

ANNUAL REPORT

AY 25-26

The College of Cooperative Education and Professional Studies (CCPS) serves as UC's centralized hub for experiential learning, career education, and professional development. We deliver relevant, high-impact learning opportunities for current students and continuing learners and serve as the region's premier workforce partner.

Table Of Contents

Message from the dean	003	Our impact in stories	026
Our team	004	Looking ahead	033
Our impact in data	007		

AY25-26 in review

The stories behind the data

In the following pages, you will see key data points indicative of the scope and scale of the College of Cooperative Education and Professional Studies' work. While the numbers point to growth and impact, they are narrow representations of a much richer, more complex story.

It's the story of the anxious first-year student who gained clarity, purpose and an understanding of possible career paths through professional development courses.

It's the story of the uncertain third-year student who decided their career direction thanks to a new application of their discipline learned while on co-op.

It's the story of the mid-career professional who always regretted not finishing college, choosing to enroll in the BPS and graduating in four semesters because she earned college credits for her professional work experience.

It's the story of the alum who remembers his time at UC fondly, realizing he is a Bearcat for Life as he returns to UC for continued professional development and lifelong learning.

It's about the retiree who has more to contribute to the world, volunteering to teach an Osher Lifelong Learning course and finding community in the process.

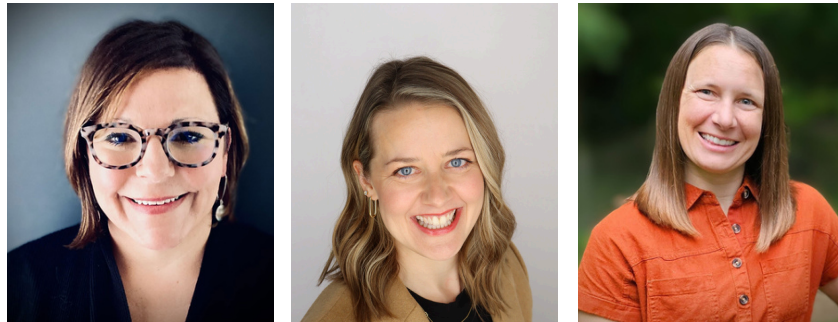
The following pages are driven by stories like these. While the data shared here may not tell the full story, we take pride in knowing that we played a part in helping so many achieve success on their own terms.

To the dedicated faculty and staff who are the real power behind the data, who do this work day-in and day-out, and who always rise to the occasion, thank you. Thank you for your amazing work during this past year and for your enduring commitment to our shared mission.

Michelle

WHO WE ARE

LEADERS



L-R: Dean Michelle Clare, Associate Dean Annie Straka, Assistant Dean Elizabeth Kerr



L-R: Jeremy Harvey (Business Office), Suzanne Boys (Dir. of Comms.), Jason Britton (Dir. of Industry Engagement), Jodi Sleyo (Dir. of Implementation)

WHO WE ARE

Additional People Leaders

Erik Alanson, **Unit Head**
Erin Alanson, **Unit Head**
Brittany Arthur, **Unit Head**
Lisa Barlow, **Unit Head**
Chris Cooper, **Unit Head**

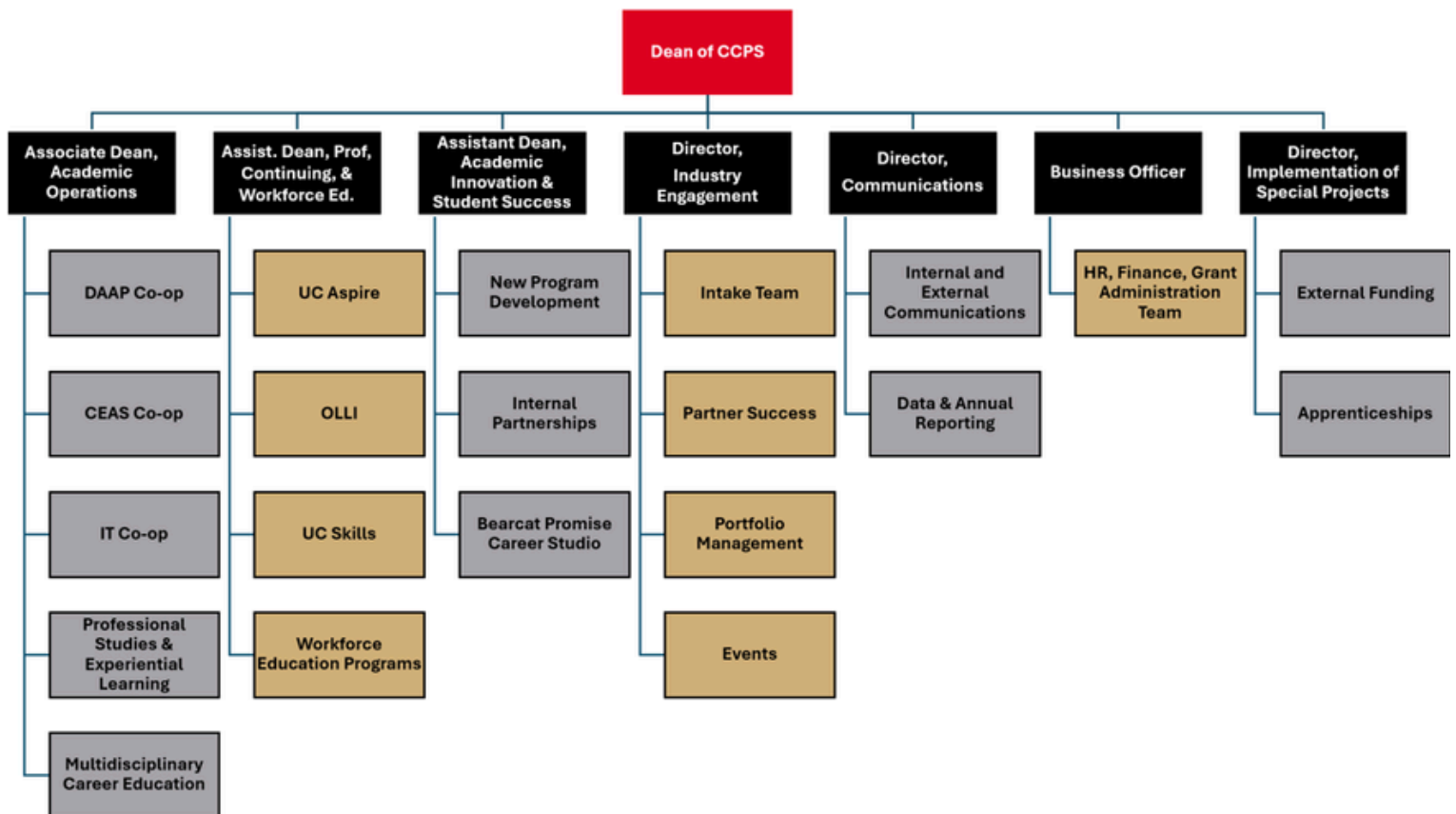
Emily Aleshire, **Professional/Continuing Education Director**
Sara Betts, **UC Aspire Director**
Cate O'Hara, **OLLI Director**

Miles McDowell, **Industry Engagement Associate Director**
Marihelen Millar, **Industry Engagement Associate Director**
Cordelia Schack-Edmiston, **Industry Engagement Associate Director**

Annie Kelly, **Course Director for first-year seminars**
Ellie Bridges, **Bearcat Promise Career Studio Director**
Michael Sharp, **Service-Learning Director**

WHO WE ARE

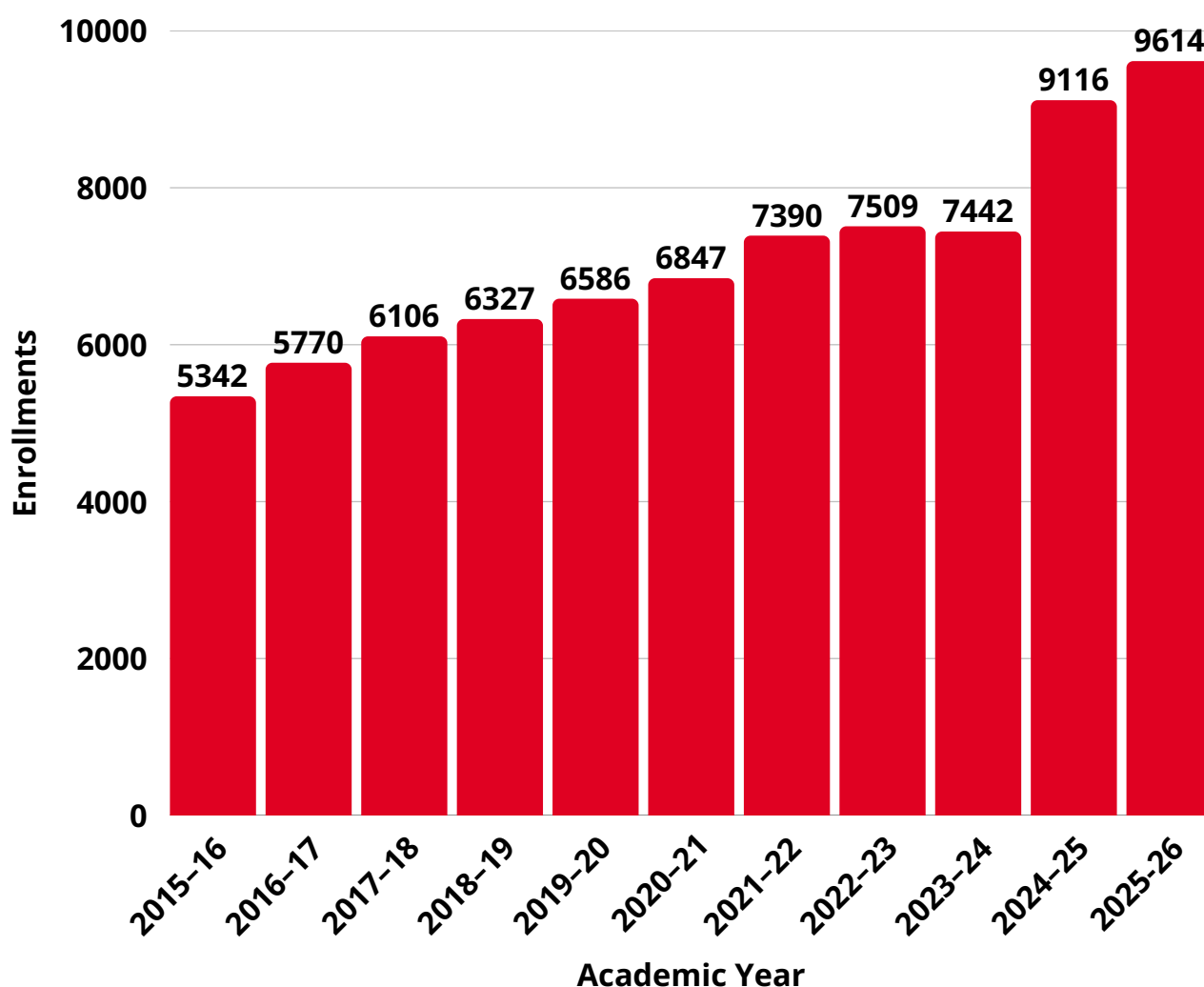
ORGANIZATION



Strategic impact: Data

*Visualizing impact
based on data.*

Co-op course enrollments per academic year

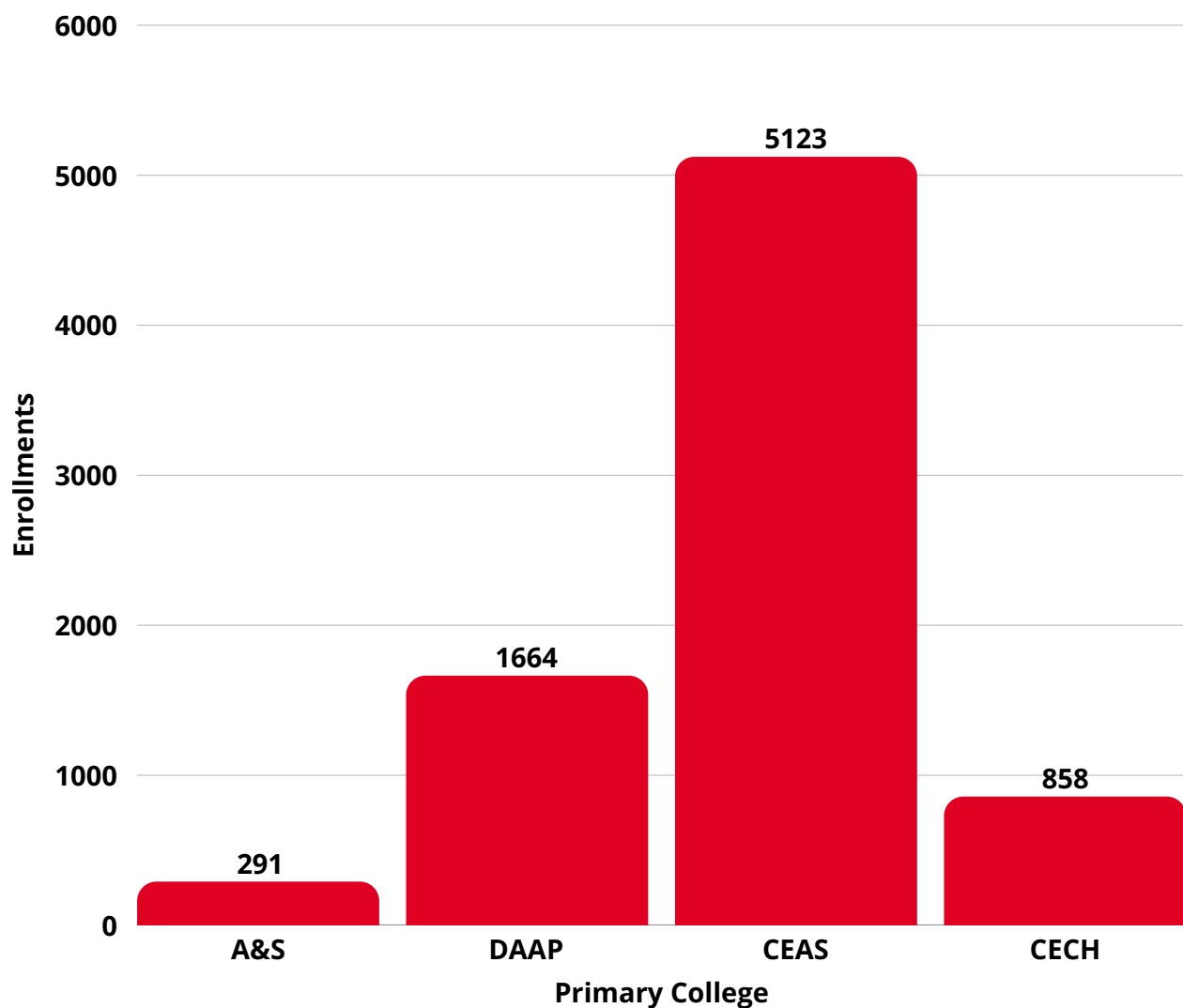


What's the Story?

At UC, co-op experiences are integrated into the curriculum through enrollment in online courses that focus on reflective learning during the co-op. Enrollment in CCPS COOP courses and LCB LPE courses reflects enrollments in co-op courses, including both traditional co-op experiences and experiential exploration program (EEPs).

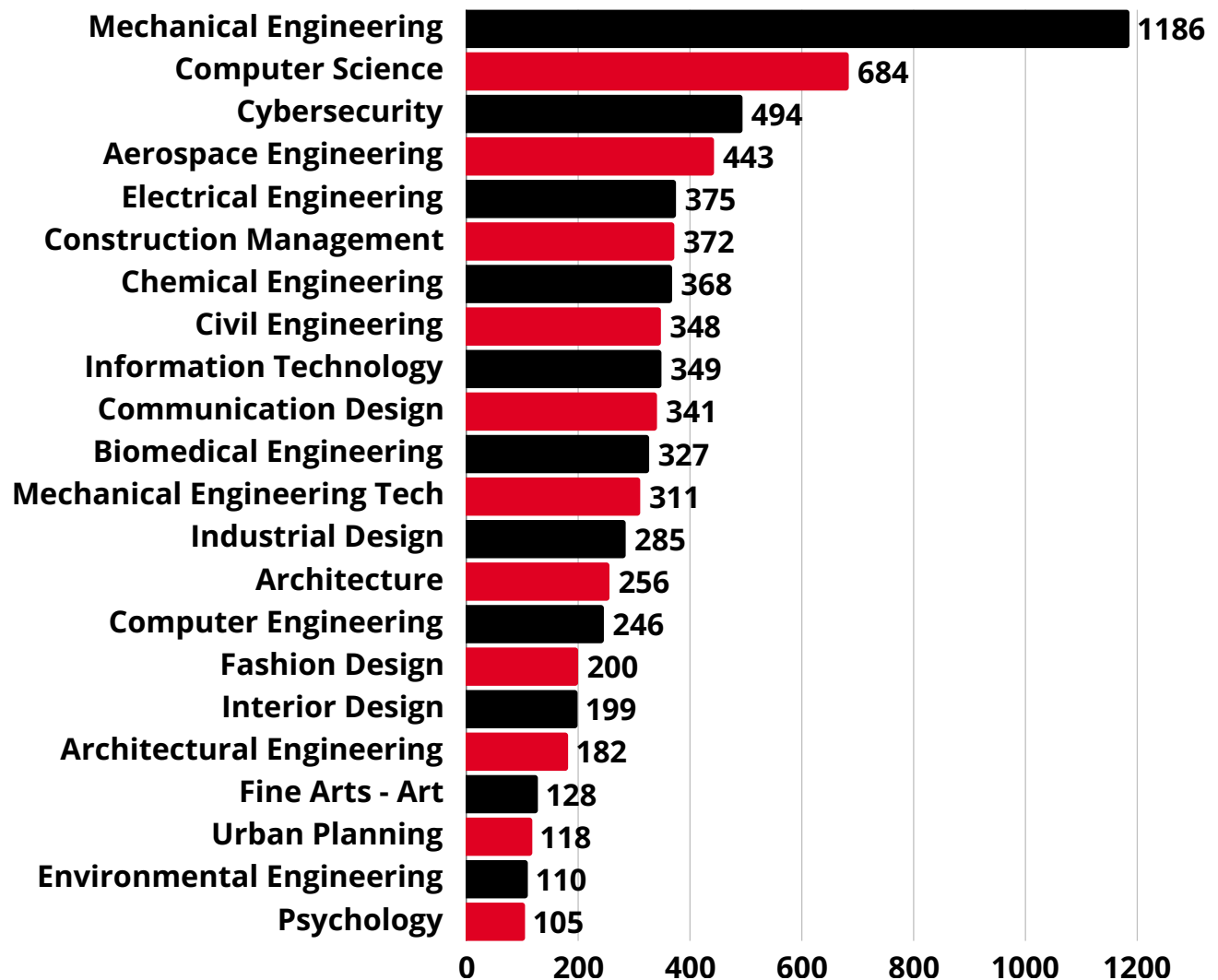
Note: CCPS reporting began including LPE courses in the 2024-25 academic year.

Co-op course enrollments by college* AY25-26



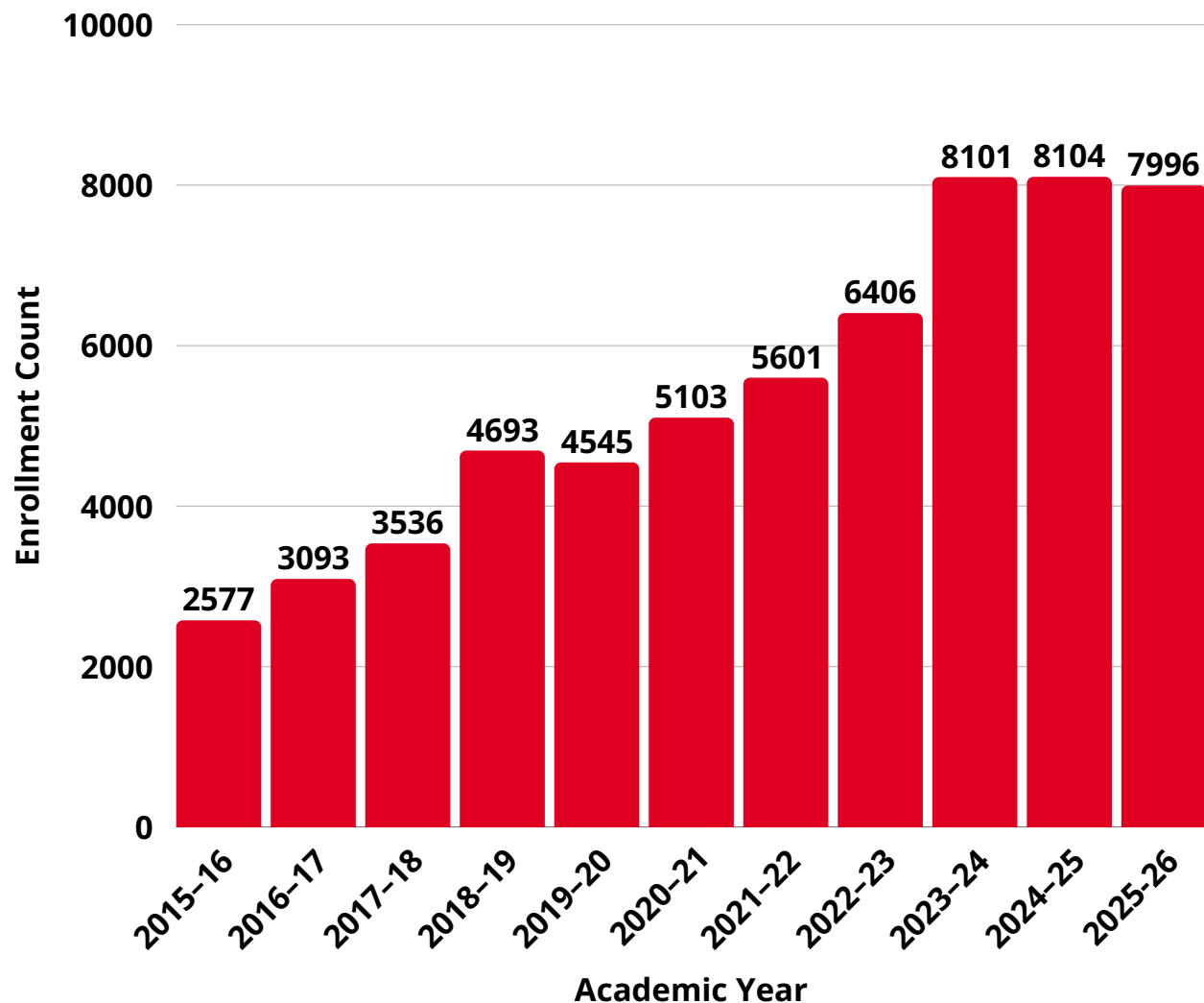
*Inclusive of co-op and LPE data. Colleges supported by CCPS. Enrollments, not individual students.

Co-op enrollments by academic major* AY25-26



*Programs with 100 or more students enrolled in co-op courses

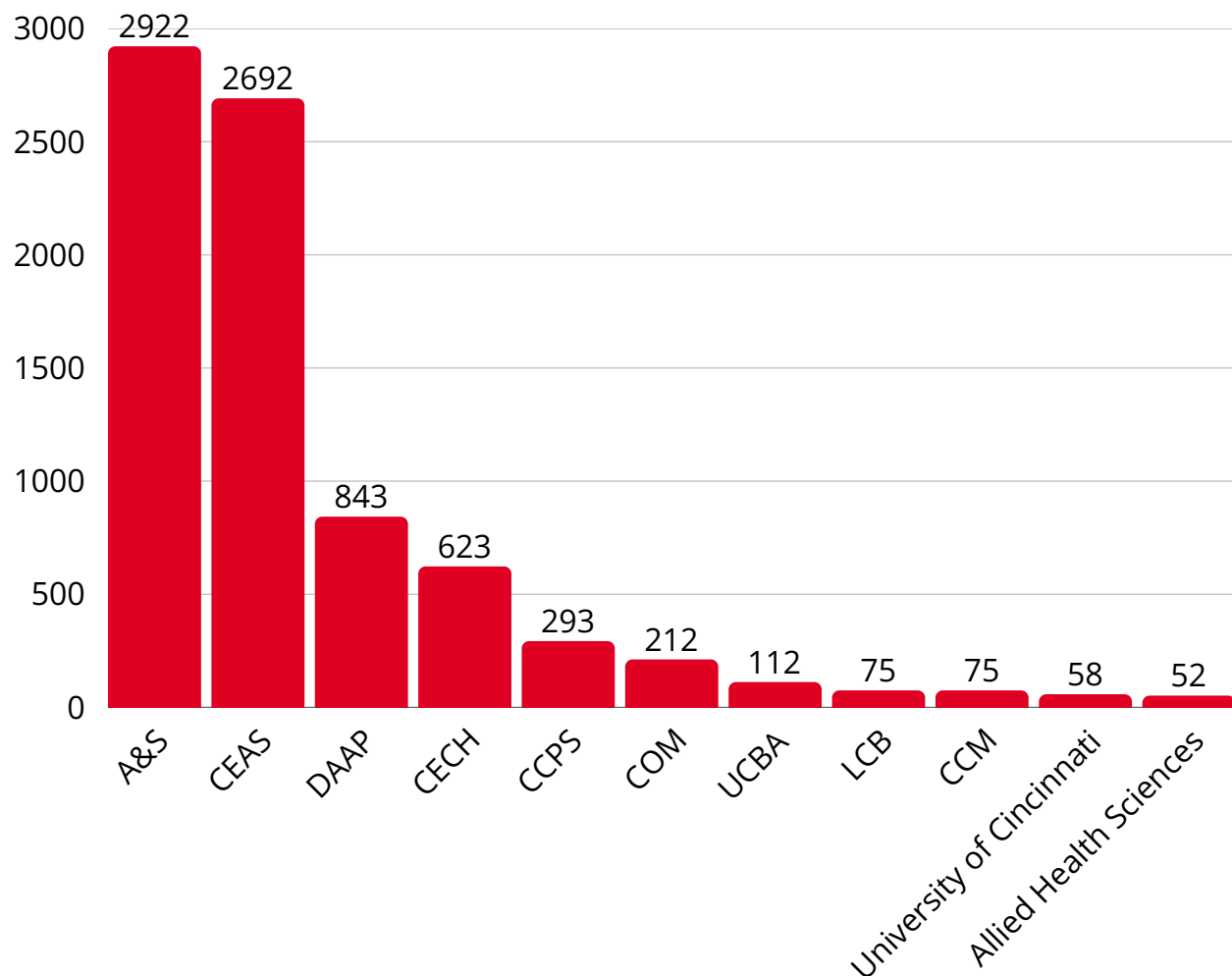
PD course enrollments by year



What's the Story?

Professional development (PD) courses are integrated into the curriculum through UC's general education requirements. These course sequences include a holistic approach to students' career education and prepare students to seek co-op opportunities.

PD enrollments* by college AY25-26



*Enrollments indicates registrations, not distinct UCIDs. Colleges/programs with more than 50 enrollments shown.

Employers

Lead conversions

- Unique employers hired: **1798**
- Students employed in all **50 states**
- **680** new employers hired this year (had no hiring history over previous three years)
- Top Co-op Employers:
 - Siemens PLM
 - Messer Construction
 - AtriCure
 - GE Appliances
 - Procter & Gamble
 - Crown Equipment
 - Rockwell Group
 - BHDP Architecture
 - University of Cincinnati
 - Great American Insurance

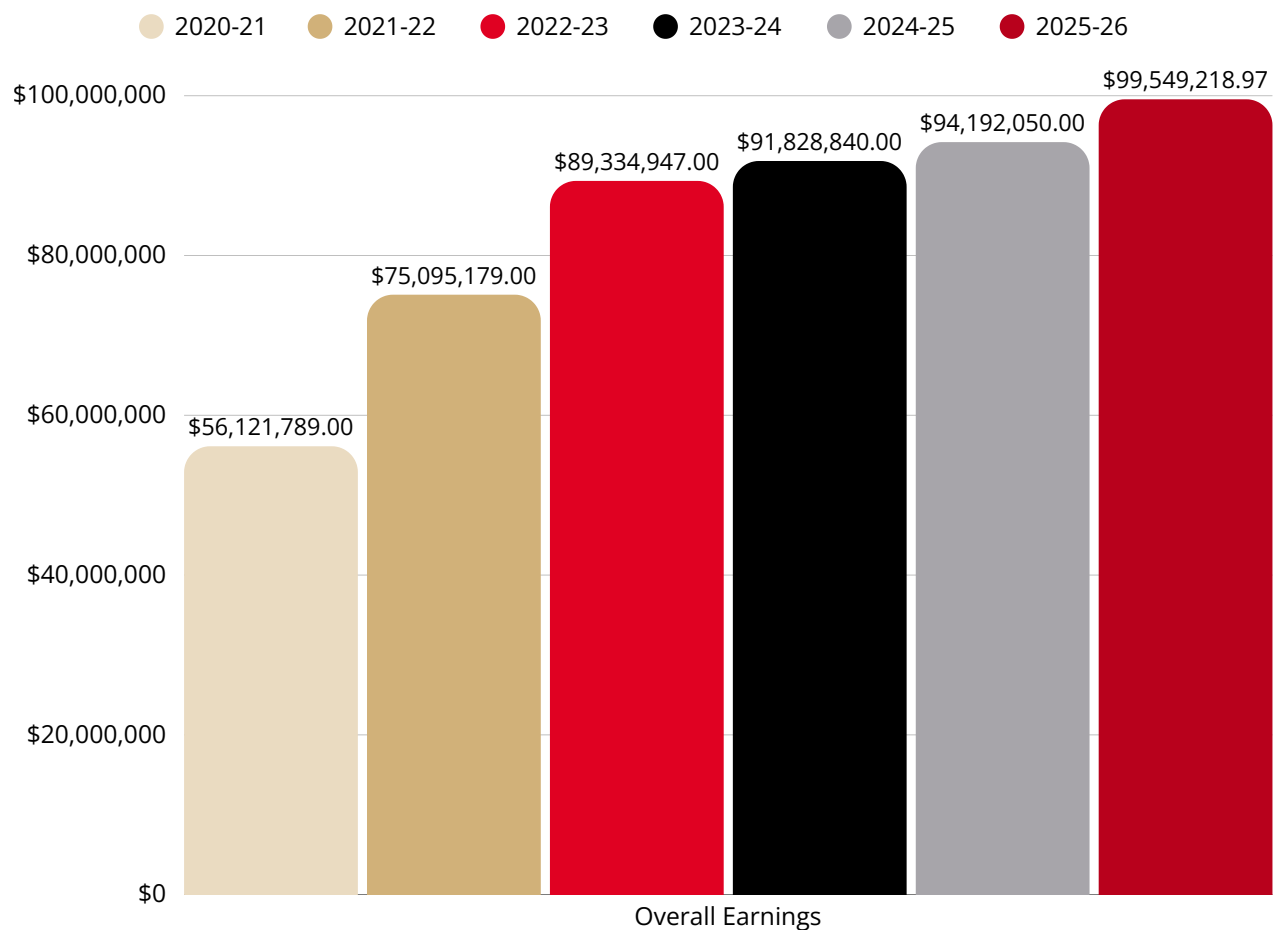


What's the Story?

CCPS's Industry Engagement team manages a large portfolio of employers to support co-op across the university. Employers are in all sectors and industries, and range from local to global.

Wage Data*

Overall, year-over-year



What's the Story?

Collective co-op wages topped out over \$99.5 million. This is an increase of 5.69% from the previous year's overall earnings. This increase is supported, in part, by the inclusion of A&S co-op. Average wage per student per hour was \$21.89. Co-op wages vary based on factors like field/industry, geographic location, and level of experience.

*Wage data includes A&S, CEAS, DAAP, LCB, and SOIT.

Bearcat Promise Career Studio

Core Services

The Bearcat Promise Career Studio connects students with personalized support, embedded career education, practical resources, and technology that helps them move from career exploration to action.

CAREER CLOSET

Students select free professional clothing to keep for interviews, career fairs, networking events, and the workplace.

CAREER COACHING & EXPLORATION

Students meet with a career coach to explore majors and careers, set goals, and create a personalized career plan.

INTERVIEW PREPARATION

Students build confidence through interview coaching and mock interviews.

JOB, INTERNSHIP & CO-OP SEARCH SUPPORT

Students learn effective search strategies, connect with employers, and prepare to evaluate offers.

PROFESSIONAL HEADSHOTS

Students get free professional headshots using the Career Studio photo booth.

RESUME, CV & COVER LETTER REVIEWS

Students receive personalized feedback to strengthen application materials.



Bearcat Promise Career Studio

Student Engagement

Career Studio service interactions: **4,949**

Students accessed services supporting career readiness, including:

- **1,613** one-on-one career coaching appointments
- **3,145** professional headshots
- **127** interview booth uses
- **64** Career Closet visits

Embedding Career Education Across UC

- **197** programs
- **5,163** student engagements
 - Total undergraduates served: **4212**
 - Total grad students served: **702**
 - Total alumni served: **182**
 - Total served: **5096**

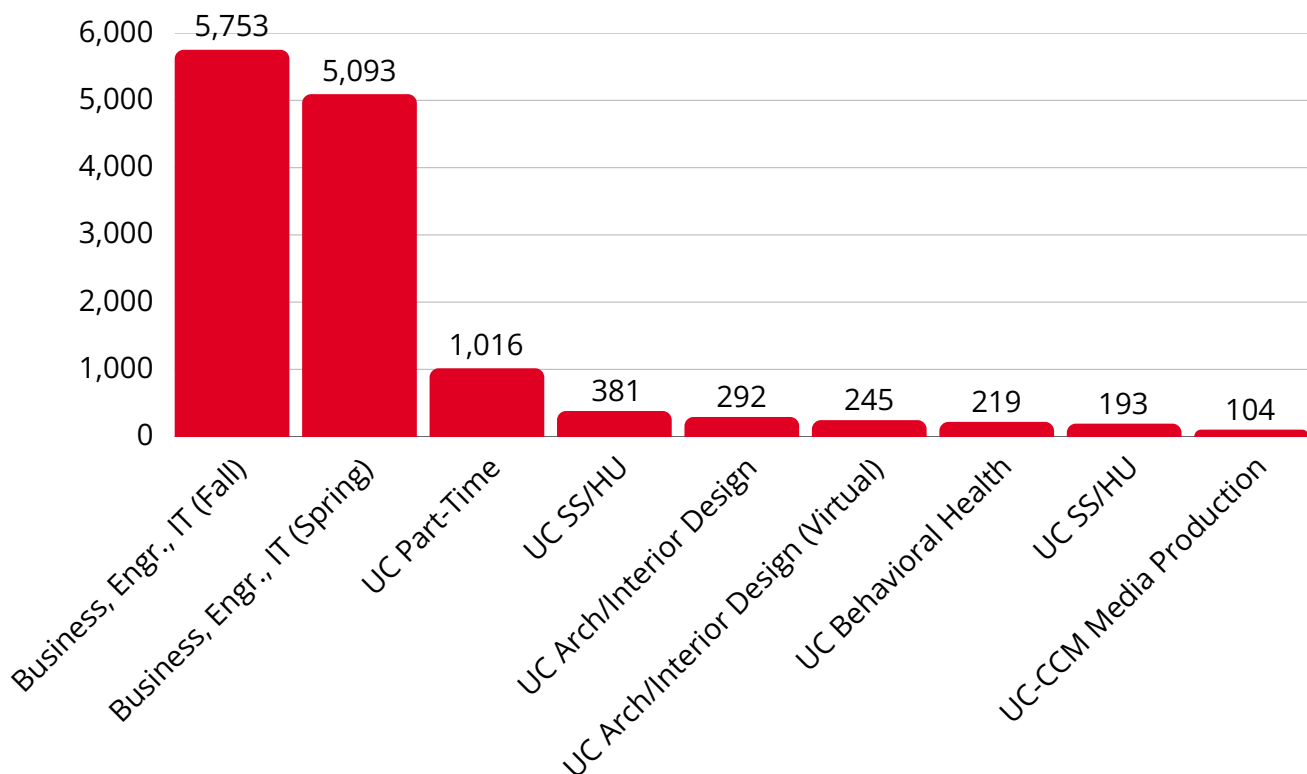
Career Studio programming more than doubled in 2025-26, with **112%** more programs and **128%** more student participation than the previous year.

84% of programs were integrated into courses, student organizations, and other student experiences across UC, bringing career development to students.



CCPS Supported Career Fairs

AY25-26 attendance = 13,296



Workforce Education

UC Skills



UC Skills (skills.uc.edu) offers **short-term, flexible programs designed for working professionals, lifelong learners, and community members**. Participants can pursue professional development, build academic knowledge, or explore personal interests. These efforts are coordinated CCPS in collaboration with partners across the university.

2025-26 milestones:

- Launched a dedicated UC Skills marketing campaign
- Increased partnerships, courses/programs offered, and enrollments
- Expanded website functionality
- Increased registration system functionality
- Strengthened operational infrastructure

Key numbers:

- **2,787** learner registrations
- **87** open registration courses and **26** custom programs offered across a total of **169** total sections
- **11 Colleges + 1819** offered courses on UC Skills

Workforce Education

UC Aspire

UC Aspire programs help unemployed and underemployed individuals gain skills to increase their employment and earning potential and transition to post-secondary education and training. The program completed its fifth year of operations in 2025-26, offering English language programs, GED preparation, career training, and workplace education programs.



In FY26, UC Aspire:

- served **300** adult learners
- achieved a Measurable Skills Gain (MSG) rate of **57%**, exceeding the state's target of 47%

GED preparation program:

- **60%** of learners passed at least one subtest
- **six** learners earned their High School Equivalency Diploma
- Learners continued to show economic progress after leaving the program (median quarterly earnings of **\$13,070** in the second quarter following program exit)

Courses offered by UC Aspire in FY26 included:

- Career trainings
- GED preparation
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- Workplace Education Programs

Lifelong Learning

OLLI

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at UC is one of 125 institutes in the national Osher network. **Designed for learners aged 50 and better**, OLLI offers a wide array of non-credit courses and activities.

In FY26, OLLI :

- offered **684 (+15.7)** learning opportunities
- serving **2,128 (+15.5%)** unique learners
- generating **4,142 (+15.3%)** total course registrations

This year, OLLI offered the **most courses** and had the **highest registration numbers** in OLLI's history at UC. Approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ of participants are UC alums.

OLLI is managed by **three** full-time staff members, **one** part-time contract employee, and approximately **350** dedicated volunteers.

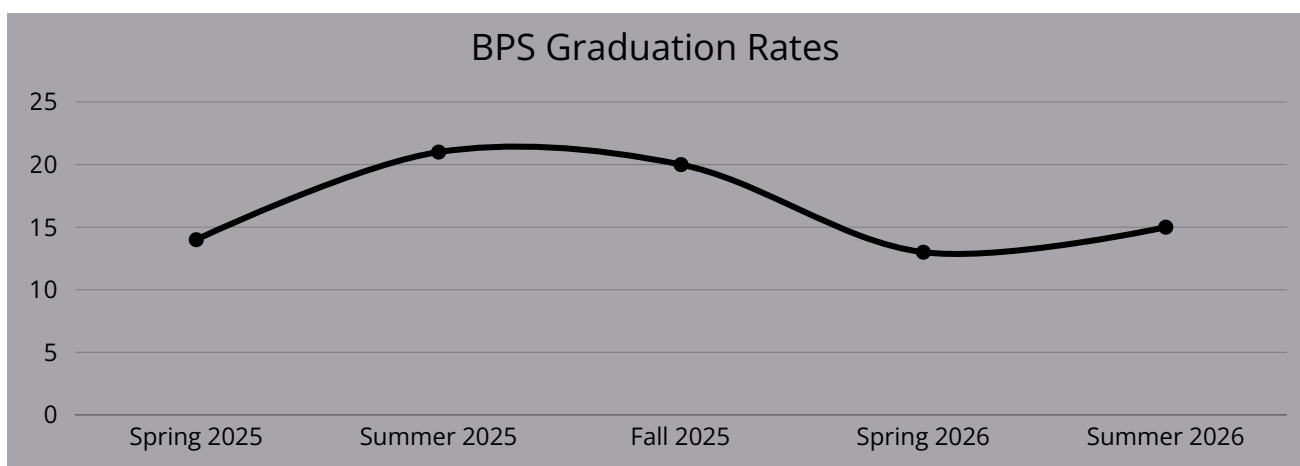
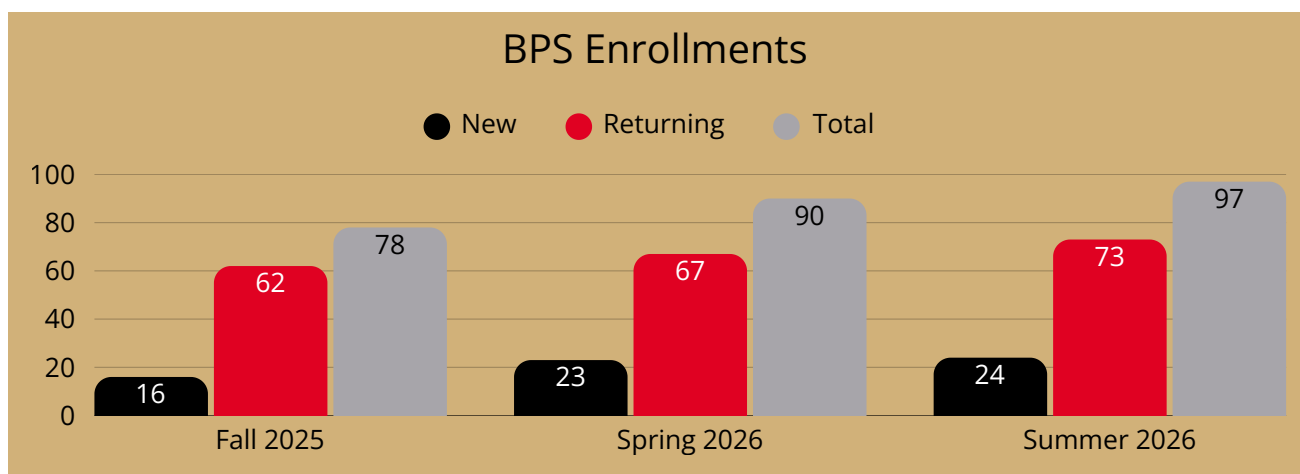


Bachelor of Arts in Professional Studies

The BA in Professional Studies is a 100% online bachelor's completion program that blends existing professional background with practical, employer-valued skills. The BPS prioritizes credit for prior learning and personalized pathways.

What makes the BPS unique?

- Credit for work experience
- Personalized advising and support
- Confidence-building
- AI-proof skills core to the curriculum
- Three semesters graduation rate for many students



Service-Learning

SERVICE-LEARNING

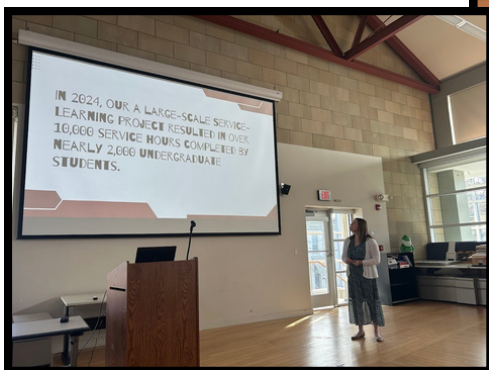
Service-learning (S-L) is a form of experiential learning, where students in a faculty-led course work directly with nonprofit agencies on their programs and projects. The CCPS S-L program supports service-learning efforts across UC.

This academic year the CCPS S-L team:

- facilitated **28** partnership development meetings and delivered **8** presentations to campus and community stakeholders
- conducted **43** faculty consultations to support the integration of S-L pedagogy into coursework
- hosted **7** S-L events and trainings to build capacity and share best practices
- launched **4** new S-L and Community Engagement initiatives and hosted **7** Program Development meetings

Across campus in AY25-26:

- **219** S-L courses were taught by **69** faculty, serving **3,741** students



Grants

GRANTS

CCPS actively pursues grants to support and expand high-quality work-based learning, scale innovative apprenticeship and adult learner pathways, and strengthen partnerships that prepare a skilled, adaptable Ohio workforce for the future.

In FY25-26 the CCPS grants team submitted 15 external funding proposals totaling \$52M as lead and/or subcontractor. Of those grant proposals:

- Four were awarded, totaling **\$568,290**
- Four were not awarded
- Seven have yet to be announced



What's the Story?

Grant funding helps support initiatives like UC Aspire's work with Nehemiah Manufacturing. Their leadership class pictured above.

Industry Advisory Cabinet (IAB)



CCPS's Industry Advisory Cabinet bridges industry and higher education. Members provide strategic feedback and serve as advocates for the college.

Cabinet members:

- Greg Rossmann, Noetic, VP Commerce
- Tim Adam, Sigmatech SVP & Director
- Tony Wendling, citi SVP AI
- Jamal K. Muashsher, Valvoline Global President & CEO
- Stephanie Muir, Stephanie Muir Consulting Founder & Principal Consultant
- Matt McElvogue, Teague VP of Design
- Jeremy Jarrett, KineticVision President & CEO
- Charles Stewart, Turner Construction VP Community & Citizenship - Mega Projects
- Ruthie Keefe, BlueSky Creative President
- Lee Ellen Drechsler, P&G Senior Vice President Corporate Research & Development
- Correy Eimer, NKADD Assoc. Dir. of Workforce Development
- Haley Rich, Kaleidoscope Innovation Design Researcher
- Cynthia Vandewall, Boeing Market Research Lead & Design
- Martha Gardner, GE Aerospace Executive Chief Consulting Engineer
- Andrea Enders, REDI VP, Business Development
- DavidMacMannis, PE Ulliman Schutte Construction Director of Personnel
- Karen Tarver, Honda Dvt & Mfg of America, LLC Business Operations Dept. Mgr.
- Wade Fugate, Western Southern VP and Controller
- Stephanie Doyle, Fifth Third AVP, University Relations Talent Acquisition Consultant
- Geoff Smith, CIO Roundtable Co-Chair
- Sean Nelson, Slack Principal Product Designer
- Randy Hemmerle, Krauss Maffei VP of Administration
- Ryan Rosensweig, Microsoft Director Business Strategy, Cloud & AI Platforms

IAB Working Groups

ORGANIZATIONAL READINESS:

Greg Rossmann
Cordelia Schack-Edmiston
Miles McDowell
Tony Wendling
Haley Rich
Andrea Enders
Karl Zimmer
Martha Gardner
Elizabeth Kerr
Tim Adam
Jamal K. Muashsher
Emma Cotter

PROGRAM EXPANSION:

Matt McElvogue
Marihelen Millar
Ruthie Keefe
Geoff Smith
Cynthia Miller
Jason Britton
Sean Nelson
Karen Tarver
Ryan Rosensweig

SKILLS/UPSKILLING:

Stephanie Muir
Erin Alanson
Correy Eimer
David MacMannis, PE
Randy Hemmerle
Wade Fugate
Stephanie Doyle
Lee Ellen Drechsler
Jeremy Jarrett

Strategic Impact: Stories

*Understanding impact
through student
experiences.*



Student Achievement Awards



UC Aspire Award

Heather Tomlinson (Nehemiah Manufacturing Company)

Neil Armstrong Moonshot Award for Commercial Innovation

Molton Brown Hotel Experience & User Journey Project (UC NEXT Innovation Scholars)

Team Leads: Charlie Harker & Sharvari Patil

Team: Elina Bishoyi, Joshua Bryant, Safi Fofana, Faith Rider

Neil Armstrong New Frontiers Award for Innovation Leadership

Charlie Harker (Medical Sciences '27)

International Co-op Award

Nick Bardash (Mechanical Engineering, French)

A&S Career Education Peer Instructors

Elizabeth Watson, Grace Redwine, Nina Ramsey, Ava Kulka, Takondwa Mphande (TK)

Cooperative Education in Arts & Sciences

Brock Bostick, Drake Shelburne, Eeshani Kathroju

Cooperative Education in Information Technology

Matthew Price, McKelvin Ofosu-Frimpong, Shriya Kappagantula, Liz Atoyebi

Cooperative Education in Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning

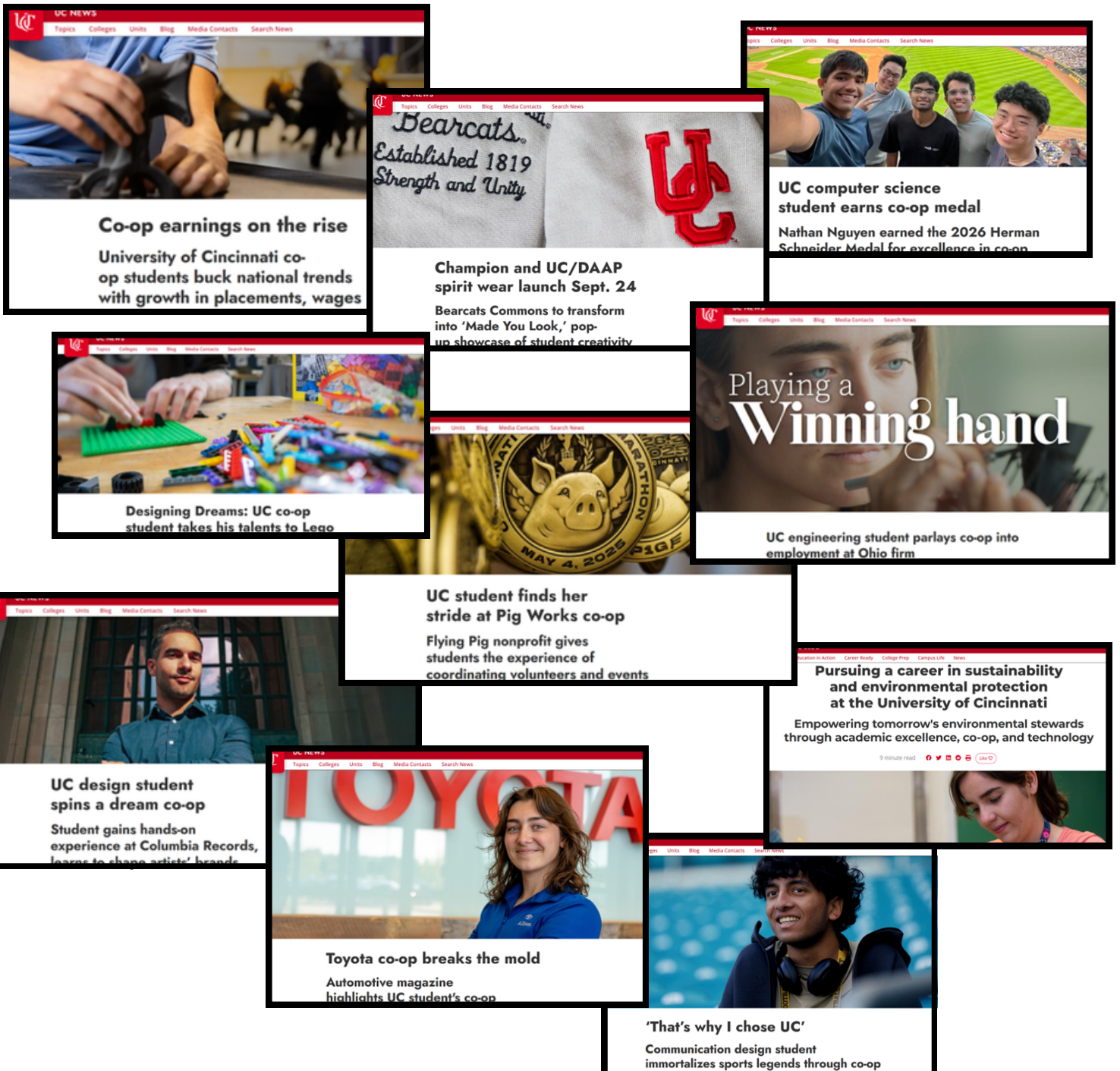
James Lopez, Sam Collins, Marissa Cheslock, Sophia Kroto, Satanay Bras, Kylie Pfungsten, Caroline VanBuskirk, Stephen Wubbolding, Brianna Dzuricko

Cooperative Education in Engineering and Applied Science

Adam Patterson, Meghan Toepp, Joshua Kummer, Chibudom Franklin Ihejirika, Andrew Thatcher, Sam Burkhard, Faith Rider, Joseph Barry, Forrest Bushstone, Sam Lowry, Dom Deliduka, Brynn McGrail, Savannah So, Lauren Bergman, Benjamin Sloves, Mengquan Zhao

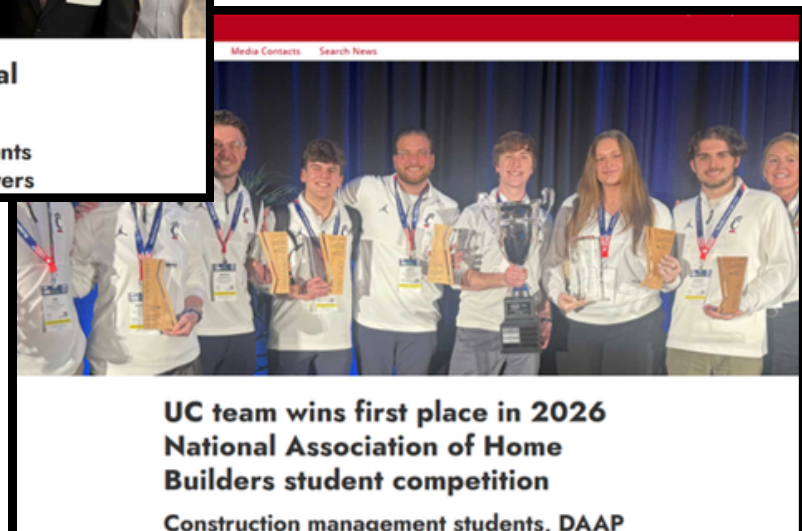
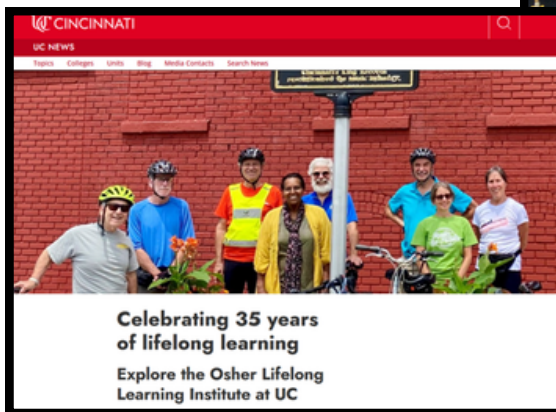
UC News: Co-op

Co-op students are featured regularly in UC's internal news. A few of our favorite stories from the year are linked below. Dozens more can be found via UC News.



CCPS News

The CCPS team writes numerous features about CCPS news. Here are a few highlights from the 2025-26 year.





SXSW 2026



SXSW BY THE NUMBERS

1,725

UNIQUE PAGE VIEWS
TO OUR SXSW UC WEB PAGE AND UC NEWS STORY

1,454

VISITORS
TO OUR NEXT LAB

51

FORTUNE 500 VISITORS
TO OUR NEXT LAB

35

ALUMS
AT THE UC ALUMNI EVENT

28+

CCPS SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS
GARNERING 34,034 IMPRESSIONS AND MORE THAN 1,850 ENGAGEMENTS

15

LIGHTNING TALKS
IN OUR NEXT LAB

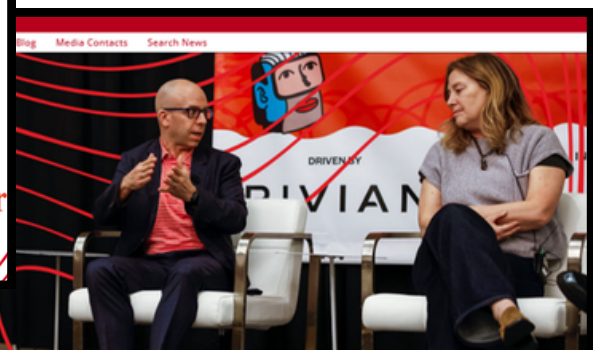
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MEDIA CONNECTIONS
WITH COMPANIES LIKE AXIOS, FORBES AND THE AUSTIN SUN

1

PANEL DISCUSSION
ON MAINSTAGE AT SXSW

VISITORS TO OUR NEXT LAB



How the University of Cincinnati co-op program is shaping the future of work at SXSW

UC's co-op program is key as Bearcats take over innovation conference

By Emily Glass Email

Sharing the story broadly

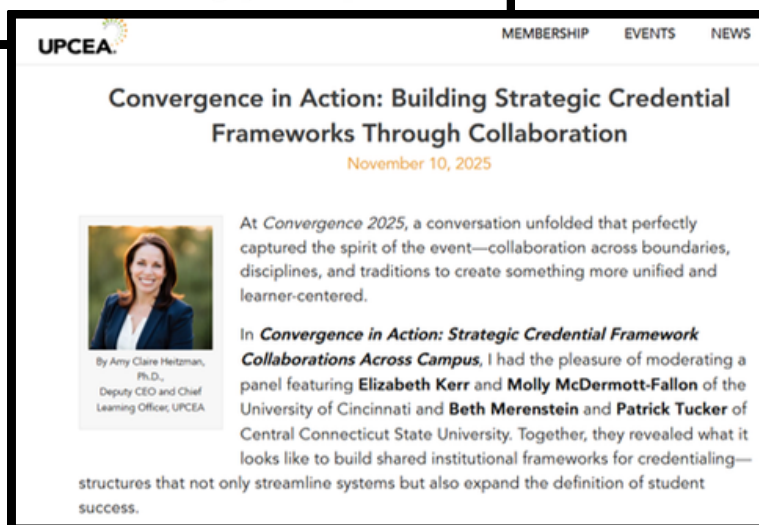
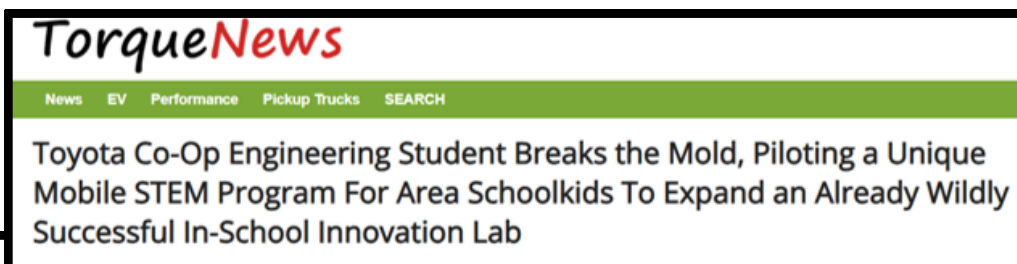
SOV + earned media

UC's Share of Voice for Co-op*

- UC is **No. 2** among competitors for Share of Voice (SoV) in FY26, coming in second only to the No. 1 program in the country, Northeastern.
- Our SoV stat among competitors for FY26 is 31.4%. Or one in every three mentions in this dataset was about the UC co-op program.

Earned media coverage relevant to CCPS:

- Cincinnati Business Courier
- WXIX - Fox 19
- WLWT
- WKRC - Local 12
- Torque News
- Interstride
- UPCEA



*SOV tracked and provided by UC Central MarCom.

Sharing the story broadly

Alumni events

Alumni Events

Chicago, IL:

Co-hosted dinners with UC Alumni Association to introduce current co-op students to Chicago alumni. These dinners help students build of network in Chicago to create a sense of community and belonging.

- January - **18** alums and **15** students over **three** nights
- June - **two** dinners with **12** alums and **eight** students

Hosted a June happy hour for **40** DAAP alumni in Chicago to build a team of co-op champions.

Austin, TX:

Hosted an alumni event in Austin in conjunction with CCPS's SXSW workplace track sponsorship. Partnered with the UC Alumni Association and the UC Alumni Network for Austin and Central Texas to build a network of co-op champions. **51** guests (**28** alumni) attended.



Looking Ahead

26-27 Vision & Strategies

CAREER-READY LEARNERS

Develop professionally prepared, highly skilled learners with a clear competitive advantage.

PREMIER WORKFORCE PARTNER

Serve as the educational partner of choice for corporate and non-profit organizations addressing workforce development and talent sourcing needs.

RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY

Build a modern, agile, and resilient college prepared to thrive in serving diverse learners amid fluctuating economic, legislative, and higher education trends and priorities.

UNIVERSITY IMPACT & VALUE

Drive learner success and positive outcomes through thoughtful academic integration and strong internal partnerships.

REPUTATION & REACH

Strengthen UC's visibility and reputation at state, regional and national levels.

EDUCATION ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

Serve as the university's hub for lifelong education, expanding UC's learner ecosystem and supporting learners from pre-college through retirement.

CCPS.UC.EDU

University Pavilion Level 100
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Cincinnati OH 45221-0115

