

INSIDE	
Campus Compact honors top students, faculty for innovative initiatives	3
Campus Compact policy update	3
Good reads from Campus Compact	4

Educating Citizens
Building Communities

FALL 2007

Compact Current is the newsletter of Campus Compact, which provides leadership, resources, and advocacy to support civic education, community building, and campus engagement for more than 1,000 member campuses.

BELOW: Students and faculty from Metropolitan State and UML join forces with local villagers in Peru to keep key equipment in operation.



Global Citizenship

Collaboration Crosses Borders to Build Communities

By Helen Correll

It started with a service-learning conference. More than just a way to gain academic knowledge, these conferences can be uplifting, exciting, and thought-provoking.

They can also lead to new collaborations with experienced service-learning partners. A group of faculty members from **Metropolitan State University** found that out when they attended a **Minnesota Campus Compact Engaged Department Institute** in St. Paul in 2005.

John Duffy, professor of engineering at the University of Massachusetts Lowell (UML), was a featured presenter at the conference. Since 1997, UML has sent students and faculty to 34 rural mountain communities in

Peru to design and install solar systems to power key equipment such as water supply and purification systems, vaccine refrigerators, lights, and emergency radios. (Visit UML's Village Empowerment website at <http://energy.caeds.eng.uml.edu/peru-07/index.shtml> for more information.)

Connecting Campuses

After listening to Duffy's inspirational presentation, Metro State faculty were eager to find out what they could do to help. On learning that radio systems often went down between UML visits because villagers had difficulty understanding the user manuals, I decided to join the project. My course in international technical communication, which prepares students to develop usable, culturally specific documentation, was an ideal mechanism for creating user-friendly radio manuals. With support from Minnesota Campus Compact, Metro State professor **Maythee Kantar** got funding for the project from 3M under an Engaged Department grant.

In the fall of 2005, Metro State students began developing new documentation for the radios that kept the remote Andean villages in touch with the nearest hospital. They also created a web forum to foster communication with UML students about the radios, the solar systems that powered them, and the villagers who would be using them.

Although the web forum was useful, students decided they needed to see the radios to get a better idea of how they worked. Two Metro State students, **Kristin Johnson** and **Peggy Maher**, traveled to UML and

continued on page 2



Campus Compact

Campus Compact is a national coalition of more than 1,000 college and university presidents—representing some 6 million students—who are committed to fulfilling the civic purposes of higher education. As the only national association dedicated solely to this mission, Campus Compact is a leader in building civic engagement into campus and academic life. Through our national office and network of 32 state offices, members receive the training, resources, and advocacy they need to build strong surrounding communities and teach students the skills and values of democracy.

Campus Compact comprises a national office based in Providence, RI, and 32 state offices in CA, CO, CT, FL, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, NC, NH, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, and WV. For contact and other information, see www.compact.org.

Board of Directors

CHAIR

John J. DeGioia Georgetown University

VICE-CHAIRS

Jane A. Karas Flathead Valley Community College

Toni Murdock Antioch University

MEMBERS

Louis Albert Pima Community College

Lawrence S. Bacow Tufts University

Warrick L. Carter Columbia College, Chicago

Judith Hansen Southwestern Oregon Community College

JoAnn Haysbert Langston University

Teresa Iannaconi KPMG LLP

Shirley Ann Jackson Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Alex Johnson Delgado Community College

John Keating University of Wisconsin-Parkside

Leo Lambert Elon University

Tashia Morgridge TOSA Foundation

John Rogers Ariel Capital Management, Inc.

Richard R. Rush California State University Channel Islands

Michael J. Sheeran, S.J. Regis University

John Sirek McKormick Tribune Foundation

James Votruba Northern Kentucky University

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Maureen F. Curley President

RIGHT: Solar-powered radio systems and user-friendly documentation have kept remote villages in touch with hospital staff, leading to a dramatic reduction in deaths from childbirth.



returned with many ideas for making the documentation more usable. The class developed three prototypes for radio instruction manuals, condensing the 100-page manufacturer's manual into 4 easily understandable pages.

Changing Lives

To test whether this new documentation would work, Maher and fellow student **Solveig Corbin** volunteered to travel to Peru in January 2006 with Duffy's crew. They worked alongside the engineers installing solar voltaic panels and testing local water supplies, as well as doing usability testing for the manuals. During the next six months, deaths from childbirth went from 12 to 0, primarily because villagers were able to radio the hospital for advice and transportation.

When they returned, inspired, the Metro State students wanted to continue to help. Maher developed a website for the Peru project in her web design course and Corbin wrote her master's thesis on intercultural communication. She also traveled to Peru again that June.

The following fall found Metro State communication students working on four projects for Peru: instructions for solar-

voltaic battery maintenance, health education information for children, biodigester safety instructions, and documentation for a water filtration system. Once again, students at the two universities collaborated closely. Corbin and Maher remained available to answer questions and offer suggestions to two new students, **Juin Charnell** and **Justin Rivet**, who traveled to Peru with Duffy's crew in January 2006. Like the former pair, these students found the work exhausting but life-changing.

Charnell and Rivet returned from Peru with the recommendation that we concentrate this year on health education. We are now developing health education documentation with the help of the medical assistant for the Ancash region of Peru as well as support from Metro State's public health specialist. We find that this project keeps growing, providing more and more opportunities to connect various disciplines to this worthwhile service-learning project. We hope to continue this close association with Dr. Duffy and his UML students and colleagues for many years to come. **CC**

Helen Correll is associate professor of technical communication at Metropolitan State University in St. Paul, MN.

Compact Current is the newsletter of Campus Compact, a national nonprofit organization based at Brown University. *Compact Current* is distributed three times a year to all Campus Compact member institutions.

Editorial Correspondence: Address all correspondence to Karen Partridge, Editor, *Compact Current*, Campus Compact, Box 1975, Providence, RI 02912, email kpartridge@compact.org.

Campus Compact receives financial support from Ariel Capital Management, LLC, Carnegie Corporation of New York, The Corporation for National and Community Service, The Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund, The Ford Foundation, The Joyce Foundation, The Kettering Foundation, KPMG Foundation, Learn and Serve America, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, TIAA-CREF, and TOSA Foundation, among others.



ROSLYNN ALMAS

Students, Faculty Honored for Innovative Initiatives



DOUGLAS FINLEY

Seven Students Shine

This summer, Campus Compact selected seven students at member campuses for outstanding citizenship. Roslynn Almas of



JESSICA ALLEN

Brookhaven College (TX) and Douglas Finley of Georgetown University (DC) received the 2007 Frank Newman Leadership Award, which honors exceptional civic leadership among students with high academic achievement and demonstrated financial need.



HOLLY ANDERSON

Five students were honored with the 2007 Howard R. Swearer Student Humanitarian Award in recognition of their work in the community: Jessica Allen of Maui Community College (HI), Holly Anderson of Kalamazoo College (MI), Andrea Laidman of the University of Notre Dame (IN), Stefanie Lynch of Emerson College (MA), and Bryan Mauk of John Carroll University (OH).



ANDREA LAIDMAN



STEFANIE LYNCH

These students have tackled a wide range of issues, including increasing college access, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, advocating for social justice and human rights, providing social programming for at-risk youth, serving the homeless, and empowering others through leadership, diversity, and conflict resolution. Each of these students has demonstrated initiative and innovation in addressing these issues.



BRYAN MAUK



MARYBETH LIMA

The Newman award winners received \$5,000 from Campus Compact and matching funds from their institution to support their educational and civic goals. Swearer recipients each received

\$1,250 for leadership development and a \$250 honorarium for the community organization of their choice.

Engineering Success at Louisiana State

For her effective use and promotion of service-learning, Marybeth Lima, Professor of Biological & Agricultural Engineering at Louisiana State University (LSU) has been named the recipient of Campus Compact's 2007 Thomas Ehrlich Faculty Award for Service-Learning.

At LSU, Lima designed a program in which engineering students work with children, parents, teachers, and community members to design and build safe, fun playgrounds for elementary schools in underfunded Baton Rouge neighborhoods. Lima and her students have created more than a dozen "dream playgrounds," including three built in collaboration with young Hurricane Katrina evacuees.

According to Lima, "Service-learning improves the discipline of engineering by making explicit the connection between people, culture, service, and technology." Her work focuses on addressing public education and community needs through service-learning activities that "equally empower the community and the students."

CC

Funding for the 2007 Swearer Award was provided by Ariel Capital Management, LLC.

Policy Update

Op Ed Challenge

In September Campus Compact coordinated an op ed campaign for member presidents in conjunction with the National Learn & Serve Challenge, a week-long series of events to raise awareness and support for service-learning. Campus Compact's op ed template offered information on the community impact of campus engagement and an opportunity for members to promote their own service-learning initiatives. Examples of published articles can be found at www.compact.org/news/list/media_coverage/.

National Service Hill Day

As in past years, directors from Campus Compact's national and state offices participated in the Voices for National Service Hill Day on September 18-19, meeting with Congressional leaders to discuss the importance of campus service and service-learning efforts. Coinciding with the National Learn & Serve Challenge, this year's Hill Day provided an opportunity to highlight the four-to-one return on investment of Learn and Serve America programs, which fund K-16 service-learning efforts.

Legislative Action

On September 27, President Bush signed the College Cost Reduction and Access Act, touted as the largest investment in higher education since the GI Bill. The act proposes loan forgiveness for graduates who stay in public service jobs for 10 years, Pell Grant increases, and \$66 million in state grants to support college access programs, among other provisions. Campus Compact will inform members about the implementation of this act once regulations have been promulgated.

GoodReads

Service-Learning Course Design for Community Colleges

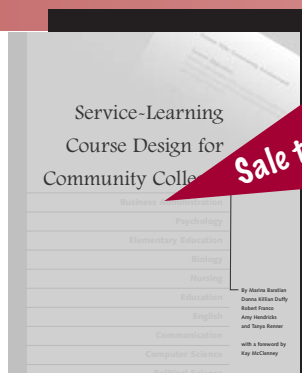
This practical guide offers insight, models, and step-by-step instruction for incorporating community work into the curriculum in any discipline. Designed specifically for community college faculty, this book offers a range of options, from introducing an optional course component to creating a stand-alone service-learning course. In each case, sample course descriptions, syllabi, forms, and tools guide faculty through the process.

Accompanying discussions on assessing outcomes, building attainment pathways, and using service-learning to contribute to the scholarship of teaching and learning make this book an essential addition to any community college faculty library.

By Marina Baratian, Donna Duffy, Robert Franco, Amy Hendricks, and Tanya Renner, with a foreword by Kay McClenney. 109 pages

Through November 9, enjoy special pre-publication savings: \$19 members, \$27 nonmembers!

After November 9, prices will be \$24 members, \$32 nonmembers. See www.compact.org/publications for details.



Sale through Nov. 9: \$19 members; \$27 nonmembers

Coming soon

Earn, Learn, and Serve: Getting the Most from Community Service Federal Work-Study

This new online guide assembles valuable resources, articles, and case studies to help campuses make the best possible use of Federal Work-Study funds to develop student leaders, advance civic engagement efforts, and strengthen communities. Contents include models from 40 campuses across the country as well as articles by experts and tools such as principles of best practice and sample program planning documents. See www.compact.org/fws.

These publications were made possible with generous support from the Corporation for National and Community Service under a grant from Learn and Serve America.

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 202
Providence, RI

Brown University / Box 1975
Providence, RI 02912-1975
401 867-3950
401 867-3925 fax
campus@compact.org
www.compact.org

Campus Compact

