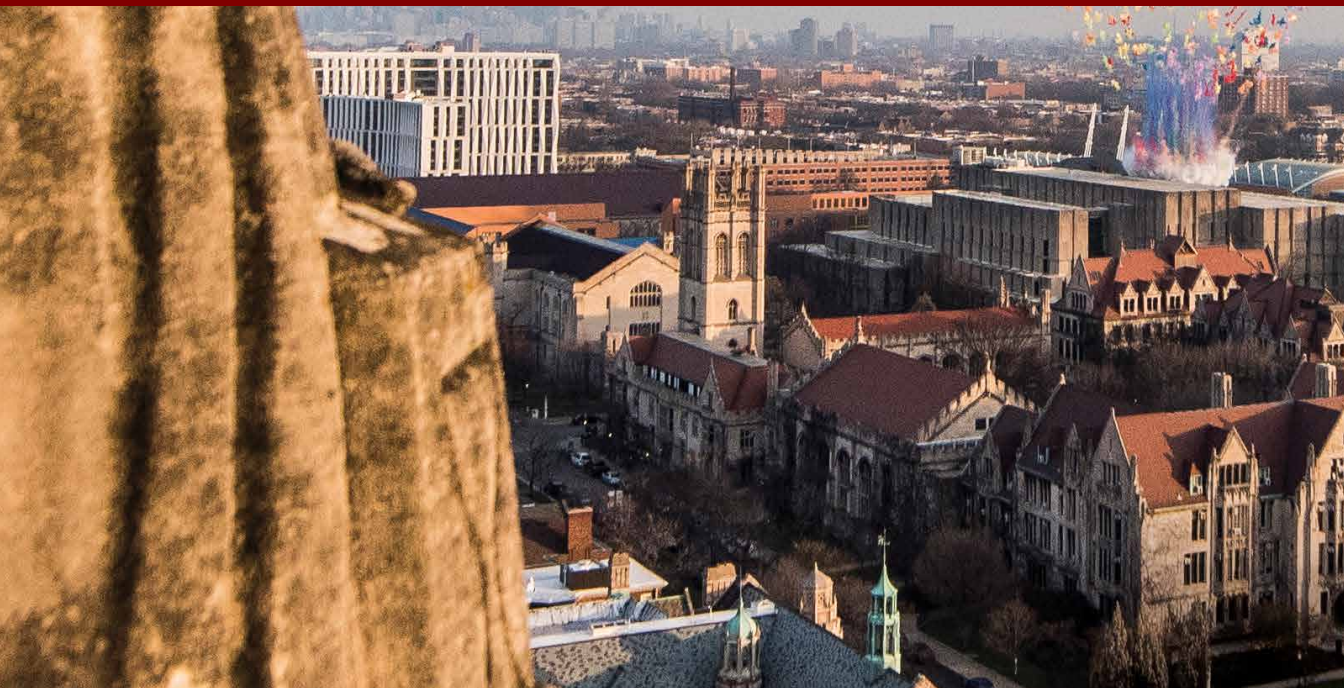


Telling the story of the University of Chicago

A GUIDE





Our story.

The story of the University of Chicago is one of ideas and inquiry, of ceaseless questioning and a distinct community. It is a story we are eager to share.

Since its founding in 1890, the University of Chicago has broken with tradition and forged new paths that have led to new schools of thought, to fundamental paradigm shifts, to an academic experience that is transformative for students and scholars, and to breakthroughs and initiatives that are addressing the world's most pressing issues.

But how do you tell that story? How do you encapsulate the hundreds, potentially thousands, of individual stories and experiences that together define the University, its accomplishments, and what lies ahead?

This booklet helps to do just that. It distills stories and achievements into a collective explanation for those new to the University. It's a guide to help you tell the story of the University of Chicago.

Cai Guo-Qiang (b. 1957, Quanzhou, China; Lives in New York). *Color Mushroom Cloud* 2017. Realized above the former CP-1 site, University of Chicago, in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the first controlled, self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction, December 2, 3:25 pm. Color comets and PixelBurst™ Aerial shells. 75 meters tall. Commissioned by UChicago Arts and the Smart Museum of Art [Ephemeral]. Photo by Jean Lachat, courtesy Cai Studio.

It all begins with rigorous inquiry.

Rigorous inquiry permeates every aspect of academic life at the University of Chicago. It creates a community that is courageous, a place of determined questioning, ceaseless learning, and open discourse. Here ideas are judged on their merit and not their source, assumptions are continually challenged—and breakthroughs are expected.

Rigorous inquiry fuels discovery, impact, and new lines of questioning. It results in pioneering research and paradigm shifts, and propels understanding—across the sciences, medicine, and engineering; across the landscape of our fundamental social structures in the fields of social sciences, economics, policy, law, and business; and across history, culture, the arts, and humanistic inquiry.

Rigorous inquiry is both an intellectual mindset and an academic practice. It defines the University's culture and lays the foundation—for scholars and students alike—to bring forth ideas that define fields and change the world.

SHAPING AND DEFINING FIELDS



TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCES



CONFRONTING THE MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEMS OF OUR TIMES



What does scholarship mean at UChicago?

SHAPING AND DEFINING FIELDS

When the quest for knowledge meets rigorous investigation, it opens the door to new ways of thinking and groundbreaking discoveries. This is what fuels scholars at the University of Chicago to continually push boundaries and define new fields of study.

From the Chicago School of Economics and the invention of carbon-14 dating to understanding the history of human civilizations since ancient Mesopotamia, the University continues to lead, shape, and redefine the way in which we study, understand, and interact with the world around us.

How has this been accomplished? It begins with a refusal to accept easy solutions or cling to conventional wisdom.

Scholars here are driven by intellectual debate, a continual search for new evidence, and unflinching questions from peers with diverse viewpoints and backgrounds.

University of Chicago scholars are international leaders in their fields. Their work is both enduring and ever-evolving—as it deepens human knowledge and enriches society.

A lightweight, portable detector to observe the interactions of ghostly particles called neutrinos built by a team of University of Chicago physicists led by Prof. Juan Collar. Photo by Jean Lachat.



Field-defining research at UChicago.



“Chicago Schools” in such fields as economics, astrophysics, sociology, mathematical analysis, and literary criticism capture the breadth of field-defining scholarship at UChicago.

Janet Davison Rowley was first to show a conclusive link between certain genetic abnormalities and certain cancers, laying the foundation for modern cancer molecular genetics and targeted therapy for oncology.

Enrico Fermi and a team of scientists at UChicago changed the world by conducting the first controlled, self sustaining nuclear chain reaction, ushering in the Atomic Age.



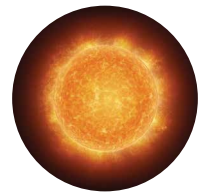
Over a dozen people associated with the University have received the nation’s highest civilian award: the Presidential Medal of Freedom.



More than 90 scholars associated with the University of Chicago have received Nobel Prizes.

Eugene Parker pioneered our understanding of the sun by proposing the concept of solar wind, becoming the first living namesake of a NASA mission.

John Hope Franklin redefined the field of US history by bringing the African American experience into the story to tell the nation’s history much more fully.



UChicago is where field-defining concepts such as solar wind and human capital were pioneered.



Breakthroughs by UChicago scientists include carbon-14 dating, which has had major impacts on archaeology and paleontology; and the Fujita scale, which measures the strength of tornadoes.

Martha C. Nussbaum is shaping public understanding on subjects ranging from moral and political theory to feminism to ancient Greek and Roman philosophy to the nature of the emotions to animal rights.

Nobel laureate **Richard Thaler** is one of the founders of behavioral economics, a pioneering field that incorporates psychological assumptions into analyses of economic decision making.



Faculty research has revolutionized understanding of contemporary Chinese art and the stock market, global extinctions and how loneliness affects health.

Augusta Read Thomas is expanding the frontiers of musical composition as one of the world’s most accomplished and original contemporary composers and a leading convener in her field.



What makes a UChicago education distinctive?

TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCES

At the University of Chicago, students are taught how to think, not what to think. Students can debate a Nobel laureate on financial markets one day and unearth fossils with a world-renowned paleontologist the next.

A University of Chicago education is transformative. Students do more than merely acquire knowledge; they develop the critical skills necessary to examine, understand, and challenge ideas and assumptions—including their own. It's a proficiency they develop in the classroom and will use throughout their careers and their lives. Students here are part of an academic community that isn't constrained by traditional disciplines and that looks across fields for new insights, answers, and lines of inquiry.

Central to the experience is the principle of free expression and an unfettered exchange of ideas. Students gain such abilities as embracing complexity, grappling with unintended outcomes, and finely honing a theory or argument. This is only possible in an environment where different values, experiences, and perspectives are met with free and open discourse.

It's one of the many reasons why University of Chicago graduates leave here ready to lead, create, and impact their world.

Assistant conservator Stephanie Black (left) and conservation intern Mackenzie Fairchild clean a 2,500-year-old Persepolis relief in preparation for exhibition at the Oriental Institute. Photo by John Zich.

How a UChicago education is transformative.



Many undergraduates pursue faculty mentored and independent research, and nearly half study abroad through UChicago's distinct approach that combines cultural immersion and explorations in a variety of fields taught by University faculty.



The Core curriculum provides students in the undergraduate College with a challenging, common academic foundation, teaching them how to think and approach problems from multiple disciplinary perspectives and through multiple modes of inquiry.

The University of Chicago is committed to free, robust, and uninhibited debate and deliberation. Free expression is articulated in the Chicago Principles, which dozens of colleges and universities have adopted.

The University's Hyde Park campus is part of Chicago, a global city that is home to hundreds of theaters, museums, art galleries, and parks, including more than 18 miles of trails along Lake Michigan.



The University extends beyond Chicago to hundreds of programs and initiatives on all seven continents.

University of Chicago alumni go on to become Nobel laureates, CEOs, university presidents, literary giants, and government leaders. They include:

Edwin Hubble, SB 1910, PhD 1917

Astronomer and Namesake of NASA Space Telescope

Katharine Graham, AB'38

Publisher of the *Washington Post*

John Paul Stevens, AB'41

Supreme Court Justice

Chen Ning Yang, PhD'48

Physicist and Nobel Laureate

Tsung-Dao Lee, PhD'50

Physicist and Nobel Laureate

Susan Sontag, AB'51

Author, Activist, and Social Critic

Philip Glass, AB'56

Composer

Eugene F. Fama, MBA'63, PhD'64

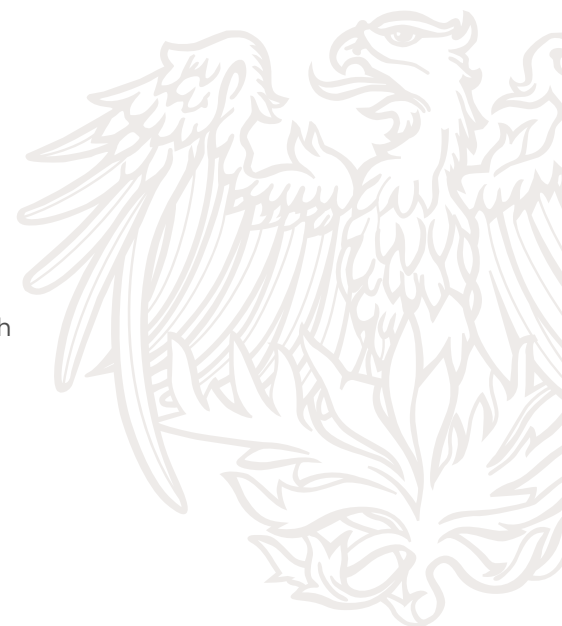
Nobel Laureate and Professor at Chicago Booth

Tyehimba Jess, AB'91

Poet and Pulitzer Prize Winner

Vasant Narasimhan, AB'98

Chief Executive Officer, Novartis



How is UChicago impacting the world?

CONFRONTING THE MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEMS OF OUR TIMES

The University of Chicago is actively working to solve pressing societal challenges, from fighting poverty and inequality to combating climate change to improving health and education, to name just a few.

This work happens through research, education, and civic engagement. It happens on campus, across the nation, and around the world. And it happens in a distinctly UChicago way.

Faculty, students, and the University place deep analysis and robust evidence at the heart of any solution, while stressing the importance of lasting collaborations with communities, nonprofits, and civic institutions.

In this way, the University of Chicago is improving lives through an impact that will be felt by people in Chicago and around the world, now and for generations to come.

Scientists extracted samples of the Taylor Glacier in Antarctica to examine what past climate change looked like.
Photo by Sarah Arons.



How UChicago is confronting the most important problems of our times.



Using a quantum network to test virtually unhackable communications, helping people who have been paralyzed regain a sense of touch through robotics, and developing new insights through data to improve urban life.

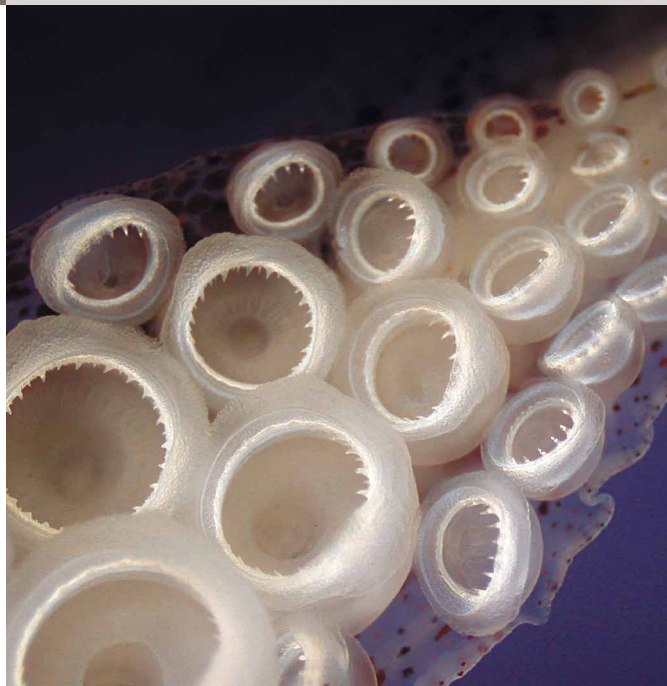


Partnering with policymakers and practitioners to help design and test the most promising ways to reduce crime at scale.

Impacting lives through transplantation, from the first living-donor liver transplant in the 1980s to historic back-to-back triple-organ transplants at UChicago Medicine in 2018.

The research of UChicago economists shows the relationship between early childhood education and economic inequality, produces critical estimates of the local and global impacts of climate change, and uses machine learning to understand complex problems in human behavior, social policy, and medicine.

Helping to design a drug that is extending the lives of HIV patients, surveying the skies for evidence of dark energy, and unraveling the octopus genome are all breakthroughs associated with UChicago-affiliated laboratories—Argonne National Laboratory, Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, and the Marine Biological Laboratory.



More than 6,000 elementary and high schools nationwide use diagnostic tools and support services developed at UChicago to improve school and student outcomes.



A story that's constantly being rewritten.

What makes the University of Chicago a leader is that its story is continually advancing. New discoveries are made, while the size and scope of past breakthroughs are only now being understood. The impact of the University continues to be realized in new ways here and around the world.

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