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Creighton
UNIVERSITY

UPDATE ON SERVICE-LEARNING

FROM THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND ASSESSMENT

November/December 2016

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).



SEARCH OPEN: DIRECTOR OF ACADEMIC SERVICE LEARNING

The internal search for a Director of Academic Service Learning is now open. Tenure or tenure-track faculty are encouraged to apply.

The Director will provide the overall vision and leadership, faculty development and community engagement, and planning and administration for Creighton University's curricular service-learning programs. The Director will collaborate with key leaders in Academic Affairs, Division of Student Life, Academic Excellence and Assessment, OISSE, and Division of Mission and Ministry to develop a University-wide vision for academic service-learning.

[View position announcement.](#) | [Apply.](#)

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE UPDATES

VOLUNTEERING AND CIVIC
LIFE IN AMERICA AND
NEBRASKA

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



The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) recently issued the following reports on volunteering and service. The [Volunteering and Civic Life in America](#) annual research report shows that volunteering and civic engagement are the cornerstone of a strong nation, across generations, enriching both our communities and those who serve.

Americans continued to strengthen their communities through volunteering. Explore [trends and highlights](#), [state and city rankings](#), or [demographic profiles](#) to learn more about the [report](#).

Nebraska was ranked sixth in the top ten. [Nebraska 2015 trends and highlights overview](#).



PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Continuing our series highlighting the programs in which our students have participated in service, we feature the **Heider College of Business Community Assistance Teams** and the **Cortina Community** programs.

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.



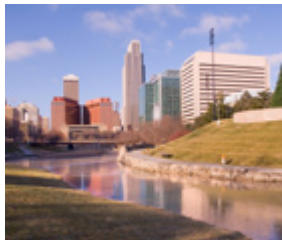
Additionally, the students have the opportunity to engage with organizations focused on improving their community and gain an appreciation for the power of teamwork and management skills in making the world a better place.

The [Cortina Community](#) is an academic, service-based, living-learning community within the Department of Residence Life that nurtures growth in students through



service of faith, the promotion of justices and the well-educated solidarity within an intentional residential community. The program, which takes place during the academic year, focuses on the academic and service experiences in the Omaha community. Students participate in weekly community discussions and service, coupled with retreats, immersions, speakers, and more, to facilitate an understanding of the self in relation to a call to do justice in the context of community. [Learn more.](#) | [Watch program video.](#)

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.

CAMPUS NEWS AND EVENTS

AN ATTITUDE OF HEART

You are invited to attend the Momentos Dominicanos Lunch: Video Premier and Student Sharing of Immersion and Service with ILAC. This past June, the [Institute for Latin American Concern \(ILAC\)](#) and the Division of Mission and Ministry sent photo journalist, Nico Sandi, to obtain footage of Creighton students in the rural



village of Los Velasquitos in the Dominican Republic. Nico has created a mini-documentary about the ILAC Summer Program Service Immersion to tell the story of the program and its impact over the past 40 years.

Thursday, Dec. 8; 12-1 p.m.; Skutt SC 105 | [Register to attend.](#)

ILAC is collecting donations of medical and dental supplies. The supplies will be provided to those in the rural areas of the Dominican Republic this summer. [View supply list](#) | [Campus drop off sites.](#)

Donation deadline: December 23.

SCSJ SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

The Schlegel Center for Service and Justice invites the Creighton community to volunteer at local community service sites, weekly. Upcoming dates and site visits:



- **Dec. 7** at Completely Kids
- **Dec. 8** at Siena/Francis House
- **Dec. 12** at North Omaha Boys and Gils Club

Each service opportunity has specific registration deadlines. [More information](#) | [View deadlines.](#) | [Register.](#)

SCSJ 2017 SOUP LUNCHEON AND AUCTION



Save-the-Date: Thursday, Feb. 16, 2017 for the 2017 Soup Luncheon and Auctions. The program will include: 11:00 silent auction; 11:30 lunch; and 12:10 live auction. All proceeds to benefit the [Service and Justice Trips Program.](#)

RECOMMENDED READING

In the [International Journal of Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement](#) (IJRSLCE), Vol. 3, No. 1, the article, [An Overlooked Lens: Applying Structuration Theory, Actor-Network Theory, and Theories of Space to Service-Learning](#),



Although service-learning is clearly a social phenomenon involving interactions between people in social environments, little scholarly attention has been given to the ways in which sociological theories illuminate how service-learning is enacted and sustained in schools. Important aspects of academic service-learning highlighted include areas that other theories have missed such as how service-learning actors must exploit enabling aspects of school structures and spaces to overcome constraints, the importance of non-human agents in service-learning programs, and challenges service-learning advocates face in reconfiguring school spaces for service-learning. The author also describes and examines limits of each theory as well as implications for research and practice.

UPCOMING NEWS TO SHARE

SHARE YOUR NEWS

It is energizing to witness the students becoming "men and women for others" on their educational journey at Creighton University. To that, AEA would like to continue in the spirit, by inviting you to share information on service that will be taking place in your division/college/school during the spring 2016 semester, focusing on:

- campus events (are you hosting any campus event which incorporates service-learning activity?)
- course work (are you incorporating a service-learning event or activity to your fall schedule)
- recommended reading (any service-learning article that you've recently read that would benefit the Creighton community)



- upcoming conferences (any upcoming conference in your area related to service-learning?)
- community connections (any outside organization/non-profits you are working with on upcoming events which may need volunteers?)

To submit information or if you have questions, contact [Mary Emmer](#) at 402.280.1190.

COMMUNITY CONTACTS



VARIETY OF OPPORTUNITIES

The goal of the OneWorld Community Health Centers volunteer program is to foster a mutually beneficial environment for both the organization and our volunteers. The clinics strive to provide volunteers with an understanding of OneWorld's mission and how their involvement contributes to its success. Volunteers make important contributions to the mission of providing culturally respectful, high-quality health care to the underserved. [More information.](#) [To volunteer.](#)



HEARTLAND 20-40

Enjoy networking with other metro-area young professionals to develop new skills as they become involved in their community through volunteerism of activities and special events. [More information.](#) | [To volunteer.](#)



DOING GOOD ONE RING AT A TIME

Volunteers make a significant contribution to society by positively impacting those in need by assisting the Salvation Army's efforts to meet the changing needs of our world. Join the many volunteers this holiday season and [register to volunteer](#) as a bell ringer. [Learn more.](#)

UPCOMING CONFERENCES



[IMPACT National Conference](#), Feb. 16-19, 2017, St. Louis, MO.

[National Service-Learning Conference](#), March 22-24, 2017, Anaheim, CA.

[Conference on Volunteering and Service](#), June 19-21, 2017, Seattle, WA.

[International Association for Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement \(IARSLCE\)](#), Sept. 14-16, 2017, Galway, Ireland



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