Campus responds to Hurricane Katrina

- Accepted 60 students who had been displaced by Katrina. Gave free tuition and room and board for as long as a year.
- For students who cannot come to Urbana, but want to continue their studies this fall, they explored ways to connect them to our Guided Individual Study courses, study one on one with faculty members.
- Worked with the Champaign County Red Cross to collect donations for all hurricane victims. Volunteers collected nearly $33,000 for Red Cross at several locations around campus and at Memorial Stadium during Sept 3 and Sept 10 football games.
- Explored ways to accommodate displaced faculty and graduate students.
- Engineering and planning expertise shared with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and other response agencies.
- Alfred P. Sloan Foundation agreed to fund a tuition free, accelerated online program with a $1.1 million grant.
- The Student Bar Association, the Black Law Students Association and the Women’s Law Society at Urbana collected clothing, food, toiletries, and other items.

Local responds to Hurricane Katrina

- September 12: Students in the Illinois MBA program coordinated a fundraising effort that resulted in a contribution of almost $7,000 to the American Red Cross Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund. A team of MBA students spearheaded the seven-day drive with fellow students, faculty, staff, and alumni. A total of 92 people contributed in donations ranging from $10-$505.
- According to Red cross website, as of 11 Sept 2005, the Red Cross received more than $580 million in gifts and pledges for the hurricane relief effort.
- In town, one local church took in 19 family members from a devastated community.
- When another group in town learned about the desperate conditions of people who could not flee their community after Katrina, they filled a semi-truck trailer with supplies from Sam’s Club and shipped the whole load off to help those strangers.
- September 29: First Christian Church of Champaign is leading an effort to organize goods and services for a trip to the Gulf Coast region. This trip will need volunteers who are able-bodied workers in the area of construction, demolition, as well as support (cooking meals and handing out supplies to those in need). This is the 2nd of 4 planned service trips to the region.
October 7: "Shelter From The Storm" Hurricane Disaster Relief Benefit Concert # 1 - At the Foellinger Auditorium on the University of Illinois Quad. All proceeds from the event will go to the American Red Cross, Musicares, Habitat for Humanity and the Humane Society. These organizations have been actively responding to the needs of those greatly affected by both Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

October 15: "Shelter From The Storm" Hurricane Disaster Relief Benefit Concert # 2. All proceeds from the event will go to the American Red Cross, Musicares, Habitat for Humanity and the Humane Society.

October 8: The traditional Irish music scene in central Illinois will rally to aid New Orleans musicians affected by Hurricane Katrina. All proceeds from the event will go to the Tipitina's Foundation, a charitable organization formed in 2002 with the mission of uplifting the musical culture of New Orleans. In light of the recent tragedy in New Orleans, the foundation has shifted its current focus to preserving and reconstructing New Orleans' cultural heritage. Its commitment is to provide the New Orleans music community in exile with whatever resources they need to survive, including food, clothing, shelter, instruments, and resettlement options.

Several Champaign-Urbana churches are offering four upcoming work trips to offer hands to the many needs. Each of these trips will be working with on-site ministries in Gulfport, Biloxi, Baton Rouge, or other locations depending on the team and the regional needs at the time. Work may include food relief, supply handling, clearing brush, home repair, major cleanup, shelter work, and other physical tasks.

The Common Ground Food Co-op is collecting aid to send to Hurricane Katrina victims. They will be sending money to Second Harvest, which is the national network of food banks in the US. Second Harvest is coordinating millions of pounds of food aid which they are trucking down to the areas in need so that people can eat. Second Harvest has established a special "Hurricane Katrina" fund and will use 100% of money collected to get food to people in need. They have requested monetary donations to facilitate the transportation of food from food banks and grocery stores across the country down to the areas in need.

Champaign Urbana Public Health District will be collecting supplies needed for hygiene kits for refugees in our community displaced by Hurricane Katrina. More than 170 people have made use of the Katrina Evacuee Service Center in the Illinois Terminal in Champaign, and Public Health expects over 250 families to arrive in our community in upcoming weeks needing housing, clothing, and basic care items.

Debby Auble of Ward & Associates, Realtors, is spearheading an effort to send backpacks and school supplies to one of the Houston school districts.

The Champaign-Urbana News-Gazette has compiled a list of agencies that are accepting donations for relief assistance to victims of Hurricane Katrina. See http://www.news-gazette.com/katrinahelp/.

National Science Foundation Funding Available

- NSF- Small Grants for Exploratory Research: Hurricane Katrina
- NSF- Small Grants for Exploratory Research on Human aspects of Katrina
- NEH- Humanities Endowment Offers $1 million on Hurricane Relief for Gulf Coast Cultural Resources: Grants available for preservation of books, manuscripts, records, cultural artifacts
- FEMA/NEH/Heritage Preservation- Before and After Disasters: Federal Funding for Cultural Institutions