

## **2008 SERVICE LEARNING SUMMER INSTITUTE APPLICATION FORM**

The USI Service Learning Program and the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence will co-sponsor a Service Learning Summer Institute June 16-19, 2008. The goal of this Institute is to support the faculty's on-going development of Service Learning as a part of USI's commitment to being an engaged campus. It is our hope that participants will benefit not only by creating an enhanced curriculum but also by making productive connections between their teaching and their scholarship.

### **INSTITUTE COMPONENTS**

- Basic orientation to Service Learning
- Best practices and tips for success
- Introduction to USI's Service Learning Program
- Revision of a course taught in at least one of the next three semesters to include a Service Learning project
- Work with project community partner during the Institute
- Advice on devising projects to optimize impact on faculty scholarly/professional programs and success
- Consideration of curricular impact

### **CRITERIA FOR SERVICE LEARNING PROJECTS**

**Academic Service Learning** is defined at USI as a course-based, credit-bearing strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and structured reflection to enrich the learning experience and teach civic responsibility. These collaborative activities seek to strengthen communities through mutually beneficial projects.

The USI Service Learning Advisory Committee has devised the following **criteria** for Service Learning Projects:

1. The project is based on a community and academic partnership in which mutual benefits or services are exchanged.
2. Learning occurs because the project improves the academic competency of the students.
3. The combination of academic learning and community service helps to transform students into engaged citizens.
4. The project product or reflective analysis forms the research/creative work.
5. Ethical practices inform all phases of the project. Care must be taken that no parties are exploited, in particular.

The Committee has also developed five **learning outcomes** for students, stating that these projects should enhance students' abilities for:

1. Civic and democratic engagement
2. Making a difference or creating change
3. Learning through disciplined reflection
4. Working with diverse groups and environments
5. Feeling part of the USI community

We expect that you will address these criteria and goals in the project that you develop. Please designate outcomes in your project description.

#### COMMUNITY PARTNER

We also expect you to invite a community partner to a half day of the workshop to work with you on the project during that time. If you need help in identifying a partner as part of your application, get in touch with [Anne Statham](#), Director of USI's Service Learning Program, and she will help you with this. Please check with your prospective partner to ensure that they will be available sometime during the Institute.

#### WORKSHOP OUTCOMES AND COMPENSATION

The end result of participation should be a revised course with a firm plan for the course project. You will receive allotments of \$600 for completion of each of three steps:

1. Successful completion of the Institute, which includes attendance at and participation in all workshop sessions;
2. Design of a syllabus for your course that shows the integration and impact of the project;
3. A plan for the project that is agreed to by your community partner.

#### CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSALS

Proposals will be evaluated on the extent to which they:

1. Demonstrate the connection between the learning goals of the course and the project;
2. Show the project to be tightly integrated into the entire course;
3. Address an important community need;
4. Address Service Learning criteria and learning outcomes;
5. Will likely have a significant impact on some aspect of the curriculum of the campus, either Core Curriculum or the curriculum of your department or program (in part, telling us how often will the course be offered, who will take it, how important the course is, etc.);
6. Advance USI's mission of serving the local or global community;
7. Advance an individual's overall professional development program, especially by showing a connection with the issue of community engagement.

#### TIME LINE

**March 20, 2008** Proposals Due

**March 31, 2008**, Awards announced

**June 16-19, 2008** Workshop Conducted

**June 30, 2008** Revised Syllabus Due

**August 18, 2008** Project Plan Due

E-mail your completed application to [Jane Reynolds](#). If you have questions, please contact [Anne Statham](#) by e-mail or by calling 465-1203.

**APPLICATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Department \_\_\_\_\_

Course Number \_\_\_\_\_ Course Title \_\_\_\_\_

Semester(s) Revised Course Will Be Offered \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Project: (Please address outcomes and criteria addressed on pages 1-2)

**ATTACH UP TO ONE ADDITIONAL PAGE IF NEEDED**

Community Partner \_\_\_\_\_

Date Partner Can Attend Workshop \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department Chair/Program Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Community Partner