Information and resources for those involved in service-learning at the University of South Carolina.

You are receiving this email because you have expressed interest in information about service-learning at the University of South Carolina. If you no longer wish to receive these updates, please respond to this email.

Updates

Chronicle of Higher Education Highlights Service-Learning
In architecture, neuroscience, and other disciplines, professors make rebuilding New Orleans a central part of the curriculum highlighting the value of service-learning practice in higher education today.

'Service Learning' Becomes the New Standard at Tulane U.
http://chronicle.com/article/Service-Learning-Becomes-
the/64302/?sid=wb&utm_source=wb&utm_medium=en

USC AmeriCorps VISTA for Service-Learning Signs On for Second Year
AmeriCorps VISTA is a national service program in which volunteers commit a year of service to work towards creating programs that will benefit the community and can be sustained after their service is complete. With support from the South Carolina Campus Compact, S.C. Honors College, and the Office of Student Engagement, our campus has benefited by hosting a full-time VISTA volunteer during the current academic year. Courtney Mirenzi, current VISTA member at USC, has worked throughout the year to support the efforts of individual service-learning faculty members and to build strong connections with community partner agencies engaged in service-learning partnerships. Courtney has agreed to serve a second year in the program and will continue her excellent work to enhance service-learning practices at the University of South Carolina during 2010-2011. You can reach Courtney at courtney@schc.sc.edu or 803-576-5712.

Register Service-Learning Courses Online
We are pleased to announce that you can now register your service-learning courses online. Registering your courses ensures that up-to-date information is published about the service-learning courses available at Carolina. Whether you are just planning your course and need some assistance or have already developed the experience, please take a few moments to register your courses today!
http://www.housing.sc.edu/servicelearning/coursereg.asp

Service-Learning Syllabi Examples
For a database of service-learning course syllabi from institutions across the United States from a variety of disciplines visit the Campus Compact’s database at http://www.compact.org/category/syllabi/

USC/Local Service and Scholarship Opportunities:

Alternative Spring Break Service Trip – Please Share With Your Students!
Working with City Year in Washington D.C.
March 7-13, 2010
What are you doing for Spring Break? Travel with your classmates to Washington D.C. March 7-13, 2010 to work with City Year to learn more about urban poverty and education. As tutors, mentors, and role models, City Year makes a difference in the lives of children and transforms schools and neighborhoods across D.C. While working with the City Year Corps, you will get to visit vibrant urban neighborhoods, after-school programs, and even plan and implement your own service project!

The registration fee of $320.00 includes transportation, housing, food (6 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 5 dinners). Students who submit a completed application and deposit of $160.00 will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis starting Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 7:45 a.m. in order to accommodate class schedules. Each applicant must apply in person to Community Service Programs in the Campus Life Center, Russell House Suite 227; no one can turn in an application or fees for another applicant. Don’t miss out, plan to be there early! For more information, see the attached Alternative Spring Break Service Trip Information and Application Packet. For additional questions, contact Erin Konkle, Graduate Assistant for Community Service at 777-7130 or konkle@mailbox.sc.edu for more information.

Sponsored by Community Service Programs in the Department of Student Life.

University of South Carolina Discovery Day
April 23, 2010

Student Abstracts Due: March 5, 2010
NOMINATE students online at http://www.sc.edu/our/discoverydayevent.php

Discovery Day (an annual event for undergraduates at USC, all years, all disciplines) showcases students’ scholarly pursuits in and out of the classroom. Students present their experiences or findings from research/scholarly projects, study abroad, internships, service-learning and community service, and national fellowship competitions. Students have the opportunity to make poster, oral, creative, or artistic presentations as well as visual art displays. This includes theatrical, musical, or creative writing presentations.

We need your help to encourage your student’s participation in these activities. Please encourage your service-learning students to participate or NOMINATE a student today. Each nominated student will receive a personal invitation from the Office of Undergraduate Research. For more information visit: http://www.sc.edu/our/discovery.shtml

Faculty/Staff Conferences or Professional Development Events:

TOMORROW - CTE Teaching Excellence Workshop: Service-Learning Assessment: Keeping the Learning in Service-Learning
John Grady, Assistant Professor, Department of Sport and Entertainment Management
Wednesday, February 24, 2010, 12:20 - 1:10 p.m.
Center for Teaching Excellence, Thomas Cooper Library, Room 511

Developing a meaningful service-learning experience for students starts with articulated learning outcomes - stating the specific course content you want your students to learn from their community involvement. This workshop will highlight key principles of reflection as a primary service-learning assessment activity, identify useful resources and suggest activities that can be modified to be used across the curriculum. Whether you currently teach a course with a service-learning component or if you are considering developing one, this information on reflection activities will illuminate options for
effective assessment through reflection. For more information or to RSVP please visit http://www.sc.edu/cte/workshops/servicelearningassessment/index.shtml

East Carolina University 7th Annual Service-Learning Conference
February 24, 2010
East Carolina University will sponsor their 7th Annual Conference on Service-Learning featuring Dr. Randy Stoecker, Author, *The Unheard Voices: Community Organizations and Service-Learning*. Sponsored by the University Service-Learning Committee, the Volunteer and Service-Learning Center and the Office of Faculty Excellence. For more details visit http://www.ecu.edu/VSLC/

2010 Gulf-South Summit: "PEOPLE, PLACE, & PARTNERS: Building and Sustaining Engagement in Critical Times"
March 3-5, 2010, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

As the first decade of the 21st century comes to a close, pressing social and economic challenges have brought renewed attention to the importance of volunteerism and service in civic life. In these critical times, a national call for service is engaging citizens of all ages in creating innovative solutions for recovery. This dialogue brings new focus on the potential of service-learning and civic engagement to address local and global problems and to engage students, faculty, and community partners in civic renewal.

Along with the growing needs in our communities, colleges and universities are also facing the challenge of building and sustaining engagement initiatives with limited resources. This conflict between crisis and opportunity raises many questions: As engagement comes of age, what role will people, place, and partners play in creating models for service-learning and civic engagement? How will we maintain quality as demand for service opportunities increases and resources tighten? How will place be understood as students and faculty engage in service-learning in both local and global contexts?

Please see the website http://www.georgiacenter.uga.edu/conferences/gulf_south/ for more details.

Midlands Technical College 2010 Statewide Service-Learning Conference
Tuesday, March 9th, 2010
8:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Midlands Technical College

Please consider joining service-learning professionals from across South Carolina for this one day event. The theme for this year’s conference is Mentoring through Appreciative Inquiry. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Jim Glasson from the University of South Carolina Beaufort campus. For more information please contact Rebekah Whitton at whittonr@midlandstech.edu

USC Service-Learning and T&P Discussion
Wednesday, March 17th, 2010
Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Have you considered working to incorporate service-learning practice and/or research into a tenure and promotion file? Are you looking for ways to present your service-learning activity in your review? Whether it is a matter of connecting service-learning instruction with research or framing service-learning activity in the most appropriate way, questions exist as to the best method to make these
connections. Dr. Christy Friend, who has successfully navigated this process, has agreed to help facilitate an informal lunch conversation and brainstorming session around this topic. If you would like to participate in this discussion, please email haywoodb@mailbox.sc.edu to sign up by March 1st, 2010. This event is limited to ten faculty members.

Call for Proposals – Western Carolina 6th Annual Symposium on Service-Learning and Civic Engagement

Thursday, June 10, 2010
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Western Carolina University is now accepting proposals for the 6th Annual Symposium on Service Learning & Civic Engagement Pursuing an Engagement Agenda: Pathways and Perspectives. The Symposium provides a forum for scholarly discussion of issues, perspectives, and best practices in service learning. Also, it facilitates the exchange of information and ideas on innovative civic engagement strategies and programs. For session proposal and registration information, visit the Symposium website, http://www.wcu.edu/9818.asp

Other PD Opportunities

For other relevant events, please visit this interactive calendar at http://www.campuscompact.org/calendar/

Funding/Publication Opportunities:

Constellation Energy EcoStar Grant Program
Deadline: March 16, 2010
If you are working with a local nonprofit organization on an environmental issue as a part of a service-learning course, you may want to consider this grant program. Constellation Energy supports nonprofit organizations that are working to improve the quality of life in company communities throughout the U.S. The company offers EcoStar Grants of up to $5,000 to local nonprofit organizations for projects that address at least one of the following five environmental focus areas: pollution prevention, education, energy efficiency, conservation, and community activism. Funded projects must be located geographically within a region where Constellation Energy does business (the continental states with the exception of AZ, GA, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, and WY).

Online application information is available at http://www.constellation.com/portal/site/constellation/menuitem.999b6fed85785a2399084010016176a0

Learn and Serve America Higher Education Grants
Deadline: March 9, 2010
Subject to the availability of appropriations for fiscal year 2010, the Corporation for National and Community Service (the Corporation) announces the anticipated availability of approximately $7.3 million to award new Learn and Serve America Higher Education grants. Grants will be awarded to an estimated seven to nine individual institutions ranging from approximately $85,000 to $200,000 annually for a project period of up to three years, and an estimated seven to eleven consortia ranging from approximately $200,000 to $500,000 for a project period up to three years. The purpose of the
Learn and Serve America Higher Education program is to support institutions of higher education that use innovative service-learning programming to meet the needs of local communities.

For more information visit www.learnandserve.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa_detail.asp?tbl_nofa_id=76

Community Works Journal
Community Works Journal is published online by Community Works Institute, in support of teaching practices that build community. CWJ is now in its fourteenth year of publication and continues to serve a crucial need for models and resources that inspire by example. The publication has an international audience of educators from schools, community-based programs, and networks. They are looking for articles that address or relate to innovative educational strategies and practices that involve teachers and students in meaningful work within their communities. Articles may feature curriculum or program examples, tools and teaching resources. They are especially interested in reflections on learning and the experience of community.

View the journal online at http://www.communityworksinstitute.org/cwjonline. To discuss your idea for an article contact Joe Brooks at 909-480-3966, or by email: jbrooks@communityworksonline.org

Awards
Consider nominating your colleagues or students for one of the following awards.

2010 Leadership and Service Awards – Outstanding Service-Learning Award
Nomination Deadline: Wednesday, March 3rd, 2010

Are you someone making a difference in the Carolina Community?
Do you know someone who is?

Nominate or apply today for the 2010 Leadership and Service Awards available on-line at: www.sa.sc.edu/lsawards.

Help us to honor outstanding University of South Carolina faculty, staff, and students for their contributions to the community. These traditional awards include:

- Outstanding Service-Learning Award (Consider Nominating your Colleagues!)
- Outstanding Faculty or Staff Volunteer Award
- Ambassador of Service Award
- Service Professional Award (Consider Nominating your Community Partner Contacts!)
- Rosemary Broadway Memorial Scholarship
- And many more!

Visit www.sa.sc.edu/lsawards to find a full description of awards and the requirements. Also, make plans to attend the award ceremony on Thursday, April 8 at 4:00pm in the Russell House University Union Ballrooms.

USC Educational Foundation Outstanding Service Award
The USC Educational Foundation Service Award is the University's most prestigious recognition of professional, campus, and community service by a faculty member. The deans of the University's
academic units make nominations from their faculties. The award includes a $1,000 prize and a certificate of recognition. Academic deans, department chairs and directors at all USC campuses may nominate up to three faculty members from their respective units for award consideration.

For complete information, please see [http://www.sc.edu/provost/servinfo.shtml](http://www.sc.edu/provost/servinfo.shtml).

**Campus Compact Thomas Ehrlich Civically Engaged Faculty Award**

**Deadline: Midnight, April 5, 2010.**

Campus Compact recognizes one faculty member each year for exemplary engaged scholarship, including leadership in advancing students' civic learning, conducting community-based research, fostering reciprocal community partnerships, building institutional commitments to service-learning and civic engagement, and other means of enhancing higher education's contributions to the public good. One award of $2,000 will be granted to a faculty member from a Campus Compact member institution. Up to ten finalists will also be selected and recognized. For more information about the award or to apply online visit [http://www.compact.org/initiatives/campus-compact-awards-programs/the-thomas-ehrlich-civically-engaged-faculty-award/](http://www.compact.org/initiatives/campus-compact-awards-programs/the-thomas-ehrlich-civically-engaged-faculty-award/)

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To submit an announcement to U-Serve Carolina, e-mail servicelearning@sc.edu. For current information about service-learning at the University of South Carolina, please visit our website at [http://www.sc.edu/servicelearning](http://www.sc.edu/servicelearning)