



Service & Learning

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FALL 2014

International Service Learning in Costa Rica and Nicaragua

In partnership with VIDA, a non-profit organization out of Minnesota, seven Healthcare (Nursing and EMT) and Dental students traveled to Costa Rica and Nicaragua for 10 days this summer 2014. This partnership offers students the ability to get real-world experience in clinical settings with professional doctors in country. This type of direct service enables students to develop their interpersonal skills in diverse settings, their leadership skills, and their creative problem solving skills.

Students set up mobile clinics and worked under the supervision of doctors and dentists with translators to assist with communication. The students were also able to stay with host families and experience life with the local families in ways that are impossible when staying in hotels.

Every student who participated in this experience expressed some degree of “life-changing” moment during this time that will enable them to move forward in their studies and as potential employees.



Dental & nursing students partnered with professionals in country for direct service

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Visit us @
[www.gtc.edu/
service-learning](http://www.gtc.edu/service-learning)

Martin Luther King Jr. Week of Service

The Service Learning Center is proud to announce the start of Days of Service to begin in 2015 with the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service. This year, we are going to join with what is already going on in each county. In Kenosha County, we will be partnering with Kindness Week, Carthage College, and UW-Parkside. A list of events is available on the back page of this newsletter and will be

online before the end of the semester.

In Racine, we will be partnering with the Volunteer Center of Racine and acting as a backup location for their Day of Service activities on January 19.

In Burlington and Elkhorn, we will be collecting donations the first two weeks of the semester and spend time on Friday, January 23, to sort and drop off at local shelters

and organizations.

These activities will take place over the week of January 19, ending on Saturday, January 24, 2015 with a large service event on the Kenosha Campus. Opportunities for service will be available in Racine as well with UW-Parkside or Carthage College students.

More information is available by contacting Madeline Carrera: carreram@gtc.edu

AmeriCorps Members - In Service



In collaboration with the Wisconsin Campus Compact and Serve Wisconsin, Gateway has the pleasure to host two AmeriCorps Members this year. Different from AmeriCorps VISTA's, AmeriCorps Members serve a set number of hours within a set time period. In our case, our two AmeriCorps Members will serve 450 hours between now and August 2015.

Hopefully the start of an annual grant process, this new

partnership has offered 80 positions statewide to energized and invigorated students to work directly with organizations in their communities on a number of outreach and coordination projects.

Gateway's two AmeriCorps members for 2014-2015 are Mark Short and Jeffery Gaffey.

Mark and Jeff will be working with John XXIII Educational Center and UW-Extension of Kenosha County

(respectively) on projects related to growing the capacity of the volunteer recruitment and management of programs as well as program outreach.

UW-Parkside also has a number of AmeriCorps Members, and we will be collaborating on training and professional development opportunities for AmeriCorps VISTA's and AmeriCorps Members in the area.

Please stay tuned for more on this project as it progresses.

It's Here! Campus Connect Database



Campus Connect

Home Log In

User login

Username *

campus_admin

Password *

.....

Log in

Welcome

Welcome to Campus Connect (Beta). This application enables institutions of higher education to track campus-community activities including volunteering, service-learning, and internships. This application assists campus staff and students in connecting with community partners, listing upcoming events, and updating the campus and community on engagement news.

To view content please sign in.

“There are many wonderful things that will never be done if you don't do them.”

- Charles D. Gill

The Service Learning Center is excited to announce the timeline of our new Campus Connect Database. In partnership with Wisconsin Campus Compact, this database enables us to collect all experiential learning hours for each student— all volunteering, club activities, service learning, internships, and global scholars experiences.

Students will be able to track hours and experiences either by computer or on their mobile devices via the Gateway Mobile App (available on android or iOS).

Faculty will be able to sign up on GoSignMeUp for a one-hour workshop that will enable them to set up their account, course, and to walk through all aspects of using

the database. Participants will leave with their log-in information, one or more classes available for student enrollment or with students already enrolled, and basic information on how to use the database.

Participants who have yet to take the Service Learning Course Design

(SLCD) Workshop will be able to take the workshop in March or May 2015. Those who are interested in taking this workshop **do not** need to sign up for the 1-hour workshop on using the database, as it will be covered in the SLCD Workshop.

Please contact Madeline for more information: Carre-raM@gtc.edu or X3138

International Service Learning: Benefits Abroad



International Education Coordinator, Chinedu Obowu, with a student in Costa Rica.

Students who participate in Service Learning are set apart from their peers through their commitment to their communities and their career. However, students who participate in Global Service Learning as well as Ser-

vice Learning at home are able to appeal to employers in our growingly global world. It demonstrates a student's willingness to cooperate with their community both locally and internationally.

International Service Learning offers students an experience that they can't get through study abroad or vacationing. It forces students to confront some of the less-than-pleasant aspects of global culture; poverty, hunger, homelessness, illness, and lack of infrastruc-

ture, to name a few. It is through these experiences, however, that expand a student's perspective of global culture and culture at home.

Students who work with those truly impoverished in other countries are more inclined to participate in bettering their communities. By developing this global empathy, students recreate themselves into more valuable members of the community and more valuable employees.

More information: www.gtc.edu/international-education

Plan Ahead for Next Year: Curriculum Sheets

Even though this year's curriculum change deadline is past, it's never too early to start discussing whether your program area would want to add either of the Service Learning Electives as acceptable electives on your sheets.

Serving to Learn Locally (890-105) and *Serving to Learn Globally* (890-106) are service learning-focused classes offered each

semester, or in conjunction with International Service Learning programs. These 2-credit electives offer students an alternative view of how their skills can be used to the benefit of the community as well as improve their professional network and soft skills. Students are able to create, implement, and conclude projects to their own design (in StLL) or use their skills internationally (in StLG).

For the changes submitted for 2015-2016, the Horticulture department has made that very decision and subsequent change. As many of you are aware, our Horticulture students spend a large portion of their career at Gateway working collaboratively with the community.

To start the discussion, contact Madeline to make an appointment carreram@gtc.edu

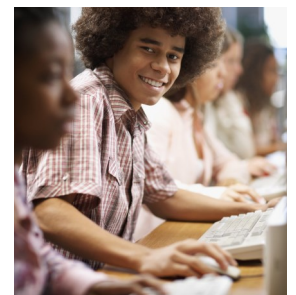
Reflection Activity: Peer Interviews

Aside from public speaking, interviews are some of the most stressful and anxiety-inducing interactions students can face during and after school. Peer Interviews as reflection can help students prepare for these stress-inducing interactions while also debriefing from an intense service activity.

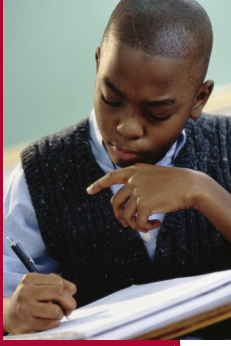
Peer Interviews enable students to prepare the questions asked by their peers, as well as their answers prior to the interview itself. An advantage of this is the involvement of students, the time to plan responses, and the fact that the interviewer is a student within the class. Another advantage is that the class

can offer feedback on both interview technique and content. If a student expresses a concern or asks for feedback, peers outside the interview can weigh-in opinions or insights.

Instructors are able to grade on participation, poise, responses, questions, and interaction afterwards with the other students.



“A different world can not be built by indifferent people.”—Horace Mann



The Service Learning Center is excited to announce a new section to our newsletter: Reflections!

Intended to give voice to students, faculty, and community partners actively engaged in Service Learning,

Reflection Requests

these new sections are written by those who actively participate and share their experiences.

Reflections can be featured in our newsletter as well as on our website. They give students a workable and up-to-

date example of the types of reflection that may be expected of them.

To submit reflections for our upcoming newsletter or website, please contact Madeline via email: carreram@gtc.edu

Therapeutic Communication

-By Lisa Lupo, participant in VIP Services Service Learning Project in Vicki Hulback's nursing class.

All through our nursing program, the importance of therapeutic communication with our clients has been central to all things we do. Interacting with clients who cannot verbally speak, use hand gestures to express feelings, or show emotion through body movements places certain challenges on communication. Our experience at VIP Services in Elkhorn allowed us to become more familiar in communicating with and assisting those with disabilities.

On our first day, we focused on healthy eating. We assembled a healthy vegetable soup, in which many clients' took part. Some of the client's chopped ingredients while others scooped frozen vegetables into a large pot. While the soup was cooking, we took the opportunity to provide teaching and discussed the benefits of the ingredients we included in the soup. After lunch we played

"healthy bingo" with the clients, which consisted of large bingo cards with healthy food choices pictured on the cards. Altering our approach for our clients allowed everyone the opportunity to participate while increasing their self-esteem by participating in a group activity.

On our second day, we focused on activity. We arranged a "carnival" that consisted of games (bowling, bag toss, blowing bubbles, and Frisbee golf) the clients could play. Face painting was also provided, which the clients really enjoyed. It gave each client a conversation piece to show off as they rounded the circuit in the carnival. The afternoon allowed more one-on-one interaction with the clients as we assembled individual tie-style pillows. This activity provided them with a sense of accomplishment as they each completed their pillow. The clients expressed excitement and eagerness for our return on the second day. They remembered our names, happily greeted us,

and were excited to see what fun things we had planned.

Each one of us had a preconception of what this experience would provide; the end changed our outlook. Working with disabled clients required flexible planning, demonstrated the importance of slowing down, and allowed us to be more therapeutic in our interactions rather than just performing skills. We felt our presence at VIP Services was meaningful because we were able to serve these clients in a different way. Our past clinical experiences had been in hospitals which can be anxiety provoking for the clients. VIP Services allowed for a more relaxed environment for the client's and for us a better opportunity for one-on-one interaction. Our perspectives have changed from helping disabled clients to assisting those living with disabilities.

Thank you to VIP Services and Gateway Technical College for this experience.

"Our perspectives have changed from helping disabled clients to assisting those living with disabilities."

**- Lisa Lupo,
Nursing Student**



Future Community Leaders—Faculty Reflection



-Written by Kate Jerome, Horticulture Instructor.

Service Learning and community engagement are an essential part of the learning process that give students the chance to enhance their learning by teaching others what they learn in the classroom. In a science-based program, for example, students become technical advisors to the community, teaching others how to do things the correct way.

Students gain the opportunity to see and become involved with parts of the community they might not be aware of. They have the opportunity to provide much-needed service, but also to function as a

role model for other citizens. This process is invaluable in the students' learning process.

It is everyone's civic responsibility to connect with the community and service learning opportunities help to shape students into responsible citizens and future community leaders.

Kate Jerome incorporates Service Learning into her Horticulture classes and has established lasting relationships with Harborside Academy and the Kenosha Harbor Market.

Community Reflections—VIP Services

-Adapted from The VIP Voice, VIP Services' Newsletter

VIP Services has been exploring collaborative Service Learning with various instructors at Gateway. Last year, Communications Instructor, Joanie Beinecke's Pre-Technical Writing Class created helpful materials to aid clients in VIP's fall Discovery Series workshop on money management, as well as a spring Discovery Series workshop on nature photography.

Students who participated in these Discovery Series classes expressed appreciation for having this opportunity to use the skills they were learning in class to communicate with a different population. It encouraged them to reach out to strangers in different capacities.

Most recently, VIP's Day Services Department hosted nine Gateway nursing students and their instructor, Vicki Hulback, to promote

healthy choices for the clients while simultaneously providing the nursing students with an opportunity to work directly with a special needs population and to reinforce the importance of therapeutic communication.

On August 6th, the nursing students worked with Day Services clients to promote healthy eating and proper nutrition. They worked together to prepare a healthy vegetable soup. While the soup was cooking, they played a lively game of "Nutrition Bingo".

On August 19th, they returned for an

"Activity Olympics" day to promote exercise and active lifestyles. Day Services clients were engaged in a variety of activities. After lunch, the students joined the VIP Walking Group for a stroll and conversations. The day was capped with a travel pillow project that left clients with their own mementos of the day. VIP Services and the Gateway Nursing Program look forward to future collaborations that benefit both clients and students.

For information about VIP Services, please visit their website: <http://vipservices-inc.org/>



To connect with VIP Services for a Service Learning Project, please contact Lynne Dempsey: LynneDempsey@vipservices-inc.org



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Opportunities in the Community

Service learning can be done in or outside of a class. Non-profits usually have opportunities if you look for them.

Ongoing opportunities are available in each county:

Kenosha County: <http://getconnected.kenoshaunitedway.org/>

Racine County: http://www.volunteercenterofracine.org/index.php/Main_Page

Walworth County: <http://www.volunteerwalworth.org/>



Service Learning Center's Mission: Service Learning at Gateway Technical College creates mutually beneficial partnerships among students, faculty, staff, and our community. Through active learning, meaningful service, and reflection, students develop deeper awareness of the diverse communities in which they live and the value of civic engagement among community members.

Service Learning Center's Vision: Through Gateway's learning programs, individuals internalize the value of civic engagement and actively transform their communities.

Deadlines! Upcoming Service Learning Activities

Service Learning—Spring

Serving to Learn Locally (890-105) is a 2-credit elective offered each semester that focuses on service learning initiatives in the community.

Dr. Soheila Brouk's Kenosha-based class will be focusing on creating a tool that would enable our law enforcement to have access to information about those in our community with special needs. Her class requires **instructor consent** to register, so please contact Dr. Brouk directly for more information: brouks@gtc.edu

MLK Jr. Week of Service

[Donations of non-perishable food and toiletry items will be accepted at all events for area food pantries.]

Monday, January 19th, 12noon:

21st Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration | *Where:* Madrigano Auditorium | *Admission:* Free

Tuesday, January 20th, 6:00pm: Courageous Conversation Community-Wide Event (Viewing of *Freedom Summer*, a PBS Documentary (110 minutes) followed by discussion *Where:* Madrigano Auditorium *Admission:* Free

Friday, January 23rd, 8:00am and 1:00pm: Donation Sorting and Distribution | *Where:* Burlington Campus (8am) and Elkhorn Campus (1pm) | **Sign up required**, contact Madeline: carreram@gtc.edu

Saturday, January 24th, 7:30am: 1st Annual Day of Service | *Where:* Madrigano Auditorium and local agencies | *Admission:* Free to attend, but sign up is required.

Annual Civic Engagement Institute

Wisconsin Campus Compact's Annual Civic Engagement Institute is coming up! March 26, 2015 at the Pyle Center at UW-Madison.

<http://www.wicampuscompact.org/content/2015-civic-engagement-institute>

Proposals Wanted! Upper Midwest Civic Engagement Summit

Presenters are wanted for the upcoming Upper Midwest Civic Engagement Summit June 9 –10, 2015 in Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minnesota. Information can be found at their website:

www.midwestengagementsummit.org/request-for-proposals.html