

Florida Atlantic University

Annual Report – Executive Summary Fiscal Year 2010-2011

Weppner Center for Civic Engagement & Service
Division of Student Affairs

Submitted June 09, 2011, by: Nori Carter, Director

Executive Summary

Major Accomplishments / Goals Achieved in 2010-2011

- Grant for \$17,642 received from Florida Campus Compact for advancing Academic Service-Learning at FAU by hosting Day Institute: "Exploring Civic Engagement Through the Lens of STEM" (Feb. 18, 2011)
- 152 Academic Service-Learning courses offered, a 21.6% increase over FY 09-10
- Begin Phase 1 of 2 to transfer to an electronic system of tracking student Academic Service-Learning and Volunteer hours. Phase 1 implemented for Academic Service-Learning electronic submission of hours.
- FAU students supported their internal and external communities by providing over 66,000 volunteer hours and 90,200 Academic Service-Learning hours for a combined total of over 156,250 hours. This represents an increase of 0.38% volunteer hours and decrease of 6% Academic Service-Learning hours. The monetary contribution to the community represented by these hours is over \$1.13 million (based on minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour for Florida through May 31, 2011). The combined total hours decreased by 4% from the previous year (See Appendices A & B).
- Now in its fifth year, the university-wide traditional Alternative Spring Break was a great success, supporting a local Florida community on the topic of homelessness. Assistance was given to The Shelter of Leon County, Big Bend Homeless Coalition, and Grace Mission Episcopal Church in Tallahassee, FL.
- FAU received the 2010 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll distinction from the Corporation for National and Community Service for exemplary service efforts and service to America's communities.

Major Challenges

- Minimal infrastructure and resources to support growth of department in both breadth and depth (offering greater number of programs as well as better quality)
- Marketing/Creating awareness of departmental services to student population
- University-wide support for Academic Service-Learning to create more reach to faculty
- Engaging staff and faculty in civic engagement in the community with limited resources to become an engaged University for Carnegie Community Engagement Classification

Goals for 2011-2012

- Create an advisory board of FAU students, FAU faculty, community agencies, and FL Campus Compact Representative(s) to review semi-annually civic engagement at FAU and in the community
- Fully implement electronic tracking of volunteer and academic service-learning hours as well as to incorporate an electronic community database of volunteer opportunities to recruit and retain community agencies
- Recognize A S-L courses in the University course catalog
- Create a Volunteer Training Program for volunteers (students, faculty, & staff), academic service-learners and student organizations
- Co-manage a pilot Community Garden on the Boca Raton Campus
- Collaborate with other local colleges and universities to unify civic engagement efforts in the community where applicable for greater impact through the implementation of a South Florida Campus Compact Network
- Secure a non-profit agency for departments within Student Affairs who do not currently partner with a non-profit agency
- Continue to increase communication among students, faculty, staff, and nonprofit organizations through the use of targeted marketing efforts such as social media and video to increase student participation in volunteer events and academic service-learning courses (measured through strategic plan outcomes by increase in participation and courses)
- Identify more faculty-community partnerships to promote academic service-learning (measured through strategic plan outcomes by increase in courses)