

W Office of Service-Learning Winter 2014 Newsletter

Engaging regional communities, the University, and its student body in a mutually beneficial, innovative learning and service enterprise for the purpose of mobilizing knowledge, talents, and energies to benefit the greater community.



Fall semester wrap up

As the university wrapped up its fall semester, our office was busy traveling to various service-learning classes around campus. We were pleased with the projects and partnerships this fall and hope to continue these partnerships with the community for future classes.

Of the many final project presentations, the office attended ENG 4060, Structure, Purpose, and Transfer in Written Communication with Professor Gogan and CCE 1001, Introduction to Engineering Design, with instructor Darrell Harden. Professor Gogan's class worked with our office and the VA in Battle Creek, and Darrell Harden's class worked with Milwood Elementary School for their Safe Routes to

Schools Project. Each class worked in small groups throughout the semester and presented their work and findings that they collected during the course. Safe Routes students presented an extensive remediation plan to city engineers and officials as part of their final project.

Professor Gogan's class worked with our office on creating a go-to-guide for future Western Michigan University students, focusing on providing extensive information on resources and services provided on campus for first year students, sophomores, juniors, and seniors, as well as transfer and nontraditional students. Darrell Harden's class worked with Milwood Elementary, creating a plan for safer routes to school

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Fall data collection - WMU cruises past last year's hours of service. Page 3

Dr. Barton selected as recipient for statewide service-learning award. Page 3

Fall semester wrap up continued

for those who walk or bike. They focused on the condition of the roads, sidewalks, homes, crosswalks and landscape for neighborhoods surrounding Milwood Elementary creating extensive plans and recommendations for more adequate ways to get to and from their school.

A huge congratulations to all of the fall service-learning projects, instructors, and students. Your work not only enhances your studies, but builds an amazing community to live and grow!



Fall 2013 Service-Learning Community Partners:

Veterans Administration
Advocacy Services for Kids
Recovery International
Oshtemo Fire Department
Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center
Togetherness Group
Milwood Elementary School
Kalamazoo Neighborhood Housing Services
Ministry with Community
Eastside Neighborhood Society
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Parent to Parent
Alternative Learning Program
Douglass Community Association
Lakeside Academy

Fall 2013 Service-Learning Instructors:

Brian Gogan
Cheri Bales
Zoann Snyder
Richard Szwaja
Leah Omillion-Hodges
Darrell Harden

Plan your spring break with Spring Staycation

Save the date and start planning your spring break! Spring Staycation is a five day project, scheduled during WMU's Spring Break, focused on raising awareness and serving the greater Kalamazoo community. Each morning participants cover social justice topics and then engage in associated service activities in the afternoon. Spring Staycation is sponsored by the Office of Service-Learning, First Year Experience Programs, and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. Please check our website and facebook page for more information to come!

Monday, March 3 through Friday, March 7, 2014



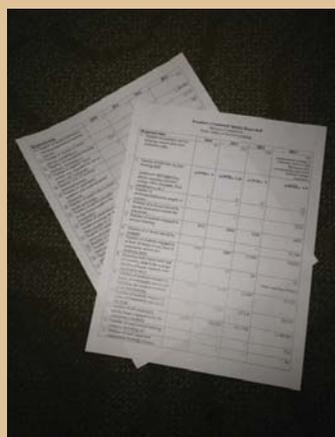
Barton selected as a recipient for 2014 Michigan Campus Compact Faculty/Staff Community Service-Learning Award

We are pleased to announce Dr. Barbara Barton, of social work, has been selected as a recipient of the 2014 Michigan Campus Compact Faculty/Staff Community Service-Learning Award. Dr. Barton was recognized as the person on campus that made outstanding contributions in the area of community service-learning during the past two years. Dr. Barton's contributions have created a positive impact on her students and the community.



Annual data collection results

The Office of Service-Learning spent the month of October and November reaching out to university chairs and professors for our annual data collection. We had a list of 27 questions to ask all departments regarding students' participation in service-learning and experiential learning.



We made a change in our data collection strategy since last year, and we are pleased to report that we had a high response rate, over 95%, and the numbers are amazing--and still under-reported. During the 2012-12 academic year, our students serviced more than 1,055,000 experiential learning hours and more than 16,000 service-learning hours. Using Michigan's remuneration rate of \$20.61 for volunteer hours, our students contributed well over \$21,000,000 to the economy, most of it locally.

These numbers have dramatically increased since last year and we expect these numbers to continue to grow in the future!

Service-Learning spring student scholars

Our fall student scholars shined this semester and we were thrilled to have them assist in our many service-learning projects. Sheeda Jenkins and Jessica Dwyer will be our student scholars for the spring semester and we look forward in watching their growth and potential within the office. We will also have our first service-learning intern for the spring semester, Leah Alexander. Leah was a student scholar for the office last semester and will be taking on more in depth roles as an intern including the planning of Spring Staycation that takes place during WMU's spring break.

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I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand.