

Service-Learning E-News

Parkland College's Bimonthly E-Newsletter on All Things Service-Learning

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"It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself"

-- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Online Resources

[S-L Clearinghouse](#)

[CU Volunteer Database](#)

[Parkland College Service-Learning Website](#)

Parkland Reads Clean-Up

Parkland Reads is hosting a Clean-Up of campus on Thursday, September 25 in honor of the book, *Garbage Land: On the Secret Trail of Trash*. This Clean-Up is sponsored by the Office of the President, Parkland Reads, Parkland's Student Government, and Sustainable Campus Initiative. The Clean-Up will take place around the perimeter of campus in order to beautify the area before the Heart Walk taking place the following weekend. It will last for only an hour between 3:00-4:00 PM and all necessary equipment, (i.e. bags, gloves, and vests,) will be provided. This event is open to all members of the Parkland Community including faculty, students, and staff.

There will also be two more Clean-Ups this semester on Friday, October 24 and Thursday, November 20. If you are interested in getting involved with this program or would like more information, please contact Marsha Reardon at MReardon@parkland.edu, or call 353-3302.

Making the World More Sea Turtle Friendly

A learning Community combining AGB 192 (International Field Experience) and SPA 103 (Intermediate Spanish I) is taking a 10 day trip in March to Costa Rica for fieldwork, lecture, discovery, and exploration in mountain, valley, and coastal agricultural settings, all surrounded by the Spanish language. The SPA 103 class meets twice a week for 14 weeks on campus plus trip time and the AGB class meets two to three times total on campus outside the trip.

To incorporate service learning, the students spent 3 days on their last spring trip at the Pacuare Nature Reserve. There they assisted in "turtle patrols": Removing obstacles to turtle landings on the beach, assisting in measuring leatherback sea turtles, and also counting and relocating eggs if necessary.

The prerequisite for the SPA class (4 credit hours) is SPA 102 or equivalent. There is no prerequisite for the AGB class (3 credit hours). The program fee is \$1800, (which includes room and board, ground and airfare transportation, entrance fees, and most meals), plus Parkland tuition and fees.

For more information about joining this program or to enroll in this course, please contact Don Bergfield at 217/351-2406.

Share Your S-L Stories

If you are involved in service-learning with Parkland students, please share your stories with the Parkland community by contacting Marsha Reardon

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Parkland College/Garden Hills Homework Club Commences its Second Year

Due to the success of the Parkland College/Garden Hills Homework Club program last year, we are pleased to announce that the Club is to begin its second year in this September. The Homework Club gives an opportunity for Parkland students to tutor and act as role-models to the 3rd-5th graders at Garden Hills Elementary. This year there were students from all over campus who signed on to participate with the Club. Orientation for the Club will be at Garden Hills on Tuesday, September 16. For more information on the Club or how to get your class involved with service learning, please contact Brian Nudelman at BNudelman@parkland.edu or call 351-2534.

We would also like to give a special thank you to Jerry's IGA of Champaign for donating snacks for the Garden Hills students.

Psych Students Lend a Hand to Heal a Heart

Mr. Lasswell's Psych 101/105 students at Parkland College are volunteering to be buddies at Carle Hospices' Camp Healing Heart in Champaign. Camp Healing Heart is a special weekend-long camp for grieving children ages 7-17. The students are acting as volunteer "buddies" to the children and are expected to lend a hand for the weekend by acting as a support system, role-model, and friend to the grieving children.

This work is truly thoughtful and inspirational, and we wish the students luck with this service-learning project!

CSIT Makes Less Fortunate More Tech-Savvy

The CSIT (Computer Science and Information Technology,) Program at Parkland College uses service learning to apply their technical skills to the common good. CSIT students use their classroom training to help provide IT support for non-profit organizations, non-commercial community projects, senior citizens, and disabled persons. This gives the students a chance to get the hands-on experience they need while at the same time they are giving something back to the community. The services that CSIT students will perform include: Database Development, Networking Support and Administration, PC Repair and Support, help with Microsoft Office and help with Digital Media projects. They even have a help-desk that you can call in to ask questions.

For more information about the CSIT Service Learning Center, to sign up for their program, or to request their assistance, please contact Linda Crowley at 353-2099. Or you can check out the CSIT website at:

<http://slc.csit.parkland.edu/>



Service-Learning Website Updates and Additions

The service learning website has been updated and a few new additions are to be added in the near future. We hope the Parkland Community will use the website as a resource to find service-learning activities as well as opportunities to volunteer, etc. Also, soon we will be adding a Wiki which will allow members of the community post and share opportunities for volunteering and service-learning programs. You can check out the website at:

<http://www.parkland.edu/academics/service-learning/>

We are also continually looking for ideas and feedback. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to forward them to Marsha Reardon, the AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer Coordinator at mreardon@parkland.edu or 353-3302.