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