

Board Meeting  
March 15, 2018

ESTABLISH THE CENTER FOR URBAN EDUCATION LEADERSHIP, COLLEGE  
OF EDUCATION, CHICAGO

**Action:** Establish the Center for Urban Education Leadership, College of Education

**Funding:** No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Vice President, University of Illinois with the advice of the Chicago Senate and the College of Education, recommends the establishment of the Center for Urban Education Leadership.

The Center for Urban Education Leadership (CUEL) researches the best ways to prepare visionary leaders for high-need urban schools; advocates for these models of principal preparation at local, state, and national policy levels; and serves as a hub for information dissemination to other researchers and to the public on the latest trends and advancements in school leader training. Through a collaboration with UIC's Doctor of Education in Urban Education Leadership, CUEL is building evidence to support the finding that there is currently no more cost-effective method for improving low-performing urban schools at scale than putting high performing school principals in every school.

Since the founding of the center in 2011, UIC has had a profound and recognized impact on Chicago Public School leadership, led a legislative task force that

changed Illinois school leader certification law, and received national recognition and awards from leading scholarly and policy organizations. CUEL also consults with, and delivers training and guidance to, school districts, government agencies and policymakers, and state and national associations and organizations.

CUEL staff include the director, who coordinates the research agenda, leads grant-writing efforts, and manages externally-funded projects; associate director, who manages daily operations; and director of research and team of research specialists and assistants. CUEL also provides four leadership coaches who support EdD candidates, who are aspiring principals, in their efforts to obtain school leadership positions and succeed as novice principals in their first three years of service. The center has received more than \$5.0 million in grants and three-quarters of current staff positions are externally funded.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respect 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.