Academic Futures: Service-learning

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Why Service-learning?

→ CU Boulder wants to expand its role in the community, nationally, and globally

→ Particularly, how can CU engage the Boulder County area?

→ Service-learning is an opportunity to be active in these areas and improve academically simultaneously

What do students gain from service-learning?

→ Improved class grades

→ Better graduation rates

→ Personal and social growth

Academic Benefits

➔ Class Grades
   ◆ 2% score improvement (Brail, 2016)
   ◆ 50% above-mean increase (Novak et al., 2007)
➔ Graduation Rates
   ◆ Higher rates among service-learning participants (Yue, 2017; Gallini & Moely, 2003; Mungo, 2017)
   ◆ Especially notable among vulnerable populations
   ◆ Due to increased engagement

Personal and Social Growth

→ Understanding of Social Issues, Personal Insight (Yorio & Ye, 2011)

→ Stereotype Reduction (Conner, 2017)

→ Overcoming Competitive Environment (Roman, 2015)

What is CU Boulder doing?

➔ Immediate benefits in Boulder
  ◆ CU Engage
    ● Partner with other institutions
    ● Research-based
  ◆ CU Volunteer Resource Center
    ● Volunteering-focused (non-academic)

What is CU Boulder doing?

→ Long-term benefits internationally

◆ CU Research and Innovation Center

● Mostly graduate students

What are some ideas from model institutions?

➔ **Focus on underserved groups-**
  ◆ Duke (308S) "What it means to be Latino"
    ● Discuss cultural topics in Spanish
    ● minimum of 20 hours of service
    ● opportunity to tutor community members
➔ **Human Rights programs -** Wooster College, (Matthew Krain, Anne M. Nurse, 2004)
  ◆ "Give a face to the faceless".
  ◆ Students critically evaluate the theory and practice of human rights
  ◆ ETHN 3044 at CU
    ● Working with adult inmates

What are some ideas from model institutions?

➔ **International opportunities**
  ◆ Nursing program at Montana State
  ◆ Two weeks
  ◆ Team provides medical services
    ● laboratory and pharmacy services.
➔ **Validating Volunteering-** Kernodle Center-Elon University
  ◆ Elon U provides students and prospective employers a validated record of students' service.

What metrics are being used to evaluate these programs?

➔ **Students-** UCLA Report (Astin et al., 2000)

  ◆ 22,236 students data

  ◆ Academic outcomes (GPA, writing skills, critical thinking skills),

  ◆ Values (commitment to activism and to promoting racial understanding)

  ◆ Leadership (leadership activities, self-rated leadership ability, interpersonal skills)

  ◆ Future plans (career, intent to volunteer)

What metrics are being used to evaluate these programs?

➔ **Faculty-**(Pribbenow, 2005)
  ◆ Motivated by curricular concerns
  ◆ Most satisfied with an enhanced sense of meaning associated with their involvement
  ◆ Least satisfied with how much time was required to implement service-learning.
➔ Community Partner
  ◆ Highly partner-dependent