Proposal for Workshop

Southeastern INFORMS Annual Meeting, Myrtle Beach SC, 10/1-2/09

Workshop: Integrating Experiential Service Learning Projects across the Curriculum

Description of Workshop:

Background

The Carolina Service-Learning Initiative at the University of South Carolina seeks to engage students, faculty, and community organizations in service-learning (SL) partnerships by offering support in creating intentional service experiences that are integrated into curriculum across disciplines. In the summer of 2008, the workshop facilitators were awarded Center for Teaching Excellence grants to develop innovative SL initiatives within their classes. This workshop focuses on two developments from the SL cohort activities: introducing new SL into existing classes and expanding SL projects to two groups of students in different classes to enhance their experiential learning.

Workshop Goals and Objectives

- Describe SL initiative benefits for the instructor, students, and community partner
- Share experiences and results from two specific joint SL initiatives
- Outline strategies for introducing and expanding innovative SL initiatives within the classroom
- Map service learning student engagement levels to curriculum
- Network with other instructors about SL experiences.

Workshop Schedule and Activities (1.5 – 2 hours depending on conference schedule)

(20 min) Presentations by each team of facilitators highlighting their joint course SL projects including the planning, implementing, monitoring, and results.

(10 min) Group discussion on how service learning activities enhance learning outcomes

(30 min) Breakout sessions led by each facilitator (depending on number of workshop participants):

- 1. Introducing SL into existing classes
- 2. Expanding SL initiatives in existing classes
- 3. Developing joint SL initiatives across multiple classes
- 4. Mapping SL experiential learning outcomes across the curriculum.

(15 min) Group Reports, Summary, and Future Action

Each workshop participant would receive the 'Workshop SL Resource Workbook.'

Workshop Target Participants

- Faculty who are interested in including SL initiatives in their classes to enhance experiential learning outcomes of their students.
- Faculty who currently have SL projects, but are looking for innovative ways to increase the experiential learning outcomes.
- Faculty who would like to learn more about SL benefits.

Benefits of Workshop:

- Learn about SL benefits to the instructor, students, and community partner of SL initiatives
- Learn about the experiences and results of two specific joint SL initiatives
 - 'Experiential Service Learning Using Real Client Projects in a Capstone IT Course'
 - 'When the Process Is as Important as the Project: Service and Learning in Communication'

- Develop strategies for either introducing or expanding SL initiatives within the classroom
- Learn how to map service learning student engagement levels to your curriculum
- Network with other instructors about SL experiences
- Keep the 'Workshop SL Resource Workbook.'

Workshop Facilitators:

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