



**Office of the Chancellor**  
517 Swanlund Administration Building, MC-304  
601 E. John St.  
Champaign, IL 61820

July 20, 2021

Dr. and Mrs. Jasvant Modi  
4221 Hampstead Rd  
La Canada, CA 91011-3840

*Sent via email to: [jnmodi@hotmail.com](mailto:jnmodi@hotmail.com)*

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Modi,

It is my great privilege today to thank you for your remarkable generosity to the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. As I reflect back on this past year, it has been most unusual in many ways, yet, despite all the changes, the common thread that weaves its way through our extended Illinois community remains constant. We are a part of something bigger, deeply committed to one another and to the greater good, even in the face of uncertainty.

We are grateful for your leadership in establishing the Jain studies program. It further underscores the values we hold at this institution. At a time when many people feel their voices are not heard, and when violence and discord divide our nation, we find our goal to foster inclusiveness, as well as to instill in our students their vital role as global citizens, takes on even greater importance. This gift, the largest in the history of the Department of Religion, strengthens that responsibility and will be transformative in building our curriculum and expanding faculty expertise.

We have emerged from this year stronger than before, and appreciative of the unparalleled resources this university possesses. You give us great reason for that positive outlook. United from far and near, we are building the Illinois story together, and you are an important part of that journey.

Urbana-Champaign is proud to join other colleges and universities throughout this country with Jain studies programs. Unwavering excellence is the hallmark of Illinois, and it is strengthened by your investment in our future. Thank you for your philanthropic spirit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert J. Jones', written over a white background.

Robert J. Jones  
Chancellor