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Ronald A. Slepitzka, Ph.D., CSJA

*Dear Avila supporter,*

2017-18 was a year of breaking the mold at Avila. We launched the Avila Promise, creating a new, lower tuition model that included books and fees. At the same time, the promise strengthens the value of an Avila degree by promising a four-year graduation guarantee, an internship or research experience and a travel award for every full-time traditional student. We launched the Avila Promise because students should expect to graduate in four years, on time, on budget and prepared to make a real difference in the world.

Breaking the mold is not easy. We have had to adjust and adapt to a new model. We have asked more from our faculty, staff, alumni and supporters, like you, to deliver on these promises. Nevertheless, it is worth it. We see the results among students who are prepared with books on the first day of class, who started an internship in their discipline and who have a plan to graduate in four years.

The Avila Promise would not be possible without our exceptional faculty who deliver the excellence in teaching and learning that defines Avila. But don't just take my word for it. As you will see in the accomplishments in this report, the Higher Learning Commission and four academic program accrediting bodies reaffirmed our academic quality in 2017-18. Breaking the mold also does not happen without exceptional staff, alumni, supporters and partners like you, who are committed to the success of our students. You help make Avila the distinct, special place that it is. Thank you for investing in our students!

With gratitude,

Ronald A. Slepitzka, Ph.D., CSJA  
President

**AVILA UNIVERSITY MISSION**

*Avila University, a Catholic university founded and inspired by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, provides undergraduate and graduate education in the liberal arts and professional studies, preparing lifelong learners who make meaningful contributions to the global community.*



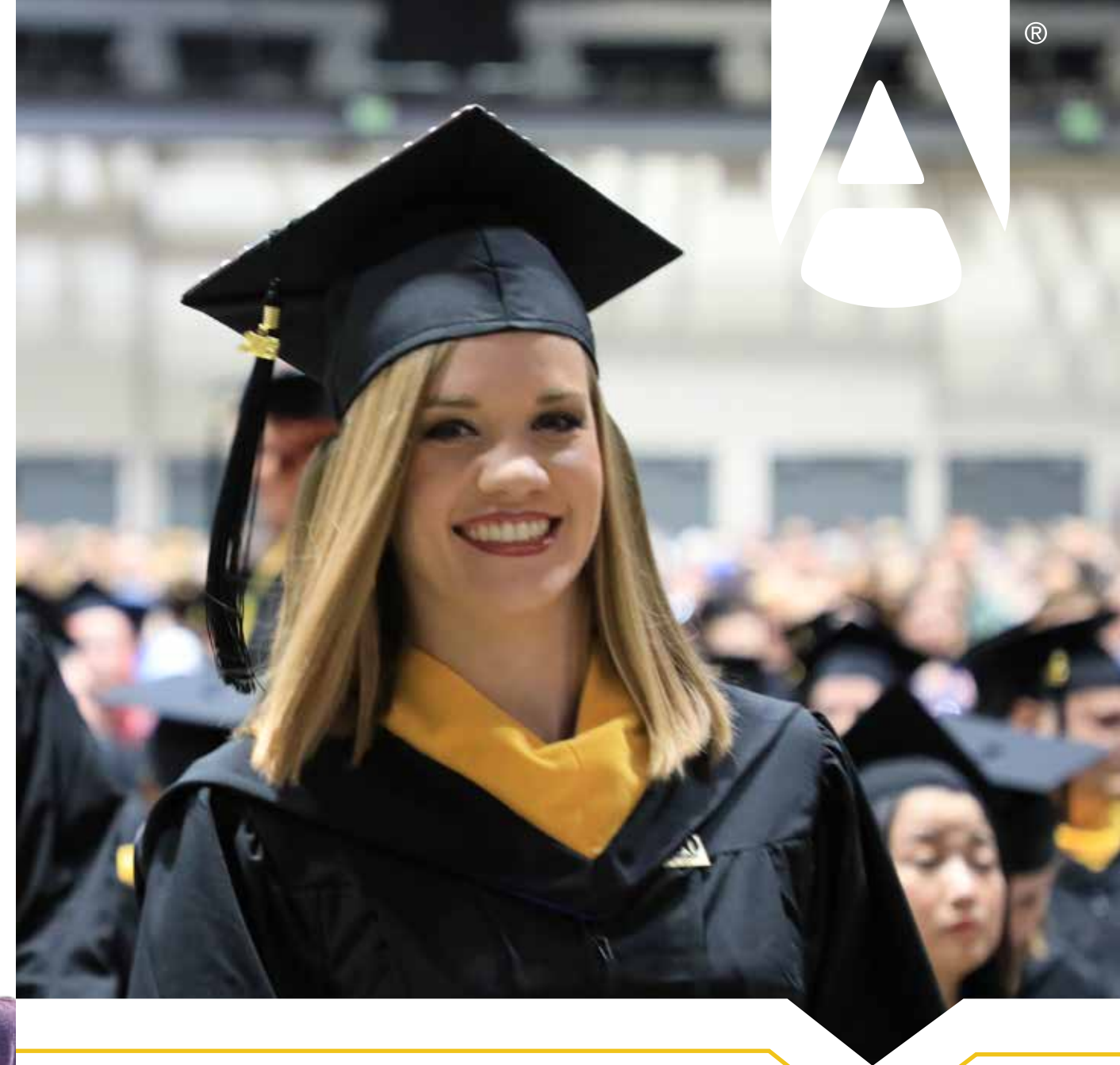
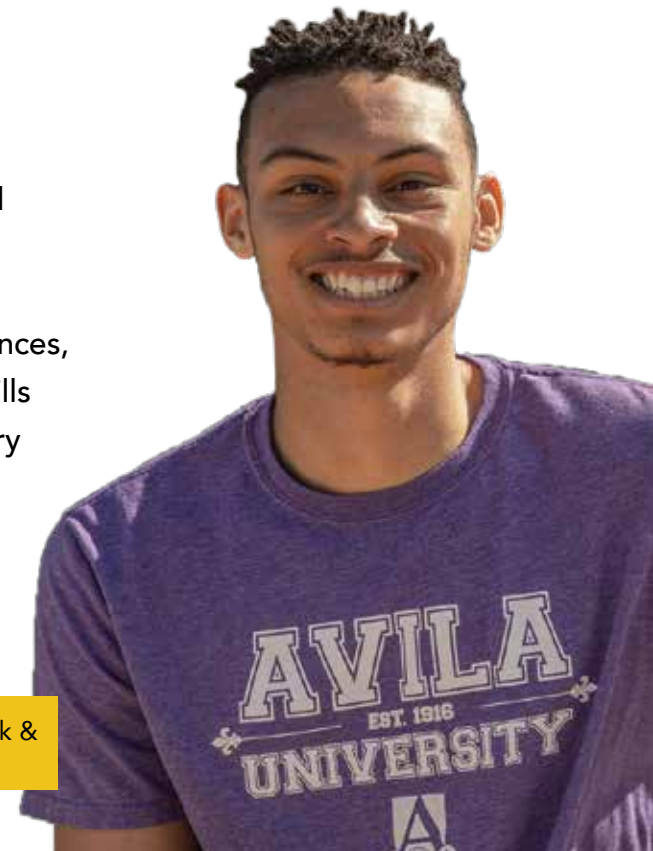
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"I have learned valuable lessons inside and outside the classroom and strengthened relationships with my teammates and professors at Avila. Through these experiences, I have further developed my leadership skills that will last me a lifetime. My extraordinary experiences at Avila simply would not be possible without scholarships. I view my scholarships as a personal investment in me, and for that, I am grateful."

**JOSH '20**, pre-med major, basketball and track & field scholarship recipient, Springdale, Ark.

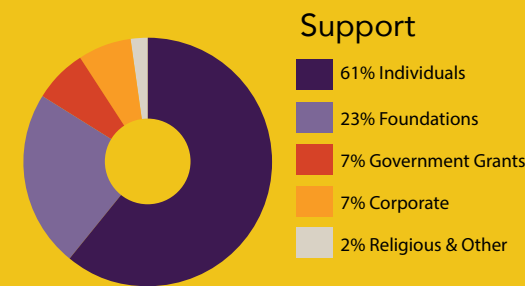
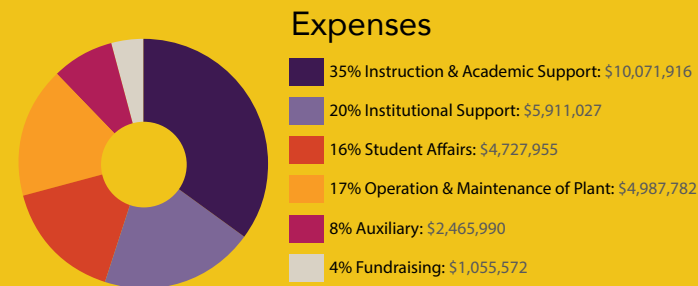
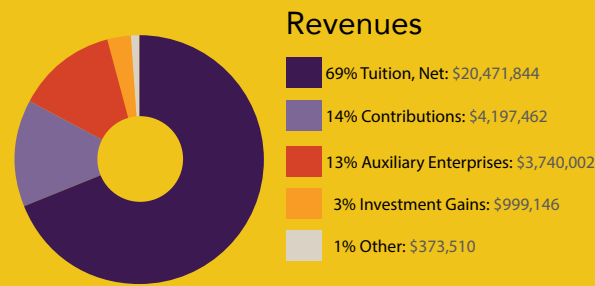


**INVESTING IN  
THE AVILA PROMISE**

**AVILA UNIVERSITY**  
PHILANTHROPY IMPACT REPORT 2017-18

AVILA UNIVERSITY • OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT  
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To review the University's Condensed Statements of Financial Position / Statements of Activities, as of June 30, 2018 and 2017, please visit: [Avila.edu/Give](http://Avila.edu/Give)

# 2017-18

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**EDUCATED 2,125**  
undergraduate and graduate students

**412 STUDENTS**  
graduated and became  
members of the  
Alumni Association

### LAUNCHED THE AVILA PROMISE:

- 33% tuition reduction for traditional undergraduates
- Tuition protection so students know the total cost of their degree from day one
- Four-year graduation guarantee
- Guaranteed internship or research experience
- \$1,000 travel award
- Books included in tuition

### ACADEMIC QUALITY REAFFIRMED

- Reaccredited by the Higher Learning Commission, meeting all criteria for mission, integrity, academic quality, governance, resources and institutional effectiveness
- Four academic programs reaccredited: Nursing, Counseling, Psychology, Business and Education

### ESTABLISHED THE STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

and increased tutoring support by 1,000 hours

### NEW PROGRAMS LAUNCHED:

- Master of Social Work partnership with Saint Louis University
- Master of Science in kinesiology
- School of Education Grow Your Own Initiative
- Certificates in COBOL, green theatre, PE education and chemistry education

### TRANSFER STUDENT

enrollment increased 40% in spring 2018

**AWARDED \$13.2 MILLION**  
in scholarships and financial aid

### JOINED KANSAS COLLEGIATE Athletic Conference

**54 STUDENT-ATHLETES**  
were named All-Conference Heart of America  
**7 ATHLETIC TEAMS**  
earned the NAIA Scholar-Award

### MET THE J.E. AND L.E. MABEE FOUNDATION

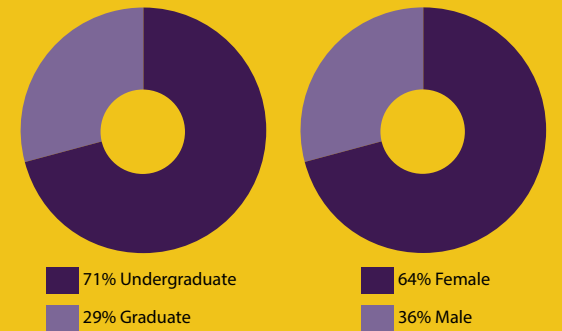
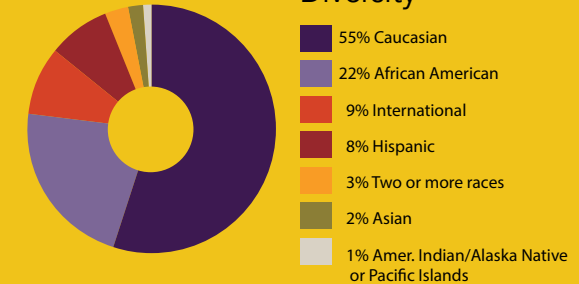
challenge grant, raising \$6.2 million to expand the Goppert Performing Arts Center

### 181 INTERNATIONAL

students attended Avila from 27 countries

## AVILA STUDENT POPULATION

### Diversity



"At Avila, I am being encouraged to make responsible, lifelong contributions to the global community. Avila instills a sense of community and fosters tomorrow's inspirational learners and leaders. I feel so grateful to have found Avila and for the alumni and friends who made Avila what it is today."

**HOLLIE '20**, elementary education and psychology majors, scholarship recipient Adrian, Mo.



"I received the full attention of my professors while I was at Avila and they took a personal interest in me, ensuring I had all the needed resources to succeed and reach my potential. I support Avila with my time and finances because I'm very grateful for the education and support I received during my time there and even after I left. Avila prepared me well personally and in my career."

**DR. IBRAHEEM T. BADEJO '84**, bachelor of science in chemistry Senior Director, New Ventures, Johnson & Johnson Natick, Mass.

