Welcome to our premiere Service Learning Newsletter! This bulletin will announce our Service Learning activities, highlight our service learning accomplishments, and provide resources and information for faculty, students, and our community-based organizations. Service learning is a vital component of our campus’ mission to provide students with the best education possible and to inspire students to become productive and engaged citizens in their communities. This newsletter is also a forum for any issues you wish to address related to service learning and our community.

We look forward to hear from you!

Service Learning Course Highlights

Each Semester, we will highlight some of our innovative service learning courses.

United Way Public Relations Campaign
Students in Dr. Peter DeCaro’s COMM 4120 Public Relations Campaigns course have been working with United Way of Stanislaus County to develop a campaign for a greater awareness of United Way’s hotline referral service in Stanislaus County. United Way’s resource referral service is aimed at underserved individuals and families that might not otherwise be aware of services.

(Continued on page 2)
from local agencies that can assist their particular needs. Students’ inventive and novel approaches to achieve the goals of the campaign have been met with enthusiasm by United Way.

**Honor’s Program & the Civic Mission of Education**

Dr. Helena Janes’ and Dr. Jim Tuedio’s students in the HONS 2850 class took part in the annual Civic Mission of Education. The day-long event was sponsored through a collaboration with the Stanislaus and San Joaquin County Offices of Education, the City of Modesto, Modesto City Schools, Food Processors Credit Union, the Modesto Bee, and the CSU Stanislaus, Office of Service Learning. This annual event promoted civic responsibility in K-16 students. The theme was “Own Your Community, A Track in YOUth.” University students conducted a longitudinal survey to gauge the impact of the event on high school student’s civic engagement views. The students also tracked student’s involvement in civic activities. As a follow up to the event, Modesto Mayor Ridenour will visit CSU Stanislaus students to dialogue about civic engagement in Stanislaus County.

**Girl Scouts Muir Trail Council**

Psychology students in Dr. Victoria Cortez’s CDEV 3180, *Early Social and Emotional Development* course worked with Girl Scout leaders at various Modesto community centers to develop age appropriate activities and teach life skills. Students empower girls to become resourceful citizens in their communities.

In partnership with the Faculty Development Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, the Office of Service Learning sponsored the Instructional Support Service Learning Mini-Grant and Applications for 2004-2005.

Two awards were given out this year:

**Dr. Stephanie Paterson**, Assistant Professor of English, was awarded $400.00 to purchase “ABC Quilts Education Program” instructional materials for her course, *ENGL 3009: Writing for Teachers.* This course blends service learning methodology and content to teach future teachers writing instruction and techniques. It also introduces future educators to the challenges of AIDS within both local and international communities. As part of their course work, students create quilts for children living with AIDS. As Dr. Paterson noted in her proposal, “quilting, like writing, is the art of putting things together, of making connections. It is an act of conjuring, of turning insignificant scraps into something eloquent.”

**Dr. Nancy Jean-Smith**, Associate Professor of Teacher Education, was awarded $1,000.00 for the Nightingale Elementary School Garden Project in Stockton. The project is a component of her *EDMC 4130 Teaching Science Methods* for new teachers. Since fall of 2003, CSU Stanislaus students have been working with Nightingale students and their parents on a garden project that began as the (Con’t at top of page 3)
(Con’t from bottom of page 2)  
“Nightingale School Beautification Project.” This program instructs future teachers in curriculum that enhances elementary science skills and excites students about science and math. The garden is an innovative service learning project that is regionally recognized as a model program. By engaging students and their families to further academic success, the entire Nightingale campus has benefited from Dr. Smith’s work. The grant will also be used to paint a mural next to the garden highlighting the space as a “Peace Garden.”

HSIAC Grant
The Office of Service Learning is currently applying for a grant through the agency for Housing and Urban Development. The office will submit a proposal for the Hispanic-Serving Institutions Assisting Communities (HSIAC) program. We plan to partner with the United Samaritan Foundation’s “We Care” program and the city of Turlock to open a resource center for the homeless population in Turlock. Service learning students will volunteer in different aspects of the shelter’s operation such as: client services, program development, data collection and research. Please contact the Office of Service Learning if you would like to know more about this innovative project.

Upcoming Service Learning Events

Liberal Studies and Teacher Education Students...
SAVE THIS DATE!!
June 23 & 24, 2005
The 8th annual Service Learning Summer Institute

This enriching event will be held at the San Joaquin County Office of Education. It will be an excellent opportunity for students to learn about service learning and sharpen your civic engagement teaching skills. For more information, please contact Julie Fox at X3311.

KEEP THIS EVENT ON YOUR RADAR:
A civic engagement workshop is being planned to assist faculty on how they can integrate service learning activities into their teaching pedagogy. We will be contacting various departments soon on this workshop. Resources to help you incorporate service learning in your classroom are available in our office, or you can visit our website at www.csustan.edu/ServiceLearning.

Learning civics by ‘doing’ civics is the most effective way students can internalize the lessons of citizenship beyond volunteering.
Service learning combines academic goals with purposeful community service and reflection related to a student’s discipline. During the service learning experience, the classroom expands into the community. Students use the knowledge they gain to provide a service to the community.

Service Learning encourages faculty and students to actively participate and understand the communities in which they live. It also provides valuable experience for students in the development of their careers.

We are currently producing an informational videotape in collaboration with The Bridge Community Center in west Modesto. This project will focus on the innovative work at the center and highlight The Bridge as an important resource for the Southeast Asian community. The center also serves as an instructional and research site for CSU Stanislaus students and faculty. Dr. Ida Bowers, Dr. Jennifer Helzer and Steve Arounsack are helping us develop the script and Pacific ARC Media will shoot and edit a 10 to 15 minute program that will be distributed on DVD. The project is being funded by a CSU Stanislaus Lottery Grant. The DVD is expected to be completed by the end of the summer, 2005.

NEW VIDEOTAPE ON THE BRIDGE COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER IN MODESTO

Helpful Service Learning Websites:

The CSU system wide Community Service-Learning website:
www.calstate.edu/csl

Service-Learning Internet Community (SLIC):
www.slic.state.edu

California Campus Compact:
www.cacampuscompact.org/resources/directory.html