

Compact Current

CAMPUS COMPACT

Educating Citizens
Building Communities

WINTER 2006

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 950 member campuses.

Campus Compact's work to document best practices of civic engagement at comprehensive universities is the third part of the three-year Indicators of Engagement project. The following publications from year one and two are available from www.compact.org/publications:

The Community's College: Indicators of Engagement at Two-Year Institutions profiles successful community engagement practices and programs at community colleges across the country.

One with the Community: Indicators of Engagement at Minority-Serving Institutions profiles exemplary practices at historically Black colleges and universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, and tribal colleges and universities.

Civic engagement high at comprehensive universities

Jenn Meeropol and Ed Zlotkowski

All indicators point to high institutional civic engagement at comprehensive universities, according to new findings from Campus Compact's Indicators of Engagement

project, documented in the spring issue of *Metropolitan Universities*.

The issue describes best practices of civic engagement in essays from 10 comprehensive colleges and universities. Lessons from the findings follow:

1. Service and service-learning centers play a critical role in facilitating and coordinating multiple approaches to engagement and fostering a climate of engagement on campus.
2. Institutional commitment to a well articulated, well defined "scholarship of engagement" is an especially critical component of engaging faculty at comprehensive institutions.
3. Because comprehensive universities often boast a broad range of academic programs but are not so large that academic units become institutions unto themselves, their engagement efforts demonstrate a special potential.
4. Since most comprehensive universities feature an unusually diverse mix of students—diversity in terms of age, socioeconomic background, and student status as well as race, ethnicity,

and sexual orientation—they can serve as sites for developing civic literacy in an especially important and representative way.

5. Comprehensive universities, like their community college counterparts, are far more willing than elite institutions to see themselves as *of* and not just *in* the communities that surround them.

These findings are part of a three-year grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Each year focused on a different institutional type: community colleges in year one, minority-serving institutions (including historically Black colleges and universities, Tribal colleges and universities, and Hispanic-serving institutions) in year two, and comprehensive institutions in year three.

Copies of the spring 2006 issue of *Metropolitan Universities* may be purchased at <http://muj.uc.iupui.edu/.CC>

WEBlink

For more information, contact Jenn Meeropol, Project Associate, jmeeropol@compact.org or visit www.compact.org/indicators.

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Campus Compact

Campus Compact is a national coalition of more than 950 college and university presidents—representing some 5 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 31 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 31 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, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, and WV. For contact and other information, see www.compact.org.

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Kentucky becomes 31st state Compact

Last August, Campus Compact welcomed its newest network office, Kentucky Campus Compact (KYCC).

This expansion enhances Campus Compact's reach and ability to strengthen civic engagement efforts at colleges and universities throughout Kentucky.

Gayle Hilleke, KYCC's executive director, has more than 25 years of experience working for positive community change in the nonprofit, education, and government sectors.

James Applegate at the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education and Jim Votruba, the founding chair of KYCC and member of the national Campus

Compact board, were instrumental in the state office's formation. Kentucky Campus Compact is hosted by Northern Kentucky University.

With this addition, Campus Compact now has offices in almost two-thirds of the country. New Compact offices are also slated for South Carolina and Mississippi; New Jersey and Tennessee are in discussions to form state Compact offices. **CC**



Gayle Hilleke, executive director of Kentucky Campus Compact. Kentucky recently became Campus Compact's 31st network office.

Campus Compact to hold third CSD/SLD professional development institute in July

REGISTER EARLY FOR A \$100 DISCOUNT AT WWW.COMPACT.ORG/CSDS

From July 24 to 28, 2006, Campus Compact will hold its third annual professional development institute for community service and service-learning directors. The event, to take place in Providence, RI, is designed specifically for professionals in their first five years in the field to help them:

- Assess their knowledge and skills in critical areas
- Obtain the latest tools and resources

"One of the best conferences I have attended."

- Learn about effective programs and strategies
- Get tips for success from experienced practitioners
- Set next steps to advance their work at their institutions **CC**



More information, including registration materials, can be found at www.compact.org/csds

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.

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100 campuses act to enliven the democracy



Students on more than 100 campuses across the country are participating in civic and service activities as part of Campus Compact's annual Raise Your Voice—A Month of Action.

Events launched on February 19th include student visits to their state capitol to raise issues of concern, Gulf Coast Relief Alternative Spring Breaks, dialogues on public issues, and volunteer service with local schools and community organizations.

Students also worked to sustain the energy of 2004 voter education and mobilization activities in preparation for the 2006 elections.

"The Raise Your Voice campaign is an important national effort to promote student involvement in public life... As a nation, we stand to benefit substantially from their efforts."

—Senator John McCain (R-AZ)

The Month of Action is part of Campus Compact's Raise Your Voice campaign, a national non-partisan effort that has connected more than 300,000 students to support student civic engagement and address public issues crucial to the democracy.

Student leaders have gone on to expand service opportunities on their campuses, lead community initiatives, and advocate for systemic change to address issues such as hunger, homelessness, literacy, and health care provision. [CC](#)

WEBlink

A full list of events in each state, as well as further information on Campus Compact and the Raise Your Voice campaign, can be found at www.actionforchange.org.



University of California-San Diego students advocate for causes that matter to them as part of last year's Raise Your Voice—A Month of Action. Since its inception, the initiative has involved more than 300,000 students across the country in activities to increase student participation in the democracy.

NEW RESOURCES

Research Brief:

THE POSITIVE IMPACT OF SERVICE-LEARNING ON COLLEGE STUDENT RETENTION

This new resource gives an overview of research showing that service-learning has a positive impact on student retention and demonstrating the powerful link between service-learning courses, volunteerism, and retention. An annotated bibliography of key research findings is also available.

Free online at www.compact.org/resources/service-learning

One with the Community:

INDICATORS OF ENGAGEMENT AT MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTIONS

One with the Community showcases how historically Black, Hispanic-serving, and Tribal colleges and universities interweave their educational missions with community goals and captures strategies that enrich both the campus and the community.

The book includes successful models and a comprehensive self-assessment tool to help campuses evaluate and deepen their own

engagement practices. Ideal for any campus seeking to create a culture of engagement.

Special price

for Campus Compact members: \$35; nonmembers \$46.

To order, call 401/867-3950 or go to www.compact.org/publications.



CELEBRATING **20** YEARS
Campus Compact

Save the Date



Campus Compact



Illinois | Campus Compact

In conjunction with the Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Partnership Foundation

Join us October 16-17, 2006, in Chicago
as we celebrate 20 years of success and launch
an exciting new vision for the next two decades.

October 16-17
2006, Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, Chicago, IL

Celebrate Campus Compact's 20th Year!

MONDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 16

**Illinois Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Partnership Award
for Campus-Community Collaboration & Gala Dinner**
Rosalynn Carter, former first lady, presenter
Senator John McCain, keynote speaker (invited)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

20/20 Visioning Summit

Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland and former
UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, speaker
Facilitated Roundtable Discussions

For details, go to www.compact.org/20th.



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