



# Communicator

## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT—GET OUT THE VOTE!!

### Record Set for Campus Voter Registrations in Annual Contest

Hurray for the Red, White and Blue! Congratulations to the following winners in the Oklahoma Campus Compact 2008 Voter Registration Contest (institutions grouped by full-time enrollment):

Red (small)	Langston University	Registered 32 percent of its enrollment
White (mid-sized)	Rose State College	Registered 8.4 percent of its enrollment
Blue (large)	University of Oklahoma	Registered 9.1 percent of its enrollment

All together, 16 college campuses across the state registered 5,331 new student voters, besting the old record of 3,910 registrations set in 2004. Many campuses exerted maximum effort by continuing enrollment up to the October 10, 2008 state deadline for participation in the November general election.

This marked the sixth consecutive year that Oklahoma Campus Compact has sponsored the Voter Registration Contest. Following the conclusion of registration activities, as part of the 2008 Campus Vote Initiative, campuses were encouraged to continue ongoing efforts by providing opportunities for voter education and encouraging and providing assistance for students to vote.

An advisory committee will meet in the spring to assess the success of the entire 2008 Campus Vote Initiative in voter registration and participation in Oklahoma.

### Campus Votes Challenge

Feeling competitive? The Campus Votes Challenge is an opportunity for colleges and universities who registered voters on their campus to energize students, demonstrate the positive impact they have on youth voting, and get third party verification of their undergraduate voting rate. Co-sponsored by Tufts University and Campus Compact, this initiative aims to reinforce the efforts of schools across the U.S. to increase student voting rates. Started as a friendly challenge from Tufts University President Lawrence S. Bacow, the Campus Votes Challenge grew out of [Campus Compact's 2008 Campus Vote Initiative](#). To participate, go to <http://www.compact.org/vote/> and click on Campus Votes Challenge.

### Student Voting Rights

The Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law offers online information for students wishing to register and vote when attending out-of-state institutions. For a state-by-state information source on student voting regulations see the Student Voting Guide at: <http://www.brennancenter.org/studentvoting>.

### Engaging Students in the Voting Process

For an in depth article on engaging students in the election process which highlights the Campus Compact 2008 Campus Vote Initiative, see the article from the October 9, 2008 issue of Inside Higher Ed by Paul Loeb, Maureen Curley and Sherry Morreale: <http://www.insidehighered.com/views/2008/10/09/loeb>.

### Special points of Interest:

- > VISTA Site Spotlight, page 2
- > Community Engagement Spotlights, page 3
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## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, CONTINUED

### Public Deliberation Forum at Southwestern Oklahoma State University

Tuesday evening, November 11, 2008, Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) led by President John Hays will co-sponsor a public deliberative forum on campus on *Coping with the Cost of Health Care*. Limited to approximately 25 people, this public forum is the first of its kind in Weatherford and is co-sponsored by the Oklahoma Partnership for Public Deliberation (OPPD).

While the forum is not open to the public, in order to facilitate participation by the deliberators, this information is given to remind campus entities interested in community engagement of the availability of this civic engagement tool. The OPPD is a member of the National Issues Forums (NIF), a network of organizations joined together by a common desire to discuss critical issues. More information on this organization and process is available at <http://www.nifi.org>.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### Langston University Second Annual Service Learning Conference

Langston University will build on the success of its first Service Learning Conference hosted in 2007 by offering a second event for faculty. The conference, hosted on the Oklahoma City campus and titled, *Promoting Community Engaged Scholarship*, seeks to educate faculty from all disciplines on the "nuts and bolts" of utilizing service learning in higher education, and about community engaged scholarship, which is the relationship of service learning and civic engagement to the scholarly process. Conference participants will be offered the opportunity to begin the process of incorporating service projects and civic engagement into their scholarship plan. Speakers include representatives from various campuses in a variety of disciplines, led by John Phelan, Coordinator for Service Learning, Community Service and Engagement, Western Oklahoma State College, who is one of three Oklahoma graduates of the 2008 Campus Compact Professional Development Institute. Attendees are encouraged to bring a syllabus which they would like to modify to include service learning.

#### For More Information:

Langston University Second Annual Service Learning Conference  
Friday, November 7, 2008, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Langston University, OKC Campus, 4205 N. Lincoln Boulevard,  
Oklahoma City 73105

Cost: \$10 to help defray costs of lunch and breaks

Contacts: Dr. Aliya Chaudry, at [achaudry@lunet.edu](mailto:achaudry@lunet.edu),  
405-466-3255, or Dr. Theresa Leahy, at [teleahy@lunet.edu](mailto:teleahy@lunet.edu),  
405-466-3564.

### 2009 Oklahoma Higher Education Teaching and Learning Conference

Northeastern State University's Center for Teaching and Learning

will sponsor the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual 2009 Oklahoma Higher Education Teaching and Learning Conference on April 2 and April 3, 2009 on the Broken Arrow campus. The conference theme is *Embrace Connections, Enhance Teaching, and Envision Learning*. This theme opens the field of topics from Service Learning to Distance Learning to the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, and will give a place for people in higher education to present their research. The conference also provides opportunities to share and get feedback from peers, the foundations of scholarship.

This year the conference is two days to allow for more sessions, speakers, and networking time. Early registration for the conference is \$100. The keynote is George Siemens, a well-known theorist on the changing nature of learning in a digitally-based society. Author of the widely cited article *Connectivism: A Learning Theory for the Digital Age* and the book *Knowing Knowledge* - an exploration of the impact of the changed context and characteristics of knowledge, George Siemens speaks on subjects dealing with using technologies to improve teaching and learning effectiveness, and is currently the Associate Director in the Learning Technologies Centre at the University of Manitoba. Faculty who have contributed in highly creative ways to their institutions are being honored in a luncheon as Oklahoma Innovative Faculty.

#### For more information:

2009 Oklahoma Higher Education Teaching and Learning Conference  
April 2-3, 2009

Northeastern Oklahoma State University, Broken Arrow Campus

Cost: \$100 early registration

Contact: James "Jym" Brittain, the Center for Teaching and Learning,  
Northeastern Oklahoma State University, [brit-taj@nsuok.edu](mailto:brit-taj@nsuok.edu), 918-456-5855

Conference Web site at [www.teachingconference.org](http://www.teachingconference.org).

## AMERICORPS\*VISTA NEWS

The Oklahoma Campus Compact AmeriCorp\*VISTA program has moved into its second year of operation following the project renewal by CNCS in August. The first year yielded 12 VISTA placements, and we are looking forward to adding new sites at institutions and recruiting more VISTAs in the coming year.

Both the project site supervisors and the VISTA members underwent a one-day state project orientation session at Oklahoma Campus Compact (OkCC) last spring. This fall the VISTA members attended a day of mid-year training at OkCC that included a grant writing session for the older VISTA members with Kimberly Pleasant, University of Central Oklahoma's VISTA member, who participated in the annual EPSCoR/DSRHE Summer Grant Writing Institute, and Dr. Linda Mason, Coordinator for Grant Writing at the State Regents for Higher Education. This session concluded with a roundtable discussion of database development, and a demonstration by John Liaz and Khalid Ali on the new University of Oklahoma database system, which utilizes the Service-Learning Pro software program. The agenda included a presentation on the Framework for Understanding Poverty workshop during this time. All VISTA members joined together for a session on the basics of Service-Learning and Community Service presented by Gina Wekke and Debbie Terlip that included dissemination of a book titled *The Promise of Partnerships: Tapping into the College as a Community Asset* for each VISTA member. Risa Johnson detailed a newly-streamlined reporting system, and the session concluded with a wrap up.

The Oklahoma Campus Compact AmeriCorp\*VISTA program continues to grow, adding Cameron University and Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City to the list of project sites. Due to three VISTA member resignations, currently nine of the fifteen allotted VISTA members are filled. The remaining six slots are allotted and undergoing recruitment, as follows:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Number of Slots</u>
Cameron University	Two
Northwestern Oklahoma State University	One
Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City Campus	One
Rose State College	One
University of Central Oklahoma	One

### VISTA Site Spotlight

#### **Ms. Jessica Anthony, VISTA Member, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma (USAO)**

Jessica Anthony was one of the first two Oklahoma Campus Compact VISTA Members recruited, and since starting in February 2008 has accomplished many things at USAO. This past summer, Jessica co-taught a community development class with her supervisor, Robert Edmondson, which resulted in several project proposals being developed, and a few of them implemented. One proposal for a campus garden was subsequently funded by the student association, with a ground-breaking ceremony planned for the spring. A development team of students, staff and faculty at USAO are working with the Grady County OSU Extension Office on issues of efficiency and productivity. USAO students will participate in a work day to build the raised beds.

Jessica has also taken a pet project under her wing while in her year of service at USAO. Working with the Women's Service and Family Resource Center and the Child Advocacy Center in Chickasha, Jessica has gotten the university involved in a two-phase project to create an outdoor safe and inviting place for the children who use the centers. The first phase of the backyard clean up project for the Child Advocacy Center was completed last summer with the help of USAO soccer Coach Jimmy Hampton's men's and women's soccer teams, who removed glass, broken concrete, trash, weeds, and branches. 1700 square feet of sod donated by a local farmer has been laid. Phase two involves a service-learning project with the USAO Infant/Child/Adolescent Development class to study child play in relation to development and create designs for backyards. The students will compete in a designer's challenge judged by a panel of local people experienced in psychology, play, and service-learning, and of individuals who will work directly with the children. The panel will be looking for course material combined with creativity and imagination. The winning project's team will receive a reward and will oversee construction of the Child Advocacy Center's new play area.



*Ms. Jessica Anthony,  
VISTA Member, USAO*

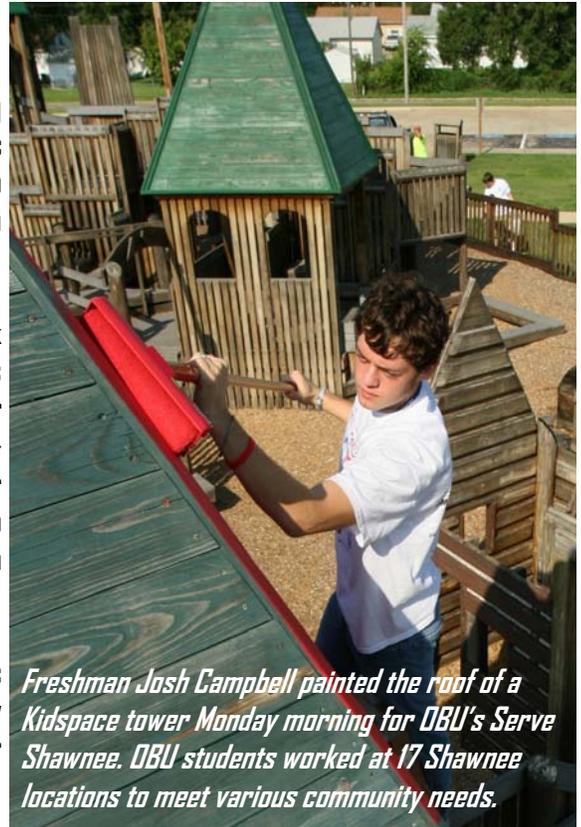
## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SPOTLIGHTS

### OBU's Welcome Week Serves Shawnee

Oklahoma Baptist University's Welcome Week is designed to celebrate incoming freshmen and transfer students' transitions to Bison Hill. While the new students learn about OBU traditions and form new relationships, Welcome Week also designates a time for students to connect with the local community through a service-oriented event called "Serve Shawnee."

Monday morning more than 350 freshmen and their upperclassmen Welcome Week workers spread out in the Shawnee area to work at 17 locations. The students tackled tasks at Fairview Cemetery, Kidspace park, Santa Fe Depot, Habitat for Humanity, Boys and Girls Club, Family Promise, Harvest Farms, HOPE House, Mabee-Gerrer Museum, Mission Shawnee, Salvation Army, Shawnee Tower, Dunbar Recreational Center, Shawnee Lake Project, Hi-Rise, Milstead Circle and Kickapoo Parks by painting, cleaning up trash, and addressing other specific needs of each location.

Serve Shawnee connects students with their peers and illustrates different ways they can be involved in the surrounding community. New students said they appreciated the opportunity to learn about the community and connect with their classmates.



*Freshman Josh Campbell painted the roof of a Kidspace tower Monday morning for OBU's Serve Shawnee. OBU students worked at 17 Shawnee locations to meet various community needs.*

### Tulsa Community College Student Outreach and Civic Engagement Program

Under the leadership and stewardship of President Tom McKeon, the Tulsa Community College (TCC) Student Outreach and Civic Engagement Program comprises one of the most comprehensive community outreach programs at any institution in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education. TCC's program encompasses thirteen separate components, under the principal goal of providing TCC students with community service opportunities for learning outside the traditional classroom by reaching out to their community. Each of the components is intended to reinforce student development along with the general education goals at TCC, and to reinforce TCC's Core Value of Diversity.

Coordinated by Tony Alonso, Dean of Diversity and Civic Engagement, along with assistance from deans and directors, the program also utilizes coordinators on each of TCC's four campuses for the various components that provide community outreach and sponsor service learning initiatives for students and faculty. The program components are:

1. Adoption of Gilcrease Middle School – TCC was one of the first colleges to adopt a school in Oklahoma, and participates in the official Partners in Education/Adopt-A-School Program of the Metropolitan Tulsa Chamber of Commerce. The service consists of tutoring, mentoring, enrichment activities, classroom presentations, and special projects.

2. TCC Service Learning Program – This program compliments the overall mission of TCC to provide programs of study that serve the community. Headed college-wide by Nikki Givens, the program provides resources and support to enable faculty to easily incorporate service learning into the curriculum. TCC holds an annual Service-Learning and Community Outreach Awards Luncheon in the spring to recognize students, faculty, staff and site coordinators for outstanding performance in the area of Civic Engagement.

3. Tutorial Outreach Program – Students prepared with orientation and training tutor or mentor for two hours per week for 13 weeks. An average of 30 students participate in the program, both on and off campus, and they may receive college credit for community

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SPOTLIGHTS, CONTINUED

service by enrolling in service learning classes under the Child Development Discipline.

4. Student Organizations Outreach Program – Many student organizations have provided programs and services at various entities throughout the community.

5. Multicultural Training Program – Training and instruction is provided to students in the area of cultural diversity for related outreach programs.

6. Day of Vision – This program provides tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade students in the Tulsa area the opportunity to become familiar with higher education and careers.

7. TCC/NAACP Partnership: A Celebration of African-American History – TCC and the local chapter of the NAACP Youth Council co-sponsor a celebration of African-American History during the month of February. TCC students are involved in the planning and implementation of this program.

8. TCC's Hispanic Outreach Program – A partnership with the Hispanic American Foundation of Tulsa, the program seeks to familiarize Hispanics with higher education opportunities, and motivates and encourages them to attend college. TCC students are involved in the planning and implementation of this program.

9. Community-Based Federal Work Study Program – TCC participates in the America Reads/America Counts Program to improve the academic success of the community's children in the various school districts in the Tulsa area by providing trained student tutors. To date, TCC students have tutored/mentored in 12 elementary and middle schools.

10. Area Health and Education Center (AHEC) – The AHEC works to improve access to health care provided in the rural and underserved areas, and to reduce the disparities to health care between Oklahoma's rural and urban populations. An effort is made to increase the number of minority and rural Oklahoma students entering the health professions.

11. Encouraging More Education to Reach Graduation and Employment (EMERGE) – EMERGE encompasses TCC's mission in providing transformative educational experiences through the enrichment of the lives of low income individuals who have been historically underserved and are currently underrepresented in higher education.

12. Education Opportunity Center (EOC) – TCC's EOC is funded through the U.S. Department of Education, sponsored, and identified as a TRIO Program. The purpose of the program is to promote postsecondary education by providing information and assistance on educational and career opportunities and available financial aid options to eligible adults in a four-county area.

13. Education Outreach Center – Located in East Tulsa, the Center creates access to successful educational experiences at the college through the provision of programs specially designed to help build pathways to college for low income or first generation students, and underrepresented and underserved populations. These include ESL classes, academic counseling, and relationships with related community agencies such as the Tulsa Family and Children Services.

For Further Information Contact: Tony Alonso, Dean of Diversity and Civic Education

Tulsa Community College

(918) 595-7838 Office

[talonso@tulsacc.edu](mailto:talonso@tulsacc.edu)

## Tell us your stories...

Do you have a service-learning or student service project success story? Has a particular civic engagement methodology worked well on your campus? Send your stories to [gwekke@osrhe.edu](mailto:gwekke@osrhe.edu) and we will highlight them in upcoming newsletters!

## STUDENT AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

### CASE Grant Application Extended

Oklahoma Campus Compact (OkCC) has extended the deadline to Friday, November 14, 2008 for applications for the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Academic-Service Entrepreneur (CASE) award program for three (3) \$1,000 student awards to be selected by Oklahoma Campus Compact (OkCC). Successful applications from students will contain innovative and promising use of the grant to establish or significantly further a partnership between the student and community non-profit organization. Three (3) winners will be chosen based on the selection criteria outlined in the announcement (for a copy of the criteria contact Debbie Terlip or Gina Wekke in OkCC at [dterlip@osrhe.edu](mailto:dterlip@osrhe.edu), or [gwekke@osrhe.edu](mailto:gwekke@osrhe.edu)).

Application Process: Students apply for the grant online at [www.servicebook.org](http://www.servicebook.org), and are encouraged to work with their community partner to leverage this grant with additional contributions from other sources or additional participation by students, faculty and community residents or others. *The students chosen to receive the award will present a \$1,000 check to the community non-profit organization described in the project. Students will receive an official certificate signed by Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter.* More information can be found at [www.jrcpf.org](http://www.jrcpf.org). The awards will be announced December 10, 2008, and presented at a future meeting of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE), 655 Research Parkway, Suite 200, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

#### Examples of Winning CASE Projects

Art education program for homeless children in St. Paul, Minnesota

Improvement of Health and Fitness programs, Boys and Girls Club in Alamance, North Carolina

Peer-mentoring program to provide positive role models for Native American school children, South Dakota

Attention and support for restoration of a 100-year old opera house in Fredonia, New York

Creation of an electronic database of patient records at a free healthcare clinic, Minnesota

More detailed examples of winning projects are available at <http://www.Servicebook.org/>



### Spencer Foundation Grants for Civic Learning and Civic Action

The Civic Learning and Civic Action Strategic Initiative aims to strengthen work about how and why individuals and groups become committed to civic action. Through this initiative, the Spencer Foundation will support research studies that examine the commitments, conditions, and contexts that stimulate and sustain civic action, and identify those that constrain or discourage it. It begins with the assumption that civic action matters for citizenship, that there are concerns about current trends in interest and opportunities for participation in civic activities, that education for citizenship is an important charge of public schools and higher education, and that limited research addressing how to foster civic behavior exists. Three sets of influences frame the perspectives for examining the connections between action and learning: influences of civic motivations and other psychological processes; influences of learning experiences and environments; and influences of social, political, cultural, historical, and other contextual influences on individual and group action. Particular interest in this area involves the cultivation of work that will lead to education-relevant policies and practices through theory development and advancements in knowledge. The Spencer Foundation anticipates that investment in this initiative will extend over a substantial period of time, with other activities intended to advance this work to be announced in the near future.

Both small and large grants are available. For more information and links to the application guidelines, go to <http://www.spencer.org/> and select the link for "Strategic Initiatives for Civic Learning and Civic Action."

## STUDENT AWARD OPPORTUNITIES, CONTINUED

### Contacts:

Susan Dauber, Program Director

sdauber@spencer.org

Lauren Jones Young, Program Director

lyoung@spencer.org

(312) 274-6515

### Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowships

Applications are now being accepted for the 2009 Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowships Program for Achieving Excellence in College and University Teaching. Full eligibility information and on-line applications are available on the National Academies Website: <http://nationalacademies.org/fellowships>

### Eligibility Requirements:

U.S. citizen or national; Planning a career in teaching and research at the college or university level in a research-based field of science, social sciences, or humanities.

### Stipends and Allowances:

Predoctoral--\$20,000 to the fellow, institutional allowance of \$2,000 for three years

Dissertation--\$21,000 for one year

Postdoctoral--\$40,000 for one year, \$1,500 employing institution allowance, to be matched by employing institution

Awardees have expenses paid to attend one Conference of Ford Fellows.

Approximately 60 predoctoral, 35 dissertation, and 20 postdoctoral fellowships are sponsored by the Ford Foundation and administered by the National Research Council of the National Academies.

### Application Deadline Dates:

Predoctoral: November 14, 2008

Dissertation: November 28, 2008

Postdoctoral: November 28, 2008

### For further information, contact:

Fellowships Office, K576

National Research Council of the National Academies

500 Fifth Street, NW

Washington, DC 20001

Phone: (202) 334-2872

Fax: (202) 334-3419

E-mail: [infofell@nas.edu](mailto:infofell@nas.edu)

## Important Dates

2009 Gulf-South Summit—March 25-27, 2009

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Sponsored by the Center for Community Engagement, Learning and Leadership at Louisiana State University

## RESOURCES

### Coming Soon: Regional Campus Compact Speakers Bureau

The Campus Compact Speakers Bureau is in the development stages to help member campuses identify appropriate workshop/professional development facilitators or speakers in the southern region of the United States.

The content of the Speakers Bureau will be provided by Campus Compact Member institutions from Oklahoma and surrounding states. Each State that has a Campus Compact state office will be able to place speaker information into the database through authorization by Oklahoma Campus Compact. If you have questions, please contact Ms. Gina M. Wekke at [gwekke@osrhe.edu](mailto:gwekke@osrhe.edu) or (405) 225-9142.

### Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits

The Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits mission is "Building Better Communities through Effective Nonprofits." For opportunities in networking and professional development, see its website at <http://www.centerfornonprofits.org>.

### Imagining America: Artists and Scholars in Public Life

Imagining America is a national consortium of colleges and universities begun in 2001 that are committed to public scholarship in the arts, humanities, and design. It now has over 80 consortium members and is based at Syracuse University, where it reports to the office of the chancellor. Its work is funded by three sources: fees paid by member colleges and universities; support from Syracuse University; and external grants.

Public scholarship in the arts and humanities integrates all the missions of higher education: research, teaching, service, and public engagement, and joins serious intellectual endeavor with a commitment to public practice and public consequence. It includes:

- Scholarly and creative work jointly planned and carried out by university and community partners;
- Intellectual work that produces a public good;
- Artistic, critical, and historical work that contributes to public debates; and
- Efforts to expand the place of public scholarship in higher education itself, including the development of new programs and research on the successes of such efforts.

Current projects include the Tenure Team Initiative on Public Scholarship, the Curriculum Project, and Publicly Active Graduate Education (PAGE). More information can be found at <http://imagingamerica.org>. Three Oklahoma teams will participate in a conversation about Tenure and Promotion related to the scholarship of community-based research, service-learning programs, and service related to promotion, in Missouri on February 18-19, 2009.

### Under Construction for Technological Membership in the 21st Century: The Oklahoma Campus Compact Website

Oklahoma Campus Compact is in the process of updating and improving its website on the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education website. When completed, we hope to bring you much more information on a timely basis in a more user-friendly format. In the meantime, thanks for your patience!

<http://www.okhighered.org/campus-com/>



Oklahoma | Campus Compact

If you have any questions about items in this newsletter or need assistance, please contact:  
 Ms. Gina Wekke, Executive Director  
 Oklahoma Campus Compact  
 Post Office Box 108850  
 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73101-8850  
 (405) 225-9142  
 E-mail: [gwekke@osrhe.edu](mailto:gwekke@osrhe.edu)