

Goal 4 Meeting Community Needs and Fulfilling Unique Institutional Responsibilities

Florida Atlantic University will be a full participant in the life of its seven-county service region. It will address economic development, encourage regional cooperation and sustainability, build partnerships in key areas of community need and enrich lives through lifelong learning.

Status Report

FAU's partnerships with Scripps Florida, Torrey Pines, Harbor Branch, Max Planck, The University of Miami Miller Medical School, the Palm Point School at Tradition and the Center for Ocean Energy Technology are just a few of the many examples of FAU's continued significant engagement with the community and examples of the university's status as a major player in economic development in its region and, indeed, in the state of Florida. The inventory of outreach activities and community and corporate partners of the campuses and colleges which was compiled at the time of the development of Goal 4 and then updated in 2007, would be even longer today. What has been missing, however, has been the centralized and systematic coordination, cataloguing and communication of those activities to the University and to the external community. Goal 4 called for the development of a community engagement database, a dedicated website, and special marketing materials. Those objectives depended on the establishment of an Office of Community Engagement and the hiring of a fulltime Director to lead and manage the strategic activities. Funding for this position has not been made available.

We can be proud of the progress made toward the achievement of Goal 4, Objective 5 *Engage students, faculty and staff in service activities that mutually benefit the University and the community* through the joint efforts of the Weppner Center for Civic Engagement & Service and the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Studies. Volunteer opportunities and academic service learning opportunities have had tremendous growth in the past few years. These highlights from the annual report of the Weppner Center illustrate the extent to which FAU students are engaged meaningfully in the community. We can relate the tremendous success of the Weppner Center to the fact that there is a point person and designated administrator who is responsible for visioning and carrying out the center's goals and strategies. This confirms the importance of leadership and accountability related to the overall goal.

Florida Atlantic University

Annual Report *Excerpts* Fiscal Year 2008-2009

Weppner Center for Civic Engagement & Service
Division of Student Affairs

August 31, 2009, by: Nori Carter, Associate Director

Weppner Center for Civic Engagement and Service

Annual Report 2008-2009

I. Overview of Accomplishments for the Year

During the past year, the Weppner Center for Civic Engagement and Service has continued serving our student body and partner nonprofit agencies, offering them opportunities to work together in a joint effort to address some of the problems that affect our community.

Overall, the Weppner Center for Civic Engagement and Service has had a good year with main highlights of the past year as follows:

- Significant increase in both volunteer and service-learning hours due to the Center's efforts in increasing awareness, opportunities, and relationships among the students.
- Strengthening of the relationship with Academic Affairs and the Faculty Learning Community to establish practices for increasing courses designated as Academic Service-Learning (A S-L). Multiple disciplines have now introduced A S-L into their coursework leading to relationships continuously being forged with other faculty members as the success and availability of A S-L become more pronounced.
- Steady growth reported in volunteer and service-learning hours
- Implementation of assessment for volunteer and service-learning participants
- A successful 3rd annual Alternative Spring Break focused on "helping at home"
- A successful 9th year in sponsoring the Summer Food Service Program
- Maintaining relationships with long-standing non-profit agencies in the community as well as making new relationships with local agencies

II. How Goals/Accomplishments Advance Strategic Plan of FAU

The Weppner Center for Civic Engagement & Service meets several objectives outlined within two goals of the University's Strategic Plan: Goal 4: Meeting Community Needs and Fulfilling Unique Institutional Responsibilities and Goal 7: Increasing the University's Visibility.

The objectives have been met through the following means:

- Became a member of the FAU Faculty Learning Community whose objective is to incorporate into the curriculum and advocate for Academic Service-Learning.
- Promoted community service activities through numerous venues including but not limited to classroom presentations, student clubs and organizations, and marketing efforts to students via the Breezeway.
- Provided updated volunteer opportunities at community agencies for volunteers and group service projects.
- Other initiatives:
 - Established an assessment tool for measuring volunteer and A S-L effectiveness in Spring 2009
 - For the 9th year, continued providing healthy meals to underprivileged children attending summer camps through a grant obtained by the Department of Education. Participating sites were: Boys and Girls Club, G.A.T.E. Salvation Army, Milagro Center, Youth Activity Center, Pearl City Cats, West Side Park Recreational Center and Campo Alegre (migrant site)
 - Continued to serve as a community partner to the Spirit of Giving Network which consists of over 20 local agencies in South Palm Beach county whose focus is children and families
 - Referred volunteers to local agencies as well as to the major walks hosted on campus and the nearby community

III. Relevant Data Demonstrating Goal/Accomplishment and Advancement of the Strategic Plan

- FAU students supported their internal and external communities by providing over 60,000 volunteer hours and 87,000 Academic Service-Learning hours for a combined total of over 148,000 hours. This represents an increase of 35.86% and 292.5%, respectively. The monetary contribution to the community represented by these hours is over \$1 million (based on minimum wage of \$7.21 per hour for Florida). The combined total hours increased by 121.8% from the previous year (See Appendices A & B).
- Activities & Programs By Campus were as follows:

Campus	Semester	Event	Projected Attendance	Attendance from Boca Raton Campus	Approximate CCES Budget
Boca Raton Campus	Summer 2008	Summer Food Service Program	Sponsorship by FAU's Weppner CCES		\$0
		End of Summer Celebration for Summer Food Service Program participants	N/A	8	0
	Fall 2008	American Heart Association START! Heart Walk	Data not available	Data not available	\$0
		Any Soldier Campaign	University-Wide	University-Wide	\$0
		Freshman Day of Service	N/A	44	\$0
		Volunteer Fair	50	50+	\$0
		Cardboard Campus	50 (all campuses)	3	\$0
		Brunch Buddies II: Seagull Industries for the Disabled	N/A	35	\$0
		Hunger Banquet	Data not available	Data not available	\$0
		Holiday Giving Tree	Donations Made to Spirit of Giving Network		\$0
	Spring 2009	Alternative Spring Break	30 (all campuses)	10	\$9,000 (all campuses)
		Loving Humanity with Locks of Love	10	13	\$0
		The Center for Youth Activities	N/A	3	\$0
		Louis & Anne Green Memory & Wellness Center	N/A	12	\$0
		Boca Helping Hands Soup Kitchen	N/A	3	\$0
		Caring Kitchen Soup Kitchen	N/A	8	\$0
		Office Depot Foundation	N/A	9	\$0

Campus	Semester	Event	Projected Attendance	Attendance from Boca Raton Campus	Approximate CCES Budget
Broward Campuses	Spring 2009	Alternative Spring Break	30 (all campuses)	5	\$9,000 (all campuses)
		Cardboard Campus	50 (all campuses)	3	\$0
	*Note: Broward Campuses held activities and programs as SAVI with the exception of ASB & Cardboard Campus				
Jupiter Campus		Volunteer Fair	150	100	\$75
		Heart Walk	50	25	Free
		SAVI Pizza for People Party	15	10	Free
		Faces of Homelessness Panel	25	22	\$200
		Cardboard Campus	50 (all campuses)	16	Free
		Fall Blood Drive	25	20	Free
		Habitat for Humanity	12	8	Free
		Arboretum Work Day	10	8	Free
		Dinner at Quantum House	15	15	\$200
	Spring 2009	MLK Day of Service	10	7	Free
		The Great Underwear Dash	20	14	Free
		Car Wash for Charity	5	3	\$25 (for supplies)
		SAVI Kindness Week-Free Coffee	50	65	\$75
		Charity Tournament Night	50	6	\$150
		Go Van Gogh Women's Shelter Charity Event	30	40	\$500
		Relay for Life	20	10	Free
		Wet T-shirt Contest for Charity	40	25	Free
		Planting for Patches at the Arboretum- Girl Scout Education Day	25	35	\$700
Treasure Coast Campus	Fall 2008	American Heart Association START! Heart Walk (TCC Team)	20	5	\$0
		Any Soldier Campaign	University-Wide	University-Wide	\$0
		Volunteer Fair	50	50+	\$100
		Volunteer Day with Habitat for Humanity	10	12	\$0
		Cardboard Campus	50 (all campuses)	2	\$0
		Voter's Registration Drive	50	100	\$0
	Spring 2008	Alternative Spring Break	30 (all campuses)	0	\$9,000 (all campuses)
		March of Dimes: March for Babies (TCC Team)	10	20	\$0

III. Relevant Data Demonstrating Goal/Accomplishment and Advancement of the Strategic Plan (continued)

- Agencies for whom WCCES/SAVI sponsored activities, events, and programs were planned included Boca Helping Hands, C.R.O.S. Ministries, The Center for Youth Activities, The Office Depot Foundation, Habitat for Humanity of Martin County, Families that Care of West Palm Beach, First United Methodist Church, Louis and Anne Green Memory & Wellness Center, Locks of Love, Boys and Girls Club, G.A.T.E. Salvation Army, Milagro Center, Pearl City Cats, West Side Park Recreational Center, Farmworker's Children's Council, Inc., Spirit of Giving Network, American Heart Association, and Seagull Industries for the Disabled, Inc.

Appendix A

Weppner Center for Civic Engagement & Service Cumulative Report of Hours: Fall 2005 – Spring 2009

	FA 05'	SPR 06'	SUM 06'	FA 06'	SPR 07'	SUM 07'	FA 07'	SPR 08'	SUM 08'	FA 08'	SPR 09'
Volunteer Hours	8,452	11,430	3,423	16,290	13,514	3,974	17,118	23,383	6,014	23,775	30,635
Service-Learning Hours			2,943	7,278	6,913	1,604	7,163	13,625	2,580	43,572	41,737
Total Semester	8,452	11,430	6,366	23,568	20,427	5,578	24,281	37,008	8,594	67,347	72,372

