
the BLI Capstone

GUIDE

The Barger Leadership Institute will support advanced undergraduates in the pursuit of significant collaborative leadership projects whose design, implementation, and evaluation requires significant analytic work. Project teams will have a capstone experience that brings abstract skills learned in the classroom into sustained contact with practical challenges in urban, environmental, socioeconomic, and global arenas.

Eligibility

Students must be an undergraduate enrolled with good academic standing and have participated in at least one leadership experience. Applicants must plan to work with external stakeholders during their experience and be available for training May 9-13, 2016.

1 Have an IDEA & Form a TEAM

Create a leadership team of two to three people and have a germ of an idea for a project that you'd like to tackle throughout the Capstone Experience.

Timeline: Now

Submit the Application

As a team, read and complete the application. Submit all application materials via email to:

bargerleadershipinstitute@umich.edu

Timeline: March 25

3 Attend 1-Week Intensive

Once your application is accepted, get ready to get intense! All Capstone teams are required to participate in a 1-week intensive bootcamp with stipend support. Each member of your leadership team must commit to participate the entire week. The intensive will allow student teams to share ideas and practices, solidify your idea, and create a plan for your data collection during the summer.

Timeline: May 9 - 13

Support: Stipend for week of Intensive provided at end of week

Submit Data Collection Plan

At the end of the 1-week intensive, you and your team will have created a comprehensive plan for the evidence-based work you will do in the summer. This detailed plan should be submitted to the BLI by May 13. Plans will include goals, timeline, and budget.

Timeline: May 13 (Decisions on any budget requests will be given within 1 week)

5 Collect Data - Start Work!

The next few months will be focused on collecting the data that you need for your project. In addition, you will have access to coaches throughout the summer who will be available to provide advice on your data collection and analysis process. All teams will also participate in a reflection process with BLI staff.

Timeline: Summer 2016

Support: Individual Stipend + Any funds requested in Data Collection Plan

6 Submit Budget + Implementation Plan

Your work in the summer will now place you in a position to create your final budget request and implementation plan. This plan should include how you will launch your project now informed by the data you collected in the summer. The plan will also include your community/organization partners, timeline, and budget.

Timeline: August 16 (Decisions on budget requests will be given by the 1st week of the Fall term)

7 Implement Project

During the Fall 2016 term, your team will implement your project based on the submitted Implementation Plan. You will be working with your community/organization partners utilizing the data-informed plan you have created. Projects will be financially supported by the Institute based on the submitted and approved project budget.

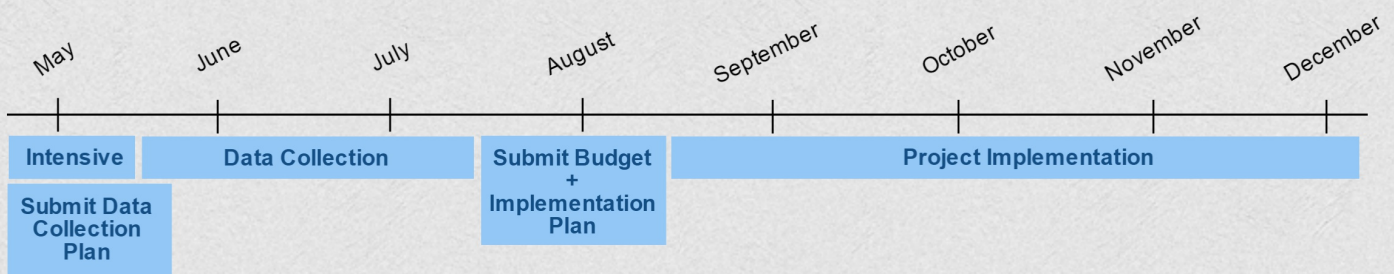
Timeline: Fall 2016

Support: Funds for project implementation as outlined in Implementation Plan

8 Report and Celebrate!

After you have completed your project, it is time to celebrate. Each team will have the opportunity to share with the BLI and UM community their results and the leadership lessons they learned throughout the Capstone process. Each team will also be asked to submit a final reflection report that captures their entire Capstone experience and documents their project's final outcomes.

Timeline: April 2017



If you have any question about the Capstone Experience, please contact the BLI at bargerleadershipinstitute@umich.edu

CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE IN EVIDENCE BASED LEADERSHIP

One of the fundamental skills of leaders is the collection and evaluation of often imperfect evidence in support of decision-making in uncertain environments. Sound, rigorous evidence – its collection, critical evaluation, and use in decision-making – should be the cornerstone of an education that integrates the best of the liberal arts tradition with practical experiences that will teach students the skills needed to address the complex, ambiguous problems that characterize our volatile and deeply interconnected world.

The Barger Leadership Institute will support advanced undergraduates in the pursuit of significant collaborative leadership projects whose design, implementation, and evaluation requires significant analytic work. Project teams will have a capstone experience that brings abstract skills learned in the classroom into sustained contact with practical challenges in urban, environmental, socioeconomic, and global arenas. This capstone experience in evidence based leadership will offer grants of \$8,000-10,000 for successful proposals made by advanced interdisciplinary student teams whose members have demonstrated their collaborative ability. We anticipate a yearly cohort of ten teams who design, propose, implement, and evaluate evidence based leadership projects.

TIMEFRAME

The capstone experience will take place from May to December starting with an intensive 1-week training May 9-13.

BENEFITS

- Opportunity to refine leadership skills
- Project support of \$8,000-\$10,000. A portion of project funding will include stipend support of up to \$2,500 per student over the entire capstone experience.
- Multi-faceted reflection process with the help of BLI staff
- Access to consultants on the challenges of data collection and analysis
- Week-long intensive that will anchor the program and insure that student teams share ideas and practices and stipends will be provided to intensive week participants
- Opportunity to present your work at the BLI Forum in April

ELIGIBILITY

- Be an undergraduate enrolled with good academic standing
- Have participated in at least one leadership experience
- Work with a community organization/external stakeholder
- Be available for training on May 9-13, 2016

APPLICATION PROCESS, DEADLINES, AND INFORMATION SESSIONS

Applications must be received by 5:00 PM on March 25. Submit all materials to bargerleadershipinstitute@umich.edu. We are hosting two information sessions to provide application support on Friday, March 11 from 11:30 – 12:30 and Monday, March 13 from 4:00-5:00pm in 2016 Ruthven. For more information or if you have any questions, please contact the Institute at bargerleadershipinstitute@umich.edu.

BLI CAPSTONE APPLICATION

Deadline: March 25, 2016 by 5:00p.m.

Names of Your Capstone Team Members (Please also include email addresses):

Please attach a document to this cover page addressing the following:

- What idea would you like to pursue as your Capstone Project?
- What data are you looking to investigate to help inform your Capstone Project? (Examples of data include surveys, interviews, population statistics, etc.)
- Tell us about a specific leadership experience you have had.
- Tell us about a past collaborative experience.

Please submit the completed application to include electronically to bargerleadershipinstitute@umich.edu.