

Board Meeting
March 15, 2017

ESTABLISH THE CLINE CENTER FOR ADVANCED SOCIAL RESEARCH,
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES, URBANA

Action: Establish the Cline Center for Advanced Social Research, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Vice President, University of Illinois with the advice of the Urbana-Champaign Senate recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to establish the Cline Center for Advanced Social Research.

The Cline Center, part of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, originally was established on temporary status as the Center for the Study of Democratic Governance. At the May 17, 2007, meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the new name of the Cline Center for Democracy to recognize the financial contribution from the Cline family. Subsequently, the Cline Center's research has expanded to focus on combining computational text analytics methods with domain expertise from the social sciences and humanities. In addition to the founding endowment from the Cline family, funding sources have diversified to include recurring revenue from restricted funds dedicated to Cline Center use, private donations, public- and private-sector partnerships, licensing of data products for non-research applications, and fees for services provided by

the Cline Center to researchers. To best reflect the broader scholarly focus and activity portfolio that have come with the growth of the Center, permanent establishment of the unit as the Cline Center for Advanced Social Research is appropriate at this time.

The Cline Center for Advanced Social Research (CCASR) intends to retain and continue to build on and grow its current myriad research, learning, and engagement activities. These activities include public symposia, a fellowship program, paid undergraduate and graduate research positions, partnerships with academic and non-academic organizations, endowed professorships support, and creation of novel data products and data sets for extreme-scale test analytics and cross-national comparative research. CCASR aims to equip and empower a new generation of social scientists, humanists, and data scientists to take up key challenges such as sustainability, inequality, and civil unrest that threaten human flourishing in the 21st century by applying advanced computational techniques at extreme scales to discover innovative solutions hidden in unstructured data.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further Senate jurisdiction is involved.

The President of the University recommends approval. This action is subject to further review and approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.