

Stan State Learning in the Community

Stanislaus State University
Office of Service Learning

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ISSUE 2

Star of Service - Dr. Mark Grobner

Biology Building Community Since 2011

Since 2011, Dr. Mark Grobner has served and continues to serve as a faculty member at Stanislaus State, and he gives an immeasurable amount of service to the campus and surrounding community. One of his largest contributions is his leadership and co-founding of the Science in Our Community (SIOC) program that reaches out to k-12 grade students about STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) related fields.

When outreaching to the community SIOC opens a multitude of opportunities for Stanislaus State students to engage with the surrounding areas and serve diverse groups. Each year Dr. Grobner helps facilitate approximately over 30 free activities for the community and the campus.

Included in the annual activities offered by SIOC is the Annual Science Day that occurs each spring semester. This event premiered in Spring 2011. Since then Science Day has blossomed and offers 50 activities on a single day open to all at no fee. Science Day is the 2nd largest event on Stan State's campus with 4,000 people in attendance for the Spring 2023 Science Day alone. The only larger event is the Commencement celebration of graduating students. Dr. Grobner's service continues to positively impact our students and the surrounding communities. Over the 12 years of the Science in Our Community more than 2,200 Stan State students have volunteered, led events, and received hands-on experiences with the community.

During this time the program has reach over 24,900 community members. Additionally, over 180 Stan State faculty and staff have assisted with facilitating and creating various activities within the program. The Science in Our Community program would not be what is today without Dr. Grobner's continued generosity, service, and outreach that has sustained the program. Dr. Grobner is a brilliant star that continues to promote science and community engagement by opening the doors to underrepresented populations in the STEM community.



Dr. Mark Grobner
Professor, Biology

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A YEAR IN REVIEW: 2022 - 2023

During the 2022-2023 academic school year the Office of Service Learning supported over 2,400 Stan State students through various community-based opportunities such as academic internships, service learning courses, and community events.

One of the ongoing **Service-Learning** projects is the Pathways to Success Mentor Program in which over 300 K-12 students in the Turlock Unified School District received one-on-one mentoring from a Stan State criminal justice student in the 2022-2023 AY. The purpose of the CJ Mentor Program is for Stan State students to understand various impacts in our community and participate in relationship-based mentoring to strengthen the TUSD protegee on their pathways to success. The CJ Mentor program is one of several high impact programs the Office of Service Learning supports.



Science in Our Community Event 2022

Another service opportunity provided by our office is to give back to the United Samaritans Foundation (USF) at their Annual Legacy of Hope Fundraiser. Each year Stan State has about 200 students, staff, and faculty volunteer to help facilitate and staff the fundraising gala by assisting with event set-up, customer service at event, and event clean up. Through these efforts USF receives the annual funding necessary to keep providing food for the Stanislaus County via food trucks and emergency food box days (including the campus food boxes) that serve over 314,000 meals each year. Our students, faculty and staff help make this a successful event while serving the community.

Messages from the Service Learning Team

Thank you to all within the campus community and surrounding areas that make it possible for Stan State students to engage, transform, and learn through hands-on experiences that further their skills. Please share any feedback you have with us about your experiences.

Please reach out to our office if you are wanting to incorporate service learning or an academic internship to your course. We are located in the Faculty Development Center and are more than happy to answer any questions about credit bearing student experiences.

MEET THE SERVICE LEARNING DIRECTOR MS. JULIE FOX

Ms. Julie Fox began her service at Stan State as the Director of the Office of Service Learning in 2001 and continues to serve with a passion for our campus, students, and community. Over the years, Ms. Fox has provided outstanding leadership that has led to the development of over 250 community partnerships and a multitude of opportunities for students to gain hands-on experience with a civic engagement focus. Under her direction, the office helped develop and continues to support ongoing programs that benefit the Stan State campus as well as the community such as Science in Our Community, Turlock Community Collaborative, and the Pathways to Success Mentor Program.

Her dedication to the students and community has brought recognition to the campus as the office has been awarded the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll and the Carnegie Foundation Community Engagement Classification. Additionally, Ms. Fox has received the Stan State Student Empowerment Award for her commitment to our students.



Ms. Julie Fox
Director

“Service Learning—Educating Students in Service Builds Stronger Communities.”



Mrs. Breanna McIntyre
Service Learning Staff

GET TO KNOW MRS. BREANNA MCINTYRE, SERVICE LEARNING ADMIN SPECIALIST

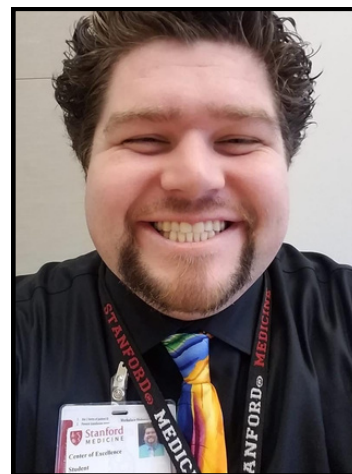
Mrs. Breanna McIntyre began her service as a student assistant in the office in 2014 and became a staff member in 2018 as she assisted with leading the launch of the Stan Serves S4 system for our campus. Mrs. McIntyre strives to serve the campus community as the S4 specialist by assisting faculty, staff, and students in navigating the process for academic placements. Additionally, Mrs. McIntyre has assisted other campus programs such as the Counselor Education Program to utilize S4 to ease the processes for the required documents for practicum hours. Due to the positive results of her work with the online S4 system and her outstanding service to faculty, students, and staff, she was awarded the Star Staff Innovation Award of Excellence.

Mrs. McIntyre also assists with the development and renewal process of the formal documents required for academic placements and the pursuit of quality opportunities for our students.

INTRODUCING MR. CHARLES CANO, SCIENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY LEAD

Mr. Charles Cano is a community-driven undergraduate student focused on giving back to the community and is an aspiring physician. His desire to serve the community led him to participate in the Stan State College Corp program in which he was recognized for outstanding service and dedication.

As of August 2023, Mr. Cano has joined the Service Learning team to lead the efforts of coordinating the Science In Our Community Program (SIOC). In this role Mr. Cano will lead up to 40 STEM Ambassadors and coordinate with Stan State faculty to provide various Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) related activities for underserved communities focusing on k-12 students. His coordination of the SIOC programming allows for Stan State students to gain hands-on leadership experience through leading activities and inspiring the youth to see the joys of the science fields as well as other opportunities in higher education.



Mr. Charles Cano
Service Learning Staff

Service. Community. Leadership.



Mr. Scott Qualle
Service Learning Staff

INTRODUCING MR. SCOTT QUALLE, SERVICE LEARNING ADMIN SPECIALIST

Mr. Scott Qualle has been serving the Stanislaus community throughout his professional career from being a staff member at United Samaritans Foundation. Through his service driven career Mr. Qualle has provided important assistance to the community and continues to do so in his position at Stan State.

Mr. Qualle joined the Service Learning team May 2023 to assist with vital aspects of the office including assisting with community partnerships, the Turlock Community Collaborative (TCC), and exploring avenues to expand our resources for faculty and students. Mr. Qualle assist with the process of screening all student placement sites and verifying that the site is a high quality opportunity for our students to ensure a positive experience for those who complete academic service hours. Additionally, he assist with outreaching to the community through the maintaining of the TCC listserv and coordinating the monthly meetings with various community partners and active community members. The TCC also serves as a network to share community resources and activities to the campus and surrounding communities.

INTRODUCING MS. MELANIE MYERS, SERVICE LEARNING ADMIN SUPPORT

Ms. Melanie Myers has been serving the Stan State campus for 15 years in various departments and joined the Service Learning team in 2022 due to her outstanding assistance throughout a staffing shortage and has become a vital part of the team. Ms. Myers is dedicated to serving our students and ensuring our office is student-ready at all times.

Ms. Myers assist with creating and maintaining the welcoming, responsive service that the campus strives for across campus. She also assist with coordinating the dynamic aspects of the office as our team supports academic internships, service learning placements, Science In Our Community, the Turlock Community Collaborative, and additional community engagement events throughout the campus and the communities we serve.



Ms. Melanie Myers
Service Learning Staff

Transforming. Engaging. Educating.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Turlock Community Collaborative

- Join us via Zoom on the third Tuesday of month at 1:30pm.
 - Upcoming dates include : 11/21/2023, 01/16/2024, 02/20/2023
- Contact Scott Qualle at squalle1@csustan.edu for more information.

Campus Bird Walk

- Join Dr. Hamilton to learn about and see the diversity of birds at Stan State.
 - Thursday, November 2nd 8 AM to 9 AM
 - Location: Naraghi Hall of Science
 - RSVP at <https://sugeni.us/4S7Q>

Annual Legacy of Hope

- Join us in giving back to United Samaritans Foundation by volunteering at one or more of the times listed.
 - **Saturday, November 18, 2023**
8:30am-1pm| 4pm-9:30pm| 9pm-12am
 - RSVP at <https://sugeni.us/47Yg>

More Events can be found online at...

- <https://www.csustan.edu/service-learning/events-calendar>
- <https://www.csustan.edu/science/upcoming-events>

OFFICE OF SERVICE LEARNING

The primary goal of the Office of Service Learning at Stanislaus State is to enhance student learning through community-based service and/or academic internships.

Our office is directed by
Ms. Julie Fox.

The rest of the team consist of:
Breanna McIntyre, Scott Qualle,
Melanie Myers, and Charles Cano.

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