



FISCAL YEAR 2017 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

- A. Continued Success: We are in the process admitting the 2016-2017 cohort of 14-16 quality, public-service oriented graduate students. 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 serve local community agencies, organizations elsewhere in the U.S., and communities in developing countries.

The Center's faculty and staff will continue to assist communities directly through data management and analysis (for the Illinois Department of Employment Security and the McLean County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council), grant-writing training (at Heartland Community College and Illinois State University), data-mining services for small businesses throughout the state, and economic impact analyses. We seek to assist communities in their growth and development.

- B. Diversification of Graduate Programs: The Applied Community and Economic Development Sequence is now present in five graduate degree programs: Anthropology, Applied Economics, Kinesiology and Recreation, Political Science, and Sociology. Anthropology and Kinesiology and Recreation came online this past fall, admitting 1 and 2 Fellows respectively. However, the Master's International program, that prepares students for Peace Corps Service, was unavailable to students in these two programs. This is now changed; a recent request to Peace Corps to allow MI students into the ANT and KNR programs received an affirmative response. Anthropology is excited to welcome these students and to play a role in preparing them for two years of service-learning overseas. The School of Kinesiology and Recreation is considering their options.

The goal for the Stevenson Center is not expansion, but diversifying the interdisciplinary offerings in the ACED sequence to include those leaving for Peace Corps. This move is strategic and curricular; we hope to diversify the pool of applicants and to maintain diversity in the classroom (across disciplines and levels of prior development experience).

- C. Replacing and Training the Program Coordinator: James Porter will leave Illinois State in June. A search to find a qualified replacement is moving rapidly.
- D. Launching Peace Corps Prep Program at Illinois State: We recently received notification that Peace Corps approved Illinois State University as a site of a program that begins to

prepare undergraduates for Peace Corps Service, or international service more generally. Beverly Beyer (associate director with the Stevenson Center) is leading the effort. This program relies on existing curricula; Beverly will be making connections across the campus for a Fall 2016 or Spring 2017 launch.

- E. Outreach: Illinois Business Intelligence, an online resource for small business owners in Illinois, is growing. We will continue to build connections with the EDC, the Chamber, Small Business Development Centers, and other economic development organizations. Our data management relationship with McLean County's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council is deepening; we are doing more for them and each effort is more impactful. We will be expanding our web presence to highlight the work we do for the Illinois Department of Employment Security, the Illinois Student Assistance Council, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education. Solid multi-year projects like this open the door for more graduate assistantships in the field. The Stevenson Center continues to "...develop partnerships with business, educational, and government entities that provide learning, financial, and mutually-beneficial opportunities." (*Educating Illinois, 2013-2018*).

- D. Advancing Scholarship: The Research Committee within the Center's Board is charged with expanding our scholarly connections to the interdisciplinary field of community and economic development. This will unfold through the outreach programs discussed above and writing with students. 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

We understand why permanent requests cannot be funded at this time. The items below represent what we see as permanent needs.

- A. Graduate Student Stipends: At one time the Center received enough General Revenue funds to fully cover two paid graduate assistants in each of its three affiliated departments. Those funds did not see an increase in five fiscal years. The difference between the current permanent amount (\$39,293) and that needed to fully fund two Graduate Assistants in each Department is = **\$11,721**.

- 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 seven 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 2017, the cost is $\$7,746 \times 1.5 = \mathbf{\$11,619}$.

III. STRATEGIC BUDGETED CARRYOVER

IV. PROVOST ENHANCEMENT REQUESTS

A. Graduate Student Stipends: At one time the Center received enough General Revenue funds to fully cover two paid graduate assistants in each of its three affiliated departments. Those funds did not see an increase in five fiscal years. The difference between the current permanent amount (\$39,293) and that needed to fully fund two Graduate Assistants in each Department is = **\$11,721**.

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 seven 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 the other half of the summer is covered. We request that Academic Affairs provide enhancement funds, covering the other 1.5 months of summer salary. For Fiscal Year 2017, the cost is $\$7,746 \times 1.5 = \mathbf{\$11,619}$.

V. PERSONNEL REQUESTS—NEW TENURE TRACK FACULTY Not applicable

VI. PERSONNEL REQUESTS—TENURE TRACK FACULTY, NON-REAPPOINTMENT Not applicable

VII. FACILITIES REQUESTS Not Applicable