

Highlights of Year 2 Progress

Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Investing in new tools and facilitating collaboration

- Launched on Aug. 1, 2024, the new P3-funded [mobile app for students](#) provides academic information and easy access to personalized resources, programs, and services for University of Iowa students.
- [My Career Path](#), part of the P3 Pathways to Success project, is an online platform that provides students personalized career development recommendations based on their interests, past experiences, and future goals. The tool suggests activities such as meeting with career coaches or building a professional network while helping students track their progress and explore options at their own pace, making the career planning process more accessible and engaging.
- As part of the [Excellence in Teaching and Learning P3 efforts](#), a group of departmental executive officers (DEOs) from multiple colleges created a DEO Action Group to discuss strategies and challenges for implementing and sustaining curricular innovations introduced by the program.

Engaging with students to enhance teaching and learning

- [Students as Partners](#), an internationally recognized program to engage undergraduate students in a collaborative role with instructors, was launched at Iowa last year. With training and support from the Center for Teaching, student partners observe class sessions and provide feedback to the instructor on teaching methods, course enhancements, and the overall student experience. Additional funding from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute has allowed the program to expand in fall 2024.

Innovative Research and Creative Discovery

Establishing new funding sources and driving research innovation

- [External funding](#) to support research, scholarship, and creative activities at Iowa increased 22% over the previous year, boosted by strategic efforts to diversify funding sources and increase industry support.
- The [Research AI Committee](#), supported by P3 funding, aims to use artificial intelligence to advance research activities at Iowa. The committee consists of researchers and subject-matter experts working to develop computational support for AI research, provide training and experiential learning in AI, and support pilot projects for AI-related grant proposals.

Supporting interdisciplinary research

- Interdisciplinary research teams created by the [Jumpstarting Tomorrow P3 project](#) are continuing to accumulate federal funding, with participants earning eight grants totaling \$5.87M as of June 30, 2024.
- Multiple UI faculty members supported by the Early Career Scholars program, part of the P3-funded [Seeding Excellence](#) initiative, achieved significant funding or publishing milestones in 2023-24.

Welcoming and Inclusive Environment

Expanding educational access and creating welcoming spaces

- The [John Deere Scholars Program](#) is a six-year, \$6.6 million initiative to increase access to higher education for students in Davenport. The John Deere Foundation, Davenport Community School District, and the University of Iowa will work together to provide college readiness programming, scholarships, academic support, mentorship, and job placement opportunities for students to ensure their success before, during, and after their time at Iowa.
- The newly renovated [IVETS student lounge and academic hub](#) provides a welcoming one-stop shop for students in the Veteran and Military-Connected community to engage in a wide-range of support services.

Promoting a respectful environment

- The university has launched a [Civic Dialogue Initiative pilot](#), training four residence assistants on how to build civic dialogue skills for first-year undergraduate students. The Obermann Center for Advanced Studies helped develop the pilot program and will assess the results after the fall 2024 semester.
- The university is engaging in a comprehensive campaign to educate the campus community about [free speech and freedom of expression](#). Efforts include distributing the university's political activity and expression guidelines, providing training on protecting free speech on social media channels, hosting sessions on academic freedom and free speech, and promoting the Free Speech at Iowa website.

Holistic Well-Being and Success**Expanding mental health support for employees**

- The [24/7 UI Support and Crisis Line](#) expanded its services to include faculty, staff, and postdocs. This free, confidential service provides immediate access to mental health resources and crisis support. There have been over 2,200 views of the program's webpage since its launch.
- A new [well-being and mental health training module](#) was developed for supervisors, equipping them with skills to recognize and address mental health challenges in the workplace. In 2023, 707 supervisors completed the training.

Strengthening academic leadership through development and mentoring

- This past academic year, we enhanced [training and support for departmental executive officers](#) (DEOs) by increasing leadership development programming, including conversations with campus leaders, additional workshops for DEOs, and a toolkit with on-demand resources and guidance for new DEOs.
- The first year of the [Iowa Academic Leadership Academy](#) provided 20 highly engaged current and future academic leaders from across campus with training and mentorship to expand their leadership skills, as well as the tools, strategies, and knowledge to retain and advance high-potential faculty in their area.

Transformational Societal Impact**Expanding mental health support for all Iowans**

- The Scanlan Center for School Mental Health hosted the second annual [Iowa BEST Summit](#) on Sept. 15 – 16. The summit gathered Pre-K-12 educators, school administrators, school counselors, school social workers, mental health champions, community providers, higher education professionals, and researchers from across the state of Iowa to explore strategies for how to support mental wellness for students.
- The P3-supported [Counseling and Behavioral Health Services \(CBHS\) major](#) will provide undergraduate students with the training, skills, and knowledge for careers in helping professions that can support community mental health needs. The interdisciplinary major, which launched this fall, aims to build upon an area of distinction for the university while addressing workforce needs for mental health professionals.

Enhancing rural health and expanding access to critical care

- UI Sports Medicine professionals provide [hands-on training for sideline care](#) at sporting events in Iowa communities. The annual training is designed to help medical professionals prepare for emergencies on the fields of small schools in rural areas, where a quick response can save lives.
- The UI's new [Implementation Science Center](#) is partnering with a P3-funded lung cancer prevention initiative to complete outreach to Iowa counties with high lung cancer rates to implement cancer screening at community healthcare systems, increase access to radon testing, and review local tobacco retailer marketing.

Enriching lives through arts and cultural engagement

- The Stanley Museum of Art's exhibition [To My Friends at Horn: Keith Haring in Iowa City](#) welcomed over 1,000 visitors during its opening weekend and earned praise from *The New York Times* and *Forbes*.
- Arts as Community Engagement workshops train UI students to fulfill requests for [public art in Iowa](#).