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*Everyone can be great,
because everyone can serve*
-Martin Luther King, Jr.

Coordinator's Corner

Not only are the leaves changing color this fall, but there are changes afoot in the service-program at Kent State Tuscarawas.

First, you see this newsletter sports a new title. The faculty and administration overwhelming supported expanding and renaming our program. The service-learning program itself remains unchanged—we added a new “Civic Engagement” program focusing on all the ways our students and faculty are involved within the community.

Our website has been updated to include information specifically for students, faculty, and community partners. Students can search for volunteer opportunities on a new bulletin board. Community partners can submit volunteer opportunities. All of the forms faculty need are now available online. Students and faculty

are able to share information about projects completed as part of civic engagement.

The service-learning program continues to be the cornerstone of community engagement. In April, we celebrated the completion of the program's ninth year. For the 2014-2015 academic year, eight faculty members offered a total of 12 service learning courses, allowing 375 students a service opportunity. Together they participated in 4764 service hours, adding \$105,474.96 in value back to the community.

Students, community partners and faculty all benefit from expanding the program to focus on a broader range of activities and the commitment this evolution implies. It is an exciting time to watch the program grow!

Yours in service, *Dr. Mariann Harding*

*Attendees at the April 2015
Service-Learning Luncheon*



Group Earns Exceptional Service-Learning Award

By: Teai Warner

The Exceptional Service-Learning Project Award for 2015 was presented to a pair of students in Dr. Justice Akpan's Business Consulting Practicum. The team, composed of Abby Breyer and Tyler Bell, consulted for Leadership Tuscarawas, the sole-leadership training provider in Tuscarawas County. Leadership Tuscarawas, which started about 10 years ago, was open to offering students a unique service opportunity.

First, Abby and Tyler were tasked with developing a database of strategies to use in expanding Leadership Tuscarawas' programming and social media uses. Through the course of the project, the student team not only met that objective, but also developed a comprehensive networking database that the organization can use to cross-promote and communicate with other programs. The duo's discovery has allowed for better partnerships within the community.

Dr. Akpan, assistant professor of Management and Information Services, has been using service-learning with students enrolled in the business consulting practicum since his arrival at Kent State Tuscarawas three years ago. Board members, Heather Milburn and Mike Morelli, were formally recognized at the Spring Service-Learning Celebration and the Annual Campus Awards Ceremony.

"The board of Leadership Tuscarawas has been an exemplary community partner, finding flexible ways to meet the needs of the students and having a true appreciation for the services the students provided," stated Dr. Akpan.

The students committed two to three hours per week to the project. They met independently with each other, and worked remotely and collaboratively with Leadership Tuscarawas throughout the spring semester. When asked about her evaluation of the service-learning project, Ms. Heather Milburn added, "This won't be a consulting project that is not used or is a dream for a business organization. The strategic planning committee will immediately utilize this very important information in making their decisions." The project has helped Leadership Tuscarawas analyze success in other programs and how to implement different programs.



Pictured above:

Dean Bielski congratulating Abby Breyer

Scott Stowers Receives Outstanding Student Award

By: Teai Warner

Scott Stowers, a student at Kent State University at Tuscarawas, was awarded the “Outstanding Student Award” for 2015 for service-learning. Stowers was nominated by Associate Professor of English, Dr. Nicole Willey, who acknowledged the dedication and hard work Scott put into his service-learning duties. Dr. Nicole Willey stated, “Scott went above and beyond in his service for Friends of the Homeless (FoH). Students are asked to spend two hours a week for 10 weeks at the shelter- Scott did that, plus- he attended multiple extra times with his family.”

Dr. Willey went on to say, “ Not only did he do well in the class, but he, more than any student I’ve ever had, worked diligently and tirelessly on assisting FoH and the guests last semester, and I

think he made a huge impact.” Some of the activities Scott did with FoH: he donated additional work and funds to fix the shelter van. He wrote a meaningful poem that he presented to the shelter director at their final presentation. Finally, Scott hired a guest at the shelter for a short-term job.

Dr. Willey stated that his efforts has helped uplift the residents at the time, and members of his family still go to the shelter now. She also gave advice for students interested in service-learning classes. She suggest that students looking for a new way to learn should consider service-learning. Dr. Willey believes it will make an impact not only on the world, but it will also change the student.

Nursing Students Participate in Active Shooter Drill

Elaine Mott and a group of students from the Nursing Agency III course had a unique opportunity– to participate as “victims” in an active shooter drill sponsored by Affinity Medical Center. The students were each assigned a different type of injury, including various gunshot wounds and a person experiencing a heart attack, then had to act as if they had the signs and symptoms related to those specific injuries. Others were asked to play upset family members.

Elaine said, “ Students often portray the nurse in lab simulations. This was an opportunity to be the patient and learn what it’s like to have many hands laid on you in the heat of an emergency. The students took their roles very seriously and gave Oscar worthy performances..” The staff at Affinity Medical Center was grateful for the help given by Kent State Tuscarawas students, saying they helped give the drill a real feel.

Pictured right: Shannon Balis with a head wound



Pictured below: The injured Paula Ford (in red) and distraught Erika Homrighausen



Special Thanks to Our Fall 2015 Service-Learning Participants

William Auld: The Art of the Theater and the Performing Arts Center

Kari Betts: Introduction to Early Childhood Education and Big Brothers, Big Sisters

Maria Burkholder: Surgery and Anesthesia and Tuscarawas County Humane Society, Tuscarawas County Cat Shelter, and Big Nerds Animal Rescue

Maria Burkholder and Kingsly Berlin: Veterinary Nursing I and Tuscarawas County Humane Society, Tuscarawas County Cat Shelter, and Big Nerds Animal Rescue

Mariann Harding and Amy Main: Foundations of Nursing and Tuscarawas County Senior Citizen Center

Teri Leiser: Psychosocial Self-Care Deficits and The National Alliance on Mental Illness

Denise McEnroe– Petite: Nursing Agency III and Hospice of Tuscarawas County

Elaine Mott: Nursing Agency III and Affinity Medical Center

Nicole Willey: College Writing I and Friends of the Homeless



Like us at:

Kent State Tuscarawas,
Community Engagement

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Our Mission

Service-Learning is an important tool for the discovery, application and sharing of knowledge, for fostering ethical and humanitarian values in the service of Ohio, and for expanding our students' horizons while encouraging responsible citizenship.

What We Do For You

Offer assistance on integrating service-learning and civic engagement projects into a course

Foster relationships among students, faculty, and community partners

Document service and volunteer hours and provide participant recognition

Provide support to students, faculty, and community partners.