

July 2013

Center for Civic Engagement- **Center for Service and Learning**

Why? In order to clarify our impact on academics and learning at WVU we must clearly state our mission even in our name. We do work with engagement of students but for the outcome of learning not just civic duty. It is critical now that our University is moving toward an Associate Provost of Engagement and Outreach that we distinguish our role from that of government involvement and extension.

We report to the Associate Provost of Academic Affairs and support all of academic affairs. However, we also have an emphasis on assisting with retention efforts through the University College and will play a big role in the development of methods of assisting undecided and at risk students using service as a learning and retention tool.

**Mission:** The WVU Center for Service and Learning (CS&L) commits to enhancing student learning by building a campus and community that encourages meaningful service connected to academic success. To achieve this, the CS&L:

- Conduct research and provide scholarship and grants in the area of service and learning
- Assists in developing service-learning courses across disciplines
- Encourages and supports service opportunities in the community
- Consults with units and departments on implementing discipline-based civic engagement curricula
- Assesses civic engagement activities across campus
- Collect and report WVU student service activities for accreditation and recognition
- Create a community partner program that provides local nonprofits tools and support in providing our students learning experiences

**Vision:** The CS&L strives to educate, support, and encourage multifaceted activities and experiences for students and faculty that enhance learning. Encouraging a campus culture of service, the CS&L works to build sustainable partnerships with the local community partners, help students find their strengths, gain community connection and provide opportunities for lifelong learning.

## CS&L Strategic Goals

### **Goal One: Faculty and Staff Development**

1. Provide a minimum of 4 professional development workshops and seminars in the academic year (2013-2014).
2. Outreach to other Universities within the state and nationally
3. Provide faculty grants for S designated courses

#### Strategies:

- A. Increase CS&L staff development through weekly trainings
- B. Work with other units and departments to collaborate on efforts
- C. Submit local and national proposals to conferences and seminar meetings

### **Goal Two: Service as Retention Tool**

1. Provide service programs or activities that challenge students to explore skills and strengths.
2. Through the University College, work to provide service-learning to undecided students.

- A. Develop programs with Community Partners that will highlight careers and skills
- B. Assist introductory level courses in developing service-learning
- C. Work closely with University College staff to collaborate on introducing programs

### **Goal Three: Assessment, Research and Scholarship**

1. Conduct a research study on the effects of service on learning
2. Continue to increase the number of course with the S designation
3. Publish in academic journals
4. Present WVU efforts at National Conferences

### **Goal Four: Student Learning Experiences**

1. Increase enrollment in service-learning courses
2. Increase the number of disciplines requiring service

3. Support student affairs programs that include service to increase the learning
4. Provide small service grants to support travel and supplies for service opportunities
5. Begin to develop opportunities in service for graduate students

***Goal Five: Community Partnership Program Development***

1. Increase effective community partnerships
2. Develop training and professional development workshops and seminars for community members
3. Work to make placement and troubleshooting seamless and efficient

***Goal Six: Service as Mountaineers***

1. Increase student recognition of the importance of service
2. Provide fun and impactful service events as a unit and in collaboration with other units