

TOWSON UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL REPORT

2024





“Towson University’s transformational impact changes lives. As an anchor institution for greater Baltimore and the state of Maryland, it is our charge to uplift the communities we serve—a duty we proudly uphold every single day.”

—President Mark R. Ginsberg

CONTENTS

- PRESIDENT GINSBERG’S FIRST YEAR AT TU 2
- ENGINE OF OPPORTUNITY 4
- PIONEERING THE CAMPUS OF TOMORROW. . . . 6
- LEADERSHIP FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD
STRATEGIC PLAN 8
- EDUCATE 10
- INNOVATE 12
- ENGAGE 14
- INCLUDE 16
- SUPPORT 18
- SUSTAIN 20
- WORLD-CLASS FACULTY & STAFF 22
- STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY 24
- #TUPROUD 26
- A CULTURE OF SERVICE & PHILANTHROPY 28
- EXCELLENCE. EARNED. 30



To read all stories covered in this report, visit towson.edu/news/2024-annual-report-stories.html.

PRESIDENT GINSBERG'S FIRST YEAR AT TU



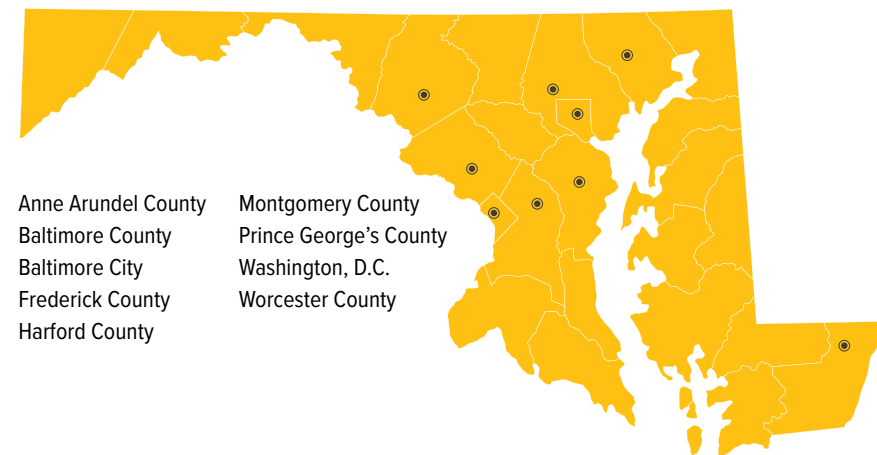
President Mark R. Ginsberg celebrated his one-year anniversary on Oct. 30, 2024.

ENGAGING WITH TIGERS

President Ginsberg began his tenure with an eight-month listening tour to hear from TU students, faculty, staff, alumni and parents as well as Towson-area neighbors and local business leaders.

He also took to the Tiger Trail, embarking on a state-wide tour to meet with alumni, donors and elected officials throughout Maryland. Nearly 530 Tigers attended the nine receptions.

ALONG THE TIGER TRAIL



CAMPUS LISTENING TOUR

54
sessions

1,959
participants

10 PRIORITIES FOR MOVING TU FORWARD

As he began year two as TU's 15th president, Ginsberg announced 10 priorities for moving TU forward. These initiatives were developed with feedback he heard from the university community and in support of the six goals outlined in TU's current strategic plan. They are aimed at three simple principles:

- assuring TU is a caring community
- promoting the success of every Tiger
- strengthening Maryland

SUPPORT HOLISTIC STUDENT SUCCESS

TU will continue to prioritize all aspects of student development—from emotional and physical well-being to academic, professional and financial success—ensuring Tigers are prepared for lifelong achievement.

ADVANCE TU AS A COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH AND TEACHING UNIVERSITY

TU is a nationally ranked and recognized leader in research and education and strives to reach new heights as a destination for interdisciplinary discovery. With equal emphasis on teaching excellence—the true hallmark of a TU education—the university will set itself apart from other national research institutions.

RAISE THE BAR FOR BELONGING

With a steadfast commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging, TU will continue to ensure every community member and visitor feels seen, heard, respected and valued. It is essential that TU recruits, retains and serves individuals from all backgrounds and continually works to eliminate systemic barriers to success.

CULTIVATE A CULTURE OF PRIDE, PERFORMANCE AND WELL-BEING

The success of TU's faculty and staff directly impacts student success. The university will support a workplace where employees can continue to grow and thrive personally and professionally while also cultivating a sense of pride while also cultivating a sense of pride and fostering community well-being.

CONNECT CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY

TU will continue to blur the lines between campus and community. The university connects friends, families, neighbors, supporters and businesses through accessibility to the arts, athletics, community programming and other activities. Likewise, Tigers will engage in the community to create a lasting impact throughout the region.

FOSTER LIFELONG CONNECTIONS, ENGAGEMENT AND PHILANTHROPY

More than 200,000 Tiger alumni, donors and friends support communities and lead organizations around the world. TU will strengthen alumni and donor networks, providing more opportunities to engage with students, faculty, staff and one another. These deeper relationships will enhance Tiger pride and promote a culture of service and philanthropy.



President Mark R. Ginsberg with students at Late Night Breakfast 2024.

EXPAND EDUCATIONAL ACCESS FOR ALL LEARNERS

Learning is not one-size-fits-all, and TU is committed to ensuring broader access to higher education. Helping traditional and non-traditional students alike, TU will unlock opportunities and remove barriers to college and future careers.

PIONEER THE CAMPUS OF TOMORROW

TU will further invest in campus infrastructure in preparation for the future. New and enhanced facilities, outfitted with state-of-the-art technology and equipment, will amplify student, staff and faculty success, support their achievement and ensure greater accessibility for all.

FORGE A SUSTAINABLE PATH FOR TU'S FINANCIAL HEALTH

TU will carefully manage its resources while identifying new sources of support to assure the university's financial health. As good stewards of resources—public and private—and through effective budget planning, allocation and fiscal management, TU will provide life-changing experiences that will contribute to the success of the community and the prosperity of the region.

ELEVATE TU'S REPUTATION OF EXCELLENCE

TU is an extraordinary engine of opportunity for Maryland and beyond. By amplifying the excellence and accomplishments of students, faculty, staff and alumni, TU will solidify its national reputation as one of America's leading public universities.

Learn more about President Ginsberg's priorities by visiting towson.edu/presidentialpriorities.



ENGINE OF OPPORTUNITY

Towson University serves as an engine of opportunity for students and Marylanders alike. The university's transformational impact stems from a commitment to inclusive success and affordable access to quality education.

TOP RANKED

NO. 1 public university in Maryland
WALL STREET JOURNAL

NO. 15 public university in the nation
WALL STREET JOURNAL

Beyond performance in traditional university metrics, Wall Street Journal's methodology weighed "how the school improves the trajectories of their students' careers." This included four-year graduation rates and average earnings of recent alumni.

The rankings also show TU's momentum is on the rise—one year ago, TU was ranked No. 50 among public universities and No. 129 among all universities nationwide.

The social mobility rankings focus on the number of students from low-income families, graduation rates, cost of attendance and graduate salaries. This was the second-straight year TU ranked No. 1 in Maryland for social mobility.



NO. 2 university in Maryland, public or private
WALL STREET JOURNAL

NO. 5 public university in the north
U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

NO. 15 university in the north, public or private
U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

NO. 37 for social mobility in the U.S.
WALL STREET JOURNAL

NO. 78 public university in the U.S.
FORBES



AFFORDABLE ACCESS TO EDUCATION

NO. 1 best bang for the buck in Maryland
WASHINGTON MONTHLY

4.5 STARS
MONEY MAGAZINE

In Money Magazine's Best Colleges 2024 rankings, TU was rated 4.5 stars and named one of America's best public colleges. TU was one of only 94 universities nationwide named to the Best Public Colleges list, including just one of three in Maryland. The 4.5-star rating placed TU in the top third of 745 national universities, public or private. Scores were based on three key factors: quality of education, affordability and outcomes. This included analysis of graduation rates, cost of attendance, financial aid offerings, early alumni salaries and more. Washington Monthly also named TU the No. 1 "Best Bang for the Buck" in Maryland and 19th-best value in the northeast region. The list included 376 colleges from the north Atlantic and analyzed "how well [universities] help non-wealthy students attain marketable degrees at affordable prices."

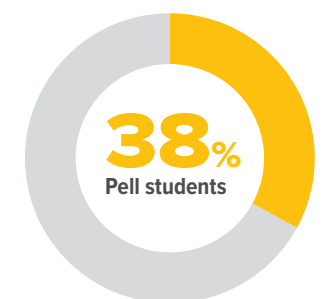
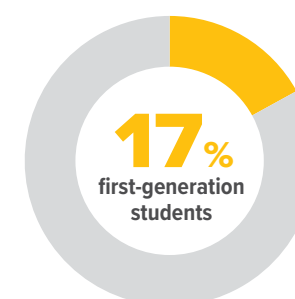
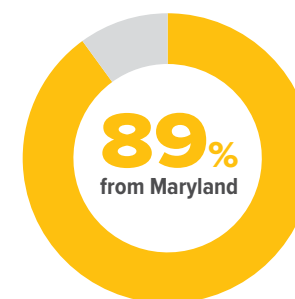
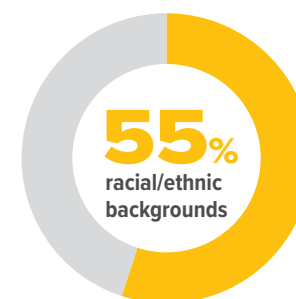
TU BY THE NUMBERS

19,401
students

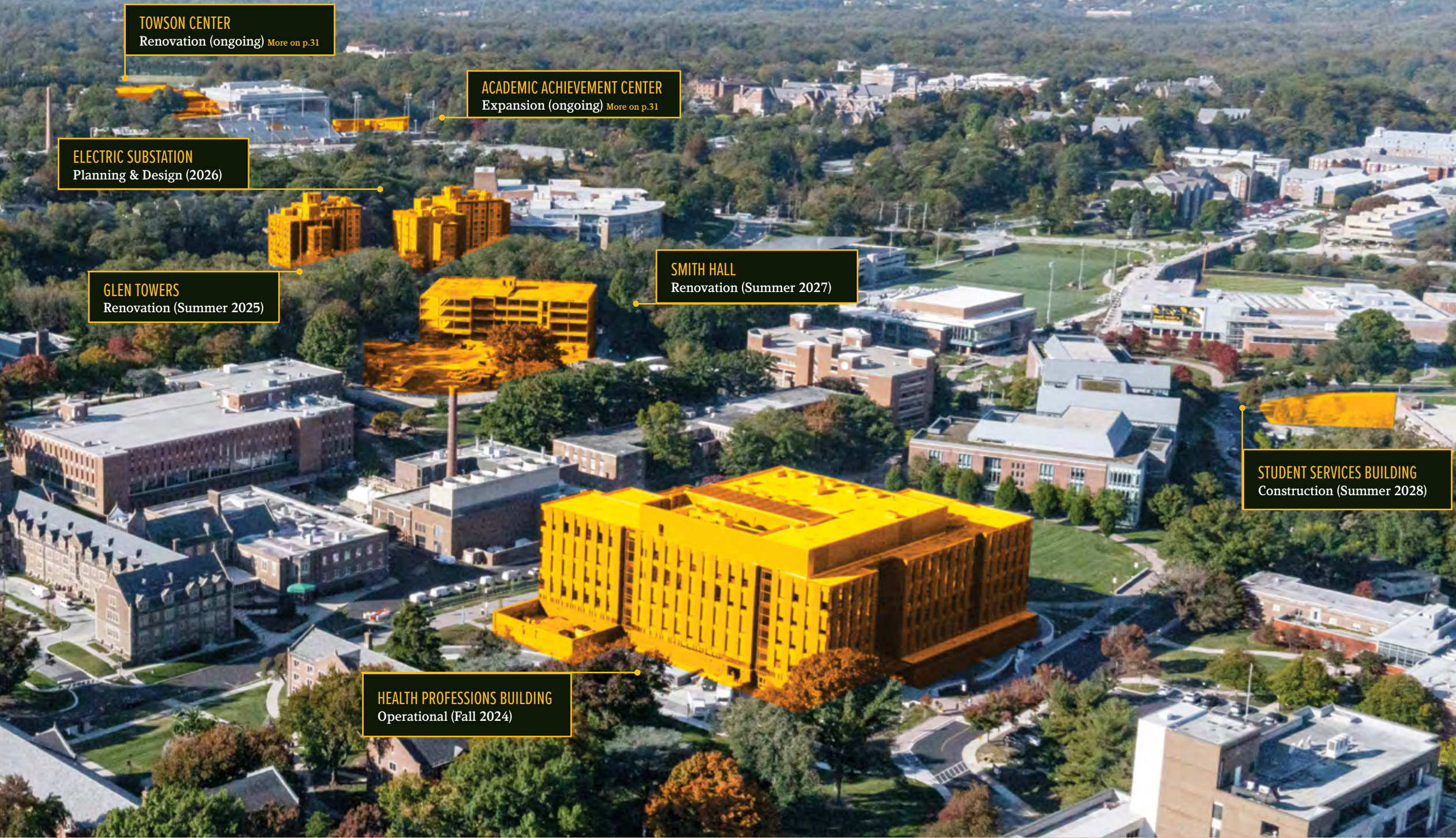
16,264
undergraduates

3,137
graduate students

72
countries represented



PIONEERING THE CAMPUS OF TOMORROW



TOWSON CENTER
Renovation (ongoing) [More on p.31](#)

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT CENTER
Expansion (ongoing) [More on p.31](#)

ELECTRIC SUBSTATION
Planning & Design (2026)

GLEN TOWERS
Renovation (Summer 2025)

SMITH HALL
Renovation (Summer 2027)

HEALTH PROFESSIONS BUILDING
Operational (Fall 2024)

STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING
Construction (Summer 2028)



SMITH HALL

Renovation and reconstruction are breathing new life into Smith Hall, TU's former science building. The project will renovate the building's west wing and reconstruct the east wing to create a modern, 200,000-gross-square-foot learning facility. Once complete, it will house TU's mass communication, communication studies and electronic media and film departments, bringing three key College of Fine Arts & Communication programs together to expand interdisciplinary opportunities for students. The building will also be the new home of the Faculty Academic Center of Excellence at Towson (FACET).



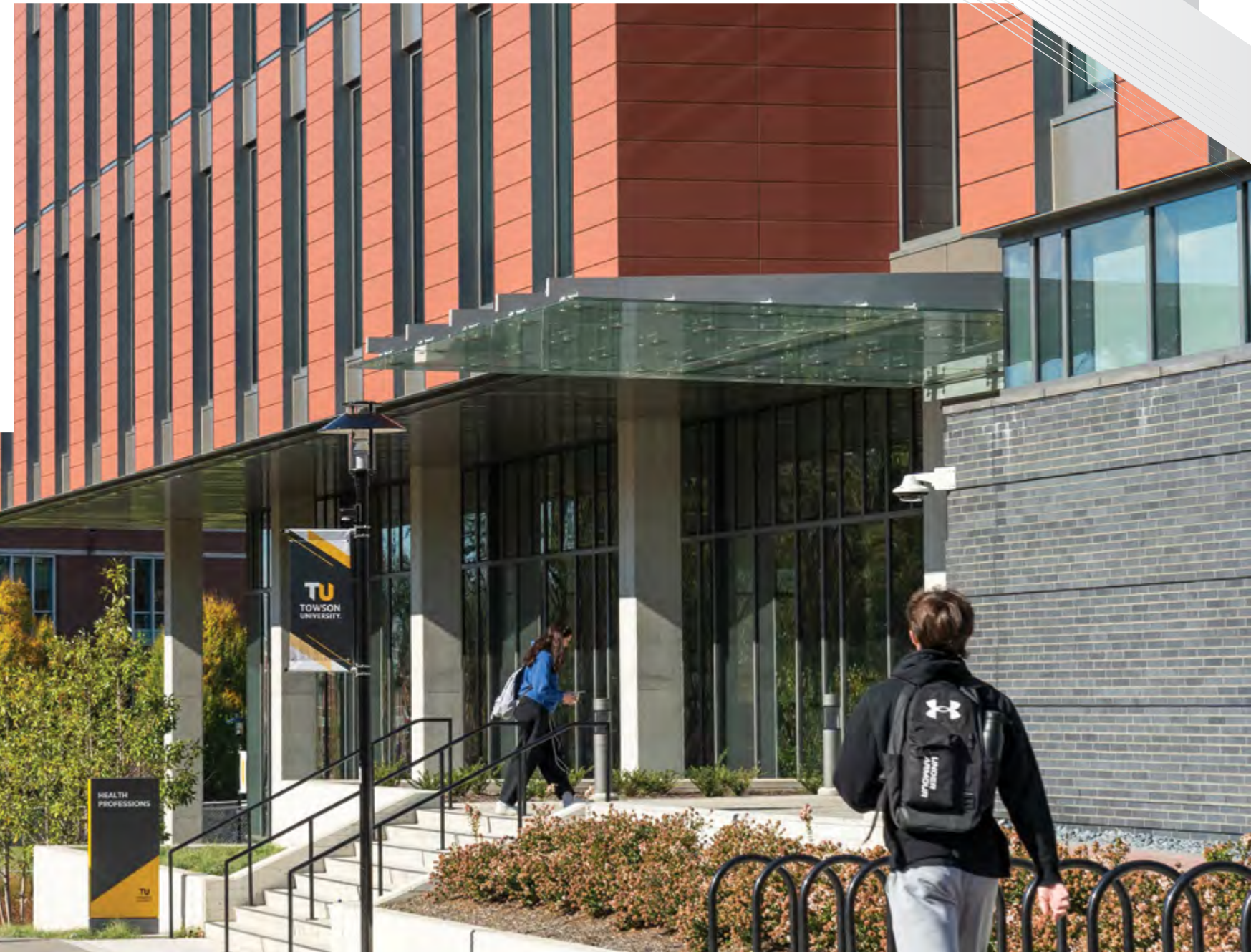
HEALTH PROFESSIONS BUILDING

TU's new Health Professions Building is designed to be a leading center for interprofessional health and wellness education. It features advanced, high-tech classrooms, collaborative learning spaces, state-of-the-art simulation facilities for hands-on learning and abundant natural light. Its thoughtful design is centered on safe, quality health care and the health and well-being of students, faculty and staff. Pending confirmation, the facility is slated to achieve LEED gold certification for its energy efficiency, green impact and sustainability.

LEADERSHIP FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

STRATEGIC PLAN

Towson University is already recognized as one of America’s top 100 public national universities; this strategic plan is a call to action for an even bolder future. It is a focused strategy to build upon TU’s impressive momentum, further its impact as an anchor institution and advance its preeminent position as a national leader in higher education for the public good.



SIX GOALS:

EDUCATE

We will achieve national recognition for our innovative student-centered curriculum emphasizing engaged learning, in-demand academic programs and new approaches to instruction and learning in the liberal arts, business, health professions, STEM, arts and teacher preparation.

GOAL: 51%
Four-year graduation rate

CURRENT: 48%

INNOVATE

Our faculty are leaders in scholarship and creative activities and will be fully supported in their efforts to generate new knowledge and new creative works.

GOAL: 39
Research doctorates conferred annually

CURRENT: 16

ENGAGE

We will serve as community leaders and partners extending the talents of our students, faculty and staff beyond our campus boundaries to create opportunities for leadership, entrepreneurship, civic engagement and experiential learning.

GOAL: 769
External partnerships

CURRENT: 811

INCLUDE

We will build an even more inclusive, equitable and collaborative community where people from all backgrounds, identities, abilities and life experiences are welcomed, valued and supported.

GOAL: 40%
Pell Grant recipients

CURRENT: 38%

SUPPORT

We will recruit, retain and graduate students of the highest caliber, offer outstanding student success services and provide an engaging campus experience that reflects the educational values of Towson University and produces graduates prepared for careers or advanced education.

GOAL: 96%
Post-graduate placement (employed, graduate studies, military)

CURRENT: 91%

SUSTAIN

We will act as leaders in advancing sustainability of all resources—environmental, human and financial.

GOAL: 70%
Reduction in carbon emissions

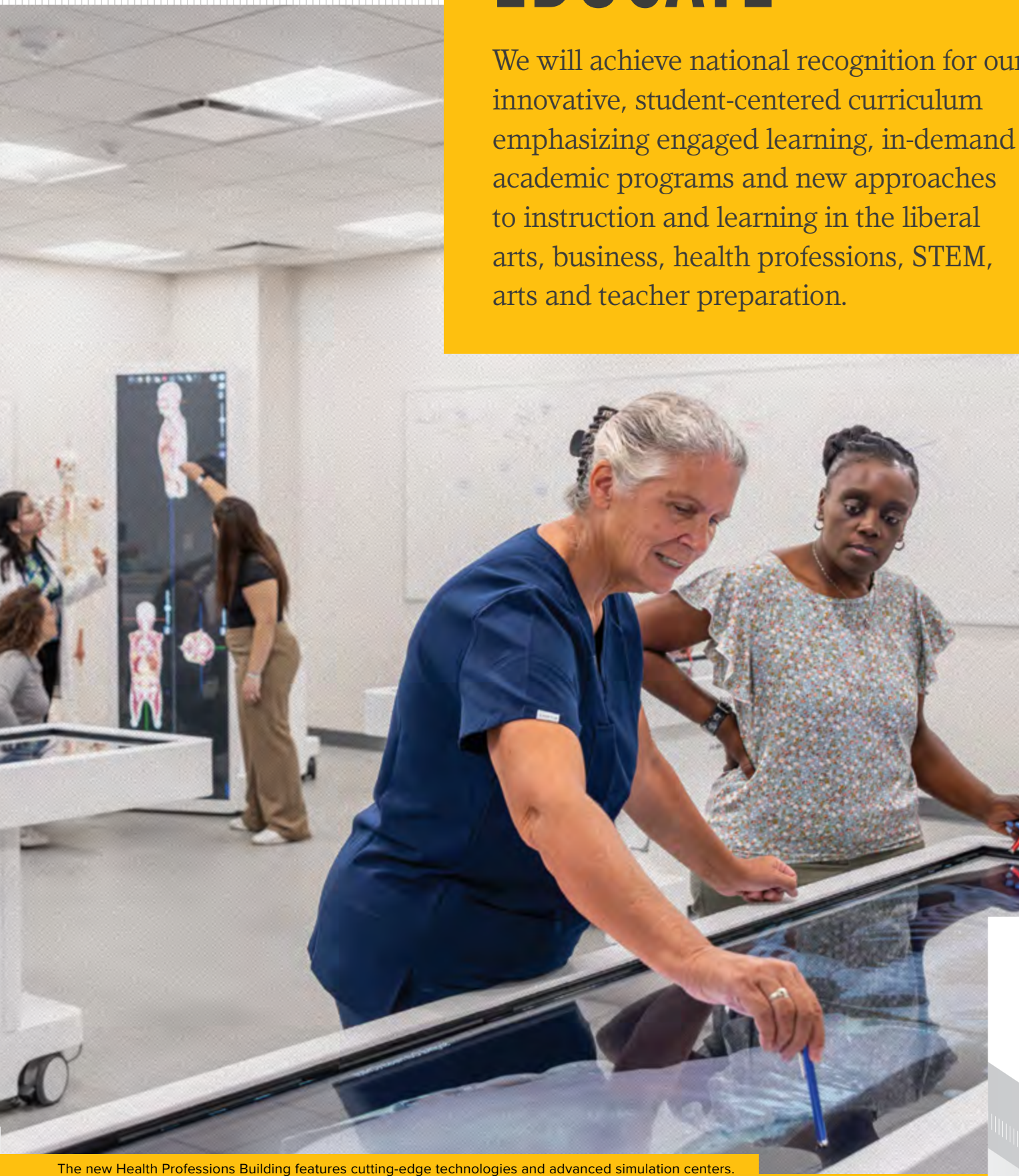
CURRENT: 58%



Towson University has identified key metrics to measure progress for each of the six goals of the university strategic plan. Progress, updates and milestones to these goals are covered throughout this annual report; however, you can view the targets for our FY30 goals on a new dashboard.

EDUCATE

We will achieve national recognition for our innovative, student-centered curriculum emphasizing engaged learning, in-demand academic programs and new approaches to instruction and learning in the liberal arts, business, health professions, STEM, arts and teacher preparation.



The new Health Professions Building features cutting-edge technologies and advanced simulation centers.



Taylor Richardson '23, College of Fine Arts & Communication

TOP FULBRIGHT INSTITUTION

For the second time in its history, TU was recognized by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs for being one of the colleges and universities with the highest number of students selected for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program—the U.S. government's flagship international academic exchange program. Three TU students were selected for Fulbright awards for the 2023–24 academic year, with one student being selected as an alternate.

MCCALL MACBAIN SCHOLARSHIP

Taylor Richardson (above) became the first U.S. student to receive the McCall MacBain scholarship. Canada's prestigious leadership-based scholarship program provides awardees with a fully financed education, mentorship, workshops, monthly leadership enrichment courses and an individual mentor specific to their field of study. Richardson was selected out of thousands of international applicants and five overall U.S. finalists.

TU'S TRIPLE CROWN

It was quite a year of accomplishment for Ashley Hajimirsadeghi. She's a Fulbright Scholar, earned a Critical Language Scholarship and became TU's first recipient of the National Security Education Program's David L. Boren Fellowship.

TEACHER QUALITY PARTNERSHIP GRANT

The College of Education received a more than \$5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education under the Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP) program. The grant seeks to enhance the quality of Maryland's teacher pipeline, university teacher preparation programs and teacher induction programs, thereby improving the academic achievement of preK–6 students in Montgomery and Baltimore counties. TU is the only university in Maryland and among just 18 FY2024 grant recipients in the nation to receive a TQP award.

NO. 1
online master's in
education in Maryland;
NO. 35
in America
U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

NO. 8
in the nation for
best master's in
speech-language
pathology programs
BESTCOLLEGES

NO. 9
master's university
in the U.S.
WASHINGTON MONTHLY

NO. 26
business and economics
program among U.S.
public universities
POETS & QUANTS

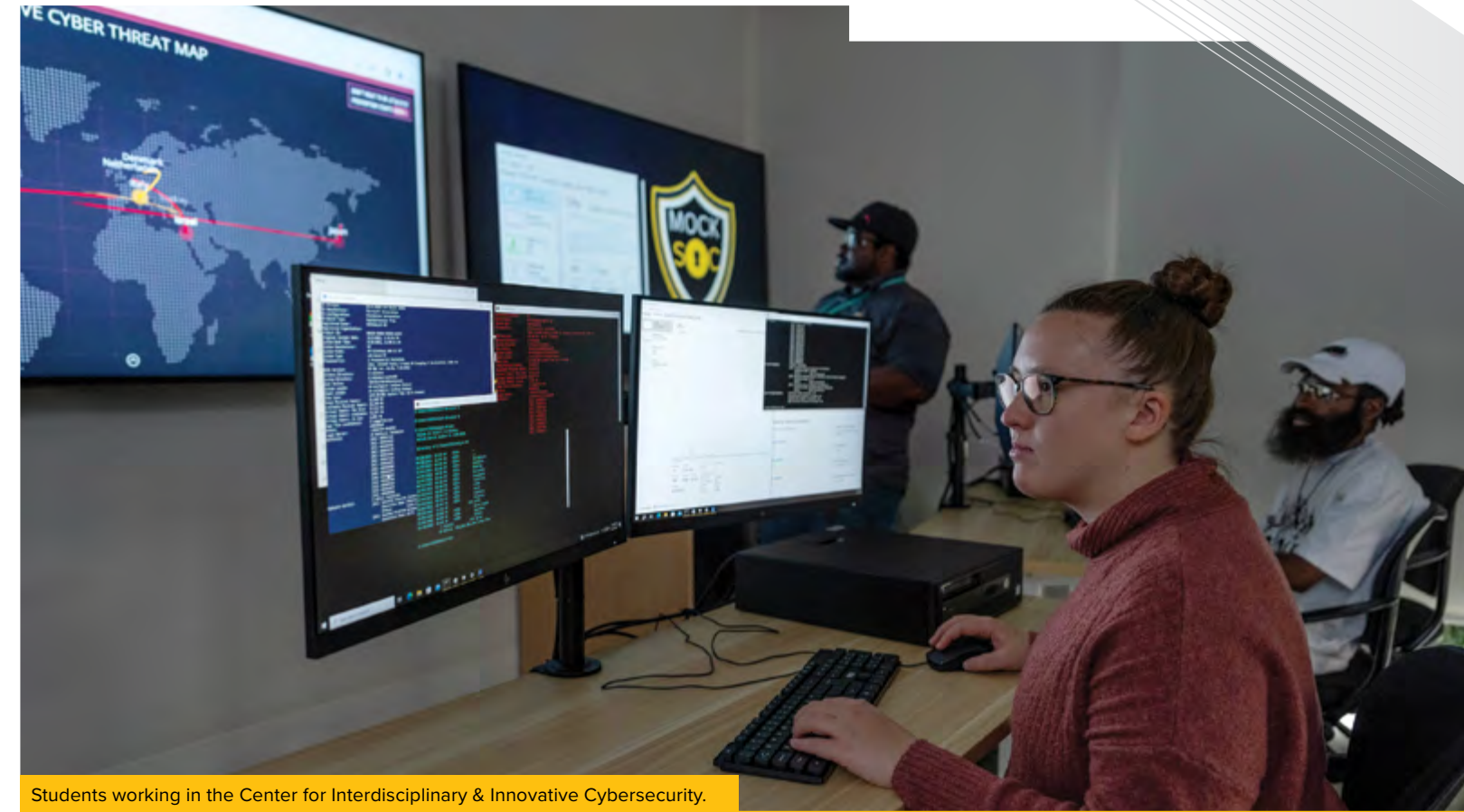
NO. 65
online graduate
computer information
technology program
in the U.S.
U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

INNOVATE

Our faculty are leaders in scholarship and creative activities and will be fully supported in their efforts to generate new knowledge and new creative works.



TU's electronic media and film studies prepares students for virtual reality technologies.



Students working in the Center for Interdisciplinary & Innovative Cybersecurity.

LEADERS IN AUTISM STUDIES

The first Autism Summit hosted by the College of Health Professions brought together scholars, practitioners, researchers and students interested in advancing autism studies. Students in the first cohort of the autism studies doctoral program presented their research, which aims to enhance understanding and support within the autism community. TU faculty Connie Anderson, Ph.D., and Heidi Feng, Ph.D., offered their expert perspectives, guided exploration of critical issues and presented their own research to provide innovative solutions in autism.

148
grants totaling
\$13.6 MILLION
IN FY2024

EMPOWERING SECURE ELECTIONS

The Empowering Secure Elections Lab at TU teamed up with the Anne Arundel County Election Office to improve Maryland elections. The collaboration surveyed county residents and unlocked data that will help the Board of Elections in Anne Arundel County make improvements to its election process for registered voters.

34%
increase in grant proposals
SINCE 2023

CYBERSECURITY GRANTS

TU's Center for Interdisciplinary & Innovative Cybersecurity has received more than \$2 million in grants from the National Science Foundation and National Security Agency to develop programs of study and pioneer innovative solutions for cybersecurity education. Curriculum developed will exist for free through the Cybersecurity Labs and Resource Knowledgebase to empower faculty to develop a skilled workforce in cyber and AI.

\$11.5
MILLION
invested in research
IN FY2024
29% increase from
FY2023

SURVIVE ENGINEERING

SURVIVE Engineering has partnered with the Center for Interdisciplinary & Innovative Cybersecurity to secure unmanned aircraft systems. Led by Mike O'Leary, Ph.D., and Nathan McNew, Ph.D., from TU's Department of Mathematics, faculty and students will work at the center on risk analysis and encryption capabilities to implement novel solutions to risks associated with cybersecurity.

255
students enrolled in
doctoral programs



ENGAGE

We will serve as community leaders and partners extending the talents of our students, faculty and staff beyond our campus boundaries to create opportunities for leadership, entrepreneurship, civic engagement and experiential learning.

Rebecca Rosenberg, founder of ReBokeh—a StarTUp Accelerator business—is a Forbes 30 under 30 winner in the “Social Impact” category.



More than 100 students attended the 25th-annual Tiger Pride Day at the state capital in Annapolis.

LEADERS IN CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Towson University was awarded the 2024 Highly Established Action Plan Seal by ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge for achieving excellence in nonpartisan student democratic engagement.



AMERICAN DEMOCRACY PROJECT

TU celebrated the 20th anniversary of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities’ nonpartisan American Democracy Project by recommitting to the initiatives guiding civic and democratic engagement. As part of the project, the Office of Civic Engagement & Social Responsibility created a culture of connecting and empowering students so they feel comfortable engaging in the community and region.

TIGER PRIDE DAY

TU students took to Annapolis for the 25th-annual Tiger Pride Day. They attended General Assembly sessions and committee hearings, advocated for causes important to them and networked with legislators.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES

The Office of Procurement and the Office of Partnerships & Outreach hosted the inaugural vendor fair for local, small, minority-owned and women-owned businesses to connect with those making purchasing decisions at TU. The fair provided a means for employees at TU to support the economic growth and development of the community.

TOWSON STRATEGIC SALES CENTER

Launched in fall 2024, the Towson Strategic Sales Center serves as a hub for professional sales education, research and networking in TU’s College of Business & Economics. Programming connects faculty, students and staff with professional development opportunities, local and national sales competitions, sales research collaborations, local partnerships and industry mentorships.

811

active partnerships throughout the mid-Atlantic

277

external engagements led by TU faculty, staff and students



TU's diverse student body reflects Maryland's population.

INCLUDE

We will build an even more inclusive, equitable and collaborative community where people from all backgrounds, identities, abilities and life experiences are welcomed, valued and supported.



TU's MentHER program at the Visit Baltimore offices.

A LEADER IN INCLUSIVE MENTORSHIP

TU's MentHER program connects professional businesswomen with sophomores in the College of Business & Economics for one-on-one mentoring relationships. The CBE students, in turn, mentor high school students across the Baltimore region. Through guided discussions, workshops, one-on-one sessions and presentations, they build financial literacy, develop life and workplace skills and engage in career planning. In 2024, MentHER was recognized with the Inspiring Programs in Business Award from Insight Into Diversity magazine.

A CULTURE OF BELONGING

Dedicated affinity group hubs bring together events, organizations and resources for six of TU's cultural communities—helping members access support and connection on campus and beyond. The hubs are supported through year-round storytelling and promotion that reinforces a campus culture of inclusion and belonging. These efforts are recognized as a national model for diversity communications, with TU invited to present them at the American Marketing Association's 2024 Higher Education Conference.

TOP UNIVERSITY FOR VETERANS

The Military Times' Best for Vets 2024 college rankings named TU the No. 2 university for veterans in Maryland and No. 91 in the country. TU also earned the Military Friendly Schools' gold designation for the second-straight year. For championing student success through oversight of TU's exceptional Military & Veterans Center, Senior Vice President of Student Affairs and University Life Vernon Hurte was among 31 individuals recognized with Military Friendly's Veteran Champions of the Year in Higher Education award.

No. 1
in the U.S. for
gender equality
TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION

No. 5
universities for
veterans in the north
U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

Higher Education
**EXCELLENCE IN
DIVERSITY AWARD**
for five consecutive years

55%
of TU's student body identifies
as a member of minoritized
racial and ethnic groups

REFLECTING MARYLAND

Towson University's student body reflects Maryland's diverse state-wide population.

ETHNICITY	TOWSON UNIVERSITY*	STATE OF MARYLAND**
Black	33%	31.4%
Asian	6%	6.9%
Latine/x	11%	11.1%

*Towson University's 2024 fall student enrollment.
**Maryland's population via 2020 census.



SUPPORT

We will recruit, retain and graduate students of the highest caliber, offer outstanding student success services and provide an engaging campus experience that reflects the educational values of Towson University and produces graduates prepared for careers or advanced education.

More than 200 local employers participated in the 2024 Career and Internship Fair at TU Arena.



Sgt. Jafar Taru with TU's emotional support dog, Bruno.

SOLUTIONS FOR STATEWIDE CHALLENGES

The Towson University Foundation awarded more than \$100,000 in grants to support faculty, staff and students addressing Maryland's biggest challenges. Among them is a mentorship and support program for paraeducators working toward bachelor's degrees. Reducing barriers for these nontraditional students strengthens the workforce pipeline to address statewide teacher shortages.

ADVANCING FEMALE LEADERSHIP

Named after prominent leaders in TU's history, the Tall-Wiedefeld Society (TWS) is creating a philanthropic legacy to advance women at TU. In its third year, TWS awarded \$20,000 to programs supporting female leadership and success, including career development for women in STEM, immersive leadership experiences for middle school girls and seminars exploring the impact and roles of women in forensic science.

A COMFORTING K-9

TU welcomed its first comfort dog in 2024. Supported through generous donations from the campus community, Bruno offers emotional support and companionship as part of a community-oriented approach to public safety. He lives and works alongside TUPD patrol officer Sgt. Jafar Taru, offering a comforting presence at building walk-throughs and calls for service.

COLLEGE FOR ALL

A \$250,000 Bloomberg Philanthropies grant is helping TU launch a college preparation residency program for Baltimore City high school students in grades 11-12. The summer intensive will enhance foundational math skills and study habits while offering advice on the college transition from current TU undergraduates. Students who complete the program may be invited to join one of TU's residential learning communities with waived room and board fees.

COMMUNITY-CENTERED EDUCATION

The Albert S. Cook Library has received nearly \$400,000 in grants to benefit TU's students and the greater Towson community, awarded by the Institute of Museum & Library Services National Leadership Grants for Libraries program. Funds are supporting two unique initiatives in TU's Special Collections and University Archives: the development of a student-centered outreach model for academic archives and the implementation of a community-centered educational program to address Holocaust disinformation.

INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES

TU believes that global learning is integral to a well-rounded college education. The current student body represents 72 countries around the world, and more than 200 TU students study abroad annually.

1 of 28

U.S. universities named an American Talent Initiative High-Flier for transformative leadership in college access and success

91%

of recent TU graduates have secured a job or continued their education

87%

of TU students are engaged in experiential learning on campus

SUSTAIN

We will act as leaders in advancing sustainability of all resources—environmental, human and financial.



Botany students working in the Science Complex's rooftop greenhouse.



TU students cleaning up the greater Towson community during Impact TU.

IMPACT TU

More than 500 TU students engaged with community partners throughout Towson as part of the university's day of service. Students learned about local efforts toward developing sustainable communities and engaged in hands-on service projects focused on environmental sustainability, economic security, social well-being and civic engagement.

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER RAIL BRIDGE PROJECT

TU-led research on the endangered northern map turtle will support an environmental study for the Susquehanna River Rail Bridge Project in Maryland's Harford and Cecil counties. Richard Seigel, professor emeritus, and Steven Kimble, clinical associate professor—both in the Department of Biological Science—are working alongside students in the Fisher College of Science & Mathematics to assess alternative habitat solutions for the turtle during construction. The Susquehanna River Rail Bridge Replacement Program is a collaboration between the Federal Railroad Administration, the Maryland Department of Transportation and Amtrak. The bridge will improve commute efficiency through the northeast corridor with the hope of getting more drivers off the road and into the most climate-friendly transportation option.

TU'S COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES



Solar panel installation

ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION

TU has a goal to convert all passenger and light-duty vehicles in its fleet to zero-emissions vehicles and has a robust alternative transportation program that allows faculty, staff and students to reduce their commuting emissions.

CARBON NEUTRALITY

To reach our 2045 carbon neutrality goal, TU is monitoring campus performance, forecasting for the future, conducting educational outreach and integrating sustainability into curriculum and research.

COOL FOODS

TU is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions through increased plant-based options and locally sourced food in dining halls and at catered events.

GREEN BUILDINGS

All new construction and renovations are designed to the U.S. Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Standards or higher. There are currently 14 LEED-certified buildings on campus.

RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY

TU voluntarily purchased 100% renewable energy this year for the first time in its history.

WASTE MINIMIZATION

The Maryland Recycling Act mandates a 30% recycling rate for all state agencies, with a goal of 55%. In 2024, TU achieved its highest recycling rate to date.

WORLD-CLASS FACULTY & STAFF

Towson University's momentum is fueled by the dedicated faculty and staff who inspire and support the campus community. Their contributions help make TU one of the top public universities in the country.



Alison Rios Millett McCartney, Ph.D.

NEW LEADERSHIP IN HONORS COLLEGE

Alison Rios Millett McCartney, Ph.D., began her tenure as dean of TU's Honors College in July 2024. She served as the college's faculty director for many years prior to her appointment in addition to her position as a professor of political science. McCartney's leadership has helped create opportunities for experiential learning, undergraduate research and equity in education.



Jennifer Potter, Ph.D.

EXCELLENCE IN MENTORING

Jennifer Potter, Ph.D., former chair of TU's Department of Communication Studies, received the University System of Maryland Excellence in Mentoring Award for her dedication to student success. As chair, she established the position of undergraduate research coordinator to support proposals, presentations and publications. She also co-created the TU Public Communication Center, a student peer-mentoring program for public speaking.



Henry Jackson

EXTRAORDINARY PUBLIC SERVICE

Henry Jackson, a lab technician in the TU Center for STEM Excellence, was recognized as one of the USM's Board of Regent Staff Award winners for his extraordinary public service to the university and greater Baltimore community. For more than 13 years, he has mentored students—many of whom come from underserved communities—to support their future careers in STEM fields.



Mahnaz Moallem, Ph.D.

ELKINS PROFESSORSHIP WINNER

Last fall, Mahnaz Moallem, Ph.D., was awarded the University System of Maryland's Wilson H. Elkins Professorship, which supports professors and researchers who demonstrate an exemplary ability to inspire students and whose professional work and scholarly endeavors make a positive impact at their institutions. Funds will support her project "Breaking Barriers, Cultivating Young Girls' Interests in Computational Thinking, Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity," which aims to help close the race and gender gap in STEM professions.



Alisha Reaves, Ph.D.



Danielle Sutherland, Ph.D.

SPENCER GRANT WINNERS

Two TU professors, Alisha Reaves, Ph.D., and Danielle Sutherland, Ph.D., each received a prestigious Spencer Grant—becoming the university's first recipients. Reaves, the only French linguist on campus, is using the \$50,000 grant to research high-variability phonetic training, a technique used in phonetics laboratories to help learners of foreign languages acquire new sounds, and its impact on learning a second language. Sutherland was awarded \$60,000 and is focusing on how anti-critical race theory legislation impacts the teacher labor market.

STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY

Towson University is an anchor institution for greater Baltimore and Maryland, committed to making a difference and transforming lives throughout our region.



SUMMER AT THE CENTER

For the first time in nearly 20 years, TU's College of Fine Arts & Communication hosted its two-week celebration of the arts—created by and for the greater Baltimore community. The lineup featured more than 15 enriching experiences ranging from free workshops and student showcases to full, professional musical theatre cabarets and concerts.



MARYLAND CENTER FOR COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

TU's College of Education is now the home of the new Maryland Center for Community Schools (MCCS), further enhancing the university's legacy as a leader for educator preparation. As part of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, TU will support the state's mission to grow from 454 to nearly 700 community schools over the next decade.



SUPPORTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The StarUp Accelerator proudly welcomed its sixth cohort in spring 2024, continuing its mission of fostering innovation and entrepreneurship throughout Maryland. The award-winning program is helping to launch ventures in a wide range of industries, including consumer packaged goods, green technology, health care innovation and more. The founders include esteemed medical doctors, award winners from prominent national entrepreneurship competitions, doctorate holders and former Baltimore Ravens Super Bowl champion Kyle Richardson.



LEADING MARYLAND'S LEADERS

The Dr. Nancy Grasmick Leadership Institute—a regional catalyst for transformational leadership development—celebrated its third anniversary in fall 2024. Since its inception, the Institute has served more than 2,700 participants from 900 local companies.



PROMOTING LIFELONG LEARNING

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute offers community for older Marylanders with a passion for curiosity and love of learning. Hundreds have taken advantage of the program, with members ranging in age from 50 to 100. Participants take classes across disciplines, attend community lectures, engage in book clubs and more.

#TUPROUD

With more than 195,000 active alumni in all 50 states and 86 countries, Tigers are everywhere. Over the past year, alumni events were held in places such as California, Pennsylvania, China and Italy. Each of our alums has a story to tell; here are three of them.



CANDICE ZHU '11

When Zhu discovered TU in her quest for a master's degree program, she took the leap and moved from China. She decided to pursue the Master of Science in applied information technology (AIT) in the Jess and Mildred Fisher College of Science & Mathematics. The program enables students to study, design, develop, implement and support information systems to solve major challenges in the modern work environment. Zhu now serves as the director of IT governance and portfolio with the Maryland Department of Transportation, where she supports IT portfolio management, governance practices, asset management strategies and IT project management initiatives across the organization's enterprise landscape. "There are a lot of talented women in the technology field right now, and I truly believe, from the STEM perspective, we should encourage more girls and women to get into this field," she says.



JACOB DAMROW '22, '24

Seven years after first stepping on campus, Damrow left with bachelor's and master's degrees in environmental science—and a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. The highly competitive scholarship is awarded to about 16% of more than 12,000 applicants annually. The oldest graduate fellowship of its kind, the award recognizes and supports outstanding students pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees with a three-year stipend and access to professional development resources. "I got emotional when I found out I got the fellowship," Damrow says. "It helps me out financially while allowing me to continue my research and earn my Ph.D. There is a long lineage of people from my TU lab that have won this award. It seemed like an incredible opportunity I couldn't pass up."



JAMAL WASHINGTON '16

From the start of his journey at TU in 2012, Washington felt empowered in the arms of a community. Eight years after graduating from TU's College of Business & Economics, he is living proof that there is power in believing in yourself. Washington is the first TU alum to be accepted to the USAID Donald M. Payne International Development Graduate Fellowship Program. The competitive seven-year program seeks outstanding individuals interested in pursuing careers in the Foreign Service of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Last summer, Washington completed the first component of his fellowship on Capitol Hill, where he worked as a congressional fellow for Rep. Steny Hoyer. For the next two years he'll attend graduate school at Columbia University and intern at an embassy abroad. Upon graduating, he will be sworn in and sent overseas as a U.S. Foreign Service Officer with USAID.



50 YEARS OF NURSING EDUCATION

In 1974, the first cohort of nursing students graduated from Towson State University, the only state college nursing program at the time. Since those students received their degrees 50 years ago, the Department of Nursing has seen major growth alongside the College of Health Professions. TU has prepared more than 6,500 trusted nursing professionals to serve communities and practice in a rapidly changing health care environment. "Since its inception, the nursing department has always been responsive to the needs of the community," says College of Health Professions Dean Lisa Plowfield. "Looking back, we can see how dedicated the faculty was—and continues to be—in prioritizing student success."

A CULTURE OF SERVICE & PHILANTHROPY



The opening of the Sandra R. Berman Center for Humanity, Tolerance & Holocaust Education.

DONOR SUPPORT FUELS HUB FOR HUMANITY AND TOLERANCE

Towson University officially opened a new space in March 2024 in the College of Liberal Arts: the Sandra R. Berman Center for Humanity, Tolerance & Holocaust Education.

The Berman Center serves as a principal ambassador and liaison to the community and other organizations, providing quality resources and programming related to Holocaust education and overall humanity and tolerance.

Gov. Wes Moore shared a message for attendees at the ribbon cutting: “We must ensure that we stay united, work in partnership and treat each other with humanity and compassion—that is what the Sandra R. Berman Center stands for. It is a message and a mindset that we all must hold close in the days, weeks and years to come.”

TU FOUNDATION’S FY24 IMPACT

1,286
scholarships awarded

\$8.05 MILLION
university programming, support
and scholarships

\$102 MILLION
endowment

RECORD ROAR FROM TU BIG GIVE 2024

TU Big Give—the university’s day of giving—was a roaring success in 2024. The sixth-annual spring event raised more than \$424,000—about \$50,000 more than 2023’s record high. Gifts came from more than 2,000 donors. These numbers attest to the strength of TU’s philanthropic community and the unwavering support it has for helping students pursue their passions, achieve their goals and make positive impacts in the world.

TU FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT REACHES \$100M

In 2024, the TU Foundation endowment (TUF) exceeded \$100 million—a momentous achievement in supporting student success and priority initiatives across the university.

Last year, the TUF awarded 1,262 scholarships totaling \$2.5 million, helping to ensure that Tiger dreams come true for the next generation of leaders in the communities where they live and work.

As 2024 opened, five projects at TU received a boost from the TU Foundation in the form of more than \$97,000 in grants. Efforts included:

- Data Analytics Research Lab: Focusing on analytics with undergraduate research assistants (\$25,000)
- Deepening our commitment to diversity and inclusion (\$13,250)
- The G.I.V.E. Project at TU (\$23,040)
- TU Computer & Information Science Student Bootcamp Pilot Program (\$17,600)
- Helping students on the pathway to becoming teachers (\$18,340)

SUPPORTING SOCIAL MOBILITY

Glenn Stearns '87 is known for successful business ventures and appearance on “Undercover Billionaire.” But his wild success was hardly preordained. Born to alcoholic parents, his childhood was a struggle. He was diagnosed with dyslexia, failed fourth grade and became a teenage father.

But things started to turn around for him at TU, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in economics. He started Stearns Lending and has been a titan in the industry ever since. At TU, Stearns pledged \$500,000 to establish the Stearns Second Chance Scholarship Program.

“There’s a saying, ‘When the student is ready, the teacher will appear,’” he says. “It’s about finding hungry people that say, ‘I’m ready.’ And when you’re ready, there should be people around who say, ‘Let me help you.’ I want to be one of those people.”



BIG GIVE

EXCELLENCE. EARNED.



Brian Benzing became the first Towson swimmer to advance past preliminary heats at the U.S. Olympic Team Trials in 2024.

CHAMPIONSHIPS POWER NO. 1 DIRECTORS CUP FINISH

For the first time since joining the CAA in 2001–02, the Towson University athletics department finished first in the Learfield IMG College Directors' Cup standings. The competition honors institutions maintaining a broad-based program, achieving success in many sports, both men's and women's. Points are tallied in 19 sports, four of which must be baseball, men's and women's basketball and women's volleyball, then the next highest 15 for each institution. Points are earned for finishes in the postseason, with determinations given in bracketed, non-bracketed and individual sports.

The Tigers scored 25 points in fall 2023 with the department's first CAA title and NCAA Tournament appearance in women's soccer.

In the winter, gymnastics notched 53.5 points while earning its fourth consecutive NCAA Tournament berth. Brian Benzing's All-American performance at the NCAA Swimming & Diving Championship, which included a second-place finish in the 100-breaststroke and a B Final appearance in the 200-breaststroke, earned Towson 45 points.

The department added 45 points in spring 2024 as the men's lacrosse team won the CAA title and advanced to the NCAA Tournament.

TIGERS RECOGNIZED AS NATION-BEST HELPERS

The Towson University athletics department considers community service to be one of its highest priorities. During the 2023–24 academic year, the 19 teams logged 8,500 cumulative community service hours to finish in seventh place in the final standings of the NCAA Helper Helper Teamworks Challenge. TU was the only Coastal Athletic Association (CAA) program to finish in the top 25 among Division I programs. Eight TU teams finished in the top 10 in their sports.



Rendering of Soistman Academic & Achievement Center and Field House expansion.

CAMPAIGN FOR EXCELLENCE

In November 2024, TU Athletics announced the launch of a \$12 million revenue generation campaign to fuel high-impact improvements for two key athletic facilities. The Campaign for Excellence seeks to ensure Towson Athletics attracts and retains high quality student-athletes, provides first-class sport performance and medical care and enhances the impressive catalog of athletic and academic facilities that already benefit TU's student-athletes. To date, the campaign has raised \$2 million in philanthropic support.

The scope of work supported by the campaign is expected to be tackled in two phases:

PHASE 1

Soistman Academic & Achievement Center and Field House | \$20,000,000

- Renovate 17,000 square feet, adding 12,600-square-feet
- Renovate current office and meeting spaces

Sports Performance Upgrades | \$6,000,000

- Upgrade athletics training room
- New Fuel Zone dining experience in field house
- Hydrotherapy pool
- Mental health support

PHASE 2

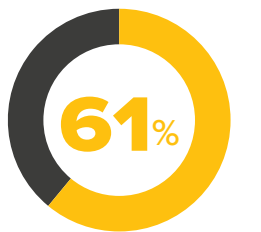
Towson Center Gym Renovation | \$12,000,000

- Additional weight room; 4,000 square feet
- Access to hot meals on South Campus; 3,600-square-foot dining facility
- 30 yards of indoor turf space
- 2 enclosed practice courts for volleyball and basketball



EXCELLENCE IN THE CLASSROOM

(Data for spring 2024)



of student-athletes boast a GPA of 3.0 or higher

164

student-athletes with 3.5 or higher GPA

32

student-athletes with a 4.0 GPA

16 OF **19**

teams have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher



Scan for more information.

Towson University is Maryland's university of opportunities—a catalyst for innovation, creativity and transformative experiences. Home to a student body that reflects the diversity of our state, **TU is a place where everyone can thrive and reach their fullest potential.**



UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

UNIVERSITY OFFICERS

Mark R. Ginsberg

President

Melanie Perreault

Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Vernon J. Hurte

Senior Vice President for Student Affairs & University Life

Benjamin Lowenthal

Senior Vice President for Finance and Chief Fiscal Officer

Steve Jones

Senior Vice President for Campus Operations and Chief Operating Officer

Patricia Bradley

Vice President for Inclusion & Institutional Equity

Daraius Irani

Vice President for the Division of Strategic Partnerships & Applied Research

Stephanie Shea

Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel

Brian DeFilippis

Vice President for University Advancement

Boyd Bradshaw

Vice President for Enrollment Management

Sean Welsh '05

Vice President for University Marketing & Communications

Steven Eigenbrot

Director of Athletics

Katie Maloney

Associate Vice President for Government Relations & Public Policy

Charles Herring

Associate Vice President for Public Safety and Chief of Police

Susan Miltenberger

Associate Vice President and Chief Information Officer

UNIVERSITY DEANS

Judy Harris

Interim Dean, College of Business & Economics

Laurie Mullen

Dean, College of Education

Regina Carlow

Dean, College of Fine Arts & Communication

Lisa Plowfield

Dean, College of Health Professions

Chris Chulos

Dean, College of Liberal Arts

Matthew Nugent

Dean, Fisher College of Science & Mathematics

Suzanna Yaukey

Dean, University Libraries

Alison Rios Millett McCartney

Dean, Honors College

Sidd Kaza

Dean, Graduate Studies, Associate Provost for Research

TOWSON UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Edna Primrose '84, *President*

Kim Fabian '88, *Vice President*

Patricia Hoge '81, '82, *Vice President*

David M. Vahos, *Vice President*

Salvatore Correnti '82, *Vice President*

Christopher Evans '93, *Treasurer*

Christopher J. Cavallaro '01, *Secretary*

Raymond J. Brusca '80

Thomas Coard '00

Ira W. Cox '88

David Diaz '99

Douglas Erdman '80

Susan Ganz

Nancy Grasmick '61

Paul-Sean Gray '88

Stephanie Johnson '95

Eric Kruk '97

Denny B. Mather '72

Ed McDonald '78

Steven E. Peck

Debora A. Plunkett '81

Phylcia Porter '10

Sherman L. Ragland '84

Jeffrey S. Rosen

Shanna N. Warburton-Barnes '99

Ex-Officio Members

Mark R. Ginsberg

Benjamin Lowenthal

John Mease Jr.

Brian J. DeFilippis

Todd Langenberg

Matthew Nugent

Lisa Plowfield

Jonas Jacobson

Edmund Rhynes Jr.

Bart Debicki

Heather Sorensen '95

