

PURDUE UNIVERSITY
College of Education

GIFTED EDUCATION RESOURCE INSTITUTE

2005-2010 Strategic Plan

GERI MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Gifted Education Resource Institute at Purdue University is to promote the holistic development of talented P-16 students.

To accomplish this mission, Institute associates

- conduct talent development research
- train professionals from all nations of the world to promote the development of individuals who have gifts and talents
- provide services to talented children and their families.

GERI VALUES STATEMENT

WE BELIEVE in commitment to maximizing the potential of gifted and talented individuals in the world community

WE BELIEVE outstanding talents are present in children and youth from all cultural groups, across all economic strata, and in all areas of human endeavor.

WE BELIEVE in offering sustaining a unique identity that focuses on the holistic development of talent youth and enables us to offer world class leadership on their behalf

WE BELIEVE creativity and innovation are essential to our leadership role in the world community

WE BELIEVE that a balanced emphasis on discovery, learning, and engagement creates an energizing synergy that enhances our mission and our work environment

WE BELIEVE that we can increase our influence on gifted and talented individuals by sharing innovations and research with varied audiences

WE BELIEVE that we have a responsibility to nurture positive, collaborative relationships and clear, effective communications within our organization

WE BELIEVE in striving for excellence at all time, in all aspects of our work

GERI OVERARCHING STRATEGIES

Goal: Increase the level of external funding for GERI projects through development, grants, and contracts

Possible Action Steps:

- Create and sustain a 15 member GERI Advisory Board
- Develop an electronic update called “Board Connections” for Advisory Board members
- Work with the COE Development Office to update GERI development goals and strategies
- Encourage proposal writing and submission efforts by GERI associates for discovery, learning, and engagement projects related to the mission of GERI
- Collaborate with other centers on funded projects of mutual interest
- Secure an \$5,000,000 endowment for GERI talent development programs to enable us to (a) expand our offerings; (b) reduce the costs to students and their families; and (c) provide full scholarships for students with financial need

Goal: Increase the number of faculty who are actively involved in GERI

Possible Action Steps:

- Hire another tenure-track faculty member with expertise in gifted education
- Appoint a clinical faculty member to (a) coordinate, expand, and oversee GERI licensure programs, (b) infuse gifted education into general education programs, and (c) expand GERI engagement initiatives
- Appoint a clinical faculty member to
- Include gifted education in the descriptions for COE faculty positions in disciplines such as counseling, science education, special education, etc.
- Provide selected GERI Associated Faculty with joint appointments in, and FTE allocations to, gifted education
- Create a structure that facilitates temporary appointments of several associated faculty “fellows” to GERI
- Secure funding for an endowed Chair in gifted education
- Sponsor international visiting faculty scholars in gifted and talented studies

Goal: Promote awareness of the strengths of GERI nationally and internationally

Possible Action Steps:

- Work with marketing communications to create a high quality GERI display board for use at state and national conferences
- Maintain a high quality web-presence
- Encourage GERI associates to present their work at national and international conferences

- Encourage GERI associates to acknowledge their affiliation with GERI in their publications related to gifted and talented studies
- Work with Purdue's PR department to highlight GERI programs and projects
- Prepare press releases highlighting GERI discovery, learning, and engagement
- Develop a "research brief" communication for P-12 colleagues in the five state region

DISCOVERY:

Establish and sustain pre-eminence in discovery efforts related to the nature and nurture of talented P-16 students

Goal: Create incentives that encourage productivity in research and scholarship among GERI associates

Possible Action Steps:

- Provide incentives for GERI graduate students who publish articles or chapters while in graduate school
- Develop GERI discovery award(s)
- Develop a GERI writing group to provide peer and hierarchical mentoring for graduate student writing and publishing
- Sponsor international visiting scholars
- Seek an endowment for a research lecture series
- Secure funding for a GERI research assistant

Goal: Expand, coordinate, and integrate the GERI discovery program

Possible Action Steps:

- Develop and implement a GERI Discovery agenda in consultation with GERI Associated Faculty and graduate students
- Forge strategic, discovery-oriented partnerships with entities internal and external to Purdue University such as the Discovery Learning Center (internal) and the National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented, the U.S. Department of Education, the National Institute of Health (NIH), and/or the National Science Foundation (NSF) (external)
- Provide incentives and/or recognition for faculty, school-based colleagues, and graduate students who become involved in GERI discovery projects
- Leverage internal funding for GERI projects with external grants and contracts
- Include research and publication expectations in the job descriptions for all GERI staff
- Update the GERI publications list annually

Goal: Maintain a pre-eminent doctoral program in gifted education in the College of Education with close ties to GERI

Possible Action Steps:

- Increase gifted education faculty FTE
- Increase the amount of graduate assistantship FTE available through GERI
- Recruit 2 doctoral students per gifted education faculty FTE annually
- Achieve an average graduation rate of 5 years for GERI doctoral students

LEARNING:

Achieve excellence in learning about gifted education and talent development through programs of superior quality

Goal: Establish, support, and maintain exemplary programs to prepare teachers, counselors, and administrators to serve gifted and talented P-16 students

Possible Action Steps:

- Work with GERI graduate students to develop and teach a three session module on gifted education in EDPS 265, the Inclusive Classroom
- Create an elective class in gifted education for undergraduates
- Work with teacher education faculty to integrate gifted education into all teacher education programs at Purdue
- Maintain NCATE accredited, initial teacher licensure program in gifted education at the graduate level
- Develop one or more advanced licensure program(s)
- Encourage undergraduate students to begin the gifted education licensure program during their junior year and complete it during their first year of teaching
- Publish articles about GERI innovations in teacher education
- Develop recruitment, enrollment, and graduation targets for the gifted education licensure, masters, and doctoral programs

Goal: Increase undergraduate student participation in GERI talent development programs and research projects

Possible Action Steps:

- Encourage undergraduates to serve as course assistants, instructors, and counselors for Super Saturday, Super Summer, and GERI Summer Camps
- Provide effective training experiences for undergraduates working in GERI talent development programs, utilizing technology to make such training available for students/mentors who are off-campus
- Support one COE Undergraduate Research Trainee (URT) per year
- Create a GERI Undergraduate Research Assistant position to assist with GERI program evaluations and research projects

Goal: Provide support for graduate students interested in gifted and talented studies

Possible Action Steps:

- Increase the number of assistantships, fellowships, and scholarships available through GERI for graduate students in gifted education
- Provide doctoral students associated with GERI opportunities for hands-on experiences in discovery, learning, and engagement
- Continue to sponsor GERI Investigators, a bi-weekly, networking mentoring group for graduate students and faculty interested in gifted and talented studies research

<p>ENGAGEMENT: Effectively address the needs of gifted and talented youth through engagement</p>
--

Goal: Provide exemplary talent development experiences for P-16 students, with particular emphasis on the STEM disciplines (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics)

Possible Action Steps:

- Develop innovative interventions to enhance the personal, social, and emotional development of P-16 students who participate in GERI talent development programs
- Provide alternative routes to talent identification so more students will have the opportunity to participate in GERI talent development programs
- Create challenging STEM curricula for P-16 students who participate in GERI talent development programs
- Continue to increase the diversity of participants in GERI talent development programs
- Design talent pipeline projects to attract students into industrial careers in the STEM disciplines
- Develop a research mentorship program for high school students who are talented in the STEM disciplines

Goal: Provide services for professionals and families that will facilitate the holistic development of talented P-16 students

Possible Action Steps:

- Expand GERI professional development programs offered through continuing education on a cost-recovery basis
- Design and implement DISCOVER!, a regional, summer conference for educational professionals at Purdue
- Create training modules for teachers, counselors, administrators and other professionals who can enhance the holistic development of talented P-16 students
- Secure funding for a guidance center for gifted youth and their families
- Continue to sponsor the Purdue Shared Information Services library