Over spring break 30 students participated in the Key Center’s Alternative Service Experience (ASE) program, sending students on 3 different trips to community organizations across the southeast.

ASE is a program that brings together a community of people who dedicate their university breaks to enact positive social change in the world, participate in experiential education and explore new communities. Through pre and post travel classes, direct service and reflection, students, staff and faculty engage in transformative experiential education.

Peer leaders Rachel Collman (Political Science) and Emma Parrish (Health and Wellness Promotion) led 8 fellow students to the Nags Head Wood Preserve in Kill Devil Hills, NC, where they worked to preserve and rehabilitate the local ecosystem through weeding, mulching, cleaning up trash and keeping up maintenance on a new ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) public trail.

Eliane Coates (International Studies) and Larisa Karr (International Studies and Mass Communications) led peers to Comer, GA, where they pitched in at Jubilee Partners, an intentional community that welcomes refugees and eases their transition into American society. At Jubilee, students built a foundation for a new building, worked on a trench for irrigation, mulched, chopped firewood, and helped with day-to-day community tasks, such as childcare and cooking.

Peer Leaders Gardner Goodall (Environmental Ecology) and Liz Sea (Management) led a trip to Jones Valley Urban Farm, a non-profit urban farm in Birmingham, AL, where students on the trip engaged with the organization and experienced how community gardening and healthy lifestyles can affect communities in a positive way.
1. The Elephant Sanctuary-Hohenwald, Tennessee
Peer Leaders Amanda Slater (New Media) and Tsaiwei Chen (Biology) will travel to Hohenwald, TN, with 8 other students to work with the Elephant Sanctuary. This organization is the nation's largest natural-habitat refuge developed specifically to meet the needs of rescued elephants.

2. Thistle Farms/ Women’s Empowerment Organizations-Nashville, TN
Peer Leaders Sam Singer (Gender, and Sexuality Studies) and Kayla Lea (Music Industry) will lead 8 fellow peers to Nashville, TN this fall to work with Thistle Farms, a residential program that incorporates women’s rights with the reintegration of women who were previously sex trafficked or involved in the sex work industry. We will help maintain Thistle Farms and those they help, as well as furthering gender equality in Nashville through several other days of work with other groups.

ASE: Fall Break 2015 Preview
By: Amanda Slater and Sam Singer

Student Reflection Leader: Program Grows Service Learning
By: Amanda Slater

A Student Reflection Leader (SRL) is a student selected by a faculty member to assist in the facilitation of the reflective portion of a service-learning designated course. Students selected for the SRL positions are then paid and trained by the Key Center. The program is now in its second year and growing. The Key Center is currently accepting applications for eight Fall 2015 SRL positions.

In order to qualify for this position, the applicant must have interest in service-learning and civic engagement as well as an interest in developing strategies to enhance learning through reflection. They must also have successfully completed one service-learning course, have a GPA of at least 2.50, and have the minimal standing of a sophomore.

There are a number of duties and responsibilities that must be met in order to receive compensation, both for the Key Center and the instructor/class. Some obligations include various training classes, an orientation, and guiding critical reflection activities. For the complete list of duties and responsibilities that will be expected to be fulfilled, visit the Key Center website at https://keycenter.unca.edu/student-reflection-leader-program

Upon completing all of the expected duties and responsibilities, the SRL will be paid the amount of $400. All important dates and forms can be found on the Key Center SRL program link.
The Key Center’s new database, Key Connect, has been live for a few months now. The purpose of this database is to make it easier for those into the UNC Asheville community to connect with community partners. So far, the database has been fulfilling its purpose. The UNC Asheville community has been actively using it to provide services to the multiple agencies listed in the database. Key Connect started with only a handful of organizations and its database now consists of approximately 60 organizations and groups around the Asheville community offering opportunities to serve for a plethora of causes. Some of the services and causes the organizations focus on include the environment, health, homeless, youth mentoring. Agencies who have signed up for Key Connect are able to post needs on a daily basis with the hopes that students who use the database will respond to them.

Key Connect has over 200 users to date and is continuing to grow. If you haven’t checked out Key Connect yet, you can by going to keyconnect.unca.edu.

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**S. T. R. I. V. E (Success Through Relationship, Investment, Versatility and Empowerment) Mentoring Program** By Jess-Mara Jordan

The S.T.R.I.V.E (Success Through Relationship, Investment, Versatility and Empowerment) Mentoring Program is a new initiative between UNC Asheville and OpenDoors of Asheville, started by AmeriCorps VISTA Jess-Mara Jordan. S.T.R.I.V.E recruits and trains UNC Asheville students to be mentors for youth living in multigenerational poverty to provide them with educational and enrichment opportunities outside of the classroom. Many of our mentors also took a class led by Key Center Director Selena Hilemon and Multicultural Student Programs Director Dr. Dahlia Hylton on developing intercultural competencies, social justice issue education, reflection training and leadership skills necessary for mentorship.

Student Coordinator, Grace King led mentors in the planning of fun and educational events on the topics of music, art and career exploration. The mentees also got the opportunity to have a different health snack prepared for them each week, including a special activity where they got to try different foods from around the globe. One of the goals of S.T.R.I.V.E, in addition to going out into the community, is bringing the mentees on UNC Asheville’s campus at least once a semester for special events. To conclude the Spring 2015 semester, mentors brought their mentees on campus to see Master drummer and djembe player Bolokada Conde perform and also attended the Crossfire vs. ACC All-Star Classic basketball game. We hope to grow the program even more next year by recruiting more mentors and continuing to foster relationships with the mentees.
What is MLK Day of Service?
On January 19, 2015, students, faculty, and staff once again came together to make Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's Day of Service “A Day On and Not a Day Off”. The day started with a continental breakfast donated by local restaurants and a motivating speech by our very own Chancellor Mary K. Grant. Arts for Life, Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity, Asheville Greenworks, The Boys and Girls Club of Buncombe County, Carolina Day-Key School, Rathbun Hospitality House, YMCA of Western North Carolina and YWCA of Asheville all welcomed over 140 participants, providing over 880 collective hours of service, making this year the largest UNC Asheville MLK Day of Service to date. This year’s projects varied from preparing arts and crafts for kids in the hospital to working in various community gardens around Asheville. Students also prepared supplemental educational materials for Asheville City and Buncombe County youth through Hands On Asheville-Buncombe. The day concluded with reflection activities led by Key Center Director Sele-na Hilemon and dinner. With plenty of food left over, we were able to serve one more community partner by donating it to the Salvation Army.

What do people think about the MLK Day of Service?
The day was not only well attended by students but many faculty and staff also volunteered their time by transporting all of our volunteers. Freshman Alexandra Bryant-Boose, senior Stephanie Watkins-Cruz and senior Leigh Whitaker were also nominated as the first MLK Day Ambassadors to help with the planning and implantation of the event. As an AmeriCorps VISTA, this is my second year planning this event and the overwhelming response from our students, faculty and staff and appreciation from our Community Partners never ceases to amaze me. Collectively, our MLK Day volunteers provided over 880 hours of community service to the local community. It is a great feeling to know that the UNC Asheville community is looking forward to this day as much as our community partners are looking forward to their help. I’m happy to have been a part of bringing the UNC Asheville and Greater Asheville community closer together over these past two years in the name of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the idea that “Everybody can be great because everybody can serve”. – Jess-Mara Jordan, AmeriCorps VISTA, Key Center for Service-Learning

On the MLK Day, I was involved in the Arts for Life program. Arts for life is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people facing disability by using Art. In order to support children facing serious illnesses creating fantastic arts, volunteers prepared the basic crafts’ materials. It was great to know that every piece we worked on would go directly to children and enriched their minds and spirits. This fantastic experience inspired me to have further contributions in Service-Learning and working at the Key Center became something I wanted to do. Now, I am so lucky to say that I am working at the Key Center as Program Assistant and have more chances to get involved in our service community. – Emporia Liu, Program Associate, Key Center for Service-Learning

As a freshman, when the opportunity came to be an MLK Day of Service Ambassador, I was excited and eager to start things. I was excited at the fact I was going to be apart of pulling off a campus wide service day. As an Ambassador, I was a part of a small team that collectively helped to make this day happen. We planned out things such as how many gloves people serving at Greenworks would need to what reflection activity people would do after their day of service. Being an Ambassador gave me the opportunity to meet other people from the UNCA community. The most rewarding experience was hearing how much people enjoyed performing their service at the end of the day. Although I wasn’t able to serve at a service site during this year’s MLK Day of Service, I was able to serve the Asheville community in a different way by making this day possible. Knowing that I was giving other people the opportunity to serve for a good cause was enough to make happy. – Alex Bryant-Boose, Program Associate, Key Center for Service-Learning
Dr. Kathie Garbe Honored for Community Connector Award By: Katie Pindell

Dr. Kathie Garbe, Associate Professor of Health and Wellness, is the third recipient of the Annual Faculty Community Connectors Award at UNC Asheville.

Dr. Garbe has spent the majority of her career working in faculty positions that required the creation of start-up programs or new majors. Her efforts on collaborative teams charged to develop new majors in Health/Wellness and/or Exercise and Health Promotion drew her to UNC Asheville. It was here that she began teaching courses created to grow the new major in Health and Wellness. This department is now celebrating its 10th anniversary. During her tenure, Dr. Garbe has partnered with well over 100 non-profit organizations throughout the Greater Asheville community, placing countless UNC Asheville interns, Service-Learning students or “Community Engaged Scholars” with local non-profits.

Jodi Ford, Outreach and Engagement Coordinator at Communities First/Communities in Schools of Buncombe County shared the following thoughts about Dr. Garbe in her award nomination: “I have personally benefited from our partnership with Dr. Garbe. She has been a strong supporter of the mission and programs of Children First/CIS and because of her engagement with our organization, we have benefited at our after-school learning centers, our Advocacy Program, and with our communications. Without Dr. Garbe, none of this would have been possible. She is a valuable asset to our community, and we have been the fortunate beneficiaries of her support, commitment, consistency and outreach.”

When asked why institutions of higher education should embrace engagement, Dr. Garbe said “Higher education should continue to explore ways to provide opportunities for students, staff, and faculty to be involved in community engagement through volunteerism, internships or service-learning. The benefits for learning and growth are tremendous. When colleges and universities engage, they build and strengthen collaborative ties, relationships and partnerships with the public for the mutual benefit of all.”

When asked about her thoughts of being the third faculty member to be awarded the UNC Asheville Annual Faculty Community Connector, Dr. Garbe said, “I am honored and humbled by this award and accept it as a reflection of more than thirty (30) years of work integrating community engagement into my professional life through my service-learning and experiential courses. I also have a deep sense of civic responsibility and offer my time and other resources to many community organizations.”

Dr. Joseph Urgo, Provost, hosted a celebratory luncheon for Dr. Garbe at the Ramsey Library on April 15, 2015. Dr. Garbe was joined by many of her students at UNC Asheville, community partners, Dr. Amy Lanou, Chair of the Health and Wellness Department, Lise Kloeppel Faculty Director of the Key Center, and Ms. Annie Burton, Executive Director of School and Community Engagement. She was presented with a $500.00 stipend to support her engagement work and received a Certificate of Appreciation from UNC Asheville.

Faculty Workshops for Creating Service-Learning Designated Classes
By: Katie Pindell

The Key Center is hosting a workshop on May 22nd intended to prepare faculty to teach Service-Learning Designated Courses, an initiative passed in 2011 by the UNC Asheville Faculty Senate. In brief SL-Designated Courses:

- have as a central feature a required service-learning project that strongly relates to the academic content of the course and makes up at least 25% of the course grade
- have a project that is designed as a joint, equal effort between the faculty member and community partner, with a clear goal that students’ involvement benefits the partner
- have faculty members prepare students to undertake their service-learning
- have students undertake significant service and regularly reflect on it

Topics will include an overview of the SL Designated Course program, a discussion of the multiple formats service-learning can take, a review of best practices in the forming of partnerships, methods for preparing students for work in the community to maximize good outcomes and minimize poor ones, understanding and handling liability, and approaches for having students undertake deep reflection about their work.

Visit https://keycenter.unca.edu/workshops for details
Keyed-In

Spring 2015 Community Engaged Scholars

Congratulations to our Community Engaged Scholar Spring 2015 graduates! Come check out final poster presentations of their Public Service Projects at the Undergraduate Research Program Spring Symposium and Celebration of Service, Service-Learning and Internships on April 22nd in the Sherrill Center Arena Concourse from 4:00-6:00 PM.

Hallie Banish – Philosophy
Educational and Nutritional Impacts of School-Based Gardening Programs

Rachel Collman – Political Science / Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies Minor
Making Home in Asheville: How Oral History Celebrates and Sustains Jewish Community

Adrian Etheridge – Art – Photography
Learning to See: Renovating the Asheville High School Photo Club to Improve Learning and Sustainability

Elyse Howdershell – Health and Wellness Promotion
Improvements in the Health Literacy in the CooperRiis Community

Mary Liske – Health and Wellness Promotion
Promoting Community Wellbeing through Locally Grown Organic Produce and Health Education

Kristina Webb – Health and Wellness Promotion

Remaining Community Engaged Scholar Spring 2015 Projects
The following students will be presenting their Public Service Projects this year but are graduating in future academic years. Congratulations to them for all of their hard work!

Cody Bushong - Health and Wellness Promotion
Sustaining Healthy Living Programs in Our Community: Producing a Policies & Procedures Manual for the YWCA of WNC

Colby Crawford - Health and Wellness Promotion
CarePartners Orthotics and Prosthetics Device Reference

Jesse Goldman – Political Science
Walking Mindfully with Middle Schoolers: The Development of a Slacklining Curriculum

Emma Kaplan - Health and Wellness Promotion
The WNC Winter Tailgate Market: Supporting Locavorism throughout the Winter

Interested in becoming Community Engaged Scholar?
Join us for a workshop next fall!

Thurs., August 20
4:00-5:00 pm

Fri., August 21
1:00-2:00 pm

Wed., August 26
2:00-3:00 PM

Thurs., August 27
6:00-7:00 PM

Fri., August 28
2:00-3:00 PM

All locations TBA—check the Key Center website for details!
LEARN. SERVE. ENGAGE.

Key Center for Community Citizenship & Service Learning
248 Highsmith Union
Phone: (828) 251-6400
E-mail: keyctr@unca.edu

Like us on Facebook!
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Questions?
Want to get involved?
Come by and see us on the 2nd floor of Highsmith

Fall 2015 Service-Learning Courses

DRAM
DRAM178.001  SL: Performing Community  Kloeppel, Lise

EDUC
EDUC178.003  SL: Community Engagement and Service Learning  Crave, Jerad
EDUC220.001  SL: Global/Civic/Economic Literacy  Adcock, Trey
EDUC314.001  SL: Multiple Literacies in Content Area Classrooms  Ruppert, Nancy
EDUC320.001  SL: DI: Middle School Principles, Practices and Materials  Ruppert, Nancy

HWP
HWP190.001  SL: Intro to Health Promotion  Garbe, Kathie
HWP190.002  SL: Intro to Health Promotion  Garbe, Kathie
HWP190.003  SL: Intro to Health Promotion  Garbe, Kathie
HWP310.001  SL: Health Promotion Theory and Practice  Batada, Ameena
HWP310.002  SL: Health Promotion Theory and Practice  Batada, Ameena

IST
IST271.005  LST:SL: Seeking STEM: Service Learning in Math and Science Education

LA
LA271.0H1  HON: SL: Intr. Serv Learn in Honors  Bahls, Patrick
LA478.0H1  HON: SL: Senior Capstone

LANG
LANG120.003  SL: Acad Writing/Critical Inquiry  Pisano, Jessica
LANG120.009  SL: Acad Writing/Critical Inquiry  Pisano, Jessica
LANG120.013  SL: Acad Writing/Critical Inquiry  Wray, Amanda
LANG120.016  SL: Acad Writing/Critical Inquiry  Wray, Amanda

SPAN
SPAN300.002  SL: Oral Skills  Bettencourt, Michelle

WGSS
WGSS100.001  SL: Intro Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies  Jansen, Anne

JOIN US: UNC Asheville Celebrates Service, Service-Learning and Internship
April 22, 2015 4:00-6:00pm

For more information or to join our listserv contact:
Key Center for Community Citizenship & Service Learning
Website: http://keycenter.unca.edu
E-mail: keyctr@unca.edu
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/keyctr?fref=ts