

Stevenson Center

for Community and Economic Development

College of Arts and Sciences
Illinois State University

Mission

We “... devote all of our resources and energies to creating the most supportive and productive community possible to serve the citizens of Illinois and beyond”

-- Educating Illinois, 2003-2010

We are a “..partner fully engaged in outreach with business, industry, government, and education.”

-- Educating Illinois, 2003-2010

We are engaged with “...local and state communities through service-learning projects, faculty research contributions, and college/community partnerships.”

**-- Strategy Four, College of Arts and Sciences Strategic Plan,
2005-2010**

Matching Students with Host Agencies and Communities

Graduate Assistantships

- 15-20 hours per week for one or two semesters
- Local network, plus outreach
- Brief application, meetings, RSP
- Federal Work Study



Professional Practice Placements

- 35 hours per week for 11 months
- Outreach in IL and beyond
- Longer application, in-person or phone interviews, RSP

- (Peace Corps)

Report/Evaluation Structure

Graduate Assistantships (AmeriCorps)

- Monthly reports on work activities and accomplishments
- Mid-term and final evaluation forms from site supervisor, plus checking in



Professional Practice Placements

Four Reports

- Relations to and progress toward work plan, including work samples
- Skills/abilities acquired and lessons learned
- Areas for improvement

Final (Fifth) Report

- Objectives achieved or not, and methods for achieving objectives
- Roadblocks--what could be done differently
- Stevenson Center support during internship
- Relation to coursework

Evaluation Forms—three to four from supervisor (except Peace Corps)

Site Visits (when logistically feasible)

Current Students

- Who do they work with and what are they doing
- What are they gaining from the experience
- How do they expect to use what they have learned in a future internship or career



Questions

To what extent is a University responsible for the community in which it rests?

What are the benefits to the educational experience of our students if the University is so engaged?