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Creighton
UNIVERSITY

UPDATE ON SERVICE-LEARNING

FROM THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND ASSESSMENT

March 2015


Contact Us



The Office of Academic Excellence and Assessment (AEA) is dedicated to Creighton University's commitment to excellence in teaching and student learning by offering faculty and staff the opportunity to:

Imagine...the Opportunities.
Reflect...on Best Practices.
Collaborate...with Campus Colleagues.
Transform...Student Learning.

Creighton University exists for students and learning. Faculty and staff pursue an excellence in teaching and student learning that extends beyond the brick and mortar of our classrooms into the

Corporation for
**NATIONAL &
COMMUNITY
SERVICE** 

CALL FOR 2013-2014 INSTITUTIONAL DATA ON SERVICE-LEARNING

The Office of Academic Excellence and Assessment is accepting and gathering 2013-2014 service-learning institutional data to submit for the 2015 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll program, managed by the Corporation for National and Community Service. The Honor Roll will recognize higher education institutions in four categories: general community service, interfaith community service, economic opportunity and education. **Deadline to submit institutional data is Friday, March 20 to the Office of Academic Excellence and Assessment.**

Definitions that the Corporation for National and Community Service use for community service and academic service-learning are:

communities in which we live, to include service learning.

Contact AEA to learn more about service learning processes, faculty development programming, assessment, course design, effective teaching methods, and/or the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL).

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

- **Community service** means activities designed to improve the quality of life of off-campus community residents, particularly low-income individuals. **Community service activities may include but are not limited to: academic service learning, co-curricular service-learning (not part of an academic course but utilizing service-learning elements) and other co-curricular student volunteer activities, as well as work-study community service and paid community service internships.** Community service includes both direct service to citizens (i.e., serving food to the needs) and indirect service (i.e., assessing community nutrition needs or managing a food bank).
- **Academic service-learning** means service that is integrated with academic course content. It may involve direct or indirect service and may include academic research.

If you are in a position that gathered 2013-2014 institutional data on service-learning and/or community service, please contact [Mary Ann Danielson](#) or [Michele King](#) to ensure the data is reported in the Honor Roll report.

[Guidelines and forms to submit institutional data on service-learning and/or community service.](#)

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE UPDATES



PRESIDENT'S HONOR ROLL

Creighton University has participated in the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll since it launched in 2006 and recognized "With Distinction" in 2014 (previously 2007). [Learn more.](#)

For more information, contact [Mary Ann Danielson](#), 402.280.2535.



PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Continuing our series highlighting the programs in which our students have participated in service, we feature **CCSJ Spring Break Service Trip** and **Give Kids a Smile** programs.



The [Creighton University Center for Service and Justice \(CCSJ\)](#) has sent 144 students to 17 different locations across the nation, for a weeklong or five-day spring break service trip. During the trips, students will participate in service and immersion activities while learning about key social issues facing the communities they visit like homelessness, poverty, the need for immigration reform, lack of adequate housing and the need for

quality education. [More information.](#)

The CCSJ has offered services trips for more than 30 years. For updates and pictures from the trips check out their [Facebook page.](#)

In celebration of National Children's Dental Health month, February, the [Creighton Dental School](#) held its 15th annual Give Kids a Smile event. This year, nearly 100 children, ages 3 to 14, received free dental exams, x-rays, teeth cleaning, fluoride treatments and dental sealant applications by Creighton dental students and dental hygiene students from Iowa Western Community College.



Since 2001, Creighton's Give Kids a Smile program has helped more than 1,000 children who may not otherwise receive dental care get a checkup and receive other needed procedures. [More information.](#)

METRO-AREA COALITION FOR SERVICE-LEARNING NEWS

Creighton is a member of the Metropolitan-Area Coalition for Service-Learning (MACSL), along with representatives from the College of Saint Mary, Metropolitan Community College, Nebraska Methodist College, University of Nebraska at Omaha, University of Nebraska Medical Center and Iowa Western Community College.



The coalition seeks to: (1) increase collaboration and share selected service-learning programming among seven metro-area universities; (2) offer coordinated programming on a selected topic each semester; and (3) bring university and college resources together in educating students and the public about selected significant local, national and international issues. **Sustainability is the theme for 2015.** Look for email announcements on sustainability programs.

CAMPUS NEWS

Senior accounting and Beta Alpha Psi students provided free tax returns



at the Winnebago Indian Reservation for its residents through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. Students met with clients during two trips to the reservation. Students also hosted on-campus sessions during February and will provide services at Project Homeless Connect in March.



Anna Domina, OTD'04, assistant professor of occupational therapy, was accepted into the American Occupational Therapy Federation Leaders and Legacies Society, an organization that fosters ongoing pursuits in volunteerism and professional service.



Victoria F. Roche, Ph.D., acting dean and professor of pharmacy sciences, earned the Rev. John P. Schlegel, S.J., Diversity Award for Excellence and Innovation. The award recognizes individuals who advance diversity at Creighton, who serve as advocates for social justice and who bring the community together by promoting collaboration among diverse groups.

CAMPUS EVENTS

PROJECT CURA



Project CURA Savor the Flavor and Silent Auction Program; Tuesday, Mar. 24; 5:30-8:30 p.m.; Skutt SC Ballroom. Share the evening program with the students who will be traveling and immerse yourself in the various cultures and taste the cuisine of each country. [More information](#). Questions about the event can be sent to Emily Lowry or Mandy Marsh at savortheflavor.projectcura@gmail.com

PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT

[Project Homeless Connect](#) is a one-day event that serves as a "one-stop shop," connecting homeless individuals to needed services, including: housing,



healthcare, legal resources, Social Security, food-stamp benefits, and additional services. Government agencies, non-profit agencies, local businesses, volunteer groups, medical providers, legal experts and many other service providers come together in Creighton University's Kiewit Fitness Center to offer on-site immediate assistance to individuals, families, seniors, veterans and youth who find themselves homeless.

Project Homeless Connect Omaha 2015; Friday, Mar. 27 at the Kiewit Fitness Center. [To volunteer.](#)

HAND IN HAND



[Hand-in-Hand](#) is an annual event that invites adults with developmental disabilities to campus for an afternoon of fun. They are partnered with Creighton students and take part in activities put on by student organizations, such as bingo, karaoke, a photo booth, games, crafts and more. The event will be held on **Sunday, Apr. 6; 1-4 p.m.; Skutt SC Ballroom.** Donations such as movie gift cards, bath sets, sports equipment and household items, etc., are needed for door prizes. Items do not need to be anymore than \$10-\$20 in value. Deadline for donations is April 2. Questions can be directed to [Katherine Johnson](#) or [Jennifer Kennedy-Croft](#)

HUNGER COLLABORATIVE



Creighton University will partner with the **Hunger Collaborative** for the [National Jesuit Alumni Day of Service](#). The National Alumni Board members encourage local alumni to join in volunteering at one of the Hunger Collaborative's sites on **Saturday, Apr. 11; two shifts available: 8-10 and 10-noon.** A collaboration of Omaha's major food pantries committed to sustainable solutions combating hunger, the Hunger Collaborative brings together [Heart Ministry Center](#), [Heartland Hope Mission, Together Inc.](#), and [Food Bank for the Heartland. \[More information/To volunteer.\]\(#\)](#)

KICKS FOR A CURE

The goal for [Kicks for a Cure](#) is to fund cancer research initiatives at UNMC



Fred and Pamela Buffet Cancer Center and Creighton University's Hereditary Cancer Center. The primary purpose of the Kicks for the Cure weekend is to raise awareness for cancer education and research. Admission to the event is free.

Volunteers are needed on a variety of shifts (2 to 2 ½ hours) to staff the event on **Saturday, Apr. 18; 2:30-9:30; Creighton University's Morrison Stadium**. To volunteer, contact [Alice Lindsay](#) or at 402.871.7918.

RECOMMENDED READING



The article, [Student Development and Service-Learning: A Three-Phased Model for Course Design](#), provides insight on how the student development theory can inform the effective design of service-learning courses and curricula. The article utilizes an extensive review of student/adult development and learning theory to propose a three-phased model for service-learning course design. The article was published in the [International Journal of Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement](#), Volume 2 Issue 1, 2014.

COMMUNITY CONTACTS



EARTH DAY OMAHA

Every year, dozens of volunteers help make [Earth Day Omaha](#) a reality. The mission of Earth Day Omaha is to increase public awareness of environmental issues through Earth Day events and activities. The program will showcase the many charitable, scientific and educational efforts advocating for sustainable environmental practices and lifestyles in the city of Omaha. **Earth Day 2015 will be held on Saturday, Apr. 18; 11-6; Elmwood Park**. Volunteers are needed before, during and after the event to contribute to success of the program. [To volunteer](#).

HEALTHY KIDS DAY

[Healthy Kids Day](#) is an annual YMCA event and national YMCA initiative



promoting the health and well-being of children. The **YMCA of Greater Omaha's Healthy Kids Day** will be held on **Sunday, Apr. 26; 11-2; Stinson Park in Aksarben Village**. Volunteers will be needed to work at different activities throughout the park for the duration of the event, as well as for set up and tear down, which in total will be one shift from 10:45 am to 2:30 pm. All event volunteers will be given a free lunch and an event t-shirt on April 26. [Program of events](#). To volunteer, contact [Melanie Rogge](#), director of development at 402.997.4312

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS



The International Association for Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement (IARSLCE) is accepting proposals for the 2015 conference in Boston, MA. The theme of this year's conference is Revolutionary Scholarship: Innovation of Community Engagement Models. **Submission deadline: March 27, 2015.** [Proposal submission details](#). [Conference information](#).

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

[Annual Service Engagement Summit](#), Mar. 26-27, 2015, Indianapolis, IN.

[18th Annual Continuums of Service](#), April 8-10, Long Beach, CA.

[National Service-Learning Conference](#), Apr. 8-11, 2015, Washington, D.C.

[2015 Upper Midwest Civic Engagement Summit](#), June 9-10, 2015, St. Peter, MN.

[National Conference on Volunteering and Service](#), Oct. 19-21, 2015, Houston, TX.

[International Association for Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement \(IARSLCE\)](#), Nov. 16-18, 2015, Boston, MA.

