



Growth of our Scholarly Profile: *A Boom in Academic Initiatives*



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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 the growth of our scholarly profile via our academic initiatives.

The Illinois Leadership Center is a partnership between academic affairs and student affairs. From the initial conceptualization of the Illinois Leadership Center, it was clear that the ILC would be more than a Center that provided co-curricular leadership experiences for students. As clearly indicated in our vision statement: “The Illinois Leadership Center® at the University of Illinois seeks to be an internationally acclaimed provider of leadership education, research, and experiential opportunities for students.”

In order to stay true to our vision, we have added two new programs to our portfolio; the Faculty Fellows Program and the Leader in Residence Program.

The ILC Faculty Fellows program is designed to encourage leadership scholarship and interdisciplinary collaboration among Illinois faculty. Each year, tenured and tenure-track faculty are selected based on their scholarly interest in the field of leadership and provided a grant to pursue research on leadership topics. In addition to the Fellows individual research projects, they host events that promote collaboration across disciplines and help the advance the ILC research agenda. Now in its third year, Fellows have produced approximately 12 articles, engaged 19 undergraduate and 13 graduate students in research, and conducted over 30 presentations on their work.

Launched spring 2016, the Leader in Residence Program is designed to bring leader practitioners and scholars to campus to share their experiences and engage in rich and challenging conversations, as well as learning and reflection with Illinois students, faculty, and staff. The Leader in Residence shares their leadership perspectives in various forums with the campus community, and lives in residence on campus for one week. Dr. Kathy Guthrie, an Illinois alum and Associate Professor in Higher Education in the Department of Education Leadership and Policy Studies at Florida State University served as the 2017-2018 Leader in Residence.

In addition, the ILC Staff are publishing scholarly work and making presentations at conferences. The highlight of our publications in 2017 was an article in the Journal of Leadership Education about our comprehensive multi-level model for campus based leadership education. It was co-authored by Dr. Dave Rosch, Associate Professor, Agricultural Education Program; Dr. Gayle Spencer, Director, Illinois Leadership Center; and Dr. Beth Hoag, Associate Director, Illinois Leadership Center.

In 2016-2017, ILC staff members presented sessions at the Tobias Leadership and Discovery Conference (Indianapolis, IN), the National Association of Campus Activities (NACA) National Convention (Baltimore, MD), the Leadership Educators Institute (Long Beach, CA), and the Association for Leadership Educators Conference (Sacramento, CA).

To stay up to date with the commemoration of our 15th anniversary, be sure to visit:

<http://leadership.illinois.edu/15-years-leadership>

To RSVP for our event celebrating 15 years of leadership follow this link:

<https://forms.illinois.edu/sec/440994>