

A Dialogue Between Service-Learning Elders and Young Leaders

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4th Asia Pacific Regional Conference

Hong Kong, China

Beginning Discussion: Successes in the Past

What one or two things have you learned from history about the successes of service-learning?

- Carol
- Siva
- Dwight

Major Challenges for Future of Service-Learning

- What do you perceive to be the major challenges for service-learning in next 20 years?
- Siva
- Carol
- Dwight

The Road Forward

- What do you suggest we do to plan for the future of service-learning for the next 20 years? What are major priorities?
- Dwight
- Carol
- Siva

Shumer Responses

- Here are some of my responses
- Where do we see things the same and where do we differ??

Major Successes in the Service-Learning Field: The Past 40 Years

One of the primary successes in the field is **leadership**. Extraordinary individuals doing things that brought the concept and practice to life. Just a few of the examples in the U.S. and world experience:

- **John Duley (1970s-1980s)** – helped create a national organization dealing with experiential education (National Society for Internships and Experiential Education)
- **Tim Stanton (1980s-1990s)** – president of NSIEE and major architect of Campus Compact, an organization that promoted service-learning in colleges and universities. Tim helped steer the organization to the goals of service-learning rather than community service.

More Leaders

- **Diane Hedin/Dan Conrad (1970s-1980s)**: conducted some of the early research on volunteerism and service at the K-12 level; considered some of the foundational work that has supported all the subsequent efforts
- **Jane Permaul (1970s-1980s)** - Director at UCLA and president of NSIEE – helped create a viable model at a university and helped develop a key publication, *Strengthening Experiential Education in Your Institution* . . . used to engage college campuses in service/ experiential education efforts.
- **Rob Shumer/Dwight Giles/Andy Furco (1980s-present)**: helped engage the American Educational Research Association Special Interest Group on Experiential Education in the understanding and research approaches for service-learning

More Successes

- **James Kielsmeier (1980-1990s)**: Helped create the National Youth Leadership Council, one of the most powerful community-based organizations/college connections for promoting service-learning; also worked with legislators/policy makers to get service-learning on the state and national agenda
- **Jeffrey Howard (1990s)**: helped develop the Michigan Journal on Community Service-Learning, the premier publication for research on the field of service-learning
- **Andy Furco/Shelley Billig (2001-present)**: helped found the International Association for Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement (IARSLCE) to support research on the topic; developed a series of publications (Advances in Service-Learning Research) to promote publication of related research and reach out to international organizations/programs

And More

- **Dwight Giles/Janet Eyler (1990s)**: helped organize one of the first conferences on research in the service-learning field and created a foundational book asking the key question: *Where's The Learning in Service-Learning (1999)*.
- **Joe Erickson/Jeffrey Anderson/Jane Callahan/Rahima Wade/Andy Furco/Marty Duckenfield (1990-2000s)**: helped develop one of the first organizations to focus on service-learning and teacher education – National Service-Learning in Teacher Education Partnership (NSLTEP)

And More

- **Maria Nieves Tapia** (Argentina): has led development of service-learning initiatives in Argentina and across Latin America (CLAYSS – Latin American Center for Service Learning)
- **Marisa Cabrera** (Mexico): led program expansion in her university and all over Mexico and Central America
- Sinclair Goodlad: Developed volunteer programs in UK
- Alec Dickson (UK): Developed volunteer programs in UK for several decades; advisor to NYLC in US
- **Kim Chuan Goh/Vilma D’Rozario**: developed role of service-learning at National Institute of Education in Singapore; helped create required program for teacher education on service-learning; published one of first major books in Singapore on service learning and character development

And even more....

- **Carol Ma and Office of Service-Learning at Lingnan University** (2000s-present): worked to develop strong program at the university and international connections throughout Asia; developed international conference on service-learning in Asia
- **Wujing Harrison** (2000s to present): faculty member who has develop several initiatives in China for programs connecting service-learning with community-based organizations and promoting service-learning in college and high school programs

And....

Fill in the names of people in your country/area that have led major efforts for service-learning in the last 40 years

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- -----
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Other Major Success in S/L

A second area of success in service-learning is **strong and effective collaborations**. A few examples include:

- Joining in 1971 of **National Center for Public Service Internships Program** and **Society for Field Experience Education** to create **National Society for Internships and Experiential Education** (NSIEE) – founding organization that led to service-learning
- Joining of **National Experience Based Career Education Association** and **Executive High School Internship Program** with NSIEE in 1982-83
- Collaboration between NSIEE and 90 national and international organizations in 1991 to produce *Combining Service and Learning: A Resource Book for Community and Public Service*
- Collaboration between four major universities and many others to create **Campus Compact**, a collaboration of more than 1100 colleges and universities devoted to civic engagement and service

More Collaborations

- Meeting (1993) between **The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)**, the **National Youth Leadership Council** and major educational organizations to develop a common connection between service-learning and educational reform (**ASCD, NCSS, Coalition of Essential Schools**, etc.)
- CNCS creates **state infrastructure** in US in all 50 states through funding of Learn and Serve America initiative

International Networks/Collaborations

- International Partnership for Service-Learning (IPSL, 1982): Collaboration between Washington based organization and numerous countries and colleges across the world
- The Talloires Network: International collaboration, housed at Tufts University (Boston, Mass.) of more than 8 regional groups that cover Asia, Russia, Middle East, Australia, Latin America, US, South Africa....all working to develop collaborative programs in the regions
- SLAN: Service Learning Asian Network: group of public and religious colleges/universities combining to do work together around research and course development (Lingnan is current Center of organization)

More International Collaborations

- **AsiaEngage** is a regional alliance formed to maximize the strengths of the Asia-Talioires Network of Industry and Community Engaged Universities (ATNEU), the ASEAN University Network (AUN) Thematic Network on University Social Responsibility and Sustainability (AUN-USR&S) and the ASEAN Youth Volunteer Programme (AYVP).
- **Singapore National Institute of Education and Ministry of Education:** collaborative effort to promote development of service-learning programs in a variety of contexts – schools, community organizations, international study/service

Your Area

- Think of international collaborations in your country/region of the world where various organizations are working together to promote service-learning and civic engagement







Challenges for Service Learning Over Past 40 Years

- **Stigma attached to experiential/practical learning.** A definition of academic learning: of theoretical, not practical value. So, anything practical is not academic!! “where’s the learning in service-learning?”
- **Time** – to develop, implement, and monitor/evaluate programs: more complex than regular classroom-based learning; involving community requires collaboration and coordination
- **Competing visions for purpose of education:** for acquisition of basic skills, for job training, for preparation for citizenship, for learning of prescribed content (not a process)
- **Social Change, advocacy, political movement:** role of service-learning in pushing for social change– social justice claims.....some perceive as political agenda

Prescription for Next 20 Years

- **Develop young leaders** through various programs in colleges/universities, state and local government programs, mentoring programs, professional learning communities
- **Engage students more actively** in support of the development of the field and in connecting with legislators, policy makers, parents, media: youth/students “be the change they wish to see”
- **Support more research and evaluation on learning/change outcomes** of service and the impact on community
- **Develop new, better, stronger, more diverse collaborations** between all stakeholders/participants—apply bonding capital (similar groups) and bridging capital (diverse groups) theories to development of the field
- **Develop local and state level systemic change:** connect colleges, schools, community organizations as integrated educational units; connect teacher education with school change system: empower locals to deliver system

Audience Reaction

- Do you think we are right?
- How would your responses differ from the panel?