

A Time of Growth

Creighton is energized by a campus renaissance, which features significant investment in redevelopment and east-campus expansion.



Service-Learning Report - March/April 2013

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

UPDATE ON SERVICE-LEARNING

FROM THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND ASSESSMENT

March/April 2013

About Us



The Office for Academic Excellence and Assessment (AEA) at Creighton University provides ongoing support and resources to enhance teacher effectiveness and student learning.

To learn more about faculty development programming, assessment, course design, student learning processes and/or effective teaching methods, or the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), contact [Mary Ann Danielson](#) at 402.280.2535.

Find past issues of this newsletter [here](#).



CREIGHTON NAMED TO 2013 COMMUNITY SERVICE HONOR ROLL

Creighton University has been named to the 2013 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, student-service learning and civic engagement as well as meaningful community outcomes.

"From creating a student environment where community is nurtured and grown, to service learning or experiential education that involves teaching through action and reflection, to providing educational access for diverse student populations, to the development of students as "men and women for and with others," community involvement permeates all aspects of collegiate life," said Timothy R. Lannon, S.J., Creighton president. Last year, Creighton students, faculty and staff were involved in more than 800 service programs locally, regionally, nationally and internationally, contributing more than 389,000 volunteer hours.

This is the sixth year Creighton has been recognized with the award, presented by the Corporation for National and Community Service. Creighton is one of 690 schools nationally recognized.

Launched in 2006, the award honors colleges and universities based on a series of selection factors, including scope and innovation, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for service, and the extent to which a university offers academic service-learning courses.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE UPDATES

PRESIDENT'S HONOR ROLL



We are proud to report that more than 4,000 Creighton students engaged in more than 389,000 hours of community service in 2011-2012.



PROGRAM SPOTLIGHTS

Featured this month are two programs: the **One World-Creighton Dental Clinics** and the **Student VITA Tax Clinic** at Winnebago, Neb., and on Creighton's campus, in which our students participate in making a difference in our community through service.

The **One World-Creighton Dental Clinics** provide emergency care services to patients with very limited access to traditional dental care. It is an invaluable service-learning experience for the students, as well as an intercultural service opportunity.

The clinics are supervised by faculty but led by the students. Extractions, fillings and temporary dentures are the most common services.

In 2012, approximately 70 percent of junior and senior students participated in at least one of the 21 clinics.

With 880 student "units" of junior/senior participation during the year, averaging more than 40 students per clinic with about 720 patient visits from about 550 patients (some patients come for multiple visits) were treated for two-hour dental care for most acute care cases. [More Information](#)

The **Student VITA Tax Clinic** at Winnebago, Neb., and on the Creighton campus, is now in its fourth year.

Creighton students in Accounting 343 (Federal Income Tax), members of Beta Alpha Psi (the accounting honor society), and members of the Business Law Society in the Law School participate in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program in Winnebago, coordinating free tax return preparation for low-income taxpayers and those taxpayers vulnerable to exorbitant refund anticipation loans.

On Feb. 9 and 16, approximately 20 students (each day) and a faculty member traveled to Winnebago to conduct the clinic. During the course of the two days, over 80 clients were served and returns were prepared and submitted electronically that claimed refunds totaling nearly \$250,000.

The students also provided a clinic on Creighton's campus on March 3 for students and staff and a clinic at Project Homeless Connect Omaha on March 22. Another clinic is scheduled for students and staff early April. [More Information](#)



ABOUT THE COALITION

Creighton University is a member of the Metro Area Service-Learning Coalition. The Coalition seeks to: (1) increase collaboration and share selected service-learning programming among nine metro-area universities; (2) offer coordinated programming on a selected topic each semester; and (3) bring university and college resources to bear in educating students and the public about selected significant local, national and international issues.



SHARING THE VISION

UNMC will host the Sharing the Vision Conference April 19-20 in Omaha. The conference will serve to facilitate communication among faculty preceptors, leaders and supporters of student-run clinics for underserved populations. [Learn more and register.](#)



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Proposals are being accepted for the 2013 International Association for Research on Service Learning and Community Engagement (IARSLCE) Conference. Submission deadline is April 12. [Learn More](#)

CAMPUS EVENTS



HOMELESS CONNECT

The Creighton Center for Service and Justice and Project Homeless Connect Omaha would like to thank the Creighton Community for the hospitality and dedication shown to the 501 homeless guests who received significant services last Friday, March 22, in the Kiewit Fitness Center. Thanks to Creighton President Timothy R. Lannon, S.J., for making the event possible and to Andy Alexander, S.J., for welcoming everyone with prayer.



GRANT SERIES LUNCHEON

On April 12, the AEA Assessment Grant Series Luncheon will host speakers focused on the "Interprofessional Education and Ignatian Values." [More information/register.](#)



TIME-OUT FOR LUNCH SERIES

On April 18, Kathy Flecky, O.T.D., OTR/L, will facilitate a session on engaged student-learning and strategies to assess learning and community outcomes, both within the context of community experiences. The title of her presentation is "Conversations on Student Learning with Others: Interprofessional Community Engagement." [More information/register.](#)

HAND-IN-HAND



The annual event invites adults with developmental disabilities to campus for an afternoon of fun activities on April 14 from 1 to 4 p.m. The adults are partnered with Creighton students and take part in activities led by student organizations, such as bingo, karaoke, a photo booth, games, crafts and more. Questions can be directed to [Michelle Skaff](#) or [Jennifer Kennedy-Croft](#).

RECOMMENDED READING



SOCIAL NETWORKING

The article [More Questions Than Answers: Assessing the Impact of Online Social Networking on a Service-Learning Project](#), written by Mary Moeller and Dianne Nagy of South Dakota State University, details the evolution and results of a service-learning project designed to extend cross-cultural relationships via online social networking between students at a U.S. Bureau of Indian Education boarding school and teacher candidates in a required diversity course.

The analysis reveals challenges and opportunities for student and candidate learning and stimulates questions that shape future directions for service-learning in an increasingly digitized world.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES



[Sharing the Vision](#), April 19-20, 2013, Omaha.

[16th Annual Continuums of Service](#), April 24-26, 2013, Portland, Ore.

[National Conference on Volunteering and Service](#), June 19-21, 2013, Arlington, Va.

[Reinvigorating our Process of Discovery: Research and Best Practices in Service-Learning and Civic Engagement](#), Nov. 6-8, 2013, Omaha.

[5th International Symposium on Service-Learning \(ISSL\)](#), Nov. 20-22, 2013, Stellenbosch, South Africa.

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