

Service-Learning and the First-Year Experience

Call for Instructors: Fall 2012

During the past decade, research on college student involvement in community service and service-learning has grown exponentially. At the same time, there has been an increase in research on the first year experience. Empirical research indicates that both service-learning and first-year seminars result in positive outcomes for students, including student involvement, integration, adjustment, and retention. Missouri State established "Service-Learning and the First-Year Experience" in order to bring these two success strategies together to enhance student outcomes. Between 2009 and 2011, 32 themed sections were successfully offered. A formal research study is being conducted on this project.

The Associate Provost for Student Development and Public Affairs is announcing the call for 25 GEP 101 instructors to incorporate service-learning experiences into their classes.

Instructors who participate will:

- Receive a \$500 stipend*
- Participate in one (1) faculty luncheon/dinner development session in the spring of 2012
- Conduct pre- and post-tests (IRB approved surveys)
- Choose service-learning projects for 15 hours per student
- Receive support and project assistance from CASL, including placement, logistics, and reflection materials
- Submit syllabus for approval by CASL Oversight Committee
- Potentially present on campus, e.g., Showcase on Teaching and Learning or other campus forums

Examples of service-learning projects include:

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Community Partner</u>	<u>Example of Service</u>
Children	Boys and Girls Clubs	Mentor / Tutor children
Environment	Rutledge Wilson Farm	Work with demonstration gardens
Poverty	The Kitchen, Inc.	Prepare and serve meals for homeless
Health Care	Hospice/Long-Term Care	Provide companionship/write oral histories for elderly
Arts	Springfield Little Theatre	Assist with marketing of productions

If you are interested in learning more about this option, please complete this form **by Friday, February 17th** and send it to: Mike Wood, UNVH 205. Questions? Call Mike Wood at 836-8343, or Katherine Nordyke 836-5774.

Yes, I am interested in incorporating service-learning with my GEP 101 class in the fall of 2012!

Name_____

Campus phone_____

****\$500 stipend is contingent upon funding with the new budget. Final amount of university cuts is unknown at this time.***

References:

Astin, A.W.(1993). What matters in college? Four critical years revisited. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

Astin, A.W., Volelgesang, L.J., Ikeda, E.K., & Yee, J.A. (2000). How service-learning affects students. Higher Education Research Institute, University of California, Los Angeles.

Eyler, J., Giles, D. Stenson, C. & Gray, C. (2001). *What We Know about The Effects of Service-Learning on College Students, Faculty, Institutions and Communities, 1993-2000*. Third Edition. Scotts Valley, CA: Learn and Serve America National Service—Learning Clearinghouse.