Service-Learning Annual Report 2007-2008

Mission Statement
The Service-Learning Center initiates and supports curricular and co-curricular activities that enhance student learning, promote civic responsibility, and respond to the critical needs of our community through collaborative campus and community partnerships.

Total Service for 2007-2008 (Curricular and Co-Curricular)
20,764.5 hours — 1722 Faculty, Staff and Student Participants

Curricular Service 2007-2008
12,082.25 Hours — 618 Students — 140 Agencies

Growth of Service-Learning from Fall 2003 through Spring 2008

Disciplines

Faculty

Class Sections
What students are saying about service-learning

“I felt very helpful to the people I served and worked for and I was happy to be able to represent CPCC in doing **honorable work** for the community.”

“I am glad I was able to participate in service learning. This makes my **third semester doing service-learning** and it is always a positive experience for me. I hope I have the opportunity again this spring.”

“I have learned that just a little bit of work/effort and time can really make a **huge difference**.”

“I loved every minute that I got to work with the kids and I made so many new friends that look forward to volunteering! I am very **thankful** to have had this experience through CPCC.”

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**By the numbers...**

10,000 dollars in educational awards, divided among 10 NC-ACTS! students who completed 300 hours of service to the community

1,200 dollars donated by the Service Club to Habitat for Humanity during Alternative Spring Break

539 hours of service completed by Service Club in one year

500 trees that were planted in February at McDowell Creek Watershed

106 participants at the 4th annual MLK Challenge, more than double of the previous year

20 one day service events (through Service in Action!) held at various community partner locations

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**From the 07-08 anonymous Service-Learning Student Evaluation**
Martin Luther King, Jr. Challenge— On the nationally recognized MLK holiday, 106 students, faculty, and staff volunteered 795 hours of their time working on several different service projects, including making a sensory trail at Joshua’s Farm, repainting old classrooms at Latin American Coalition, and planting indoor and outdoor gardens at Weddington Assisted Living. The number of student participation from the previous year nearly doubled.

Alternative Spring Break— CPCC’s Service Club, a club devoted to doing weekend service projects throughout the year, sent nine members to Sumter, South Carolina to work on two houses through Habitat for Humanity. The Club raised money all year round for the trip in March and also donated $1,200 to the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity to pay for building supplies.

Service in Action— 431 students, along with CPCC faculty and staff, completed 1,630.5 hours of service at 20 separate events.

America Reads— The Service-Learning staff placed 11 federal work-study students at four different locations: First Ward Elementary, Walter G. Byers Elementary, Seigle Avenue Preschool, and Elizabeth Traditional.

Faculty & Community Partner Breakfast— In the fall, Service-Learning hosted a breakfast in which faculty and staff could come face-to-face to discuss possible partnerships and projects together in an open discussion over grits, eggs, and coffee. In the fall, 49 people attended, while in the spring 38 came for the feast. The breakfast will continue to be a bi-annual event after its success of connecting community partners with various faculty members.

Poverty Simulation— In the spring, the Service-Learning Center hosted two poverty simulations facilitated by the United Way of Central Carolinas. The simulations involved five different classes from the Levine Campus that were asked to simulate living in poverty for an hour and a half, struggling to stretch a paycheck to cover food, childcare, transportation, mortgage and utilities.

Volunteer Fair— Two volunteer fairs were held, with 24 agencies in the fall and 22 in the spring to talk to over 300 students about volunteering.
Sustainability Initiatives—with increasing awareness around our world to become environmentally conscious, the Service-Learning Center supported many programs with a green theme.

- **American Recycles Day** was held on Nov 7th on the Central Campus Green to promote the social, environmental and economic benefits of recycling and encourage more people to join the movement toward creating a better natural environment. Student art displays of recycled products were put on display and particular pieces were later showcased in Pease Gallery.
- A large-scale **Treeplanting** was conducted on February 9th with over 100 volunteers from CPCC, UNC-C, Davidson, Sierra Club and American Forests. Over 500 trees were planted along the McDowell Creek Watershed.
- **Big Sweep National Creek Clean-up** was hosted again by CPCC on Central and Levine campuses. Biology and Service in Action! students worked along Little Sugar Creek Greenway while Levine students cleaned up around the roads of campus.
- **Charlotte Clean & Green** hosted its first annual all-day festival to promote green living to 1,700 Charlotteans on the Central Campus quad, featuring live music, organic food, green exhibits and vendors, as well as classes on how to live, eat, work, and travel ‘green’.

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**Service-Learning Instructors 2007-2008**

We would like to thank our faculty for their continued support of Service-Learning. The following instructors had one or more student service-learners during the 2007-2008 academic year.

- Zachery Blackburn
- Ardella Blandford
- Beau Bowers
- Chris Bowers
- Patricia Brown
- David Brown
- Kenn Compton
- Richard Coulter
- Scott Diegmann
- Hugh Dussek
- Raquel Espinel
- Terence Fagan
- Catherine Felton
- David Friday
- Allison Gagan
- Debbie Hahn
- John Holmes
- Julia Intawiwat
- Elvira Johnson
- Lynn Kirk
- Holly Kupfer
- Terina Lathe
- Tommy Lopez
- Cathy McClure**
- Pamela Morris
- Somiah Muslimani
- Joanna Nicholson
- David Petts
- Charlotte Pfeifer
- Rita Rodabaugh
- Ann Rowell
- Christine Sargeant
- Molly Shepard
- Robert Shoffner
- DI von Briesen
- Pat West
- Carol Whitman
- Tana Wolfe-Mason
- Mona Yektaparast

**Service-Learning Instructor of the year**
Evergreen Nature Preserve & Welding Tech—CPCC Welding instructor Steve Gore and students from the Welding Technology program worked with Reedy Creek Park Environmental Educator Staci Clark to cut away scrap metal and a pedestrian bridge from an old county dump site that is now overgrown with trees and brush.

Preschool Arts Lab & Early Childhood Ed—Twelve students from CPCC instructor Christine Sargeant’s Creative Activities for Young Children class worked with Community School of the Arts’ Preschool Arts Lab (PAL), helping young children learn through art and creativity by assisting in PAL lab set-up & clean-up, replenishing supplies, and interacting with the children.

Festival in the Park & Visual Marketing—Marketing and Retail Program Chair Pat West and her Visual Merchandising class volunteered at the annual Festival in the Park to help vendors set-up their individual booths. Students learned first-hand how to display goods and saw a real-world application of the visual merchandising techniques displayed throughout the festival.

Birthday Blessings, Parks and Rec, Classroom Central & Graphic Arts/Flexography—Instructor Zachery Blackburn’s students in PRN 156 printed all the t-shirts for the CharMeck Parks and Recreation summer camps. Also, his students in PRN 131 printed labels for Classroom Central and Birthday Blessings.

Communities in Schools Performance Learning Center & Art—Students in Carol Whitman’s Drawing I class painted a mural at the Performance Learning Center.

Operation Christmas Child & Study Skills Classes—Elvira Johnson’s students in ACA 111 packed shoeboxes with toys for a specific aged boy or girl. They also worked at the distribution site for two 4-hour shifts, packing holiday boxes for children in Muslim countries.
Assessment Initiatives

In keeping with Central Piedmont Community College and Enrollment and Student Services objectives, Service-Learning addressed assessment in two goal areas:

- Gauge the effectiveness of Service-Learning on CPCC’s core competencies.
  
  **Action Strategy:** Assess students’ personal growth and responsibility in at least three courses with a service-learning approach.
  
  **Outcome:** Students who participate in curricular service-learning activities achieved a higher degree of personal growth and responsibility than students who did not participate in service-learning activities. This assessment directly ties into the Core Competency of Personal Growth and Development.

- Coordinate and facilitate a faculty development activity that will help instructors develop learning assessment methods for their service-learning courses.
  
  **Action Strategy:** Workshop evaluations ask participants to evaluate what they learned relating to learning assessment. Follow-up interview at the end of spring semester with participants will document their changes in learning assessment strategies that resulted from the workshops.
  
  **Outcome:** While faculty development workshops offered inspiration, motivation, and broad learning opportunities, neither was fully successful in helping faculty develop and implement specific methods to assess learning related to service-learning activities. Faculty are comfortable with an informal approach to assessment, and must find practices that fit their own courses, students, and interests.

Service-Learning Priorities for 2008-2009

- Project Development: Initiate project-based service activities involving student groups working with key community partners.
  
- Faculty Development: Sponsor faculty development workshops that enhance classroom reflection activities, promote learning assessment, and support project development.
  
- Implementation of a web-based data management system.
  
- Take a leadership role among sister community colleges in North Carolina by presenting at service-learning workshops and conferences.
Faculty and Staff Development

- Dr. Patti Clayton, co-Director of the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning at North Carolina State University, came to CPCC in January to share her knowledge and work on critical reflection and learning assessment as it relates to service-learning.

- The fourth annual Faculty Institute on Service-Learning was held in August, in which six new faculty attended. Three community partners also spoke about service-learning and several established faculty and staff presented.

- Civic Engagement in the Community College workshop was hosted by CPCC with 15 community colleges and 67 participants across North Carolina with beginner to advanced knowledge of Service-Learning.

**North Carolina Campus Compact**

North Carolina Campus Compact selected CPCC as the placement site for Americorps*VISTA member Cassie Moore to serve as Assistant Service-Learning Coordinator from July 2007-July 2008. Upon completion of her service year, Cassie was hired as a part-time Service-Learning coordinator for CPCC and Marcy LaBossiere was selected as the new VISTA. Marcy will be in charge of running Service in Action!, leading the Service Speaker Series, and working towards mobilizing students in response to local or regional disasters.

Ten CPCC Students earned $1,000 educational awards through North Carolina–Activating Citizenship Through Service! (NC-ACTS!) for their service at various service sites such as Seigle Avenue Preschool, Faith Prosthetics, Meck Area Mental Health–Detox, First Ward Elementary, Job Link, and Guardian ad Litem.

CPCC was the host for the VISTA regional meeting. Six member schools were present for the professional development.
Where in the world was the Service-Learning Faculty and Staff?
Faculty and staff covered a wide geographical range of conferences around the United States for the 2007-2008 year. Below is a map of the following Service-Learning related conferences.
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