**FISCAL YEAR 2020 PLANNING DOCUMENT**

***Educate Elevate Connect, 2018-2023***

By acting on the Mission, Values, Directions, Objectives, and Actions of *Educate Elevate Connect*, the Stevenson Center will advance the University’s and its own mission to provide a quality educational experience and service to communities throughout the world.

From *Educate Elevate Connect, 2018-2023*:

* The Stevenson Center’s curriculum “Supports student learning through a seamless integration of curricular and co-curricular activities….”
* The Stevenson Center serves “…the region, state, nation, and world through its commitments to responsible stewardship, meaningful civic engagement, cultural enrichment, and the development of global citizens.”

Like Illinois State University, one of the Stevenson Center’s core values is civic engagement. The Center:

…prepares students to be informed and engaged global citizens; ethical leaders who will craft, promote, and further positive goals for the betterment of society. The University promotes active learning experiences through which students gain an awareness and understanding of civic engagement as a lifelong responsibility.

Symbiotically, the Stevenson Center educates students through their service to communities; we serve communities through the work of our students, staff, and faculty.

1. **OBJECTIVES**

These objectives flow from our 2016 IBHE Program Review process and our 2018 Strategic Planning process.

1. Ensure Stability of Graduate Programs and Cultivate Leaders to Positively Impact Communities:Our first priority is making sure our Peace Corps Fellows and Applied Community and Economic Development Fellows Programs are strong. We will focus on recruitment and placementof 12-13 Fellows per cohort. These experienced development professionals will populate the courses of our affiliated departments; they will be teaching assistants and mentors in Illinois State’s undergraduate classrooms. These students will serve local community agencies and organizations elsewhere in the US. Recruitment efforts include diversifying cohorts, being more balanced between Peace Corps and ACED Fellows, and improved branding--such that it plays to our strengths. We will continue to adapt the placement process such that it remains effective for students, hosts, and staff while navigating shifts in state and federal policy. More frequent and deeper contacts with alumni will be integral to both recruitment and placement efforts. The Curriculum Committee will determine the best timing for more substantive updates to the ACED sequence. The students emanating from this curriculum provide service to communities throughout the country. They become leaders in community/economic development.
2. Continue to Raise Awareness about Peace Corps and AmeriCorps: The Peace Corps Prep Program will continue to fulfill its potential. As the first certificate holders begin their service, we will remain in touch with them and connect them with students on campus. Over 50 students are enrolled; engagement levels vary. A core group of Prep students continues to build the RSO, Friends for Peace, to actively support each other and raise awareness on campus. While there have been some events, we would like to provide more opportunities for these students to interact with our graduate students, with perhaps a joint project between the two RSOs. A related goal is to develop the capacity for more individual engagement with Prep students who may need it. We anticipate another year of funding for Peace Corps campus recruitment. Both the Prep program and Peace Corps campus recruitment efforts benefited immensely from partnerships on campus, which we will continue to strengthen. We have AmeriCorps Members with the Center and in Student Affairs.
3. Raise Research Profile:We explicitly embrace the goal of expanding scholarly engagement among students and faculty. The Research Committee of the Stevenson Center Board is active again. Faculty engage in applied research, like that for McLean County’s Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. Graduate students assist and the work often leads to capstone projects and theses. These are publishable manuscripts. We are updating the faculty portion of the website.

In sum, we seek to “increase the number and quality of opportunities that engage students in research with faculty” (EEC IV.B.2).

1. **PERMANENT FUNDING REQUESTS**

The items below are permanent needs; we know permanent funding may not be available.

1. Graduate Student Stipends: A strong financial package is key to graduate student recruitment and stronger graduate programs (EEC I.A.4). At one time, the Center received enough General Revenue funds to cover two paid graduate assistants in each of three affiliated departments. Those funds did not increase in five fiscal years. Including the expected 2% increase to stipends in Fiscal Year 2020, the shortfall between the permanent amount and that needed to fully fund two graduate assistants in ECO, POL, and SOA is = **$11,088**.
2. Director’s Summer Salary: Thanks to the generosity of Academic Affairs, the Stevenson Center Director received 1.5 months of summer funding for each of the last nine years. *Thank you*. In support of the Stevenson Center’s mission, the Center’s students, and growth of the program, the director works throughout the academic year. One course release each semester is provided by our affiliated departments. The director secures external funding such that half of the summer is covered. We request that Academic Affairs provide permanent funds, covering the other 1.5 months of summer salary. For Fiscal Year 2020, the cost is $8,352 x 1.5 = **$12,528**.
3. **STRATEGIC BUDGETED CARRYOVER**

Due to a transfer of agency account funds to General Revenue on 02/21/2019, per the Budget Office, we need to SBC **$14,732** to Fiscal Year 2020.

1. **PROVOST ENHANCEMENT REQUESTS**

Support for graduate students and our affiliated departments is the Stevenson Center’s first priority.

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3. **BASE INSTRUCTIONAL CAPACITY REQUEST**
4. **SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTIONAL CAPACITY REQUEST**
5. **PERSONNEL REQUESTS—NEW TENURE TRACK FACULTY**
6. **PERSONNEL REQUESTS—TENURE TRACK FACULTY, NON-REAPPOINTMENT**
7. **PERSONNEL REQUESTS—NON-TENURE TRACK FACULTY, NON-REAPPOINTMENT**