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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research and Project Development Director

A Partnership between UWM and United Community Center (UCC)

Academic Affairs – Office of the Provost

University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

2006 – 2009

Pursue research and outreach opportunities that link the needs of partners and research interest of UWM faculty/staff/students and UCC to identify research, service-learning, instructional and extramural funding opportunities. Close to 3 million dollars has been raised in collaborative partnerships between UCC, UWM and other institutions.

Assistant Director

1998 - Present

Graduate School – Center for Urban Initiatives and Research

University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

Responsibilities include: identifying and facilitating partnerships with business organizations, government agencies, schools, nonprofit organizations with faculty, staff and students to enhance collaborative opportunities between the university and the community. In addition, serve as the Project Director on multiple community-building and student educational grants sponsored by foundations and federal agencies.

Project Management

- Design, plan, coordinate, supervise and manage US Department of Housing and Urban Development's – Community Development Work Study Program. This program promotes under-represented graduate student's to pursue careers in community-building careers. UWM – CUIR has received this competitive award during five funding cycles, over \$450,000 funding from the Office of University Partnerships.

Community-Based Research Partnerships

- Planning and development of key extramural funding opportunities for academic departments throughout UWM.
- Facilitated partnerships with health-related organizations including: 16th Street Community Health Center, City of Milwaukee Health Department, and Latino Health Organization to develop needs assessment instruments.
- Facilitated strategic planning process to Layton Boulevard West Neighbors (community development organization) for Residents Leadership Program (comprised of staff, residents

and public officials). Created a process and plan that required community-based learning objectives.

- Provided applied research expertise to aid nonprofit organizations including: conducting surveys, interviews, and focus groups. Examples include: conducted focus groups (Community Assessment Study – Social Development Commission); conducted focus groups (Needs Assessment – Council for the Spanish Speaking); conducted interviews with financial service representatives (Needs Assessment – Milwaukee Saves Coalition); conducted focus groups (Needs Assessment – Milwaukee Public Schools).
- Coordinated with UWM's Roberto Hernandez Center as a collaborative grant to the Hispanics in Philanthropy project that created an inventory of Latino nonprofit organizations in the four-county region of metropolitan Milwaukee. Responsible for designing survey instruments, database design, conducting personal and phone interviews with small and medium sized Latino-led and Latino-serving organizations.

Campus-wide Community Engagement

- Coordinated and organized Annual Urban Initiatives Conference, university-sponsored community forums to explore pressing local issues including: College Access and Success, Urban Sprawl, University-Community Engagement, The Milwaukee Idea, Metropolitan Governance, Milwaukee's Urban Environment, Youth Development, and Healthy Aging. Created and led interdisciplinary planning committees for each conference with faculty, staff, and practitioners to determine goals and objectives for each conference. Developed six-month plan from brainstorming session, to planning and implementation. Development of interdisciplinary partnership across several colleges and disciplines to disseminate knowledge, share best practices and increase collaboration between the university and the community. Several examples include: Partnership between CUIR and School of Continuing Education - Coordination of national conference on Participant Action Research for Health and Environmental Social Equity; Partnership between CUIR, School of Architecture and Urban Planning and College of Letters and Science for Community-Development Grants.
- As elected chair of the Latino Advisory Committee (comprised of faculty, staff, students and community members) led committee through strategic planning process for the Roberto Hernandez Center including: change in administrative departments from Letters & Science to Administrative Affairs; initiate national search for Director of RHC; and an increase in financial resources to the Roberto Hernandez Center.
- Recruited to serve on numerous "search and screen" committees for the following positions in various colleges/schools across campus: Advisor, School of Education; Advisor, College of Letters and Science; Advisor, Graduate School; Center Director, Administrative Affairs; and Outreach Specialist, Graduate School.

Student-Based Learning Partnership

- Recruited community-based organizations to serve as hosts in student placements for Institute for Service Learning (ISL) at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.
- Created and managed a graduate/undergraduate Internship program placing over 100 students (graduate and undergraduate) in community service opportunities in community/economic development positions. Throughout the internship program,

responsible for students meeting learning objectives, evaluating opportunities and challenges students face in field placements, identifying relevance of coursework to practical work experience.

- Funded internship programs, the first one supported by the Fannie Mae Foundation and was recognized as a “promising-practices” in student-based learning. by the Fannie Mae Foundation. The second internship program, funded by the Community Outreach Partnership Center Program supported undergraduate and graduate experiential learning in community-development organizations aimed at creating and implementing community revitalization initiatives in a central-city neighborhood deteriorating economic and social conditions.
- Directed and managed Community Development Work Study Program by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development for the following years: 1997-1999, 2002-2004, and 2005-2006. This program recruits minority and economically disadvantaged students to pursue graduate studies in community/economic development. This program has been highlighted by the Office of University Partnerships because of our exceptional graduation rate, recruitment strategies, and professional placement after graduation (*CDWSP Central Newsletter*, Vol. 2, Issue 1, Winter 2004).
- Co-instruct Urban Planning course, spring 2005 to explore UWM’s School of Architecture and Urban Planning sponsoring a charter school with a curricular focus on urban planning theory, concepts, and experiential learning models.
- Initiated and forged partnership with UWM, City of Milwaukee, and Local Initiatives Support Corporation to create a graduate-level course in the Department of Urban Planning focused on the Main Street Milwaukee Initiative, scheduled for fall 2005.

Linkages and Partnership Building

- Forged a relationship with the Medical College of Wisconsin and Casa Romero Renewal Center for a planning grant to support innovative work in health promotion and spiritual healing in Milwaukee’s Latino Community. Although, grant not awarded, a key relationship was created between both UWM and MCW and resulted in our involvement in a major national research grant to the National Institute of Health.
- Assisted the City of Milwaukee – Housing Authority in annual proposals for HOPE VI grant applications. UWM’s connection to HOPE VI grants is because we have extensive research on housing initiatives and we are part of a network with practitioners and advocates promoting affordable housing in the City of Milwaukee.
- Directed university-community revitalization partnerships fostering partnerships across with a variety of faculty/staff from across the campus. Managed four different components of the grant including: Internship program, Pre Urban Planning for PUPS (academic course work for middle-school students to learn about theory and practice of planning), Walls Project (project development of a non-violence art memorial), and Oral Traditions in the Walnut Way Community (partnership between Anthropology Department and nonprofit organization learning about historical, social and economics of a traditional African-American neighborhood).

Fund Development

- Facilitated meetings promoting university-community engagement for development of community-development proposals to federal agencies and foundations. Member of a team that sought resources in excess of \$ 1 million for university-community engagement initiatives.

SENIOR MANAGER/HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR

1997-1998

MCC Financial Service Centers
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

As Senior Manager/Human Resource Director, managed and provided leadership to branch managers in financial service centers throughout the central city of Milwaukee.

- Responsible for recruitment, training and retention of staff.
- Comprehensive knowledge of managing financial service operations.
- Investigated and documented fraudulent banking activity and handled inappropriate transactions with law enforcement.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZER

1992-1997

Milwaukee Innerscity Congregations Allied for Hope (M.I.C.A.H)
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Coalition of faith-based interdenominational organization in the City of Milwaukee to address social justice issues. Responsibilities included: development and implementation of a plan for MICAH to become a citywide organization. Prior to my involvement, MICAH only had membership from churches located on the north side of Milwaukee.

Linkages and Partnership Building

- Developed and led advisory committees comprised of clergy, church members and residents to evaluate opportunities and challenges of joining a citywide organization.
- Recruited and provided training for hundreds of individuals to serve on a number of task forces that would focus on the following pertinent issues in the community: drugs and crime, educational opportunities, recreational opportunities, affordable and decent housing, homeownership, and alcohol and drug treatment services.
- Organized and taught public policy workshops with resident and church leaders.
- Developed partnerships with community-based organizations, City of Milwaukee, financial institutions, churches, and local businesses to promote and encourage quality of life issues.

CIVIC APPOINTMENTS

The City Plan Commission (CPC) is the City's official planning body established under State statute and is responsible for master planning activities. The CPC advises the Common Council on a variety of land development issues including zoning map changes, revisions in the zoning ordinance, subdivision approvals, tax increment districts, business improvement districts, street and alley vacations, and public land disposition and acquisition. As Commissioner, I have demonstrated

experience in understanding and working with different interest groups and providing an objective opinion toward any issues that is presented to CPC.

- Re-appointment as Commissioner by Mayor Tom Barrett, elected chair 2006-2009
- Appointment as Commissioner by Mayor John O. Norquist 1999-2006

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
 College of Letters and Science – Masters of Science in Urban Studies 2003

- Thesis: “Historical Analysis of Mitchell Street: Goldmann’s Department Store”

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
 College of Letters and Science – Bachelor of Arts in Economics 1991

PROFESSIONAL and CIVIC ACTIVITIES

External Proposal Reviewer, UW – School of Medicine and Public Health – Wisconsin Partnership Program	2007 - present
Board Member, Modjeska Youth Theater Company	2007 – present
Fund Development Officer, Boys Scout Troop 228, Milwaukee	2005 – present
Founding Member, SUPAR Charter School	2004 – present
Member, Executive Committee, UWM Latino Council	2005 - 2006
Member, Board of Directors, YWCA of Greater Milwaukee	2002 - 2006
Member, Advisory Board, Roberto Hernandez Center, UWM	2000 - 2003
Proposal Reviewer, State of Wisconsin, Brighter Future Proposal	2003
Proposal Reviewer, US Department of Housing Development, Office of University Partnerships	2002 - 2003
Member, Statewide Advisory Committee, Alternative to Incarceration Conference	2002
Member, Milwaukee Saves Campaign	2002 - 2003
Member, Get Out the Vote Campaigns Committee	1996 - 2004
Member, Chancellor’s Latino Advisory Committee	1999 - 2001
Member, Board of Directors, Latino Health Organization	1998 - 1999
Member, School Governance Council, Tippecanoe School (MPS)	1997 - 1998
Member, Latino Arts Production – “Nuestro Wisconsin at UCC”	1998

REFERENCES

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