

PUBLIC GOOD NEWSLETTER

Engaging campus and community for the public good

Winter 2012 – Issue 11

Editor: Iman Jodeh



OUR MISSION IS TO EDUCATE, ENGAGE, AND EQUIP THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY TO ACCOMPLISH TANGIBLE, PUBLIC WORK THAT IMPROVES THE LIVES OF PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITIES.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Anne P. DePrince, Ph.D.

Happy new year from CCESL! We are happy to report that 2012 is shaping up to bring exciting growth to CCESL. For example, we are working with the Office of Student Life to transition the 'hub' for university service opportunities from Campus Activities to CCESL. This change, among others, has led us to dig into strategic planning for CCESL. We appreciate many of your voices that have already been involved in this process and we look forward to bringing more voices into the conversation soon.

Within our strategic planning, we have identified four primary initiatives that support our mission. These initiatives include:

SERVICE INITIATIVE: Focuses on developing meaningful service opportunities for students, staff, and faculty with communities. Meaningful service involves critical reflection of the service experience; development of an understanding of root causes of problems faced by communities; community-building on campus; and capacity-building with communities.

COMMUNITY-ENGAGED LEARNING INITIATIVE: Knocks down the boundaries of traditional classrooms to build reciprocal relationships between faculty, students and communities to enhance academic learning; increase critical thinking; develop civic skills; and addresses public problems.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Director's Note.....	1
Engaged Faculty Leaders Wanted.....	2
Public Good Fund Call for Proposals.....	2
2011 Community Organizing Training.....	3
National Dialogue to Support Federal Policy Development.....	4
Colorado Public Achievement Coach Conference.....	5
Call for Puksta Scholars Applications.....	6
Director Awarded Scholarship of Engagement Grant	6
Service Learning Course.....	6
Puksta Application Flyer.....	7
Institutionalization of Engaged Scholarship in CO.....	8
New Staff Introductions.....	9
Saying Goodbye.....	10
CCESL Annual Open House Success.....	10
Campus Partners: University Advancement.....	11
Community Engaged Learning Initiatives.....	12
AmeriCorps Grants Fund Student Opportunities.....	13
PA Coach Selected as Conference MC.....	14
CCESL Staff and Announcements.....	14

COMMUNITY-ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE:

Supports research and creative work that is grounded in the norms of democratic education; emphasizes the co-production of knowledge in the context of reciprocal partnerships with local stakeholders; pursues the renewal of democracy and the kind of public action that works to confront public problems and social justice through democratic means; demonstrates strong collaboration with community partners in proposal and project development; and forges a collaborative enterprise between students, faculty,

CALL FOR PUKSTA SCHOLARS APPLICATIONS

Deadline: Monday, April 9, 2012, 10:00 a.m.

COLORADO PUBLIC ACHIEVEMENT COACH CONFERENCE

Save the Date: Saturday, Feb. 4, 2012, 9-5pm

and community members.

CIVIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE. Prepares students, staff, and faculty for active participation in civic life through public good work and community organizing. This Initiative is grounded in community organizing, which focuses on people working together for systemic social change; developing collective self-interests by working with others and taking action on issues the community cares about through democratic engagement.

Within each initiative, we are currently implementing, developing, and/or growing specific programs. Even if programs grow, change, or even end over time, these *initiatives* will continue. They provide us with an organizing foundation that supports our mission.

In the context of this strategic planning, I am delighted to announce that the Provost's Office will support the creation of three **Faculty Associate** positions within CCESL. Faculty Associates will serve 1-year terms to undertake work that contributes significantly to CCESL's Community-Engaged Learning and Scholarship initiatives. With an emphasis on faculty development and institutionalization, we will be able to use these Faculty Associate positions to strategically invest in specific programs, departments, and divisions from year to year. If you are interested in applying for this leadership position, please see the call on this page.

Best regards,
Anne P. DePrince, Ph.D.
Director

ENGAGED FACULTY LEADERS WANTED! ANNOUNCING CCESL'S NEW FACULTY ASSOCIATE POSITIONS

The CCESL Faculty Associate will contribute significantly to CCESL's Community-Engaged Learning as well as Community-Engaged Scholarship initiatives, with an emphasis on faculty development and institutionalization across campus and in her/his home division. The CCESL Faculty Associate will serve a 1-year term and will be compensated on overload. At the start of the appointment, the CCESL Faculty Associate and CCESL Director will identify a list of deliverables for the term (e.g., number of presentations; specific outreach activities) in light of larger CCESL strategic planning. The Faculty Associate will carry out work on those deliverables, in consultation with the CCESL Director. Note that the Faculty Associate will not be involved in the Public Good Fund or Service Learning Fund proposal reviews or funding processes; therefore, the Faculty Associate is still eligible to apply for these funds for work related to her/his own scholarship.

If you are interested in applying to become a Faculty Associate, please contact Anne DePrince (adeprinc@du.edu).

PUBLIC GOOD FUND: CALL FOR PROPOSALS, DUE MARCH 5

In support of the University's vision of being a great private university dedicated to the public good, the Provost has established a Public Good Fund to promote public good and community-engaged scholarship. To access the Request for Proposals for the 2011-2012 Public Good Fund, please visit <http://www.du.edu/cces/pgfund.html> (or go directly to http://www.du.edu/cces/docs/PGrfp2011_2012.doc). Proposals are due **March 5, 2012**.

An information session will be held on Thursday January 26 from 4-5 pm in Suite 18, S. Driscoll for interested applicants with questions about the RFP and/or review process. Questions can also be directed to CCESL Director Anne DePrince at adeprinc@du.edu or 303.871.2939.

2011 COMMUNITY ORGANIZING TRAINING

CCESL hosted the 2011 Community Organizing Training for CCESL-connected students on September 30, 2011. With funding support from a Training Ground Grant from Colorado Campus Compact, the curriculum was designed to introduce students to the community organizing model, including the skills and tools necessary to implement aspects of the community organizing model in their community service sites this year.

During the opening session, CCESL welcomed Dr. **Rami Nashashibi** of Chicago's Intercity Muslim Action Network (IMAN) to campus. His opening remarks framed community organizing as an important model for engaging individuals in meaningful public work. In those comments, he emphasized the importance of students knowing and understanding their own motivations in order to work effectively in communities.



DR. RAMI NASHASHIBI PROVIDES A FRAMEWORK FOR THE 2011 COMMUNITY ORGANIZING TRAINING.

Over the next six hours, CCESL staff and trainers worked with students to identify their roles in communities, recognize the impact of privileges and oppressions on community work, conduct a one-to-one, and run an effective public action. The curriculum involved innovative small group activities as well as a working lunch, during which students practiced one-to-one skills.

To close out the day, Dr. Nashashibi gave a public lecture open to the DU community. Students, faculty members, administrators, and community members attended the public lecture.



STUDENTS PRACTICE THEIR SKILLS IN A MOCK PUBLIC ACTION IN RESPONSE TO HOUSING DISCRIMINATION.

Dr. Nashashibi's public lecture focused on agitation as a tool for engaging in social justice and community change work. He provided examples of how he has used agitation in community organizing to address local issues of housing foreclosures, community safety, and food justice issues in urban Chicago.

Approximately 90 CCESL-connected DU students attended the Community Organizing training. Five students and one alumnus served as training facilitators alongside CCESL staff. In addition, faculty, staff and students from across the University of Denver community attended the public lecture with Dr. Nashashibi.

Special thanks to our event co-sponsors: Department of Political Science, English Language Center, The University of Denver Sturm College of Law Constitutional Rights & Remedies Program, Muslim Student Association, Office of the University Chaplain, Iliff School of Theology, Social Justice LLC, Center for Multicultural Excellence, Institute of Public Policy Studies.



ORGANIZING TRAINERS WITH DR. NASHASHIBI.

A YEAR OF NATIONAL DIALOGUE TO SUPPORT FEDERAL POLICY DEVELOPMENT AIMED AT STRENGTHENING CIVIC LEARNING AND DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION

By: Jenny Whitcher, CCESL

The University of Denver is participating in the newly launched American Commonwealth Partnership (ACP), which brings together colleges and universities, community colleges, P-12 schools, as well as private sector and non-profit civic partners to promote civic education, civic mission, and civic identity throughout education. In collaboration with the White House Office of Public Engagement, the U.S. Department of Education, and the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U), ACP is launching a year of strategic activities called, “For Democracy’s Future – Reclaiming Education’s Civic Mission.”

Over the next year, ACP aims to contribute to the U.S. Department of Education’s developing policy initiative to strengthen civic learning and democratic engagement in higher education—and education more broadly—in direct response to the 2011 report, “A Crucible Moment: College Learning and Democracy’s Future,” from The Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement National Task Force.

ACP will kick off at the White House on January 10, 2012, on the 150th anniversary year of the Morrill Act, signed by President Lincoln in 1862 to create colleges committed to democracy and making education accessible to all social classes.

Current ACP Initiatives: Get Involved!

DEMOCRACYU: a civic-social media hub to cultivate national dialogue on civic development, engagement, and impact hosted by CIRCLE, the Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning and Engagement. Get involved and join the national dialogue by:

- Posting your stories to the DemocracyU Blog to demonstrate how students are collaborating to solve problems in their communities, transforming campuses into places where they can organize to build a stronger democracy, and creating lasting change by bridging partisan difference.
- Contributing tweets to and following the civic dialogue at: @DemocracyU and #DemocracyU
- Liking, posting to, and keeping up with the status of DemocracyU on Facebook.
- Subscribing to the DemocracyU YouTube Channel, and watch for details on the upcoming national competition of student/faculty produced shorts (5 min.) profiling student civic initiatives. These videos will also support national deliberative dialogues.

NATIONAL DELIBERATIVE DIALOGUES: In partnership with the National Issues Forums and the Kettering Foundation, ACP will organize deliberative dialogues on the role of higher education in American society. Schools interested in hosting a dialogue will receive a toolkit, advance online/onsite training, and multiple reporting methods to share results nationally. Dialogues are expected to run during designated periods of Spring 2012. Connect with ACP through DemocracyU social media to hear more as further details are announced.

ACP was organized by CCESL friend Harry Boyte, director of the Center for Democracy and Citizenship, in collaboration with: Syracuse University Chancellor Nancy Cantor, De Anza College President Brian Murphy, Alcorn State University President M. Christopher Brown, Indiana University President Emeritus Tom Ehrlich, UMBC President Freeman Hrabowski, Augsburg College President Paul Pribbenow, Wiona State University President Judith Ramaley. ACP emerges from the American Democracy Project and in collaboration with the National Conference on Citizenship, The Democracy Commitment among community colleges, Campus Compact, Imagining America, NERCHE, the Anchoring Institutions Task Force.

For more info about DU’s involvement, please contact: anne.deprince@du.edu or 303.871.2939

COLORADO PUBLIC ACHIEVEMENT COACH CONFERENCE:

We are the ones we've been waiting for.

**A networking conference for
Colorado Public Achievement Coaches.**

Activities will include a welcome from Colorado Campus Compact, opening keynote from Dennis Donovan (National Organizer for Public Achievement, Center for Democracy and Citizenship, Augsburg College), dialogue opportunities for coaches to learn about other university programs and three breakout sessions with multiple options covering topics such as:

- Cultural competency
- Classroom management
- Grant writing
- Program sustainability
- International Public Achievement perspectives
- How to work in teams effectively
- Public Achievement best practices

DATE:
Saturday, February 4, 2012

TIME:
Check-in, 9-10am
Conference, 10am-5pm

COST:
\$20 (including beverages,
morning snacks and lunch)

REGISTRATION:
<http://goo.gl/qIAIX>

LOCATION:
Sturm Hall
University of Denver

SPONSORED BY:



University of Colorado
Boulder

COLORADO
COLLEGE



Colorado | Campus Compact



UNIVERSITY OF
DENVER

Center for Community
Engagement & Service
Learning



For more information, please contact Cara DiEnno at 303-871-4281 or cara.dienno@du.edu

CALL FOR PUKSTA SCHOLARS APPLICATIONS

By: Jenny Whitcher, CCESL

It is time to recruit the next class of Puksta Scholars. If you know of any incoming first year students who are interested in becoming part of a four-year civic development program and intentionally diverse community, please suggest they apply for the DU Puksta Scholars Program.

Please help us recruit a strong class of incoming scholars by sharing this flyer (.jpeg) with Colorado high school seniors who applied to and were accepted to start attending DU as first year undergraduate students for the 2012-13 academic year.

PROGRAM: Scholars are supported to integrate their academics; personal and democratic values, interests, and skills; and career preparation with the development of their civic identity and social responsibility as a global citizen. This is accomplished using the community organizing model, and includes curricular and co-curricular personal and civic development training, personal and group critical reflection, and mentoring.

SCHOLARSHIP: If selected, incoming first year Puksta Scholars receive an annual and renewable \$6,000 scholarship. Scholars also receive access

to grants for trainings, conferences, public projects, and paid summer internships.

ELIGIBILITY: Colorado residents (defined as having graduated from a Colorado high school) who are entering their first year as DU undergraduate student for the 2012-13 academic year, and who demonstrate financial need and academic scholarship.

SELECTION CRITERIA: Puksta Scholars are selected based on their interest in developing civic skills, ability to critically reflect on their identity and life experiences as they relate to community and social responsibility, ability to translate personal and democratic values into action, value of diversity and difference, and interest in connecting their academic learning and future career(s) to the common good regardless of their field.

Application: Applications are available for download online. Deadline: All applications must be received by Monday, April 9, 2012, 10:00 a.m. Questions? Contact puksta@du.edu



CCESL DIRECTOR AWARDED SCHOLARSHIP OF ENGAGEMENT GRANT

Congratulations to CCESL Director and DU Psychology Professor Anne DePrince who was awarded a Colorado Campus Compact Scholarship of Engagement grant for her research on trauma history and symptoms among women involved in domestic human trafficking. DePrince's research responds to an urgent need voiced by the Denver District Attorney's Office to understand larger trauma history, related symptoms, and services needed for victims of human trafficking. The research will inform policies and practices that aim to provide effective victim advocacy during the criminal justice process as well as coordinated aftercare.

TEACHING A SERVICE LEARNING COURSE?

Service Learning Associates (SLA) can help faculty to build their service-learning capacity and implement high-quality service-learning components that enhance students' learning. An SLA is a student who has completed a service-learning course, demonstrates leadership among their peers, and has been trained by CCESL staff to work with faculty members who are teaching service-learning courses. SLAs can assist faculty in the planning, implementation and assessment of service learning courses.

If you're interested in working with an SLA during this academic year, send an email request to Cara DiEnno at cara.dienno@du.edu.



UNIVERSITY OF
DENVER

Center for Community
Engagement & Service
Learning

THE PUKSTA SCHOLARS PROGRAM

A four-year developmental
community engagement program

If you have strong character and enjoy working on social justice issues in your community, all while earning a \$6,000 annual scholarship, then the Puksta Scholars Program is for you!

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
Monday, April 9, 2012
10 A.M.

For application:
www.du.edu/ccesl/puksta.html



- Integration of academics, personal and democratic values, interests, and skills equips you to be the founder of the change you want to see in the world
- Meaningful commitment to community-based social justice work is strengthened by biweekly program meetings, mentorship and group collaboration
- An inclusive community that provides a sense of solidarity amongst diverse individuals
- An engaging and fun atmosphere allows for long-term friendships and personal growth

INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP IN COLORADO

By: **Jenny Whitcher**

The national movement to institutionalize service-learning and civic engagement in higher education is gaining traction in Colorado. This past November 2011, Colorado Campus Compact Advisory Committee members from 17 higher education institutions in Colorado and Wyoming came together for a daylong biannual meeting. By the end of the day it was clear that a new culture is emerging around the institutionalization of service-learning, civic engagement, and public good research—or engaged scholarship—along with a renewed interest in inter-campus collaboration at the state and regional levels.

Colorado Campus Compact (CCC) promotes community involvement in order to develop students' civic skills and values through supporting member institutions in strengthening campus-community partnerships, and faculty development around service-learning and public good research. The Colorado regional office is part of the national Campus Compact coalition of more than 1,100 college and university presidents committed to fulfilling higher education's historical civic mission, including the University of Denver.

There are two particular areas of institutionalization that are seeing renewed interest and movement in Colorado: 1.) Faculty development around engaged scholarship; and 2.) The inclusion of engaged scholarship in faculty review, tenure, and promotion (RTP) criteria.

In a strategic shift in focus, CCC is funding and providing collaborative curricular support for faculty development. Previous efforts aimed primarily at student programming missed critical opportunities for sustainability and institutionalization. The benefits of faculty development include increased sustainability and institutionalization through longer-term university-community partnership, the ability to organize power amongst faculty to help change campus culture and institutional policy, and sustained student development through faculty teaching and mentorship.

In support of this new focus, CCC now offers three Scholarship of Engagement mini-grants of \$750, with \$250 in matching funds from CCESL for DU awardees. Full-time and adjunct DU faculty from any discipline are encouraged to apply for funds to support the development and implementation of service-learning courses and community-engaged research projects.

Leveraging local expertise, CCC is also hosting regional Engaged Faculty Institutes (EFI) across Colorado this winter. The Metro Denver EFI will be facilitated by CCESL Director Anne DePrince, and DU faculty and staff will also present during the collaborative training sessions. All 25 faculty spots are currently filled.

Higher education institutions in Colorado are also showing increased interest in incorporating engaged scholarship into faculty T&P standards, though Colorado currently falls well below the national average on these criteria. The national 2010 Campus Compact Annual Membership Survey indicates that 64% of member institutions rewarded community-based research, community engagement, and/or academic service-learning in faculty RTP, compared to just 20% of Colorado member institutions in AY 2009-2010.

Nationally, research universities are organizing to advance engaged scholarship and civic engagement through The Research University Civic Engagement Network (TRUCEN) convened by Campus Compact. A recent TRUCEN e-publication, the "Research University Engaged Scholarship Toolkit," offers information on RTP policy development and resources, including a brief list with descriptions for Tenure and Promotion Portfolio Exemplars, and background paper "Developing Criteria for Review of Community-Engaged Scholars for Promotion or Tenure (2006)," which outlines review criteria and documentation for eight institutions that reward community-engaged scholarship.

As interest continues to grow, Colorado RTP working committees are developing and collaborative trainings and grants are already providing engaged scholarship faculty development to support the development of a Colorado community of higher education institutions dedicated to the public good.

WELCOME NEW CCESL STAFF!

Iman Jodeh, Administrative Assistant

In 2006, Iman received her masters in Public Policy from the University of Colorado at Denver where she focused her graduate studies on urban redevelopment and community participation in the third world, in particular communities rebuilding after war. Serving as the Development Coordinator for the Colorado Democracy Alliance, Iman supported efforts to bring progressive organizations to the forefront of Colorado's policy agenda. Subsequently, she worked for the Abraham Path Initiative where she assisted with fundraising, women's engagement, policy and economic development in the Middle East. In addition she also worked at Seeking Common Ground where she assisted with event planning and fundraising. Through her volunteer efforts, she remains heavily involved with local organizations that promote peace and education to youth from around the world. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, reading and drawing.



In Iman's new position at CCESL she will be charged with assisting with strategic planning, budgetary responsibilities, and marketing and event planning.

Ryan Hanschen, Program Coordinator

On January 30, we will welcome Ryan J Hanschen as CCESL's new Program Coordinator. A DU alum, Ryan graduated with a major in Sociology and minors in Philosophy and Psychology in 2005. During his undergraduate years, Ryan took advantage of local and international service learning opportunities. He also began volunteering with PeaceJam (<http://www.peacejam.org/>), an organization with global reach that brings young people together with Nobel Peace Laureates to address issues in their community. Over time, Ryan's initial volunteer experience (as a Mentor for PeaceJam's annual Youth Conference with a Nobel Peace Laureate) translated into a long-term



commitment to PeaceJam's mission. Ryan went on to serve two terms as a PeaceJam AmeriCorps VISTA Member, during which time he coordinated service learning programming at schools.

Beginning in 2007, Ryan transitioned into a senior staff position as PeaceJam's Program and Development Coordinator at PeaceJam's international headquarters office. In this position, Ryan has made significant contributions to the organization, including (but not limited to!) coordination of PeaceJam's AmeriCorps VISTA program as well as development and implementation of professional trainings as well as civic engagement and service-learning programs.

In addition to these professional experiences, Ryan brings a long-standing commitment to service and social justice. He has made diverse contributions to communities, from his service as a Certified Master Composter with Denver Urban Gardens to his role supporting Amnesty International groups across the state.

Ryan's professional experiences at PeaceJam as well as his commitment to developing and engaging in meaningful service uniquely prepare him to step into the Program Coordinator role. In this full-time position, Ryan will contribute to CCESL's Service and Civic Development Initiative by taking a leadership role in the next stage of the development of CCESL's volunteer and AmeriCorps opportunities as well as coordinate the Puksta Scholars Program.

SAYING GOODBYE

Please join CCESL is saying goodbye to two outstanding staff.



SARAH MCCAULEY stepped down from her position as CCESL Campus-Community Service Initiatives Coordinator to take a full-time position as a professional research assistant at Colorado Health Sciences. A Puksta Scholar and a Public Achievement coach, Sarah's connections to CCESL go back

to her days as a DU undergraduate. On the heels of her 2008-2009 service in CCESL as an AmeriCorps Vista Member, Sarah accepted a staff position in early 2009. As a permanent staff member, Sarah contributed to many of CCESL's core programs, such as Public Achievement and AmeriCorps. When we look around CCESL, we see Sarah's fingerprints everywhere. For example, she played a key role in developing our growing Service Learning Associate program over the last several years as well as built an innovative new structure for our Public Achievement Program.



JENNY WHITCHER will step down as the Puksta Scholars Program Coordinator this month. Jenny served as Associate Director of the Center from 2007 to 2010, before she went to part-time in order to support her pursuit of a doctoral degree. During her tenure at CCESL, Jenny has worked with

faculty to develop service learning courses, developed community partnerships and developed and managed student civic programs, designed and taught *Community Organizing* and *Denver Urban Issues and Policy*, managed CCESL marketing, branding and the creation of the original *Public Good Newsletter*. In addition, Jenny has focused on the ongoing development of CCESL's Puksta Scholars Program, an innovative 4-year civic development program and intentionally diverse community rooted in community organizing principles. Jenny has

represented DU as an Advisory Committee member with the Colorado Campus Compact.

Jenny and Sarah helped bring national attention to CCESL by presenting their CCESL work on national conferences and through their service on various local and national committees. On campus, they each prioritized and valued their roles as mentors to students. They contributed to the development of CCESL teaching tools, such as our Community Organizing Handbook and Community Organizing Training.

THANK YOU to Jenny and Sarah. We are grateful for the legacy they each leave and we wish them well in their new adventures!

CCESL ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE SUCCESS!

On October 12, CCESL hosted an Open House to kick off the new academic year. Over 60 students, staff, faculty, and community partners came together to make this event a success.



PROVOST KVISTAD TALKS WITH STUDENTS ABOUT THEIR COMMUNITY-ENGAGEMENT WORK.



FACULTY AND STAFF DIALOGUE ABOUT SERVICE LEARNING AND PUBLIC GOOD RESEARCH.

CAMPUS PARTNERS: UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

By: Leigh Elliott, Dir, Dev/Foundation Relations

Editor's Note: In our last issue, we highlighted a community partner. In this issue, we highlight a campus partner. Please send suggestions for partner highlights for future issues to Iman Jodeh (iman.jodeh@du.edu).

You may have heard and seen the following phrase a lot lately--ASCEND: the Campaign for the University of Denver. DU is currently in the public phase of a fundraising campaign, set to conclude in 2014. This campaign is very exciting for DU, as it is focused on raising money for the people and programs of the University.

Specifically, the campaign priorities are endowed professorships, endowed scholarships, and the complete transformation of the Penrose Library. All of these items are seen as integral components to ensure that DU is a great private university dedicated to the public good, making vast impact locally and globally.

The Department of Foundation Relations, part of University Advancement, exists to partner with faculty and staff, helping you to accomplish your programmatic and research goals. Private funders such as foundations are looking for projects that typically have a direct impact on a defined community, with a start and finish, and measurable outcomes. If you are working on a project that meets these qualifications, either through a class you are teaching, your research, or a partnership with a community organization (locally or internationally), you may be a great candidate for funding.

In addition to locating potential funders for your project, the foundation relations team can pursue support on your behalf and work with you to write proposals and reports. If we know about your project, we can also keep our eyes open for opportunities that appear on the various list serves that we subscribe to.

Here are some examples of opportunities available now:

AMERICAN SCANDINAVIAN FOUNDATION:

Public project grants offer support for cultural programs involving Scandinavian countries. The visiting lectures program supports one semester appointments of faculty from Norway or Sweden.

http://www.amscan.org/grants_organizations.html

ANISFIELD-WOLF BOOK AWARDS:

The Anisfield-Wolf Book Awards recognizes outstanding works that contribute to our understanding of racism and our appreciation of the rich diversity of human cultures. Awards are given for both fiction and nonfiction.

<http://www.anisfield-wolf.org/submissions/submission-guidelines/>

2012 DO SOMETHING AWARDS HONORING YOUNG SOCIAL CHANGE ACTIVISTS:

Five social change volunteers, ages 25 and under, will each be honored with \$10,000 in community grants and scholarships, and one grand prize winner will also receive a \$100,000 award.

<http://www.dosomething.org/programs/awards>

MCCORMICK FOUNDATION:

The Institute for Interactive Journalism and the McCormick Foundation are seeking to fund four women-led projects that will rock the world of journalism.

http://www.newmediawomen.org/site/proposal_guidelines/

ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION:

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation seeks to build the evidence for and strengthen the use of regulatory legal and policy solutions to improve public health.

<http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=21181>

To learn more, please contact Leigh Elliott at 303-871-7469 or leigh.elliott@du.edu, or Lauren Batts at 303-871-7878 or lauren.batts@du.edu. We look forward to hearing from you and learning more about the impact your work is having!

COMMUNITY-ENGAGED LEARNING INITIATIVES

Fall quarter saw terrific strides in our Community-Engaged Learning Initiative, with two significant faculty development activities.

SERVICE LEARNING SCHOLARS

Neither a snowstorm nor winter break could stop 14 outstanding Service Learning Scholars from convening for a 2-day workshop on December 1 and 2. The Scholars came from across campus, including AHSS, DCB, English Language Center, GSP, and University Writing Program.

The Workshop, co-facilitated by Anne DePrince (CCESL Director) and Cara DiEnno (CCESL Associate Director), covered service learning (SL) topics such as:

- SL Definitions, Historical Context
- Developing SL Course Goals and Objectives
- SL Models
- Developing Community Partnerships
- Developing SL Assignments & Grading
- Critical Reflection in SL
- Assessment of Learning in SL Courses
- SL and Scholarship

Scholars benefitted from presentations by and discussions with 5 of DU's finest service-learning faculty (**Geoffrey Bateman, Hava Gordon, Keith Miller, John Tiedemann, Kate Willink**) as well as community partner **Adeeb Khan** (Mile High United Way). In addition, **Associate Provost Jennifer Karas** who joined us to speak with Scholars about service learning on campus.

We had two short-term objectives for the workshop:

1. Increase participants' knowledge about service learning key concepts
2. Positively influence participants' attitudes about their (a) Understanding of the definition of service learning; (b) Understanding of the characteristics of service learning classes and partnerships (c) Confidence in their ability to implement service learning classes; and (d) Confidence in their ability to assess the impact of their service learning classes.

We are happy to report that our evaluation of the workshop suggests we met these objectives. Relative to pre-assessment, scholars showed large, statistically significant increases in their knowledge of service learning concepts at the end of the workshop. Likewise, scholars reported positive changes in attitudes about service learning from pre- to post-workshop.



JOHN TIEDEMANN (UNIVERSITY WRITING PROGRAM) TALKS WITH SERVICE LEARNING SCHOLARS ABOUT DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS.

ADVANCED PRACTITIONERS

When our friends at the Institute for Ethical and Civic Engagement at CU Boulder offered a workshop with Dr. Robert Bringle, a nationally-recognized expert in community-engaged scholarship, CCESL helped to pack the house! An impressive 11 faculty and 4 staff participated in the workshop. Dr. Bringle focused on partnerships in civic engagement activities during the morning session; and the scholarship of engagement and community-based research in the afternoon session. The workshop stimulated lots of good discussion during the day that we look forward to continuing in 2012.



DU FACULTY AND STAFF STRIKE A POSE DURING AN ADVANCED PRACTITIONER EVENT AT CU BOULDER.

AMERICORPS GRANTS FUND STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Americorps is delighted to congratulate members Tiana Brown, Savanna Uland and Jenny Wetzig on receiving our Careers in the Common Good (CCG) Scholarship! The Americorps Program provides up to \$30,000 annually to current members for the CCG Scholarship in the amount of \$250/person. The scholarship allows for many opportunities, such as professional conferences, site-specific trainings, personal development workshops, and topic-specific forums addressing critical community needs. Savanna, Jenny and Tiana all tells us a bit about their experiences:



SAVANNA ULAND: "I spent a week in Vienna on DU's interterm course, "Religion and Social Justice in Vienna." I got a \$250 scholarship from AmeriCorps because the course was all about how core values motivate and direct public actions. I found the Ana-Baptist (a Christian denomination) organizations the most inspiring. Out of their core beliefs that all humans are created in the image of God, and their beliefs of religious freedom ("The right to choose, the right to change, the right to leave"), they became the fathers of what we know today as human rights. Herzwirk, one impressive example of an Ana-Baptist organization, fights the dehumanization of prostitutes; creating genuine friendships with the women on the streets of Vienna, and helping those who wish to escape the industry do so.

"I went to Christmas markets, a Krampus holiday party (Krampus is the evil sidekick of Santa in Austrian culture), cathedrals, museums, and restaurants. We got talks from the UN and from Jewish organizations about how their values influence their social justice initiatives, ranging from Holocaust survivors' needs to Middle Eastern refugees heading to the US. How would I sum up this trip? "So much food was eaten; so much insight was gained."

JENNY WETZIG: "November 17-20th I attended the annual ACTFL (American Council on Teaching Foreign Languages) Conference. This is an international conference about language teaching and language acquisition that happened to be in Denver in 2011. I decided to take advantage of the opportunity to gain valuable skills, ideas and strategies for my future Spanish classroom. One particular session was about dealing with the "drama" of the classroom and lowering anxiety for students. Another was about finding ways to engage diverse student populations with varied background experiences and reduce stereotypes and preconceptions of the "other." The conference was inspirational and gave me a chance to see the bigger picture of language learning in the US today as it becomes increasingly necessary we prepare all students with 21st century skills. Thanks to CCESL for the wonderful opportunity!"



TIANA BROWN: "During December 2011 and January 2012, I attended the Gestalt Institute of the Rockies to complete a trimester of the Gestalt Basic Training program. All the trimesters during this training are focused on experiential learning in a small group setting where students learn about individual and group therapy throughout. Gestalt therapy focuses on what is actually being felt in the present moment and builds on relationships, awareness, and direct experience. Some objectives of Gestalt therapy are to create a relationship or "contact" between the therapist and client, and to use experimentation to build insight and awareness. During my trimester, I was able to learn skills such as using authentic presence, making "contact" with clients, staying tuned into what is "up" for the client versus following deflections, having awareness around projections, and understanding the role that attachment plays in current life experiences. Thank you to AmeriCorps!"

PUBLIC ACHIEVEMENT COACH SELECTED TO SERVE AS A YOUTH MC

Congratulations to Public Achievement Coach and Daniels Fund Scholar, **Antonio Vitale**, for being selected to serve as a **Youth MC** at the 2012 Our World, Our Future Conference in Minneapolis! The conference, April 11-14, 2012, is the 23rd Annual National Service-Learning Conference® and You Thrive PeaceJam Leadership Conference. The event is the largest gathering of youth and practitioners involved in the service-learning movement and a comprehensive service-learning professional development opportunity.



Learn more about Antonio in his own words: *"I am a Colorado Native. I am a first generation American, as well as a first generation college student. I am the only boy with 4 sisters one of whom is my twin. My passions are Business and Public Service and I intend on attending Law school after receiving a degree in International Business and Finance, which I am currently pursuing at the University of Denver. I am currently involved in several clubs and organizations at DU including Latino Student Alliance, Public Achievement, and perhaps my greatest accomplishment in my eyes thus far is that I am a Daniels Fund Scholar. I have a passion to speak, we have all been given a gift to share, mine is the gift of gab. We have all heard that a picture is worth a thousand words, but what I find even more powerful is when one can speak words that influence thousands. I believe every individual has a way to bring change to the world. Every day we are presented with windows of opportunity, opportunity to succeed, to fail, or to watch as our window of time drifts away. In my own life I have found that the harder I work the more opportunities I find."*

Learn more about the conference: <http://nslc.nylc.org/>

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Fiona Shepherd & Nicole Pfeiffer
AmeriCorps Staff

CCESL Hours: M-F, 9-4:30
CCESL Location: 22 S. Driscoll

CCESL's Public Achievement Program received two, \$1,000 **State Farm Good Neighbor Grants**. Launched on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, the projects will culminate on Global Youth Service Day (April 20-22), an international service event celebrating the contributions of children and youth.

CCESL received a \$3,000 Training Ground Grant from **Colorado Campus Compact** to support our Fall 2012 Community Organizing Training for students.

Interested in finding a volunteer or service site? Visit the DU Something website at <http://volunteer.du.edu/>. Students, staff, and faculty can find and sign up for service opportunities in the Denver community. Community partners can post opportunities for DU community members.

Keep up with CCESL activities and announcements on Facebook at <http://facebook.com/ccesl.du>. Like us today!