Welcome Honey Bennett, Parkland’s New AmeriCorps *VISTA

Please join us in welcoming Parkland College’s new AmeriCorps *VISTA, Honey Bennett. Honey will be taking over Lauren Ritter’s position as the College’s Volunteer Coordinator. She comes to Parkland having freshly graduated from Millikin University in December of 2010. It is her first year in service with Americorps, but she hopes that this is the first step in a life-long career of volunteerism. At Millikin Honey double-majored in English Literature and Creative Writing. She looks forward to putting these skills to good use on Parkland’s Campus and the surrounding community. You can contact Honey via email, (CLBennett@parkland.edu), or by phone, (217) 353-3302.

Parkland College Service-Learning Counsel to Serve in Faculty Fellows

Thanks to a generous financial contribution from the Lumpkin Family Foundation, Kendra McClure, Ruijie Zhao, and Lauren O’Connor have been selected by the Parkland College Service-Learning Advisory Council to serve in the inaugural class of the Homework Club Faculty Fellows program. The three Fellows will work with Brian Nudelman, Parkland’s Service-Learning Coordinator, during the fall 2011 semester to redesign courses to incorporate service-learning. Specifically, the Fellows will participate in three workshops over the course of the fall 2011 semester, where they will learn best practices of service-learning and design new syllabi. In the spring and fall semesters of 2012, they will each “roll out” one new service-learning-driven course, where it is hoped that the Homework Club will serve as the primary community organization partnered with that particular course. Please join us in congratulating Kendra, Ruijie, and Lauren!

Mark Your Calendars for the Volunteer Fair!

This fall’s Volunteer Fair will be held Wednesday, September 7 from 10:30AM-1PM in the College Center. The Volunteer Fairs are a great way to network, get some information on local nonprofit organizations, and to sign up for available volunteer opportunities. We invite you to stop by the Fair, tell a friend about it, or bring your class by to browse. For more general information or for a list of participating organizations, please contact Honey Bennett at CLBennett@parkland.edu or at 353-3302.

"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

Share Your S-L Stories
If you are involved in service-learning with Parkland students, please share your stories with the Parkland community by

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Join the Garden Hills Homework Club!

“Treat People as if they were what they ought to be and you help them to become what they are capable of being” --Goethe

For the past four years, students and faculty of Parkland College have been working with 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders at an afterschool program called the Homework Club at Garden Hills Elementary. The Club, a partnership between Parkland College and Champaign School District 4, meets two days a week (Mondays and Wednesdays), from 3:00-4:00 PM. We are currently recruiting Parkland students to volunteer one day a week throughout the fall semester, providing not only academic support to the Garden Hills kids, but also serving as important role-models to at-risk youth. Due to past successful semesters with the Club, our primary goal is to expand, with more Parkland students and faculty, working with more Garden Hills students. For information about potentially connecting your class or club with the Garden Hills/Parkland College Homework Club this semester, please contact Brian Nudelman @ 351-2534 or Honey Bennett at 353-3302 clbennett@parkland.edu.