From the desk of: Ruby Messick, Assistant Director

Since 1993, North Carolina Central University’s Academic Community Service Learning Program (ACSLP) continues to demonstrate NCCU’s motto: “Truth and Service”. Students who successfully complete their service hours stand with those who have already gone before them in paying forward and imparting on the lives of others. ACSLP is committed to the success of students through setting a standard of excellence in service learning, encouraging students to discover and rediscover the many service opportunities and events that will have a measurable amount of impact on the community.

Over the past three years, NCCU students have consistently produced an average of 168,000 service hours which equates to $4,300,000 value-added to the community through service learning opportunities in an ever changing society. ACSLP supports over 200 community and campus partners. All are working together in an outreach effort to reach the masses of people who need help from NCCU’s student volunteer support system.

The power of community engagement is a source to be reckoned with; it allows students, faculty, staff and partners working shoulder to shoulder to change lives such as with the Eagle Habitat builds - a new home to a worthy family; Eagle Pride Blood drives - gives life to those in need of blood; and the Chancellor Walks in raising awareness about health disparities in the community. ACSLP has received the President’s Higher Education Recognition and Award since 2006 and the Carnegie Engagement Designation for 5 years in 2008. ACSLP continues to carry on the tradition of “Truth and Service” with its willingness to continue to foster and enable students to bridge lives in an effort of hope to the community.

We are indeed so thankful for such an awesome journey now over 20 years in this endless effort of engagement with the community. Please join us in this new era as we embrace new and innovative processes that will enable us to continue to set the standard of Eagle Excellence.

Much power in your giving,

Ruby Messick
NCCU was one of the first institutions in the UNC system to open a food pantry. The Food Pantry Initiative stemmed from the idea of a NCCU Alumnus, Ms. Debra Taylor, who is a Technical Writer with IBM.

Why a pantry? Why now? There were reports of students struggling and not having meal plans. With the economic downturn, the situation could not have improved, so it seemed like a good idea. A committee was formed in early 2013 and the pantry opened its doors in March, 2014. Since opening, the pantry has served 35-45 students per week.

The Food Pantry is open weekly, on Tuesdays from 2:00pm until 6:00pm in Room 200A in the Dent Human Sciences Building. It is run by student volunteers with the aid of Jason O’Briant. The campus pantry is open to all students at NCCU as a resource on-campus for basic food and personal care items. The pantry receives donations from NCCU, the community-at-large and alumni. Most recently, the student organization, Building Our Own Movement (BOOM) donated boxes of food resulting from a weeklong food drive in November.

The pantry is in need of monetary donations to allow them to purchase targeted and high demand items from the Food Bank of Eastern NC. Donations can go directly to NCCU Foundation, 1801 Fayetteville Street, Durham, NC 27707 with Campus Pantry in the Memo Line. The pantry retains a Wish List of needs. This list includes can openers, dry goods, canned fruit, peanut butter, nuts, juice, and personal items, just to name a few.

This spring semester, students taking the service-learning course – Food 4671 Community and Nutrition will work on several projects with the campus pantry.

The link to the video from the pantry opening is: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tsn8AGmhe2I

“As a dietician, we know the effects that hunger has on infants and children and adolescent learning ability. Just as profound, is the effect on college students with the additional stresses.

How can we expect students to succeed with food insecurity?”

Jason O’Briant
Director
Didactic Program in Dietetics

Jason O’Briant starts unpacking the recent donation from the 3rd Annual Support the Struggle weeklong food drive hosted by Building Our Own Movement (BOOM) student organization.
Week of Welcome

Coming to college at North Carolina Central University on the first day can be overwhelming – leaving family and sometimes leaving home for the first time. But as soon as the incoming freshmen step out of their vehicles – they are embraced by their new Eagle family.

First Look at Service Fair!

The Alfonso Elder Student Union was filled with our campus and community partners, who were anxious to meet and greet the NCCU freshmen class.

The purpose of the service fair is to bring our partners to the campus to preview their organization, meet with students and get students to register if they are interested in serving with their organization.

Students are required to earn a minimum of 120 hours of service before graduation, 15 hours per semester. The students were introduced to the reason for service, how they could incorporate their service opportunity with their academics.

There was a program of activities every day for the students to partake in. The highlight of our service to the students was the Move-In Day. Parents, families and students got to see firsthand the true service that goes on at NCCU on a daily basis.

At the fair, students had time to get a better understanding of the needs of the community organizations and to ask questions about the service opportunities.

It is a win – win as students come to the university equipped with technical skills that are greatly needed by our partner organizations.

There were many volunteers waiting and ready to help that included our administrators, faculty, staff, students, student organizations, fraternities and sororities, athletes, alumni and even our community partners.

Parents were truly elated to see the level of support from the campus family. It made them feel right at home.

Parents, families and students got to see firsthand the true service that goes on at NCCU on a daily basis.

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America Reads

America Reads is an initiative that began in 1996 under the Clinton Administration to have all elementary students reading at grade level by the third grade. It is a federal work-study program that allows NCCU to place our students in multiple locations near the campus to serve as reading tutors.

Let’s Hear From Our Tutors …

Our student coordinator, Ms. Suewong McFadden meets with the America Reads students monthly, where they have reflection about their experience. Here’s what they had to say:

“My overall experience as a tutor has been great. I have had the opportunity to help little children better themselves and it was all because of me being able to volunteer my time in helping them...” R.N. Harris Elementary

“I enjoy working with America Reads. I love meeting and helping the kids grow further when it comes to their education.” Eastway Elementary

“So far the first graders have been very sweet and are already attached to me...” Fayetteville Street Elementary

“Overall I have had a good experience as a tutor. It had been very positive. This tells me that this is good site to continue to come to and tutor students.” C. C. Spaulding Elementary

“Every time I walk into the school, I feel like the school is very much involved in higher learning for their students.” Burton Elementary

“I truly enjoy being an America Reads tutor. The students enjoy being around me & always ask for my help. This has been a great experience so far.” W. G. Pearson Elementary

Save the Date!

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service
Monday, January 19, 2015
Leroy T. Walker Complex
Details Forthcoming! Join us on Facebook at nccuacs1p. Follow us on Twitter at nccuacs1p.
Military Service = Community Service

Veterans, Reserve and Guard
Since May, 2013, NCCU has made provision for student veterans, reservists and National Guard members to received community service credit for their service to our country.

NCCU students who are veterans and have completed military active duty can earn 60 hours of credit towards the 120 hours of community service. Students who are current members of the Military reserve or the National Guard can earn that same credit as well as students who are called to active duty.

If you need more information to see if you qualify for this service credit, please contact the Veterans Affairs Office at http://www.nccu.edu/veteransaffairs/ or our office.

To Let You Know...

NCCU senior Bianca Todd honored for community service

ELON, NC — NC Central University senior Bianca Todd has been recognized for outstanding leadership and service by North Carolina Campus Compact, a statewide network of colleges and universities that are committed to community engagement.

Todd is a recipient of the network’s Community Impact Student Award, which honors one student leader at each member school.

Todd is one of eighteen students across the state to receive the 2014 award, joining more than 200 college students honored by the organization since the award was first presented in 2006.

Todd is passionate about working with young children, and she demonstrates this passion in her service. The Fayetteville, NC native has logged nearly 250 hours with Durham-area community agencies, tutoring youngsters through NC Central’s America Reads program, completing internships and service-learning placements with Trinity Child Care Services, and supporting many other service events, including the annual Read-A-Thon with Durham Public Schools. Her service interests reinforce her academic pursuits: Todd is a Family and Consumer Science major with a concentration in Child Development and Family Relations.

Dr. Janice Harper, Assistant Vice Chancellor for University Programs, nominated Todd for the award.

Todd and other award winners were honored at North Carolina Campus Compact’s annual student conference on November 8 at NC State University in Raleigh. Now in its 21st year, the 2014 conference will convene 180 student leaders from 25 campuses in 5 states, offering participants a slate of workshops focused on leadership best practices and community issues.

North Carolina Campus Compact is a collaborative network of colleges and universities with a shared commitment to educating engaged citizens and strengthening communities.

Guided by an executive board of presidents and chancellors, the Compact supports member schools through professional development and resources related to civic and community engagement. The Compact was founded in 2002 and is hosted by Elon University.
Student Service Impact Awardees – Fall 2014

We would like to congratulate our newest seniors, graduating this December, 2014, who are the recipients of the Student Service Impact Award for obtaining a minimum of 240 hours of service and documenting the impact of their service:

Denis Abankwah  
She’Leah Battle  
Amanda Berry  
Orianna Best  
Dominique Blackmon  
Alexis Harris  
Ta’Brechi Hill

Cinae Johnson  
Tracy Judd  
Felicia Sanders-Gupton  
Jessica Speller  
Kimyata Tate  
Bianca Todd

New Partnerships

We would like to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to the newest partners in Durham, NC with NCCU:

Fayetteville Street Community Living Home LLC  
3622 Lyckan Parkway, Suite #4004, Durham NC 27707

G. Alan Incorporated  
For more information: http://www.imwithg.com/

Jubilee Christian Church International  
For more information: http://jubileechristianchurchinternational.org/

Kyles Temple African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  
For more information: http://ktamezionchurch.org/

League of Conservation Voters – NC  
For more information: http://nclcv.org/

Our Community Partners Need You!

If you have an interest in a particular issue or topic, we have a partnering agency that you can serve. You can find our complete agency listings on the website at: www.nccu.edu/acslp. If you need further assistance, please call:

Ms. Ruby Messick - 919.530.5384
NCCU Academic Community Service Learning Program

200 Campus Drive
Durham, NC 27707
Office: 919.530.7079

Academic Community Service Learning Program seeks to guide students, faculty, administrators, and staff in meaningful community service and service learning.

Students learn and develop through active participation in defined activities designed to benefit the community.

In addition, they acquire competencies, which will serve the greater society, through more effective civic responsibility.

Partnerships support mutual access to resources and opportunities, including materials, information for students and faculty through service learning activities.

Your Donation to NCCU Habitat Build Is Appreciated

NCCU is embarking upon our 5th Habitat for Humanity build in Durham, NC. Beginning in Spring 2015, another home will be added to the impressive work that the students, staff, alumni and community have accomplished.

The builds are supported by donations from organizations, local business and individuals who share a passion for “decent, affordable and sustainable housing made available to all”.

Your tax deductible donation of any amount can make a difference.

Send your check or money orders payable to:
NCCU Foundation
P O Box 14957
Raleigh, NC 27620

If you are interested in donating time, talents, or food to the build effort, please call:
Ms. Ruby Messick - 919.530.5384

The staff of the Academic Community Service Learning Program office extends our thanks to all of the students, staff and faculty employees who have contributed over 168,000 hours of service to our on and off campus community partners.

Academic Community Service Learning Staff

Interim Director
Calleen Herbert
919-530-6143

Assistant Director
Ruby Messick
919-530-5384

Student Coordinator
Tannya Artis
919-530-7076

Thank you!!!