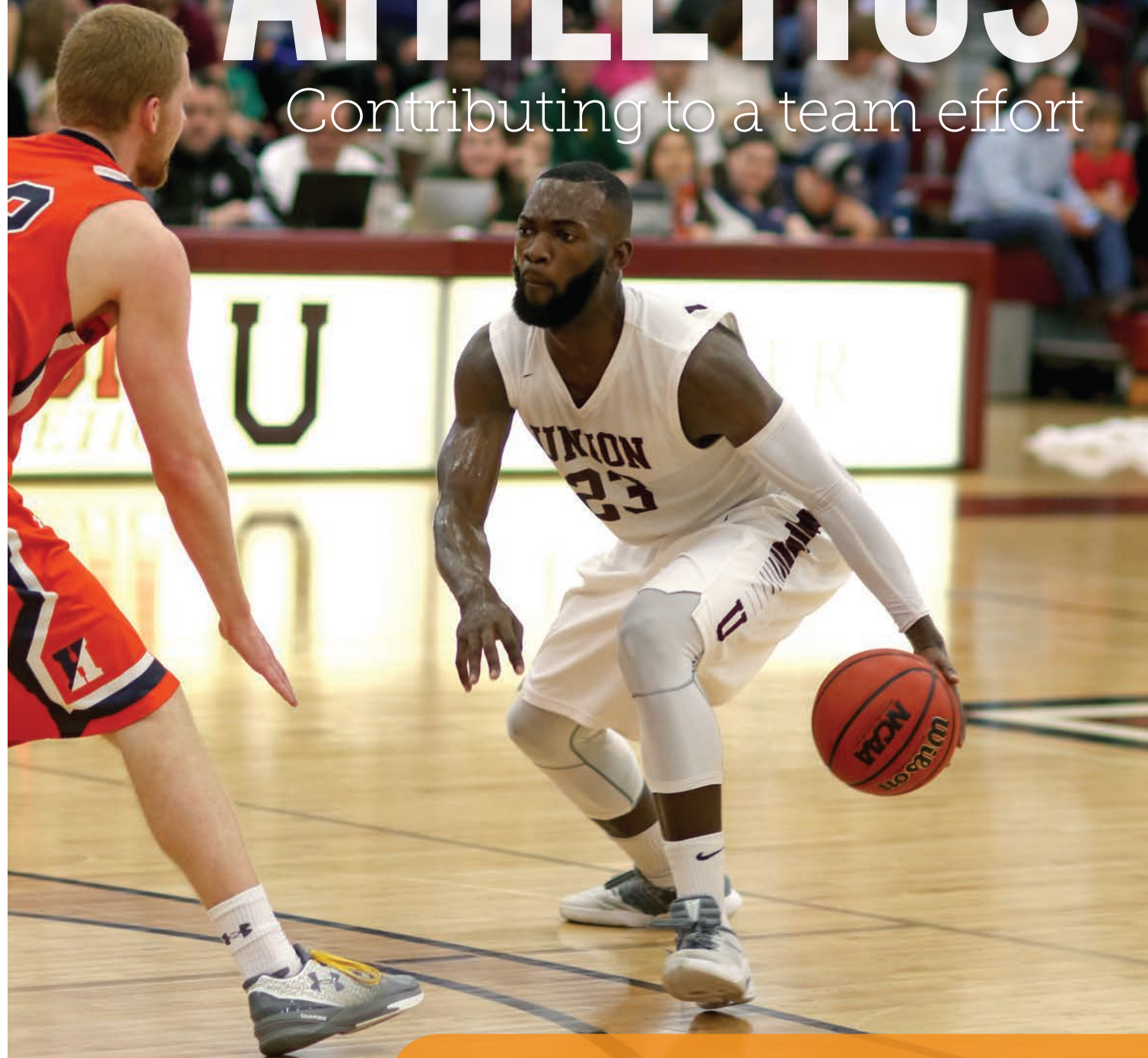


The College got new wheels in 2017, thanks to Ubike, a bike sharing program. Especially popular with late-running students, the free program uses an app and Bluetooth technology to ensure that the 14 bikes are available around campus at five stations.



# ATHLETICS

Contributing to a team effort



Deshon Burgess '17 was selected by the Erie Bayhawks, an NBA G League affiliate of the Atlanta Hawks, in the 2017 league draft. Burgess went in the fourth round as the 85th overall pick. Burgess had a successful four-year career at Union College, where he appeared in 102 games (76 starts) and averaged 16.5 points, 5.3 rebounds, 2.4 assists and 1.2 steals in his tenure. He was the Liberty League Player of the Year in 2016 and helped Union to the Liberty League conference title in 2017.



Athletics Hall of Fame inductees are, from left, Erika Eisenhut Rahill '06, George Cuttita, Abby Harris '00, Aaron Galletta '02, Ernest Houghton, Class of 1915, accepted by grandson Doug Houghton; Anthony Valente '86, and Dalton Menhall '92. The 1982-83 men's basketball and 2003 softball teams were also inducted.



## Vecchione '17 makes hockey history

Former men's hockey captain Mike Vecchione '17 made his NHL debut with the Philadelphia Flyers last spring, but not before becoming Union's first finalist for the coveted Hobey Baker Memorial Award. Vecchione, a four-time ECAC Hockey All-Academic Team honoree, as well, finished his collegiate career as the Union's all-time leading scorer (176 points) before joining fellow Dutchmen Shayne Gostisbehere '15 in Philadelphia.



## Belforti '17 named CoSIDA All Star

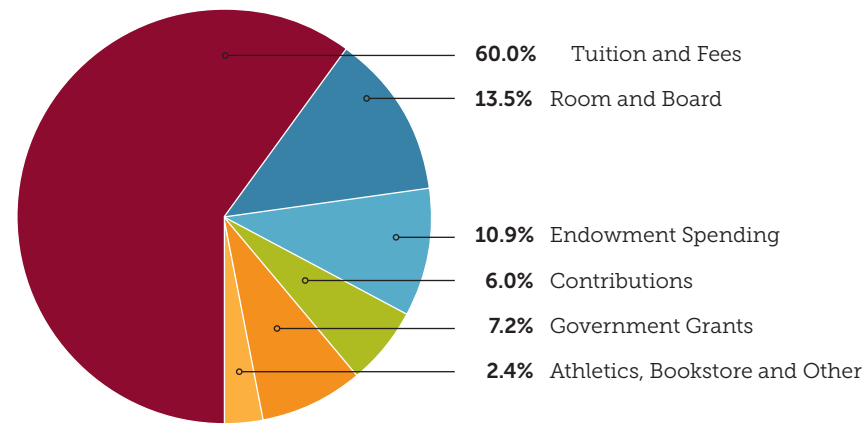
Swimmer Christina Belforti '17 was named to the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-District team for Division III. She was one of 10 students selected in the district, including seven from the Liberty League and four swimmers. She carried a 3.79 cumulative GPA in English and History. An All-American in the 200 backstroke, she was one of only 17 swimmers in the history of NCAA Division III to break the two-minute mark in that event.

# STEWARDING OUR RESOURCES

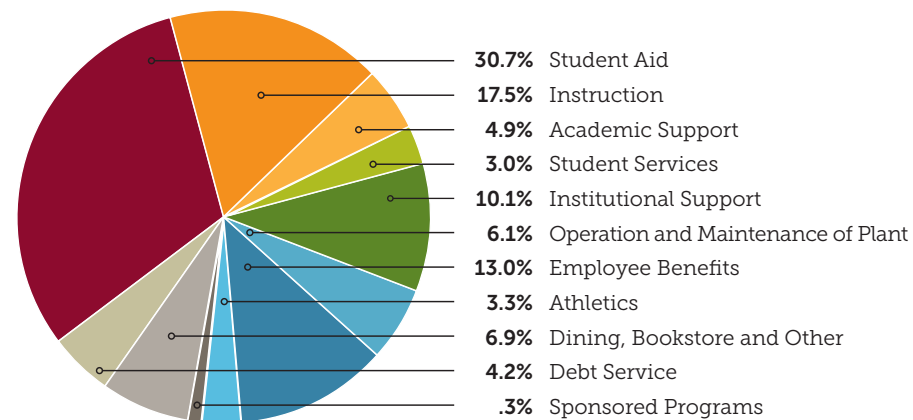
## Financial operations

The allocations of sources and uses of funds remained consistent with prior years. Operating revenues increased from 2015-16 as a result of the growth in investment returns, as well as an increase in gifts and pledges received for the construction and renovation of the Science and Engineering Complex and other projects. Operating expenses held steady over the prior year with budgetary increases of approximately 3%. Overall, net assets from operating activities grew over 4% from the previous fiscal year, proving Union to be a fiscally healthy institution.

**SOURCES OF FUNDS**



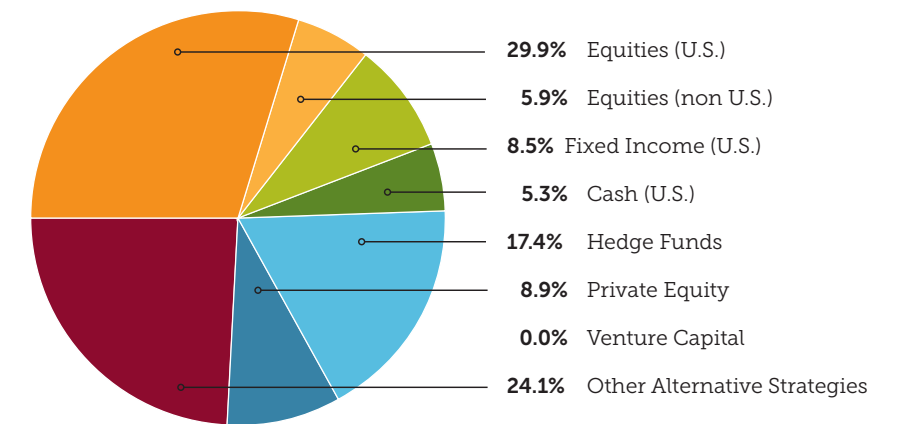
**USES OF FUNDS**



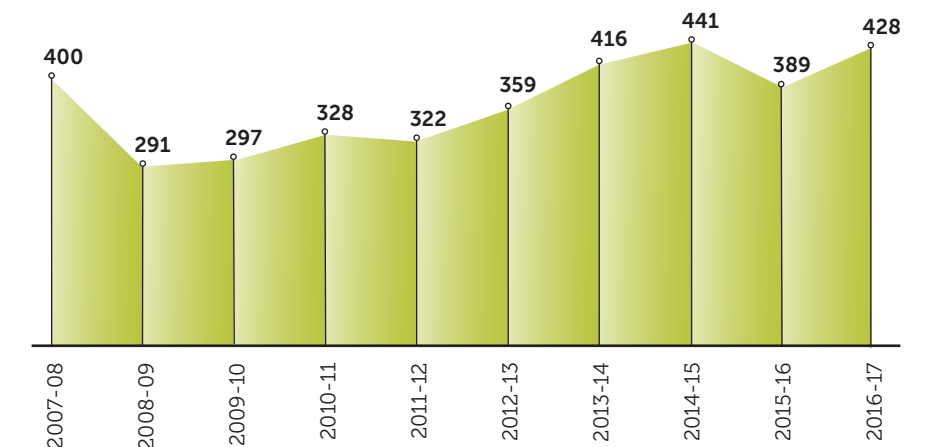
## Union's endowment

Endowment asset allocations fluctuated slightly in 2016-17 with changes made in investment managers. The endowment's one-year return at June 30, 2017 was up 15.2%, outperforming the composite index, as well as the 60/40 S&P 500/BBgBarc US Aggregate. Allocations in equities asset class, both domestic and international, as well as allocations to alternative strategies contributed to the strong returns in fiscal year 2017. The portfolio's liquidity is appropriate with over 40% of the portfolio having quarterly or better liquidity. The asset allocation mix shows strong diversification with relatively low correlations between asset classes.

**ENDOWMENT ASSET ALLOCATION**



**ENDOWMENT TOTAL MARKET VALUE (IN MILLIONS)**



# 2016-17

## Financial position

Overall, the College's Statement of Financial Position continues remain strong in FY 2017, showing growth in assets with an increase in investments, pledges receivable, and fixed assets. In FY 2017, the College borrowed \$50 million through tax exempt financing for the construction and renovation of the new Integrated Science and Engineering Complex. As a result, expendable resources to debt slightly declined in 2016-17 from the prior year.

## Endowment gains

Expendable resources to operations increased in 2016-17 as a result of the substantial improvement in endowment performance over the prior year. Endowment gains in 2016-17 also contributed to the improvement in return on net assets, overcoming a negative return on net assets in 2016.

## Contribution ratios

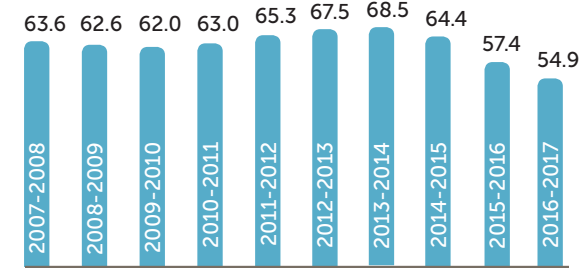
Contribution ratios for investment income, as well as gifts and pledges, increased from FY 2016 due to both income from investments and an increase in gifts and pledges received for the Integrated Science and Engineering Complex and other projects.

With the increase in these contribution ratios, the result is a slight decrease in the contribution ratio from net tuition, room and board. The decline in this ratio is a positive indication that, despite the strong dependence on net tuition, that dependence declined slightly in FY 2017 due to the increase in other revenue drivers.

## Contribution ratios %

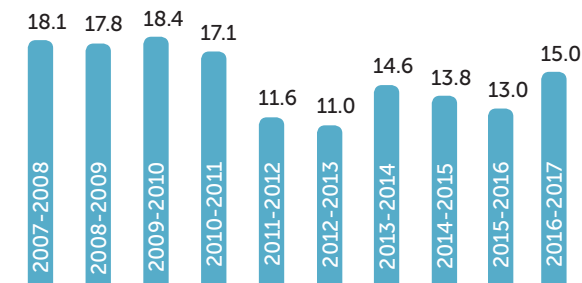
### TUITION/ROOM AND BOARD (net of Financial Aid)

Measures reliance on tuition, room and board revenue



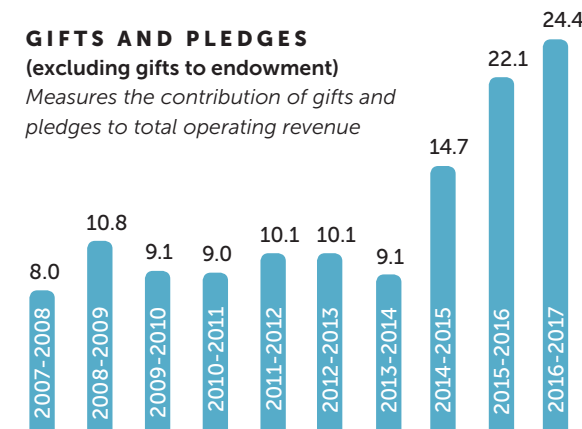
### INVESTMENT INCOME

Measures the contribution of investment income to total operating revenue



### GIFTS AND PLEDGES (excluding gifts to endowment)

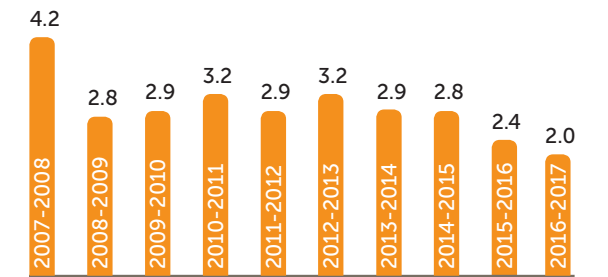
Measures the contribution of gifts and pledges to total operating revenue



## Operating ratios %

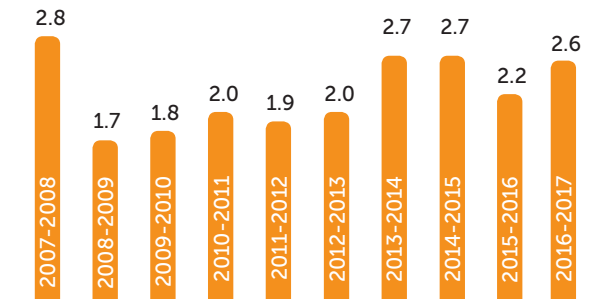
### EXPENDABLE RESOURCES TO DEBT

Measures resources available from total expendable reserves as a percentage of debt outstanding



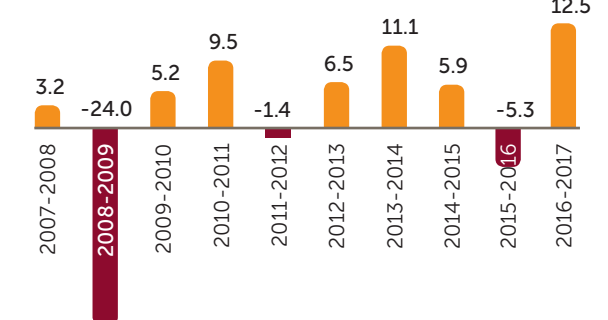
### EXPENDABLE RESOURCES TO OPERATIONS

Measures the buffer provided to the annual operating budget by total expendable reserves



### RETURN ON NET ASSETS

Indicates the direction and degree to which the institution has improved its total resource base



# SUPPORT

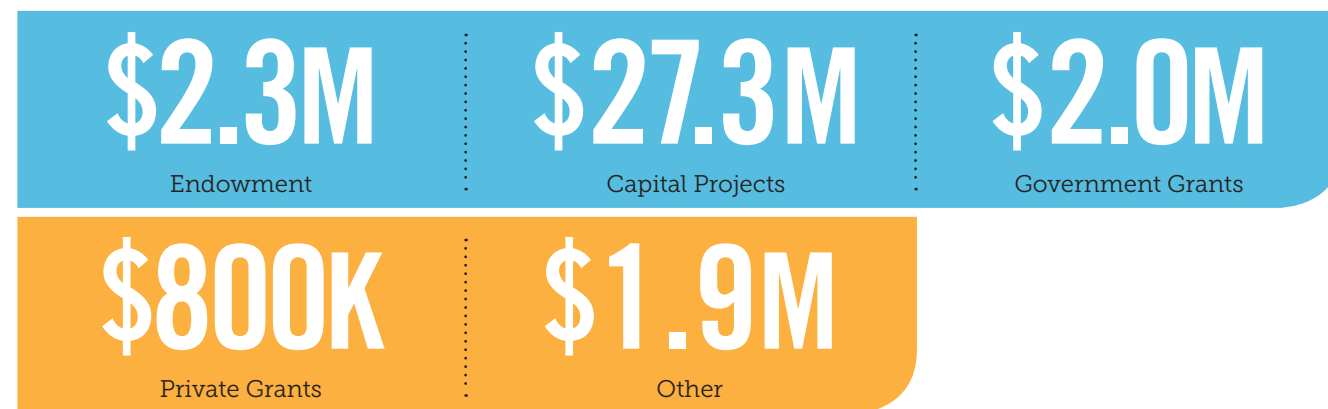
Paying it forward

## GIVING HIGHLIGHTS

Thanks to Union's many friends who share a passion for our mission, we reached \$4.7million in unrestricted Annual Fund giving, support that is vital to keep Union accessible to all students.



## COMMITMENTS



30%

Participation

\$42.4M

Total Cash & Commitments

## LEADERSHIP OF THE COLLEGE

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

#### Ex-Officio

Hon. Governor Andrew M. Cuomo of the State of New York, *Ex-officio*

#### Life Trustees

Stephen J. Ciesinski '70, B.S.E.E., M.B.A., *Vice President and General Manager, SRI International*

Neil M. Golub, B.A., M.S., *Executive Chairman of the Board, Price Chopper Supermarkets/Golub Corporation*

Frank L. Messa '73, B.A., J.D., *Retired Senior Vice President, Ayco Co., L.P.*

Norton H. Reamer '58, A.B., B.E.E., M.B.A., *President, Unicorn Corporation*

#### Term Trustees

Robert Bertagna '85, B.A., M.B.A., *Vice Chairman, Macquarie Capital*

David J. Breazzano '78, B.A., M.B.A., *President, DDJ Capital Management, LLC*

Thomas J. Coleman '88, B.A., *Co-Founder and Co-President, Kensico Capital Management Corporation*

Thomas G. Connolly '89, B.A., *Managing Director, Goldman Sachs Merchant Banking Division*

Estelle Cooke-Sampson '74, B.S., M.D., *Director, Women's Imaging, Howard University Hospital*

Judith Dein '76, B.A., J.D., *Magistrate Judge, U. S. District Court, District of Massachusetts*

Julie Greifer-Swidler '79, B.A., J.D., *Executive Vice President for Business Affairs & General Counsel, Sony Music Entertainment*

David L. Henle '75, B.S., M.B.A., *President, DLH Capital, LLC*

Roy Jackson '82, B.A., M.P.A., *Senior Vice President, Business Development and Industry Affairs, Coca-Cola North America*

Adrian Jay '98, B.A., M.S.J., *Co-Founder, Random Acts of Flowers*

Douglass Karp '97, B.S., *President of New England Development*

John E. Kelly III '76, B.S., M.S., Ph.D., *Senior Vice President of Cognitive Solutions and Research, IBM Corporation*

Jennifer Sconyers Lawton '85, B.S., *CEO, Techstars*

James M. Lippman '79, B.A., *Chairman and CEO, JRK Property Holdings, Inc.*

Guy T. Logan '90, B.A., M.B.A., *Managing Director, Citigroup Global Markets, Inc.*

James M. Loree '80, B.A., *CEO and President, Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.*

Kathy E. Magliato '85, B.S., M.D., *Director of Women's Cardiac Services, St. John's Health Center*

David P. Mixer '74, B.A., M.B.A., *Managing Partner, MiddleLand Capital*

Stanley O'Brien '74, B.A., M.B.A., *Retired Vice President, BNY Mellon Center*

William Perlstein '71, B.A., J.D., *Chief Deputy General Counsel, Bank of New York Mellon*

Ellen Smith '80, B.S.M.E., M.S., *Senior Managing Director, FTI Consulting*

James Taylor '66, B.S., *Owner, Taylor Made Group, Inc.*

William M. Wicker '71, B.A., M.A., M.B.A., *former Vice Chairman Investment Banking, Morgan Stanley*

Kelly M. Williams '86, B.A., J.D., *President, GCM Grosvenor Private Markets*

#### President of the College

Stephen C. Ainlay, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.

#### Alumni Trustees

Susanna Ryan Berger '99, B.S., M.B.A., *Global Marketing Director, Technology, Media and Communications, PricewaterhouseCoopers*

Betsy Modest Brand '82, B.A., M.B.A., *Founder and Principal, Brandmark Studios LLC*

Matthew H. Cohen '98, B.A., J.D., *Digital Media & Technology Counsel, XO Group Inc. (formerly TheKnot, Inc.)*

Michael Newell '74, B.S., *President and CEO, Ener-G-Rotors, Inc.*

#### Chair, President's Council

Dennis Hoffman '85, B.S., M.B.A., *Senior Vice President of Corporate Strategies, Dell Technologies*

#### Campus Trustees

Scott Kirkton, B.S., Ph.D., *Biology Department*

Megan Ferry, B.A., Ph.D., *Department of Modern Languages and Literatures*

Michael Lippman, *Class of 2018*

Sarah Taha, *Class of 2019*

#### Trustees Emeriti

Gerald Barandes '54, A.B., LL.B., *Of Counsel, Beckman, Lieberman & Barandes*

Philip Beuth '54, A.B., M.S., *Retired President of Entertainment, Capital Cities/ABC-TV*

William G. Burns '54, B.C.E., *Retired Vice Chairman and Director, NYNEX*

Robert DeMichele '66, B.A., M.B.A., *President, CEO, CIO, Strategy Asset Managers, LLC*

Robert B. Enemark '50, B.S., *Retired Vice President and Director of Research and Development, Electro Signal Laboratory*

Lawrence Pedowitz '69, B.A., *Partner, Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz*

#### Officers of the Board

John E. Kelly III '76, *Chairman*

David L. Henle '75, *Vice Chairman*

Kelly M. Williams '86, *Secretary*

William Perlstein, *General Counsel*

Bobbi Nelson, *Assistant Secretary*



Office of the President  
807 Union Street  
Schenectady, NY 12308