

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE

Educational Policy
(Final; Action)

EP.21.117 Resolution Formally Recognizing University Efforts and Accomplishments during the COVID-19 Pandemic

WHEREAS, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign long has been recognized as a leader among national and international institutions of higher education;

WHEREAS, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign campus has been at the forefront of the COVID-19 health crisis in innovation in COVID response, including testing and reporting, and has continued to be spotlighted as a leader during this extended health crisis;

WHEREAS, the Urbana-Champaign campus community has been able to work together to shift to remote learning, teaching, and working, while continuing to meet the educational needs of our students to the greatest extent possible;

WHEREAS, our students have endured great pressure in adapting to a new remote learning environment, encountering unexpected emotional and physical obstacles;

WHEREAS, our faculty have had to quickly modify course materials for a remote teaching environment, addressing unanticipated challenges;

WHEREAS, our campus academic advisors have served as front-line personnel, attending to the immediate academic needs and well-being of our students without pause;

WHEREAS, our campus staff who support the infrastructure of our learning and teaching environments have worked tirelessly and creatively to assist both students and instructors;

WHEREAS, the mission of the University has not diminished over the course of the pandemic, and faculty, staff, units and their committees have gone beyond normal semester timelines to facilitate campus requests, notwithstanding resource challenges;

WHEREAS, our campus leadership has continued to move forward in these unprecedented times, fostering a sense of pride, purpose, and resolve, while keeping the health and safety of the campus community at the forefront with the SHIELD program initiatives;

WHEREAS, nothing of this magnitude could have been accomplished without the entire campus coming together to support one another in one spirit as a university community;

Now therefore, be it resolved, that:

1. Students and faculty are to be commended for their perseverance, spirit, and tenacity during a most challenging learning and teaching environment;
2. Campus advisors are to be commended for their persistence, empathy, compassion, and resolve during a most challenging education environment;
3. Staff and administrators are to be commended for their enterprising insights and unflagging determination to sustain the mission of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

The Senate Committee on Educational Policy at Urbana-Champaign fully supports this resolution to recognize, thank, and congratulate the extraordinary efforts of all who have been a part of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign campus community this last year, Spring 2020 to Spring 2021, not only for a job well done, but also for one that has been accomplished with diligence and distinction.

EDUCATIONAL POLICY
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