

Service Learning Planning Committee  
Meeting, Friday, October 27, 2006

Co-chaired by Jerome Kukor, Dean Research/Graduate Program and Senior Associate Director of Research NJAES and Isabel Nazario, Associate Vice President for Academic and Public Partnerships.

**Selected main ideas that were discussed by the committee at our first meeting that will help guide our planning process.** (See attached full minutes of the meeting for more details.)

Purpose of the committee: To make recommendations for the conceptual framework that will inform theory and practice of engaged pedagogy and service learning in Rutgers New Brunswick/Piscataway campus. Recommend vision, mission and support structure for faculty to implement engaged pedagogy and provide service learning opportunities for students.

The primary guiding areas established by the committee at the meeting are as follows:

- 1) Define what we mean by service ( keep in mind the recommendations made in the Transforming Undergraduate Education Report ).
- 2) Do a survey of who is doing what at Rutgers.
- 3) Identify benchmarks.
- 4) Form a structure of service education.
- 5) Suggest marketing and development strategies
- 6) Develop a mechanism for collaborating among Rutgers' Schools
- 7) Identify best practices of assessment strategies for engaged pedagogy

WHAT IS THE NEED? Rutgers lacks guidelines for measuring standards, organizational systems for communicating across Schools and lacks support mechanisms for collaborating, supporting, assessing, and promoting significant work. We also lack critical information on what impact Rutgers is making through service learning and engaged programming for students, faculty, and the broader community?

As part of the restructuring of undergraduate education, we need to develop a support system for all the units and schools that are providing service learning.

#### ENVISIONING SERVICE LEARNING:

- Become knowledgeable about global cultures
- Learn ethics and how to be a “good” citizen.
- Build new values and believes of civic engagement
- Inform faculty research
- Stimulate ‘visionary’ thinking
- Connect with international institutions
- Encourage and support partnerships between students and faculty
- Opportunity to participate in different forms of learning across disciplines

- Opportunity for students to teach other students
- Teach and support community-activism
- Develop reward recognition for faculty
- Provide assessment to measure impact of learning and service
- Provide strategic planning and marketing plans (for community organizations, businesses and agencies).
- Students solving problems by assisting with development of social policies and acting as agents of social change.

#### FACULTY ROLE:

- Conceptualize (engaged pedagogy) courses
- Expand research (opportunities)
- Faculty perform an advisory role
- Public scholars acting as agents of social change
- Researching to solve societal problems

#### ROLE OF COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

- Encourage community agencies to be co-educators

#### TASKS FOR NEXT MEETING

The committee's next task is for each individual to develop an inventory of programs and projects that reflect engaged scholarship, community-based research and service learning taking place in your school or department. In addition, everyone should send us a list of the conceptual terms that best describe their (School, department's ) understanding of public service and engaged pedagogy. Please see articles and list of websites in your binders that will facilitate this process.

Send all material to [gdaniel@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:gdaniel@rci.rutgers.edu). She is developing a SAKAI site for exchange of information in the future.