

Service-Learning Awards



Student of the Year



Kerby Angervil

Kerby Angervil is the recipient of the 2005-2006 Service-Learning Student of the year award. He has contributed a total of 62 hours of service this year, working at the North Miami Adult Education Center and the Miami Children's Museum. Kerby was first introduced to service-learning in Professor Ginny Peterson-Tennant's SLS course, which prepares students for success in college. At the North Miami Education Center, Kerby worked with high school and adult learners of English as a second language tutoring and leading classes in English and Spanish. Professor Ginny Peterson-Tennant comments, "through Kerby's service, he helped to motivate and inspire the students to learn. He

also acted as a role model to the students because they shared the same cultural background and he was a college student." Through this experience, Kerby is exploring the possibility of changing his major to education.

He continued his service with Professor Lenaghan in Spring 2005-2, where he assisted with the after-school program and art classes at the Miami Children's Museum. Kerby is very thankful for the opportunity to do service-learning.

"...Participating in the service-learning experience allowed me to discover hidden abilities, explore different possibilities, and act upon my strongest professional desire. While volunteering at both agencies, meeting community needs and developing a deeper sense of civic responsibility were daily goals for me."

After finishing two semesters of service-learning, Kerby did not want to



Kerby accepts his award from Professor Ginny Peterson Tennant

stop contributing to the community. This experience encouraged him to find his own nonprofit called *World Peace & Education for Kids*, an organization aiming to build an alliance with everyday people to help children in need, especially in developing countries. Please visit the organization's website at www.wpek.org to learn more about his organization.

Faculty Award for Outstanding Contributions to Service-Learning



Professor Kelly Kennedy-Isern

Kelly Kennedy-Isern received the Outstanding Contributions to Service Learning award this year. This is an award that recognizes continuous outstanding commitment to service-learning. Over the years, Kelly has initiated

countless innovative service-learning projects in the English for Academic Purposes department. One example of such a project was her work as Project Coordinator for Project SHINE, Students Helping in the Naturalization of Elders from 2000-2003. Through Project SHINE, North Campus EAP students assisted the elderly in learning citizenship related material resulting in over 940 hours of service. Kelly is constantly thinking of ways to enhance and facilitate her students' learning experiences through service-

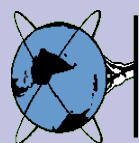
learning. This year, she created an outreach center in the EAP department called SLICE-Service-Learning Involvement Center for EAP. Through this center, EAP students will have access to service-learning paperwork, site information, and support from several EAP faculty members.

Kelly is an avid advocate of service learning. She published an article on service-learning featured in *Language Magazine* of September 2004, discussing how using service-learning

in English for Academic Purposes classrooms can enhance students' experiences. She also has been instrumental in getting other faculty involved in service-learning and community service. For four years, she has run the yearly Volunteer-A-Thon, involving students, staff, administration, and faculty in a one-day service project each year. Participants fundraise money for United Way for their time spent doing service as they would in a walk-a-thon.

Points of interest

- Faculty and New Faculty Awards
- Service-Learning Faculty Involvement
- Martin Luther King, Junior, Day of Service-Learning



Faculty of the Year Awards

Professor Marta Menendez



Professor Marta Menendez

semester including a bake sale to benefit breast cancer research, a drawing for United Way with proceeds totaling over \$250, and Hands on Miami Day. As part of Professor Menendez's class, the students worked very closely with Treemendous Miami, a nonprofit agency that plants trees throughout Miami working in particular with the elderly and disabled, planting trees at their homes. Treemendous Miami visited the students' class and then arranged a special date for the students to do tree planting. All of the students learned about environmental issues while practicing their English, bettering the environment, and helping the elderly and disabled. At the end of the semester, students reflected on this project with videos of their experience and power-point presentations.

Marta Menendez is recognized this year as a Service-Learning Faculty Member of the Year for creating a model service-learning partnership. She taught a special group of English as a Second Language students with Professor Kelly Kennedy-Isern in Fall 2005-1, who were part of a pilot program called the Service-Learning Cohort. These students participated in several service-learning projects during the



Student Rutmann Desauguste works with a Treemendous volunteer planting trees for the elderly and disabled.

Professor Diane Sloan



Professor Diane Sloan accepts her award from students Christy Fiallo and Barbara Keirsz

Diane Sloan is also recognized this year as the Service-Learning Faculty Member of the year. Professor Sloan has worked for several years as the Faculty Coordinator for the Center for Community Involvement, helping to promote service-learning among faculty members and assisting faculty with how to integrate service-learning into their courses. Diane Sloan is such a wonderful guide to other faculty because she truly understands and believes in service-learning, as evidenced by the innovative and well-designed projects she implements each semester. In Fall 2005-1, Professor Sloan established partnerships with agencies such as Treemendous Miami and Habitat for Humanity for her Honors Leadership courses.

These agencies worked very closely with her students, as exemplified by visiting the classes before students went to volunteer with them in groups. When several hurricanes interrupted her well-laid plans of partnership projects, she directed her students to assist with hurricane relief and recovery activities, working with agencies such as The Barnacle Historic State Park and Daily Bread Food Bank. This semester, Professor Sloan embraced the Money Smart Financial Literacy Program, guiding her Speech students on how to educate their fellow students on a number of financial literacy issues, such as making a budget, being responsible with credit, and saving money. Her students took a basic financial literacy curriculum from Wachovia Bank. Working with Board of Trustee member Peter Roulhac and with Professor Sloan's guidance, her students made this curriculum exciting and relevant for their peers. Her students practiced their communication skills by educating their peers on this much needed financial literacy information.

Special Event Highlight-Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service



MDC Student Liz Duarte with "Dreamers"

On Saturday, January 21st, 2006, the Center for Community Involvement at Miami Dade College, Best Buy, and Campus Compact sponsored and organized a community beautification service

project with Roots In The City, an organization that works to beautify Historic Overtown. The service-learning project was in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. and his life and legacy. The event began at 8:00 a.m., as all volunteers gathered at the Wolfson Campus of Miami Dade College to reflect upon the reason for which everyone was brought together to do service. To stimulate volunteer reflection on the purpose of the service project, the famous "I Have A Dream" speech was projected on two of the walls in the room during breakfast. Over 100 MDC students, including Phi Theta Kappa members from the North and Wolfson campuses, Miami Dade College North Campus Honors College students, and ESL service-learning students, joined forces with 24 "Dreamers," third-grade students from the "I Have A Dream Program" at Overtown's Phillis Wheatley Elementary School, on landscape and gardening projects to beautify Overtown.

The Day of Service was a positive experience for the community, MDC students, and the "Dreamers." Both the students and the "Dreamers" were proud of what they accomplished and enjoyed working together for a common purpose. "When we arrived," said MDC education student Liz Duarte, "I was grouped with 3 children. At first they were quiet.....As the time went on, we became so involved in the project that we just started to talk." The "Dreamers" were encouraged and guided throughout the project by the MDC students.

The day concluded with lunch back at the Wolfson Campus where all participants reflected on their experience and contributions made to the community, guided by quotes from Martin Luther King Jr.

New Faculty of the Year - Hialeah Campus

Professor Loretta Blanchette



*Professor Loretta
Blanchette*

Professor Loretta Blanchette, a new mathematics faculty member at the Hialeah campus, earned the Service-Learning New Faculty Member of the Year award because she found an innovative way to meet the academic needs of math students through service-learning. She started a math peer-tutoring program at the Hialeah campus because there was such a great need for math tutors and not enough tutors available for all the students through the Academic Support Lab. All of the students in Professor Blanchette's upper level math courses are offered the option of doing service-learning as peer-tutors, to help other math students in need and reinforce their own math skills. Professor Blanchette is very involved in the peer tutoring program from start to finish. She assesses the level of each interested student tutor and makes a tutor list available to all of the math professors and the Academic Support lab. She then monitors the tutors and the progress of their students throughout the semester. This much needed program started out very small in the Fall 2005-1 semester with just a few tutors, but it is growing each semester with Professor Blanchette's guidance and is offering an invaluable resource to the Hialeah Campus.

Professor Sherri Sinkoff



*Professor Sherri
Sinkoff*

Professor Sherri Sinkoff is also a recipient of the Service-Learning New Faculty Member of the Year award. She was awarded because of the countless creative projects she carries out each semester allowing her students to both help the community and practice their communication skills. She is a new speech faculty member at the Hialeah Campus. In Fall 2005-1, Professor Sinkoff's students partnered with two different nonprofit agencies in the community resulting in close to 2000 service hours. She continues working with her students on special projects, such as disseminating information on financial literacy topics through the Wachovia Money Smart Curriculum and an after-school soccer program at a local elementary school conceived and run by her dual-enrollment Mater Academy students. Each semester, Professor Sinkoff continues to plan new and innovative events and presentations that contribute very much to the community and her students' experiences and learning.

1, Professor Sinkoff's students partnered with two different nonprofit agencies on important projects. First, they worked with the Daily Bread Food Bank to produce a video entitled Hunger 101, which will be used to educate the community about hunger. Her students also planned, promoted, and executed an event to collect toys for Hurricane Katrina victims with the International Rescue Committee. The event was a huge success. This semester, she continues with service-learning. All of her seven classes are participating in service-learning projects with over 130 students working at different

Congratulations to all of the Service-Learning Student of the Year Nominees:

Rutmann Desauguste nominated by Professor Kelly Kennedy-Isern

Liz Duarte nominated by Professor Joel Fleischer

Marva Fraser nominated by Professor Julio Borges

Anabel Gonzalez nominated by Professor Lourdes España

Sandra Lopez nominated by Professor Maria Vargas

Daniel Vargas nominated by Professor Emilio Kenny

Special thanks to all of the outstanding faculty who offered service-learning this year at the North and Hialeah campuses:

- John Alexander, Mathematics
- Jose Alvarez, Business
- Marcia Anglin, Biology, Health, & Wellness
- Carlos Ardaya, Education
- Sharhondra Bain-Hudson, Education
- Ratan Barua, Mathematics
- Mary Anne Benitez, E.A.P
- Dorothy Benson-Warner, Education
- Jaime Bestard, Mathematics
- Loretta Blanchette, Mathematics
- Julio Borges, Business
- William Chapman, Education
- H. Crawford, Education
- Valerie DeAngelis, Social Science
- Elizabeth Diaz, Education
- Sylvia Doane-Ward, Education
- Sandra Doherty, Education
- Margaret Easton, Social Science
- Lourdes España; Mathematics
- Clemente Fernandez; Biology, Health & Wellness,
- Rosa Fernandez; Chemistry/Physics/Earth Science
- Joel Fleischer, Education
- Carlos Gil, Mathematics
- Cara Gluskoter, Social Science
- Wiley Huff, Criminal Justice
- Kelly Kennedy-Isern, E.A.P
- Emilio Kenny, Biology, Health & Wellness
- Walter Kozloski, E.A.P
- Michael Lenaghan, Social Science
- Gloria Leon, E.A.P.
- Miriam Lorenzo, Criminal Justice
- Marta Menendez, E.A.P.
- David Merves, English & Communication
- Eulette McKnight-Samms, E.A.P.
- Joseph McNair, Education
- Rhonda Moore, Education
- Billy Oliver, Entertainment & Design Technology
- Neil Olsen, English & Communication
- Ginny Peterson-Tennant, Social Science
- Bennie Perdue, Social Science
- Tchao Podona, Chemistry/Physics/Earth Science
- Ileana Porges-West, E.A.P.
- Virginia Puckett, Mathematics
- Juan Santelises, English & Communication
- Matthew Schuh, Arts & Philosophy
- Mohammad Shakil, Mathematics
- Staci Shanahan, Business
- Debra Shannon, Education
- Sherri Sinkoff, Communication
- Diane Sloan, English & Communication
- Devaughn Sorrells, Education
- Jill Thompson, Architecture
- Denton Tulloch, College Prep
- Joan Tulloch, College Prep
- Marlo Turner-Tate, Education
- Isaiah Urhoghide, Chemistry/Physics/Earth Science
- Maria Vargas, E.A.P.
- Jose Vazquez, Architecture
- Ronald Walker, Education
- Kaye Williams, Social Science
- Carolyn Wright, Social Science
- Yuanzhong Zhang, College Prep

Center for Community Involvement North Campus

Room 1159, 305-237-1820, Lrose1@mdc.edu

Campus Director: Lauren Rose

Newsletter Design: Tamar Dulcio, Jennifer Telica

Contributing Writers: Sarah Garcia, Lauren Rose

Assistant Editor: Devorah Weberman

Student Assistants: Georgia Bedeau, Gavin Britto, Rutmann Desauguste