1-1-2005

Steans Center Newsletter

Steans Center

Recommended Citation
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Welcome to the inaugural issue of the newsletter "Pennsylvania, Brown University and Stanford University. This is an opportunity to reflect on the mission and academic purpose. CbSL courses and community internships and placements, and community-based student employment.

"It's a great learning experience," the quote says. "Teaching how to build a neighborhood is working and changing, designing a sustainable environment - you get to work with students working with the class, those short video assignments can be used in a book to help shape the story. Wendy Hoon, Executive Director of Inner Voice, which provides services to the homeless in Chicago, says the video projects can be done in a number of ways. Hoon says these video assignments are a tool to help tell their story, and also to tell their story without having anybody.

"We could never have accomplished so much without the generosity of Harrison Steans and his family, and the vision and support of Dr. Richard Meister, our former EVP for Academic Affairs. We also build on the good work of the Community Service Studies Program, the generosity of Harrison Steans and his family, and the vision and support of Dr. Richard Meister, our former EVP for Academic Affairs. We could never have accomplished so much without the generosity of Harrison Steans and his family, and the vision and support of Dr. Richard Meister, our former EVP for Academic Affairs. We could never have accomplished so much without the generosity of Harrison Steans and his family, and the vision and support of Dr. Richard Meister, our former EVP for Academic Affairs."

We hope you enjoy this issue. If it sparks any ideas for you about how you can contribute to community-based service learning, contact us.

"It helps break down barriers between community and what some would call 'the ivory tower' of the academic world."
Academic Development
Each year, the Steans Center supports between 120-150 courses, an investment reflected in the faculty time devoted to service learning as well as student time in service-learning activities. These courses range from 1 credit hour to several credits provided by a single course in the context of a larger academic program.

Student Development
The major (or minor) in service-learning and community engagement is designed to provide students with a coherent and systematic program of study that will contribute to their development as professionals and responsible citizens. The major and minor are intended for students who want to contribute to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's campaign to provide every student with the opportunity to participate in an educational experience that will allow them to contribute to the commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The major and minor are designed to help students develop the skills and knowledge necessary for success in their future careers and lives.

Service Learning Coordinators
The Steans Center is committed to providing resources to faculty and students to support the development and implementation of service-learning courses. The Center offers a variety of services, including: course development consultations, program development and assessment, and professional development opportunities.

Programs
The Center offers a variety of programs designed to support the development and implementation of service-learning courses. These programs include: the Steans Service-Learning Program, the Steans Community Service Program, and the Steans Community Engagement Program.

Steans Service-Learning Program
The Steans Service-Learning Program provides funding and support for faculty to develop and implement service-learning courses. The program is designed to help faculty develop courses that meet the needs of their students and the community, while also meeting the goals of the Steans Center.

Steans Community Service Program
The Steans Community Service Program provides funding and support for students to participate in community service projects. The program is designed to help students develop the skills and knowledge necessary for success in their future careers and lives.

Steans Community Engagement Program
The Steans Community Engagement Program provides funding and support for community organizations to support the development and implementation of service-learning courses. The program is designed to help community organizations develop the skills and knowledge necessary for success in their future careers and lives.

Community Engagement
The Steans Center is committed to supporting the development and implementation of service-learning courses in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Center offers a variety of resources and services to support faculty and students in their efforts to develop and implement service-learning courses.

Service Learning in Education
The Steans Center is committed to supporting the development and implementation of service-learning courses in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Center offers a variety of resources and services to support faculty and students in their efforts to develop and implement service-learning courses.

Service Learning in Public Health
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Service Learning in Social Work
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Sarah and Karina had never met. They were born in different countries, and yet they were trying to learn another language and live a dialogue about contemporary issues that are urgent throughout the world like the war in Iraq.

Sarah Funes, a 23-year-old woman from Mexico, and Karina, a 24-year-old woman from Bolivia, are participating in Intercambio, an innovative service-learning program that links DePaul students to Special Speaking Community, a community-based organization located in Bronzeville. The program brings together people who might not otherwise have a chance to interact with and learn from each other.

That is no accident: Intercambio reflects the theory of "Popular Education," a philosophy that places emphasis on the content of the human experience, which is made possible by the U.S. Department of Education’s Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (commonly known as "FIPSE"). The program is designed to help students and community members who participate.

Sarah, Karina and other participants in the program did not speak the same language. They were born in different countries. The program is not easy. They do not necessarily understand each other's customs, and they have a lot of trouble focusing when they speak. But it is that very trouble that they bring to the program.

Intercambio, an innovative service-learning program that links DePaul students to Special Speaking Community, a community-based organization located in Bronzeville, is a program that pairs 20-25-year-olds with community members who participate. The program brings together people who might not otherwise have a chance to interact with and learn from each other. Inside the room where the program is held, there is a lottery to see who will be paired with whom. Sometimes students are paired with people they do not know. The Intercambio program is about how people talk in the imagination. It is about how people understand: Funes and her husband were political refugees when they left El Salvador for the United States more than 20 years ago. She praises the partnership between the Steans Center and Centro Romero, a community-based organization located in the city's south side, because of the content students and community members discuss inside the room where the program is held, one of which is to develop students' capacity to learn through service while contributing to the work of the Centro's organizational partners.

The Steans Center has developed long term and reciprocal partnerships with the city's south side. The Center views the relationships as educational partnerships.

The Ladder of Social Engagement frames student development at the Steans Center. Programs are built on the idea that building relationships is an important part of developing social justice leaders. The Ladder of Social Engagement frames student development at the Steans Center. Programs are built on the idea that building relationships is an important part of developing social justice leaders.
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Sarah, a 24-year-old Afro Latin woman from Mexico, and Karina, a 23-year-old woman from Ethiopia, are participating in Intercambio, an innovative service learning program that links DePaul students to Spanish-speaking community residents who are trying to integrate into the city’s Edgewater community that provides social and educational services for a growing number of Latinos. The article continues on page 2.

Crossing the Divide: LANGUAGE PROGRAM BRIDGES STUDENTS, COMMUNITY

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The Steans Center: Community-Based Service Learning Program

The Steans Center for Community-Based Service Learning (CbSL) provides a curricular bridge between DePaul’s Vincentian mission and academic purpose. CbSL courses and community partnerships are the heart of our work, but ultimately we are about the future of our students.

The Steans Center’s mission is to promote community-based service learning as a significant curricular experience for college students, as a means for the university to contribute to the public good, and as an avenue for DePaul’s Vincentian mission to be realized at the service level. CbSL courses provide a curricular bridge between DePaul’s Vincentian mission and academic purpose. CbSL courses and community partnerships are the heart of our work, but ultimately we are about the future of our students.

The Steans Center is committed to providing students with a transformative educational experience through service learning. CbSL courses integrate academic projects and community work, allowing students to apply their knowledge and skills in real-world settings, while also gaining a deeper understanding of the communities they serve. The Center fosters partnerships with community organizations to develop meaningful and reciprocal relationships, and it seeks to provide students with opportunities to become active citizens and leaders in their communities.

From cover story

Video Class: Value to the community

“It’s a great learning experience,” she says. “Seeing how a neighborhood is working and changing, seeing the people in it – you learn so much.”

Harp suggests the videos can benefit participating community organizations by using the material for several different purposes.

Service learning

Harp says he learned about service learning before he even taught this class through presentations and workshops offered by the service learning center. “We were trained in the academic world,” he says. “I was trained as an educator.”

After working with the class, these short videos can be used in a number of ways. “The obvious benefit is that they get this product that costs them nothing but a little bit of time,” he says. “I also think it helps break down barriers between community organizations and students. It’s a way to break down barriers between the academic world and the community.”

Aside from the final product, Harp says he has been pleased to see how students have met the challenge of working with an organization. “I’ve seen students who have been involved in a very hands-on way,” he says. “I’ve seen students who have been involved in a very hands-on way.”

For more information about the Steans Center and its programs, please visit cbsl.depaul.edu.

From page 5

Video class keeps eye to community

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This year, U.S. News and World Report ranked our program as one of 16 service learning programs in the nation which student leaders can expect will lead to academic success. DePaul shared this ranking with the likes of University of Michigan, University of Pennsylvania, Brown University and Stanford University. This is an honor that we want to continue to build upon and improve. We could never have accomplished so much without the support of Dr. Richard Meister, our former EVP for Academic Affairs, the generosity of Harrison Steans and his family, and the vision and support of the DePaul Board of Trustees and key executives at DePaul.

As a community-based service learning center, we believe that service learning is a powerful tool to help students address the challenges of the world. This year, we have focused on several key areas:

1. **Inclusive Education**: We have worked with partner organizations to include individuals with disabilities in our programs. We have also developed partnerships with organizations that serve underrepresented communities.

2. **Community Partnerships**: We continue to expand our network of community partners and organizations to ensure that our programs are accessible to all students.

3. **Service Learning Projects**: We have implemented new service learning projects that align with our mission and values. These projects have been developed in collaboration with community organizations and have been tailored to meet the needs of the community.

4. **Community Engagement**: We have explored new ways to engage with the community and encourage students to take an active role in community-building and development.

We hope you enjoy this issue. If it sparks any ideas for you about how you might engage with community organizations, please feel free to reach out to us.

**Steve Harden, Executive Director**

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**About the Author**

Steve Harden is the Executive Director of the Steans Center for Community-Based Service Learning at DePaul University. He is a community organizer, educator, and writer with over 20 years of experience in community development and service learning. He has worked with a variety of organizations to address issues of social justice and sustainability. His work has been focused on creating and implementing innovative programs that engage students and community members in meaningful ways. He is committed to advancing the goals of community-based service learning and community engagement through innovative partnerships and projects.