

UUP

The Ohio Urban University Program

The State's Economic Development Resource Short Talking Points



The Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs and the Ohio Urban University Program (UUP) are the State's foremost urban public policy and economic development resource.

- Without continued state funding of the UUP, the Levin College is in danger of losing its capacity to respond to State needs in the areas of economic development, public management, and community development.
- The UUP is currently operating at peak efficiency on a budget that has been cut 37 percent between 2000 and 2009. In FY 2009 the UUP budget line was \$5.2 million, down from \$8.2 million in FY 2000.
- In response to past budget cuts, the Levin College of Urban Affairs has cut \$1.5 million in operating costs including more than 20 employee positions.
- We are requesting that the UUP be funded at \$3.5 million, a one-third reduction from its FY 2009 amount, and the removal of all non-UUP related earmarks from the UUP budget line. This will support the Levin College and the other seven urban university centers across the state.
- Nearly every major economic development initiative of the State of Ohio since 2000 has involved the Levin College at Cleveland State University with the financial support of the UUP. These include:
 - **State Business Tax Reform.** This began with a publication produced with the Ohio Manufacturers Association in 2000.
 - **State Economic Development Strategy.** The Levin College and Deloitte Consulting were engaged by the then Lieutenant Governor Bruce Johnson to produce a regionally based economic development report, which is widely used by organizations inside and outside of state government.
 - **Ohio Department of Development Strategic Plan.** The plan was produced with the assistance of the Levin College and the UUP.
 - **Ohio's Cooperative Education Program.** The Levin College developed the concept and worked with the Legislature, the Governor's Office, the University System of Ohio, and the Department of Development to implement the program.
 - **Clean Ohio Fund.** The Levin College worked with the Department of Development to devise the rules that govern the program and helped with the program's implementation.
 - **Regionalism.** The roots of the regionalism discussion in Northeast Ohio began with the Patrick Sweeney-Grace Drake regional summits.

A newly formed State Advisory Committee comprised of representatives from the Governor's Office, Ohio Department of Development, University System of Ohio, Office of Budget and Management, and the Legislature serves as the primary portal through which the UUP works to identify and implement priority projects in response to the needs of the people of Ohio. The eight Ohio Urban Universities now work directly with the State to identify, respond and resolve the economic challenges facing Ohio today.

The Ohio UUP is a program of the University System of Ohio and the Ohio General Assembly.

For more information:

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