

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

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UPDATE ON SERVICE-LEARNING

FROM THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND ASSESSMENT

November/December 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 facul



LITERACY PROGRAMS WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY

The Metropolitan-Area Consortium for Service-Learning, of which

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 University is a member, selected "Literacy: Broadly Defined" as its 2013-2014 programming theme. At Creighton, we strive to empower students, faculty and staff to join in efforts to impact change by volunteering time and talent to organizations within the metropolitan Omaha community. If literacy is your passion, the Literacy Center and the Nebraska Center for the Book offer information and volunteer opportunities.

The Literacy Center educates more than 450 adult students, with the support of nearly 150 community volunteers, from the tri-county area with one-on-one tutoring and small classroom instruction in basic reading, English as a second language and GED preparation. The organization is committed to empowering adults and families by helping them acquire the literacy skills and practices to be active and contributing members of their communities. [More information.](#)

The [Nebraska Center for the Book](#) depends on the involvement and generosity of volunteers to further its mission. Helping the Nebraska Center for the Book is a wonderful way to learn more about books, writing, literacy and advocacy. They have a number of volunteer opportunities, from staffing events and helping with publicity and programming to serving on committees. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Mary Jo Ryan at 402.471.3434.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE UPDATES

[PRESIDENT'S HONOR ROLL](#)

The [President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll](#), launched in 2006, annually highlights the role colleges and universities play in solving community problems and placing more students on a lifelong path of civic engagement by recognizing institutions that achieve meaningful, measurable outcomes in the communities they serve.



The 2014 Honor Roll will recognize higher education institutions in four categories: General Community Service, Interfaith Community Service, Economic Opportunity and Education. More information about the program will be featured in the January 2014 Service-Learning newsletter.

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

Continuing our series highlighting the programs in which our students have participated, we feature the **Center for Service and Justice Fall Service Trips** and the **Occupational Therapy ILAC Program**.

More than 189 Creighton students spent their fall break, Oct. 14-20, volunteering on **service and justice trips** in 24 communities across the

country.

This program provides service-learning or experiential education that involves teaching through action and reflection.

In the more than 30 years since the service program began, more than 4,000 Creighton students have used their spring or fall breaks to serve others and learn about social justice concerns such as poverty, immigration, homelessness and environmental justice.

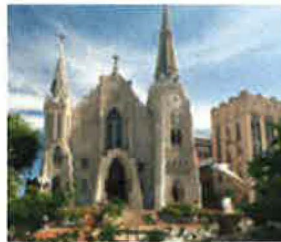
[More information. View a full list of the service sites and descriptions.](#)

The Occupational Therapy ILAC Program is a three-week immersion for graduating occupational therapy students in the Dominican Republic working in partnership with International Child Care, a community-based rehabilitation program focused on serving children with disabilities in the *barrios* of Santiago.

Teams of students and professionals visit the home environments of the children to evaluate and educate *promotras*, or lay health providers, on strategies for the children and their families. The program also focuses on learning the culture and occupations of the Dominican People, which includes a weekend immersion in a rural community or *campo*, visits to a Haitian *batey* and providing service in a local orphanage.

Throughout the program, students and professionals engage in active reflection about the culture, occupations and personal growth from the experience. [More information.](#)

CAMPUS EVENTS



THANKSGIVING DINNER FOR CREIGHTON STUDENTS

Volunteers are needed to cook turkeys; bring pies, desserts and side salads; and clean up for the student Thanksgiving Feast on Nov. 27 in lower St. John's. Volunteers may contact Sean Malloy at smalloy@cox.net or 402.214.5572.

MENTOR INFORMATION SESSION

Faculty and staff mentoring has



changed over the years at Creighton. It is about to change again. Please join the Committee on the Status of Women, Human Resources and Dr. Isabelle Cherney from the Interdisciplinary Ed.D. in Leadership program for an information session on upcoming changes on Tuesday, Nov. 19, from noon to 1 p.m., Skutt Student Center, Room 104. Please feel free to bring your lunch; light desserts will be provided. Questions? Contact Dr. Cherney at chernevi@creighton.edu or 402.280.3039.

RECOMMENDED READING



VIRTUAL CENTER FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

At your fingertips, the Virtual Center for Teaching Excellence (vCTE) offers many resources online for faculty and staff on service-learning and other pedagogies. The teaching and learning methods presented on the site are recommended to aid faculty to excel in the classroom and to improve student development. [Learn more.](#)

COMMUNITY CONTACTS



GIRLS INCORPORATED'S THANKSGIVING DINNER

Warm and energetic volunteers are needed to help serve the girls' Thanksgiving dinner on Friday, Nov. 22, from 5-6 p.m. To volunteer, contact Fatema Graves, director of operations and volunteer coordinator, at <http://www.girlsincomaha.org>.



RADIO TALKING BOOK: READING VOLUNTEERS

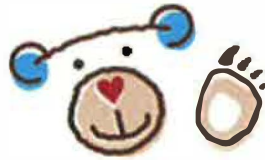
Volunteers with a good voice and with experience in reading out loud to children, family members or in a business setting, your voice skills are needed. Come in and record a test tape and become a Radio Talking Book volunteer. Contact Sybil Mahan, volunteer coordinator, at <http://www.rtbs.org>.

THE WEEKEND FOOD PROGRAM



The Weekend Food Program is a unique project that addresses a very real problem in our community: child hunger. Through the Weekend Food Program, children receive backpacks filled with healthy, child-friendly food on Fridays, so that they will have food through the weekend. Volunteers are needed on Thursday mornings for 45-60 minutes. Contact Katie Guenther, Completely Kids volunteer coordinator, at <http://www.completelykids.org>.

TED E. BEAR HOLLOW PROVIDES SUPPORT



Ted E. Bear Hollow provides a safe, supportive environment where children, teens and adults can learn healthy ways to cope with the death of a family member or friend. TEBH also performs community education and outreach to meet the needs of Omaha's bereaved youth. Volunteer opportunities vary and include weekend day camps, monthly and evening support groups, assistance with fundraising and benefit events, as well as office/clerical work and program preparations. Contact [Cathy Fox](#), program director, at 402.502.2773. [Learn more.](#)

STEPHEN CENTER NEEDS VOLUNTEERS



Volunteers are needed to answer phones, prepare and serve suppers, and assist as a night supervisor. Hours are flexible. To volunteer, contact the [Bev Hoschar](#) at 402.715.5442.

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGERS



The Salvation Army bell ringers are a cherished symbol of Christmas. They represent the giving holiday spirit so strongly displayed in Omaha and its surrounding communities. To help ensure the success of this year's holiday campaign, the Salvation Army is currently looking for volunteers to ring bells. A minimum of two hours is requested. Volunteering as a bell ringer is a great opportunity for a group of friends or school organization. [Register to volunteer.](#)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

IMPACT

IMPACT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

IMPACT National Conference is accepting Call for Workshop Proposals. The conference will be held Feb. 27 through March 2, 2014, at Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Ind. The workshop proposal deadline is Dec. 1, 2013. [More information.](#)

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

[IMPACT National Conference](#), Feb. 27-March 2, 2014, Valparaiso, Ind.

[Applied Learning in Higher Education \(CALHE\) 8th Annual Conference](#), hosted by Missouri Western State University, March 20-22, 2014, St. Joseph, Mo.

[Continuums of Service 17th Annual Conference](#), April 2-4, 2014, Honolulu, Hawaii.

[25th Annual National Service-Learning Conference](#), April 9-12, 2014, Washington, D.C.



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