

Chicago Initiative

As part of a university drive to build relationships and foster research collaborations in Birmingham's sister city, Chicago, a team of academics from the PSA and INLOGOV were joined by the City Council's Strategic Director of Development, Mark Barrow, for a series of meetings and seminars in Chicago last month.

The team met colleagues primarily at the University of Illinois at Chicago, but also at Loyola and Northwestern together with Cook County and the City of Chicago.



Professor Karen Mossburger, Head of the Department of Public Administration (front, right) welcomed the group to the University of Illinois, including Helen Dickinson (second left) and Mark Barrow (second right).

TIF Seminar

Following conversations with colleagues in Chicago, a seminar was held at the University on 28 February, 2013, about the use of Tax Increment Financing.

Dr. Graham Squires, Senior Lecturer in Urban Economics and Real Estate at University of The West of England (UWE), shared his work on the theme of, '**US lessons in tax increment financing (TIF) for economic growth in the UK**'.

Birmingham City Council had recently initiated the use of TIF and City Council

officers described their experience of implementing the initiative.