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Special points of interest:

- USL pilots Online Course option in Summer 2014
- ASU AmeriCorps program provides training for members
- USL Listserv open for subscription

3 Generations of USL Directors

What founding director Gay Brack envisioned as a volunteer endeavor to ensure children in the community had structured time for learning and homework afterschool, sparked a movement that after 20 years has made a lasting impact on our entire community. Since 1993, the Service-Learning Project has evolved into sustainable curricular courses, both required and elective, with opportunities to serve in a myriad of settings under the leadership of three directors, Dr. Gay Brack, Jan Kelly and Deborah Ball.

In a [recent interview](#) Gay Brack recalls, "I began doing afterschool tutoring on a volunteer basis. The first week I had nine children, by the end of the second week I had 58, so I realized I had to bring in volunteers!" To accommodate the

enormous need for the program Gay reached out to her colleagues within ASU's English Department and began developing stand-alone service-learning (SL) courses in which students could teach children in the community what they were learning in their college courses.

Jan Kelly, SL's second director is deeply embedded in the works of the program. Starting in 1994 as an instructor in the English department, Jan began teaching SL courses that connected to the after-school tutoring internships created by Gay. From 1998, she became a Program Coordinator and then Director of the program. Under Jan's direction, the program became Academic Community Engagement Services (ACES) and was part of University College.

Though she returned to her roots in the ENG department in 2005, we are happy to report that as of Fall 2013, she is now teaching one section of USL courses per semester.

The journey began for Deborah Ball when someone came to her ENG 101 class in 1995 to explain an opportunity to take a SL course that connected ENG 102 with an internship tutoring children who needed help in reading, writing and math. In January 1996 she completed her SL internship at Holdeman Elementary School. The following semester, Deborah continued on as a leadership intern and soon became a program supervisor. In 1999, after graduating she began as the America Reads Coordinator. As the

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3 generations of USL Directors (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

program evolved, so did her position; Deborah took over as the program began transitioning in 2006. Shortly after, the department was moved to the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College to become University Service-Learning in 2009. She currently still holds the position of Director as the program continues to grow and become embedded in the Teachers College. Within 20 years the project has evolved into two programs, University

Service-Learning courses and America Reads Tutoring Program, both focused on meeting community needs and building a bridge between ASU and the community. Between both programs, a wide range of community needs are met in addition to the educational focus of the original program. Now service opportunities include healthcare/hospice, senior care, social services, environmental and much more. As the program has evolved through its three generations of directors,



Gay Brack, Jan Kelly, Deborah Ball and SL staff at awards ceremony to accept President's Award for Innovation in 2002

each one has left a lasting impact on the development of the Service-Learning model at ASU into what it is today, and what it will be in the future.

USL Spring 2014 Photo Contest Winners!



LiJiun Tsai



Marjorie Estavillo

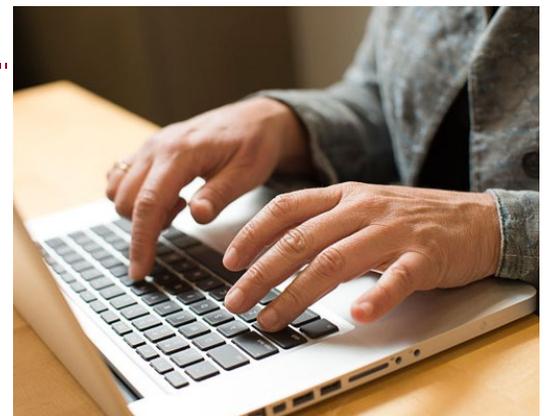


Harley Brooks

Congratulation to LiJiun Tsai, our 1st Place winner in the USL Spring 2014 Photo Contest! LiJiun completed her USL internship in a first grade classroom at Cesar Chavez Community School this semester. She usually works with individual students or in a small group of students on reading and math. We would also like to applaud our 2nd Place finisher, Marjorie Estavillo, who completed her service at i.d.e.a. Museum doing art workshops with kids and our 3rd Place finisher Harley Brooks, who served at Arizonans for Children, who provide assistance for foster children and families.

USL Offers Online Course this Summer

University Service-Learning pilots its first online course this Summer 2014. Students enrolled in USL 210 online, will have the opportunity to complete all lectures and coursework online while still completing their service internship with one of USL's approved community partners. The pilot was designed by and will be instructed by Nancy Haas, of the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College Division of Teacher Prep. If the pilot is a success we look forward to providing more USL Online course options in the future.



AmeriCorps collaborates with community organizations to train future educators and health care workers



"This knowledge will be of use to me in the classroom because it allows me to be aware of opportunities that can help children in need that are in our class."

-Haley Heinkel, ASU AmeriCorps Member

ASU AmeriCorps collaborates with local government and non-profit organizations to provide trainings on how to best serve Arizona. ASU AmeriCorps Members have training opportunities from Child Protective Services, the Arizona Department of Education, and Arizona Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College AmeriCorps Members gain professional development skills to prepare them to work with at-risk and underprivileged students and the skills to enable these students to succeed academically. The College of Nursing and Health Innovation AmeriCorps Members gain skills and knowledge to improve health care and outcomes for underserved communities in Arizona.

Members are working at non-profit health care clinics to increase the capacity of facilities to serve people from low-income families and/or those without access to health insurance. ASU students participating in AmeriCorps earn educational awards while improving their communities. AmeriCorps trainings are offered monthly and vary between in-person, online and webinar format providing a range of flexibility for students. The trainings seek to further strengthen the member experience and cover topics that include McKinney Vento and Homeless Students: Strategies for supporting homeless students, Project Based Learning for At-Risk Students, and Health Care and Arizona Youth: Impact

and Resources for underserved children. In the future, AmeriCorps staff hopes to increase the number of trainings and range of topics covered through building more partnerships with local organizations. To find out more about our ASU AmeriCorps Program, go to <http://americorps.asu.edu>



Organizations partnering with the AmeriCorps Training Program

ASU AmeriCorps Member wins Photo Contest!

Katie Barr, iTeach AZ student and AmeriCorps Member won the Campus Compact of the Mountain West's (CCMW) Service in Action Photo Competition. This photo contest recognizes and shares student service projects throughout the Mountain West region. Out of 35 submissions, 10 finalists were selected for public vote by a panel of higher education staff and faculty. Barr's compelling image "Shaping Minds, Shaping Hearts" drew immense support and enthusiasm, winning first place with 1,000 votes. Congratulations to Katie on her accomplishment. "Serving with young children provides the opportunity not only to act as their academic teacher, but also as a role model for how to treat others and treat themselves."



University Service-Learning & America Reads ListServ (USLAR)

We are pleased to announce that Community Engagement Programs now has a ListServ to share information with our partners and supporters. The ListServ will be designated for sharing items such as our newsletter and other publications, information about upcoming Community Engagement Events and other important USL news. You may subscribe or unsubscribe to the list following these instructions:

Subscribe

Send an email to listserv@asu.edu

1. Type the word "subscribe" in the subject line
2. Type the words "subscribe USLAR" as the text of the e-mail. Be sure to delete any other text (like a signature) you may have at the end of your message.
3. You will receive an email asking to confirm your subscription. Follow the instructions in that email to confirm your subscription. **Note:** Your request will be cancelled if not responded to within 48 hours.

Unsubscribe

Send an email to listserv@asu.edu

1. Type the word "unsubscribe" in the subject line of the e-mail.
2. Type the words "unsubscribe USLAR" as the text of the e-mail. Be sure to delete any other text (like a signature) you may have at the end of your message.
3. You will then be removed from the listserv

NOTE: all partners, supporters and other contacts on our current mailing list will be automatically added to the ListServ. There is no need to subscribe if you have received this Newsletter by email.

Donate on our website!

You can have a direct impact on meeting critical needs in our community and cultivating civic engagement among ASU students.

Your donation will go directly to supporting programming that places ASU students at under-resourced schools and nonprofits that serve a broad range of community needs. You may designate a specific program if you wish: University Service-Learning or America Reads.

Give Online today!

<http://communityengagement.education.asu.edu/give>

Thank you to our major donors:

State Farm Insurance (*Top from left: Director Deborah Ball, State Farm Representative Gus Miranda, Former USL Director Jan Kelly*)

Armstrong Family Foundation (*Bottom from left: Founding Director Gay Brack, Deborah Ball, Jo-Ann, Jim, Amy, and Patrick Armstrong*)



Assessing USL Benefit through Statistical Analysis



Service-Learning students are continually making an impact in the community through serving with local organizations and non-profits. While one goal of USL courses is to meet community needs, the service-learning teaching method also seeks to enhance the student’s understanding of the course material through completing meaningful service. So you may ask, to what extent does the service deepen their understanding of the course content and benefit them in the classroom? That is just what one Community Engagement Pro-

grams staff member is seeking to find out.

Joe Sweet, currently Program Coordinator for the America Reads Program has been a staff member with the department since 2011. He completed his Master’s Degree in Statistics at ASU this spring 2014 and starting in the summer of 2011 began his efforts to revamp USL’s post-semester survey.

Joe initially took on the project to redesign the survey questions in hopes to make the data more useable to report the benefit and impact of service-learning. During his work, Joe decided to use the project as the thesis topic for his Master’s program. Joe recently presented his innovative new research in SL at the NYLC Annual National Service-Learning Conference in Washington D.C. in April. The workshop focused on designing simple yet innovative assessments to administer to students that evaluate the benefits of service-learning.

His research with USL courses at ASU is seeking to answer the question: to what extent does

service deepen the students understanding of the course material? Are there any factors that make a difference in the take-away for students, such as whether the course is an academic requirement or elective? Which aspect of the course has the biggest effect on the student’s experience? While Joe is still evaluating his data for impact and implications, his findings thus far have shown that after taking a USL course

- **84% of students would continue to volunteer at least once a month**
- **87% reported that service-learning contributed to their sense of citizenship**

and students’ overall desire to volunteer definitively increased. Joe is working with Community Engagement Programs Director Deborah Ball and his research advisor Dr. May Boggess to collect and analyze the data and he will be submitting his findings to the Journal of Service-Learning in Higher Education. More information about Joe’s research and future publications will be available upon analysis of the data.



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