Thank you for your interest in working with the College of Education at Temple University to provide our students with unique opportunities to support our community. Please complete this form to share your proposed project.

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Contact Person  
Preferred E-mail

The LINC: Learning in New Contexts / School District of Philadelphia  
Company/Institution

122 W. Erie Avenue  
Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Philadelphia  
State  
Zip Code

Brief Organizational Background

The LINC is non-selective School District of Philadelphia (SDP) managed high school opening in the fall of 2014 with 115 freshmen. The school’s mission is to provide a personalized, competency-based learning environment open to all students where 100% of students graduate within 3-5 years ready to enter a four-year college without the need for remediation. Dr. Saliyah Cruz designed the school in collaboration with SDP’s Office of New School Models and will assume the role of principal.

The LINC’s design was informed by listening sessions with students and stakeholders across Philadelphia and research from the Carnegie Foundation on successful school models. The result is a school that will emphasize 21st century skills and global competencies. It will tailor its curriculum to the pace, needs, and interests of each student through the deployment of a competency framework in all subjects and an intensive advisory period. In addition, students will be encouraged to act as positive leaders of change in their communities as they explore their identity, examine issues in their community, and devise solutions to address those issues.

Range of Services (i.e. tutoring, discrete workshops, research, etc)

The LINC will serve 115 freshmen during the 2014-2015 academic year. It will grow each year until reaching capacity at 450 students. It will offer students a curriculum that meets Pennsylvania state standards and graduation requirements. It will also prepare students for entry into a post-secondary institution by offering counseling and other services.

Population Served (i.e. demographics, age range, educational level, cultural background, etc.)

All LINC students will be high school freshmen during the 2014-2015 academic year. As a non-selective (“neighborhood”) high school there were not any admission criteria for entering students. An overwhelming expression of interest necessitated a blind lottery weighted toward the communities immediately surrounding the school. 50% of students will come from the ten zip codes surrounding the 19140 area while the other 50% of the students will be drawn from the rest of Philadelphia.
**Service Opportunities**  
-- continued --

**Brief Description of Proposed Activity**

As part of their regular course of study, each LINC student will participate in an Expedition, a yearlong community-based project created in collaboration with local organizations. The goal of the Expeditions is for students to engage in design-thinking to devise local solutions to real world challenges. Students will choose their Expedition based on interest in its specific theme. Current themes include: (1) the criminal justice system and prison reform; (2) climate change and its local effects; (3) literacy and education in developing countries; (4) animal rights and animal welfare; and (5) community service.

Temple student interns would assist in the management of Expedition projects. The students would be assigned one Expedition. They would then work directly with small groups of 10-15 LINC students to help guide them through the inquiry, research, design, and action phases of their Expedition. Management would entail advising students on their projects to determine action-steps, helping students set timelines, and assisting students in completion of necessary tasks.

**Main Expectations of student interns (i.e. time commitment, frequency, duration, etc.) Please specify type of students required (undergraduate, graduate, & specific educational discipline if necessary).**

Student interns would work with LINC students weekly beginning in mid-October. Expeditions are being organized to occur from appx. 1-4 pm on Mondays. Additional preparation beyond those three hours would be unnecessary unless deemed appropriate by the project manager because LINC students would benefit from additional guidance on a particular topic or skill-set. Student interns would also work in collaboration with the organizational partner and the LINC’s lead-teacher for the Expedition.

Undergraduate or graduate students would be welcome. A specific academic background is unnecessary unless an Expedition theme is appealing to students from a certain discipline (i.e. students with a science background desire to work with students on climate change).

**Benefit to Students**

Temple student interns would have the opportunity to collaborate with other educators while also working directly with Philadelphia students. Student interns would gain instructional experience as they aided LINC students engaged in their own service-learning projects. Furthermore, student interns would have the opportunity to mentor LINC students as advocates and leaders in their communities. In addition, students would regularly interact with LINC teachers and professional educators from partner organizations. Finally, Temple student interns would have the opportunity to enhance their own project management skills.

**Benefit to Organization**

The LINC would benefit from the assistance of Temple interns guiding LINC students in their projects. The Expeditions are intended to be student-directed, but we recognize some oversight will be necessary. Furthermore, the presence of student interns will help facilitate smoother interactions amongst Expedition teams and allow for more students to receive focused attention.
Service Location

Expeditions will occur both at the school site (122 W. Erie Avenue) and at the site of community partner organizations depending on the activities necessary to move forward with project. Some Mondays LINC students will travel off-site to investigate issues at their partner organization. Other Mondays students will remain at LINC to complete research, writing, presentations, or other action steps. As a result, Temple student interns could work with LINC students at the school and/or at community partner sites, which include Eastern State Penitentiary, Bartram’s Garden, Kensington Boys and Girls Club, and the Pennsylvania SPCA.

Materials/resources to student interns (i.e. curricula, library, IT, & other community resources)

Temple student interns will have the opportunity to collaborate with the professional partner from the community organization, the LINC lead teacher for each Expedition, and the community partnership manager at LINC. This team will support the student intern’s work and offer the resources necessary to effectively assist in project management. Each Expedition will require different resources and materials, and they will be identified and obtained as the Expeditions evolve.

The LINC itself will have numerous resources available for student interns, including Chromebooks and a media technology lab. Student interns can use these resources with LINC students.

Please send your completed form to Attn. Patricia Lehrman, Special Assistant to the Dean for Strategic Partnerships and Community Affairs, via e-mail: patience@temple.edu or mail to: 266 Ritter Hall, 1301 Cecil B. Moore Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19122. We look forward to working with you!