



Northern Illinois University

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
March 5, 2020

Building skills for today's world



In addition to technical skills and knowledge tied to specific fields, our students gain transferable skills:

- Critical thinking and analysis
- Written and oral communication skills
- Emotional intelligence
- Cultural competency
- Creativity
- Collaboration

Building skills for today's world



- Student Professional Development Seminar
- POLS mentorship program
- Paid internship programs in Nonprofit and NGO Studies and Public Administration

Programs in demand



- New programs
 - B.S Statistics
 - B.S. Actuarial Science
 - Online MPA
 - Ph.D. Computer Science
- Harper University Center degree completion programs in Psychology and Computer Science

Unique student experiences



- Foreign Language Residence Program
- DiscoverCode_Orange
- GeoVisuaMapping Lab
- Spring Break DC Trip
- Facultyled Study Abroad
- Mock Trial
- Forensics



Excellence in the Humanities



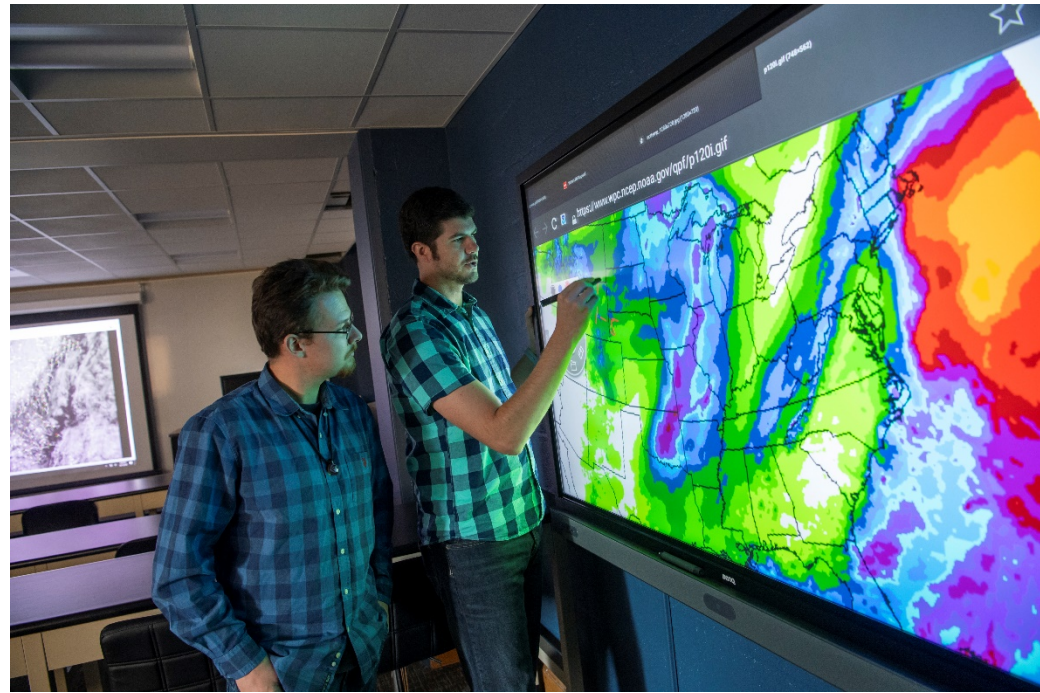
- World Languages and Cultures
- Philosophy
- English
- History



Highly-regarded programs in the Sciences



- Physics
- Chemistry
- Meteorology
- Biological Sciences
- Geology
- Environmental Studies



Prestigious programs in the Social Sciences



- Public Administration
- Nonprofit and NGO Studies
- Psychology
- Political Science
- Communications
- Economics



Training future educators



- Secondary education licensure available in nine areas:
 - English
 - History and Social Sciences
 - Math
 - Science (Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Space Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Physics)
 - Foreign Language (K-12)
- edTPA pass rate—92% in SP2019

A leader in interdisciplinary studies



Six interdisciplinary centers:

- Latino and Latin American Studies
- Nonprofit and NGO Studies
- Southeast Asian Studies
- Institute for the Study of the Environment, Sustainability, and Energy (Environmental Studies)
- The Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality
- Black Studies (academic minor and certificate)

Leading efforts – University SEM Plan



- New Advising Model
 - Goal is to lower the student/advisor ratio to 300:1
 - Hiring additional college advisors
 - Utilization of Navigate Program
- Impact of Scholarship Funding
 - Angel Touch
 - Dean’s Advisory Council Fund
 - Smerge Endowment

Leading efforts – University SEM Plan



- Examining success rates and equity gaps for large, gateway courses
- Learning Assistants in Physics and Biological Sciences (pilot)
- MATH109/110 co-remediation pilot course



Leading efforts – University SEM Plan



- Classroom/tech enhancements in First Year Composition (Reavis Hall)
- 2 rooms completed
- 4 more planned by fall 2020



Leading efforts – University SEM Plan



Diversity and equity in hiring

- Changed our hiring practices
- Diverse search committees
- Search committee members required to undergo diversity training
- Expanding our advertising of positions
- Bringing more people to campus

External funding supporting SEM efforts



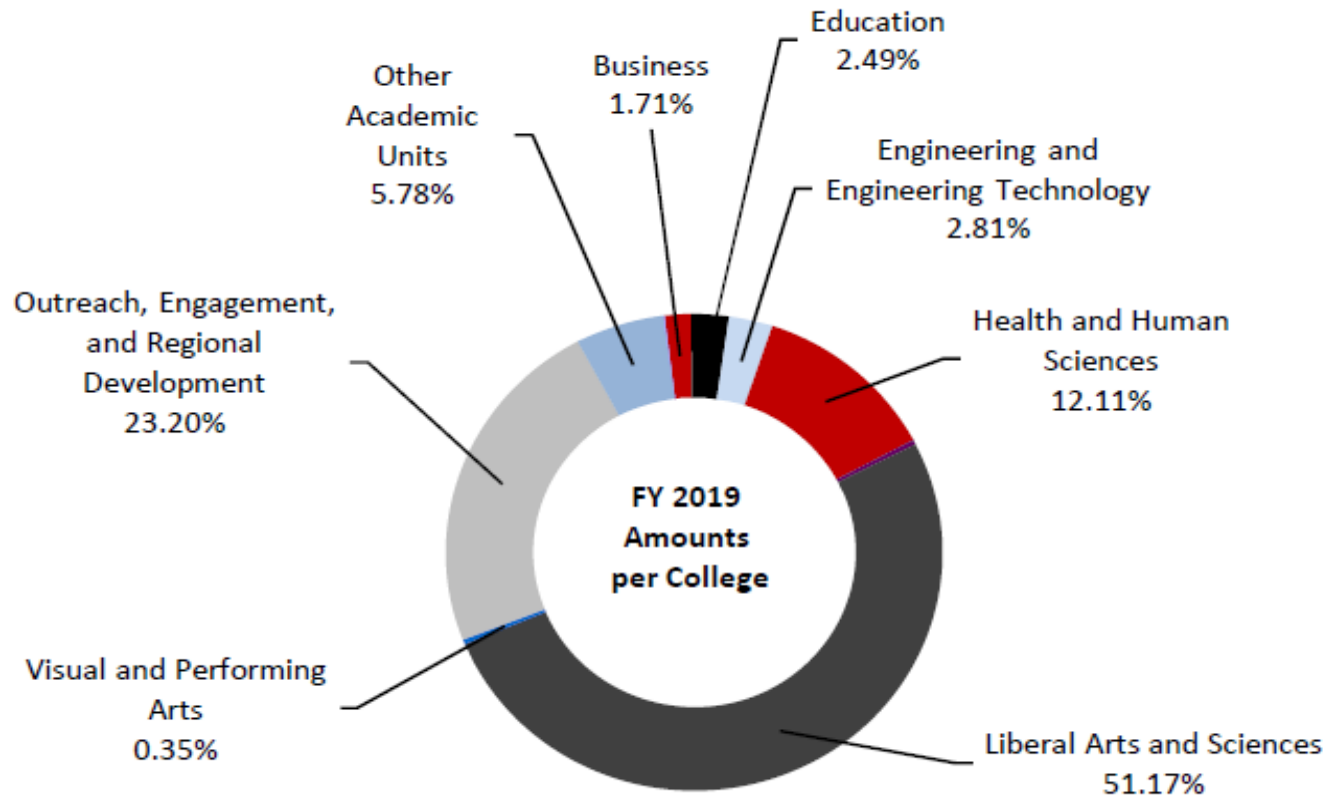
Awarded by NSF

- STEM Scholarships for transfers and upperclassmen (CHEM and GEOL)
- Grant to design an interdisciplinary curriculum for Sustainability (ENVS with COB)

Proposals/Applications

- Heather Bergen-Roller/Michael Eads NSF proposal for science education
- Howard Hughes Medical Institute Driving Change Initiative (letter of intent)
- Steelcase grant (Instructional furniture)

Powering NIU through external funding



Powering NIU through research



Applied research:

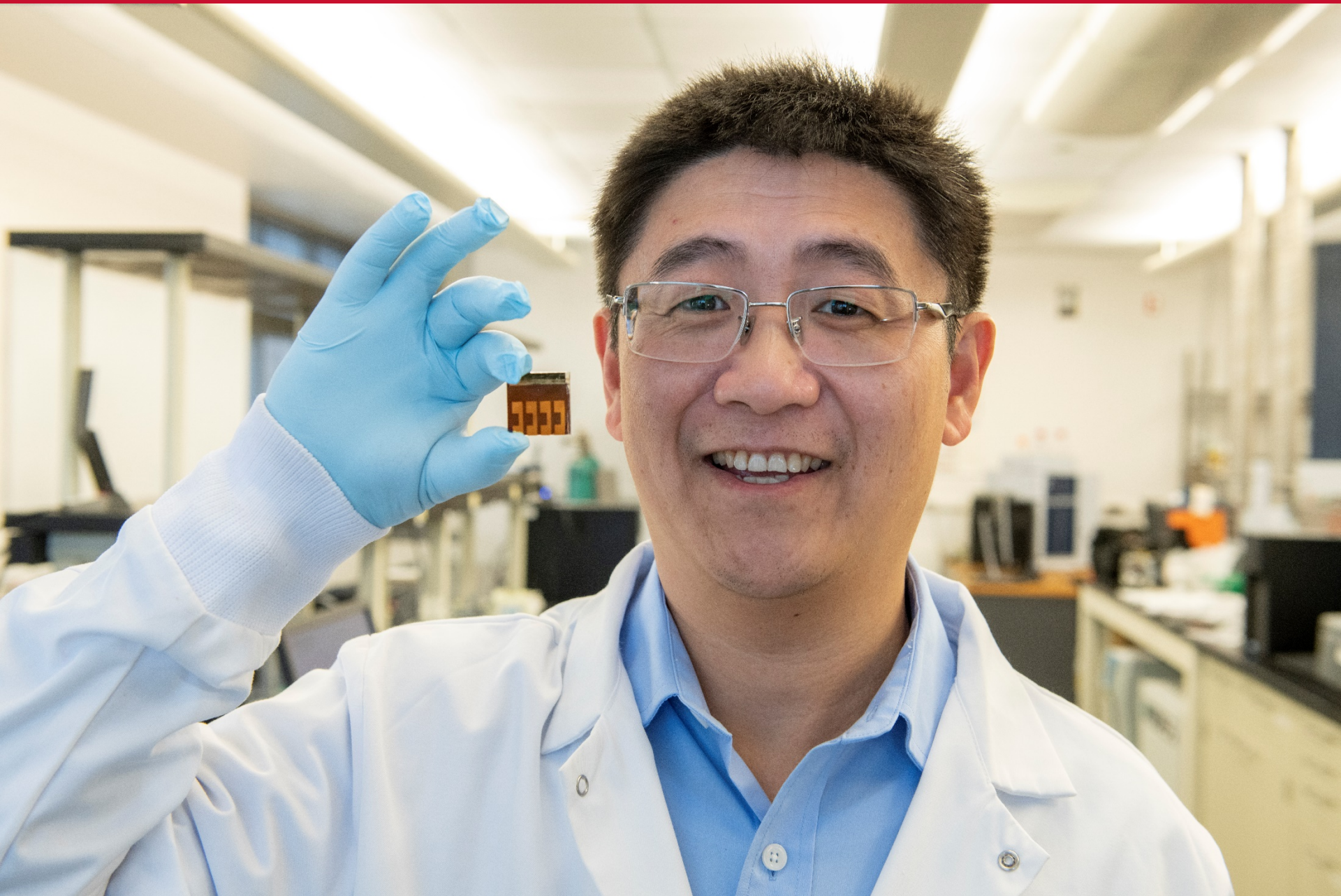
- Chemistry and Biochemistry
- Physics/Northern Illinois Center for Accelerator and Detector Development (NICADD)
- Center for the Study of Family Violence and Sexual Assault

Instructional funding:

- Psychology
- Center for Southeast Asian Studies

Contracts:

- Psychology



Powering NIU through research



NIU research, scholarship and artistry on 7 continents

North America — It's our home turf, and we're all over it: research on politics, business, education, history, health, law, engineering, literacy, environmental restoration, child development, public administration and severe weather — to name just a few areas. Our commitment to northern Illinois, in particular, is evident in collaborations with nearby federal laboratories and the planned campus development of a new \$23 million center for community sustainability targeting food systems, water resources and environmental change.

South America — Our work includes examining educator perspectives in Uruguay; shedding light on Brazilian economic history; examining science, race and empire in colonial Rio de la Plata; assessing the health of saddleback tamarins in Bolivian rainforests; and bringing the music of the steelpan, the national instrument of Trinidad and Tobago, to the world through NIU's acclaimed Steelband.

Europe — Climate-change investigations in the continent's northern region. Experiments at the world's premier particle physics laboratory near Geneva, Switzerland. History studies of emigration, humanitarianism, human rights and art's intersection with science. NIU students and faculty collaborate frequently with European colleagues on a wide array of research.

Africa — Our work includes analyzing peacebuilding efforts, illuminating the history of slavery and emancipation, supporting sustainability efforts for schools in Kenya and Tanzania and expanding our knowledge of Madagascar's modern fauna, including its famous lemurs.

Asia — NIU boasts one of the United States' seven federally funded centers for Southeast Asian Studies, with faculty and students conducting research in fields ranging from history, political science and public health to art, music and cultural anthropology. Additionally, our Center for Burma Studies has a world-leading art collection.

Australia — NIU faculty and students have worked "down under" studying paleo-hydrological systems, delivering hearing services to underserved Aboriginal children, collaborating on development of fingerprint detection technology and studying the ecology of New Zealand islands and the seabirds that call them home.

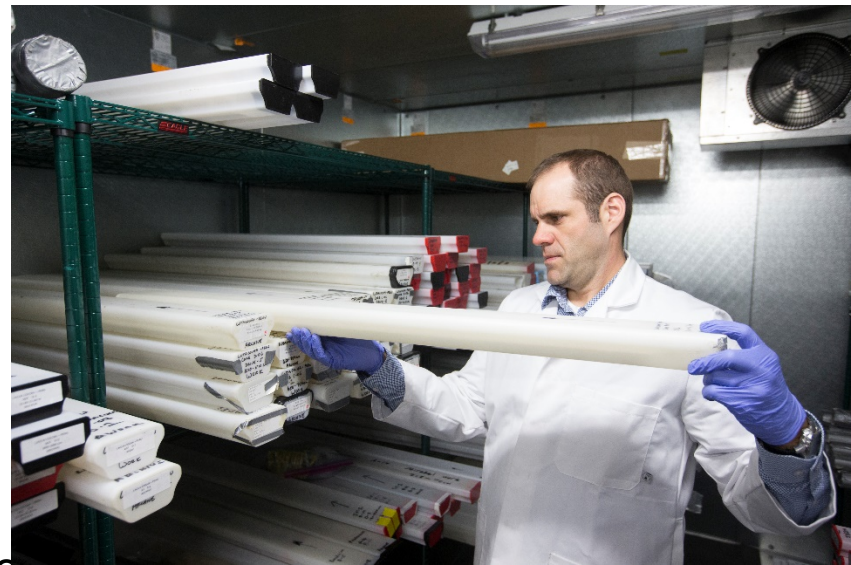
Antarctica — For decades, NIU students and faculty have conducted large-scale research investigations in Antarctica to inform us about ice sheet dynamics and potential future sea-level rise — a vital issue to coastal communities worldwide.

Note: The examples provided here are not intended to be comprehensive of NIU efforts. Island countries such as New Zealand and Trinidad and Tobago were grouped with the nearest continent.

CLAS Research Highlights



- Scholarship with high publishing rates
 - English
 - History
 - Anthropology
 - Physics
- Contracts/service to communities
 - ENVS
 - Nonprofit and NGO Studies
 - Sociology
 - GEOG/GeoVisuaMapping Lab
 - Public Administration
 - Psychology (including PSYC Service Center/Clinic)
 - Center for Family Violence and Sexual Assault



Faculty excellence



- 23 Board of Trustees Professors
- 38 Presidential Teaching Professors
- 90 Presidential Research and Artistry Professors
- 8 Presidential Engagement Professors



Faculty excellence



Fellowships and awards

- NEA
- NEH
- ACLS
- NSF
- NASA
- Fulbright
- Guggenheim
- Department of Energy
- Department of Defense
- Department of Education

Questions



Anthropology • Biological Sciences • Chemistry and Biochemistry • Communication • Computer Science • Economics • English • Environmental Studies • Geographic and Atmospheric Sciences • Geology and Environmental Geosciences • History • Latino and Latin-American Studies • Mathematical Sciences • Nonprofit and NGO Studies • Philosophy • Physics • Political Science • Psychology • Public Administration • Sociology • Southeast Asian Studies • Statistics and Actuarial Science • Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies • World Languages and Cultures