



XCEED TODAY

Newsletter of the
Xavier Center For Excellence in Education



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Spring 2011 Newsletter

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE A Mission of Excellence

The 2010-2011 academic year has been very busy for XCEED. We have expanded our outreach work with the Hillcrest Training School, Norwood City Schools, the East End Community Heritage School, Leadership Scholars, and the Cincinnati Observatory Center.

This year XCEED hosted the annual *Conversations, Connections, Collaborations (C3)* education awards event at the Cintas Center. Our C3 partners include the Cincinnati Association, University of Cincinnati, and Northern Kentucky University. Award winning teachers are:

Maria Lang, *Academy of Multilingual Immersion Studies*,
Jessica Shelly, *Cincinnati Public Schools*,
Joe Wilmers, *Winton Hill Academy*,
Colleen Egan Frank, *Saint Ursula Academy*,
Stacey A. McKeever, *Arlington Heights Academy*,
Susan Davies, *North Pointe Elementary School*.

We continue to support and develop programs to impact areas of need in education. We are looking for opportunities to support our school anti-bullying programs that are offered through our DISCO (**D**eveloping-**I**nclusive-**S**chools-**C**ommunities-and **O**rganizations) partnership.

XCEED's relationship with Xavier's Department of Secondary and Special Education has been critical to meeting the needs of both the Hillcrest Training School and the East End Community Heritage School. Our faculty in Special Education have provided invaluable support for the improvement of programs offered to students at these two schools while Secondary Education students have served as mentors and tutors.

In short, it has been a challenging and highly successful year for XCEED's programs.



Michael Flick
Director

ASSOCIATE'S NOTES Our Work

The XCEED relationship and continuing work with Hillcrest Training School remains vital. We are completing our third year of a professional development plan that has evolved into many ongoing projects and noticeably improved student achievement. Our work has centered around mentoring, professional development, tutoring, curriculum development and ongoing daily contact by faculty from the Special Education program. We have become a major participant in a successful educational program for our community's most at-risk students. We anticipate this work will continue and further increase the achievement of the students.

Xavier and Norwood City Schools have maintained another year of success across the college activities that continue to strengthen our commitment to partner with each other. Field placements, mentoring, coaching, grant writing and many daily activities have become standard. XCEED is currently planning with Norwood leaders a year-long professional learning program that will assist our strategic plan together for years to come. Both partners remain eager to continue our work in making our partnership stronger and assist Norwood's student success even greater. XCEED has developed several relationships with area charter schools and the sponsors that support the schools. XCEED is completing its first year of direct work with East End Community School in providing professional development and faculty mentoring. We anticipated this kind of work will continue in supporting schools and teachers.

Our goal is to grow as a provider of staff development for a broad range of schools and their unique needs. We believe great potential exists with this focus.



David Tobergte
Associate Director

What's Up At The Observatory



The Center will again partner with the Cincinnati Observatory Center (COC) on the 2012 calendar project. The calendar is produced every other year and is a great product that calls attention to the educational programs of both the COC and XCEED. XCEED offers both credit and non-credit courses at the COC. The COC is our nation's oldest astronomical observatory and both Michael Flick (President) and Richard Hirte (Vice President from Xavier's Finance Department), serve on the Board of Trustees of the COC.

State Tournament of Mathematics at Xavier



The State Tournament of Mathematics which is sponsored by the Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics took place on February 26 at test centers located throughout Ohio. This year 1431 students from 107 schools participated in the contest. The Xavier test center hosted 95 students from local high schools. XCEED is the home-base for coordinating state-wide contest results and a summary can be found on the XCEED web site

(<http://www.xavier.edu/xceed/documents/OCTM2011.pdf>)

East End Community Heritage School



XCEED has an established track record supporting local schools with quality professional development and student support. Beginning with the 2010-2011 academic year, we provided professional development for the faculty of the East End Community Heritage School and tutoring for their students. Our Special Education faculty and XCEED staff are providing instructional strategies to help this at-risk student population. We have focused on the accountability measures that are required of all charter schools in the state. Our direct involvement began in November 2010, and we anticipate grant supporting opportunities to continue our efforts to make progress with the school.

Leadership Scholars



Our Center will again host the Leadership Scholars summer program in 2011. Over 170 urban students are expected to take part in this month-long educational "summer camp" that will deal with topics from reading and writing to art and sports. The Leadership Scholars program is a mentoring program that pairs a scholar (a sixth-, seventh-, or eighth-grade student in an urban elementary school) with a student leader from a high school. The program provides students with opportunities to develop their leadership potential through focused leadership education and mentor relationships. Throughout the 2010-2011 academic year Xavier has also hosted Leadership Scholars monthly programs.

The Hillcrest Connection



XCEED is in its third year of a collaborative relationship to provide professional development and support of the Hillcrest Training School. Hillcrest is an independent, non-public, charter school that is sponsored by the Hamilton County Juvenile Court. The school has approximately 120 boys who have been placed by the Court at Hillcrest.

XCEED provides multiple staff development activities throughout the year including several in-service programs on Xavier's campus. Xavier faculty provide support on a daily basis at Hillcrest's site. The Center has performed two comprehensive evaluations of the academic program at Hillcrest.

Xavier's relationship with Hillcrest is a visible sign of our passion to support the mission of the University and of our commitment to the community.

