

Democratic engagement involves students in the civic life of our communities and developing the combination of knowledge, skills, values and civic action to make a meaningful difference. It means promoting the quality of life in a community, through both political and nonpolitical processes. -The American Democracy Project

Student Experience

You wouldn't know it, but there was a time when Mandie Barnes came to class then simply went home. Once she started to get involved, she couldn't stop. The 2012-13 WSU Student Association leadership vice president has her hands in many projects, but one of her favorites is the American Democracy Project (ADP).

ADP is focused on higher education's role in preparing the next generation of informed and engaged citizens. The goal is to produce graduates who are committed to being active, involved citizens in their communities. Mandie is the founder of the ADP National Student Advisory Council. With input from the Student Senate and others on campus, she has helped organize many activities centered on democratic engagement, including voter registration, Constitution Week and Deliberative Democracy Day events.

"It is very important that we are informed and involved, and that should start now," Mandie said. "At Weber State, we have so many opportunities to become civically engaged, whether it's registering to vote, or attending a panel about a political or social issue, or celebrating and learning more about our

Constitution. The more we participate now, the more we grow, and the more prepared we are to serve our communities."

MANDIE BARNES, founder of the Student Advisory Council for the American Democracy Project



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CENTER FOR
**COMMUNITY
ENGAGED
LEARNING**



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Community research involves students working with faculty members and community leaders to develop research projects, collect and analyze data, and share their results and conclusions with the organizations and agencies that need the information to solve a pressing community problem or create change. -Strand, et al, 2003

Faculty Experience

In Patricia Cost's office, there are binders upon binders of student projects from her community engaged learning (CEL) class, "Needs Assessment & Planning Health Promotion Programs." One featured a partnership between three students and Clean Start to develop the "Recovering Hope" plan for raising awareness about the dangers of alcohol use during pregnancy. Another showcased a student who partnered with Hooper, Utah, to establish the city's first health fair.

With each binder Patti picked up, she'd say, "Oh, this is a good one." To her, they're all good because they're filled with examples of her students doing good. A former trauma nurse turned health educator, service is engrained in every fiber of Patti's being. Her desire to help others rubs off on her students.

"This is hands-on, experiential learning. It's how students learn best, but it doesn't just benefit them, it also benefits their communities. When we all work together and share resources, we get so much more done," said Patti, who loves to tell her students that "knowledge is power." "When you know better, you do better."

2011 John A. Lindquist Award winner



PATRICIA COST
Assistant Professor, Health Promotion
and Human Performance

Weber State University's **Center for Community Engaged Learning (CCEL)**, formerly the Community Involvement Center, is where academics, service and democratic engagement intersect. It's where students learn, lead and make a difference. It's where faculty and staff mentor, support and encourage personal growth. It's where community partners seek volunteers, address needs and collaborate. It's where lives are changed.

Established in 2007, the center is a partnership between WSU's Academic Affairs and Student Affairs divisions.

Mission

Engage students, faculty and staff members in service, democratic engagement and community research to promote civic participation, build community capacity and enhance the educational process.

Goals

- Create and support engaged learning opportunities — inside the classroom and out — for students to develop the lifelong knowledge, values and skills necessary to enable change
- Provide training, professional development and funding opportunities to faculty, staff, students and community partners to help them effectively participate in community engaged learning experiences
- Distribute information and resources to assist students, faculty, staff and community organizations in developing successful community partnerships
- Recognize the outstanding service, democratic engagement and community research contributed by students, faculty, staff, community partners and alumni.

Community Engaged Learning

Community engaged learning involves the collaboration between institutions of higher education and their larger communities (local, regional/state, national, global) for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity.

-The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching

At WSU, community engaged learning takes on many forms, from individual volunteerism to organizational involvement to electoral participation. It can include efforts to directly address an issue, work with others in a community to solve a problem, or interact with elected officials and governing bodies.

Three particular tracks of community engaged learning are promoted at WSU:

1. **Service;**
2. **Democratic engagement;** and
3. **Community research.**

Through their community engaged learning experiences, students should gain a combination of four learning outcomes:

1. **Civic knowledge;**
2. **Civic skills;**
3. **Civic values;** and
4. **Civic action.**

Outcome definitions and measurement benchmarks can be found at weber.edu/CCEL.

Service is conceptualized in broad terms to be inclusive of service-learning, volunteer and community service experiences that enhance the capacity of the community while teaching the student. This teaching and learning approach integrates community service with academic study to enrich learning, teach civic responsibility and strengthen communities. -National Commission on Service Learning, 2002

Community Partner Experience

In 2010, Josh Lopez, program director at PARC called Weber State University. A nonprofit organization that fosters independence for people with disabilities through employment and training, PARC needed assistance adapting its policies and procedures manual (PPM) to make it user-friendly for people of all abilities. The need was placed in CCEL's Community Partner Directory; it was met by Becky Jo Gesteland's technical writing class.

It was the start of a partnership that continues to grow today. "When we have a need, I call Weber State," Josh said. "We have run the gamut with departments at WSU, from electrical engineering to foreign languages, to child and family studies. Every match has been a perfect match."

In addition to the PPM, WSU professors and students have helped translate documents from English to Spanish, implemented an inventory control system to help PARC employees increase productivity and pay, and much more.

"The connection we have (with CCEL) is invaluable. The ideas from professors and students have produced amazing results. Some have helped with efficiency and productivity. Some have increased morale, and that is just immeasurable. It's hard to capture how you make a person feel; Weber State has helped us show our employees how much we care."



JOSH LOPEZ
Program Director, PARC



COMMUNITY ENGAGED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES:

CEL Designated Classes

Community engaged learning encourages students to apply the knowledge and analytical tools gained in the classroom to the pressing issues affecting local communities. They are then able to contribute the practical, real-world experience they've gained in the community to the classroom setting. This structured approach to learning and teaching connects meaningful community experience with intellectual development, personal growth and active citizenship.

Community engaged learning is not specific to any one discipline; in fact, CEL designated classes exist in many disciplines in all seven colleges at WSU. CEL courses are listed in the class schedule published online each semester; a full list of CEL courses can be found at weber.edu/CCEL.

Civitas

Civitas is a community engaged scholar program that helps students utilize community engaged experiences from their college career to demonstrate their competencies in civic knowledge, civic skills, civic values and civic action. A one-credit hour Civitas course is required to learn the fundamentals of building a Civitas portfolio. Students graduate with "Non Sibi, Sed Civitas" (not for self, for community) noted on their transcripts, as well as wear honor stoles and pins at graduation.

Engaged Learning Series

The annual Engaged Learning Series features speakers, exhibits and events on and off campus. The series engages students, faculty and community members in exploration of an important social issue and provides opportunities for them to develop plans for addressing the issue, implement those plans, and assess Weber State's impact on improving the issue over time.

Living Learning Community

Wildcat Village, WSU's newest residential complex, is home to the Community Engaged Living Learning Community (LLC). An enhanced undergraduate experience, the LLC gives like-minded students the opportunity to live and study together, as well as participate in civically engaged and service-oriented activities. Each year, students will work to find and implement solutions to a specific issue facing our communities, such as air quality and food security.

Community Engaged Leaders

The Community Engaged Leaders program gives students opportunities to make positive contributions to the community through participation in student-led service programs, including Alternative Spring Break, Boys and Girls Club, environmental projects, Best Buddies, Head Start, children-at-risk extended schools, Special Olympics and more.



American Democracy Project

The American Democracy Project (ADP) is focused on higher education's role in preparing the next generation of informed and engaged citizens. Programs that are hosted by ADP at Weber State include, but are not limited to:

- Deliberative Democracy Day;
- Issues forums;
- Constitution Week;
- Debate Watch; and
- Congress to Campus.



TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES:



Annual Community Engaged Learning Symposium

A CEL Symposium is hosted annually to give community engaged students an opportunity to present what they have learned through service, democratic engagement and community research, and detail how their projects have impacted the community.

WSU Day at the Capitol

The Office of Undergraduate Research and CCEL provide support for students to disseminate their research, creative works and community engaged learning projects as posters to legislators at the Utah Capitol.

CEL Fellows Program

Created to train faculty/staff members in community engaged learning pedagogies, the CEL Fellows Program extends over two semesters. The fall semester is used to train fellows in the pedagogy and assist them in course and program construction via structured workshops. The newly enhanced course/program is then taught in the following spring semester.

Workshops and training sessions

(campus, statewide, national and international)

Numerous workshops, training and information sessions are offered annually on campus to better prepare faculty, staff and community partners engaging students in service, democratic engagement and community research. Topics include: Building and Sustaining Community Partnerships; Managing Risk; Introduction to Service Learning; Reflection; Recruiting, Motivating and Recognizing Volunteers; and more. Additionally, funding is provided to send faculty and staff to state, national and international conferences on service.

CEL Supplemental Instructors (CEL SI)

The CEL SI program provides supplemental instructors for community engaged learning faculty. Each CEL SI attends the CEL-designated class and holds additional sessions for students outside of class to facilitate the learning through service, democratic engagement or community research component of the course. CEL SIs provide assistance with project planning and facilitation, reflection sessions, guidance through CEL assignments, community partner site visits and more.

Volunteer Management Training

The Volunteer Management Training program is designed to provide volunteer managers in nonprofit organizations the tools necessary to help them effectively manage their volunteers and volunteer projects. Training topics include: recruiting volunteers, placing and supervising volunteers, evaluating volunteers and more. Volunteer managers who participate in at least four of the five sessions receive a certification from the Utah Commission on Volunteers.



WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

Center for Community Engaged Learning

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RESOURCES AND SERVICE RECOGNITION FOR GETTING ENGAGED IN THE COMMUNITY:

Community Partner Directory

This database lists volunteer needs and contact information for the more than 100 community organizations with whom CCEL partners. Students, faculty and staff use the database to find appropriate community partnerships.

Hall Endowment for Community Outreach Grants

These grants provide funding for faculty, staff and/or students taking part in community engaged learning projects throughout Ogden and the surrounding communities.



Community Calendar

The online community calendar lists service, community research and democratic engagement activities in which students, faculty and staff can become involved.

RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES:

John A. Lindquist Award – Faculty/Staff award

This honor is given annually to recognize a WSU faculty or staff member who has demonstrated sustained and outstanding commitment to mentoring WSU students in learning through community engagement.

Utah Campus Compact Awards – Community Partner, Student, Staff, Faculty and Alumni

Each year, the Utah Campus Compact (UCC) recognizes the work of outstanding faculty, staff, students, alumni and community partners in the state. As a UCC member campus, WSU selects an outstanding individual in five categories: Civically Engaged Scholar (faculty); Civically Engaged Staff Member; Civically Engaged Student; Committed Community Partner; and Civically Engaged Alumnus.

Excellence in Service Recognition – Students

Excellence in Service 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 nonprofit community organization(s) during their college careers.

Annual campus-wide recognition event

An annual community engaged learning recognition event celebrates and recognizes campus members and community partners who have provided extraordinary service, democratic engagement and community research to the community in a given year.



SCHOLARSHIPS:

AmeriCorps

The AmeriCorps Education Award program allows students to perform community service in exchange for an education award.

- 300 hours in 1 year = \$1,175*
- 450 hours in 1 year = \$1,468*

**2012-13 figures*

Adrian L. Maxson Scholarship for Social Justice

The Adrian L. Maxson Scholarship assists students who are engaged politically, socially and creatively in the community. Applicants must demonstrate their commitment to social justice through, but not limited to, advocacy and political activism locally, nationally or globally.

Cody Ray Odekirk Humanitarian Scholarship

The Cody Ray Odekirk Scholarship assists students who are engaged in the spirit of service locally and internationally. Applicants must demonstrate a history of participation in local, national or global humanitarian projects and active community service.

Ronald M. & Nora L. Axton Scholarship

The Ronald M. & Nora L. Axton Scholarship assists students who are engaged in the community and have strong commitments to learning, moderate political ideals and a lifestyle of nonviolence and peace. Applicants must demonstrate a history with these ideals.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS:



CCEL formally partners with more than 100 nonprofit and government organizations in Ogden and the surrounding areas. Registered partnership organizations offer quality community engaged learning opportunities to WSU students, faculty and staff that are safe and stimulating learning environments.

Tiered Partnerships

Registered community partners receive benefits from their partnerships with CCEL based on the length of their partnership and the level of involvement they choose to have with WSU. The center makes available three tiers from which partners may choose: Cubs, Wildcats and Purple Pride. Tiered partnerships are designed to be reciprocal; thus, there are corresponding qualifications and benefits with each level. This allows the center to be much more intentional with the overall experience of community partners, students, faculty and staff alike.

To learn more about tiered partnerships, visit weber.edu/CCEL.





DONATE TO CCEL

In 2012-13, more than 7,900 students engaged in service, contributing more than 147,921 hours of service. That equals 16 years, 10 months and 15 days, and translates to a \$2.7 million* investment to communities.

When you support the Center for Community Engaged Learning, you are not only helping students become thoughtful citizens and inspiring leaders, you are also helping build communities that thrive.

Gifts help students participating in:

- International, national and/or local service projects;
- WSU Day at the Capitol, where they share lessons learned through community engagement;
- Professional development opportunities, locally and nationally
- Community Engaged Learning Scholars, a program where they develop an electronic portfolio telling their community engaged stories

* as figured by Independent Sector

Donations also help the center:

- Develop community engaged learning (CEL) courses/opportunities for students
- Train community engaged citizens
- Create scholarships for community engaged students
- Support lecture series
- Attract knowledgeable CEL professors

To give, visit weber.edu/give, or call WSU's gift processing office at 801-626-6138.

To discuss methods of giving, call the Development Office at 801-626-6073.

To donate your time working alongside students, serving on committees or volunteering as a guest speaker, contact the center:

Telephone: **801-626-7737**

Email: **ccel@weber.edu**

Location: **Shepherd Union, Suite 327**

Website: **weber.edu/CCEL**



SUPPORTING COMMUNITY ENGAGED STUDENTS *at Weber State University*

1) **Named Scholarship Endowment**

With an initial gift of \$25,000 or more, you can establish a named scholarship endowment, which allows you to honor your family, a colleague, a mentor, a friend or anyone of your choosing.

An endowment is a permanent fund. The original gift is never spent, and it exists as long as WSU exists. The fund is invested with the university's endowment pool, and a portion of the earnings is used to award a yearly scholarship or scholarships. Any remaining earnings are reinvested to help the endowment grow with inflation over time. Once established, additional contributions to the endowment may be made at any time in order to accelerate its growth.

2) **Named Scholarship Fund**

You can create a named scholarship fund by making annual gifts that will be awarded in full each year. Like an endowment, it can be named for anyone you choose. To be named, the award amount must be at least \$1,000 per year with a pledge of at least three years. Awards of \$1,000 per semester up to full tuition and fees for one or more students can be made from your named annual scholarship fund.

3) **Annual or Periodic Gifts**

You can make annual or periodic gifts of any amount to existing endowed or annual scholarships funds, or to specific departmental funds.

4) **Deferred or Planned Gift**

As part of your financial plan, you can make a deferred or planned gift to establish a new scholarship fund or add to an existing fund. These gifts may be in the form of bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, property, retirement plans, life insurance policies, and many more options.

2012-13 Service At a Glance

7,905 WSU students engaged in service

31.6% of WSU student population

Total # of students = CBL + Community Service + AmeriCorps

147,921 service hours contributed

by WSU Students

Total # of hours = CBL + Community Service + AmeriCorps

Annual estimated \$ equivalent for service =

\$2,690,682.99*

*Calculated at \$18.19/hour (Utah in 2011). Annual estimated value of volunteer time as figured by Independent Sector: www.independentsector.org/volunteer_time

Community-Based Learning (CBL)

4,846 students

70,505 hours

14.5 hours served per student on average

81 courses designated as CBL

75 CBL courses taught 2012-13

- 59 officially designated CBL courses
- 16 unofficial CBL courses

227 sections of CBL courses taught 2012-13

81 CBL faculty (taught a CBL class in 2012-13)

(8.62% of 940 FT & PT faculty)

Community Service Hours

2,954 students involved in volunteer service

25,666 hours served

8.69 hours served per student on average

AmeriCorps

105 WSU AmeriCorps members successfully completed the program

51,750 hours of service completed by successfully exited AmeriCorps members

\$178,450 in scholarship money awarded to successfully exited AmeriCorps members