

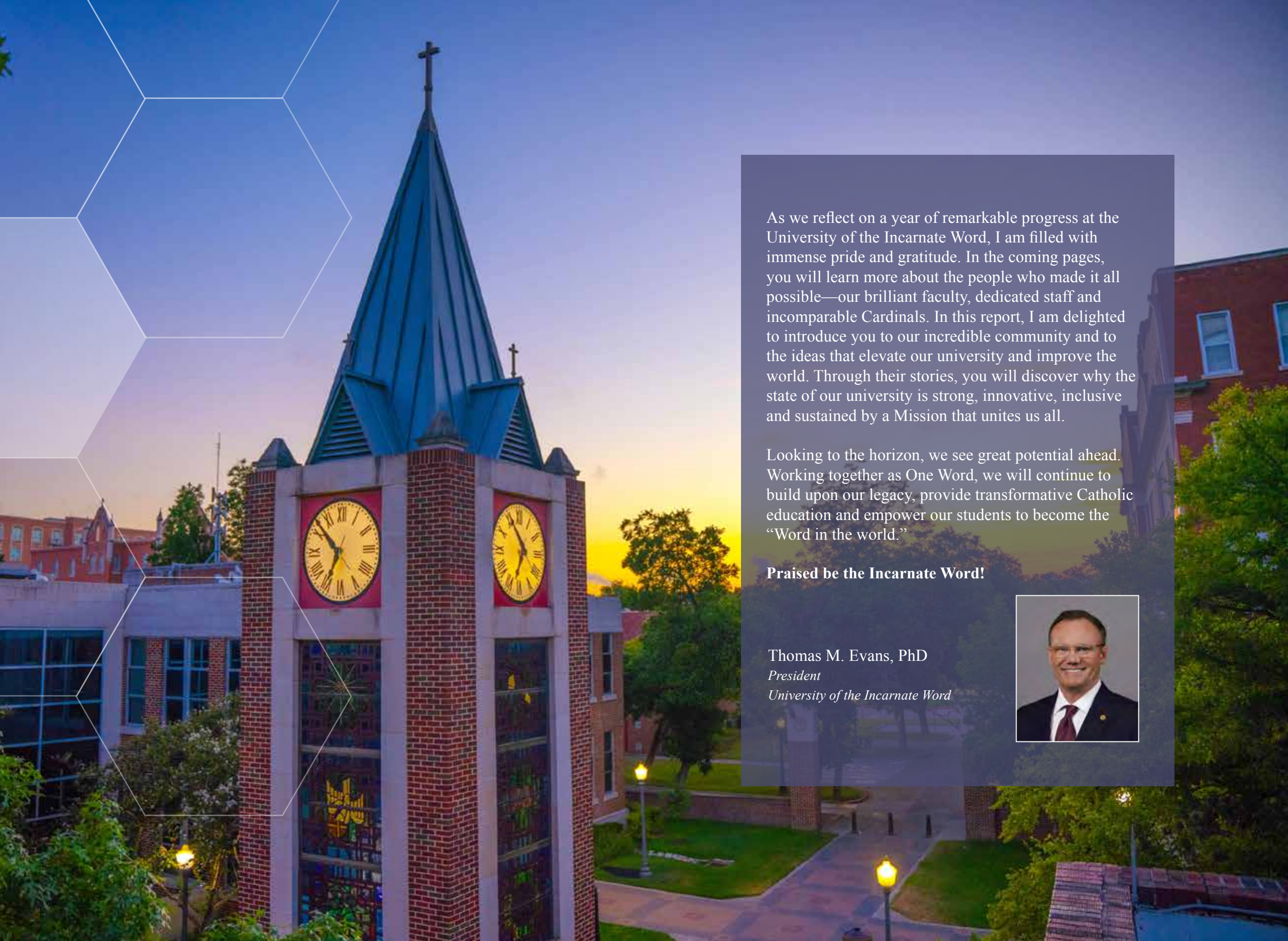


# **THE STATE OF OUR UNIVERSITY**

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**2025 PRESIDENT'S REPORT**





As we reflect on a year of remarkable progress at the University of the Incarnate Word, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude. In the coming pages, you will learn more about the people who made it all possible—our brilliant faculty, dedicated staff and incomparable Cardinals. In this report, I am delighted to introduce you to our incredible community and to the ideas that elevate our university and improve the world. Through their stories, you will discover why the state of our university is strong, innovative, inclusive and sustained by a Mission that unites us all.

Looking to the horizon, we see great potential ahead. Working together as One Word, we will continue to build upon our legacy, provide transformative Catholic education and empower our students to become the “Word in the world.”

**Praised be the Incarnate Word!**

Thomas M. Evans, PhD  
*President*  
*University of the Incarnate Word*





# THE UNIVERSITY OF THE INCARNATE WORD

is a community of faith and education unlike any other. Since our founding in 1881, UIW has been a place of transformative Catholic education. Our Mission calls us to shape concerned and enlightened citizens and to instill in them our core values of faith, education, service, innovation and truth. Today, more than 140 years later, UIW has become a regional powerhouse with a global presence. We are a leading Hispanic-Serving and Minority-Serving Institution, a destination for military-affiliated students, and a hub of health professions education and innovation. We support students along their journeys so they may be academically, spiritually and professionally prepared to lead successful lives of purpose.

## Largest Catholic University in Texas



## No. 1

Catholic university conferring undergraduate degrees to Hispanic students

## Best for Vets

Named the No. 1 university nationwide for veterans by the *Military Times* for two consecutive years



## No. 1

UIW is the top Catholic university in the U.S. awarding Health Professions degrees to Hispanic students



## NCAA D1

UIW Athletics includes 22 NCAA D1 programs and 25 teams total



## An Opportunity University

A new designation by the Carnegie Classifications recognizes UIW as a model for studying how campuses can foster student success

## U.S., Mexico, Europe & the World

UIW encompasses five campuses and one high school in the U.S., two locations and secondary schools in Mexico, one European Study Center in France, and international distance learning through Global Online





A commitment to

# CARDINAL EXCELLENCE

means fostering academic curiosity,  
spiritual formation and the  
potential for greatness.

**T**he UIW way is to make a way for  
Cardinals to fly high. This year, they  
soared.

The 2024-25 academic year welcomed the first cohort of the **López Scholars**, named for a transformative gift from the Hector and Gloria López Foundation, which fully funded 15 first-generation Latino students' university experiences. Scholars earned places on the Deans' List, took part in conferences, volunteered, and otherwise proved what is possible when doors of opportunity are opened.

Cardinal excellence was also recognized by several organizations. Twenty-three **Graphic Design** students were honored with awards and scholarships at San Antonio's 2024 American Advertising Awards. UIW's **Student Nursing Association** was honored for their outstanding contributions to the nursing field and nursing education by the Texas Nursing Students Association.

Centro Universitario Incarnate Word in Mexico City will be well represented by **Animation and Visual Effects** student Carolina Mostalc Montero at this year's Adobe Certified Professional National Championship.

## UIW's Student DO of the Year is also the National Student DO of the Year

Denise Vera Nemeth, a member of the UIW School of Osteopathic Medicine's Class of 2025, was recognized by the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine for her leadership, service, research and commitment to the osteopathic profession. Congratulations, Dr. Vera!



## FACULTY INNOVATION

drives student transformation, creates exciting opportunities and fuels new discoveries that can change the world.

A \$1.25 million grant from the Lilly Endowment's Nurturing Children Through Worship and Prayer Initiative is powering "*Artful Worship: Inspiring Children's Faith through the Catholic Imagination*." Led by Dr. LuElla D'Amico, associate professor of English, and Dr. Sandra Guzman-Foster, director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, the innovative creative arts program engages students enrolled in classes centered on the Catholic imagination to lead ministry arts programming in area parishes and parochial schools.

Triple-negative breast cancer has a foe in Dr. Charles Fermaintt, assistant professor of Biochemistry. A \$500,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health supports his **research on this aggressive form of breast cancer**. The work focuses on identifying compounds from botanical sources with targeted, treatment-like features. It also creates opportunities for students to fight alongside him as part of his research team.

The UIW School of Osteopathic Medicine, in partnership with the school's chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society, hosted its first **Humanities in Healthcare Symposium** to offer future physicians a lens into the impacts of compassionate, patient-centered care. The inaugural event featured presentations by experts and student doctors who shared their work on professionalism, ethics, spirituality and humanism in healthcare.

**U**IW faculty members are "Enhancing Reading Comprehension in the Era of AI." This multi-tiered Quality Enhancement Plan, or QEP, will incorporate campus-wide initiatives, specialized faculty and peer support, and individualized student support via an AI-supported Reading, Writing and Learning Center. Opening in fall, the center will feature UIW's Academic Reading Assistance System (AI-ARAS), currently being developed by Dr. Chunling Niu, assistant professor in the

Dreeben School of Education.

AI is also at the forefront of discourse at Centro Universitario Incarnate Word (CIW) in Mexico City. Among CIW's many endeavors was an engaging conference on AI and data and a lecture by Monsignor Héctor Mario Pérez Villarreal on "Antiqua et Nova," the Vatican's note on the relationship between AI and human intelligence.

Illustration by Isabelle Shipley,  
BA '25, Graphic Design





Our commitment to  
**MILITARY AND VETERAN STUDENTS**  
and their families comes to life in many ways.

**A** transformative experience begins with top-tier **academic and student support**. Courses are offered in formats that fit military and veteran needs best via the School of Professional Studies. It also includes innovative programming, such as educational experiences for U.S. Army Chaplains.

UIW's Military and Veterans Center creates a **culture of support** through programming that celebrates military and veteran-students' contributions, honors their experiences, supports their spiritual journeys, and helps them establish strong post-graduation career paths.

**Thought leadership and formation** are explored through initiatives such as the inaugural Moral Leadership Symposium held by UIW's Office of Mission and Ministry and the Office of the U.S. Army Chief of Chaplains.



**#1**  
**Catholic University**  
**in Best Online**  
**Bachelor's Programs**  
**for Veterans**  
**Category**

*U.S. News & World Report*

**#1**  
**Best for**  
**Vets:**  
**Colleges**

*Military Times*



**20%**

of U.S.-based UIW  
students are  
military-affiliated



A woman in a red top and blue jeans is walking on a paved path that curves through a green lawn. Large, leafy trees are in the background under a clear blue sky. White geometric lines, resembling a honeycomb pattern, are overlaid on the image.

Contributing to the

## **CARE FOR CREATION**

is a critical part of university life. Through service and sustainability efforts, we are working to answer the call of our Mission.

### **Care for our Community**

In May 2025, UIW's graduating classes collectively contributed a remarkable 99,022 hours of community service, resulting in an economic impact of \$3,316,246 from volunteer hours.

### **Care for our Environment**

Sustainability is a value and a daily practice. Among the year's accomplishments were the receipt of a STARS Silver rating from the Association for Advancement for Sustainability in Higher Education, LEED Silver Certification for Dubuis Hall, and new grant from the City of San Antonio for Project EL JARDIN, UIW's community gardening and composting initiative.

### **Care for the World**

Global service opportunities are many and include medical Mission trips to Mexico, Peru, Panama, Guatemala and the Philippines, as well as youth education efforts in Texas' Rio Grande Valley, to name a few. Students of Universidad Incarnate Word Campus Bajío in Guanajuato, Mexico offered community care and led faith reflections on a Mission trip to Michoacán.



Cardinals are

# CHAMPIONS IN THE CLASSROOM, IN THE COMMUNITY AND IN COMPETITION.

Across 22 NCAA D1 programs (25 teams total!) it was a year of big wins, viral moments and unforgettable opportunities.

UIW Football wins  
4th Southland  
Conference  
Championship



Marloes Steenbeek is the  
USA Artistic Swimming's  
2025 Collegiate Solo  
National Champion



Victoria Altamirano  
is named SLC Player  
of the Year and Hitter  
of the Year



Jalen Walthall's  
"The Walt" starts  
viral headstand  
trend in NFL



Volleyball secures its  
most wins and lowest RPI  
in program history



Former Cardinal  
Cam Ward  
becomes the NFL's  
#1 draft pick



Men's Cross  
Country takes  
home Southland  
Conference  
Championship

UIW co-hosts  
the NCAA  
Men's Final Four



Across UIW, we are

## MAKING MORE POSSIBLE

for our Cardinals every day. Whether through exciting new facilities or scholarship opportunities, friends and benefactors are opening doors of possibility.

Exciting progress is underway at the largest renovation project in university history. Founders Hall is a nine-story, 380,000-square foot building on 10 acres that will soon house programs from the School of Media and Design, the School of Mathematics, Science and Engineering, and the Liza and Jack Lewis Center of the Americas. **Transformative gifts and pledges toward Founders Hall** include \$5 million from the Elma Dill Russell Spencer Foundation managed by the family of Jack Lewis III, former board chair. Current Trustee and CEO of Joeris General Contractors, Gary Joeris, supported with a \$500,000 gift toward renovation. And, Founders Hall's Cheever Auditorium is named in honor of the family of Jane Cheever Powell in gratitude for her gift of \$1.25 million.



The **Stonegate Pharmacy Sterile Compounding Lab** is the newest renovated space at the Feik School of Pharmacy thanks to a leadership gift from Stonegate Pharmacy. The lab now houses new state-of-the-art equipment and tools to support training.



A new \$700,000 **endowed scholarship** was also established this year benefiting future undergraduate students of the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences who demonstrate financial need.



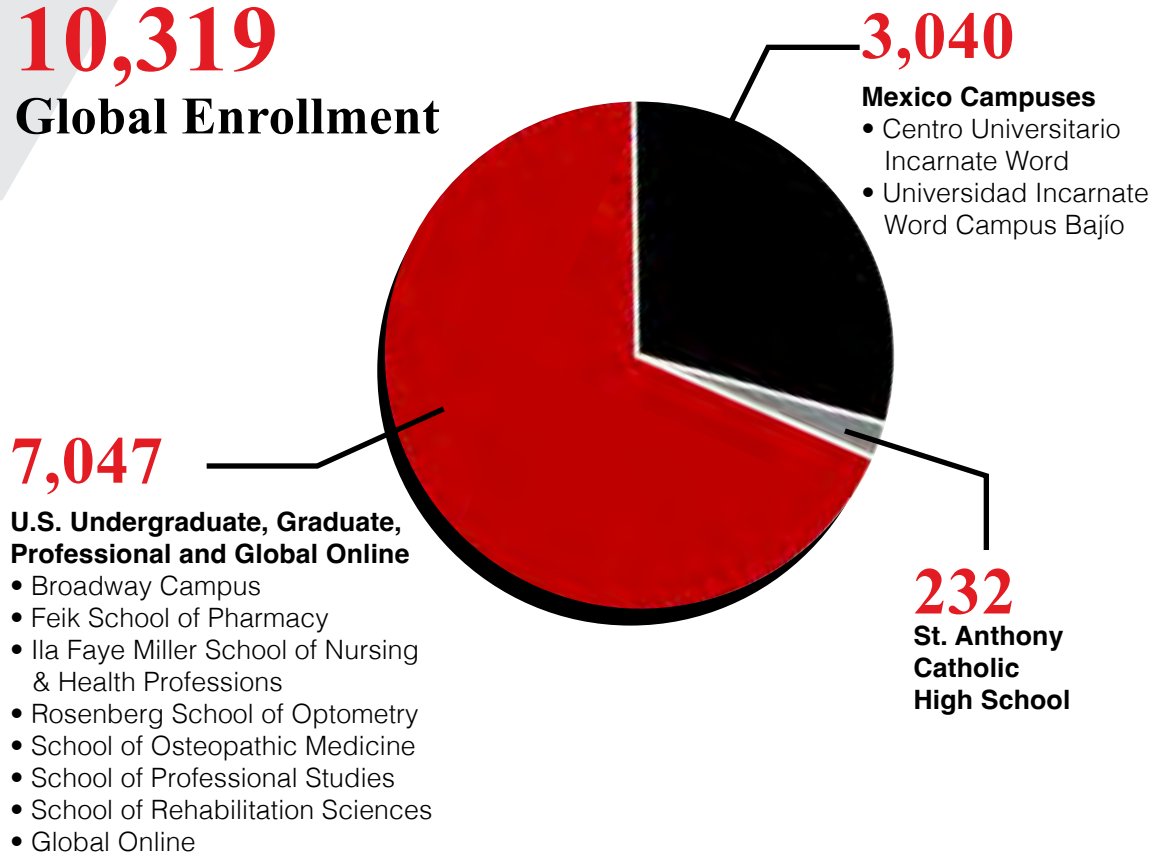
The **Tartan Society**, the exclusive philanthropic giving society dedicated to UIW Athletics, nearly doubled its membership this year.



## BY THE NUMBERS

The UIW system is complex, international and diverse. Collectively, our many campuses and programs create a vibrant community united in Mission.

**10,319**  
Global Enrollment



## WHO ARE OUR CARDINALS?

In the U.S., the Cardinal community is diverse and dynamic.

**55%**

Hispanic/Latino

**45%**

Pell Grant recipients among undergraduates

**26%**

First-Generation







**UNIVERSITY OF THE  
INCARNATE WORD**

[uiw.edu](http://uiw.edu)

**FEIK SCHOOL OF  
PHARMACY**

[pharmacy.uiw.edu](http://pharmacy.uiw.edu)

**ROSENBERG SCHOOL  
OF OPTOMETRY**

[optometry.uiw.edu](http://optometry.uiw.edu)

**SCHOOL OF  
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE**

[osteopathic-medicine.uiw.edu](http://osteopathic-medicine.uiw.edu)

**SCHOOL OF  
REHABILITATION SCIENCES**

[rehab-sciences.uiw.edu](http://rehab-sciences.uiw.edu)

**SCHOOL OF  
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES**

[sps.uiw.edu](http://sps.uiw.edu)

**UNIVERSIDAD INCARNATE  
WORD CAMPUS BAJIO**

[uiwbajio.mx](http://uiwbajio.mx)

**CENTRO UNIVERSITARIO  
INCARNATE WORD**

[ciw.edu.mx](http://ciw.edu.mx)

**UIW-STRASBOURG**

[uiw.edu/esc](http://uiw.edu/esc)

**UIW GLOBAL ONLINE**

[global.uiw.edu](http://global.uiw.edu)