

IGPA 75 YEARS OF IMPACT

RESOLUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The increasing complexity of social life, resulting in greater demands on government at all levels for more expert services to the public, and the leadership of the United States in world affairs imposes on all branches of government greater and more difficult responsibilities than ever before in history. The University of Illinois through its professional colleges and schools provides training which is a valuable background to a student who later elects to enter public service, but the University has no organized program directed specifically to train students for public careers. Information and guidance has been provided for a number of years to students through an Advisory Council on University Training for the Public Service and through a bulletin on University Training for the Public Service, but this is a limited service and is inadequate for present needs.

The State of Illinois officially recognized the need for adequately trained personnel in government service by the adoption of House Joint Resolution No. 17, 65th General Assembly, creating a commission to study the appropriateness of establishing at the University of Illinois a "Curriculum in Government." The report of this commission, submitted May 28, 1947, recommends that the University proceed as rapidly as possible to develop a broad program of teaching, research, and extension in government and public affairs. It is therefore proposed that there be established an Institute of Government and Public Affairs along the following lines, and I so recommend.

A. Functions

1. Teaching

- (a) General instruction in government for all students, at the junior college level.
- (b) Specialized professional training, at the senior college level, for students desiring to prepare for government service.
- (c) Graduate training, both research and professional, for especially qualified students who desire to prepare themselves for higher administrative and research positions in various types of public service.

2. Research

To investigate specific, practical problems that arise at all levels of government--local, state, federal, international--and to make the results of such studies freely available to all governmental agencies and public officials who may need such information.

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3. Extension

- (a) To provide general instruction in government for those whose circumstances make it impossible for them to study on the campus.
- (b) To provide technical, on-the-job training for those engaged in government service with a view toward improving their professional competence.
- (c) To make available to all agencies of government technical information and counsel to assist them in the solution of problems with which they are confronted.

B. Organization

The Institute shall be an autonomous body under a Director responsible to the President, as provided in the statement of Policy adopted by the Board of Trustees on December 11, 1945 (Minutes, page 950). It shall have broad powers in respect to staff, educational program and budget, and shall not be subject to veto by departments, schools, or colleges.

There shall be an Advisory Committee, appointed by the President after consultation with the Director, composed of faculty members who are active participants in the program. Funds for the support of the Institute shall be budgeted separately and the Director shall be responsible for the budget.

The Institute shall be responsible for the development of an adequate educational and research program and for the administration of that program. While every effort should be made to utilize as fully as possible existing courses and personnel, and to bring about the maximum degree of interdepartmental cooperation, the Institute should not be dependent on departmental resources or be limited in its operations by departmental interests.

Approved August 5, 1947

Source: University of Illinois
Board of Trustees 44th Report
pp. 493-494