

MINUTES
Service Council Meeting January 12th, 2009

In Attendance: Sarah Muenster, Kaleesha Rajamantri, Sylwia Matlosz, Dakota Radford, Molly Ingram, Ashley Vokral, Carolyn Armstrong

Major Events and Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

Martin Luther King Day of Service

- A. WHAT: MLK Jr. Day of Service is a nationally recognized day in which citizens are asked to better their community.
- B. EVENTS during the day:
 - **Volunteer Fair:** Learn about 13 + agencies from the community and the services that they offer
 - **Summer Volunteer Opportunity Grant (SVOG) Presentations:** Listen to presentations about the SVOG grant (money allocated to about 3-4 students each year to participate in volunteer projects over the summer)
 - The money allocated depends on need and the expenses for the project.
 - Applicants need to provide a budget outline
 - **Service Project:** Volunteer in a service project out in the Appleton community.
 - Service sites: Edison Elementary School, Pioneer Village, Harmony Café, Fox Valley Literacy Coalition, Emergency Shelter of the Fox Valley, Appleton Housing Authority, COTS, Inc. Men's Shelter, COTS, Inc. Women's Shelter
- C. WHEN and WHERE: Monday January 19, 2009 (no class!)
 - Volunteer Fair: 10 am -12, Riverview
 - Summer Volunteer Opportunity Grant Presentations: Noon-1:00pm, Barber Room (Downer)
 - Service Projects: 1:00pm-4:00pm, Meet in Riverview
- D. MORE INFORMATION: Sign up at Downer during lunch and dinner January 12th- 16th or contact Brenda Zuleger at the VCSC, x6644 or brenda.j.zuleger@lawrence.edu
See the display in the Seely Mudd Library
- E. OTHER:
 - Transportation will be provided for places that are not within walking distances
 - Great chance to build contacts
 - Sign up at Downer this week for service sites, sign sheets will be at Raymond House when not at Downer

Edison Elementary School - Knowledge-a-thon

- A. WHAT: Look for volunteers to quiz K-6 students, kids love this event!
- B. WHEN: March 5 (Thursday)
 - a. Time: TBD
- C. WHERE: Edison Elementary School
- D. CONTACT: Megan Luedtke
Email address: megan.j.luedtke@lawrence.edu
Phone number: x6644
- E. OTHER: Event is open to all. We are especially encouraging the Plantz Hall community to participate in this activity.

NEXT MEETING
February 9, 8pm – 9pm
Coffeeshouse

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Advocacy Training, sponsored by the VCSC

- A. **WHAT:** Learning how to get involved in the legislative process and what can be done to advocate for social change. Workshop on how to better reach on congressmen.
- B. **WHEN:** Monday, January 26th, 2009
- C. **TIME:** 6:30-8:00pm
- D. **WHERE:** St. Mark's Church, 140 S. Green Bay Road, Neenah
- E. **CONTACT:** email Sarah Muenster-Blakley at the VCSC, x6644 or sarah.muenster-blakley@lawrence.edu
- F. **OTHER:** limited spots for transportation, email Sarah to ensure transport

LU (Organization) Reports

- A. **Plantz Hall** – Plantz has been volunteering with Edison Elementary (Music Day), and is looking to participate in knowledge-a-ton
- B. **Harmony Café** – poetry presentations, volunteers are needed for Open Mic each Thursday
 - Contact: Dakota Radford, dakota.s.radford@lawrence.edu
- C. **Circle K** – low membership, recruiting members
 - Starting project with UNICEF for winter term
 - Toy Drive was successful (Fall term)
- D. **Ormsby Hall** – would like to have volunteer opportunity with Boys and Girls Club

Announcements and Plans

- A. VCSC is looking to encourage Resident Halls to get involved in volunteer projects.
- B. Recognition – Each month, Service Council and VCSC will nominate and recognize the student groups that contribute the most community service hours.
 - Last term, in terms of number of members contributing members, Hockey volunteered the most (over 400 hours).
 - Handing in volunteer report form enables us to recognize and give credit for volunteerism.
 - Discussion on how to recognize student groups, we already have display. In past years, VCSC members have surprised LU orgs during their meetings. Suggestions?
- C. **Nomination for this month: SWAHP**
 - **SWAHP** devoted much time organizing the Alternative Giving Fair in early December – which successfully raised money for many good causes
 - Thank you, SWAHP!
- D. Suggestions for future Service Council Meetings: hands-on activity during meetings like making cards, volunteering together. Any other suggestions?
- E. Getting to know the VCSC. Tours of the office? Help with the website?
- F. Social Justice Workshop: Informational workshops will be held each month (usually the second Monday of each month at 7 pm for roughly an hour) on social justice topics.
- G. Polar Bear Plunge – raising money for the Special Olympics by jumping or running into the icy waters of Wisconsin. Any interest?

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