



# Engaged and Service Learning Newsletter

L e w i s U n i v e r s i t y

## VARIETIES OF SERVICE LEARNING PRESENTED AT MAY INSTITUTE

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- May Institute
- March Service Learning Workshop
- Service Learning Grants awarded
- Service Learning Course Spotlight

The Office of Service Learning is pleased to have the opportunity to continue accompanying faculty who are enhancing their courses through service learning as well as those who are trying to get their service learning courses, programs and projects off the ground. We've assembled a wonderful panel of faculty who are engaging a wide variety of styles, models and applications of service learning.



This panel will be held: **Tuesday, May 18 – 1:00-4:00 p.m. in D250.**  
It is entitled **“Building Academic Connections Beyond the Classroom.”**

The presenters and topics will look like this:

- Christie Billups – Overview
- Chris Swanson & Karen Trimble-Alliaume - International Service Learning
- Christy Roberts & Jennifer Buss – Partnering with Schools
- James Rago – Service to the Community Through Research
- Brad Porfilio & Heather Hickman – Critical Service Learning
- Anne Rapp – Assets-Based Community Partnership

Presenters will then gather in small groups with those interested in a particular approach to service-learning to facilitate practical, initial (or progressive) steps of imagining, creating, and enhancing courses that might lend themselves to similar styles, objectives or formats.

We are looking forward to initiating the next phase of service learning initiatives and development at Lewis. We look forward to joining many of our colleagues in the conversation .

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## MARCH SERVICE LEARNING WORKSHOP INSPIRES FACULTY CONVERSATION AND CREATIVITY

On Wednesday afternoon March 24, 2010, an interdisciplinary group of Lewis faculty gathered for a lively conversation about engaged and service learning. The workshop, "Service Learning: Who's Doing it? Why not you?" began with a warm welcome by Associate Provost, Dr. Julie Krahl, who introduced Lewis Coordinator of Service Learning, Dr. Christie Billups. Dr. Billups presented selected findings from a recent Service Learning Survey, which provided information concerning current practices and future service learning goals of Lewis faculty. Dr. Billups also shared her service



**Dr. Christie Billups**

learning course model and pedagogy for **Topics in Theology: Faith Behind Bars**. In this popular course, students correspond with incarcerated individuals, providing companionship and association, while learning from the faith journeys of those who have been imprisoned. Dr. Clare

Lawlor, Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, provided participants with a practical pedagogical format for developing service learning courses. The model presents a framework for syllabus development, academic and civic learning objectives and assessment techniques. Dr. Lawlor also presented the syllabus of a service learning Psychology course she had developed, **Seminar: Liberation Psychology and Trauma**. The course focuses on providing psychology students with the professional skills and sensitivity



**Dr. Anne Rapp**

needed to assist victims of war and oppression. In the final presentation Dr. Anne Rapp, SPCE faculty and Coordinator of Program Development, discussed the **Kolb Learning Cycle**,

which provides a context for integrating fundamental stages of service learning, including *Doing* (concrete experience), *Reflecting* (reflective observation), *Thinking* (abstract conceptualization and *Learning from Experience* (active experimentation). Each stage was linked with practical examples of student learning and course outcomes to assist faculty in developing, teaching, and assessing service learning courses or assignments. The remainder of the afternoon provided opportunities for participants to meet informally to ask questions and share resources, including syllabi and assignments. Conversations focused on service learning in relation to new and current courses, workshops, service learning travel study opportunities, foreign language "summer camps", interdisciplinary team-taught courses, and Scholars program contracts. Workshop participants were also provided with a number of service learning resources, including links to local community partners.



**Dr. Julie Krahl**



**Dr. Clare Lawlor**

## LEWIS FACULTY AWARDED ENGAGED AND SERVICE LEARNING COURSE GRANTS

The Lewis Collaboration for Applied Research and Engagement was awarded a \$10,000 matching grant from the Association of American Colleges and Universities' Bringing Theory to Practice program to support the development of new service learning courses or course components.

The following faculty were awarded \$1,000 grants for new course development:



**Dr. Karen Trimble Alliaume**  
Christianity in Latin America (Theology) international travel



**Carol Schneider**  
Nursing Healthcare Leadership Practicum (Nursing)



**Ms. Martha Villegas Miranda**  
Spanish Language and Culture for Social Workers (Foreign Languages) and Christian Service and Society: Spiritually of Liberation (Theology) international travel

The following faculty were awarded \$500 grants for course revisions or new service learning major course components:



**Robert Bergman**  
Current Topics in Marketing (Business)



**Dr. James Burke**  
Christian Social Teaching: Welcoming the Stranger Together (Theology)



**Dr. Jamil Mustafa**  
Scholars Program for ICE and Connections sections



**Dr. James Rago**  
Undergraduate Research (Biology)

## SERVICE LEARNING COURSE SPOTLIGHT



Applied Sociology students sponsored a Veterans Awareness blood drive and collected donations for the National Veterans Foundation.

The Spring 2010 Applied Sociology class enjoyed learning while participating in one of two service learning action teams: Homelessness Assessment and US Veterans Awareness.

The **Veterans Awareness** student team sponsored a university-wide Veterans Awareness Week at Lewis March 15-19. Activities included researching information on veterans' issues, creating a fact sheet and a brochure documenting veterans' problems, making educational presentations in a number of Lewis classes, and sponsoring a campus blood drive to honor veterans. Students also raised funds for the National Veterans Foundation, an advocacy group for US military veterans.



Applied Sociology student, Jordan Paler, donates blood during the Veteran's Awareness blood drive March 17, 2010



Spring 2010 Applied Sociology students volunteer at MorningStar Mission

The **Homelessness Assessment** student team collected research on the problems of homelessness youth, conducted qualitative research while volunteering at MorningStar Mission in Joliet, and raised funds for MorningStar programs.

20-497 Applied Sociology is the Sociology Department capstone course, designed to provide students with an opportunity to implement and expand their sociological knowledge in an engaged and service learning context. Students are required to research a selected social issue through a survey of relevant literature and to use this information as the basis for an engaged and service learning project. Students keep a journal of field notes and write a final paper documenting the project.



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LCARE is a voluntary support structure for the advancement of service learning, civic engagement and applied community research at Lewis University. The purpose of the LCARE Newsletter is to feature information about events and activities relevant to engaged learning and to encourage participation among those interested in collaboration. Additional information is also posted on Blackboard for the Lewis Collaboration for Applied Research and Engagement.



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