A broad spectrum of community engagement activities take place in many departments and programs at Sacramento State through community service, service learning, internships, and field practicum. In partnerships with these departments and programs Community Engagement Center has had the opportunity to begin collaborating in gathering data which has also provided opportunities to promote the vital community engagement activities of Sacramento State students, faculty and staff.

Sacramento State was acknowledged for the 457,000 hours of unpaid service hours of faculty, students, and staff contribution to the Sacramento Region and economy in Mayor’s Kevin Johnson’s Volunteer Sacramento Initiative speech January 18, 2010.

The November/December issue of CSU Impact www.calstate.edu/cee/news_pubs/csu_impact/121509.html, documented the Sacramento State One Book program where more than 1,200 campus and community members attended an evening discussion with author, Julie Otsuka, and 50 plus faculty, peer mentors and EOP (Educational Opportunity Program) tutors integrated the book into their curricular and co-curricular activities.

Due to community engagement campus partnerships Community Engagement Center has applied for the 2009 United States President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, of which Sacramento State received honorable mention in 2008 www.csus.edu/cec. A more challenging community engagement recognition, and yet equally rewarding opportunity for Sacramento State, will be applying for the 2010 Carnegie Community Engagement Classification http://classifications.carnegiefoundation.org. In order for Sacramento State to be a successful applicant will require cross campus collaboration and contribution. Community Engagement Center, Advisory Committee, Faculty Fellows and others will be contacting departments and programs to contribute to the process and application. If you have any questions please contact Sheila Macias, Administrative Director, at macias@csus.edu.
We invite faculty to join us this spring for a brown bag series

Incorporating Community Engagement into Courses
Monday, February 22, 12 - 1 pm

Assessing Community Engagement Student Learning Outcomes
Wednesday, March 3, 12 - 1 pm

Conducting Community Engagement Research
Thursday, March 11, 12 - 1 pm

RSVP required: cecenter@csus.edu

Community-Based Research
Informing and Advancing Change
April 15, 2010

The California State University's 4th Conference on Community-Based Research, titled, “Transforming Scholarship: Transforming All Our Lives,” will be held at UC Berkeley on Friday, March 5.

CSU faculty, staff, students and community partners will explore how campuses and communities can collaborate on research to address significant social issues in California and beyond, promote learning and development and advance the creation and dissemination of knowledge.

State's Community Engagement Center is hosting a conference called, “Sacramento State Community-Based Research Conference: Coming Together to Inform and Advance Change.”

Proposals to present community-based research are due by 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5. Cost to attend is $25 for CSU faculty and staff and $5 for students and community members. More information can be found at www.calstate.edu/cce/meetings/research_conference/2010.

On Thursday, April 15, Sacramento State’s Community Engagement Center will offer a brown bag workshop series on community-based teaching, assessment, and research and will host Sacramento State’s community-based research conference, facilitated, in large part, by the Faculty Fellows. The 2009-2010 Community Engagement Faculty Fellows are a cohort of 14 multi-disciplinary faculty who work to further community engagement opportunities within individual courses, help expand the University’s and community’s awareness of community engagement activities, and facilitate research on community engagement efforts across the University.

For more information on the Faculty Fellows, please visit http://www.csus.edu/cec/faculty/facultyfellows.stm.

Community-Based Research Conferences

Student Research Competition
Sacramento State’s Office of Research Administration has announced the 24th Annual Student Research Competition.

**Students:** Win up to $200 and/or travel expenses to the statewide event.

**Faculty:** Encourage your students to participate in this event which promotes excellence in research at Sacramento State.

**Application deadline:** March 1, 2010. Competition entry forms and guidelines are available online at www.csus.edu/research/student/researchcomp.htm

For Additional information contact: Adrienne Thompson at 278-3667 or email adrienne.thompson@csus.edu.
EGUSD students find “Writing Partners” at Sac State

The following article is written from the community’s perspective of our Writing Partners at Sacramento State program. This article is reprinted in part with approval from the Elk Grove Unified School District. To view full article, please see EGUSD in the Spotlight at http://egusd.net/news/spotlight/index.cfm.

On December 7, over 400 elementary school students from 16 classes at Florin, Herman Leimbach, Charles Mack, Prairie and David Reese visited Sacramento State as a concluding component to their semester-long Writing Partners Program.

The Writing Partners Program brings together university and elementary students in a semester-long letter writing exchange. Elementary school students have opportunities to discuss and connect with college students in an engaging way. The program allows elementary school students to learn more about college by writing to a college student who answers their questions. In turn, the elementary school students have a chance to practice their writing skills. Writing Partners concludes with a campus visit where elementary school students are able to meet their ‘writing partners’ and tour the Sacramento State campus.

The Writing Partners program made its first appearance at Sacramento State in 2005-2006. Dr. Catherine Gabor [then Sacramento State English professor] and the Community Engagement Center on campus piloted the program in three English and nursing sections.

Sacramento State “continues to be the largest community partner with the ASES after school programs within Elk Grove Unified School District,” said Monica Gonzalez-Williams, a program specialist for the district. “During these times of economic distress our services are more valuable than ever before and [Sacramento State] has been a huge part of our success.”

Over the past five years the program has grown to include 30 sections with more than 800 university students participating. The program has expanded past just English and nursing to include foreign languages – including Spanish, Latin and French, EOP first year seminar students, philosophy and the College Assistance Migrant Program.

“For many of our students, the Writing Partners program is the only access they may have to communicate and visit with young college students that come from similar backgrounds,” said Mikako Fisher, a sixth-grade teacher at Prairie. “It was a unique opportunity that served as a spring board for our students to begin their initial steps to pursuing a college education by stepping foot onto an actual college campus. The experience in itself made higher education a realistic goal for all of our students.”

Town Hall

Community Engagement Center hosted a Town Hall for our community partners on Wednesday, August 19. The Town Hall provided a forum for exploratory discussion to identify community assets and Safety Net needs, with a focus on food security, mental and physical health, education, housing/shelter, and financial literacy. In particular, our discussion contributors highlighted community needs currently being addressed by their organization(s), as well as partnership opportunities to meet growing community needs. A follow up session was held with Asian Resources, Inc. on November 17, and a Collaboration Forum on November 19. visit www.csus.edu/cec/events/ for the Town Hall outcomes.
Meet Trish
Student employees are a vital resource to Community Engagement Center and provide essential support to our programs. We are proud to introduce Trish Nguyen, who joined our team this past fall as a student office and program assistant. Trish, who originally pursued Art Animation in junior college, is currently a senior Sociology major set to graduate from Sacramento State next fall.

Inspired by past employment with PRIDE Industries (which creates meaningful jobs for people with disabilities) I decided to go back to school to finish up my undergraduate degree in Sociology. After graduation, I plan to further my education in the Master in Social Work and the Pupil Personnel Services Credential program. My career aspiration is to become a social worker in schools and be a supporter and advocate for disadvantaged children in our community. Being employed at the Community Engagement Center has not only educated me on hands on learning projects available to students like myself, but also has connected me to the community which aligns with my course of study.

Spotlight on Soil Born Farms
Each year, more than two thousand Sacramento State students, faculty, and staff participate in programs and projects sponsored by Community Engagement Center. Through Spotlight, Community Engagement Center highlights outstanding individuals and programs advancing community engagement in the Sacramento Region. For more on this spotlight and the spotlight program, please visit www.csus.edu/cec/Spotlight/

Soil Born Farms started on a simple goal of reconnecting people to the environment and to fresh organic produce. Through dedication and partnership with local agencies and service programs, Soil Born Farms has grown tremendously, offering a number of programs and food access to underserved neighborhoods throughout the Sacramento region.

Youth Coordinator, Sara Smith-Rubio, has stated that the presence and engagement of Sacramento State students is very much needed and the impact they have on Soil Born Farms and the youth is huge; she believes that Soil Born Farms could not have expanded to what it is now without the dedication of service learning students. Being able to interact with college-level students has brought on a new level of encouragement to disadvantaged youth who are now more hopeful about the thought of going to college and achieving higher education.

Denise Wall-Parilo, RN, MSN, a nursing instructor at Sacramento State, believes that “One of the best things about partnering with Soil Born Farms is the flexibility and creativity they have shown when working with our students. Sara [Smith-Rubio] has allowed our students to pursue service opportunities in their areas of interest which maximizes student learning as well as enhancing the service students provide to the community.”

Contribution by Trish Nguyen
Students participating in service learning projects must attend a mandatory on-campus service learning orientation prior to beginning service hours. Community Engagement Center will administer risk management forms at the on-campus Student Service Learning Orientation (separate from the placement site orientation) and will collect the student “guidelines” and “consent” forms on-site as attendance verification. Students are encouraged to review the online forms in advance as Community Engagement Center staff will address questions during the presentation. Faculty: teaching a service learning course this semester? Visit http://www.csus.edu/cec/sl_faculty.stm to register your course with our online Faculty Course Profile.

Service Learning Orientations

All on campus service learning orientations will be held in the University Union, Hinde Auditorium (first floor). Sessions will last approximately 20 minutes.

Thursday, 2/4
9:00 AM
9:30 AM
2:00 PM
2:30 PM
3:00 PM

Friday, 2/5
10:00 AM

Wednesday, 2/17
12:00 PM
12:30 PM

By the Numbers

Community Engagement Center 61,588
Criminal Justice 4,600
Kinesiology & Health Science 32,355
Nursing 150,000
RPTA 6,280
Social Work 177,456
Teacher Education 22,403
United Staff Assembly 2,375

457,000: Total unpaid service hours contributed by Sacramento State.

Each year Sacramento State students contribute significant unpaid service hours to the Sacramento Region through community service, field practicum, service learning, and internships. In recognition of these endeavors, Sacramento State participated in Volunteer Sacramento and contributed over 457,000 hours. This initiative, led by Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson, in partnership with Hands On Sacramento and Honorary Chair Congresswoman Doris Matsui, encourages volunteerism and service in our community. Visit www.volunteersac.com for more information on Volunteer Sacramento.
1/29, 2/2-2/5
On Campus Service Learning Orientations

2/15
Office closed due to furlough

2/18
Advisory Committee Meeting

2/22
Brown Bag: Incorporating Community Engagement into Courses

3/3
Brown Bag: Assessing Community Engagement Student Learning Outcomes

3/5
CSU Statewide Conference on CBR, Berkeley, CA

3/11
Brown Bag: Conducting Community Engagement Research

3/12
CSU Statewide Conference on CBR, CSU Los Angeles

3/13
Sac State Serves - Ronald McDonald House Outdoor Work Party

3/29-4/2
Alternative Break - Spring 2010

3/31-4/2
Continuums of Service Conference, Portland, OR

4/2
Office closed due to furlough

4/15
Sacramento State CBR Conference: Coming Together to Inform and Advance Change

4/17
Sac State Serves - Creek Week 2010

4/26
Office closed

5/6
Advisory Committee Meeting

5/28
Office closed due to furlough