

University of North Florida
Center for Community-Based Learning

State University System

Educational and General
2007-2008 Legislative Operating Budget Issue
Form I-d

Strategic Planning Goal/Objective: Meeting Community Needs and Fulfilling Unique Institutional Responsibilities (*Examples could include issues important to a regional area or specific to an institution's mission.*)

University:	University of North Florida
Issue Title:	Center for Community-Based Learning
University Priority Number:	2
Date Approved by Board of Trustees:	06/20/06

- I. **Needs Statement:** (*What need will be addressed with the provision of funds for this issue?*)

The University of North Florida seeks to establish a Center for Community-Based Learning that will meet the needs of the urban community, enhance the labor market prospects of our graduates, and also fulfill the institutional mission of providing students with Transformational Learning Opportunities (TLOs).

The University of North Florida is an urban comprehensive university located in Jacksonville Florida, a city of over one million residents. As a fast growing urban metropolitan area, Jacksonville faces a range of challenges and problems that would benefit from the civic involvement and service participation of UNF students. More specifically, there are educational, health-related, youth, environmental and social welfare agencies and organizations that serve the Jacksonville population. Student placement in these organizations through service and experiential learning would strengthen the bond between the community and the university.

Students can also derive direct benefits from this arrangement as these community opportunities allow students to develop and apply their academic skills in public and private-sector organizations, and contribute their intellectual capital. Such internship and field experience opportunities will enhance the career development and employability of UNF graduates. What is needed, and what the Center will provide, is a one-stop clearinghouse for community agencies, organizations and firms to submit and list existing positions, and for students to access opportunities relevant to their areas of study and career aspirations.

Finally, the current mission statement and branding commitment of the University of North Florida places a central emphasis on student experiences that are

“transformational” in the sense that they represent intensive, or co-curricular, forms of academic involvement and engagement. The university has identified “field experiences” and “service learning” as two related Transformational Learning Opportunities that will be expanded and made available to students. The Center for Community-Based Learning will allow the university to meet this commitment.

II. **Justification**

A. **Description of service or program to be provided:** *(Include whether this is a new or expanded initiative. If expanded, what has been accomplished with the current service/program?)*

This is a new initiative. The Center for Community-Based Learning will provide a service to both UNF students and Jacksonville urban community through the placement of students in service learning, field experiences, and internships. These community-based activities will be linked to and integrated with the academic program and curriculum.

B. **Description of current university initiatives, and their resources, that will strengthen the provision of this service/program:**

The University of North Florida has signaled its intention through its strategic plan to further develop and expand Transformational Learning Opportunities that include, as a central feature, community-based learning. The university has already made a significant financial commitment to supporting a wide range of these TLOs. The university also currently has in place community-based learning courses in various colleges and departments that will provide the initial foundation for the development of an expanded, intensive, comprehensive, and institutionally integrated Center.

a. **Description of outcome anticipated** *(Be specific).*

With the institutionalization of a Center for Community-Based Learning, UNF will:

Place increasing numbers of UNF students in community internships, fieldwork experiences, and service learning positions

Develop an inventory of community-based learning opportunities that meet the needs of students in all colleges and academic departments

Develop a co-curricular transcript that will track and record all community-based learning experiences.

Increase the number of UNF students placed in positions of employment in the community upon graduation.
 Increase student awareness of civic and community responsibility and engagement.

b. Additional information to justify request:

At a time when higher education is increasingly viewed as a private commodity rather than a public good, it is vital that state universities reaffirm their role as engines of community progress and welfare. In order to serve this public good and generate support for public education, universities must develop visible symbiotic relationships with community organizations. The Center is designed to advance this principle.

III. Budget Request for 2007-08:

		2006-07 Budget for Issue (A)	2007-08 State Funds Requested (B)	2007-08 Anticipat ed Reallocat ion (C)	Total Budget for Issue (D)
a.	Recurring Funds:	\$185,600	\$	\$	\$
	Director, CCBL		\$103,200		\$100,000
	Coordinators (5)		\$290,000		\$290,000
	Program Assistants (2)		\$67,000		\$67,000
	Graduate Interns - Stipends and Tuition Scholarships		\$100,000		\$100,000
	Internship Scholarships		\$300,000		\$500,000
	Operating Expenses – e.g., Office Supplies, Travel, Marketing Materials, etc.		\$161,800		\$150,000

	Library Resources		\$100,000		\$100,000
b.	Non-recurring Funds: Office Setup	\$	\$40,000	\$	\$55,000
c.	Total:	\$185,600	\$1,162,000	\$	\$1,162,000

- A. Identify 2006-07 funds (if not E&G funds, provide the source of the funds) that will be used to initiate this program.
The University established the position of Assistant Vice President for Undergraduate Studies to provide the leadership for student transformational learning opportunities involving undergraduate programs and initiatives. It is this position that will supervise the Community Based Learning Unit.
- B. Identify the amount of funds requested for 2007-08.
- C. Identify existing programs from which funds will be reallocated, if applicable (include for example, salaries from reallocated or dedicated personnel).
- D. If this is a multi-year request, identify the incremental funds needed from the state for each future year, by year, for a maximum of five years.

IV. Facilities:

- A. Does this issue require an expansion or construction of a facility?
No.
- B. If yes, is the project identified on the Capital Improvement List? If so, identify the project, fiscal amount, year requested and priority number.

	Facility Project Title	Fiscal Year	Amount Requested
1.			
2.			