

Learn & Serve *Midwest*

The Newsletter for Health Professionals Learning and Serving Across the Midwest

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The Future of the MHPSLC

The Midwest Health Professions Service Learning Consortium (MHPSLC) submitted an RFP to the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) in April 2003. We learned in late July that the CNCS did not approve our funding request. Although we were disappointed, we are pleased to have had nine years of support from the Corporation to build such a strong program. Our regional program, the only one of its kind in the United States, has been phenomenally successful. We are confident that there will be many other opportunities to fund the ongoing work of the Consortium, and while we explore alternate funding sources, we will continue the initiative on a limited scale.

During the past three-year funding period, we presented seventy-six workshops regionally, nationally, and internationally. Within the region, Ohio led with eighteen presentations, followed by Pennsylvania with nine, and the remaining states with eight each. Over sixteen health professions disciplines were represented at the trainings, as well a wide variety of other disciplines outside the health professions, community partners and administrators. Over 1675 participants attended workshops, and presenters have educated faculty in over 20% of the institutions of higher education in our six state consortia. If you are interested in hosting a

Service Learning Workshop, please contact Annette Canfield, Health Professions Education Program Director, at annette.canfield@wright.edu.

Presently we are unable to continue the highly successful faculty development mini grant program. Searching for support for this program is a very high priority. In the past six years we have awarded 67 mini grants to support health professions faculty develop service learning experiences for students in six states. Well over \$134,000 has been dispersed for meeting community needs and serving the underserved, uninsured, and people all ages across the lifespan and the region.



Future plans for the MHPSLC initiative include focusing on documenting and disseminating the success of this multi state program, proposing ongoing research across the region, and developing a document for wide distribution highlighting the work of all of the partners in the MHPSLC.

We hope to celebrate the work of the Consortium and recognize all the mini grant recipients at a Service Learning Network of Scholars colloquium tentatively scheduled for May 14, 2004 in Dayton, Ohio. We will have more information about this event in the Winter **on-line** issue of *Learn & Serve Midwest*. Stay tuned!

In addition to the direct and in-kind support provided by our academic partners, the Center is funded by the American Heart Association, Anthem Foundation, the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Program, Montgomery County Children's Services Board, Montgomery County Department of Job and Family Services, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Planned Parenthood of the Greater Miami Valley, and the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

Charter Funding: *The W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Community Mutual Insurance Company, Ohio Board of Regents Action Fund, Ohio Department of Health, and The Dayton Foundation*



From the Director...

by Annette Canfield,
Program Director,
Health Professions Education

Service Learning Book Review

“Learning to Serve: Promoting Civil Society Through Service Learning” Edited by Maureen E. Kenny, Lou Anna K. Simon, Karen Kiley-Brabeck, Richard M. Lerner. Published by Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2002.

This 450-page book is basically an anthology of stories about successful service learning projects around the country. It is divided into three distinct sections. The first section is an introduction to the concept of service learning, its history, and how civic engagement underpins this dynamic movement. The second section tells the stories of twenty-one universities across the country representing a wide variety of academic disciplines. Each story investigates the meaning of service learning and civic engagement on the campus, and how the campus embraced these concepts through a variety of projects. The third section is from the community perspective, told in the context of a community-academic partnership. Most of the chapters in this section outline and reflect on the

student role, the fit of the experience into the curriculum, and what best practices have been discovered.

This is a book that will take time to read thoughtfully, and will offer something to everyone interested in service learning.

“Advancing the Healthy People 2010 Objectives Through Community-Based Education: A Curriculum Planning Guide”. Kara M. Connors, Author, Suzanne Cashman, Sarena D. Seifer, & Mark Unverzagt, Editors.

Community Campus Partnerships for Health, publishers. 2003.

This is a ‘must have’ guidebook for health profession faculty who are planning service learning student experiences based on curricular change. It is chock full of examples, case studies, tools, web resources, handouts and worksheets. Chapters cover course design, course evaluation, sustaining and maintaining the course and activities, and cultural competence as an important factor for community work. The Healthy People 2010 Objectives are the ‘glue’ that holds the experiences together, and the authors recommend that nearly every health professions curriculum should address these objectives for students in learning situations.

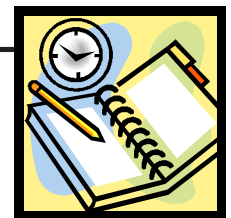
A Service Learning Honors Program in a Health Professions College: A CCPH Fellow Project

by Paula Reams, MS, RN, LMT

The intent of this service learning project was to develop, pilot, and evaluate a new service learning honors program in a health professions college. At Kettering College of Medical Arts, a college granting two- and four-year degrees primarily in the health professions, a need for an honors program as well as for promotion of service was identified. With the approval of administration and faculty,

a task force of volunteer faculty from across the college was formed, with myself as the leader.

Our work involved assessing the current curriculum throughout the school, creating an honors curriculum and identifying anticipated outcomes, piloting the curriculum, and evaluation of the outcomes. Health professions honor students received recognition for completing the program at graduation with



acknowledgement of the achievement on their transcripts.

Known as the Vaughan-Beaven Service Learning Honors Program, the project continues to contribute to the further development and implementation of service learning courses and curricula in all health professions programs at the college. Research and evaluation is on-going using the surveys that were developed during the project (a student pre- and post-attitudes

survey and faculty survey). Data continues to be collected using these surveys for longitudinal assessment. The task force is currently writing an article on the process of developing the program. The program was presented at the annual CCPH conference in San Diego and will be presented this fall at the Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honors Society in Toronto, Canada.

Mark Your Calendar



The Third International Conference on Service Learning Research November 6 – 8, 2003 Salt Lake City, Utah

This year's conference will convene international scholars and practitioners who are actively engaged in service learning research to present new study findings, methodological and theoretical advances, and recently completed research agendas for the study of service-learning in K-12, teacher education, and higher education. Further, the conference will provide opportunities to explore numerous service learning research issues from a variety of perspectives, including the presentation of service learning research from various countries around the world. Finally, there will be a continued focus on building the world-wide community of service learning researchers to share research findings, establish networks and partnerships, and identify new directions for service learning research.

Conference Offerings

The conference will offer more than 75 sessions and presentations including keynote addresses, paper presentations, interactive topical forums,

roundtable discussions, a graduate student forum, special interest groups, resource sharing, special business meetings, affinity groups, and campus tours of the University of Utah.

To Register

Pre-registration rate is \$335 (same cost as last year) by October 6th, 2003. After October 7th or on-site, registration is \$375. Registration payment may be made by personal check or campus order. The conference does not accept credit card payment for early-bird registration, pre-registration or on-site registration.

This conference ranks very high for anyone seeking to learn more about service learning research. The leaders of SL attended the last conference in Nashville, and it was a "Who's Who in SL" --very impressive.

For more information about November's conference, please go to the Web site <http://www.sa.utah.edu/bennion/sl-conf/SLConf/Confinfo.htm>

Congratulations to our newest grantees and mini-grant projects!

Bethann Brown, faculty at University of Cincinnati College of Pharmacy, will partner with the St. Vincent de Paul Pharmacy's free clinic. Pharmacy students will provide disease management, medication counseling and education to the clients who utilize the clinic's pharmacy services.

Patricia Gillette, faculty at Bellarmine University Physical Therapy Program, will partner with the Louisville Youth Training Center, Veratis Society and student athletes at Bellarmine. Physical therapy students will provide comprehensive screenings and education to participants in these programs.

Thomas Hudson, faculty at Gannon University Physical Therapy Program in Pennsylvania, will partner with the McDowell Intermediate High School. Physical therapy students will assess the fitness levels of school-aged children with disabilities who attend this school, and will provide PT services based on the assessments.

Rosemary Kehrer, faculty at Mount Aloysius College Division of Nursing in Pennsylvania, will partner with schools in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. Nursing students will plan, implement, and evaluate health related teaching projects for the children who attend these schools.

Joseph Kiesler, faculty at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Department of Family Medicine, will partner with the Lincoln Heights Healthcare Connection/Mt. Healthy Family Practice Center and the University of Cincinnati Department of Romance Language. Medical students will receive training in Spanish language to better serve Hispanic clients that are seen at these sites.

Fengyi Kuo, faculty at Gannon University Occupational Therapy Program in Pennsylvania, will partner with the Erie Center on Health and Aging. Occupational therapy students will provide senior citizens with wellness programs, fitness activities, outcome assessments, and socialization.

Wendy Moore, faculty at the Ohio State University Dental Hygiene Department, will partner with Coshocton County Dental Public Health. Dental hygiene students will provide services to children with unmet dental needs.

Joan Niederriter, faculty at Cleveland State University School of Nursing, will partner with the Trinity Cathedral Homeless Clinic. Nursing students will provide health assessments and referrals to clients seen at the clinic.

Jane Oeffner, faculty at Drexel University Program in Rehabilitation Sciences in Pennsylvania, will partner with the Eleventh Street Family Health Services. DPT students will develop and deliver programs based on the health needs that have been expressly identified by the community served by the ESFHS.

Edward Pisarski, faculty at St. Francis University Department of Physical Therapy in Pennsylvania, will partner with the Home Nursing Agency Adult Day Services program in Ebensburg, Pennsylvania. Physical therapy students will provide assistance and education to the clients who attend this program.

Deanna Reising, faculty at Indiana University School of Nursing, will partner with the Bloomington Hospital and Health Care System Community Wellness Program. Nursing students will provide blood glucose screenings and education to community members served by the program.

John Trevino, faculty at Wright State University School of Medicine, will partner with the Community Club. Third year medical students will provide program development, physicals and appropriate referrals to the clients who drop in at the Community Club.

Deborah Wojcik, faculty at Drexel University Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences in Pennsylvania, will partner with the Eleventh Street Family Health Services Center. Physical therapy students will provide exercise programs and individualized exercise for patients seen that the Center.

A Word About Faculty Mini Grants

The MHPSLC's faculty development mini grant program has been extremely successful over the past three years.

Sixty-seven health professions faculty were approved for and awarded mini grants. Twelve health professions disciplines were represented. Distribution of mini grants among faculty in the six-state region was as follows: Ohio, thirty-four grants; Indiana, six grants; Kentucky, six grants; Michigan, two grants; Pennsylvania, twelve grants, and West Virginia, four grants. Nurses have applied for and received the most grants – thirty-five.

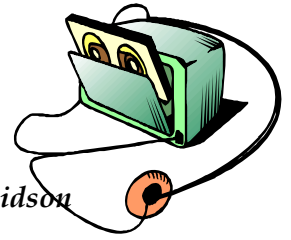
Countless community members have benefited from the service learning projects that the mini grants funded, and hundreds of students have participated in hands on learning/serving experiences.

More information about the faculty mini grant component of the initiative will appear in our year three report to the Corporation for National and Community Service. This report will be summarized in the Winter 2004 issue of *Learn&Serve Midwest*, which will be published on the Center for Healthy Communities' web site at <http://www.med.wright.edu/chc>.

Road Worthy Audio Books

SEABISCUIT: An American Legend by Laura Hillenbrand

*Performed by Richard M. Davidson
Reviewed by Paula Reams*



With the recent release of the film *Seabiscuit*, almost everyone by now has heard of this phenomenal horse that captured the hearts of

Depression-era Americans. Some time ago, I had the pleasure of listening to a 12-CD audio version of the book on which the movie is based. I really had no understanding of horse racing as a sport before experiencing Laura Hillenbrand's exciting book. She begins with the history of three men – Seabiscuit's owner, a wealthy businessman; the horse trainer, aging but talented; and rider of Seabiscuit, a jockey with a bizarre past. How these three amazing but extremely different men come together through this uncanny horse is a story in itself. The life of a jockey during the Depression was full of brutal and peculiar twists that could cause lives to either be ruined or exalted. I never realized how truly athletic one must be to race a horse!

Hillenbrand places these wonderful characters against the backdrop of the complex, often scary culture that surrounds horse racing. The narrator, Richard M. Davidson, keeps you on the edge of your seat throughout the book, reading the race scenes as if he was really there. Listening to the recorded book gave me the sense of being at the races myself. I am glad I did not have the book in front of me for this one, because I would have been tempted to skip ahead to see who won the race!

I enjoyed this book and I think you will too. *Seabiscuit: An American Legend* has been called "one of the best sports biographies in the history of the genre" by *Sports Illustrated* magazine. I hope that if you listen to this book while driving, you'll be careful. You may just find yourself speeding up to win the race!

Learn&Serve Midwest Moves On-Line



Beginning with the winter 2004 issue of *Learn&Serve Midwest*, all future issues of this newsletter will be available on-line at the Center for Healthy Communities web site. The web site URL is: <http://www.med.wright.edu/chc>. Please click on the "Publications" heading to be directed to the newsletter web page. We hope you will bookmark this page and check in quarterly for service learning news in the MHPSLC region.



Kay Vorholt (l.) and Paula Reams (r.) at the CCPH annual conference in April 2003.

Paula Reams, CCPH Fellow and MHPSLC faculty, recently published her article, "Service-Learning in Health Care Higher Education: Risk or Not to Risk," in *Education for Health*, July 2003 edition, 146-153. Congratulations, Paula!



Learn & Serve Midwest is published by the Center for Healthy Communities with funding support from the Corporation for National and Community Service for the purpose of informing and educating health professions in service learning. For more information or to make suggestions, please contact Annette Canfield, Director of Health Professions Education, at (937) 775-1117.

