Dear Friends:

Last year, the CIC commemorated its 50th anniversary by celebrating the sustained, voluntary and deep levels of collaboration our member universities have achieved. Such a milestone is a catalyst for reflection. It sparked a year of contemplative self-examination, looking to the past to envision what the future may bring.

What became abundantly clear is that this alliance among world-class universities has been built on a foundation of paramount trust. It is that trust which allows the CIC to nurture innovation and encourage risk-taking; to build bridges and extend campus walls; to facilitate relationships and cultivate ideas.

Simply translated, the CIC connects people with resources and opportunities, enhancing the distinctive strengths, assets and expertise of each member university.

Connecting people with resources and opportunities is an equation with tangible results:

- It means that campus researchers are able to handle huge datasets thanks to high-speed network collaboration.
- It means that underrepresented students are exposed to the rewards of graduate education through summer research programs.
- It means that scholars, the university community and the public-at-large will have access to books preserved by mass digitization.
- It means that administrators, faculty, students and staff benefit from increased efficiency and value achieved through collaborative purchasing efforts.
- It means that top-notch faculty leaders can enhance their academic leadership skills and network with colleagues from across the consortium.
- It means that students can access specialized courses beyond the offerings of their home institutions via distance learning.

These are some of the highlights administrators, faculty, staff and students can recount from the 2008-09 academic year.

At the CIC, past success is a catalyst for future accomplishment. And we know there is much more to be done. Opportunities abound to extend collaboration more deeply, such as increasing global learning opportunities for students as well as enhancing the breadth of courses shared online. By connecting people with resources and opportunities, the CIC optimizes its considerable strengths.

Rodney A. Erickson
Executive Vice President & Provost, Pennsylvania State University
Chair, Committee on Institutional Cooperation

Barbara McFadden Allen
Director, Committee on Institutional Cooperation
The number of weeks it takes for OmniPoP engineers to set up a campus researcher with its services. Three years ago, a campus researcher needing equivalent fiber services would have waited from three to 18 months for the same service.

OmniPoP, the CIC’s fiber optic network collaboration, provides ultra-fast connectivity that is essential in today’s high-stakes research environment. OmniPoP saves CIC institutions the time and money it would take to provision fiber and services from another provider, and ensures that users can be confident of reliable network performance. OmniPoP’s big pipes handle huge data sets, high-definition video conferencing and other bandwidth-intensive applications.

OmniPoP provides CIC scholars and researchers the ability to connect to national and international peers, research hubs and one another. OmniPoP enabled CIC faculty to take part as Europe’s Large Hadron Collider, the gigantic scientific instrument built to study sub-atomic particle collisions, came online in fall 2008.

Wesley H. Smith, a physics professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, received the terabytes of data the LHC generated – a billion “events” per second – via OmniPoP. Smith’s role in the Compact Muon Solenoid experiment is to filter and destroy 99.9 percent of the data, saving only what might be a discovery, and not physics that is already understood.

OmniPoP offers CIC members the cyberinfrastructure necessary to keep pace with the ever-increasing demand for bandwidth on campus. Its cost-efficient platform provides investigators from a diverse array of disciplines a direct link to unparalleled levels of connectivity necessary to implement revolutionary research methods.

“We're not breaking bandwidth records to break records, we need this to get our physics done. The ability to have a reliable high-speed network is absolutely essential.”

Wesley H. Smith, physics professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison
They may be longtime intense rivals on the football field, but when it comes to increasing opportunities for their students, the Ohio State University and the University of Michigan are teaming up to enhance the student learning experiences at their respective campuses.

As a partner in CourseShare, the CIC’s distance learning collaboration, Michigan has – for several years – opened its first-year Classical Tibetan course to enrollment from Ohio State. The class is shared via live videoconference, so students in Columbus feel like they are in Ann Arbor.

Language teaching, proficiency and learning opportunities offer a particularly rich environment for sharing among institutions. Some courses are broadcast to more than one site: Pennsylvania State University, for example, offers its Middle Egyptian course to the University of Iowa, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Ohio State University.

Combined, CIC universities offer a total of 126 “less commonly taught languages,” but no one campus teaches more than 61. Since the collaboration started three years ago, 54 such language courses have been shared, giving CIC member institutions a tool to expand language opportunities for their students in a cost-effective manner.

“IT’s an amazing opportunity. I’m glad the university is allowing us to use and take advantage of it. It’s very interesting to tell people that I can read and write hieroglyphs now.”

Brittany Maltas, a University of Iowa senior majoring in history and ancient civilization.

New Learning Opportunities

Number of less commonly taught language courses offered via CourseShare in 2008-09, from Classical Japanese to Yiddish.
“It’s folklore, we want to be populist about it. Folklore belongs to the people. We’re just giving it back.”

Moira Smith, Indiana University Bloomington Libraries Folklore and Ethnomusicology Collection specialist librarian and site manager

To extend and enrich access to CIC library resources, digitizing print books and other legacy materials is imperative. As an increasing share of our library collections can be delivered electronically, we are better positioned to enhance discovery of library information; support new research uses for our collections; provide access to a much broader audience; and preserve the scholarly record.

Local digitization projects, such as Michigan State’s online collection of historic American cookbooks, have existed in CIC libraries for more than a decade. But mass digitization efforts took a giant leap forward in the past year, thanks to the CIC’s partnership with the Google Book Search Project to scan up to 10 million volumes across the consortium.

In 2008-09, Indiana University, Pennsylvania State University, and the University of Minnesota each sent their first shipments of books to Google for digitization. Highlighting those shipments were volumes from internationally renowned collections at each university, including the folklore and ethnomusicology collection at Indiana; agriculture and technology resources from Penn State; and U.S. Government Documents from Minnesota. This builds on the work of the Universities of Michigan and Wisconsin, which have been sending library content to Google since 2005.

Files from the CIC’s materials scanned by Google are returned to HathiTrust, a digital archive co-founded by the CIC members and hosted at the University of Michigan and Indiana University. HathiTrust organizes, manages and preserves the digitized volumes for long-term access and security. Mass digitization of CIC library holdings ensures that the past investments our campuses have made in building exceptional library collections will continue to earn dividends in the future.

3.8 Million
Number of digitized volumes archived in the HathiTrust as of September 2009

Building a Digital Future
When the drum majors lead Purdue University’s “All-American” Marching Band onto the field, they are easily recognizable because of their regal hats. When the band needed to replace its specialized headgear – made in England, using Canadian bear fur – it was a seamless operation with the help of the CIC preferred customs broker, Scan Global Logistics.

Imports of specialized scientific equipment are quite common at world-class research institutions. Items are brought in from all corners of the world, from Africa to Germany to Lebanon. With one call, the customs brokerage agency takes care of logistics and navigates the complex web of tariffs, duties, insurance, treaties and other issues so CIC universities don’t have to worry that their articles might be waylaid or accrue unnecessary charges.

The CIC customs brokerage contract was implemented in July 2008. Although it has cut costs for member universities – the negotiated rate per transaction is much more favorable than the industry standard – perhaps even more significant is how the customs agency has streamlined the process of exporting and importing materials and equipment.

The CIC flexes the buying power of 12 world-class universities to negotiate significant savings for a variety of commodities and services. From laboratory supplies to office supplies, from rental cars to background checks, or even bear fur hats, the CIC collaborates on contracts for the benefit of its member universities. Since its establishment in 1998, the CIC has saved members more than $28.6 million. It has also made some areas of purchasing more efficient, resulting in significant human resource savings as well.

“We’re happy to save the money, but the main thing was to get the process streamlined, because that was costing us a lot. You have a cost savings across the board, just avoiding all these problems.”

Douglas W. Sabel, Director, Purdue University Contracting Group and Procurement Operations

$5.9 Million
Amount of combined savings in 2008-09 for the CIC Purchasing Consortium, which collaboratively spent $37.5 million on joint contracts. This represents a savings of 9.76 percent.
When Robert B. McMaster participated in the CIC’s Academic Leadership Program, the University of Minnesota geography professor was serving in his first administrative role as the associate dean for planning in the College of Liberal Arts. Today, McMaster is Minnesota’s vice provost and dean of undergraduate education, and he still recalls most of the agenda and topics from his year as an ALP fellow.

The CIC’s signature professional development opportunity, ALP consists of three intensive three-day seminars which rotate among campuses. Experts, nearly all from CIC universities, address fellows on important issues and topics specifically oriented to the challenges of academic administration at major research universities.

ALP alumni – more than 1,000 strong – are an impressive lot. Included among them are many in senior university leadership positions such as president, chancellor, provost, and dean. The large majority of fellows have stayed within the university which nurtured them as they climbed the administrative ladder.

In 2008-09, ALP celebrated its 20th class of fellows. Of the 54 participants, 55 percent were women and 24 percent were faculty of color. The program’s success reflects core CIC values. Through close collaboration, CIC members benefit from being able to offer faculty a quality leadership development opportunity at a reasonable cost.

“We can look at budgets and we can look at human resources and we can look at academics separately, but this program taught me to look at the connection among these entities. That’s something I gained in terms of leadership; you can’t compartmentalize these activities.”

Former ALP fellow Robert B. McMaster, pictured with E. Thomas Sullivan, University of Minnesota senior vice president and provost (right)
The CIC’s Summer Research Opportunities Program provides a gateway to graduate education for a broad, diverse cohort of student scholars. The eight-week research internship experience at CIC campuses attracts an outstanding national talent pool of students who pursue a wide variety of fields. It increases opportunities for graduate education among underrepresented students, including students of color, first-generation college students, and students from low-income families, regardless of race or ethnicity.

Veronica Orozco is a prime example of how an intensive summer research experience can lead to graduate school and beyond. The California native’s participation in SROP at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign catapulted her to graduate school and a career in research and teaching. She received her Ph.D. in counseling psychology from Ohio State University and today is an assistant professor at Adelphi University.

The SROP research internship introduces highly qualified undergraduates to the rewards and rigors of graduate education, and exposes them to the possibilities for a research career. Faculty mentors from CIC universities encourage and reinforce research goals, helping to nurture a community of young scholars.

The summer culminates with the annual SROP conference, which features dynamic speakers, workshops and poster presentations. Students enjoy the unique opportunity to network with one another, with faculty mentors, and with representatives from federal agencies such as the National Science Foundation. Most importantly, they hear from SROP alumni who realized the dreams they once thought were impossible.

“...For me, a Ph.D. was an ominous thing that I wouldn’t be able to obtain. Once that light clicked on that this was feasible for me and I could do this, I started to pursue graduate school options. I don’t think I would be at Northwestern had I not participated in SROP.”

Koshonna Brown, a second-year graduate student studying public health at Northwestern University. She participated in SROP at Northwestern and at the University of Michigan.

The number of colleges and universities represented among the 440 students who participated in the 2009 SROP conference. Illustrating the program’s national drawing power, these students came from 37 states and Puerto Rico.

Next Generation Scholars
What they’re saying about us:

“The nation’s best consortia, like Five Colleges, CIC and Claremont, do far more by creating capacity for change.”

Phillip DiChiara, managing director of the Boston Consortium for Higher Education writing in the Spring 2009 edition of Higher Education Consortia magazine

“The (CIC’s) shared network is much more powerful than what a single campus could have mustered. And the savings are impressive.”


CIC by the numbers

Programs

▲ 1,465 Students studied abroad, participated in summer research internships, and accessed specialized courses from other CIC institutions

▲ 1,495 Staff attended CIC meetings or conferences on 103 topics

▲ 96 Faculty participated in leadership development opportunities

Universities

▲ Total Full-Time Faculty: 29,320

▲ Total Full-Time Graduate Student Enrollment: 78,230

▲ Total Full-Time Undergraduate Enrollment: 319,338

▲ Total Undergraduate Degrees Conferred: 74,824

▲ Total Doctoral Degrees Conferred: 7,382

▲ Total Operating Expenditures: $27.91 billion

Fact: Twenty percent of the engineering and chemistry Ph.D.s, and 25 percent of the agriculture Ph.D.s awarded in the U.S. annually come from CIC universities.

Fact: CIC member libraries own more book volumes (more than 80 million volumes) than the 10 campuses of the University of California system (34 million) and the Ivy League (64 million).

Fact: CIC members engage in $6 billion in funded research, receiving some 12 percent of the total federal research funds awarded annually (18 percent of the National Science Foundation total, and 15.7 percent of the USDA total).
**Financial Highlights**

**Return on Collaboration 2008-09**

**REVENUE 2008-09**

- Operating Revenues
  - Member Dues: $2,091,570
  - Grants & ICR: $7,200
  - Other Revenues: $163,754
  - From Reserves: $63,730

  **Sub-Total:** $2,326,254

- Program-related Revenues
  - ALP & DEO: $255,704
  - OmniPoP & Fiber ring: $770,987
  - Purchasing & Licensing: $7,749,263
  - HathiTrust: $824,998
  - Other: $141,274

  **Sub-Total:** $9,742,227

**TOTAL REVENUES:** $12,068,480

**EXPENDITURES 2008-09**

- Operating Expenditures
  - Personnel: $1,587,068
  - Travel & Meetings: $128,545
  - Supplies & Services: $99,480
  - Rent & Operations: $169,473
  - Programs & Projects: $296,932
  - Replenish Reserves: $44,756

  **Sub-Total:** $2,326,254

- Program-related Expenditures
  - ALP & DEO: $196,199
  - OmniPoP & Fiber ring: $67,922
  - Purchasing & Licensing: $10,518,784
  - HathiTrust: $560,842
  - Other: $313,494

  **Sub-Total:** $11,657,240

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES:** $13,983,494

**RESERVE BALANCES**

- Unencumbered: $704,777
- Encumbered: $1,857,565

**TOTAL:** $2,562,343

**NOTES:** Program-related revenues and expenditures rarely balance, as some revenues may accrue during one fiscal year and be expended in a different fiscal year. "Encumbered" reserves include carry-over monies from such areas as OmniPoP, library licensing, and various other funds.
The CIC is a consortium of 12 world-class research universities governed by its member Provosts and supported by campus investment.