The University’s most ambitious fund-raising effort to date, the Chicago Initiative has raised $2.38 billion—well above its $2 billion goal. Beyond dollars, the best way to gauge its success is by how well the initiative will help Chicago live up to its motto: Crescat scientia; vita excolatur.

The Chicago Initiative’s priorities have focused on investments in people: increasing financial aid for undergraduate, graduate, and professional students; adding faculty positions and increasing support for scholarship and research; and forging stronger ties with the University’s South Side neighbors and the city of Chicago.

Another priority, underwriting major facilities projects in the campus master plan, also counted as an investment in human capital: recruiting and retaining world-class teachers, researchers, and students with facilities that encourage collaboration and discovery. “We don’t build these incredible buildings—whether it be a research center, whether it be a new business school—for the sake of building pretty buildings,” said University Provost Thomas F. Rosenbaum. “We build them so that we can attract the greatest minds to this institution.”

The University’s 1999 campus master plan reinforced Chicago’s commitment to creating a landscape that maximizes the intersection of people and ideas. Gifts to the Initiative put the plan into action, including the $30 million renovation and restoration of International House. The I-House renovations end this year with ADA improvements to make the program center and residence, devoted to cross-cultural understanding and friendship, accessible to all students, guests, and visitors.

In the end, the Chicago Initiative’s success will be measured not in terms of dollars and cents but in the terms of the University of Chicago’s core belief—let knowledge grow from more to more and so be human life enriched. To see the transformations on campus including International House view the interactive map located here: http://magazine.uchicago.edu/0878/features/on_the_map.shtml

Center Stage—The Hyde Park Jazz Festival

On Saturday, September 27, 2008 International House will be among the venues to welcome the 2nd Annual Hyde Park Jazz Festival. The Festival brings together world-class headliners and local emerging artists for 14 hours of FREE, nonstop jazz for the serious and casual listener, alike. Come experience how “… a single Chicago neighborhood transformed itself into what Duke Ellington used to call the city of jazz,” according to Howard Reich, Chicago Tribune.

Performers are world-class, award-winning, respected authorities on jazz and its culture including Reginald R. Robinson, Orbert Davis, Willie Pickens, Chicago Jazz Orchestra, and many others. The Festival is produced by the Hyde Park Cultural Alliance, The University of Chicago, and the Hyde Park Jazz Society. For more information on the Festival go to the event Web site at hydeparkjazzfestival.org.

Newly restored and renovated with ADA improvements, the Courtyard is open to all residents, guests and visitors to International House.
I-House Residents Receive Awards

George A. Vassilev was awarded the 2008 Helen Puttkammer Resident of the Year Award. Nominated by current residents and presented by Mrs. Ernst W. Puttkammer's daughter, Lorna Puttkammer Straus, SM'60, PhD'62, this award honors a resident who has been an outstanding leader and has made a significant contribution to the life of International House. George is a graduate student at the University of Chicago's Committee on International Relations. As Vice President, then President, of the I-House Residents' Council, George founded the popular Café Musica, bringing together fellow artistic I-House residents for an evening of international musical performances.

Hilary Leithauser was awarded the 2008 International House Kalpakam Award. Made possible through the generous support and contribution of Krishna Seshan, an alumnus of the Berkeley International House, this award goes to a resident of International House who has made sustained, exceptional contributions to the local community outside of International House in the areas of tutoring, working with the homeless or other disadvantaged individuals, fundraising or any other type of volunteer services. A student in the College, Hilary is an active member of the Chicago Society, an organization that actively encourages discussion and debate on topics ranging from foreign affairs to contemporary.

Naonori Kurokawa, an International House Graduate Fellow and student in the Graduate School of Business (GSB) won first place at the 12th annual Edward L. Kaplan New Venture Challenge (NVC) on May 29. NVC is the GSB's premier business plan competition, spanning the entire academic year to prepare students for what it takes to launch and run a business. The NVC was judged by a world-class panel of 19 investors and seasoned entrepreneurs. Naonori's winning company, CureParticle, provides pharmaceutical companies a platform technology based on nano-processing for reformulation of existing drugs.

Former Board Member Adlai Stevenson III Visits I-House

The Honorable Adlai Stevenson III, member of the International House Board of Governors (1984–1986), and his wife, Nancy A. Stevenson, Trustee Emeritus of the University of Chicago, visited on May 2 for a luncheon for I-House alumni and friends attending Chicago Convenes. Mr. Stevenson offered remarks on our 75th anniversary and announced the opening of the Adlai Stevenson Center on Democracy. Named after Adlai Stevenson II, and located at the historic homestead in Libertyville, Illinois, the Center was inaugurated on August 10, 2008. The Center seeks to enhance the global understanding and practice of democracy by bringing veterans and practitioners of politics together with scholars to seek information and ideas from history and the world. International House looks forward to collaborating with the Center on future programs.

International Houses Worldwide

On May 27, 2008 the Embassy of Austria in Washington DC. hosted a reception for over 100 alumni and guests of International Houses Worldwide, including alumni from I-House Chicago, I-House New York, International Students House London, as well as staff from International Houses in Washington DC, Philadelphia, Wollongong and Edmonton. Gernot Wiedner, Consul General, Embassy of Austria, who worked with I-House Chicago on joint programs when he was stationed with the Austrian Consulate in Chicago, welcomed guests to the Embassy.

On behalf of International Houses Worldwide, alumni and friends of the University of Chicago International House are invited to a special gathering at International House, New York in November. Contact the Office of Programs and External Relations to receive an invitation card at i-house-programs@uchicago.edu.
2008 Alumni Weekend Sets Record for Attendance

Breaking all prior attendance records, over 4,300 alumni, family members and friends attended the 2008 University of Chicago Alumni Weekend held June 5–8. The previous high-water mark was set in 1992 when 3,858 alumni, students, and guests celebrated the University of Chicago’s Centennial Anniversary. This growth is attributed to increased activity across all areas on campus and positively influences every program and division. Numbers include: 2,375 paid alumni, 704 registered guests, 302 graduates at the ‘08 Year Party for members of the senior class, 172 senior class gift participants at the ChicaGO Party, an estimated 450 at the Rockefeller Chapel Organ and Carillon Gala, 300 Intra-Fraternity Sing students, and 52 faculty members. All of this was coordinated cheerfully by 165 staff volunteers.

I-House hosted a myriad of alumni events including the Robert H. Kirschner, MD, Memorial Human Rights Lecture featuring award-winning author Alex Kotlowitz. The class of 1973 held their 35th Reunion Celebration at I-House and the School of Social Service Administration held its Professional Development session at the House for current students and alumni of the program. Former residents and friends enjoyed the international wine tasting reception and I-House guest rooms were booked to capacity. Save the date for the next University of Chicago Reunion Weekend, June 4–7 2009!

SAVE THE DATE!

The University of Chicago International Forum, Hong Kong, 17–19 April 2009

Join University of Chicago President Robert J. Zimmer, deans, faculty and Asian leaders for a thought provoking weekend of inquiry and conversation. Examine critical economic, social and scientific issues in an international context, learn how Chicago faculty, alumni and students’ rigorous research and inquisitive minds address the world’s biggest challenges, network with fellow alumni from around the world and enjoy enticing Hong Kong. Highlights will include a conversation with University President Robert J. Zimmer and panels comprised of Chicago faculty, alumni and experts from around the world.

For more information visit: http://internationalforum.uchicago.edu
Email: internationalforum@uchicago.edu or call the Alumni Association at +1-773-702-2150

IN MEMORIAM

Graham Stiles Newell
AB’38, AM’49

A seventh-generation Vermonter born and raised in St. Johnsbury, Vermont, USA, Graham lived at Int. House (as it was called in those days) while he completed his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science at the University of Chicago in 1938. When he returned to Chicago for his graduate degree in Latin in 1949, he applied to live at the House once again, recalling that “the best years of my college life were spent in Int. House.”

A professor of history for many years at Lyndon State College in Vermont, Graham returned full-time to teach Latin at St. Johnsbury Academy in 1982, where he himself graduated in 1933. His passion for teaching and for making ancient texts comes alive for new generations of students produced dozens of national Latin award winners. He was copying the names of his new students into his grade book and preparing his classes for the coming year three days before he passed away. A scholar and a statesman, Graham also held seats in the Vermont House and Senate for nearly 30 years. Graham Stiles Newell died June 20, 2008 at the age of 92.

Alumna Ambassador Visits I-House

The Honorable June Carter Perry, AM’67, U.S. Ambassador to Sierra Leone visited International House in June while she was in Chicago to receive the prestigious Coffey Award from Loyola University of Chicago. During her student days at International House in 1965–66, Ambassador Perry completed her degree in history at the University of Chicago. In her application essay she stated that she wanted to live at I-House “... as a preparation for myself to live in a global society and to help present to foreigners a valid and complete concept of life in the United States.”

Seen on Campus

New banners decorated the quadrangles for Spring Convocation 2008 with photographs and thought-provoking quotes from University of Chicago alumni of all of the schools and divisions. Several notable I-House alumni were featured including Katharine Graham, AB’38 quoted as saying “to love what you do and feel that it matters, how could anything be more fun?”

David Rockefeller, PhD’40 who observed “If necessity is the mother of invention, discontent is the father of progress,” and former I-House Board Member Edward H. Levi, LAB’28, PhB’32, JD’35, who believed that “Education, when it is at its best, is both a disruptive and a fulfilling process.” A selection of these banners were displayed at International House.
Making Life Count

For William and Ann Burton, lifelong relationships and lives of service began at International House. In recognition of the role of I-House in their lives, the Burtons are bequeathing funds to help sustain its mission. “You either go for it or you waste your life,” Mr. Burton advises. “One or the other, you have a choice. Make your life count.”

When William Burton, MBA’50, got out of the U.S. Navy after World War II, he was determined to live “a purposeful life.” A graduate of Case Western Reserve, he enrolled at the University of Chicago in 1948 to live at International House and to study business—in that order. Mr. Burton felt that I-House, with its mission of promoting cross-cultural understanding through residential and cultural programs, was exactly what he needed.

“I had to have the experience of meeting and getting to know people from different nations, to remove any prejudice I might have had, to make friends, and to open my mind as much as possible,” he recalls. He did not know then that at Chicago he also would meet his wife Ann, AB’51, with whom he would embark on a lifetime of volunteerism, and a friend whose experiences in Maoist China would have a profound impact on both the Burtons.

Campus housing was tight in the postwar years, so two students were assigned to each room at I-House—one American and one foreign. Mr. Burton assumed he would share a room with a European student, but instead spent three years living with Ningkun Wu, a Chinese scholar pursuing a PhD in English literature. Through student government and other extracurricular activities, he got to know Ann Wright, who was then an undergraduate and national trampoline champion. Mr. Burton proposed to her in the lobby of I-House and when they married in 1951, Wu was their best man.

Three weeks after the wedding, Wu left Chicago for a teaching post in Beijing. The civil war in China had just come to an end and there was real hope for change. Mrs. Burton remembers seeing him in San Francisco: “We helped him pack a lot of things that he needed to take with him, and we waved to him from the Golden Gate Bridge.” It would be many years before the friends would see each other again. Two years after Wu returned to Chicago, he was accused of being a counter-revolutionary and his family endured many years of suffering, recounted in Wu’s memoir A Single Tear and in his daughter Emily Wu’s book Feather in the Storm. To read more about the Burton’s lives of international service and remarkable friendship with the Wu’s throughout their trials in China go to the Alumni Web site at http://ihouse.uchicago.edu/alumni.

Make a World of Difference!

Fun and easy ways to give to International House

• Ice cream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream! A gift of $3,000 will support the weekly Resident Social Hour for one quarter.

• Trip the light fantastic! Your gift of $150,000 will provide new stage lighting for the Global Voices Performing Arts series.

• Guess who’s coming to dinner? Host the traditional Sunday Supper and Candle-lighting Ceremony for your gift of $15,000; includes a table for you and your family.

• Show your true colors! Purchase your country’s flag for a gift of $250.

To make a gift contact Alumni Relations at International House at (773) 753-2273 or email i-house-alumni@listhost.uchicago.edu

Alumni Authors

Philip Howard Gray, AM’58 recently sent a signed copy of his book, Classic Inuit Artists, as an addition to the International House Library. Philip lived at International House while completing his Master’s degree in psychology at the University of Chicago in 1958. After obtaining his doctorate he became a professor at the University of Montana. An invitation to be a visiting professor in Winnipeg, Canada led to his lasting interest in Eskimo Art. Former residents are invited to send copies of their book(s) to the International House Library. For more information contact us at i-house-alumni@listhost.uchicago.edu.
The International House Global Voices Program has established a vibrant exchange with a wide range of Chicago-area academic and cultural institutions, arts organizations, dance companies, ethnic and folk arts groups, and music and theater groups. The Global Voices Lecture Series presents prominent speakers and organizes round-table discussion groups and special interest conferences and seminars. The Global Voices Performing Arts Series provides a showcase for all performing arts programs. For further information on programs or to subscribe to our e-bulletin, go to our Web site at http://ihouse.uchicago.edu. Programs are supported in part by grants from the Illinois Arts Council and the McCormick Foundation.

September 19
World Music Festival: Rupa and the April Fishes

September 22
Author Night
Neal Stephenson speaks on his book Anathem
Co-sponsored with the Seminary Co-op Bookstores

September 27
Hyde Park Jazz Festival

October 1
Lecture and Discussion with Naomi Klein speaking on Friedman and Freedom?: Debating a Controversial Legacy
Co-sponsored with the Chicago Center for Critical Theory and the Committee for open Research on Economy and Society

October 7 & 8
UC Press Annual Book Sale

The Chicago Ensemble Concert Series
October 5, November 2, February 15, March 29, May 24
For complete program and ticket information go to www.thechicagoensemble.org

October 10
A Jihad for Love
Film and Discussion with Parvez Sharma
Co-sponsored with the Center for International Studies

October 14
Author Night
Panel Discussion on education featuring Bill Ayers
Co-sponsored with the Seminary Co-op Bookstores

October 15
Lecture and Discussion with Shirin Ebadi, 2003 Nobel Peace Laureate
Co-sponsored with the Irving B. Harris School of Public Policy Studies and the University of Chicago Human Rights Program

October 18
Author Night
Nikki Giovanni speaks on her book Lincoln and Douglass: An American Friendship
Co-sponsored with the Seminary Co-op Bookstores

October 23
Café Science
Co-sponsored with the Field Museum

October 24
Conference
Taiwan’s New Approach: Opportunities and Challenges
Co-sponsored by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago and the University of Chicago Center for East Asian Studies

October 31
Annual Belgian Halloween Party

November 10
The Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture
Annual Lecture with award-winning author Sherman Alexie

November 18
Human Rhythm Project
Bam! We All Got Rhythm

November 22
Annual Thanksgiving Homestay Program

December 4
Film Screening: Afghan Chronicles
Co-sponsored with the Canadian Consulate and the McCormick Freedom Museum

This popular public lecture series held throughout the academic year is a collaborative project with the University of Chicago Center for International Studies, the Seminary Co-op Bookstores, The Chicago Council on Global Affairs, and the International House Global Voices Program. The program brings scholars and journalists together to consider major international news stories and how these stories are covered. Can’t make it to a program? Streaming and downloadable audio and video are now available from CHIASMOS, the University of Chicago’s International and Area Studies Multimedia and Outreach Source at http://chiasmos.uchicago.edu. This program is supported in part by the McCormick Foundation.

October 16

October 28
Dr. Bernard Lown, speaking on his book, Prescription for Survival: A Doctor’s Journey to End Nuclear Madness

November 5
Arvind Panagariya speaking on his book, India: The Emerging Giant

November 12
Juan Cole, the Richard P. Mitchell Distinguished University Professor of History at the University of Michigan has written extensively about Egypt, Iran, Iraq, and South Asia.
A Day in the Life of I-House

A photo essay by photographer Lloyd DeGrane as featured in the Cultural Studies section of the May–June 2008 issue of the University of Chicago Magazine.

Clockwise from left: Kathlyn Ngo,'10 chats in front of the I-House world map; Mingzhu He,'08 (left) and Luca Winer,'10 apply finishing touches for the Singapore Society’s evening cultural show in the Assembly Hall; Grad students Peggy Epppink,'07 (left) and Andreas Obermeier bake Apfelstrudel for friends in the I-House community kitchen; Sociology grad student Joel Capellan reads Democracy’s Values in his room; Musician’s warm up as guests arrive in the Main Lounge for the I-House Spring Open House and Wine Tasting.