

January 16, 2013

Service Learning Meeting Minutes

Agenda:

1. Update information—provided by Vivian Grooms
 - a. Housing Service Learning
 - i. Request has been made by Bobby Smith to house Service Learning in a space in the basement of the classroom building; no confirmation on acceptance to date.
 - b. Americorp VISTA application process/expectations
 - i. Concept paper application will be due approximately 3 months before August 2013 VISTA training date.
 - ii. Scott Woods will be heading up the application process
 - c. Process of Partnering in the future
 - i. It might be beneficial for future partnering focus to be with those programs who have VISTAs already organizing volunteer opportunities;
 - ii. Looking for increasing the number of SOLID partners whose objectives would meet those learning experiences we want our students to have within specific courses;
 - iii. Focus on POVERTY, health and financial literacy were mentioned this date some primary focuses of the Americorp VISTA projects/applications so that members could keep that in mind as they consider discipline projects.
 - d. Division investment
 - i. Committee members were asked to bring service learning questions to ask during their division meetings:
 1. Who is doing service and/or service learning within their discipline?
 2. Would those faculty please meet with you as a committee member to discuss their projects, provide syllabi, etc.
 3. Are there any community partner experiences/specific classes that your division could identify that might meet student service learning needs in a meaningful way? (Also mentioned was to consider how service learning experiences might fit into Fast Track programs, even, for example, coupled with International Studies experiences. Mary Wadley presented and discussed the benefits of International Service Learning experiences that she learned about at a training in the Fall 2012 semester. It is less expensive for students, and she has the information on these programs and how to make them interdisciplinary).

2. Committee Member Questions/What information to you need going forth?

Members needed the following information:

- Find out what clinical experiences are considered service learning (especially related to nursing and physical therapy experiences that are already in place and require a reflection component already). Vivian Grooms will email Mani Hull for clarification.
 - Who are the area community partners who have had Americorp VISTA placements and might therefore be good partnerships to focus on for new/specific project needs?
3. Ideas Engaging Your Division (?)

Members discussed general service learning ideas; Engaging each division and their needs will be carried over to next meeting. Each member will retrieve information from their division meetings and will report that information back to the Committee Chair.

The next meeting was scheduled for February 20th, 10:00 a.m. An invitation will be sent via email to members.