DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE
A Mission of Excellence

The challenges facing schools and teachers are changing all the time. XCEED continues to support and develop programs to impact these emerging areas of need in education.

We are a partner in the STRIVE initiative where we are working to help infuse STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) into K-12 schools in our area.

XCEED’s relationship with many other Xavier programs has been critical to our work with the Hillcrest Training School and the East End Community Heritage School. At both schools we provide consulting and professional development services. We are also embarking on a similar relationship with St. Aloysius as they establish a new high school program for at-risk youth.

In addition, XCEED continues to serve the local school community by developing and sponsoring first-class professional development programs. In June, we will host a curriculum design program for the Deer Park school district.

Under the leadership of Victoria Zascavage, Maggie King, Sally Barnhart, and Jackie Smith we are helping Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Cincinnati develop curricula and implement and evaluate the after-school K-12 enrichment program. This work focuses on improving academic success, healthy life styles, and the development of citizenship.

We sponsored nationally acclaimed youth speaker Mark Brown’s inspirational anti-bullying program at the Cintas Center last January. Over 600 local school children participated in this interactive, entertaining, and unpredictable performance.

Join us by getting involved with XCEED!

ASSOCIATE’S NOTES
Our Work

We continue to strengthen, create, and pursue partnerships with many diverse organizations within our community. XCEED’s successes have increased throughout this year. Our work is noticed in the community, and we are having an impact in many areas. Public, private, and charter schools have worked with our center in providing professional development support covering a variety of current topics.

This year XCEED has assisted our partners in many ways that include programs with nationally recognized speakers Mike Rutherford and Connie West, Xavier faculty consulting at the sites, professional development meetings on campus, total program assessments, strategic planning, small discussion groups, and mentoring and tutoring opportunities for our undergraduates. Many of our activities have involved bringing constituents together for the first time to foster continued collaboration.

On June 4, Middletown City Schools will begin a yearlong professional development journey utilizing XCEED and our relationship with the Rutherford Learning Group. Several other districts are requesting to join in this work. We are attending many area school planning sessions where we make suggestions on how Xavier can help during this most challenging time in education.

XCEED’S mission is to provide support to schools by answering the growing need for university support in our community and country. We believe Xavier has the capacity to help and play a role in improving schools through our professional development activities and partnerships.
Hillcrest Training School

Hillcrest has been a loyal partner of XCEED for the past four years. During that time we have provided consultants, tutors, mentors, and assessments; and we have assisted with strategic planning. As the Hamilton County Juvenile Court has reorganized the school governance structure, our continued consultation is being requested. We have accomplished much in the last four years and now have the opportunity to continue our partnership. The work with these most at-risk, incarcerated youth of our community reaches into our most basic beliefs as a center and university. The stories of student success, thus far, have been significant!

St. Aloysius

St. Aloysius has approached XCEED for professional development help for the opening of an alternative high school, taking advantage of what we have been successful with at Hillcrest. The school would be an alternative high school for nonincarcerated students which will open in Fall 2012. St. Aloysius has renovated several areas of its site on Reading Road and looks forward to working more closely with Xavier in reaching out to the community. Helping with this project has created the opportunity to apply what we have learned in another setting.

East End Community Heritage School

The East End Heritage Community School is a very at-risk school near campus. The school received significant federal dollars to support immediate improvement. The Board of Education at the school turned to XCEED for professional development support. Xavier faculty and students are in their building working every day. We have assisted in every area of development as the school faces major challenges. Ten undergraduates serve as tutors throughout the school day. We are hopeful the school achievement scores will increase.

Cincinnati Observatory Center

XCEED has been a very active partner with the Observatory. For example, we hold professional development classes for science teachers on the Observatory campus, serve on its Board of Trustees, cosponsor the 2012 calendar project, and serve as the external evaluator for its NASA grant. The Cincinnati Observatory is a national historic landmark and was our country’s first professional observatory. For more information visit the website at: www.cincinnatiobservatory.org

Leadership Scholars

Our center has partnered with Leadership Scholars since its inception. In addition to hosting their monthly leadership programs for students in grades 6 through 12, over 170 urban students will participate in a monthlong educational “summer camp.” All programs are hosted on Xavier’s campus. Leadership Scholars 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 year-end celebration will be held at the Cintas Center on May 9th.

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 25 at test centers located throughout Ohio. This year 1,406 students from 92 schools participated in the contest. The Xavier test center hosted students from local high schools. XCEED is the home-base for coordinating statewide contest results and a summary can be found on the XCEED web site www.xavier.edu/xceed/documents/OCTM2012.pdf.