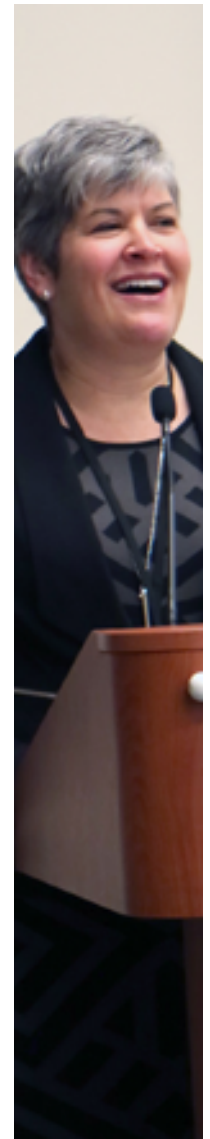
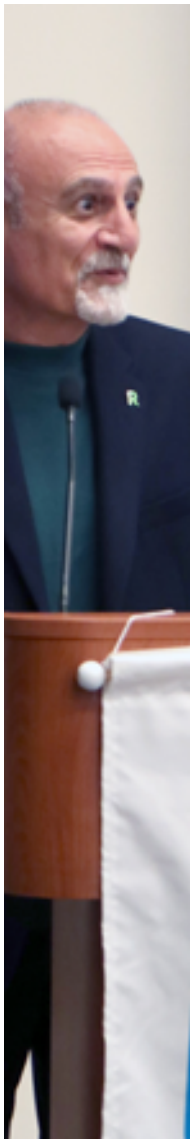
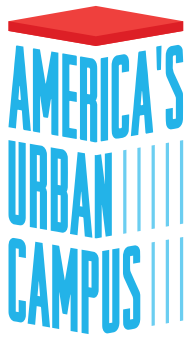


CHICAGO IS...



AMERICA'S URBAN CAMPUS® CONVENING
MAY 23, 2017

Forging Partnerships to Address Poverty, Racism and Violence in Chicago

SUMMARY REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

November, 2017

America's Urban Campus®
1 E. Jackson, Chicago, IL 60604
www.americasurbancampus.org



*Michael Redding, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Public and Government Affairs,
University of Illinois at Chicago*

Dedication

AMERICA'S URBAN CAMPUS® DEDICATES THIS REPORT TO THE MEMORY OF MICHAEL REDDING, Ph.D., VICE CHANCELLOR FOR PUBLIC AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AT UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO. DR. REDDING PASSED AWAY IN OCTOBER, 2017, AFTER A VALIANT BATTLE WITH CANCER. HIS VISION AND LEADERSHIP AT THE "ON THE TABLE" DISCUSSION IN MAY, 2016, LED US TO THE DECISION TO UNDERTAKE THIS CONVENING.



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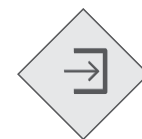
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Ali Malekzadeh, Ph.D.
President, Roosevelt University



Terry Mazany
former President and CEO,
The Chicago Community Trust



Introduction

THIS BRIEF REPORT SUMMARIZES THE IDEAS, BEST PRACTICES, CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 80 PARTICIPANTS INVITED BY AMERICA'S URBAN CAMPUS® TO A ONE DAY CONVENING ON MAY 23, 2017 TO ADDRESS THE COMPLEX ISSUES OF POVERTY, RACISM AND VIOLENCE IN CHICAGO.

America's Urban Campus® (AUC) is a consortium of 20 of Chicago's universities and colleges, formally established in January, 2016 by agreement of the institutions' leadership. AUC's mission is to enhance the image of Chicago as a global destination for higher education and to improve the lives of its citizens by drawing on the collective strengths of its member institutions.

AUC extends its deepest appreciation to the Chicago Community Trust for financial support of this one-day event, and to AUC member Roosevelt University for providing the venue. We were honored to be welcomed by Ali Malekzadeh, President, Roosevelt University. AUC's Convening Planning Committee, chaired by Camille Williamson of Adler University led the development of the convening.

Purpose of the Convening

THE CHALLENGE

Chicago offers robust opportunities for businesses in a diversified economy. The city enjoys great culture, architecture, transportation and higher education resources that bring tourists, students and employees from around the world – while at the same time the intertwined problems of endemic racism, economic inequality and violence persist.

These problems have been pervasive in Chicago’s most vulnerable communities and have created generational poverty, trauma and segregation – directly affecting the health of our poorest Chicagoans. These recurring themes often constrain those affected so much that their reactions result in interpersonal violence, punitive public responses and a negative media image of Chicago that affects all of us, including higher education.

As a consortium, AUC has taken on the task of determining higher education’s role in partnering with others to address these urban issues of poverty, racial segregation and violence. Our presidents and chancellors raised these issues at their first annual meeting on January 11, 2016. This conversation was followed by the AUC members’ “On the Table” discussion, May 10, 2016, and further discussion by the university leadership at their January, 2017 meeting.

We convened on May 23, 2017 to start the process of engaging our faculty, staff, students, community partners and public officials in discussing the role higher education should play. Our goal for the day was to examine these issues as social determinants of health that affect the overall vitality of our city and recommend the steps for higher education to take to support the systematic improvement of Chicago’s most vulnerable communities. The participants of this citywide convening also shared best practices and challenges with one another, and proposed recommendations to collectively address these systemic problems.

CONVENING OBJECTIVES

- ✓ Analyze research on racism, poverty and violence by institutions of higher learning to provide a historical and systemic lens for understanding these issues
- ✓ Convene small group sessions with university students, staff, faculty as well as city officials and community partners to discuss the implications of these problems in our communities and how they affect the health of marginalized groups and the health of our city
- ✓ Identify best-practice methods to develop linkages, innovative solutions, and new partnerships
- ✓ Develop a specific set of recommendations to share resources, develop action-oriented solutions, and collaborations that continue to address these issues.



Summary of Keynote Speakers' Remarks



Walter Katz
Deputy Chief of Staff for
Public Safety, City of Chicago

WALTER KATZ

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR PUBLIC SAFETY, CITY OF CHICAGO

In the opening keynote address, Walter Katz emphasized that the city intends to develop a clear strategy to address crime and policing centered upon broad-based assessment and identification of necessary resources. In addition, the city intends to have conversations with community members and police to address issues of safety, trust and cooperation with police.

More specifically, the city will strategize to do the following:

- Reduce murders and other crimes by identifying where most of the city's gun violence originated in 2016 and adopt a strategic "decision support center" model in districts 7 and 11, eventually expanding to Districts 6, 9, 10 and 16. This requires people, process and technology.
- Implement violence intervention strategies across the city from grassroots to well-endowed organizations.
- Strengthen community support by addressing gaps between perception and trust in different communities in Chicago.
- Implement officer well-being support systems for emotional, mental health and working conditions.



Summary of Keynote Speakers' Remarks



Roseanna Ander
 Executive Director,
 University of Chicago Crime Lab
 and Education Lab

ROSEANNA ANDER

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
 UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO CRIME LAB
 AND EDUCATION LAB

DAVE WILLIAMS

VICE PRESIDENT,
 YOUTH ADVOCATE PROGRAMS, INC.

Roseanna Ander discussed the usefulness of university-based research to develop strategies for community and police to address the spike in violence. She provided data that illustrated that 2016 had 279 more homicides than 2015. This data also showed the location and type of crime. In addition, the data revealed that 75% of homicide victims were 20 years and older. In her summation, she believed that if we want to see an impact this summer and moving forward that we reach the population most at risk, i.e. 20+ year olds. Strategic decision support centers are currently providing tools and accountability in the communities most affected and seeing declines within weeks.

She then introduced Dave Williams, of Youth Advocate Programs, Inc. (YAP), who shared the specifics of YAP's approach to engaging the most vulnerable youth in these age groups working in Roseland and Englewood, building trust and assisting at-risk youth in leading full and productive lives. Ander's Crime Lab is partnering with YAP, Inc. to develop evidence-based outcomes.



Dave Williams
 Vice President,
 Youth Advocate Programs, Inc.



Summary of Keynote Speakers' Remarks



Beth Catlett, Ph.D.
Department Chair and Associate
Professor, Women's and Gender
Studies, DePaul University

BETH CATLETT, Ph.D.

**DEPARTMENT CHAIR AND ASSOCIATE
PROFESSOR, WOMEN'S AND GENDER
STUDIES, DEPAUL UNIVERSITY**

Beth Catlett highlighted a program centered on combating youth gender violence. The 'Take Back the Halls' program works with community partners and DePaul interns to help young adolescent female-identified participants confront their experiences of gender-based violence and gain insight into their strengths to resist these societal constraints. This program emphasized positive self-image, connection to spiritual beliefs, and mentorship for career development and community projects.





Best Practices

TRAUMA- INFORMED

The Chicago Department of Public Health is taking steps to make Chicago a Trauma-informed city. Our stakeholders can support these efforts as well by acquiring training about trauma and its effect on humans. In addition, as researchers and faculty work to address social determinants of health, universities must examine how to make programs trauma-informed to address the long-standing effects of violence. Furthermore, universities should have an increased awareness and consideration for the diversity of family structures. This diversity

can be intertwined with traumatic events such as domestic violence. Universities should also integrate consideration for trauma into institutional research and university Institutional Review Board protocols.

COMMUNITY- CENTERED AND INCLUSIVE APPROACHES

In order to address these acute problems, universities must also involve community members at each level (from decision-making to implementation) as this involvement will help to: establish trust, build local leadership in neighborhoods to engage

in all efforts, and address the unique challenges that emerge from each community. Universities must recognize that there is no “one size fits all” approach to dismantle these systemic and institutionally driven challenges. These challenges also require university researchers to address biases, assumptions, and refrain from judgments that can impede the process of relationship building with community members and community partner organizations.

Challenges

POVERTY, RACISM AND VIOLENCE ARE COMPLEX PROBLEMS. CHALLENGES ARISE AS WE ATTEMPT TO ADDRESS THESE PROBLEMS FROM OUR OWN POINTS OF VIEW, GEOGRAPHIC LOCATIONS AND RESOURCES. THE CHALLENGES OUTLINED BELOW WERE OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO PARTICIPANTS AT THE CONVENING.

CITY-WIDE SILOS OR DUPLICATIVE EFFORTS

- As previously noted the City of Chicago is highly segregated by race and economic resources. This creates not only disparate living conditions among neighborhoods, but also disconnected efforts in addressing problems.
- Often institutions and community organizations are failing to communicate and plan together to address these issues – creating silos, duplicative results and gaps in connecting more marginalized people to support mechanisms that can alleviate the impact of these problems.

CONNECTING ROOT CAUSES TO PUBLIC POLICY CHANGES

- University research is not reaching the community – how can universities make it exciting and compelling for community members to understand? How can universities get the community engaged in the policy making process?
- There are gaps in how research is informing policy as well as not having enough policy collaboration

from the outset. Universities need more partnerships that engage policymakers as advisory teams; more partnerships with community residents when doing community-focused research.

ECONOMIC SHIFTS

- The long lapse in yearly Illinois appropriations funding degraded the ability of AUC member institutions to perform successful interventions in the social justice arena.
- AUC member institutions face many shared challenges in dealing with vulnerable student populations including: housing insecurity, food availability, job unpreparedness, lack of trauma counseling, insufficient resources for mental health, early childhood development and re-entry for ex-offenders.

CHALLENGES FOR UNIVERSITIES

- The tenure and promotion system in higher education is not conducive to supporting community engagement responsibilities.

- The rhythm of university life may not align with a community's timing as communities want information sooner than universities can provide that information.
- It is hard to manage expectations of the role that universities can actually play in addressing these issues.
- Faculty perceive civic engagement work as time consuming and too political.
- Short-term vs. long-term expectations hinder faculty engagement with these issues. If the research or community engagement project takes too long, people may not want to invest their time.

CONNECTING STUDENTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION TO COMMUNITY EFFORTS

- Many students are not aware of the history and impact of these problems, especially if they're not Chicago natives.
- Many students who are familiar with these issues—having experienced them within their own communities—do not find, nor are aware of, the support mechanisms to address the problems when they enter college.



Recommendations

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION



Complete and activate a web-based searchable snapshot of AUC institutions' community-focused programs addressing racism, poverty and violence.

Create a web-based "heat map" of place-based activities and make both available as resources to build partnerships across the city.

To assure value and utilization of the snapshot and heat map, AUC will implement a strategy to engage the stakeholders and users of the material: community organization directors, faculty, student organizations, and student affairs directors. AUC will undertake interviews of all levels, implement search engine optimization (SEO) tactics along with promotion of the website and employ user-focused testing of the website.

For impact – the heat map ideally will link to and be an expression of the inventory, resources, and institutions using a layered approach to distinguish activities under the five different categories of the inventory. The categories include: Place Based; Education; Research; Innovation; and Civic Engagement.

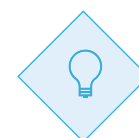


Actively engage AUC institution students in addressing the issues of poverty, racism and violence by assisting them in finding partnerships to perform community service and civic engagement.

Students are our biggest asset, but often have little connection to larger issues in Chicago. Given the current state of Chicago's social and historical problems, there are opportunities for students to gain insight, help them to see the larger context, and connect their interest and student groups to community partners that are currently working on these issues.


To that end, AUC will publicize the Snapshot website through student affairs offices of our institutions. The descriptions and contact information of the many programs provide an excellent base for students to begin the engagement process.

In addition, AUC member institutions should consider partnering with One Summer Chicago (OSC) – a city-sponsored initiative that provides youth with employment and enrichment opportunities during the summer months. OSC offers summer employment to youth between the ages of 14 and 24, as well as a range of enrichment activities for children and youth of all ages; including camps, sports, arts and recreation programs. Most programs are between 20 and 25 hours per week. This effort acknowledges the potential impact to young people that have been identified to be most at risk for experiencing violence as mentioned by Roseanna Ander of the University of Chicago Crime Lab.



Recommendations

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

 Investigate the development of a “Chicago” course to be shared with AUC institutions and open to students from all of our institutions to investigate the history of the city in understanding the root causes of violence while also celebrating the successes of community organizations and citizens in addressing the issues.

In development of such a course, AUC should look at such examples like DePaul’s course “Discover Chicago”. As we develop the course we need to think about and include the social contradictions in a course that could be part of orientation or the first year experience. AUC should also consider a community immersive experience as a part of this, perhaps engaging community organizations as a part of the process, as occurs at Adler University.

Illinois Campus Compact and HECAC (Higher Education Community Affairs Council) could help with this as it falls within their missions.

Orientation – how do we sensitize incoming students about Chicago? What can students expect for the next two or four years? Each institution could host groups or we could share orientation across institutions.

AUC could share learning modules as a blended opportunity for students from across our institutions to learn. The Chicago History Museum could be an excellent unifier in designing the experience and bringing students from across the city to the museum for the experience.

 Work with Illinois Campus Compact, AUC institutions and community partners on the development of a “Partnerships Conference” in early 2018.

According to Campus Compact, colleges and universities are seen as resource-rich institutions that can be an appealing partner for a smaller community partner. How can we make sure that both the higher education institution and the community partner are having their needs met when entering into a partnership? This proposed conference is a natural successor to the “Forging Partnerships” convening. Participants at the convening called for the development of a set of guidelines for university partnerships with community organizations, coalitions, and national movements that analyze and address issues of racism, inequality and violence prevention.



Recommendations

FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONSIDER

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE WORKING GROUPS SHARED MANY IDEAS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BOTH BY AMERICA'S URBAN CAMPUS® AND THE INSTITUTIONS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE ONE-DAY SESSION. THESE ARE LISTED BELOW TO STIMULATE FURTHER ACTION AND DISCUSSION.



Recommendations for Higher Education Institutions in Chicago

- Train student teachers on how to handle violence not just in the classroom, but to assist those who are affected by it and to avoid unwittingly contributing to racism issues.
- Integrate critical race theory and dialogue / intersectionality into all professional educational programs.
- University leadership should emphasize the role of their institution(s) as change agents in challenging interlocking systems of oppression, as embodied in training, practical action, and resource commitment.
- Address root causes of racism, poverty and violence at the policy level by providing research, data and recommendations to the public and elected officials.
- Transform the role of the university research to that of a conduit – acting as a bridge between the community and the policymakers so the policymaker can do what the community wants/needs and the research validates the policy initiative.



AUC Specific Suggestions Include:

- Establish a “community ombudsman” or front-facing office that serves as a unified point of contact for partner organizations.
- Assist member institutions that lack natural geographical constituencies in identifying and recruiting “organizational champions” – individuals who can assist in building connections across the city and leveraging institutional assets to combat racism, inequality and violence.
- Establish an office to identify and promote faculty research that can be applied to resolve real-world problems in both the short and long term.
- Use social media outlets to engage young people in efforts to change the narrative, educate the broader public about positive things in Chicago’s neighborhoods, etc.



Partnership Development to Address Challenges

- Create a massive “On the Table” discussion on the interconnectedness of racism, economic inequality and violence. Consider partnering with the Chicago Community Trust to recruit as many as 6,000 people to gather in small groups for an “On the Table” discussion, sponsored by local corporations.
 - ◇ “Get comfortable with being uncomfortable.” Equip the participants to get outside of their comfort zones and be ready for conversations.
- Convene more frequently to provide opportunities for all stakeholders’ “de-silo-ing” efforts and create a follow-up system to continue to share best practices, resources and analysis. These convenings should be:
 - ◇ Community-centered/ facing
 - ◇ Inclusive of all stakeholders (students, community partners, public officials, businesses and higher education)





Conclusion

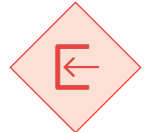
THE MAY 23RD CONVENING, THE FIRST SPONSORED BY AUC, BROUGHT TOGETHER FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS FROM 21 HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS AND MANY OF THEIR COMMUNITY PARTNERS FROM ACROSS CHICAGO. AUC LEARNED THAT ALL THE INSTITUTIONS ARE ENGAGED IN SOME WAY IN ADDRESSING THE CONNECTED ISSUES OF POVERTY, RACISM AND VIOLENCE – BUT THAT MOST OPERATE IN A DISCONNECTED SETTING WHERE PROGRAMS FUNCTION INDEPENDENTLY WITHIN AN INSTITUTION; AND SEVERAL INSTITUTIONS MAY BE OPERATING SIDE-BY-SIDE IN A COMMUNITY WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OF THE EACH OTHER’S ACTIVITIES.

In addressing best practices, challenges and recommendations for forging better partnerships, the convening participants called for:

- An acknowledgment of the need to recognize the trauma caused by violence and its antecedent causes in our communities and the need to learn how to respond.
- A need to engage community organizations and residents as partners, not study subjects.
- An understanding that higher education systems of operation do not always mesh with community needs.
- Utilization of the knowledge gained by development of a “snapshot” of current programs across all of our institutions to inspire new partnerships within and across our institutions.
- Use of this information as a portal for engagement of our students in collaborations with community organizations to assist in building better communities.
- Exploration of the development of a shared course on “Chicago” to introduce new students to the complexities of our city.
- A follow-up conference with Campus Compact to strengthen university/community partnerships.



*Next steps include placement of this report, the “snapshot” of programs and the “heat map” on **americasurbancampus.org** and directing interested parties to it. AUC will also work with our member institutions and their community partners on refining the full list of recommendations and developing plans for the next convening.*



Appendix: Agenda



Deb Maue
 Co-Chair, America's Urban Campus®
 and Vice President for Strategic
 Marketing and Communications,
 Columbia College Chicago

8:00 a.m.
**Registration and
 Continental Breakfast**

8:45 a.m.
Welcome

Deb Maue
 Co-Chair,
 America's Urban Campus®

Ali Malekzadeh, Ph.D.
 President,
 Roosevelt University

**Plenary Sessions:
 Setting the Stage**

Walter Katz
 Deputy Chief of
 Staff for Public Safety,
 City of Chicago

Roseanna Ander
 Founding Executive
 Director, University of
 Chicago Crime Lab and
 Education Lab

Beth Catlett, Ph.D.
 Associate Professor
 and Chair, Women's
 and Gender Studies,
 DePaul University

10:10 a.m.
**Instructions for
 Breakout Groups**

David Baker
 Executive Director,
 America's Urban Campus®

10:15 a.m.
Coffee Break

10:30 a.m.
**Breakout Session I:
 Framing the Issues**

11:45 a.m.
Reports Out

12:15 a.m.
**On the Table:
 Lunch Discussions**

1:15 p.m.
**Breakout Session II:
 Identifying the
 Challenges and Realities
 in Forging Partnerships**

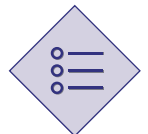
2:45 p.m.
Break and Networking

3:15 p.m.
**Breakout Session III:
 Developing Specific
 Recommendations
 for Partnerships**

4:30 p.m.
**Report Outs
 and Discussion**

5:15 p.m.
Reception and Networking

6:00 p.m.
Conclude



Appendix: Sponsors

AMERICA'S URBAN CAMPUS® (AUC) is a consortium of 20 of Chicago's universities and colleges, formally established in January 2016 by agreement of the institutions' leadership. AUC's mission is to enhance the image of Chicago as a global destination for higher education and to improve the lives of its citizens by drawing on the collective strengths of its member institutions.

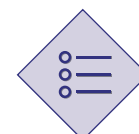


THE CHICAGO COMMUNITY TRUST is a community foundation dedicated to improving our region through strategic grant making, civic engagement and inspiring philanthropy. We are here to serve the nonprofit organizations, the generous donors and the thoughtful residents who strive to make a difference, helping their bold vision create lasting community change. We work with a number of partnerships and initiatives to accomplish this work.

As businesses, local governments, and organizations strive to solve pressing challenges, the Trust brings these key actors together. Working together, we leverage collective knowledge, creativity and resources for a greater impact than any of us can make alone.

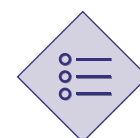


ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY, founded in 1945 to promote equal opportunity in higher education, is a private comprehensive university with more than 4,000 undergraduate and graduate students studying in Chicago, northwest suburban Schaumburg, and online. Roosevelt offers 116 degree programs in arts and sciences, business, performing arts, education and pharmacy, and continues to honor its legacy of inclusion and academic excellence.





Appendix: Participants



Roseanna Ander
 Executive Director of
 Crime Lab and Education Lab,
 University of Chicago

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 External Affairs, Illinois
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 Stuart School of Business,
 Illinois Institute of Technology

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 Executive Director,
 America's Urban Campus®

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 Program Assistant,
 Illinois Public Health Institute

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 Director, Leadership &
 Community Engagement,
 Northwestern University

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 World Business Chicago

Makeba Boykins
 Doctoral Student, The Chicago
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Matthew Bruce
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 DePaul University

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 Harold Washington College

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 Associate Director of Strategic
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 at Chicago

Rev. Stanley Davis
 Executive Director,
 Council of Religious Leaders
 of Metropolitan Chicago

Brent Decker
 Chief Program Officer,
 Cure Violence

La Vonne Downey
 Professor, Roosevelt University

Jerry Doyle
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 Robert Morris University

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 Public Safety, City of Chicago

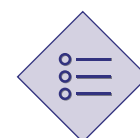
Ali Kleiche
 SGA Senate and Club President,
 Harold Washington College

Anna Krug
 Executive Director, Institutional
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Raymond Legler
 Assistant Professor,
 National Louis University



Appendix: Participants



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 Progressive Community Church

Juan Martinez
 Instructor,
 Harold Washington College

Margaret Martyn
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Camille Williamson, M.A.
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 Engagement, Adler University

Sheila Yarbrough
 Director of Communication
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 National Louis University

Appendix: AUC



CONVENING PLANNING COMMITTEE

Chair:

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Adler University

Members:

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East-West University

Fran Casey
DePaul University

Jennifer Clark
Loyola University Chicago

Paul Coffey
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Julie Emms
DePaul University

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Sonya Malunda
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Adler University

**The Chicago School of
 Professional Psychology**

Chicago State University

City Colleges of Chicago

Columbia College Chicago

DePaul University

East-West University

**Illinois Institute
 of Technology**

John Marshall Law School

Loyola University Chicago

National Louis University

**Northeastern
 Illinois University**

North Park University

Northwestern University

Robert Morris University

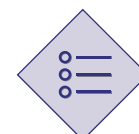
Roosevelt University

Saint Xavier University

**School of the Art
 Institute Chicago**

University of Chicago

**University of
 Illinois at Chicago**





AMERICA'S URBAN CAMPUS® CONVENING
MAY 23, 2017

Forging Partnerships to Address Poverty, Racism and Violence in Chicago

SUMMARY REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

November, 2017

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