

BOLD STEPS



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT



AU AT-A-GLANCE

AU IS THE FIRST
carbon neutral
university in the US
reached 2020 pledge
2 years early

91%
of undergraduates
participated in an
internship*
*results of Graduation Census as of
six months after degree conferral

#77
national universities
ranking
U.S. News and World Report

TYPICAL STUDENT EXPENSES*
AY2019-2020

\$49,889
tuition and fees
\$14,880
average room and board

*reflects a 2.3% increase over
AY2018-19, the lowest on AU's records

80%
of incoming students
receive need- or merit-
based financial aid

CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATION
R2: Doctoral Universities
High Research Activity

\$33.4M
record external research funding FY2019

NATIONAL MERIT AWARDS

128 Fulbright
15 Truman since 2000
20 Udall

93%
AU grads are working or
in grad school, or both*
*results of Graduation Census as of
six months after degree conferral

46%
of new tenure-line faculty
and
31%
of new term faculty
identify as people of color

OUR STUDENTS
29%
of color
122
countries
50
states, DC, PR,
and the Territories
A1 Moody's
A+ S&P

54%
undergraduates who
pursued study abroad*
*results of Graduation Census as of
six months after degree conferral

121 programs
58 countries
6 continents

WAMU 88.5
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY RADIO
reaches
~900K
weekly listeners locally

4M 1A listeners across US
~70K members
4M readers of DCist

INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE

\$148M
committed
FYs 2019 and 2020
including a
\$25.4M
increase in need-based
financial aid

GIVING, AND GIVING BACK, AT AU

\$83.6M
gifts and pledges
FY2019
57%
gifts of \$1M or greater

246
student-athletes

average GPA:

3.44 semester
3.41 cumulative

AY2018-2019

8
schools

College of Arts and Sciences (CAS)
Kogod School of Business (Kogod)
School of Communication (SOC)
School of Education (SOE)
School of International Service (SIS)
School of Professional and
Extended Studies (SPExS)
School of Public Affairs (SPA)
Washington College of Law (WCL)

CREATING MORE, BETTER CHANCES FOR LEARNING

The game-changing strategy to expand AU's research enterprise, maximize undergraduate success, and serve the broader community through partnerships and lifelong learning opportunities is taking shape under the leadership of new provost Dan Myers, a veteran administrator who helped expand the research mission during his 18-year tenure at Notre Dame.

"We have some really great research going on at this university, and a fantastic undergraduate experience, and we want to make sure we do those two things together in a way that's going to complement each other," says Myers.

The interdisciplinary emphasis of the university's new strategic plan is among factors that drew Myers here.

Steps to increase the number of endowed chairs, secure more research funding, and open new centers that bring together multiple disciplines reflect much of the excitement in higher education right now, Myers says.

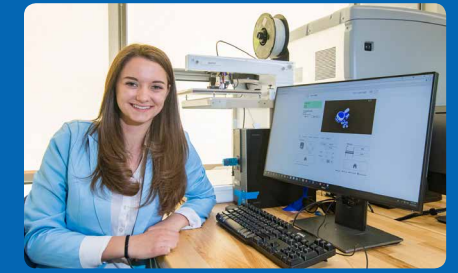
SOE's new partnership with DC Public Schools is one example of how AU wants to be a "different kind of partner," he explains.

"We have strong aspirations to become a unique university partner to the public school system in this city and really change the game in terms of how we recruit potential teachers, support them as they become teachers, get them back into the DC public schools, and then support them and the system while they're there."



WHERE PROVOST MYERS WANTS TO TAKE AU NEXT

- 1 **Expanding Research**
 "Research is integral to producing new knowledge that contributes to the world around us and enhancing AU's reputation. By connecting our research activities with our strong policy arm, our researchers' work can be connected to actions that make an immediate difference."
- 2 **Ensuring Undergrads Thrive**
 "We need to make sure that students thrive from convocation to graduation. When they encounter problems, we need to ensure they have the support to solve them, and are confident in their ability to seize opportunities for success. This remains a university-wide priority."
- 3 **Grow Our Graduate Programs**
 "We want to develop cutting-edge graduate credentials that focus on high-level professional development and upskilling, especially in niche career areas. Our DC location is perfect for that kind of specialized training. AU is an inherently interdisciplinary place, so we're able to develop programs that bring together expertise and scholars from different disciplines."
- 4 **Taking Science Further**
 "Growing the sciences is a challenging, expensive, and worthwhile endeavor. Our science departments are already excellent, but we need to do more to broadcast our success in this space. AU's smaller size is a benefit to students who are able to get into labs and coauthor published papers, which is something that can't always happen at schools with bigger programs and reputations."
- 5 **Inclusive Excellence**
 "This has been a big emphasis of mine throughout my career, and I'm happy to be part of the work being done at AU. Most of my job as it relates to inclusive excellence focuses on hiring, training, and helping our faculty better understand how to manage a more diverse classroom."



NEUROSCIENCE STUDENT PUSHES LIMITS

Irena Volkov, CAS/BS '19 excelled as a neuroscience student, designed her minor in bio-entrepreneurship, launched a medical technology company through the AU Incubator, led the neuroscience club, and captained the equestrian team. Next for the Harvard-Amgen Scholar is MIT and Harvard Medical School's prestigious medical engineering and medical physics PhD program. Her advisors, professors, and classmates "continuously encouraged me to push my boundaries and be the best version of myself, no matter how outlandish my goals seemed at the time, she says.



RAISING VOICES THROUGH JOURNALISM

As co-president and editor-in-chief of the *Blackprint*, Jenna Caldwell, BA/SIS '19, found her purpose. The international studies major says she decided she wanted to be a journalist "to elevate the voices of people who may not otherwise be heard." She interned for NBC's *Meet the Press* and is attending Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. "I also hope to have the opportunity to write about and document the experiences of the black diaspora," Caldwell says.

RATIO OF FIRST YEAR STUDENTS TO ADVISORS

76:1
American University

300:1
national average



SNIFFING OUT FACTS IN TODAY'S MEDIA SCENE

An SOC-housed nonprofit trains the next generation of investigative journalists and builds partnerships with top media outlets. The Investigative Reporting Workshop (IRW), which celebrated its 10th anniversary in April, has employed 160 student interns and fellows, produced 80 in-depth investigations, won 26 journalism awards, and raised \$16 million in funding.

Since 2013, about 40 SOC grad students have worked in the *Washington Post* newsroom as part of IRW senior editor John Sullivan's practicum course. Over the last two years, eight students, most of them IRW interns, contributed to the *Post*'s "Murder with Impunity" series, a Pulitzer Prize finalist. AU students have contributed to 20 other *Post* investigations and produced 100 of their own bylines.

"I am very proud of what we've done for the last decade," says IRW founder and executive editor Chuck Lewis. "We think it's worthwhile for the students, for the public, and for democracy."



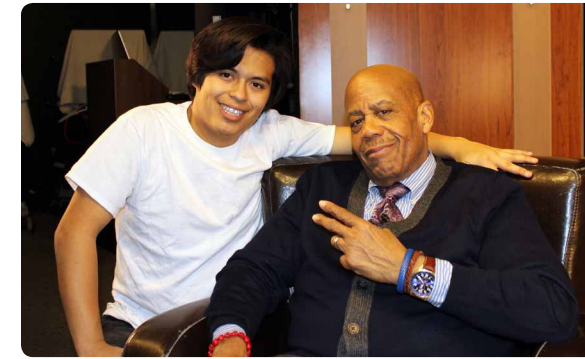
COURTS ARE SLAM DUNK FOR EAGLES IN SERVICE

Seventeen student athletes and three staff spent nine days in Tercera Línea, Paraguay, building a multipurpose sports court with members of the rural community.

Funded in part by Board of Trustees member Stephanie Bennett-Smith, Courts for Kids partnered with AU on the inaugural Eagles in Service project.

"Finishing the court was almost as rewarding as watching all of our new friends play basketball on it for the first time," wrote runner Kaitlyn McTernan, CAS/BS '20, and field hockey player Caroline Miller, SPA/BA '20, during the trip. "We will surely miss the friendships we made here but look forward to hearing from them about the court and how they grew up with it."

Eagles in Service is one of four components of the new AU Eagles Leadership Academy. The curriculum also includes workshops on core values in leadership for new student-athletes, in-depth leadership development seminars, and life-skills programming geared toward seniors.



MAKING CONNECTIONS IN THE MOVIE WORLD

A two-time Academy Award-winning professor and a student with bilingual cinema career aspirations have forged a mentoring relationship that extends beyond campus.

Frederick Douglass Distinguished Scholars (FDDS) faculty supporter, SOC distinguished artist in residence Russell Williams, SOC/BA '74, is sharing his considerable knowledge of the art and business of moviemaking with film and media major and FDDS scholar Fernando Rocha, SOC/BA '21.

Rocha first stopped by Williams's office to seek career guidance. That led to Rocha's taking a University of Southern California directing and producing class, networking in Hollywood, and meeting Williams's cinematographer friend who has film connections in Cuba and Mexico City.

"Professor Williams is a great example of why it's really important for students to get to know faculty. Especially if it's not a faculty member you have class with," Rocha says.



LEADERS WITH DEEP TIES MAKE SIGNIFICANT GIFTS

AU has received \$10 million in leadership gifts from two couples whose ties to the university run deep.

Jack Cassell and his wife, Denise, committed \$3 million towards a new Center for Athletic Performance (CAP), a modern facility to serve AU's varsity programs and open new recreational opportunities for the entire university community. Cassell, SOC/BA '77, who has served AU for decades from student-athlete to trustee, is the son of beloved AU coach, athletic director, and vice president Stafford "Pop" Cassell, CAS/BA '36.

Alan Meltzer and his wife, Amy, pledged \$7 million to AU, joining the Cassells with a \$5 million gift for CAP and \$2 million to create the Alan L. Meltzer and Amy Meltzer Fellowship in the Center for Israel Studies, now celebrating its 20th anniversary. Meltzer, an AU trustee since 2007, was an AU wrestler while a student at SPA, and remains one of the Eagles' most dedicated fans.

PRE-MED PLACEMENT
85%
of qualified* applicants
accepted to medical school

*GPA ≥ 3.3 and MCAT ≥ 503

AU WRESTLING GPA
3.56
second highest among all NCAA
Division I wrestling programs

placed in **top 10** nationally
13 out of last 14 seasons

AU'S **84-acre** CAMPUS
is an accredited* arboretum

one of **two** in Washington, DC,
along with the US Capitol Grounds

*Morton Register of Arboreta, ArbNet

WITH
3,500+ trees
and
385
species and varieties
of woody plants