Appendix G

Opportunities for Engagement with the Local Community
Appendix G

Opportunities for Engagement with the Local Community

Brown provides numerous opportunities for community members in Providence to partner with members of the Brown community (faculty, students, staff) to address local challenges and strengthen the educational, economic, and social assets of our city, state, and region. Plans to continue or strengthen a number of these opportunities are described here:

- Continue our commitment to Building Futures, a program that trains low-income Providence residents to apprentice with the RI Building and Construction Trades Council. For all Brown construction projects with budgets over $5 million, at least 15% of labor hours are performed by Building Futures graduates. Since 2008, Brown has partnered on 17 projects with Building Futures, including the current School of Engineering Building and SciLi Renovations.

- Produce the Minority and Women Business Enterprise (MBE/ WBE) Opportunity Fair annually, which opens doors for local MBE/WBE businesses to secure sub-contracts on major Brown construction projects. More than 30 MBE/ WBE businesses attended the most recent Fair in November 2015, where they networked with the ten largest General Contractors who work with Brown.

- Promote the work of Computing & Information Services (CIS) which provides between 8-10 internship opportunities to CCRI students during the summer. CIS also sponsors a Year-Up graduate each year to work in the department.

- Support Alpert Medical School's Early Identification Program (EIP), which increases medical career opportunities for people from medically underserved communities and from groups underrepresented in the medical profession. Program participants come from Rhode Island College, Providence College, University of Rhode Island and Tougaloo College. Exceptionally promising rising juniors are guaranteed admission to Alpert Medical School upon successful completion of college.

- Promote the Fund for the Education of the Children of Providence, which has awarded more than $300,000 in college scholarship and grants to Providence public high school graduates. The program, run jointly with Providence Public School District, distributes $2,500 competitive grants to twenty students per year, which may be used for any 2- or 4-year accredited college. The Fund was created in response to the University's Steering Committee on Slavery and Justice.

- Support the Alpert Medical School's Pathways Mentorship Program, which pairs more than 20 greater Providence high school students interested in health care and health sciences careers with medical student mentors.

- Promote the Education Department’s Urban Education Policy (UEP) and Masters of Arts in Teaching (MAT) programs, which place Brown students in local schools and education organizations, and bring local youth to campus. The Education Department's work includes:

  - Brown Summer High School, which brings nearly 250 Providence-area high school students to campus each summer for innovative classes taught by MAT students.
- SummerPrep, a collaboration with Community Prep School, provides Providence-area students entering grades 1-6 with summer enrichment, taught by MAT students.

- UEP master’s student internships, which place about 15 graduate students per year in local and state education organizations for the duration of the school year.

- Urban Education Fellows: UEP and MAT graduates who receive tuition support in return for working locally for 3 years.

- Many Education Department faculty are engaged in local work, including serving on Boards and Committees.

- Continue to support the community engagement work of The Swearer Center, which is based on a philosophy that values mutually respectful relationships with communities. The Swearer Center coordinates more than 15 student-led programs in Providence schools and agencies, serving thousands of local youth. A few examples include:

  - BEAM (Brown Elementary Afterschool Mentoring) provides daily after-school enrichment, homework support and mentoring to 225 K-5 students at D'Abate Elementary School in Olneyville. This 15-year partnership places 100 Brown volunteers at the school every week, and also runs a summer camp at D’Abate staffed by Brown undergraduates.

  - BRYTE (Brown Refugee Youth Tutoring and Enrichment) pairs 130 Brown volunteers with 130 recent refugee youth to provide academic tutoring and mentoring during the school year, and a smaller summer camp focused on English language acquisition. BRYTE is a partnership with Dorcas International Institute of RI and the Providence Public School Department.

  - College Advising Corps (CAC), managed by the Swearer Center since 2007, aims to increase the number of low-income, first-generation and underrepresented high school students entering and completing higher education by providing college application and financial aid guidance to students and families. In 2014-15, Brown’s CAC Advisors worked with 7,533 students across four grade levels; of the seniors who completed at least one college application with the help of CAC Advisors, 79% were accepted to a higher education institution.

  - TRI-Lab: Teaching, Research, and Impact. The TRI-Lab Program brings together students, faculty, and community practitioners to engage with complex community challenges and collaboratively develop, refine, and test solutions to those challenges. Topics for these labs are selected in dialogue with community partners. The overarching goal of the program is to build university-community partnerships that create positive social impact in Providence and Rhode Island.

- Brown’s Engaged Scholars Program (ESP) builds on the lessons of TRI-Lab and is building broader institutional supports to enable students, faculty and community partners to collaborate and create positive community impact. ESP provides grants and technical assistance to faculty seeking to build community projects into their courses; helps community organizations and agencies throughout Providence and Rhode Island identify students and faculty interested in community-based research; and develops internship and capstone opportunities for students who wish to engage with and support local organizations. A few examples include:
- Public Health: Professor Akilah Dulin-Keita’s “Place Matters” class studied a Providence elementary school and recreation center, ultimately making recommendations to the City on improving physical conditions that would facilitate outdoor play.

- Environmental and Society: Professor Scott Frickel's class documented the green spaces in four Providence neighborhoods, investigating possible hazardous pollutants.