The Community Involvement Center has hosted a service symposium April 10, from 9 a.m. to noon in the Shepherd Union Ballroom A. Nearly 35 students presented on 22 different service projects undertaken during this academic year. The presentations featured community-based research, service-learning and volunteer projects. Projects ranged from chemistry students testing for lead and educating parents of Head Start children about lead in their homes to dental hygiene students providing sealants to low income children in Ogden. Some examples of projects included building low cost housing with Habitat for Humanity, a health fair for the city of Riverdale, psychology students impacting math attitudes of junior high students and physics students engaging elementary school children in science experiments throughout the summer. The Department of Performing Arts dance outreach program, Moving Company, also participated in the symposium by sharing two dance numbers they perform for elementary aged children in Ogden. Some examples of projects included building low cost housing with Habitat for Humanity, a health fair for the city of Riverdale, psychology students impacting math attitudes of junior high students and physics students engaging elementary school children in science experiments throughout the summer. The Department of Performing Arts dance outreach program, Moving Company, also participated in the symposium by sharing two dance numbers they perform for elementary aged children in the Ogden School District. Moving Company consists of 8 dance students who teach math concepts through dance. Congratulations to all Service Symposium participants. We appreciated your participation and your outstanding work in the community.

The Community Involvement Center has had the privilege of housing the Adrian L. Maxson Scholarship for Social Justice for the first time this year. This scholarship is a tribute to the life and passion of Adrian L. Maxson, an early college freshman at WSU in 2007 who was killed in an auto-pedestrian accident after attending a university sponsored event. Adrian was passionate about people, social injustice, humanitarian movements, art and learning. In honor of his life and his activism, the Adrian Maxson Scholarship has been established for students who are engaged politically, socially and creatively in the community. This year's recipient is Gabriel J. Diarte, a senior at DaVinci Academy of the Science and Arts. Gabriel has logged over 300 hours of service in over 12 community organizations in the past 3 years and will begin his studies at WSU this fall 2009 semester. Congratulations Gabriel.

Put the CBL Designation on Your Course
The CBL designation on courses stands for Community-Based Learning and announces to students at the time of registration that the course involves a community-based learning teaching strategy, such as service-learning or community-based research. Any existing course at WSU can apply for this designation. The community-based learning experience in the course can be required or optional for students. Finally, individual sections of courses can receive the CBL designation for individual instructors, or all sections of a course can receive the CBL designation if all sections, regardless of instructor, offer a community-based learning experience to students.

The CBL designation automatically registers your course with the CIC which in turn provides support to you and your students.

Use the online form at http://community.weber.edu/cic/cbl_designation_form.html to submit your application and course syllabus.
Deadline for courses taught during Spring 2010 semester is September 15, 2009.

For more information go to: http://www.weber.edu/wsuirimages/CommunityInvolvement/CBL%20Designation%20flyer%20Faculty.pdf or view a brief video about the designation at: http://www.weber.edu/video/play_single.html?fmsInst=videoservices&fmsFile=community_final.flv&videoTitle=CBL%20Course%20Designation

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In the Future at CIC
CBR Faculty Fellows Wanted! The Community Involvement Center is offering another Faculty Fellows program focusing on community-based research during the 2009-2010 academic year. Faculty members will participate in a series of five workshops during the fall 2009 semester to develop a community-based research component to an existing course, attend a statewide civic engagement conference in February 2010, and teach their newly revamped CBR course during the spring 2010 semester. Each fully participating faculty member will receive a $500 honorarium. Ten faculty members from across campus will be selected to participate in the CBR fellows program. If you are interested, please contact Brenda Marsteller Kowaleski in the CIC at 626-7737 or via e-mail at bkowaleski@weber.edu by May 25, 2009.

On Wednesday, March 25th, the CIC took six WSU faculty members on a Faculty Tour of two community service agencies. The tour began with a stop at Your Community Connection. A staff member was able to guide the faculty on a tour of their center. The staff at the YCC, talked to faculty members about some of the services the YCC had to offer to “at-risk” families in the Ogden community.

The next stop took faculty members to the Ogden Nature Center. A tour was given by the volunteer coordinator for their center. Faculty were able to see the wildlife housed at the center. They were also given the opportunity to go on a nature walk. At both places, faculty members asked questions to staff members about the volunteer needs that they had. Overall, the tour was a success and the faculty came away with some new ideas about service opportunities for their classes.

CIC Spring Highlights
On Wednesday, February 11th, The CIC hosted a Speed Networking activity. Ten faculty members, were given the opportunity to talk with representatives from ten different community service agencies. Faculty and community partners, had five minutes to speak with each other before rotating. Within a one hour time period, faculty were able to become acquainted with ten different community service agencies. This was a great event and gave faculty members some new ideas for service opportunities.

The mission of the center is to engage students and faculty members in a process which combines community service and academic learning in order to promote civic participation, build community capacity, and enhance the education process.
Spotlight

» Bridging the Gap ~ Connecting with Seniors
by Misty Bell

Bridging the Gap is a Weber State University Volunteer Involvement Program focusing on relationships with the elderly citizens of the Ogden Community. Our regular visits to various Senior Centers provide a fun and unique opportunity for Weber State students to get to know the seniors in our area. This year we have attended multiple care centers bringing a new kind of fun and excitement with our interactive activities and games designed to help the residents feel young and alive again as they intermingle with our volunteer students.

On February 12th, we had the opportunity to hold a Senior Ball at Mountain Ridge Assisted Living. The evening was "A Night to Remember" and all of the residents had a memorable and fun night. Weber State students provided the residents with corsages, individual pictures, and prizes. When students delivered the pictures, they had the opportunity to spend quality time interacting with the seniors. This activity allowed the students to experience some of the extraordinary events in the residents past lives as well as their present concerns and trials.

» CARES at WSU
by Tiffany McMillin

CARES represents Weber State University at the after school program at Mound Fort Junior High in Ogden. WSU students meet at the middle school every other Monday for about an hour and do a variety of activities related to the performing arts. On March 23rd, Dr. Akombo from WSU came to Mound Fort Junior High and demonstrated African drumming with the students. We had a group of approximately nine students who joined us and it was great! We were able to borrow drums from the Education department at WSU so each student had a drum to play. Dr. Akombo taught the students how to play the drums, how to dance to the music, and how to sing a song in Swahili while playing the drums. It was exiting to see the junior high students let down their guards and be free to express themselves in new ways. They were excited to learn a little bit of the African culture and had a great time!

» Best Buddies
by Patricia Smith

Best Buddies® is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of people with intellectual disabilities. It is an international organization involving over 1,300 schools in all fifty states and in countries all over the world. Best Buddies enhances the lives of its volunteers and its members by providing opportunities for one-to-one friendships. The Weber State chapter works with Ogden City and Weber County school districts to provide these friendships to students in the adult transition programs. These students are ages 18-22 and receive special education services after high school. They are matched with Weber State University students for one-to-one friendship opportunities.

At the beginning of the school year, volunteers are matched with their Buddy. They are expected to call their Buddies once a week and take their Buddies for an activity once a month. The WSU chapter holds a group activity each month. This year, activities included: bowling, movie nights, Halloween party, carnival, a Valentine’s dance, and service projects. In May, we plan to go to Lagoon with our Buddies. All of our events are free to the volunteers and a lot of fun for everyone.

Best Buddies is a great way to earn community service hours, but is an excellent experience for everybody. As explained before, the program is designed to enhance the lives of those with intellectual disabilities by providing them with friends their own age. However, those in the program know that it enhances the lives of volunteers so much more. Best Buddies provides an opportunity for those who have little or no experience with disabled persons to meet and learn about these special, wonderful people. Regardless of a person’s intentions going into the program, buddies leave the program with true friendships and life-changing experiences.

If you are interested in joining or would like to learn more about the program, please e-mail Brooke Heath at wsubestbuddies@yahoo.com.

Misty Bell recently received the Mattie Watts Harris "Spirit of the American Woman" Community Service Award for Northern Utah from the YCC. She was nominated by Laryn Jones, Heather Kraaima, and Shelly Jensen. Her nominators said, "Misty Bell is the best candidate for the Mattie Watts Harris Community service award because she always puts her heart and full dedication into service while being an inspiring leader. She loves the feeling of helping people and knowing that she has made a difference in somebody else’s life. Misty deserves recognition for her numerous volunteer hours and dedication to the community. With Misty, it gives us hope that there are still good people left in the world and that can make a difference. Misty is continuously involved in various organizations and volunteer services throughout the community and also to Weber State. Misty volunteers with Gesundheit!, Love in Action, HOSA, STAND, Yes! Utah, Relay for Life, Make A Wish Foundation, Ogden Christmas Boc House, Susan G. Komen Foundation, AmeriCorps and numerous others that I cannot even begin to remember. Even when Misty is faced with a challenge or health problems, she cannot stop serving others. Misty is a true leader. She doesn’t strive to be the first, but she is the first to strive and gives her all for the success of the team. Misty always is the first to see the need, envision a plan, and empowers the team for action. I do not know many people or students who are as dedicated to making a difference or who truly understand what action is needed in the world. If Misty has accomplished all of this at her age, I can only imagine what she will be doing in the future to change the community and our world." An award ceremony will be held for all of the recipients of various other categories in May at the Ogden YCC.

www.weber.edu/CommunityInvolvement
(801) 626-7737
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Civically Engaged Scholar
Lauren A. Fowler
Professor Psychology

“One of my favorite quotes is from a student who told me that the service learning project was the 'best experience of his life' because of what he learned about himself and the community.”

Lauren Fowler’s students have been involved with implementing drug education plans in after school programs, teaching K-12 students about neuroscience, and studying the ethical behavior of middle and high school students. They have developed several CBR projects, including a two-year project with the Weber-Morgan Narcotics Strike Force, worked with community partners to assess the Tip-A-Cop program in Ogden, and then developed a series of strategies which were then implemented. After re-assessment of the program, they found the strategies improved participation in the Tip-A-Cop program by over 100%, resulting in a significant number of drug arrests, closure of drug houses, and an increase in community awareness of methamphetamines. Fowler has also worked with the National Science Foundation for five years to study the effects of fatigue on performance in military, medical, and law-enforcement personnel. This has led to numerous policy changes that incorporate suggested fatigue countermeasures for vital members of our community.

Civically Engaged Staff Member
Adrienne M. Gillespie
Center for Diversity & Unity/WSU Clubs and Organizations, Division of Student Affairs

"Ask not what your country can do for you- ask what you can do for your country." John F. Kennedy

An advocate of service-learning education and civic leadership, Adrienne has worked to combine the two since 1998. In doing so, she has matched students to local services and resources, collaborated with faculty, and partnered with the community. These accomplishments can be seen through the Student Affairs Let's Talk series, the last three WSU Diversity Conferences, two Cultural Competency Conferences, and the Clubs in the Classroom project. The support of WSU administration has provided Adrienne with programmatic opportunities to connect the theoretical application of classroom instruction to practical application through musical arts engagement with the Annual WSU Gospel Music Festival: Make a Joyful Noise, as well as political dialog and contemplation with the A Time for Change, the 2009 inaugural celebration. By supporting the mission and goals of the institution, Adrienne has been able to bring praxis to the forefront of her education endeavors. Her connections to the community, intense respect of hands on application, and objective to help students think globally and act locally means that she is always looking for new and innovative ways to take her campus and community to the next level.

Civically Engaged Student
Ariana Escalante
Senior, Performing Arts

"The most beautiful things in the universe are the starry heavens above us and the feeling of duty within us." -Indian Proverb

Ariana serves as this year's WSU Volunteer Involvement Program Director. As such, she has headed 14 different campus and community outreach programs serving as director, supervisor, and participant. Her remarkable dedication and enthusiasm has dramatically increased civic engagement across the WSU campus. Aside from her contributions to each WSU program, she volunteers as a dance teacher to minority groups, mentors elementary children, and heads various awareness and action events focusing on international needs, working with such groups as Invisible Children and STAND. As a friend and peer to her fellow volunteers, she leads by example in her volunteer work as well as in her academic and personal life. A member of the WSU Honors Program, Ariana excels academically while taking over 20 credits each semester and still somehow manages to focus on her performance career. Ariana is incredibly passionate and personal with her involvement in community volunteerism as she fervently weaves service into her life as a whole.

Committed Community Partner
Lynn Kelly
Habitat for Humanity of Weber and Davis Counties

The Weber-Davis Habitat affiliate is a small, completely volunteer-driven organization. In partnership with Weber State University faculty, staff, and students and many other community volunteers, they have helped four low-income families to become homeowners since 2004, and they are currently working with two additional families.
John A. Lindquist Award

The John A. Lindquist Award recognizes a faculty or staff member who has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to mentoring WSU students in learning through community involvement. The award is named for John A. Lindquist, a strong advocate for education and the community, who has spent a lifetime supporting Ogden, Weber County and Weber State. Lindquist's daughter Kathryn was instrumental in establishing the award.

Congratulations to Dr. Colleen Garside, the 2009 John A. Lindquist Award recipient.

‘Our students are making a huge difference in the lives of those they serve, and in their own lives as well. The best outcome I see is that my students are realizing the difference they can make in their communities.’ --Colleen Garside

Dr. Colleen Garside is among the most active faculty on campus in mentoring students, both in community-based research and through civic engagement and service-learning. She has involved students with a long list of civic groups, government and charitable associations. These include:

- YMCA
- Christmas Box House
- Ogden High School
- Mount Ogden Junior High
- Youth Impact

Dr. Garside’s involvement with campus and community service is ongoing. She is serving and continues to serve in numerous capacities on all levels. Nationally, she is an active partner with Communicating Common Ground, a service-learning initiative in the discipline of Communication. At the state level, she has been involved with the UCC and the Faculty consulting Corps for three years.

Colleen also supports the Community Involvement Center here at WSU serving on numerous committees. She has been involved most recently in mentoring a faculty member through the Faculty Fellows program and participating with the supplemental instructor program.

"Communication is more than a skill, it’s a necessary tool. It shapes us as individuals, and is the means by which others determine the type of person we are. I’m grateful for the opportunity I’ve had to participate in Dr. Garside’s class. I learned necessary skills that have made me a better person, wife and mother. I learned to work in a group and how to have a satisfying experience. More importantly, I had the opportunity to serve in the community. As a result, I have become more civically minded, and I recognize that I can make a difference in my community.” --Robin S. Merrill - Student

Colleen’s goals in using community based learning strategies in her classes are twofold: First, she wants her students to have a real world experience where they can put into practice the concepts they are learning in class. Second, she wants to instill a sense of civic responsibility within her students so that upon graduation, they will recognize their responsibility to “give back” to their communities.}

Excellence in Service Award

Excellence in Service, established at Weber State University in 2008, recognizes graduates who promote service to the community while maintaining academic excellence. Graduates receive bachelor’s degrees, have grade-point averages of 3.5 or higher and have contributed a minimum of 300 hours of service to a non-profit community organization(s) during their college career.

Congratulations to the following students for graduating with Excellence in Service during the May 2009 commencement.

- Ryan Abegglen
- Jonathan Adams
- Kristin Balls
- Chelsie Baumgartner
- Christopher Bentley
- Jessica Bitton
- Kristine Capron
- Sarah Casper
- Julie Christiansen
- Lynsey Clark
- Crystal Dezember
- Ariana Escalante
- Holly Johnson
- Laurie Johnson
- Adam Johnson
- Ronda Jones
- Maureen Jordan
- Colby Kuhn
- Dratin Lamb
- Shauna Marshall
- Troy McLaughlan
- M. Scott Moore
- Ashley Moore
- Denae Palm
- Katie Poulsen
- Heather Ritchie
- Camille Shumway
- Samanntha Tesch
- Chelsea Yates

« CIC News continued....

This spring, the Community Involvement Center launched a new Supplemental Instruction program for three courses that held CBL designation. Student supplemental instructors attended classes and held S.I. sessions during the week to provide students opportunities for extra help with service-learning projects and course content. During S.I. sessions, students were encouraged to reflect on their individual or group service projects through a variety of creative and informative exercises. S.I. leaders helped facilitate service projects by connecting students to the Community Involvement Center and community partners. Our hope is to continue this program, increasing the number of CBL courses with supplemental instructors.

We Want Your Media!

Do you have photos, PPT presentations, video, or other media capturing “Service in Action”? If so, we want to archive it. To submit media files, simply drop them by our office, mail them, or submit it through our web site. Just look for the camera on the CIC home page.

“There is nothing noble about being superior to some other man. The true nobility is in being superior to your previous self.”

Hindu Proverb