WHEREAS, Year Up, founded in 2000 in Boston, Massachusetts, is an intensive technical and professional skills development program serving primarily low income urban youth between the ages of 18 and 24 years old who have a high school diploma or GED;

WHEREAS, over the course of the one year program, Year Up participants receive 6 months of college credited skills development and a 6 month internship with a major corporation. Training includes entry-level skill development in IT Desktop Support/Helpdesk and Investment Services Operations, continuing education, apprentice performance, monitoring and coaching;

WHEREAS, Year Up has formed successful partnerships and empowered youth to expand their educational and professional horizons in other cities, including Atlanta, Boston, New York and San Francisco;

WHEREAS, in other cities, Year Up has achieved positive outcomes (90% or above) in measurable areas including attendance, organization, leadership and teamwork;

WHEREAS, 87% of Year Up youth apprentices in other cities performed as well as or better than other new hires or contractors. Furthermore, 84% of graduates were employed or in college full-time within 4 months after graduation from the program; and

WHEREAS, Year Up has formally articulated a commitment to developing a first-class workforce in Chicago by partnering with City Colleges of Chicago to create an intensive skills development and internship program for City Colleges of Chicago students with no financial impact to City Colleges of Chicago.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Chancellor or her designee to draft a partnership agreement for a two year period between City Colleges of Chicago and Year Up beginning in September 2010 through September 2012 and to submit such agreement for execution by the Board Chairman.