

# The Center for Urban Teaching

# 2011-2012 Facts

The purpose of The Center for Urban Teaching is to identify, prepare, and support high-performing urban teachers.

For more information, visit [www.urbanteaching.info](http://www.urbanteaching.info).

## Our Core Values

1. *We are spiritually focused.* We believe that beliefs consistently guide behaviors and that in order to be a high-performing teacher you must acknowledge a purpose greater than the self that allows you to unconditionally love your students.
2. *We are respectful.* We believe that respect is the foundation of all meaningful relationships and that respect builds trust.
3. *We are courageous.* We believe that without struggle there can be no progress. As a result, we embrace risk and face adversity with a reflective, optimistic, and innovative attitude.
4. *We are perseverant.* We believe that the educational crisis facing our nation's urban students can and must be solved; therefore, we operate with a no excuses, do whatever it takes mentality.
5. *We are dedicated to high-performance.* We believe that teacher quality is the single most important factor in student achievement and that every child has the right to a world-class teacher.

## Our Key Performance Indicators

Excellent graduate placement rate.

97% of the Center's alumni are placed within one year of graduation (Figure 1.1).

Excellent graduate placement rate in Milwaukee.

92% of the Center's alumni are placed within one year of graduation (Figure 1.1).

Excellent program alumni retention.

74% of the Center's alumni that accept a position in a Milwaukee school are still involved in urban education through teaching, mentoring, or administration after three years in the field (Figure 1.1).

Increased teacher effectiveness.

In a case study conducted in May 2011 by two third-party evaluators observing best teaching practices, Center alumni teachers were considered proficient or distinguished in over 87% of the teacher performance indicator categories.

Increased student achievement.

Standardized testing results from two Milwaukee choice schools show that **students taught by Center alumni outperformed students taught by non-Center teachers in both reading and math.** The results also show that Center alumni teachers have surpassed the goal of demonstrating a growth of 5 NCE points annually in math and have achieved more than 2 years of growth in reading. (Figure 1.2 & 1.3)

Figure 1.1  
**Center Alumni Placement & Retention 2004-2011**



Figure 1.2  
**Average Math Growth Grades 5-8**

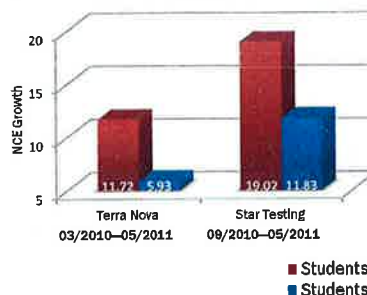
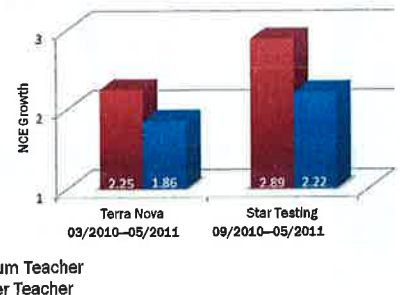


Figure 1.3  
**Average Reading Growth Grades 5-8**





Identify



Prepare



Support



### Tier 1—Exploratory Cohort

An introduction to urban education.

- **Concordia University Wisconsin & Wisconsin Lutheran College** partnered with the Center for Urban Teaching to facilitate a class for undergraduates.
- **Martin Luther College** launched a new partnership with the Center for Urban Teaching to facilitate their Milwaukee Urban Schools tour. As a result of this partnership, the Center included eight MLC undergraduates in the summer school program, has been invited to speak at a teacher education convocation in the Fall 2011 semester, and plans to use Skype to allow MLC students to participate in the Center's Urban Nights for undergraduates.

*"Teachers go where they are needed and where they can make a difference. This is the time to consider what talents God has given you and where they would be best served."*

Dr. Ray Dusseau, Executive Director

### Tier 2 and 3—Advanced & Accelerated Cohort

Candidates demonstrating essential dispositions and dedication are trained in high-performance teaching strategies and given the opportunity to apply their knowledge and skills through guided and independent practical experiences in urban classrooms.

- **Summer School Program:** In the Summer of 2011, the Center launched its third summer school program at Atonement Lutheran School. 17 urban teacher candidates and over 300 students participated in the Center's 2011 summer school programs.
- **New York Urban Immersion Trip:** 8 teacher candidates from Tier 3 accompanied the Center for Urban Teaching on the NY urban immersion trip to observe high-performing urban schools in Harlem, the Bronx, and Newark, NJ. Schools visited included: St. Ann's Freedom School, KIPP Infinity, Frederick Douglass Academy, KIPP Academy, KIPP Amp, and St. Benedict's.

*"During the Center for Urban Teaching's New York Urban Immersion trip, I learned that a child does not care how much you know until they know how much you care."*

Krysta DeBoer, CfUT Alumni 2006 & Director of Mentoring

### Tier 4—Beginning Teacher Cohort

Support for 1st and 2nd year urban educators.

- **Tier 4:** To help meet the needs of our beginning teachers we have expanded our services by adding a Tier 4 to our program. In this tier, we provide assistance to beginning teachers through instructional mentoring and Expanding the Circle. While the focus is primarily on Center alumni, our urban partner schools have the privilege of requesting these services for a struggling beginning teacher from outside of the Center's program.
- **Urban Conference:** In order to facilitate a Milwaukee network of high-performing urban schools and educators the Center hosted the first annual urban conference in October of 2010. 138 urban educators and administrators participated in the 2010 Urban Conference with representation from 12 urban schools and organizations.

*"CfUT has helped me strive for success by giving me real, practical, and applicable training. Without the support I received, I don't know if I would still be teaching."*

Jake Beilke, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Atonement Lutheran School

The Center for Urban Teaching combines meaningful relationships with practical experience in high-performing urban classrooms to instill the belief that ALL children WILL learn while equipping you with the high-performance teaching strategies to make that vision a reality.

#### BY THE NUMBERS:

- Participating Undergraduates: **162**
- Participating Beginning Teachers: **73**
- University Partners: **6**
- Collaborating Urban Schools: **12**