CUE Conference
LaGuardia Community College
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Learning Outside of the Classroom:

The Service Corps is a hybrid program that provides 700 students at the University with both a service opportunity and a pre-professional experience at 96 community partner sites.

Today we will discuss how the Service Corps model enhances students’ co-curricular learning through:

- A robust ongoing support program
- Making connections with faculty and awarding credit
OUR STORY...

- November 2012:
  ✓ In the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, Chancellor Emeritus Matthew Goldstein announces plan to form the CUNY Service Corps

- Spring 2013:
  ✓ Aggressive planning and recruitment to realize this major University initiative
  ✓ Seven participating colleges are chosen

- Summer 2013:
  ✓ Nearly 2000 applications are received from students, 165 from partners
  ✓ Offer extended to over 800 students and 96 community partners

- Fall 2013
  ✓ 719 students complete pre-service training and are placed with 96 community partners

- Spring 2014
  • Culminating our inaugural year
  • Recruiting for next year (1900 students and 175 partners applied)
  • Building on our successes!
8 PARTICIPATING COLLEGES

- BMCC
- Queens College
- Lehman College
- Medgar Evers College
- John Jay College of Criminal Justice
- New York City College of Technology
- College of Staten Island
- Kingsborough

CUNY Service Corps
OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS INCLUDE...

- NYP
- NYS Department of Labor
- Brooklyn Navy Yard Industrial Park
- American Museum of Natural History
- Care for the Homeless
- Center for Court Innovation
- The Point
- The Door
- U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- CUNY Service Corps
EXAMPLES OF SERVICE PLACEMENT PROJECTS

• Lead schoolchildren through museum exhibits
• Help develop websites for community organizations
• Tutor immigrants in English

• Help immigrants apply for citizenship
• Work in participatory budgeting with local city council members
• Help senior citizens become more tech-savvy
“I never knew the extent of my skills, the impact that I could create or the importance of critical thinking. I now understand the significance of self-confidence and how to use my knowledge to serve the greater good.”

-Rohannie
Literacy Partners

“I am a better person and a better professional as a result of my time in the Service Corps. My supervisor opened my eyes to my potential as a professional.”

-Alyssa
East Harlem Tutorial Program
The ongoing support program creates experiential learning opportunities for students to meaningfully reflect on their service placements through workshops and meetings facilitated by campus managers.
With the collaboration of other support services at BMCC, the CUNY Service Corps students at BMCC were required to attend a series of workshops that included the following:

- Understanding Your Personality Using the Myers Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI)
- Professional Etiquette in the Workplace
- Stress Management
- Conflict Resolution in the Workplace
- Resume Writing

To keep the theme of giving back and serving the community, students also were asked to volunteer for at least one on or off campus event:

- Career Fair
- De-Stress Fest
- Partnership with NY Cares
- Alternative Spring Break Trip to Oklahoma City in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity
John Jay Overview

Biweekly Trainings

Symplicity Platform

One-on-one Advising

John Jay Ongoing Support
Victim/Victor Talk
  Define Victim Talk vs. Victor Talk
  Practice Active Listening
  Small Group Activity
    Choose a statement and convert to victim talk

Ending Your Placement on a Professional High
Note
  Reflective Writing
  Reflective Icebreaker – Large Group Activity
  Small Group Activity
  Learning Action Plan Review

John Jay Ongoing Support
Reflective Exercises
  Reflective Writing
  Row Race
  Who Am I?
  Service Haiku

John Jay Ongoing Support

CUNY Service Corps
Additional Components

Symplicity Platform
  Online Database
  Community Building
  Campus Specific

One-on-one Advising
  Tailored Improvement Plans
  Regular Check-Ins

John Jay Ongoing Support
LOOKING AHEAD – INCREASING FACULTY ENGAGEMENT & AWARDING CREDIT

Next year, faculty will lead some service-oriented projects, and students will more explicitly connect their service work to their academic learning.
BMCC Connections to Faculty & Credit

- Cooperative Education courses - Students can gain practical work experience by working in internships in areas such as business, government or human service organizations during the semester.

- Each student intern is assigned to an internship professor who is knowledgeable about the student’s field. The professor serves as the student’s instructor and advisor during the field experience.

- Students receive two (2) academic credits for their participation in the internship course.

**Cooperative Education interns are expected to:**
- Work 15 hours a week for the length of the academic semester.
- Complete a term project assigned by the professor.
- Be evaluated by the worksite supervisor.

BMCC Overview
Faculty engaged in program
Recruitment and selection
  Advertise program to students
  Serve as application readers
  Group interview facilitators and observers

Faculty-led projects
  Faculty supervise service placements
  Possibility to receive credit as independent study

John Jay Connections to Faculty & Credit
Individual Route (3-6 credits)
  • Apply through Careers office
  • Complete internship course through department

Leadership Course (3 credits)
  • Taught through Office of Community Outreach
    ◦ Service-learning model
    ◦ Meets 6 times throughout semester
    ◦ Use Corps site as practical experience
    ◦ Course full of Service Corps members

Current Cohort Receiving Credit: **15%**
Projected for 2014-2015 Cohort: **33%**