

## **Incorporating Service-Learning into Your Course, What Works and What Doesn't.**

### **Intro:**

Community engagement through service-learning can help students develop the skills necessary to work in an increasingly global environment. Service-learning can also help connect classroom concepts to real-life applications.

### **Objectives of Academic Service Learning Project:**

- ❖ **Objective 1:** Describe required components of service-learning
- ❖ **Objective 2:** Identify ways to assess and meet learning outcomes of the course
- ❖ **Objective 3:** Discuss best practices that successfully impact the learning outcomes for service-learning projects

### **Academic Service Learning Purpose**

- ❖ Radiography students worked within the community volunteering at an organization of their choice, to help understand and appreciate services their patients may be using.

### **Requirements of Student**

- Arrange Volunteer Hours with approved facility
- No duplicate topics allowed
- Use discussion board to update other students of topic
- Complete documentation of hours
- Present a PowerPoint to class based on required questions

### **Outcomes of Academic Service Learning Project**

The outcomes of the project accomplish the course outcomes specific to the Radiography Program as well as the American Society of Radiologic Technology (ASRT) curriculum guidelines set for patient care.

### **Students Objective:**

In the field of Radiography students will encounter a diverse group of patients, and co-workers. In order to provide quality care, students need to have knowledge of what services exist in their community. The intent of this assignment is to increase their knowledge in the community. Students will share experiences with their classmates to educate each other on services that they may not know exist. By the end of this assignment the student should gain knowledge, respect, and tools to help patients in their profession.

**Outcome 1:** Radiography students increase knowledge of patient's services or resources that are available in their community.

**Outcome 2:** Radiography students gain experience with communicating with community services.

**Outcome 3:** Radiography students gain an insight on how community services can impact a patient's life.

**Outcome 4:** The Academic Service Learning project brings the community and Delta's Radiography Program together.

### **Obstacles Encountered**

- Not duplicating the organization or topic
- Verifying number of volunteer hours were actually met
- Verifying contact person is accurate
- Organization returning email or phone call in a timely manner for student to meet deadline
- Not allowing student to volunteer at a relative or friends organization
- Verifying student did not pull all their information from a web site

### **Obstacles Overcame**

- Discussion Board created to allow student to post topic and organization to avoid duplicate topics
- Log created to document hours requiring signature
- Form created for contact persons information
- List of organizations created that have allowed students in past to volunteer. This gives current students that don't know what topic they may want to explore an idea of where to begin
- Web site must be provided for verification of information by instructor
- Rubric created for presentation to help student understand expectations