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Creighton  
UNIVERSITY

## UPDATE ON SERVICE-LEARNING

FROM THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND ASSESSMENT

October 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 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



### ART STUDENTS ENGAGE IN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Students are engaged in an (ART 201/301) **Arts and Civic Engagement: Empty Bowls** course that explores the artistic practice as social transformation through student involvement in the national program, Empty Bowls. Students work in a communal environment inside and outside the classroom through a partnership with the [Siena Francis House](#). In addition to learning introductory ceramics skills in clay and glaze formulation while crafting pottery, students also serve dinner at the shelter a minimum of 2 times and write a 3-5 page reflection at the end of the semester.

This is the 6th year for Creighton University to participate in the **Empty Bowls Event**, a benefit for the Siena/Francis House Homeless Shelter. The event will take place in the Lied Art Gallery and Lobby of the Lied Education Center for the Arts **Wednesday Dec. 9 from 4-8 p.m.; and Thursday, Dec. 10 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.** To date, the Empty Bowls Events have raised over \$25,000 for hunger relief in the Omaha metropolitan area thanks to the dedicated efforts of students, faculty and staff.

Fine and Performing Arts associate professor, [Amy Nelson](#), who teaches the class, was recently named the Midlands Mentoring Partnership (MMP) Mentor of the Year ([watch video](#)), and the whole University garnered MMP's 2015 Advocate of the Year Award. [Learn more](#) about the recognition of Nelson and Creighton.

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



## PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Continuing our series highlighting the programs in which our students have participated in service, we feature the **Freshman Leadership** and the **Community Assistance Team** programs.

The [Freshman Leadership Program \(FLP\)](#), advised by the Student Leadership and Involvement Center and the Department of Residence Life, announced the largest FLP class since the creation of the living-learning community in 2001. FLP welcomed 72 new students to the traditionally 60-member community housed on the ninth floor of Kiewit Residence Hall.



Freshmen are empowered through their community to become ethical citizen-scholars through engagement in community service, leadership seminars, peer mentoring, and academic coursework. These experiential activities enable the individual members to become leaders for and with others. This fall the program debuted a new partnership with the English Department, offering an English 151: Leadership and Composition course to all FLP students.

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The [Heider College of Business Community Assistance Teams](#) work with community organizations on projects that are in need of the “business skills” the students are developing in the classroom. Undergraduate and graduate business students provide assistance with marketing plans; the use of social networking; designing a system to begin a new service or program; and revamping financial structures.



Additionally, the students have the opportunity to engage with organizations focused on improving their community and gain an appreciation for the power of teamwork and management skills in making the world a better place.

[Maryanne Rouse](#), professional ethics advisor, who has worked with the [Community Assistance Teams](#) and [Youth Leadership of Omaha](#) has announced her retirement. [Kelsea Worcester Gillespie](#), BSBA'14, has

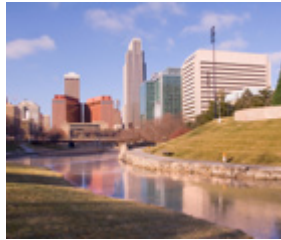
returned and joined the staff to fill this role.

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#### METRO-AREA COALITION FOR SERVICE-LEARNING NEWS

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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.** Watch for themed program announcements.

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#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

[College of Saint Mary](#) is sponsoring a speaker series focusing [Human Trafficking](#). **Wednesday, Oct. 14; 12 noon**; Sister Rosalee Burke, Notre Dame Sisters; **Wednesday, Nov. 12; 12 noon**; Stephen O'Meara, Nebraska Coordinator of Human Trafficking. To register, contact [Kristin Mattson](#) or at 402.399-2656.

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**Dark Side of the Full Moon** (viewing and panel discussion) **Tuesday, Oct. 20; 6:30-8:30 p.m.**; **Methodist Health Systems Corporate Office**, Omaha Center Ballroom (8501 W. Dodge Rd., Omaha, NE). **Dark Side of the Full Moon** is a documentary film that will delve into the unseen world of maternal mental health complications like pregnancy depression and anxiety and postpartum depression and mood disorders and postpartum psychosis in the U.S.

Cost per student: \$5. Program sponsored by The Center for Professional and Continuing Education

at Nebraska Methodist College. [Watch film trailer.](#) | [Video Information.](#) | [Program Information and Registration.](#)

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## CAMPUS HONORS AND AWARDS

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### NAATZ TO RECEIVE IGNATIAN SPIRIT AWARD

Susan and John Naatz will receive the Ignatian Spirit Award on Wed., Oct. 21; the Ignatian Dinner is a celebration of Jesuit/Lay collaboration in the Omaha Community. The annual award is presented to individuals who exemplify the spirit of St. Ignatius through their work in the Omaha community.



### MURAL OF ART BY DETHLEFS

**Allison Dethlefs ('15)** completed a mural for the new children's library in the [Micah House](#) in Council Bluffs. (To see the mural and hear her story, watch the [YouTube video.](#)) Dethlefs started training with the [Franciscan Mission Service](#) for a two-year volunteer experience.

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## CAMPUS NEWS AND EVENTS

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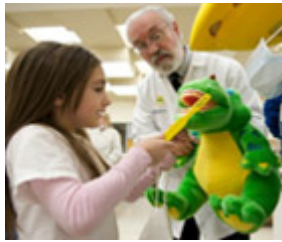
### ILAC COLLABORATIONS



In August, the [ILAC](#) office collaborated with OT students and professionals to provide clinics in a small rural village and in a migrant worker's camp. This fall, ILAC will host two medical missions. In October the Dominican Pediatric ENT Mission (with many professionals from Omaha and Boys Town) will provide more than 100 needed surgeries for children and adolescents. In November the CU Hernia Repair Mission will perform more than 100 hernia repairs for adults and children.

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### DENTAL STUDENTS VOLUNTEER TIME



[School of Dentistry](#) students and faculty provided approximately 276 volunteer hours at this year's [Iowa Dental Associations' Mission of Mercy](#) on Friday, Sept. 11 and Saturday, Sept. 12 in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Overall service hours are still being calculated. Currently, it is estimated that 475 people received 2,761 free dental services valued at \$335,700 on the first day of the event.



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#### SPAHP PATHWAY PROGRAMS

Each year the incoming classes of [School of Pharmacy and Health Professions](#) dedicate part of their welcome week to a service project. The 200 **on-campus and Greater Omaha Distance Pathway students** volunteered at [Heartland Hope Mission](#); 34 students in the **Alaska Distance Pharmacy Pathway** volunteered at the [Fellowship in Serving Humanity – F.I.S.H.](#), Alaska; and 19 students in the **Regis Occupational Therapy Distance Pathway** volunteered at the [Mary Crest Assisted Living](#) at the Aria Housing Development in Denver. SPAHP students use this opportunity to build on Creighton's mission of serving the surrounding community and to integrate the value of service into their professional education.

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#### HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND EMPOWERING WOMEN



**Agnes Igoye**, senior immigration officer and training coordinator for Uganda's Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control, will present her talk on **Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 5 p.m. in the Skutt Student Ballroom**. Committed to eradicating human trafficking, Igoye is the recipient of the 2012 Inspirational Woman of Uganda Award for Anti Human Trafficking Work and Youth Empowerment and serves as the national coordinator for the Uganda-U.S. Exchange Alumni Association, which trains over 250 women and youths on entrepreneurship skills. [More information.](#)

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#### FALL SERVICE TRIPS

Service and Justice Trips are week-long trips (except 5 day local Omaha trips) during Fall and Spring break on



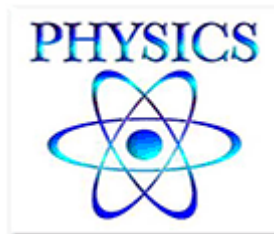
which students serve and learn with one of several community partner hosts across the country. During the trip, students engage in a variety of service experiences, learn about local social justice issues, and have a blast getting to know other Creighton students.

The Fall 2015 [Service and Justice Trips](#) are scheduled for Oct. 16-24. For more information contact [Jeff Peak](#). **Look for announcements on the special send-off service for students participating in the Fall 2015 trips.**

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#### HAUNTED PHYSICS LAB

Creighton students, faculty, staff, families and friends are welcome to join in the annual **Haunted Physics Lab** (free event) on **October 28, 29 or 30; 5-8.p.m**, sponsored by Creighton's Physics Club, which provides hands-on activities in which participants will confront optical, electrical and mechanical phenomena and even have an opportunity to create laser light shows. The haunted laboratory includes 30 interactive exhibits, ranging from a vampire in "Dracula's Tomb" to a chamber with a body-less "Physics Department Head."



Participants can access the haunted laboratory located in RS G 16 by entering the east doors of the Hixson-Lied Science Building, located at approximately 26th and Burt streets on the Creighton campus. Free parking is available just north of Burt Street with entry on Cuming Street.

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#### RECOMMENDED READING



[The Journal of Service-Learning in Higher Education](#), Vol. 4, Issue 1 offers resources for faculty and professional staff on service learning. The article, [Building Individual Reciprocity into Campus-Community Partnerships](#), describes how a campus-community partnership has evolved in ways which place increased emphasis on student engagement and individual student participation.

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#### COMMUNITY CONTACTS

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## RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS

**MICAH House (MH)** is an emergency family shelter, located in Council Bluffs Iowa and serving all of Southwest Iowa, Sarpy & Douglas Counties. For more than two decades, MICAH House has been a haven for families and individuals who are experiencing a housing crisis and provides the resources and support necessary to assist in their efforts to regain self-sufficiency and reenter the community.



The organization has grown from when the first guest was served in 1987 to meeting the needs of over 760 individuals annually, over half of who are children, through intensive wrap-around services that offer support, education, and respect. Volunteers are needed within a variety of programs to include: child and youth care, professional career training, career closet, meal team, and delivery drivers. [More information.](#) | [To volunteer.](#)

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## FALL PARK CLEAN UP PROGRAMS



**KEEP OMAHA BEAUTIFUL**

**Keep Omaha Beautiful** is an environmental organization dedicated to litter reduction, beautification and education on recycling and solid waste issues. Volunteers are needed this fall to help in many of the programs, such as adopt-a-park, clean up of trails, stream cleanup days, and more. [More information.](#) | [To volunteer.](#)

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## GRIEF SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

**Ted E. Bear Hollow** offers two different day camps for grieving children, teens and their families. Six sessions of each camp are held – KidsKamp in the spring and early summer, and Tinsel & Tears in November and December. These are extremely rewarding experiences where and when volunteers work with families on a series of fabulous crafts designed to help them on their grief journey. Mandatory training is provided on the day of the camp. Other volunteer opportunities are available as a group facilitator, office support worker and special projects. [More information.](#) | [To volunteer.](#)



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## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

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[Eastern Region Campus Compact](#),  
Oct. 14-16, Newark, NJ.

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

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



[IMPACT National Conference](#) at  
Valparaiso University, Feb. 18-21,  
2016, Amherst, MA.

[International Service Learning  
Summit: Building a Community of  
Practice](#), Mar. 4-6, 2016, Duke  
University, Durham, NC.

[National Service-Learning 27th Annual  
Conference](#), Mar. 30-Apr. 2, 2016,  
Minneapolis, MN.

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