As the Center for Service and Community Engagement completes its second year in operation we have much to celebrate. By continuing to deepen and expand the connections between our campus and community partners, the past 12 months brought rapid growth in a variety of areas. Significant highlights include:

- This year 77 Seattle University faculty engaged 2,703 students in 151 service-learning courses. This is a 54% increase in the number of students and a 42% increase in the number of service-learning courses from the 2004-2005 academic year. Of these totals, the Center organized placements, community meetings and classroom presentations for 33 faculty who engaged 1,254 students in 59 service-learning courses.

- The 16 members of the Center’s Student Leaders for the Common Good Program provided 6,800 hours of direct service in the community and led several major projects including the hosting of a national conference on homelessness, the facilitation of three immersion trips during academic breaks, and the coordination of dozens of weekday and weekend service projects.

- In the largest one-day service project in University history, 720 students, faculty and staff cleaned the homes of people with disabilities, removed non-native plants from public parks, and sorted food at food banks through the Serve Seattle Project during New Student Orientation.

Two additional notable Center highlights involve the more mundane, but critically important tasks of organizational development. In June, we completed a year-long strategic planning process to focus our mission, vision, goals and programmatic objectives for the next five years. Additionally, in January, as a means of having a moniker that better reflects our work, we completed a process to change our name from the “Center for Service” to the “Center for Service and Community Engagement.”

As these examples illustrate, there are many reasons to celebrate a successful year. Yet, the more important 2005-2006 story transcends these examples. If there is a continuing lesson arising from the Center’s work it is that we are not individuals acting alone to better our world. Rather, we are one community and there is a deep and powerful spirit to this community.

This report represents a brief overview of the 2005-2006 activities of the Center for Service and Community Engagement. In recognizing and celebrating the work of students, faculty, staff and community partners one can begin to see the tremendous possibilities of the path ahead. Even more importantly, in a world that offers a long list of reasons to despair, connecting with others through service provides a reason to hope. With this sense of hope perhaps we move further toward attaining the dream of just and humane world.

With warm regards,

Kent Koth
Director, Center for Service and Community Engagement
About the Center

Founded in 2004, the Center for Service and Community Engagement is a dynamic outgrowth of Seattle University’s Jesuit Catholic tradition and mission of “educating the whole person, to professional formation and to empowering leaders for a just and humane world.” The Center serves as the main entry point for students, faculty and staff who want to serve and learn in the community. The Center also acts as the focal point for community-based organizations and government institutions seeking University support to address unmet community needs. The Center encourages all forms of community engagement including direct service, philanthropy, activism, political participation, social entrepreneurship, community-based research and advocacy. The Center for Service and Community Engagement reports to the Office of the Provost.

Vision Statement: Drawing upon the words of Father Peter-Hans Kolvenbach S.J., the Center for Service and Community Engagement recognizes that “when the heart is touched by direct experience, the mind may be challenged to change.” With this in mind, the Center’s vision is to build a seamless web of interconnection between the educational programs of Seattle University and the needs of the wider community, focusing on local, regional, national, and global concerns. In doing so, the Center will inspire the next generation of reflective, creative, compassionate and just leaders.

Mission: The Center for Service and Community Engagement connects the campus and the wider community through sustained partnerships in order to deepen student learning, create a culture of service, and promote a more just and humane world.

Year in Review

Drawing upon its mission and vision, the Center for Service and Community Engagement has two main goals: (1) To develop reflective, creative, compassionate and just Seattle University students and (2) To foster positive action and improvement within the campus and the wider community. To pursue these goals, the Center works collaboratively with campus and community partners to implement programs in four areas. Below is a brief overview of each programmatic area and 2005-2006 activities.

Community Partnerships
With the needs of the community as its priority, the Center develops significant and sustainable community partnerships with a particular focus on neighborhoods adjacent to the University. 2005-2006 activities:

- Connected students in service-learning courses with 101 communities agencies.
- Launched eServe, a comprehensive web application that provides structure for coordinating service opportunities between students, community agencies, faculty and the Center.
- Hosted representatives from 36 community agencies for two lunch discussions.
- Organized the second annual Spirit of Community Celebration that brought together over 250 students, staff, faculty and community members.
- Created a plan and rationale to focus University resources on specific social issues, organizations and neighborhoods.
- Obtained AmeriCorps position to launch a “First Generation Project” that will link University students with community agencies that support high school students who plan to be the first in their families to go to college.
Year in Review (continued)

Academic Service-Learning
The Center promotes the connection between academic learning and community engagement by supporting faculty, students and community partners involved in service-learning courses. 2005-2006 activities:
- Coordinated placements, meetings and classroom presentations for 33 faculty who engaged 1,254 students in 59 service-learning courses. This marks a 30% increase in students and 23% increase in courses that the Center supported in 2004-2005. University-wide, 77 faculty from 35 disciplines engaged 2,703 students in 151 service-learning courses.
- Developed a Faculty Guide for Academic Service-Learning at Seattle University.
- In partnership with the Center for the Excellence in Teaching and Learning, co-sponsored two faculty luncheons and one day-long workshop that engaged 50 faculty in theory and practice of the pedagogy of academic service-learning.
- Supported the six faculty participants in the Academic Service-Learning Faculty Fellows Program.
- Partnered with Office of the Registrar to implement service-learning course designation process.

Student Leadership through Service
Recognizing the developmental process of leadership formation, the Center involves students in a variety of intentionally designed co-curricular projects to help them become more effective leaders in the community. 2005-2006 activities:
- Increased the number of participants in the year-long Student Leaders for the Common Good Program from nine in 2004-2005 to sixteen in 2005-2006.
- Expanded the number of service immersion trips from one in 2004-2005 to three in 2005-2006.
- In partnership with Office of Student Activities, expanded the number of “Labor of Love” large group service days from one in 2004-2005 to three in 2005-2006.
- Provided advising and support to the student-led initiative to host the 2005 National Conference of the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness that brought to campus over 400 students from 80 colleges and universities.
- Coordinated the Serve Seattle Project, which engaged 720 first year students in day of service.
- Sponsored student-led group service projects every weekday throughout the year.
- Provided support and advice to student-led service organizations such as Alpha Phi Omega, Calcutta Club and Circle K.
- Offered LBST 300: Leadership for Community Engagement, a five credit course exploring the ethical and practical implications of leading in the community.

Campus Collaboration
The Center promotes communication and collaboration between campus offices and departments in order to strengthen the University’s ability to positively impact the wider community. 2005-2006 activities:
- Co-sponsored a Post Graduate Service Fair with Campus Ministry and the Career Development Center that offered students a chance to meet with representatives from the Peace Corps, Jesuit Volunteer Corps, AmeriCorps and other organizations.
- Hosted a listserv to communicate service and justice opportunities to over 1,500 students.
- Hosted a volunteer fair for 20 agencies to share volunteer opportunities with students during the University’s annual Street Fair.
- Continued to expand the Center’s website to offer links to campus and community resources.
- Coordinated monthly meetings between campus offices that are involved in service and justice work.
In December, nine students and one staff member from the Center for Service and Community Engagement spent six days on a service immersion trip in the city of Seattle. With a theme of “Home for the Holidays” the group explored conceptions of “home” by volunteering at community agencies, meeting with community leaders, and participating in group reflections and discussions. Throughout the week, the group slept on the floor and cooked meals together at the 2100 Building, home to several non-profit organizations. In 2005-2006, the Center also sponsored the Spring Break Rural Service Plunge which explored issues related to migrant workers in Eastern Washington and the Summer Break Native American Service Immersion in Seattle and the Puget Sound Region.

In January, students in Professor Ming Feng’s second year Chinese language course enhanced their communicative competence and deepened their sense of social responsibility by forming conversational friendships with elders at Legacy House in the International District. Professor Feng’s course is an example of the dozens of Center-supported, placement-based service-learning courses that mobilize students to provide direct service while deepening their understanding of their academic coursework. Since the Center’s inception in 2004, the number of Center supported placement-based service-learning courses has increased 46%.

In February, Savarra Peterson initiated a new Science and Math After-School Program for T.T. Minor Elementary. On Friday afternoons, Savarra and other University students facilitated science projects for youth at T.T. Minor. Savarra organized this program through her participation in the Student Leaders for the Common Good Program. This year, the Student Leaders provided approximately 6,800 hours of service to the community, led service projects and attended retreats and workshops. The program was supported through a grant from the Shinnyo-En Foundation and AmeriCorps stipends. 2005-2006 participants included Katie Allison, Jerry Beene, Emily Besancon, Rachael Brown, Christopher Charles, Emma Cullen, Sopha Danh, Elle Gaertner, Katrina Hale, Shannon King, Savarra Peterson, Sarah Sjostedt, Shannon Thomas, Hana Truscott, Ashley West, and Tim Willette.
In March, students in Professor Fiona Robertson's Financial Institutions and Markets course gave a presentation to State Representative Eric Pettigrew on their quarter-long study of the economic implications of the construction of light rail on small family owned businesses along the Martin Luther King Way corridor. Through this project-based service-learning course, students applied various principles from their coursework to conduct research, survey business owners and present their report. In the upcoming legislative session, Representative Pettigrew and his staff planned to draw upon the students’ findings to propose policies to help the business owners. With the success of this course, the Center has established an ambitious five-year goal to significantly expand the use of project-based service-learning in Seattle University.

In April, Krista Conway and Molly Follen began serving in the dementia unit at Bessie Burton Sullivan Skilled Nursing Residence, through a service-learning requirement in their Introduction to Psychology course. In addition to regularly visiting with residents at Bessie Burton, Krista and Molly created scrapbooks for two of the residents to help stimulate their memory. One of the residents they made a scrapbook for passed away in May. The patient’s spouse was given the scrapbook and expressed gratitude to the students for their kind and thoughtful work. Krista and Molly were one of over 30 students serving at Bessie Burton Sullivan through spring quarter service-learning courses. Bessie Burton is one example of the strong reciprocal partnerships the University has formed with over 50 community agencies.

In May, over 250 students, staff, faculty and local community leaders gathered for the second annual Spirit of Community Celebration with State Representative Eric Pettigrew as keynote speaker and TTAAPP Central Youth Tap Ensemble as entertainment. At the event, Center staff presented Spirit of Community Awards to Aileah Slepski (YWCA Seattle Emergency Housing), John Hopkins (Office of Multicultural Affairs) and Susan Weihrich (Accounting Department). Student Awards were presented to Molly Cevasco, Torrey McConnell, Gerardo Montes de Oca and Kristin Leigh Roach.
Center Staff
Kent Koth, Director
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Sarya Sok, Administrative Assistant
Kathleen Pinard, Program Coordinator/Graduate Assistant
Marie-Terese Ryan, Program Coordinator/AmeriCorps Member
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George Balagtas, Undergraduate Student
Philip Barclift, College of Arts and Sciences
Richard Cunningham, School of Theology and Ministry
Jeffrey Gilles, College of Science & Engineering
Tony Harris S.J., Mission and Ministry, ex-officio
Therese Huston, Center for the Excellence in Teaching and Learning
Rob Kelly, Student Development, ex-officio
Nick MacPhee, Graduate Student
Alyson Palmer, Undergraduate Student
Barbara Parker, Albers School of Business and Economics
Eryn Pearson, Student Financial Services
Joyce Scoggins, First Place
Sudha Shetty, Access to Justice Institute, School of Law
Kyle Sims, Asian Counseling and Referral Service
Jane Spalding, University Advancement

Community Collaborators
Asian Counseling and Referral Services • Atlantic Street Center • Bessie Burton Sullivan, Activities Department • Cascade People’s Center • Catholic Community Services Volunteer Chore Services • Catholic Community Services Youth Tutoring Program • Central Area Motivation Program • Childhaven • Children’s Literacy Project • Church of Mary Magdalene • Community Coalition for Environmental Justice • Discovery Park • Earth Corps • El Centro de la Raza • ElderHealth NW • Family and Adult Service Center • First Place • GEAR UP, Franklin High School • Gethsemane Lutheran Church • Gilda’s Club • Girl Scouts-Totem Council • Interaction Transition • Jewish Family Service • King County Juvenile Detention Services • L’Arche Noah Sealth • Legacy House, Senior Companion Program • Lifelong AIDS Alliance • Literacy Source • Noel House • Northwest Harvest • Peace for the Streets by Kids from the Streets • People for Puget Sound • Providence Hospitality House • Providence Vincent House • Real Change • Refugee Assistance Program • Refugee Women's Alliance • Rotary Boys and Girls Club • Saint Francis House • Saint James Family Kitchen • Saint Martin’s on Westlake • Saint Mary’s Food Bank • SCIDPDA Nutrition Services • Seattle Tilth • Seattle Young People’s Project • Seattle Youth Garden Works • Upward Bound-NSCC • Washington Environmental Council • Washington Toxics Coalition • Wintonia • Yesler Terrace Computer Lab • YWCA Seattle Emergency Housing