The Scott S. Cowen Institute for Public Education Initiatives at Tulane University is committed to attracting the brightest minds at the University and in New Orleans to serve as change agents in the revolutionary movement to transform the city’s public schools. The Cowen Institute is working to institutionalize our work at Tulane University by creating systems and structures to do so. From working with the faculty, students and staff in a variety of partnerships, we are engaging the Tulane community in public education more than it has in the University’s history.

The following sites have been approved as possible placements with the Jones Scholars Internship Program for the spring 2010 Semester. Two host sites will be selected. Students should rank their preferences on the application form. If you have questions about the project proposals and need more details, please feel free to contact Felicia R. Brown on 504-274-3682 or frbrown@tulane.edu.

1. **Urban League College Track**: The purpose of the project is to expand the resources and supports available to parents and students regarding college access and college readiness. The project will serve a total of 100 9th and 10th grade students from a variety of high schools throughout New Orleans. The project scope of work will include a monthly newsletter to parents, assisting the Student Life Director in planning and implementing college readiness activities and lessons. Increase the number of under-represented students in New Orleans that graduate high school ready for college and that graduate college.

2. **Lafayette Academy Interim Assessment/data-driven decision-making**: Assist with data collection, analysis, and tracking of student performance. Students with a background in mathematics, science, or business are preferred as well as the ability to use software applications and databases for computation and statistical analyses; ability to analyze data from multiple sources, enabling the school to make decisions about policies, programs, and student performance to enhance student learning and achievement. The Jones Scholar would work with one of our administrators to design and complete spreadsheets and related presentation materials that can be used with our faculty and board for planning purposes.

3. **FirstLine Schools**: Development and rollout of the FirstLine Schools Internship Program and FirstLine Schools Apprentice Teacher Program. **FirstLine Schools Internship Program** will effectively link the interests, talents and experience of interns from across the country with the needs of our organization and schools. **FirstLine Schools Apprentice Teacher Program** will train first year teachers to be effective teachers in urban, open-admissions schools in New Orleans. Program participants will teach full time in our classrooms as “Apprentice Teachers” working closely with a skilled and experienced mentor teacher. While having significant teaching responsibilities,
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Apprentice Teachers will not carry a full teaching load thus allowing them to concentrate on honing their skills through co-teaching, professional development, observations and feedback. The Jones Scholar will be an integral part of the design and implementation teams for these two programs. Due to FirstLine staff’s limited time and multiple responsibilities, the Jones Scholar will help tremendously in realizing these projects. The Jones Scholar with work with the Director of Talent Management to develop funding, recruiting, selecting, training, placement and evaluation systems for the FirstLine Schools Internship Program. The Jones Scholar will work with the Director of Talent Management and the Director of Teacher Development to develop funding, recruiting, selecting, training, certification and evaluation systems for the FirstLine Schools Apprentice Teacher Program.

4. **New Orleans College Prep**: Business plan development/expansion: The intern would work primarily with the School Director, Ben Kleban, with input from the founding Middle School and Elementary School Principals to draft a business plan to guide the strategic growth of New Orleans College Prep schools over the next 10 years. In order for the plan to truly be a working document, the Jones Scholar would have to thoroughly research the education space in Orleans Parish—demographics, effects of school choice in Orleans Parish, trends in recruiting for charter schools in general and at NOCP in particular—to determine the most effective way to insure that NOCP is able to provide as many students as possible with a college preparatory education without compromising the excellent quality of an education from NOCP.

5. **Greater Gentilly High School**: Develop a sustainable, electronic system for identifying, recruiting, tracking and recognizing community members to serve as review panelists to support the school’s project-based learning model. Research best practices in volunteer recruitment and recognition to ensure program viability. Work with local community organizations, universities, and businesses to advance and promote Greater Gentilly High School.

The Scott S. Cowen Institute for Public Education Initiatives at Tulane University is an action-oriented think tank creating and advancing solutions to the issues impeding student achievement in New Orleans and beyond. Areas of concentration include Applied Research, Public Policy, University Based Initiatives, and College Readiness Programs. Additional information can be found online at http://education.tulane.edu.