



FISCAL YEAR 2019 PLANNING DOCUMENT

Educating Illinois 2013-2018, Individualized Attention, Shared Aspirations

By acting on the Mission, Values, Goals, and Strategies of *Educating Illinois*, 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 *Educating Illinois 2013-2018*:

- The Stevenson Center's curriculum requires "...student learning and development inside and outside the classroom."
- 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."
- The Stevenson Center prepares "...students to excel in a globally competitive, culturally diverse, and changing environment."

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 who will promote and further the goals of society. The University promotes active learning experiences through which students will gain an awareness and understanding of civic engagement as a lifelong responsibility. The University partners with business, industry, government, and educational entities providing leadership in local, statewide, national, and international initiatives; expanding service and outreach; and enhancing financial support for instructional, scholarly, and service activities.

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

I. OBJECTIVES

These objectives flow from our 2016 IBHE Program Review process.

- A. Ensure Stability of Graduate Programs: With the closure of the Master's International Program nationally, our first priority is making sure that our Peace Corps Fellows and ACED Fellows Programs are strong. We will focus on recruitment and placement of 12 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 and improving 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. Using feedback from students and faculty, we will continue to build the ACED sequence in anthropology and in kinesiology and recreation. The Curriculum Committee, in consultation with the Executive Committee, will determine the best timing for more substantive updates to the ACED sequence. At a minimum, we will explore ways to increase interdisciplinary and applied aspects within the current academic structure.

- B. Continue to Raise Awareness about Peace Corps and AmeriCorps: The Peace Corps Prep Program has a strong start and will continue to fulfill its potential with time. As the first certificate holders begin their service, we will remain in touch with them and connect them with students on campus. To date, 47 students have applied and attended an orientation session; 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 have benefited immensely from partnerships on campus, which we will continue to strengthen. We take every opportunity to promote AmeriCorps as well.

- C. Raise Research Profile: Our role as a connecting point can lead to more opportunities for faculty, students, and staff to contribute to the community/economic development literature. 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.

In sum, we seek to “increase student participation in research...” and provide “...professional development opportunities for students” through “...applied research that benefits community partners” (*Educating Illinois, 2013-2018*).

II. PERMANENT FUNDING REQUESTS

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

- A. Graduate Student Stipends: A strong financial package (per *Educating Illinois, 2013-2018*) is key to graduate student recruitment and stronger graduate programs. 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. Assuming a 2% increase to stipends in Fiscal Year 2019, the shortfall between the permanent amount and that needed to fully fund two graduate assistants in ECO, POL, and SOA is = **\$11,955**.
- B. Director’s Stipend: 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 2019, the cost is $\$8,216 \times 1.5 =$ **\$12,324**.

III. STRATEGIC BUDGETED CARRYOVER

Not applicable

IV. PROVOST ENHANCEMENT REQUESTS

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

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V. BASE INSTRUCTIONAL CAPACITY REQUEST

VI. SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTIONAL CAPACITY REQUEST

VII. PERSONNEL REQUESTS—NEW TENURE TRACK FACULTY

VIII. PERSONNEL REQUESTS—TENURE TRACK FACULTY, NON-REAPPOINTMENT