

**Campus-Wide Participation in a Service Learning Partnership**  
**North Shore Community College**  
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Service-Learning comes to life when it draws students and faculty from across the disciplines into a common partnership to benefit the community. A campus-wide partnership can accomplish this goal. This presentation will discuss the process and implementation of a campus-wide partnership that is both successful and makes an impact in the community.

Background Information

North Shore Community College initiated service-learning during the academic year 2001 – 2002 with 3 faculty members. The program has expanded to the point where today there are over 45 faculty members and approximately 300 students participating annually. In 2007, North Shore Community College provided a faculty fellowship for a research study to be conducted to gauge the effects service-learning had on student participants. The findings of this result showed that service-learning did indeed positively effect whether or not a student became engaged in their community.

Concluding remarks from the study highlight the some of the more significant findings:

“It is extremely encouraging that 95% of the NSCC students who responded to the research survey reported that they would recommend

Service-Learning to a friend, and that 89% reported that, given the opportunity, they would participate in Service-Learning again..... It is highly notable that 92% of the respondents reported that their NSCC Service-Learning experience helped them to become more aware of the needs in their communities.....”<sup>1</sup>

The findings of the research study were very encouraging. These findings along with three other factors gave us confidence that a campus-wide partnership would be successful and meaningful. The other key factors involved were first and foremost support from the College Administration. The second factor that contributed to confidence in the creation of a campus –wide partnership was the level of development of the service-learning program – e.g. its growth to include participation of over 45 faculty from disciplines as diverse as English, to Floriculture, to Economics to Aviation Science. The final element that brought the picture together was the hiring of a full-time Service-Learning Coordinator. These three elements along with the findings of the research study provide the institutional background for the presentation and the basis for launching a campus-wide partnership.

### Content of Presentation

The presentation will begin by discussing the planning and preparation that goes into the development of a campus-wide partnership. The second part of the presentation will

discuss the execution of the partnership. The final portion of the presentation will encompass a reflection of the process. This will discuss the current state of the partnership and its future plans for development. This workshop will provide the attendee with strategies and a plan for developing a campus-wide partnership and will demonstrate its implementation. Additionally we will provide a model for a campus-wide partnership for a community college. The session will be highly interactive in nature discussing such topics as the unique nature of a community college when it comes to planning a campus-wide partnership and the challenges that are faced, how to identify a project that faculty can get really excited about, and how to capture the interests of students with a campus-wide partnership.

We will share lessons learned on our journey to create a partnership which brings together various disciplines into one course of action. Attendees will be exposed to strategies for consensus building on this partnership. The above will all be accomplished with an interactive approach combined with fun and humor.

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<sup>i</sup> Karen, Lauffer. "A Research Based Report on Service-Learning and Civic Engagement," North shore Community College Public Policy Institute (2007).