

Service-Learning Steering Committee Meeting  
Thursday March 29, 2007 @ 9:00-10:00 am  
LRC 507

Minutes

Present: Patricia Ploetz, Michele Dickinson, Shari Ellertson, Rachel Hildebrant, Toni Sage, James Sage.

For Discussion:

**A. Service-Learning Coordinator Position: Update, Discussion, & Planning**

We did not submit the 3<sup>rd</sup>-year renewal of Michele's VISTA position. This means that August 2007 will be the end of Michele's service, and the end of the VISTA position. We are currently brainstorming on how to find funds/resources to ensure that we have a service-learning coordinator for next year. Please send along any ideas you might have regarding this issue to James. Thanks.

A basic outline of possible ways to find support for a service-learning coordinator:

**1. Grants:** we'll be checking with WiCC, Anita Wright, and others "in the know" who might be able to recommend some grants (in which a service-learning coordinator position is funded). These grants might be at the level of the institution, at the level of colleges, at the level of individual faculty/departments, or connected with a community partner. If you know of any relevant grants, please let us know.

**2. Proposing a new position that's funded by UWSP:** The proposal will need to include:

How much it will cost (with benefits), what kind of position it will be (LTE, Project Position, etc.), a job/project description, how service-learning fits within the campus mission and larger national trends in higher education, what positive contributions both Michele and Scott Winn have already made, the impact of the Colloquium, the amount of community value students provide through service (how many hours, estimated contribution to the local community and local economy), as well as whatever public exposure service-learning has received in the local press.

If you have any suggestions (or would like to volunteer to take on one of these parts, or proof-read the proposal as it comes together) please let us know.

**3. Other funding sources:** There might be some funding available from our community members and organizations (Rotary Club, wealthy donors, etc.). We should not overlook the possibility of getting financial support for a service-learning coordinator (whether these donations are to the University or to specific Colleges during their fundraising campaigns).

**B. SLSC Website and revising the "faculty handbook" on service-learning**

James created a simple website for the Service-Learning Steering Committee (still a work in progress). Here is the website address: <https://www.uwsp.edu/philosophy/JSage/SLSC/index.htm>

Among the resources that can be found on this site: meeting minutes (archived), upcoming events (meetings, brown bag discussions, etc.), general information on service-learning, an archive of power point slides from the February teaching colloquium, as well as the most recent electronic copy of the Faculty Handbook.

Please take a look at these resources and send along any suggestions for any additions and/or changes (including the faculty handbook itself... we're still looking for people to make contributions to parts that are missing or need to be elaborated).

James promises to "pass along" all materials on this website to the CAESE website, should he ever leave (due to Alien Abduction, spontaneous combustion, or voyages to the Center of the Hollow Earth).

### **C. CAESE Summer Course Re-Design:**

Patricia reported that 4 proposals have been submitted. A basic outline of events has been developed:

Spring Semester: Several "reading circle" meetings are planned to introduce faculty to service-learning.  
Summer Workshops: June 5-7, July 17-19

If you'd like more details, please contact either James or Michele.

### **D. Other on-going campus initiatives (service-learning definition, workshops, brown bag presentations, etc.)**

We did not have time to discuss this agenda item.

#### Announcements & Up-coming Events:

- Spring Semester 2007 Service-Learning Brown Bags (please spread the word!):
  - April 6<sup>th</sup> 1:30-2:30, LRC 507 "Creating effective Reflection for Service-Learning Projects"
- Future meetings of the Service-Learning Steering Committee (all meetings in LRC 507):
  - Thursday, April 26 @ 9 am
  - Thursday, May 17\* @ 9 am (scheduled during finals week... we may want to change this?)