

September 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 Teaching and Learning (SoTL).

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



## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT KEY TO NATIONAL RANKINGS

Recently, the [Princeton Review](#) has again named Creighton University as one of the nation's "Best 380 Colleges" in its 2016 edition. **The University's students earned special recognition for their commitment to community service. Creighton ranked fourth on the breakout list for "Students Most Engaged in Community Service" and 20th on the list for "Most Religious Students."**

**Creighton University is ranked third in the Best Master's Universities category in the [2015 Washington Monthly College Rankings](#).** Its college rankings measure institutions based on three criteria: civic engagement, research and social mobility. Washington Monthly gives high marks to institutions that contribute to society, enroll low-income students, help them graduate and are affordable to attend.

Indicators of Creighton's commitment in the civic engagement category:

- Creighton University reported **more than 1 million total student service hours for the reporting year (2013-2014)**. The actual number is 1,084,601 hours. The report shows that **4,520 Creighton students engaged in academic, co-curricular or community service; 65% (2,921) of Creighton students engaged in some form of academic service-learning and 3,571 students participated in more than 20 hours of service in a given semester.**
- 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).

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As Creighton University continues to receive recognition for student engagement in service learning, Office for Academic Excellence and Assessment is collecting institutional data (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015) for the 2016 President's Honor Roll. The [Application Guidelines](#) provides an explanation of the process and directions on how to complete the forms and templates. **Submit completed forms to [aea@creighton.edu](mailto:aea@creighton.edu) by March 2016.** For questions, please contact [Michele King](#) at 402.280.3036



## PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Continuing our series highlighting the programs in which our students have participated in service, we feature **Welcome Week** and the **Abrahams Legal Clinic** programs.



A Creighton University tradition, **Welcome Week** welcomed the largest incoming class in school history. The week's activities, themed "Catch the Fire," oriented freshman to the Creighton community late August. This year, 153 student volunteers coordinated and participated in the activities. Welcome Week is hosted by the [Division of Student Life](#), as the division encourage students in their personal and professional growth outside of the classroom by providing services, resources and programs. View [Welcome Week photos](#) | [Read student twitter posts](#).

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The [Milton R. Abrahams Legal Clinic](#), the civil practice clinic at Creighton University School of Law, provides invaluable experience for law students—and free legal assistance on civil matters for low-income residents of Douglas County, Nebraska. Students are involved in all aspects of a client's case, from the initial client intake, to the identification of legal needs, the preparation of legal documents, and even representation of clients in court. Creighton School of Law students learn about the range of legal issues that arise from inequalities within our society and the challenges lawyers face representing clients with serious educational, economic, intellectual, cultural and psychological

disadvantages. [More information.](#)

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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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#### CAMPUS HONORS AND AWARDS

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##### STUDENT COMMUNITY ENGAGED SERVICE AWARD

The [School of Pharmacy and Health Professions](#) was awarded its third **Student Community Engaged Service Award** from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP). The title of the 2015 award-winning interprofessional project is *Developing Care for a Vulnerable Population: An Interprofessional Collaborative Approach for Health Promotion*. Brian Dalke, Pharm.D. class of 2016, is the student leader on the project and the lead faculty mentor is **Ann Ryan-Haddad, Pharm.D.**, associate professor of pharmacy practice and director of the SPAHP [Office of Interprofessional Scholarship, Service and Education](#). [Read full article and learn of past recipients.](#)



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CAMPUS NEWS AND EVENTS

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SERVICE AND JUSTICE  
VOLUNTEER FAIR



Looking for Service Learning opportunities for the classroom? Volunteer opportunities for your personal life or to share with students? **All faculty, staff, and students** are invited to this year's **Service & Justice Volunteer Fair; Wednesday, Sept. 2; 1-4 p.m.; Harper Center, Ahmanson Ballroom**. Come check out the only time of the year that **80+ local volunteer agencies** will be on Creighton's campus at the same time! For more information contact [Wendy Maliszewski](#), 402.280.1419.

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NEBRASKA WOMEN IN HIGHER  
EDUCATION LEADERSHIP

Nebraska Women in Higher Education Leadership (NWHEL) 2015 invites you to its annual conference, "Leading from Within." **The NWHEL Conference is scheduled for Friday, September 18, 2015 (8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.) at Union College in Lincoln, NE.** Conference fees (\$45 faculty/staff and \$25 student) include breakfast and lunch.

Creighton conference presenters: **Leah Georges**, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Interdisciplinary Ed. D. Program; **Isabelle Cherney**, Ph.D., Associate Dean of the Graduate School and Director, Interdisciplinary Ed. D. Program in Leadership; and **Sue Selde**, M.S., Academic Success Coordinator, College of Nursing; **Mika Natori**, Nursing Student.



[View Conference Program](#) (highlighted sessions are Creighton presenters).

[To Register](#) | **Registration Deadline: Friday, Sept. 11.**

Transportation: The Office for Academic Excellence and Assessment has reserved a Creighton vehicle for transportation from Creighton to Union College round-trip. To reserve your seat on the Creighton bus, please

contact [Michele King](#) at 402.280.3036.



## JAYWALK 2015 BENEFITS JESUIT ACADEMY

The Creighton Students Union will host the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Jaywalk 5K/1mile Fun Run/Walk on **Saturday, Sept. 19**. The race will start at 9 a.m. with a pancake feed following the race. All proceeds from the walk benefit the Jesuit Academy, an all-boys Catholic school serving young men in grades 4-8. [For more information and to register.](#)

## RECOMMENDED READING

The [International Association for Research on Service-Learning and Community Service \(IARSLCE\)](#), Vol. 2, Issue1, article, [Student Development and Service-Learning: A Three-Phased Model for Course Design](#), references many key resources. This article utilizes an extensive review of student/adult development and learning theory to propose a three-phased model for service-learning course design.

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The [Journal of Service-Learning in Higher Education](#), Vol. 3 offers resources for faculty and professional staff on service learning. The article [A New Era for Service-Learning: Designing an Intentional High Impact Practice](#) describes and examines the design and assessment practices of a Summer of Service-Learning and Social Justice Program (SSSJP). The program was developed to deepen students' learning outcomes through strategically constructing multiple high impact practices: service-learning, an internship, a learning community, collaborative projects and common intellectual experiences. The program and assessment instruments were constructed to build a culture of evidence and inquiry among service learning educators in a new era for service learning.

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COMMUNITY CONTACTS

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GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION RESEARCH

[Policy Research and Innovation](#) is an Omaha-based nonprofit that conducts research, promotes policies, the advancement of opportunities and justice. Sophomore to graduate student research volunteers are needed to research gun-violence prevention policies and practices in Omaha. Contact [Curtis Bryant](#), project coordinator for more information.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

[Habitat for Humanity](#) is about more than swinging a hammer. The organization relies on the dedication of their volunteers to further the mission: to build simple, decent, affordable homes in partnership with local families. Habitat for Humanity has a diverse set of opportunities available for volunteers from all walks of life. [To volunteer.](#)



EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH PROGRAMS

[Completely Kids](#) reaches out to children primarily in southeast Omaha to provide educational programs, nutritional and healthy lifestyle services, and family program support. Volunteers are needed as reading buddies and to assist with the weekend healthy kids food program. [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.



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