

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2017-2018 ACADEMIC YEAR



Monsignor Stuart Swetland

It is hard to believe that the College is in the midst of our 69th year, and we are already recruiting students for our 70th anniversary year in 2019-2020. I am delighted to share highlights of our mission from the last academic year. And we are always honored to pay tribute to the many supporters that made our work possible. We are so grateful for all of you!

Last year, much was accomplished to ensure Donnelly's mission can continue to flourish for the next 70 years. Pope Francis validates our mission when he challenges us all to serve those on the margins of our church and society. Donnelly has always done just that. We continue to provide college access to predominantly low-income students, thereby impacting the overall health of our economic, civic and spiritual communities. At a time when public and private – and especially Catholic – colleges are becoming more economically exclusive, the transformational power of Donnelly's mission is needed more than ever.

This May, we celebrated one of the largest graduating classes in our history with 97 graduates, 72% of whom were first-generation college graduates. Donnelly's legacy of inclusivity continues and is evident among our graduates and student body. I am proud that Donnelly has been recognized for the second straight year as the "Most Diverse College in the Midwest" by *U.S. News & World Report*. We know our inclusivity continues to be a reason students attend and succeed here.

Considerable preparation last year also made possible an encouraging re-accreditation visit in September 2018 by the Higher Learning Commission. While we await their final report next spring, we remain very grateful for the tremendous effort from staff and faculty, our board and friends of the college who took time to submit comments about Donnelly.

Donnelly's Board of Directors also adopted a new strategic plan to support the College's vision to "advance the common good by being the most transformative and accessible Catholic College in the U.S." Significant progress was made in achieving strategic goals, especially related to the Transformations Campaign and Master Plan, increasing student learning outcomes, expanding our academic programs and sustaining our mission.

So much was accomplished, but I must note a few highlights. Donnelly...

- exceeded the 2018 Top Performing U.S. Colleges in all five areas of the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (see page 20)
- welcomed our inaugural class of Associate Degree in Nursing students in January
- received a Dept. of Education grant to strengthen our student success in STEM courses
- implemented new software to better serve and assess our students
- completed our Master Plan's Phase II construction and fundraising
- received the largest gifts in Donnelly's history to support Phase III of our campus transformation.

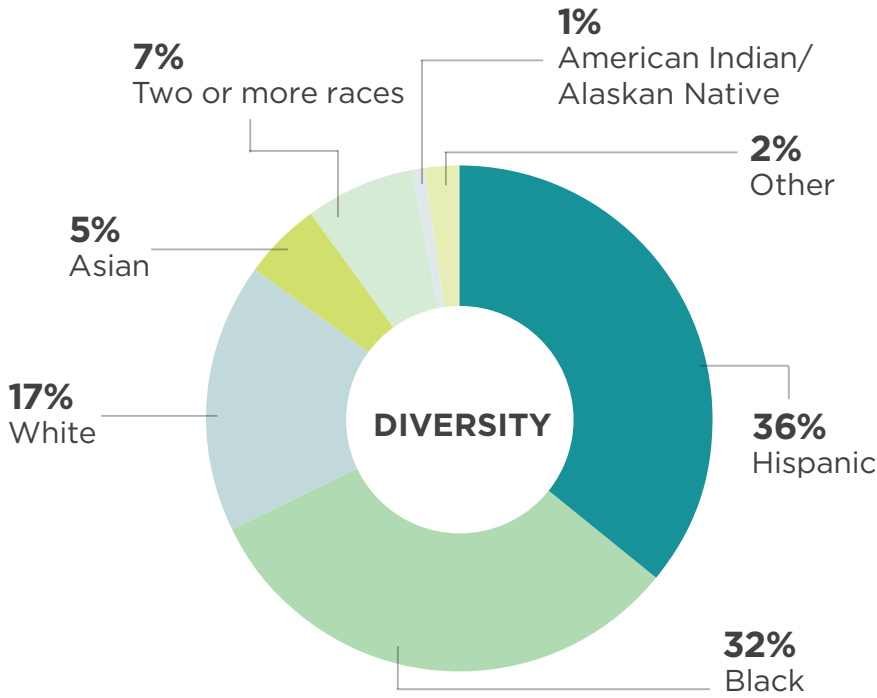
If you have not made it to campus in a while, we invite you to stop by and see our progress. Our Donnelly family – alumni, donors, volunteers, faculty and staff – are partners in our mission. We pray we can again count on your support in the coming year to help us continue to lay a solid foundation for Donnelly's future.

May God bless you in 2019!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Msgr. Stuart W. Swetland". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

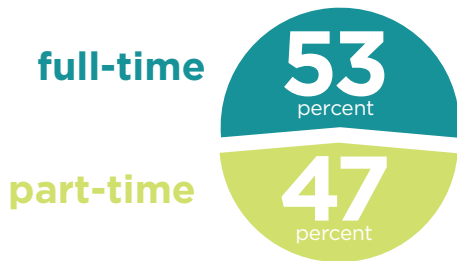
Monsignor Stuart Swetland
President

OUR STUDENTS



26
average age

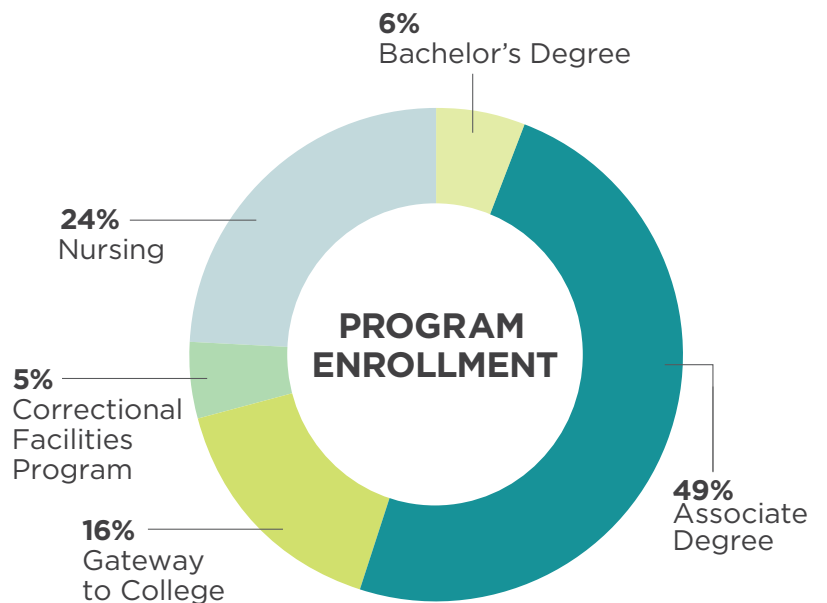
497 degree- and certificate-seeking students



first generation
college students

78%

Almost twice as high as other four-year institutions nationally



DIVERSE

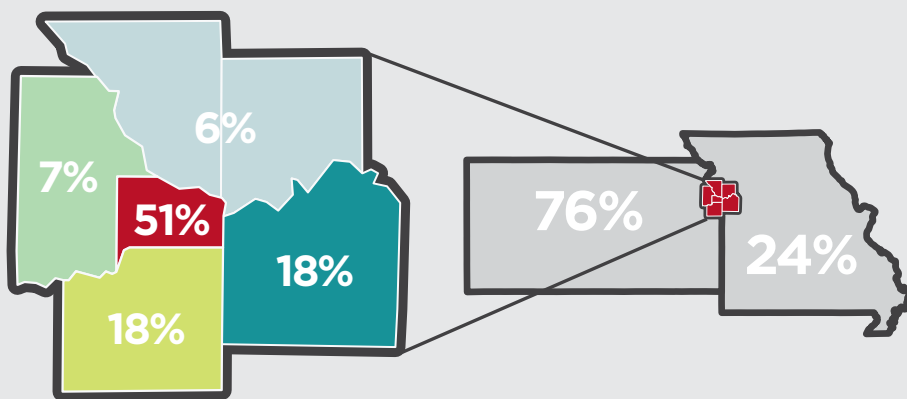


GLOBAL

WHERE OUR STUDENTS ARE FROM



countries of birth are represented by Donnelly's student body



43



metro high schools represented by Donnelly's student body

+ 198 current high school students received credit through College Credit Now

OPPORTUNITY

DONNELLY OUTPERFORMS PEERS ON STUDENT ENGAGEMENT MEASURES

This figure represents key findings in the 2018 Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE). Benchmarks include:

Active and Collaborative Learning

Through collaboration students develop valuable skills that help them to solve problems or master challenging content.

Student Effort

Students' own behaviors contribute significantly to their learning and their attainment of their goals.

Academic Challenge

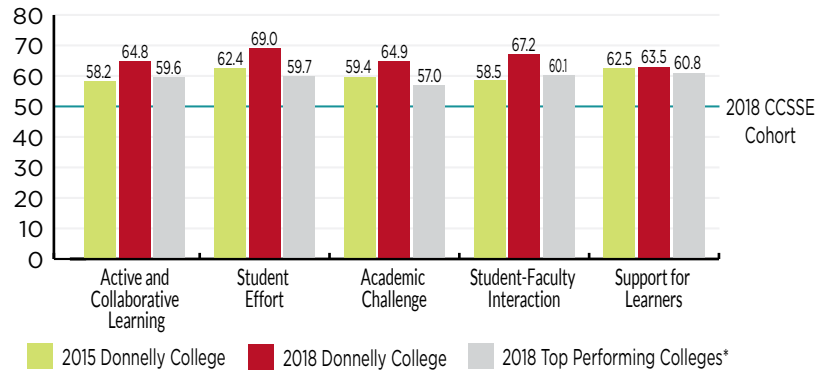
Addresses the amount of assigned work, complexity of cognitive tasks and the rigor of examinations.

Student-Faculty Interaction

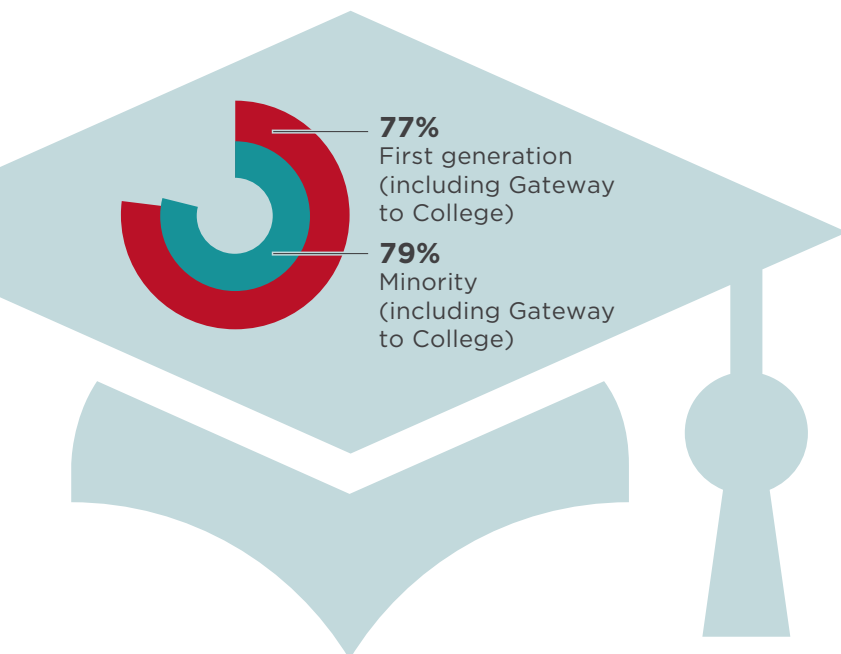
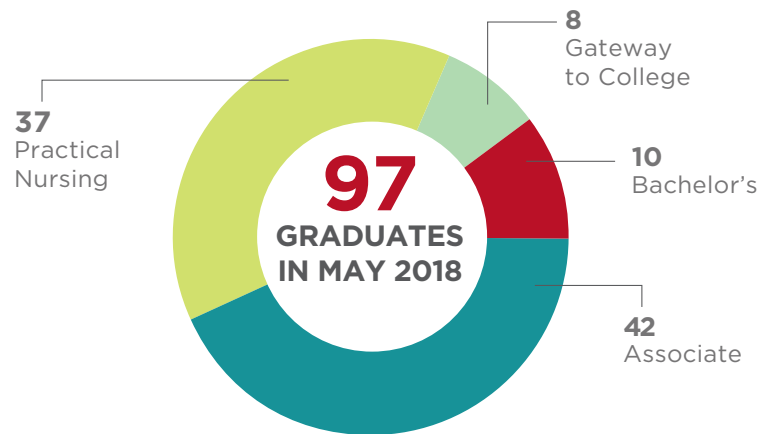
Contact between students and faculty help students to learn effectively and persist.

Support for Learners

Students perform better at colleges that provide support services and demonstrate commitment to their success.



On average,
Donnelly's classes have
11 STUDENTS



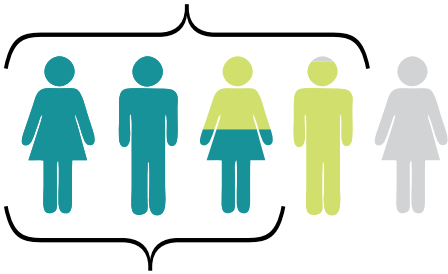
17%

of college grads started in English for Academic Purposes, Conditional Admission, Gateway to College or Success First



SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIALS

78%
OF STUDENTS RECEIVE
SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANT AID



\$1,580,475
total scholarships and
institutionally-based aid

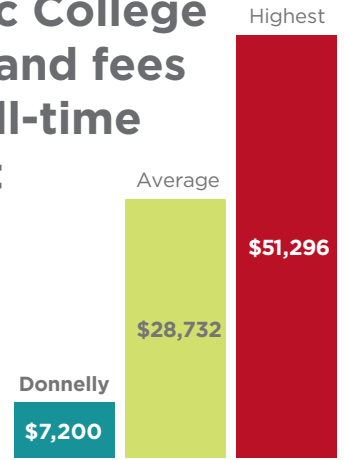
\$4,863
average award

\$830,853
total Pell Grants distributed

\$3,566
average award

56% OF STUDENTS RECEIVE
PELL GRANT ASSISTANCE

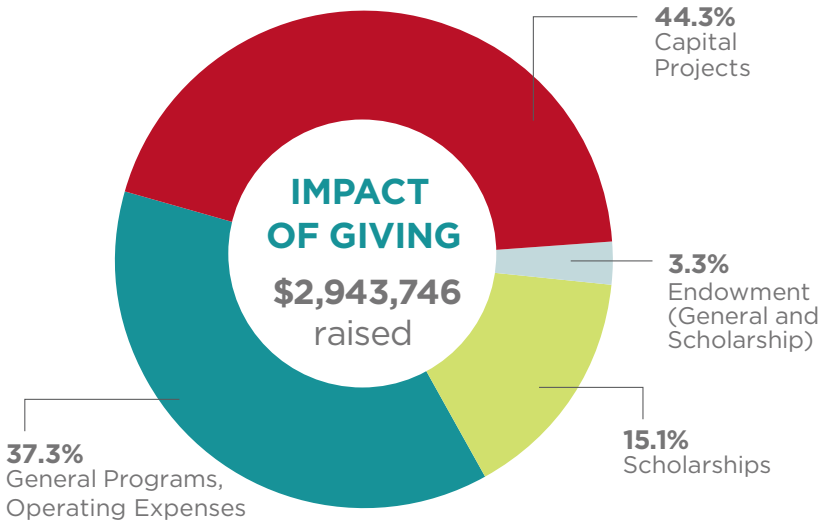
U.S. average Catholic College tuition and fees for a full-time student



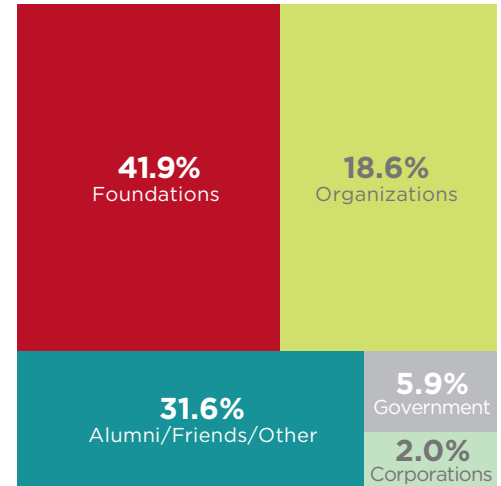
Sources: National Center for Education Statistics & Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities

IMPACT OF GIVING

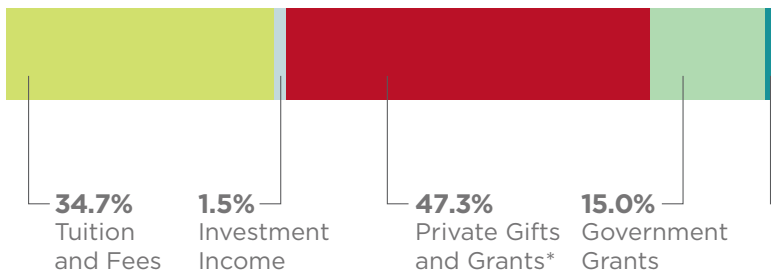
\$2,943,746
raised



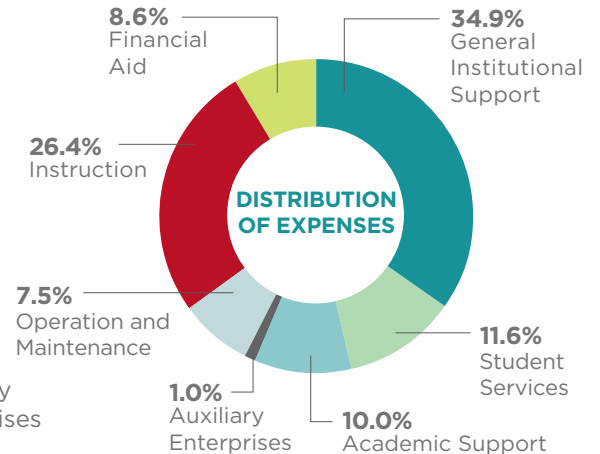
SOURCES OF GIFTS



SOURCES OF OPERATING REVENUE



DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENSES



*Includes gifts and grants used for Phase II/Marian Hall renovations and equipment

UCCCESS