



Student Employment and its Transformative Impact!



TO CELEBRATE THE ILLINOIS LEADERSHIP CENTER

This semester, the Illinois Leadership Center (ILC) is commemorating its 15th anniversary by counting down 15 reasons to celebrate the ILC. This week, we are highlighting our student employment and the transformative impact it is having on our student employees and the University of Illinois. The ILC employs several students who perform a range of tasks. Currently, we have three Graduate Assistants, five Graf Interns, sixteen Leadership Paraprofessionals, one Creative Director, one Graphic Designer, and four Staff Photographers. There are also four students who are doing a practicum with our office. These amazing student staff are key to our success and outreach! Our staff is comprised of teams where students perform different tasks based off their interests and expertise. Below is our team structure, their functions, and who are members of that team:

Team	Function	Members
Assessment & Research Team	Analyze and assess effectiveness of ILC programs & services, manage book of the month series, and disseminate reports to staff.	Graduate Assistant (student lead), four practicum students, two Leadership Paraprofessionals, Associate Director (professional staff)
Branding, Advertising, Marketing, & Outreach Team	Manage social media accounts, develop and distribute bi-weekly Illini Leadership Journal, deliver marketing presentations across campus, outreach to campus constituent groups, design and disseminate all digital and print materials.	Creative Director (student lead), Graphic Designer, three Leadership Paraprofessionals, Assistant Director (professional staff)
Customer Service Team	Serve as first contact of the ILC by answering phone calls, emails, and walk-in traffic. Help with general management and upkeep of office space.	Four Leadership Paraprofessionals
i-Program Team	Manage all aspects of i-Programs, including program registration, communication logistics with participants and facilitators, management of program materials, and updating curriculum.	Two Graf Interns (student leads), three Leadership Paraprofessionals, Graduate Assistant, Assistant Director (professional staff)
Leadership Certificate Team	Meet individually with students in Certificate Program to coach on progress, oversee Certificate Cohort program, manage deadlines and requirements of certificate, plan completion ceremonies.	Graf Intern (student lead), Leadership Paraprofessional, Graduate Assistant, Assistant Director (professional staff)
Leadership Education Team	Facilitate leadership workshops on a variety of topics to requesting groups and serve as consultants to student organizations.	Graf Intern (student lead), three Leadership Paraprofessionals, and Assistant Director (professional staff)

In Spring 2015, the ILC staff worked collaboratively to create a student employment experience that would be an incubator for leadership development and allow students to draw connections between their coursework and future career. Now in its second year, we have seen significant learning gains in eight key outcome areas (communication, diversity appreciation, teamwork/collaboration, responsible independence, leadership development, customer service, and career readiness). Students employed at the ILC report high levels of satisfaction and are able to apply what they learn in the office. One student stated, “[At the ILC] I have learned a lot of communications skills that I will be able to use during my classes now and later on in my future career.” The new innovative approach to student employment has been featured in a publication and at professional conferences.