2020 Foundation Annual Report: Student Success

(250 words)

**UToledo Celebrates Record Levels of Student Success, Graduation and Retention**

Thanks to a concerted, community-wide focus on student success among students, faculty, staff, alumni and supporters, The University of Toledo surpassed a critical milestone during academic year 2019-20.

Following spring 2020 commencement, UToledo’s six-year graduation rate improved to a record high of 53.3% — up more than 10% since 2015 and meeting the University’s strategic plan goal three years early.

The entering class of fall 2019 also had a record high academic profile, with an average ACT score of 23.03 and average GPA of 3.48. Meanwhile, the latest first-to-second-year retention rate stands at 78.5%, the eighth consecutive year with an increase in students returning to campus for their second year.

“Thanks to the commitment of our faculty and staff in supporting student success, we are experiencing our highest retention and graduation rates in decades,” according to Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Karen Bjorkman. “We will continue those efforts moving forward while also continuing to develop signature programs and new opportunities to attract additional students to our campuses.”

**Callout: View the University’s full 2019-20 Annual Report at [utfoundation.org/2019](https://youtu.be/LAQmktU5IDg).**

UToledo continues to expand programs in the health professions to meet student and community demand. The University is building its expertise and strength in interprofessional education across the range of health professions, as evidenced by strategic growth in the College of Nursing and the College of Medicine and Life Sciences. Notably, the College of Law experienced the most overall growth in fall 2020, with a 6.5% increase in students.