



- August 11-22, 2008: Student Registration Days
- August 15: IVCCD Staff Recognition Day
- August 25: First Day of Classes
- September 1: Labor Day—College closed
- September 11: My Good Deed (United Day of Service)
- September 24: Day of Caring
- September 26: Last Day to Drop
1st Half Semester Classes
- October 20: First Day for 2nd Half Semester Classes
- October 25: Make a Difference Day

According to the Constitutional Rights Foundation, civic responsibility is defined as addressing social problems in an informed, committed, and positive manner. It is important for people to understand their community and its institutions, to develop decision-making and evaluative skills and to know the value of service. Everyone should be aware of the social issues that are within their communities.

How can service-learning play a role in the development of civic responsibility? Many educators believe that civic responsibility can best be developed when teachers work toward linking the components of community service, learning outcomes, and civic engagement. Quality service-learning exists when all of these come together.

Find out yourself, by getting involved in a service-learning project! Contact the service-learning office.

CAMPUS COMMUNITY CONNECTION

MCC Service Learning



From the VISTA desk of ... Michelle!

(from Bethany) If you are reading this newsletter it officially means that the service-learning office at MCC has new leadership! My year as an AmeriCorps*VISTA has quickly come to an end and a new VISTA, Michelle Boyd, is the new Service-Learning Coordinator. I am very pleased and grateful with the enthusiasm and cooperation shown by everyone in the community toward service-learning. It made my job easy and enjoyable. So, I want to leave you all with a final thank you and best wishes!

Bethany Gullion

(from Michelle) As the new Service-Learning Coordinator I have already had a very warm welcome from those who I have been fortunate enough to meet and I look forward to working with all of you! I am very excited for this year and what will be accomplished. I am always open to ideas for ways to implement more service projects, form new community partnerships, and any other ways to improve service-learning at MCC. My responsibilities this year are a little different than those from last year. The ground work has been laid for service-learning and now it is important that we build up from that foundation. This will take participation from the community partners, faculty, as well as increased student interest and participation.



Michelle Boyd

My Good Deed Day: September 11, 2008

This day is sponsored by a coalition of national organizations to establish September 11 as a voluntarily observed national day of service, charity, and compassion to honor the victims of the terrorist attacks on America. For more information, access the website <http://www.mygooddeed.org/>.

Mission Statement

The mission of service-learning at Marshalltown Community College is directly related to the core values of the college, particularly the value of Partnerships: *We build. We construct effective alliances that create educational opportunities, strengthen our partners, and spark economic development.* By incorporating service into the academic curriculum, our college seeks to help serve the needs of the community while enhancing the academic and personal development of our students.

The spirit of myGoodDeed.org is for you to commit to doing something good for someone else. So if you are busy on 9/11, simply make a plan on that day to do something at another time that's more convenient.

This is also another great way to get involved in a service-learning opportunity and share your experience with millions online.

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Service-Learning Spotlight: Art and Aquatics

During the spring semester Tim Castle's art students were at it again - designing and painting a mural that is. As part of their service-learning component, 33 students helped paint the mural. The majority of MCC students put in approximately 15 hours of hard work each, while three students spent nine additional hours designing the mural.

Castle worked with the Marshalltown Police Department to find the perfect location at 2nd and Washington. The tranquil "under the sea" theme is very appropriate given its location across from the Aquatic Center. This year's mural is the largest of the five murals that MCC art students have painted in the past. As always, MCC enjoyed the helping hands of Woodbury Elementary service-learners and their coordinator, Raul Arevalo, of MICA. The 19 fourth graders contributed a total of 85 hours. They were also involved in the planning and scheduling to obtain project approval.



Service-Learning Certificates

As the first year of service-learning came to an end, it was impressive to calculate how many hours students spent doing service-learning projects! During the first semester, 161 students participated in 1,007 hours of service. During the second semester, the number of students participating increased to 203, for a total of 1,429 hours of service! (Although it is important to note that some of the 161 students were "repeats" within the 203 number)



With such high numbers it was decided to honor graduating seniors with a service-learning certificate. Each service-learning certificate was individualized to specify how many hours a student contributed to the total number of service hours logged at MCC this year, which was 2,436 hours. Fifty MCC graduates received certificates. Students may use these certificates to verify, with transfer universities or future employers, that they participated in service-learning at MCC.

Looking to next year, it is apparent that there will be even more students receiving certificates. This is a great indication that more students will be aware of service-learning at MCC and the program will continue to grow.

Day of Caring 2008

The "Day of Caring" is sponsored by United Way and is taking place on Wednesday, September 24, 2008. Last year there were over 120 volunteers from Marshalltown, and it would be amazing to increase that number this year.

Day of Caring is a nation-wide event sponsored by United Ways throughout the country. It is an opportunity for people to volunteer in a local agency and understand how United Way dollars impact our community through the agencies services.



There are a variety of projects for MCC students or classes to get involved in. Day of Caring is also a great way to introduce new students to the community and give them some insight on what it is like to "give back" to the community. This is an opportunity to get involved, with a small time commitment.

Faculty and students, if you are interested, please contact me as soon as possible. United Way needs the list of volunteers by September 2, 2008.

MCC Students are shown at left participating in last year's "Day of Caring" event.

Service-Learning taskforce to become Service-Learning Forum

Since the Spring semester of 2006, the taskforce has met on a regular basis in order to research and design a service-learning program. The taskforce has been successful in achieving their previous goals and is now evolving to a forum. The Service-Learning Forum will be open to all instructors who are currently implementing service-learning into their courses and those who are interested in learning more. This forum will serve as a discussion, as well as provide a time for questions about service-learning. The Service-Learning Forum will meet from Noon to 1 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. Stayed tuned for location details!

Service-Learning sneak peek: Service-Learners assist DNR Keepers of the Land

If you love the outdoors and you want to give back to Iowa's lands, waters and skies... you need to get involved with the Keepers of the Land program through the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The Keepers of the Land volunteer program matches those who are interested with service needs in Iowa natural resources. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is the government agency that leads Iowans in caring for their natural resources. They are responsible for maintaining state parks and forests, protecting the environment, and managing energy, fish, wildlife, and land and water resources in Iowa.

To find out about specific opportunities, or how to incorporate it into a course contact the Service-Learning Coordinator.