

**Annual Report
2006/2007**

Service Learning Unit Goals for 2006/2007

1. Continue outreach and support to faculty:

Assessment Indicator

- a. Continue to provide faculty with assistance in the areas of curriculum development and community partner generation.
- b. To expand service learning workshops and community-based opportunities to faculty.

Year-End Status

1a) Continue to provide faculty with assistance in the areas of curriculum development and community partner generation.

- A. C.A.R.E.S. Open House – Fifteen faculty from the Colleges of Education, Business, Human and Social Sciences, attended an open house at the university-sponsored C.A.R.E.S. Resource Center to learn about opportunities for their classes and meet community partners working in cooperation with activities at the center.
- B. Project Citizen – Dr. Brenda Betts, Teacher Education, participated as a reviewer in the spring Project Citizen Showcase sponsored by our community partners at Stanislaus County Office of Education, and Modesto City Schools. Dr. Betts sat on a panel with five other reviewers listening to elementary and junior high school students present their capstone projects on policy issues the students would like to develop in their communities.
- C. Civic Mission of Education – Dr. Dave Colnic, Politics and Public Administration, participated as an expert to facilitate small groups of students discussing challenges facing their community related to environmental issues at the Civic Mission of Education forum, “Own Your Community.” This yearly event is sponsored by the Civic Education Collaborative, a committee representing Stanislaus County Office of Education, San Joaquin Office of Education, Modesto City Schools, The Modesto Bee, Community Trust Credit Union and the City of Modesto.

1b) To expand service learning workshops and community-based opportunities to faculty.

- A. Tenure-track faculty attended a workshop in April on how to incorporate service learning into their RPT files. The workshop was conducted by Dr. Richard Berrett, Service Learning Faculty Scholar from the Chancellor’s Office.

Service Learning Course Work

These partnerships include meetings, trainings, events and outreach necessary to maintain reciprocal high quality partnerships throughout the campus and our community.

Community Engagement Outreach Events/Involvement / 2005-06

- *Civic Mission of Education – Educating for Democracy* (in coordination with the Stanislaus and San Joaquin County Offices of Education and local community leaders). This 3-tiered event featured a faculty luncheon and panel discussion, a forum for K-12 educators, and an evening community-based forum open to all constituencies. Faculty met with local and national leaders to learn how civic engagement can be incorporated in the curriculum. Their interaction provided contacts and research opportunities on the value of civic engagement to our youth and our communities.
- *C.A.R.E.S. Resource Center*. Under the leadership of Ms. Julie Fox and Dr. Steven Filling, the university was awarded a 2-year \$600,000 grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to open a Resource Center for the homeless population in Turlock. Major community partners include, the City of Turlock, United Samaritans Foundation, We Care Program, The Stanislaus Literacy Center, Stanislaus Housing Opportunities Programs, the Center for Public Policy Studies. Current services include literacy promotion, obtaining essential identifying documents for job searches and accessing other assistance agencies. With the assistance of Resource Center staff, clients are also developing a Community Participation Committee in order to engage and connect to various services based on their own self-identified needs. All services involve faculty and student participation.
- *Delta Sierra Region 6 Service Learning Advisory Commission*. The Office of Service Learning is a strong participant in this consortium of educators and county administrators within the six-county region. Members meet quarterly to discuss methodologies to improve their service learning programs.
- *Service Learning Video Training and Outreach*. A 14-minute video program was produced by the Office of Service Learning in cooperation with the following faculty members: Dr. Jennifer Helzer, Dr. Ida Bowers, Dr. Viji Sundar, Dr. Dave Schulz, Dr. Hope Werness, and Mr. Paul Sivak. The Video was directed and edited by Dr. Steve Arounsack, lecturer in Biology. This innovative video was shown at a system-wide meeting of service learning directors and presents the basic elements of quality service learning as exemplified through faculty's outstanding work performed at the university's community resource center, The Bridge, in West Modesto.
- *Julie Chavez Rodriguez Presentation: "The Legacy Continues"*. Students, faculty, and administrators heard Ms. Rodriguez speak on the impact her grandfather and other civically engaged leaders made in their communities. Ms. Rodriguez focused on the National Youth Leadership Initiative addressing academic and civic engagement in today's youth.
- *Center for Civic Education: Project Citizen*. The Office of Service Learning in cooperation with the Civic Education Collaborative, City of Modesto Parks, Recreation & Neighborhoods, Stanislaus and San Joaquin County Offices of Education, and the University Honors Program assisted Modesto junior high students learn about the development of public policy issues through this national program.
- *VITA Program*. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program is a service learning project conducted by Dr. Steven Filling in coordination with the IRS, Community Trust Credit Union (CTCC), Empire Elementary School, Salvation Army in Turlock and the Office of Service Learning. Students in Dr. Filling's accounting course assisted 261 low income individuals and families file federal and state income tax returns. Many of these clients are migrant workers who open their first bank account through the assistance of the CTCC, as well as file a tax return. This year's program was conducted at two sites: Empire Elementary School and the

Turlock Salvation Army. The duration of this years' program was expanded to run from the middle of February to the end of March.

- *Cesar E. Chavez Day Celebration.* This event celebrated the life and values for civic engagement promoted by the late Cesar Chavez. The Office of Service Learning, in collaboration with Community Trust Credit Union, Stanislaus County Office of Education and the Cesar E. Chavez Celebration Committee, co-sponsored the 6th Annual Cesar E. Chavez Poster, Essay and Poetry Contest. The contest is countywide and this year over 400 K-12 participants submitted entries. Students with exemplary submissions were honored at the Cesar Chavez Celebration.
- *Service Learning Summer Institute.* This two-day institute was offered in June 2006 and was presented in collaboration with the San Joaquin County and Stanislaus County Offices of Education. Presentations, guest speakers, and workshops on service learning were offered for schools and community based agencies throughout our six-county region. The institute invites faculty, administrators, and students, as well as community-based organizations to meet their colleagues, network, and learn about one another's efforts to improve service learning. This year, many teachers from the new Pittman Elementary School located on our Stockton campus attended the Summer Institute.
- *Head Start Parent Delegate Committee.* The Office of Service Learning sits on this committee and has been instrumental in bringing the parents onto the university campus to showcase the value of California State University, Stanislaus for them both as returning students and in the future, for their children.
- *Turlock Community Collaborative.* The Office of Service Learning sits on the Turlock Community Collaborative and has been a leader in the development of Collaborative's goals and development. The Office of Service Learning is currently working on a video that will highlight the Collaborative achievements and history.

In 2005-2006, the Office of Service Learning supported 45 courses with over 106 sections with a service learning component. An estimated 1,978 students have had the opportunity to participate in a service learning course or a service learning event. Please note that when the office was opened in 2000, it was estimated that approximately 320 students had the opportunity to participate in a service learning activity. Please see attached spreadsheet for course detail (Attachment A). Please also see chart below.